



Summer 2013  
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[www.landtrust.org](http://www.landtrust.org)

Ben Mustelak - benmustelakphotography.com

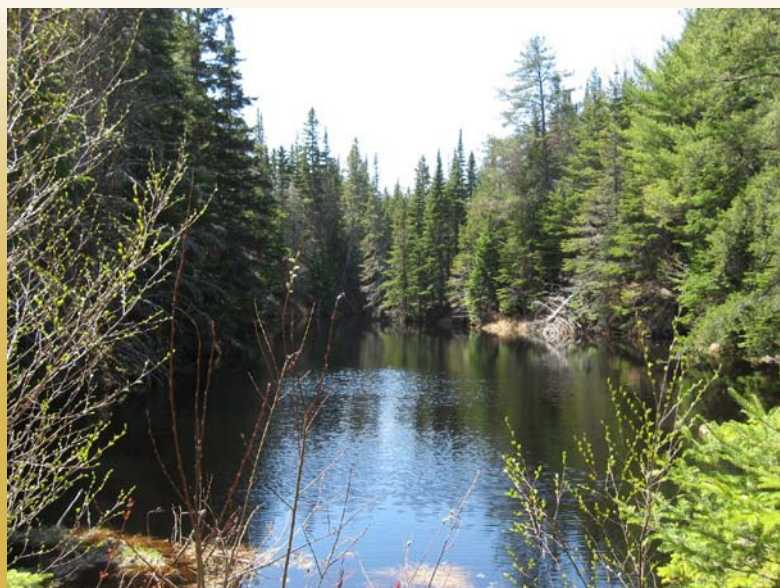
## The Magnificent Crisp Point

3,810 acres  
2.3 miles Lake Superior

CRISP POINT IS A BEAUTIFUL PLACE. Green forests and a hidden inland lake give way to rolling dunes and sweeping stretches of broad, sandy beach along the wild and windswept shore of Lake Superior. Moose, wolves, loons, and eagles frequent the area, giving testimony to its rugged isolation and natural loveliness. Look to the northeast over the waters of Lake Superior, and you are looking over the grave of the freighter Edmund Fitzgerald.

Many people have loved this place. Native people hunted and foraged here for centuries, and in more recent times, a lighthouse and lifesaving station served as outposts manned by hardy souls who warned of navigational hazards and kept watch for shipwrecks on the storm-tossed waters of Lake Superior.

Tad Malpass fell in love with Crisp Point when he visited in the late 1980s, and assembled several tracts of land into his own private wilderness. He poured a lot of time and energy into this labor of love, sorting out titles and eliminating the boundary lines that seemed so artificial and absurd to him in



The 83-acre Brown's Lake is located within the Crisp Point property.

such a wild and beautiful land. He loved to take refuge from the pressures of work and the incessant clamoring of phones, faxes, and e-mails, driving the two-track roads in his jeep, paddling the quiet waters of the inland lake, and relaxing in the simple cabin that provided everything he needed to reconnect with the beauty and the joy of living life close to the land.

But as time went on and the needs of his family shifted with

*Continued on page 6*





## Land Donation More than Doubles Barney's Lake Nature Preserve

The new addition to the Barney's Lake Preserve.

**BEAVER ISLAND:** At the end of 2012, the Barney's Lake Nature Preserve more than doubled in size with the donation of a significant 173-acre parcel from Terry and Bev Scully. Expanding the size of the preserve from 112 to 285 acres, the donation also added 1,730 feet of Lake Michigan frontage to the preserve and an additional half mile of Barney's Lake frontage (*see map below*).

Having grown up in Chicago, Terry spent many summer vacations on the Michigan side of Lake Michigan. He and Bev had long enjoyed getaways to Beaver Island and, while helping Terry's sister look for a bed and breakfast on the island, they discovered the property then known as Deerwood Inn. Originally built by Jon and Sally Fogg, Deerwood is a highly unique bed and breakfast placed on a particularly beautiful piece of land. Soon after purchasing Deerwood and the surrounding land in 2007, the Scullys donated a conservation easement to the Little Traverse Conservancy to ensure it would remain undeveloped, regardless of future ownership. "Not only is the Scully property absolutely beautiful, it also has high ecological significance," said Kieran Fleming, the Conservancy's director of land protection. Fleming noted that the state threatened Merlin (a small raptor) has been seen at the property and the federally threatened Pitcher's thistle also grows on the beach.

Many species of wildlife frequent this part of the island including deer, turkey, bald eagle, red-tailed hawk, and a variety of reptiles and amphibians. The undeveloped shoreline on Lake Michigan and Barney's Lake are unique among private parcels in Michigan. With the dramatic dunes rising from the water's edge, the new portion of the preserve provides scenic views from Lake Michigan. An existing trail traverses the land as well.

While the Scully family continues to enjoy

their Beaver Island getaway, conservation was always on their mind. "Bev and I believe in protecting and conserving natural resources, as well as sharing with others when given the opportunity to do so," Terry explained. "I think the property surrounding Barney's Lake and extending to Lake Michigan is some of the most beautiful

land I have ever seen...from the varied geography to the abundant wildlife. To us, it just made sense that the property should belong to the community of Beaver Island, both current residents and visitors. It's simply too beautiful not to share as broadly as possible!

