



PROTECTING THE NORTH COUNTRY WE LOVE



## Preserved in Memory

*Turning a young man's  
love of the land into a  
place of healing.  
See page 3.*

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**[www.landtrust.org](http://www.landtrust.org) | 231.347.0991**

Nathan Beem Memorial Nature Preserve

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The individuals, families, businesses, and foundations who are current members.

The 290 volunteers who donate thousands of hours.

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The fear of being lost is probably rooted deep in our evolution. Some folks experience this more poignantly than others, but being unable to find base camp or our clan certainly meant bad things for early humans. To compensate, our species invested heavily in our ability to navigate. We figured out the alignment of the stars, the magnetic pull of the earth, and how to send satellites into orbit that tell our cell phones where we are. It's hard to get lost these days unless of course you forget your compass, your battery dies, and you never learned about the constellations.

I have been really lost in the woods on a few occasions, one time under terrible circumstances. The fear was real. Ironically, the absolute scariest occasion I had of being lost was not deep in the woods but in Chicago as a 16-year-old in 1982. That is a story for another day.

While it sounds counterintuitive, the thought of getting lost right now sounds kind of exciting. Even though our evolution taught us to fear the unknown, there is some exhilaration and adventure in it. Maybe we actually crave a little adversity in an age where our cell phone can guide us out of a jungle (I would have loved a cell phone in Chicago back in 1982). LTC's own Sarah Mayhew offers "survival" programs in the winter and they are very popular. That tells me there is something about potentially getting lost we want to flirt with. My Uncle Charles used to tell us we should try to get lost. He didn't mean like "get lost!" It was more as a way to encourage discovery. He was an interested naturalist among other things.

For what it's worth, he also told us to go play by the railroad tracks, something I never quite understood.

In my early years we hunted in the Chequamegon National Forest in northern Wisconsin. You could go for what seemed like miles without seeing another person, it was so vast. This was where the biggest bucks were said to have lived (something I was unable to confirm). The drama was stoked by stories of bears, impenetrable swamps, and old timers who did not come out alive. You never went without a compass, matches, and a plan. We loved it.

Getting lost is so much harder to do these days and it's not just the GPS in our phones. Our landscape is easier to navigate for other reasons. Many of the big blocks of forest in the upper Midwest have been fragmented with residential sprawl, roads, and utility lines, among other things. On the national

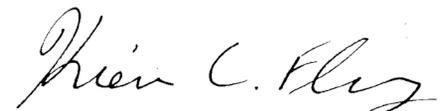
forest, the old logging roads are now often maintained purposely to increase accessibility. I suppose that is a good thing for many folks. But being lost has devolved into a temporary inconvenience in most places.

Fortunately, there are still some good options for those seeking a state of solitude punctuated with fear. The Pigeon River State Forest, Wilderness State Park, and the U.P. all offer opportunities for involuntary loneliness. These are the types of places that define "up north" even though most folks never actually venture too deeply into them. It's knowing they are there and what they provide. Big forest land provides core habitat areas for wide ranging animals like bears, moose, elk, wolves, bobcat, otter and Bigfoot (you never hear of Bigfoot sightings in suburbia). We like telling our friends in Detroit when we see a bear cross the road. We sound adventurous. At my deer camp in northern Wisconsin, the wolf is often villainized (it likes to eat venison) yet on the rare occasion that one is spotted, it is the enthusiastic talk of camp. This signifies some connection with big wild places and the observer gains affirmation that they have been deep in it. And that is good.

Whether we venture out or not, these places help define what we value in this life. They bring us solitude, comfort, adventure, even romance. Big forests keep our sense of mystery alive. This sense of place can be hard to describe, but it is very important to our core being.

Here is the good part: we don't need to be able to describe it and we still have time to protect it. We are lucky to have the expansive state and federal forest land we do and our work at LTC complements that immensely. This is where I find optimism. We still have the opportunity to keep alive our chances of getting lost. Along with that we will keep our abundant wildlife, clean water, scenic vistas, plethora of recreational opportunities and our hope for the existence of Bigfoot alive. It doesn't matter which of those we each value most because conservation as we mean it is a big tent and we just need to get under it. Whether you live, visit or pass through our North Country, our work here at LTC is relevant to your experience.

It's pretty simple really - support LTC, and go get lost. Your grandkids will be able to do the same and they will thank you.



Kieran C. Fleming  
Executive Director

# Introducing the Nathan Beem Memorial Nature Preserve

REFLECTING A YOUNG MAN'S INTEGRITY IN THE NATURAL WORLD

The Upper Chain of Lakes has long been a special place for the Beem family. When Dan Beem first brought his young bride Heather up north and then later his children Kristin and Nathan, they all fell deeply in love with the area. So much so that Kristin named her daughter Ellie, a shortened version of Ellsworth. Despite the nearly seven-hour drive from Xenia, Ohio, they made the trip as frequently as possible and the kids both grew to love camping and fishing. "Nathan would sit on the dock and fish for hours as a little boy," Dan recalls. "It didn't even matter if he wasn't catching anything." As Dan would later describe, Nathan came to know the Upper Chain and surrounding lakes so well he could have been a fishing guide.