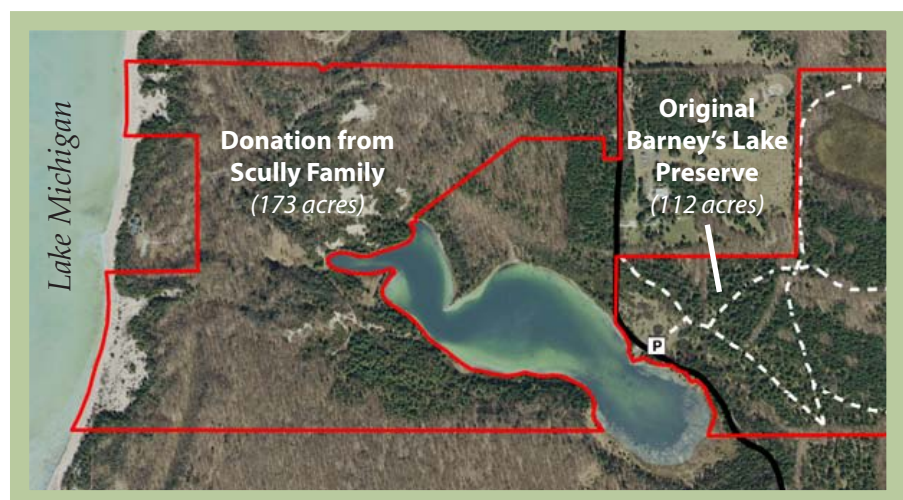
"We are delighted that this land will be forever preserved in its current condition, and will be accessible to all today and for future generations. I am confident that the Little Traverse Conservancy will be wonderful stewards of this fantastic property," Terry added.

"Meeting people like the Scullys continues to be the greatest reward in what we do," Fleming noted. "Their care for the land and their generosity is a rare combination. Our little corner of the world is going to remain a great place because of them and others like them."



**"I think the property surrounding Barney's Lake and extending to Lake Michigan is some of the most beautiful land I have ever seen."**

— Terry Scully





## 41st Annual Meeting

Tuesday, August 6, 2013

Boyne City  
Veterans Memorial Park Pavilion  
9:30 Coffee/Tea  
10-11:30 Meeting  
noon Lunch

Afternoon field trips to the  
Taylor-Horton Creek Preserve and  
the Wisser-Saworski Preserve.

Scott Smithson

## 24th annual Save the Trees...

...and the  
beaches,  
rivers, ponds,  
meadows...

Wednesday  
August 7, 2013  
6-9 pm  
The Boathouse  
of Harbor Springs

Tickets \$40  
Live and silent auction and raffle  
Cash Bar  
Music by Younce Guitar Duo  
Reservations may be made online  
or by calling 231.347.0991



## Gatt Family Nature Preserve Established

A 22-acre parcel located just a few hundred feet from Lake Charlevoix was recently protected as the Gatt Family Preserve. The preserve fulfills a 30-year dream of Jim Gatt and some of his neighbors to see the land permanently placed into natural protection.

Jim Gatt first acquired the land in the 1970s from the previous owner, a farmer. "Over the years, I kept telling Jim that we hoped to put this land into conservation someday," said Dr. Arnold Bauer, a neighbor to the new preserve. When Jim passed away in the spring of 2012, his family began working with Bauer and a dozen other neighbors. As it turned out, connecting with Land Protection Specialist Ty Ratliff was the link that brought the neighbors and the Gatt family together for a common goal. "The Conservancy is always interested in protecting more land within the Lake Charlevoix watershed," said Ratliff. "This new preserve lies in an area where LTC had hoped to establish a nature preserve as well." Ultimately, 13 neighbors to the property contributed to make the purchase and protection possible. "Having this many neighbors amicably agree to make this preserve a reality is a wonderfully unique situation," Ratliff said. "Dr. Bauer and all the contributors deserve huge kudos for their grassroots efforts."

In the end, all parties noted that this is exactly what Jim Gatt would have wanted for this land.



The new Gatt Family Nature Preserve protects nearly 23 acres of land and 1,175 feet of frontage along Ferry Road near the South Arm of Lake Charlevoix.

## Aaron J. and Adrienne N. Pieniozek Nature Preserve

by Jim and Carrie Pieniozek

When we welcomed our first child in October of 2004, we never imagined that in just a few years he would make an impact on the people who live in and visit northern Michigan. From early on, Aaron took a keen interest in the various LTC nature preserves around his home. We thought it was a cute "phase" he was going through, but by 2011 he had memorized almost all of them and his interest was only increasing. Aaron set out to visit each one, and even had a special notebook that he used to keep track of each one

he found. He kept the notebook in the car in case one was spotted, and often requested that mom and dad drive a different way in order to seek out new preserves.

Aaron insisted that one day he would have his own nature preserve, which got us thinking. The perfect spot for Aaron's nature preserve was just steps away from our home, and close to the Maple Bay campground and Burt Lake access. Jim purchased the two lots in the early 1990s from Monica Hippler. The lots were once part of the farm owned by Charles (Chick) Lathers.

We didn't have a specific use for the property, but knew we wanted to protect it. Donating it to the Conservancy seemed like a great way to protect the area from development. Much of the other property in the area had also belonged to Lathers, who played as an infielder for the Detroit Tigers and later opened a dairy on the land.

In March 2012, at the age of 7, Aaron got his wish, and the preserve was named after him and his baby sister, Adrienne. With the addition of the proposed bike path that will run along the edge of the property, our family hopes that future generations will be able to enjoy this unspoiled and beautiful piece of northern Michigan.

NOTE: Little Traverse Conservancy has approved a trail easement through almost 3,600 feet of the Chaboiganing Nature Preserve to allow for the new Burt Lake non-motorized trail. The same trail will run along 300 feet of the new Pieniozek Preserve, within the road right-of-way. The first segment of the trail is scheduled for completion during Summer 2013. See far right next page for upcoming celebration information.



Aaron and Adrienne Pieniozek standing in front of the preserve donated in their names.



## Conservancy Assists DNR with Priority Projects

The Conservancy assisted the Department of Natural Resources in acquiring two critical projects that were completed over the last few months. Because of LTC's local presence, relationship with landowners, and ability to act swiftly, this partnership continues to expand for greater northern Michigan land protection.

### HIGHEST PRIORITY PARCEL PROTECTED ALONG PIGEON

A 120-acre tract that includes 330 feet along the Pigeon River was protected by the state this spring with LTC support. "This tract was one of only two remaining private inholdings in the township," said Scott Whitcomb, Pigeon River Country Unit Manager. "By acquiring it, the Department was able to eliminate two miles of private boundary line. Fortunately, LTC staff had developed a relationship with the landowner and assisted with other aspects of the acquisition critical to its completion."



Scott Whitcomb/MDNR

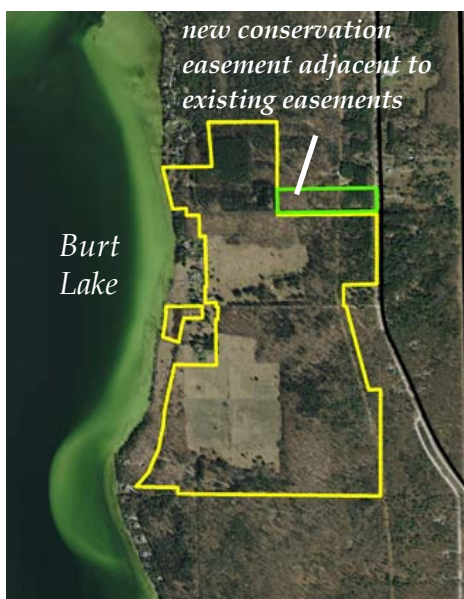
LTC was instrumental in helping the state acquire a 120-acre parcel with 330 feet along the Pigeon River.

### MULLET LAKE PARCEL TRANSFERRED TO STATE

Acquired by the Conservancy in 2009 to ensure its protection, a 147-acre property with 1,500 feet of Mullet Lake frontage has been transferred to the State of Michigan with funding from a grant from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund. "A private donor enabled the Conservancy to purchase this land more than three years ago while we waited for the grant process to be completed," explained Conservancy Director of Land Protection Kieran Fleming. "This was a highly desirable parcel for the Trust Fund because the land is bisected by the North Central State Trail." The North Central State Trail is a 62-mile reclaimed rail trail that runs from Gaylord to Mackinaw City.



The 147-acre parcel recently transferred from the Conservancy to the State is shown to right in relationship to nature preserves protected through the Little Traverse Conservancy.



## Easement Protection Expands Near Burt Lake

A conservation easement was donated by Ross Roeder to protect a 10-acre property adjacent to three other private properties that have been permanently protected from future development with conservation easements. The property is entirely upland forest with a mix of ironwood, maple, beech, and a small portion of plantation pine. The easement eliminates the future ability to divide or develop the property, and limits forestry practices to sustainable management.

## SAVE THE DATE!

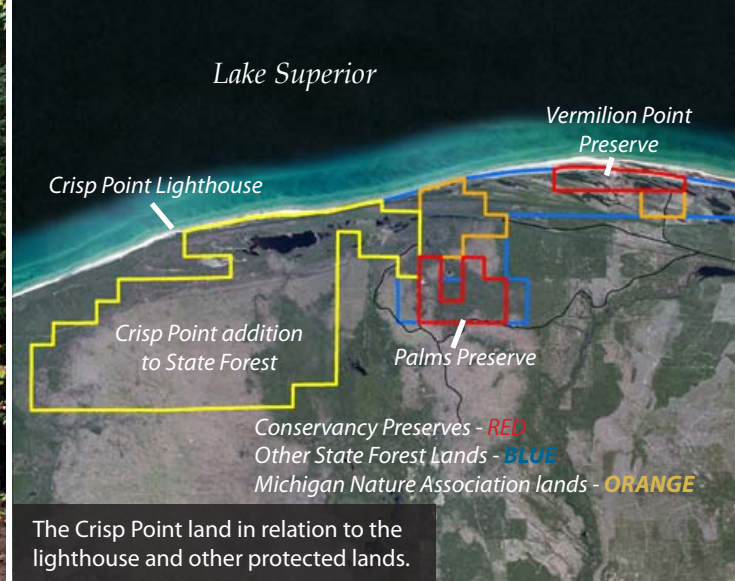
Join Burt Township and The Burt Lake Trail committee for a day of camaraderie and celebration on the first five-mile segment of the Burt Lake Trail. A Trail Opening Celebration and Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony is scheduled for Saturday, August 10, 2013. The event will include a trail ride/walk and a picnic. Further details and construction updates will be posted on the Burt Township website at: [burttownship.org/trail/html](http://burttownship.org/trail/html).





The entrance into the Crisp Point property.

Don Faber



The Crisp Point land in relation to the lighthouse and other protected lands.

### *Crisp Point continued from cover*

the growth of children and changing needs for recreation, Tad began to plan for the future of Crisp Point that would extend beyond his ownership and stewardship. A longtime supporter of the Little Traverse Conservancy, he discussed options for the future of the land he had cared for so lovingly.

Time and the winds of change brought another person into the picture who would also fall in love with Crisp Point and would also consider the long-term future of this special and beautiful place. John Woollam has been involved with the Conservancy for more than a decade, and has a special spot in his heart for land along the Great Lakes shoreline. A champion for a number of major conservation projects, when John learned about the Crisp Point property, he knew that he had found what perhaps might be his signature project in land conservation.

Through a fortunate convergence of interests and circumstances, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and the US Forest Service through its Forest Legacy Program shared an interest in providing for the future of Crisp Point, and doing so in a manner that would place the land in public ownership.

With an owner who had the patience that comes with a deep love for the land and a firm attachment to ensuring good stewardship over time, and a generous donor who was willing to provide the local share of funding to assist the DNR and Forest Service in acquiring the property through the Forest Legacy Program, the Conservancy's Land Protection staff went to work. Application was made to the Forest Legacy Program at the national level, and the project was rated the number three priority of all Forest Legacy projects in all the United States. It was a long process, spanning a number of years. But thanks to the leadership of the Conservancy's Land Protection team and

the dedication of the DNR's Forest Land Administrator, Kerry Wieber, the project made it through the process. After a number of Congressional fits and starts on funding, the project was completed in the final days of 2012.