In addition to excelling at high school and later college soccer, Nathan's love for the outdoors continued to grow as he did. Shortly after Nathan turned 16, Dan and Heather allowed him to venture to northern Michigan on his own with a couple of friends to fish, kayak, and explore. Nathan was the kind of young man whom parents could trust with such a freedom - a quiet, honest, natural leader from a young age. After high school, Nathan played collegiate level soccer at Mount Vernon Nazarene University on an academic and athletic scholarship. His educational journey eventually took him to Hocking College, where he received his associates degree in Natural Resources Law Enforcement in May 2018, graduating with honors. He entered the U.S. Coast Guard in June 2018 and graduated from basic training in Cape May, NJ, in August 2018. Seaman Beem's first tour of duty was at Station Fairport, Grand River, on Lake Erie.

On August 24, 2018, at the age of 21, Nathan's life came to an unexpected end in Ellsworth, a place where he someday dreamed of owning land and living. Very shortly after this tragedy, Dan sensed that he wanted to do something in Nate's honor that would reflect his son's deep love of the outdoors. He reached out to LTC Associate Director Ty Ratliff to discuss some ideas and options, first meeting Ty last October.

Call it fate, call it divine intervention, but within weeks of talking to Dan, Ty discovered that a 53-acre parcel of land with 1,800 feet of frontage on Six Mile Lake was for sale. The land was located roughly a half-mile south of the beautiful St. Clair Lake/Six Mile Lake Natural Area that the Beems loved to visit by water and land. Ty spoke to Dan and Heather, who loved the idea of trying to protect this land in memory of Nathan. Serendipitously, another adjacent 52-acre parcel became available for purchase, providing desired access to the lakeside property from adjacent Miles Road.

The Beems worked with LTC on a fundraising campaign to create the 105-acre Nathan Beem Memorial Nature Preserve. The campaign was launched in early May and soon after, hundreds of donations came pouring in for the special land preservation effort.

"This nature preserve and this young man clearly struck a chord for many people," Ty explained. "We had complete strangers walk into our office and give us a \$200 check for the preserve. It has been truly heartwarming to see how much people understand the importance of this land from so many different perspectives." The donations that helped make this project possible came from Nathan's friends, grandparents, family, and many special people who live around the Six Mile Lake area who share the same love for the land. "Our family is forever grateful for this wonderful memorial for our son," said Heather. "It is something he would be so happy about."

For many years, the Beems stayed in the Big Fish Resort in Ellsworth or camped nearby at the Yettaw cabins. Several years ago, they purchased land on the west side of Six Mile Lake, planning to someday build their own cottage. But this past April, they were able to purchase a Six Mile Lake cottage. The shore of the Nathan Beem Memorial Nature Preserve can be seen from the end of their dock. "We felt purchasing the cottage was something Nathan would have loved and we wanted to be able to honor our son with a place that his sister Kristin and her daughter Ellie would have for



years to come," Heather said. "It is hard to explain the happiness in our children's eyes when they fished the lakes and spent time in Michigan. It is truly priceless." With high waters, it has been difficult to enjoy the preserve other than by water. But last month with water levels back down, Heather and Dan were able to get on the ground. "The land is beautiful and is so fitting and representative of Nathan's demeanor, character, and the activities he enjoyed," Dan said. "We knew something good had to come from Nathan's passing. He was too special of a person for that not to happen."



Nathan Beem

As this newsletter went to print, fundraising for the Beem Preserve was near completion. To donate to this special Nature Preserve and/or to contribute to its long-term stewardship needs, please contact Ty Ratliff at 231.347.0991 or ty@landtrust.org.



# The Duncan Bay Nature Preserve

**145** acres

**3,500** feet Lake Huron/  
Duncan Bay shoreline

**1,180** feet boardwalk and  
bridges

**.9-mile** trail loop

More than 75 people attended a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Duncan Bay Nature Preserve on Saturday, August 24. It was a time to celebrate the wonderful partnership between the City of Cheboygan, Huron Pines, Bring IT Cheboygan, donors, and the enormous effort of more than 150 volunteers who contributed over 1,100 hours to the trail and boardwalk project. We encourage you to visit the trail which includes just under a mile loop on flat terrain. You will be rewarded with a gorgeous view of Duncan Bay along with the Mackinaw Bridge, the Cheboygan River, and the Fourteen Foot Shoal Lighthouse.

# Mountain Bike Trails UPDATE!

Since our last update, we've raised **\$36,075** because people like **YOU** are stepping up in big ways.