Crisp Point now belongs to the people of the State of Michigan. Some 3,800 acres with more than two miles of Lake Superior frontage are now open for public use. The land will offer enhanced recreational opportunities for many, including those who visit the Crisp Point Lighthouse, which is located adjacent to the tract. The inland portions of the forest will be managed for long-term sustainability, and the dune and beach areas will be protected so that generations to come may enjoy the dunes and the great variety of wildlife found there, including several threatened and endangered species.

We at Little Traverse Conservancy are delighted and honored to have played a role in guiding this land into public ownership for the benefit of generations to come. Though it is often said that we "save" land, the reality is that this land has been saved because of the stewardship of Tad Malpass, the generosity of John Woollam, and the dedication of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. Kerry Wieber advocated for the project, and Director Keith Creagh worked with local, state and federal officials to ensure that the project would be a win-win proposition for all involved. We are most grateful to the US Forest Service, Forest Legacy Program, and to the members of the Michigan Congressional delegation who supported the funding for the effort.


Where members of the Life Saving Service and later the US Coast Guard walked between the former life saving station at Vermilion (now LTC's Vermilion Point Preserve) and Crisp Point on stormy nights when shipwreck dangers lurked on the stormy waters of Lake

"I am very grateful for the partnership and support of Little Traverse Conservancy on the Crisp Point acquisition. The opportunity to protect this special piece of property was brought to the State by the Conservancy and they were a true partner throughout the entire process. In addition to providing expertise and support in the development of our grant application to the Forest Legacy Program, the Conservancy also directly contributed to this acquisition by bringing the donor that provided the required 25% matching funds to the table. The Conservancy also spent countless staff hours working directly with the landowner and the State in order to negotiate the transaction and bring the acquisition to a successful completion. In short, there is absolutely no way that Crisp Point would be in State ownership and protected in perpetuity without the critical role that the Conservancy played. Future generations will forever be able to enjoy this very special place on Lake Superior because of the efforts of Little Traverse."

**- Kerry Wieber, DNR Forest Land Administrator**



*Crisp Point continued from previous page*

Superior, we can now walk this beautiful shore and savor the beauty and power of the Lake and the wild, rugged loveliness of this beautiful land that, thanks to the love and hard work of two dedicated people and their willingness to work with the Conservancy, now belongs to us all. 

**NOTE:** The newly-protected Crisp Point property lies just east of the historic Crisp Point lighthouse. The Crisp Point Light Historical Society holds a 40-year lease on the lighthouse, owned by Luce County. The Society is in charge of maintaining, operating, and restoring the Crisp Point Light and a small visitor center. For lighthouse information, go to [www.crisp-pointlighthouse.org](http://www.crisp-pointlighthouse.org).

For an award-winning photo of the Crisp Point lighthouse, see page 15.

Amateur photographer Kyle Underwood spent a week as the guest light keeper at the Crisp Point Lighthouse. Kyle took the photos to right that highlight some of the ways this incredible stretch of Lake Superior shoreline is enjoyed by outdoor enthusiasts.




An aerial view of the newly-protected Crisp Point property.



## Taylor/Olstrom Preserve Complex Grows

A 17.5-acre parcel has been added to the nature preserve complex composed of the Charles M. Taylor III Preserve and the Olstrom Family Preserve. The addition doubles both the acreage of the preserves and adds 526 feet of south arm Lake Charlevoix shoreline as well as 500 feet of Olstrom Creek. Funding for the acquisition came from the Charles M. and Joan R. Taylor Foundation and the J.A. Woollam Foundation.

The original preserve was formed in 2010 when LTC purchased 16 acres and 600 feet of frontage from the Olstrom family with funds from the Taylor Family Foundation. Additionally, the four Olstrom siblings donated the adjacent 1-acre Olstrom Family Preserve.

“All four of us are most thankful that our parents’ dreams were fulfilled,” said Susan Vrondran, one of the Olstrom siblings. “Both Dad and Mom loved the place and treasured the history. It’s not only beautiful, it is very historic.” Vrondran points out that around 1854 through the end of that century, a functioning sawmill stood on the land in a little community named “Dwight,” which even had its own post office. “Mother spent lots of time trying to find a way to conserve it. Her hope was that one day, school children could visit the area to learn more about the lifestyle of their ancestors and see how nature has healed this lovely area.” 



Charles M. Taylor III Preserve/Olstrom Family Preserve complex





# Summer 2013 Preserve Work Days

## **The Hill Preserve View Clearing**

**June 20, 9 am-1 pm**

The view at the top of the hill overlooking Lake Charlevoix is a sight to be seen. We are going to be clearing some trees to maintain the view for all to enjoy. Phase I will focus on a small section of the view clearing project. Volunteers will be moving brush, cutting small trees, and enjoying the scenery. Bring work gloves and any bow saws or loppers you may have on hand. Contact Mike Lynch to register, [mike@landtrust.org](mailto:mike@landtrust.org).

## **Team Thorne Swift - "Invasives Control Orientation"**

**June 20, 7 pm**

At this time, the invasive plant infestations at Thorne Swift are relatively minor, but control action is needed now to keep them in check. Little Traverse Conservancy and the Thorne Swift Nature Center are seeking to form a volunteer team to control invasive plants. If you love Thorne Swift, treasure its natural beauty, are interested in botany, and like being outdoors, please consider joining our team. Call 231.347.0991 to register.

## **Vermilion Knapweed Pull**

**July 19 & 20, all day**

For the seventh year in a row, we will be pulling spotted knapweed at Vermilion Point. This high-priority project is a cooperative effort of Little Traverse Conservancy, The Nature Conservancy, Lake Superior State University, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Eastern U.P. Cooperative Weed Management Area, and will help keep Vermilion's habitat in shape for Piping Plovers and Lake Huron Tansy. This is a rare opportunity to stay overnight at Vermilion in the historic Life Saving Station barracks. Contact Mike Lynch at 231.344.1011 or [mike@landtrust.org](mailto:mike@landtrust.org) for more information or to reserve your spot.

## **Darnton Preserve Mountain Bike Trail Building**

**August 17, 9 am-2 pm**

A collaborative effort, LTC is working with local mountain bike groups to create bike friendly trails on this preserve, while also keeping the trails appealing to hikers and other users. Join us in clearing trail on this new preserve to help open it up for the community to enjoy. Bring lunch and work gloves. Contact Charles Dawley to register at [charles@landtrust.org](mailto:charles@landtrust.org).

## **Welcome New Crew!**

The Conservancy is thrilled to welcome Sarah Gurney to the LTC team this past spring. A native Michigander, Sarah didn't experience northern Michigan until her early 20s, but she immediately fell in love with the area and knew this was where she wanted to be. But before permanently landing here, she fulfilled a childhood dream by dancing for Disney at Disneyland in southern California!

After settling in northern Michigan for good, Sarah obtained her bachelor's degree in business from Lake Superior State University and worked for Irish Boat Shop in Harbor Springs for 13 years. Sarah brings strong communication, organization, and business skills to LTC as well as a familiarity with many Conservancy members and projects.

Sarah is married to Pete Gurney and the couple are avid outdoor lovers. From road and mountain biking to backcountry skiing, you can find them all over Michigan through all four seasons. The couple recently added their English Yellow Lab, Billy, to their family's home just outside of Harbor Springs.

Regarding her new job, Sarah said, "I fulfilled my dream as a little girl and now, working at the Conservancy, I am pursuing a passion."

We are also pleased to welcome Caitlin Donnelly who began her six-month AmeriCorps tenure as a Stewardship Technician with LTC this past May.

Following what she regards as a special upbringing in Harbor Springs with outdoor enthusiasts as parents, Caitlin first attended Michigan State University in the pre-vet program, later switching to the Fisheries and Wildlife program. "My greatest memory of college is my study abroad trip to Svalbard, in Arctic Norway. I spent time on an ice breaker, at approximately 80 degrees north, where I saw ice as far as the eye could see, glaciers, reindeer, sea and bird life, and of course polar bears in their natural habitat." After graduation, Caitlin backpacked extensively in Argentina, Chile, and Peru, and then returned to northern Michigan to work and volunteer as an environmental educator and continue working at the Harbor Springs Marina.

For the past seven months, Caitlin worked in Breckenridge, Colorado, but was thrilled with the opportunity to come back home and participate in the AmeriCorps program with LTC. "I cannot be more grateful for this opportunity to take advantage of everything it has to offer," Caitlin said. "I look forward to being involved in an extremely respected and successful organization, learning from everyone on staff. I hope this experience leads me to finding where I fit in the environmental world."



Sarah Gurney



Caitlin Donnelly



## to build a trail

On May 4, a work day was held at the Wisser-Saworski Preserve to create a new bench cut trail to the top of a small glacially-formed hill known as a kame. Two weeks later, volunteers assisted staff with hauling lumber to the top of the hill where an overlook platform will soon be built. Views of the Boyne Mountain Valley will be visible from the new platform.



May 4 - Michael Karr creating the bench-cut trail.



May 18 - Jim and Frances Paris hauling lumber up the kame.

*"I just wanted to update you on what's been going on at Round Island Point. I've only been able to make it out on two different nights to try for owls. I caught 5 the first night and 3 the second night. I also caught my first barred owl the second night. That place is so magical. I watched a woodcock for several minutes while it performed its mating flight and then felt like I needed to turn around and look down the trail. As soon as I did, I saw a bobcat walk out of the woods and sit at the edge of the trail. The majestic creature had no idea I was about 30 yards away. My first time ever seeing one in the wild. Just amazing."*

From Selena Creed, undergraduate student at Lake Superior State University who is working with researchers Ed Pike and Dr. Ashley Moerke to band migrating owls.

## Stewardship Wish List

- Chainsaw Chaps
- Portable Fire Pit
- Chainsaw Helmet
- Truck



## aerial easement monitoring

Each spring, stewardship staff monitor many of the Conservancy's large and remote conservation easements by plane. This spring, 93 of 270 easements were monitored during three flights across all five counties of the LTC service area. Total air time was 7 hours and 15 minutes. New this year was the ability to take photos from a GoPro camera mounted at the bottom of the plane. A huge thank you to Todd Petersen for donating the camera!

**How much are LTC preserves used?** To help us answer this question, we mounted an electronic Trail User counter at six preserves this past winter. Here is what we found:

- Offield (February 2-18) 135 users
- McCune (February 18-25) 34 users
- Goodhart Farms (February 26-March 3) 37 users
- Round Lake (March 6-12) 9 users
- The Hill (March 12-29) 22 users
- Susan Creek (March 19-27) 7 users
- Andreae (April 22-May1) 31 users

That's just winter use! We'll report on some warmer weather stats when we get them.



A saw-whet owl at the Round Island Point Preserve.



# Let's Learn Outside!

## Summer 2013 Program Schedule

### Knee-High Naturalist Programs (ages 3-5)

These sessions include a story, short hike or activity, and more. Take home ideas/projects will be provided. **Registration required.** Please call Melissa at 231.344.1004.

#### June 25 and 27

##### Butterfly Magic

Participants will be led through an exploration into the world of these fluttering insects and their amazing transformation from egg to adult. We will go on a fun excursion and then create a butterfly to take home.

#### July 2 (No Thursday session this holiday week.)

##### To Be a Tree

Through a story and song, the children will celebrate the greatness of trees. They'll discover the wonderful things trees provide, explore the different parts of them, and go on a tree detective foray using their senses.

#### July 9 and 11

##### Turtle Time

Around since the time of the first dinosaurs, turtles are famous for their shell homes, which have helped them survive so long. We'll explore the lives of these intriguing reptiles and their special adaptations with stories, songs, and by meeting one up close!