**TOTAL PROJECT COSTS:**  
\$200,000

**FUNDRAISING TO DATE:**  
\$142,575 as of August 29

**Help us raise \$57,425  
by April 2020!**



LTC members Brielle, Henry and Willy Burris are helping to raise funds for the future mountain bike trails on the Tanton Family Working Forest Reserve near Petoskey. They are sharing their passion for biking and love of art through these hand-drawn note cards available for purchase at McLean & Eakin Booksellers. They were able to reach their goal of \$500, and thanks to an anonymous donor, their gift will be matched!

**As of August 29, the following individuals, organizations and businesses have made donations to the Tanton TOMMBA biking trails:**

American Spoon  
Atchison Paper and Supply  
Jim Bartlett  
Cathy and Mark Bissell  
Debbie Borgmann  
Burris Family  
Daniel and Laurel Clarke  
Dr. and Mrs. Murray A. Cotter  
Edward Jones Investments:  
Mike Eberhart, Diana Eberhart  
Evening Star Joinery  
First Community Bank  
Great Lakes Energy  
Peter and Sarah Gurney

Stephen Harrington  
Mark and Mary Hramiec Hoffman  
Emily Hughes and Joe Graham  
Indian River Family Dentistry  
Fred and Edie Kaufmann  
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Margaret and Jason Kromm  
Latitude 45 Bicycles and Fitness  
Drs. Vaughn and Harriet McGraw  
Jeff and Tracy McMath  
Joshua Robert Miller  
Nub's Nob  
Offield Family Foundation  
The Oleson Foundation

Petoskey Area Visitors Bureau  
Petoskey-Harbor Springs  
Area Community Foundation  
Bill Seguin  
Andi Shepherd  
Aaron M. Smith  
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Mr. and Mrs. John Stewart  
Top of Michigan Mountain  
Bike Association  
Wentworth Builders, Inc.

**Want to be riding on  
this incredible trail  
by next summer?  
Visit [landtrust.org/  
mountainbiketrail](http://landtrust.org/mountainbiketrail)  
or call 231.347.0991  
to learn more  
and donate.**

## COMMUNITY PRESERVE COMPLEX GROWS

A seven-acre addition to the Watson-Schott Nature Preserve Complex was recently donated to LTC, expanding this protected area to 111 acres. Located between Petoskey and Harbor Springs near the Griffin Arena Complex and the Health Department Complex along M-119, a roughly one-mile loop trail is often used by local school groups and residents of the adjacent subdivisions.



# STEWARDSHIP Highlights



**Left:** Since finding its final home at the Boyd B. Banwell Nature Preserve, the nature megaphone has received an overwhelming amount of praise and attention. It is attracting visitors of all ages - including our four-legged friends - to come explore and relax in the sounds of nature.



**Left:** A new overlook platform at the Mackinac Bay Nature Preserve is now complete. The preserve lies along the North Huron Birding Trail and is an excellent spot for watching and listening to birds, particularly during spring and fall migration. A special thank you to Andy Krino of Shelter DBL, LLC (pictured left) for the beautiful work on the overlook and platform.

Funding for the overlook was made possible by Don and Karen Stearns, the Eastern Upper Peninsula Regional Planning and Development Mini Grant, the Les Cheneaux Community Foundation, and Little Traverse Conservancy.

**Above:** Both the Seven Springs Nature Preserve in Indian River and the Woollam Family Nature Preserve just north of Good Hart received new interpretive display kiosks this summer. Visit these trails to learn about preserve history, ecology, geology and more.



## VERONIQUE TESSIER - Summer 2019 Stewardship Intern

Vero road-tripped all the way from north Texas to intern at LTC this summer. She is currently attending Austin College in Sherman, Texas, where she is majoring in Environmental Studies. Her love for the North Country comes from yearly visits to Sudbury, Ontario, to see family when she was growing up. She has many fond memories of spending afternoons in the woods hunting for wild blueberries, raspberries and strawberries with her grandfather. "I've really loved the welcoming atmosphere at LTC, as well as being so close to so many beautiful locations to spend a day outdoors! LTC's preserves are truly special places, and it felt great to be a part of the amazing group of people that devotes their time to taking care of them. This may be my first visit to northern Michigan, but it definitely won't be my last!"

**Favorite moment from the field:** "I really love animals, so I always get excited about unexpected encounters with wildlife. One day we were just pulling into the parking lot at a preserve and there was an old red fox just staring at us from about 100 feet away. It had a very intense gaze and just sat there staring at us for a bit before disappearing into the woods."



## IF YOU GO WANDERING

*by Brad Von Blon, Seasonal Stewardship Technician*

One of my favorite things about northern Michigan is the opportunity to see new plants that are very exclusive to boreal or coastal habitats. Our high latitudes allow for us to have some special plants here which have adapted to chilly weather and sandy soils.

This spring, while others were still sitting at home, shivering and waiting around for cool orchids and carnivorous plants, I was already out in the woods searching as hard as I could...for tiny violets. Wild violets tend to get swept under the rug, but here in the Northwoods we're fortunate to have a lot of diversity and some pretty surprising species! I made an effort to see as many different violets as I could. We have 25 species in the state, 20 of which occur in our five-county service area. Throughout May and June, I was able to find 15 species, most of them on LTC Preserves or Working Forest Reserves.

One of the strangest that I encountered was the Lance-leaved Violet, which occupies rare, high quality wetlands but ends up becoming quite abundant when the right growing conditions are met. These violets aren't blue, but instead are bright sparkling white. Their leaves aren't heart-shaped; as their name suggests, they're tall and nearly spear shaped, and stick straight up to the sky making it look as though each clump of flowers is brandishing swords.

Another exciting reason to watch for violets in the springtime has to do with the relationships they've created with their forest roommates. Many plants make a big fuss about keeping their seeds away from hungry animals, either with tough protective coverings, chemicals, or by making sure they germinate quickly. Violets do the opposite! They coat their seeds with a fleshy structure called an elaiosome, which is rich with tasty proteins and lipids that young ants especially need. Adult ants will search for the violet seeds and carry them back to the colony where the elaiosome gets fed to ant larvae. Once the proteins are all gone, the rest of the seed gets tossed away into the waste chamber within the anthill, which is essentially a tiny compost heap making the perfect environment for the seed to germinate. Both the violets and the ants win!



## NEW PRESERVE DEDICATIONS

**Clockwise from upper left:** Bill & Mary Glenna Malpass Nature Preserve in Charlevoix County, Diane & Richard DeNardis Family Nature Preserve in Charlevoix County, Henry & Anna Yeiser Nature Preserve in Emmet County, and Morris-de la Vergne & Luetjohann-Garver nature preserves in Emmet County.

# OUR WOUNDED SOLDIERS NEED YOU

We are looking for experienced hunters to guide a disabled veteran on an LTC nature preserve during the Independence Hunt organized by Operation Injured Soldiers in October.

### As a Guide, you will need to:

- Be an experienced hunter
- Select a site on an LTC property, set up a deer blind and get to know the hunting site in advance
- Spend one to three days hunting with a veteran or disabled hunter starting on October 18th
- Help the hunter travel to and from the hunting blind
- Help retrieve the deer

### To volunteer as a hunting guide in your region, please contact:

**Wolverine/Cheboygan Area:**  
 Jay Wenchell & Bonnie Bigelow  
 North Country Sportsman's Club  
 231.268.9941/231.420.2546  
 bigelow379@gmail.com

**Harbor Springs Area:**  
 Jim Rummer  
 Tip of the Mitt QDMA  
 231.582.8070  
 rummerj@charemisd.org



Brave Hearts Estate Independence Hunters 2018

To donate towards this year's efforts to aid disabled hunters in their hunting experience, please call 231.347.0991.

# 30th Save the Trees

315 attendees and over \$63,000 raised!

## Event Sponsors

### Red Oak

Baiardi Family Foundation, Inc.  
Dr. and Mrs. John A. Woollam

### White Pine

Sarah and Dan Kay  
Joseph J. Schott Foundation

### Eastern Hemlock

Jo Anne Doll  
Chip and Gayle Everest  
Margarie and Michael FitzSimons  
Verne and Judy Istock  
Joe and Karen Kimmell  
Mr. and Mrs. William A. Petzold  
Rogan and Dunne Saal

### Northern White Cedar

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William and Marcia Blackburn  
Mrs. Thomas H. Carruthers, IV  
Bill and Jenny Chope  
Connie and David Donovan  
Jane and Walt Enterline  
Fischer Insurance  
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Mr. and Mrs. David H. Irish  
Beth and Steve Kost  
Yvonne Fisher McCready  
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Danielle Hickox Moore  
Nub's Nob  
Sarah and Tom Post  
Laura Love Rose and Bill Hall  
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Elizabeth Blair  
Boards for Reasons of Little Bay Boards  
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Lynn Frazee  
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Gurney's Bottle Shop  
Hidden River Golf & Casting Club  
High Gear Sports  
Hramiec-Hoffman Gallery  
Huzza, Kate and Rad MacCready  
Irish Boat Shop  
Elizabeth Fergus-Jean

Judy Kern  
Dani Knoph  
Beth Kost  
Sue Kurtz  
Heidi Amenda Marshall  
Dan McElroy  
Mary Bea McWatters  
Elly Oom Artwork  
Jim Peery  
Ruth Petzold Photography  
Karen Rolfe  
Robert Swanson  
Madeline Walstrom  
Trisha Witty  
Ty Ratliff and Charles L. Wilson III  
Windjammer Marina

## Save the Trees

### Benefit Committee Members

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Peggy Abood  
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Walter and Jane Enterline\*  
Andrew Farley  
Lesley Fischer  
Sis Fisher  
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Leanne Gillespie  
Mark and Mary Hramiec Hoffman  
Sarah Kay\*  
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Shelagh and Harley Luplow\*  
Kate and Rad MacCready\*  
Yvonne Fisher McCready  
Shannon and Steve Nolan  
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Jay and Shawna Owen  
James Peery\*  
Tom and Sarah Post\*  
Margie Smith  
Lee and Liz Tegland  
Gill Whitman

\*past chair



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Plastics



## In-kind sponsors

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Walstrom Marine

# DIPPING INTO NATURE

*by Sarah Mayhew, Director of Education*

As we enter a new season, we reflect on the teaching and learning opportunities of every season.