#### July 16 and 18

##### Creative Kids: Nature Art

There's an artist in all of us, especially young children. Inspired by the colors, patterns, and designs in nature and using our own imagination, we're going to get creative using rocks, paint, plants, paper, cloth, and more. Wear clothes you don't mind getting messy.

#### July 23 and 25

##### Let's Get Buggy

There are more bugs than any other creatures on the planet. Whether flying, swimming, or crawling, bugs fascinate kids of all ages. On this outing, we'll search for them, catch them, and explore their mini worlds.

#### July 30 and August 1

##### A Place Called Home

Every living creature needs a place to call home where it can eat, play, rest, and feel safe. Participants will explore different habitats, seeking out a variety of animal homes and then find a special spot of their own to make a mini-shelter for a critter of their choice.

### Junior Naturalist Programs (ages 6-8)

Offered twice on Wednesdays: 10-11:30 am and 1-2:30 pm. **Registration is required.** To register, call Sarah at 231. 344.1018.

#### June 26

##### Take a Hike! *Good Hart Farms Nature Preserve*

We will let the rest of the world buzz along as we focus on our five senses: hearing, seeing, smelling, touching, and tasting.

#### July 3

##### The Wild Artisan-Art in Nature *Resort Township East Park*

Cultivate the wild artisan within! We will explore a variety of mediums and create several different pieces of artwork. Dress appropriately for possibly getting a little messy. Bring an extra shirt for your own wearable art!

#### July 10

##### Nature's Neighborhoods *McCune Nature Preserve*

Use your senses to explore the upland hardwoods, the lowland swamp, and the Minnehaha Creek of the McCune Preserve. Through activities and exploration, we will learn how local wildlife finds their habitat needs.

#### July 17

##### Fly, Flutter, and Crawl *Stutsmanville Bog Nature Preserve*

Of the billions of insect species in the world, most are harmless to people

and lead fascinating lives. The large open field at this preserve provides the best habitat for terrestrial (land) insects and bugs. We'll collect them using sweep nets and other devices. We'll be taking a closer look before returning them to the wild. Long pants may be preferred as we'll be in taller grass most of this program.

#### July 24

##### Cool Camo *Round Lake Nature Preserve*

Camouflage helps animals blend into their surroundings and avoid being someone else's lunch. We'll be exploring some of northern Michigan's greatest hide-and-seekers, searching for animals in disguise. Wear your own camouflage if you've got it!

#### July 31

##### Explore-A-Shore *North Point Natural Area – Charlevoix*

One of the most special parts of living in northern Michigan is our beautiful beaches. There is so much more to the beach than swimming! During this program we will explore the woods, dunes, and shoreline of Charlevoix's North Point Preserve along Lake Michigan. Who lives there? What grows there? Why are we not the only ones who love the beach? Bring your sun block and shoes you can get wet!



# Adventure Naturalist Programs (ages 9-12)

Offered Thursdays unless noted: 10 am -noon. **Registration is required.** To register, call Sarah at 231. 344.1018.

education

**June 27**

## **Drawing & Painting Nature with Petoskey**

**Watercolourist T.L. Baumhardt** *McCune Nature Preserve*

Do you enjoy nature *and* making art? If you answered yes, then this is the adventure for you! Join LTC staff and Petoskey watercolourist T.L. Baumhardt as we search for inspiring natural artifacts to draw and paint. Parents welcome! Supplies are provided. Dress appropriately for hiking outside and painting.

**July 5** (*NOTE: This is a Friday because of holiday.*)

## **5 Mile Creek Crawl** *5 Mile Creek Preserve*

Take a walk on the wild side of the creek! With no established trail, this hike is for the adventurous child. Be prepared to have some fun getting muddy and wet! Although the walk is not extremely difficult, it is not as easy as walking a maintained trail and will require maneuvering over logs and through branches. Dress for hiking.

**July 11**

## **Mountain Biking Adventure** *Offield Family Preserve*

Join former professional mountain biker, Chad Wells, for this fun biking adventure through the Offield Family Nature Preserve! Chad Wells is the manager of North Country Cycle Sports in Petoskey and brings with him a wealth of mountain biking knowledge. Designed for children with an intermediate biking ability. The trail is not extreme and hill climbing is minimal. A mountain style bike is recommended for this program. Extra water, appropriate footwear, and helmets are required.

**July 18**

## **Compass Camp** *Ransom Nature Preserve*

Knowing how to use a compass is an important skill to have if you enjoy exploring in nature. Learn basic orienteering as we navigate this beautiful nature preserve. Parents are encouraged to participate, as one adult will be needed to accompany each group. Bring a sack lunch and enjoy the view from atop the hill overlooking Lake Michigan. Long pants and sturdy shoes are recommended.

**July 25**

## **Nature Photography** *Spring Lake Park*

Interested in photography and love being outdoors? Grab your camera for some photo fun with naturalist and photographer Sarah Mayhew! Our focus is to improve your nature photography skills and expand your creativity while providing opportunities to photograph unique and exciting subjects in nature. All abilities and cameras welcome.

**August 1**

## **Pontoon Adventure** *Ryde Marine (Oden)*

Explore the Inland Waterway Preserve via pontoon boat! Take a hike on our Oden Island Preserve! Swim in Crooked Lake! This program will combine a little of all. Dress appropriately for getting wet and tromping through the woods. Space is limited and pre-registration is required. Some pfd's will be provided. You are encouraged to bring your own if you have one.

## *New Boyne City Program Series*

New this summer, the Little Traverse Conservancy is hosting a Family Nature Discovery Series in Boyne City, teaming up with Friends of the Boyne River for the first three programs. The Friends of the Boyne River have established the Boyne River Nature Area at the edge of the city's Business Park. Thanks to local grant support, trail development, signage, and other improvements for public use are underway. Come explore this new nature gem on the Boyne River and near downtown Boyne City. The last three programs will be held at the Conservancy's The Hill Nature Preserve, over 100 acres of uplands with a great view of Lake Charlevoix!