Spring time in northern Michigan is nothing short of magical. The once-frozen ground and silent forests slowly thaw, bringing sprouting leaves and the anticipated melody of frogs and returning birds. These signs of spring were especially welcoming this year given the brutal winter and record number of school snow days. It's during this sweet spot of interim seasons that the magic around vernal pools is in full swing and the kids (and teachers) are beyond ready to get outdoors.

Don't worry if you're not familiar with the phrase "vernal pool." This is a term that many of us, including myself, have rarely heard or been taught.

Vernal pools are temporary wetlands found in many local woods. They are not a pond, but more like a large puddle, and lack fish. They are fullest with water in early spring and eventually dry entirely by fall. Vernal pools provide critical habitat for

a diverse array of wildlife, from breeding wood frogs and spotted salamanders, to fingernail clams and fairy shrimp.

The Conservancy started monitoring vernal pools with the inception of our EcoStewards program in 2015. This program gives opportunities for volunteers and classrooms to actively participate in Citizen Science projects. By monitoring vernal pools a few times each year, volunteers are gathering essential data on the health of these unique ecosystems. Monitoring also provides classrooms with hands-on ecology lessons and a memorable outdoor experience. Their data is then sent to the Michigan Natural Features Inventory where they are able to make stewardship and management recommendations to protect them. Despite their important role, vernal pools have little legal protection.

This past spring Hayley Cheshire brought the entire Alanson Middle School out to the Chaboiganing Nature Preserve twice to monitor the two huge pools on the property. Hayley teaches science for grades 6-8.





When asked about the experience Hayley's response was,

***"LTC's outdoor environmental opportunities are much more than field trips, they are true learning experiences for all students. This spring while exploring and monitoring vernal pools, all of my middle school students were engaged and excited to learn - even those who struggle in the classroom. Evidence of their engaged excitement could be seen through the inquisitive looks and smiles on the faces of my students! Connections were made and continue to be made; students are still sharing personal observations about local vernal pools."***

Partnering with schools for ecological research is a true win for all involved!

For more information on our EcoStewards program or vernal pool monitoring, please contact Cacia Lesh at [cacia@landtrust.org](mailto:cacia@landtrust.org).



We are now registering for our environmental education programs for the 2019-2020 school year. Call 231.347.0991 to find the right date and time for your class!

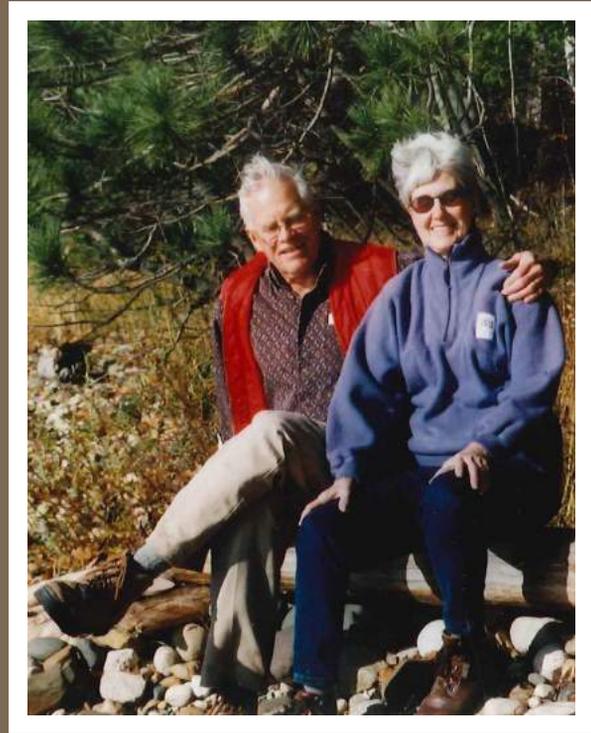
# Conservancy Loses Founding Member Dr. John H. Tanton (1934-2019)

One of Little Traverse Conservancy's seven founding members, Dr. John H. Tanton, passed away in July. John was among the first group of people in northern Michigan to recognize the need for a non-adversarial way to ensure an appropriate balance between land development and land conservation. In fact it was John who brought the idea of a land trust for northern Michigan to the group, having learned about their existence in eastern states.

"John was a great advocate of state land consolidation," noted former LTC Executive Director Tom Bailey. "For reasons of both ecology and recreation, he believed that consolidation of state-owned land is important for wildlife corridors, trails, and the general health of natural lands and working forests."

In addition to serving as Chair of the Board in the 1970s, Dr. Tanton is credited with primary roles in the protection of the Sturgeon Bay Dunes, one of northern Michigan's most beloved beaches, and the popular Allan and Virginia McCune Nature Preserve. In 2016, John and his wife Mary Lou donated the primary funding for the 236-acre Tanton Family Working Forest Reserve, located directly east of the McCune Preserve. This is truly just a sampling of the contributions – financial and otherwise – they made over the years.

***"Dr. Tanton was always inquisitive and contemplative, never afraid to pose a question," said LTC Executive Director Kieran Fleming. "I knew him to generate a wealth of ideas. Our northern Michigan community will forever be better because of him."***



Dr. John H. Tanton and wife Mary Lou Tanton

## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Members are donors, and donors are anyone who donates \$1 or more to support our mission. We welcome all ages to join us in protecting the North Country we love. The following note was enclosed with Toby Dawson's membership donation:



Dear LTC,

My name is Toby Dawson. I am 11 years old and live on the border of the Hoogland Preserve. I used to go to the Petoskey Montessori and I've had many great field trips to LTC preserves. My favorite was snowshoeing at the McCune Nature Preserve. This is my way of giving back (from my own allowance).

Yours,

Toby Dawson

# THANK YOU & WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

The following individuals, families, and businesses joined the Little Traverse Conservancy between May 18 and August 22, 2019.

John and Karrie Abbitt  
Cecily and Brett Alexander  
Timothy and Christine Anderson  
Mark and Carolyn Arnold  
Roy Baker  
Courtney and Tyler Barrett  
Joel and Tami Benedek  
Leo Bingley  
The Broughman Family  
Chuck and Cathie Busuito  
Thomas and Stacey Campbell  
Ms. Carlson  
Jane Chambers  
Babsi, Jamie and Riley Clements  
Keith T. and Kathleen Collins  
Jill and Adam Cross  
Julie Damore  
Reid Desrochers  
James and Sara DeVaprasad  
David and Stephanie Dorner  
Pat and Julie Dougherty  
Liz Dunn  
Beth Piehl  
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Terry and Michelle Falahee  
Lori Farrow  
Richard D. Ferguson  
Jack and Stacey Forbes  
Patrick and Amy Frenzel  
Kulin Froelich and Ashley Wawzkiewicz  
Jennifer Garrity  
Seasons of Mackinaw  
Mindy and John Go  
Michael Goold  
Alex Green  
Brenda Greenhoe  
Terry Haas  
Ms. Corrine Hoffman  
Lyndsay Alsbach  
Ellen Horween  
Marie E. Hulett  
Rebecca Johnson  
Ted and Susan Johnson  
Marilyn and Jim Keller  
Mary Jane Kelley  
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Lindzie Kuzmer  
Ann Ferranti-Lamkin  
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Ellen and Steve Liestenfeltz  
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Kent and Diane Shirley  
Nathan and Jocelyn Shook  
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Janet Smith and Gary Roeckner  
Ryan and Michelle Spies  
Raymond and Ann Stanhope  
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## *Reduce your tax bill and help further the Conservancy's mission*

Now is the time to consider how a charitable contribution to the Conservancy might help reduce your federal and state tax bill while protecting local land at the same time. A Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) is a "tax free" direct transfer of funds from your IRA custodian, payable to a qualified charity. You must be 70 ½ or older to be eligible. A QCD also counts toward satisfying all or part of your IRS required minimum distribution (RMD). Please consult with your professional financial advisor to learn more about QCD benefits and rules, and begin the process of making a gift. Questions? Contact Tom Lagerstrom, CFO, at 231.347.0991 or [toml@landtrust.org](mailto:toml@landtrust.org).

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Robert B. Dick, PhD

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Mrs. Elizabeth and Mr. Morton  
Payne

# THANK YOU!

**Jamie Berry** for donating lumber.

Volunteer trail mowers **Les Arnold, Gary High, Bill Henne, Bill Horntvedt, Bill Olstrom, Bill and Candace Sanderson, and Scott Smith.**

**High school students from St. James School in Philadelphia,** who documented life on our Beaver Island nature preserves using iNaturalist.

**Tim DeWick** for cleaning up trash dumped at the Oliver and Edna Birge Nature Preserve, and **Mike Mahn** from Friends of Les Cheneaux Islands Trails for clearing the trails there.

**Jerry and Kathy Roth** at the Black River Woodshop for donating the hand-carved Nature Megaphone sign.

High school student **Ella Gaffney** for paint blazing trails at Raven Ridge and Susan Creek nature preserves.