These programs are oriented for parent and child, grandparents and grandchildren, or entire families. Adult children at heart also welcome! Full program descriptions available at [www.landtrust.org](http://www.landtrust.org).

*Contact Melissa at 231.344.1004 to register for these programs.*

### **Boyne River Nature Area:**

#### **Nature Discovery Program Series for Families 10-11:30 a.m.**

Wednesday, June 26 - River Wildlife

Wednesday, July 3 - Blooms and Bugs

Wednesday, July 10 - Feathered Friends: Birds of the Boyne River Nature Area

### **The Hill Nature Preserve:**

#### **Nature Discovery Program Series for Families 10-11:30 a.m.**

Wednesday, July 17 - Bug Safari

Wednesday, July 24 - Creative Endeavors in Nature

Wednesday, July 31 - Animal Homes & Hideouts

## **Thorne Swift Nature Preserve**

### *Summer 2013 Programs*

**Children in Nature:** Wednesdays from July 10 - August 21, 10:30 am

**Birds and Blooms:** Saturdays July 20 & August 10, 9 am

**Dream Catchers:** Monday, July 15, 6-7:30 pm

**Fire and Night Hike:** Saturdays, July 20 & August 17, 9 pm

**Wild Edibles:** Monday, July 22, 10:30 am

**Stories in the Stars:** Tuesday, July 30, 9-10:30 pm

**Cornhusk Dolls:** Monday, August 12, 6-8 pm

**If Trees Could Talk:** Monday, August 19, 10:30 am

Thorne Swift is located at 6696 Lower Shore Drive, north of Harbor Springs off M-119. Call (231) 526-6401 for more information. The preserve and nature center are open daily 10 am to 1/2 hour after sunset from Memorial Day to Labor Day. Parking fee is \$3 for non-township residents (no charge for Conservancy members).



## *Getting Kids Outdoors*

*Nature-Based Educator Workshops*

**June Learn Local: Connecting Students to Place**

**Thursday, June 20, 2013 10am-12:30pm** Shay Elementary School

*Presented by Molly Ames Baker, The Outfitter of Harbor Springs*

**July Exploring the Ecology of Petoskey State Park**

**Saturday, July 27, 2013 9-11 am** Petoskey State Park

*Presented by Maureen Stine, Natureology & Petoskey State Park DNR Naturalist*

**August The Odawa Influence:**

**The Odawa Participation in American & Local History**

**Sunday, August 25, 2013 10 am - noon** Harbor Springs Public Beach

*Presented by Eric Hemenway, Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa*

**September Exploring Under Michigan**

**Sunday, September 22, 2013 10 am - noon** Raven Hill Discovery Center

*Presented by Cheri Leach, Raven Hill Discovery Center*

visit [www.gettingkidsoutdoors.org](http://www.gettingkidsoutdoors.org) FOR DETAILS!







Sleepy Hollow Nature Preserve/TMPetersen

### Memorials

**David A. Armour**  
Matthew and Anneke Myers

**Nancy C. Benson**  
Mr. and Mrs. William J. Soter

**Dawn Bishop**  
Mr. and Mrs. Dan and Susan Hinger

**L. John Bishop**  
Mr. and Mrs. Stuart Bishop  
Mr. and Mrs. George P. Bray  
Mrs. Robert Files  
Joan Keller  
Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Thomas, Jr.  
Mr. and Mrs. G. Sheldon Veil

**Suzanne Cobbledick**  
Carol and W. G. Giles  
Ms. Judith A. Gillow

**Jack Cooper**  
Tam Perry and Richard Cooper

**Ginny Crouse**  
Mr. and Mrs. Derek Meier

**Ruth Davis**  
Mrs. Madge L. Hauser

**John Day**  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert B. Sellers

**Nathaniel Clifford Denay**  
Charles Huebner, MD and Staff

**Noel DeGaetano**  
Ron and Eileen Kazmierski

**Herbert H. Edwards**  
Ms. Joan Fishburn

**Robert Files**  
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Site Planning Development, Inc.

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Ms. Molly Baker  
Ms. Esther Buskirk  
Children of Ruth Paddock  
Michael and Christine Grant  
Greenwood Foundation  
Ms. Debra J. Hansen  
Mr. and Mrs. Andrew and Elizabeth Johnson  
Mr. and Mrs. George H. Jury  
Mr. and Mrs. Warren F. Krapohl  
Dr. H. Robert Krear  
Seberon and Dianne Litzenburger  
Ms. Ruby Marr  
Darrel and Dorothy Torgerson

**Rose Petryszak**  
Ms. Darleen Flaherty

**Raymond Randels**  
Mr. Peter S. Lewis

**Arthur Roy Ranger III**  
David and Leslie Archer  
Mrs. Beth Ranger  
Emily Robinson and Peter Jaklevic

**Damon Richardson**  
Ms. Darleen Flaherty

**Jim Stoeher**  
Mr. and Mrs. Derek Meier

**Honorariums**  
*Happy Birthday*  
**Nikki Griffith**  
Bob, Rhysa and Alex South

**Rosemary Stolt**  
Allene Long

**Todd Twichel**  
Ms. Ruthann Waldron

*Happy 25th wedding anniversary*  
**Mr. and Mrs. Scott Pattullo**  
Mr. and Mrs. Byron L. West

*In honor of*  
**Greg and Stacey Renker**  
Larry and Amy Buhl

**Paul and Jeane Darnton**  
Richard and Nancy Jankowski

A special thank you to the Petoskey-Harbor Springs Area Community Foundation and the Bairdi Family Foundation for a \$7,500 grant toward the Dune Observation Platform replacement at Thorne Swift Nature Preserve.