**Ellen Waller** for volunteering every time she visits northern Michigan.

**Bill Hodges** for brush hogging our Charles S. Winston, Jr. Nature Preserve.

**Ed Pike** for allowing our volunteers to observe him band American kestrel chicks at our nest boxes; and **the American kestrel nest box monitoring volunteers** for another great season!

Duncan Bay Nature Preserve trail building volunteers: **John Baker, Daniel Dawley, Jim Ehrnst, Chris Ford, Peter and Jane Hull, Richard Jenkins, Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians Youth Conservation Corps, Adam McDonagh, Diane Morand,**

**Connie and Dale Rieger, Tom Rowland, Eric and Evan Sink, Justin Tefo, Bill Thompson, Don and Mary Trout, and Gina Wollangur.**

**Emily Danks, Mark Danks, Sharen Lange, Diane Morand, Bill Horntvedt, John, and Gary Horntvedt** for removing invasive honeysuckle at the Adolph and Margaret Gauthier Nature Preserve.

**Mary Trout** for assisting with summer nature education programs.

**Barb Bechhold, Gretchen Brown, Bob Esford, Michaleen and Nick Karay, Sharon Ledingham, Rye Muir, Caroline and Ed Thomas, Linda Ward, and Lurli Vaughan** for getting our summer mailing stuffed, stamped and out the door.

**Doug Engler and Richard Jenkins** for helping install the HEAVY nature megaphone at Boyd B. Banwell Nature Preserve.

**Vermilion Point Nature Preserve CISMA volunteers** for removing spotted knapweed.

**Ben Musielak** for continuing to go above and beyond as a great caretaker of the Vermilion Point Nature Preserve and Station Houses.

**Eighth grader Elise Duda and her mother Elizabeth** for planting native plants and helping build the boardwalk at the Duncan Bay Nature Preserve.

**Tom Rowland and Peggy Swenor** for helping at our Goodhart Farms Nature Preserve trail improvement work bee.

**Solomon Harvey** for donating his time and skills of audio recording and editing.

**Debbie Hindle** for hosting an impromptu field trip due to the splendor of her bee balm.

**Trip and Emily Beynon** for hosting a gathering for LTC at their home in Sequanota Club.

**Consie and Seth Pierrepoint** for hosting a gathering for LTC at their home in Harbor Springs.

**Frank and Dana D'Andraia** for hosting a gathering for LTC at their home on Beaver Island.

**Anne and Mark Melvin** for inviting LTC to present at CBC Presents!

**Mary Bea McWatters** for helping with the Adventure Day Camp 'girls day' and sharing your painting knowledge.

**Mike Loria** for helping with the Adventure Naturalist mountain biking program.

**Tyler Strange** from HabitCo for help with Independence Hunt food plots.

**Elly Oom from The Wandering Fawn** for photography on LTC preserves.

**Lynn Frazee** for donating proceeds from the sale of her new book.

**Sue Kurtz** for photographing LTC's first-ever staff kickball game and Save the Trees.

**Phillip Allore** for helping to install the new kiosk at the Woollam Family Nature Preserve.

**Ed and Beth Leuck** for mowing the trail and parking area at Little Sand Bay Nature Preserve.

**Dan Reelitz** for attaching the new plaque to the Mackinac Bay Birding Platform.

**Kerri Smith, Paul Gingras, and Hessel Schoolhouse** for opening the schoolhouse up for an August gathering in Les Cheneaux.

**Richard Jenkins, Tom Eustice, Mike Tiedeck, Connie and Dale Rieger and Corey Adkins** of TV 9 & 10 for helping us promote

the new Duncan Bay trail and platform.

**Annual Meeting thank yous:**

**Anne Wallace, Wells Hamilton, Jocko and Cathy Cunningham, Ellinor McElroy, and Place Tegland** for sharing your family's story.

**Lee and Lauren Tegland** for telling of your connection to this land.

**Scott Smith, Holly Angileri, Lisa Blanchard, Josephine Roberts, Mark Melvin** for attending as guests of honor.

**Mary Trout** for speaking about her connection to the people at LTC.

**Chris Ford, Richard Jenkins, and Tom Rowland** for showing your strength, teamwork and support for our mission.

**Sakura Springborn** for telling her story of growing up through our environmental education programs, and for being a 12-year-old life-long participant of LTC education programs.

**Jeff Curth**, principal and superintendent from Mackinaw City Schools, for attending as a guest of honor.

**Kayla Knoll** from American Bird Conservancy for joining us to celebrate our partnership to establish young forest habitat at the Jack and Tucker Harris Working Forest Reserve.

**Glen Matthews** for sharing his time and kind words.

**Jim Rummer, Larry Liebler, Nick Liebler, Paula Brown, Denise Chanda, Byron Holzworth, Jay Winchell, and Bonnie Bigelow** for attending as guests of honor.

## PLAN YOUR LEGACY...

We invite you to leave a legacy with a planned gift to the Conservancy that will further our mission and help us protect the North Country we love. Planned gifts take many forms and are the result of advanced planning – and a thoughtful intention to make a lasting impact.

If you have questions or would like assistance directing a planned gift to the Conservancy, please contact Ty Ratliff, Associate Director, at 231.344.1005 or [tyratliff@landtrust.org](mailto:tyratliff@landtrust.org).





Bring on  
**THE MOUNTAIN  
BIKING TRAILS!**



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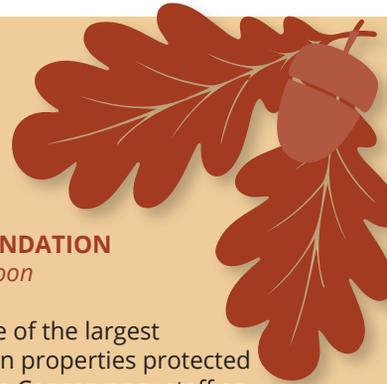
**Join us at the Back Lot in Petoskey!**

For the entire month of September, \$1 per every Blackrocks 51K IPA sold will be donated towards the construction of new trails at the Tanton Family Working Forest Reserve!

*The mission of the Little Traverse Conservancy is to protect the natural diversity and beauty of northern Michigan by preserving significant land and scenic areas, and fostering appreciation and understanding of the environment.*

## 2019 Fall Events

These events are offered at no charge, but pre-registration is requested by calling 231.347.0991 or online at [www.landtrust.org](http://www.landtrust.org) (unless otherwise indicated).



### **HIKE THE ROUND ISLAND POINT NATURE PRESERVE**

*Saturday, September 21 / 10 - 11:30am*

*Round Island Point Nature Preserve, Chippewa County*

Join Bird's Eye Outfitters of Sault Ste. Marie and LTC for a morning hike. This 1,024-acre preserve includes 1.75 miles of Lake Superior shoreline and 1.5 miles of rolling trail. Located roughly 30 minutes from the Sault. What a beautiful time of year to join us near our most northern Great Lake!

### **OUTDOOR BOTANY CLASS: ASTERS!**

*Tuesday, September 24 / 5:30pm*

*Greenwood Nature Sanctuary, east of Wolverine*

Join LTC staff members and plant enthusiasts, Derek Shiels and Brad Von Blon, on a tour of the Asteraceae Family. We will look for several goldenrods and asters to ID and photograph. We'll start with an outdoor classroom portion to learn about the key characters and recognizable forms used to identify taxa in the family and then set out on a walk to find plants and practice using keys to identify them. Registration required as group size is limited to 12 participants. Please call for specific directions. Optional dinner for \$5.

### **WARBLERS AND WATERFOWL ON THE NORTH HURON BIRDING TRAIL**

*Wednesday, September 25 / 8 - 11am*

*Hessel, Chippewa County*

Join Hessel Schoolhouse, LTC, and MI Sea Grant Educator Elliot Nelson for a birding tour of some of the most spectacular sights along the North Huron Birding Trail. We will start at the McDonald's in St. Ignace and from there we will target waterfowl such as Redhead, Scaup, Red-Necked Grebe, and Scoters. Then we will drive east to Hessel and visit nature preserves and other sites where late migrant warblers and large flocks of Bonaparte's gulls can be expected. We will finish at the Hessel Schoolhouse with the option to go for lunch afterwards. Please register by calling the Hessel Schoolhouse at 906.484.1333.

### **FALL HIKE AT GREENWOOD FOUNDATION**

*Saturday, September 28 / 10am - Noon*

*Wolverine, Cheboygan County*

The Greenwood Foundation is one of the largest privately-owned northern Michigan properties protected with a conservation easement. Join Conservancy staff as you hike the rolling trails around this diverse land - keeping your eyes and ears open for migratory birds, wild turkeys and elk. Registration appreciated and please call for specific directions.

### **MUSHROOMING WITH MARILYNN**

*Sunday, September 29 / 1 - 3pm*

*Seven Springs Nature Preserve, Indian River*

Local mycologist Marilyn Smith will take us on a mushroom hike through autumn woods and share her vast knowledge of all things fungal. Program is weather dependent. Registration is required as group size is limited.

### **WOMEN IN THE WILD PART 4: FALL COLOR HIKE**

*Thursday, October 10 / 6 - 7:30pm*

*Woollam Family Nature Preserve, Good Hart*

Join us for a gathering of like-minded women who enjoy hiking in the splendor of fall colors. This 1/2-mile hilly trail winds through the forested sand dunes to the shoreline. We will hope for a clear evening and nice sunset over Lake Michigan. You may choose to enjoy a picnic dinner on the beach on your own after the hike (don't forget your flashlight). There is limited parking so we will carpool from the LTC office, leaving at 5:15pm sharp.