Unless noted, most LTC field trips are offered at no charge. Pre-registration is required by calling 231.347.0991 unless other information is provided within the description.

# summer field trips

## **Fourth of July at The Hill Preserve**

**Thursday, July 4, Dusk**

From the Parking area on Clute Road we will hike about 1 mile to the top of The Hill. Bring a backpack with a blanket to sit on and any snacks you might want, and we will have a small bonfire and provide smores for you while watching the fireworks over Lake Charlevoix.

## **2nd Annual**

## **Waugoshance Marathon & Half-Marathon**

**Saturday, July 13**

## **Wilderness State Park, Emmet County**

Great Lakes Endurance is working with LTC to promote awareness of the need to preserve wild habitat in northern Michigan. This event will help support environmental education efforts that focus on land preservation and knowledge of local flora and fauna. The course follows a remarkable section of the North Country Trail that travels from Cross Village to Mackinaw City in the far northwestern region of Michigan's Lower Peninsula. The course features over 90% single track and includes rolling bluffs overlooking Lake Michigan, coastal forests, inland wilderness lakes. LTC will host two Aid Stations for runners and we need about 10 volunteers to help runners push through this challenging event and cheer them on. Please contact Cacia Lesh if you are interested in helping at [cacia@landtrust.org](mailto:cacia@landtrust.org) or 213.344.1002 or go to [www.greatlakesendurance.com](http://www.greatlakesendurance.com) for more information or to register.

## **Birding for Families**

**Saturday, July 20, 10 am to noon**

## **Spring Lake Park**

Explore the world of birds with local bird enthusiast Mary Trout. During the third session of this year-long series, we will explore the family life of birds including how they communicate, the variety of nests they make, and their nesting habits. Field guides and binoculars will be available, but please bring your own if you have them.

## **Horton Creek Preserve Tour**

**Wednesday, July 24 10 am - 2 pm**

Horton Creek is one of the prominent streams of western Charlevoix County, an important tributary of Lake Charlevoix, and in general simply a very interesting, beautiful, and wild place. Join LTC staffer Doug Fuller and Jennifer Gelb, Restoration Ecologist at the Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council, for an ecological exploration of Horton Creek from its headwaters to its mouth, with a focus on the sections flowing through six LTC preserves.

## **Fly Fishing the Pigeon River**

**Friday, August 9, 10-2**

## **Meeting at Helmer's Dam Preserve**

Want to learn about fly fishing? Join us for a lesson on the techniques of fly fishing. There will be a casting lesson and an informative session pertaining to bait, including bug activity and life cycles. Please bring a lunch and fly fishing rod if you have one. We hope to plan a carpool.

## **Harbor Springs Walking Tour**

**Wednesday, August 14, 1-3 pm**

## **Harbor Springs Historical Museum**

Join Conservancy staff and Mary Cummings, Executive Director of the Harbor Springs Area Historical Society, for this walkabout around Harbor Springs visiting several in-town and close-to-town locations that have historical and natural significance.

## **Sea Kayaking Les Cheneaux**

**Thursday, August 15, 10am-4pm**

Join Woods & Water Ecotours on a guided paddling excursion among the blue waters and forested shorelines of Les Cheneaux. We will paddle the 192-acre Seiberling Stewart Nature Preserve on Marquette Island. We'll land at Marquette Bay and hike on a new trail across the preserve to the beach. Here we'll break for an up-north picnic lunch with views of the Straits of Mackinac. No experience necessary, but participants must be in good physical condition. Paddle distance is 4 miles; round-trip hike is less than a mile. Trip is limited to 10-12 people. Cost is \$60 per person includes lunch, kayak and gear rental, instruction and guide service. To make your reservation, contact Jessie Hadley at 906.484.4157 or [www.woodswaterecotours.com](http://www.woodswaterecotours.com).

## **Crisp Point to Vermilion Beach Hike**

**Saturday, August 17, 9:30am - 4pm**

In 2012, LTC hosted a Vermilion to Whitefish Point beach hike. This year LTC is hosting the sequel: the six mile Crisp Point to Vermilion hike. We'll start at the historic Crisp Point Lighthouse at 9:30 am and hike to Vermilion. Participants are welcome to spend the night at the historic and secluded Vermilion Point Lifesaving Station either (or both) Friday and Saturday night. Shuttle rides will be coordinated between Vermilion and Crisp Point. Please note that this is a remote field trip and only those in good health should register. Be prepared with plenty of water, snacks, sun screen, bug repellent, appropriate footwear, and foul weather gear. Limited to 15 people.

## **Beyond the Telescope ~**

## **A Storyteller's Journey through the Night Sky**

**Saturday, August 17, 8:30 pm**

## **Vermilion Point Nature Preserve**

Join us for the hike above (though not required) and take advantage of a unique opportunity to stay overnight at the Vermilion Life Saving Station. August 17 is the 10th Night of the 7th Moon, and on this evening Mary Stewart Adams will take us journeying through the romantic story and the stars connected to the tale of the "Weaving Princess and the Cow Herd" and the hero's tale as rendered in the Greek myth of Perseus and Andromeda. Program will include basic constellation identification, celestial highlights of the season and the stories in the stars overhead this month.

## **Gorge Exploration**

**Saturday, September 7, 10am-noon**

## **UMBS Property, Cheboygan County**

Retired LTC board member and former UMBS Associate Director Mark Paddock will lead a hike along the bluffs and down into "The Gorge." Learn about the importance of protecting land for wildlife and habitat corridors, ecology and natural history. Venturing into this unique habitat which includes scores of natural springs forming a large cold stream emptying into Burt Lake, and leads to mature red and white pine stands, cedar swamp and an active beaver dam.

## **Legends, Labyrinths and Lore**

**Sunday, September 8, 2-5pm**

## **Private property north of Harbor Springs**

Join Jennifer Eis and Don Ward, authors and lecturers, for an educational walk-about at their 50-acre protected property. Site of the "Wisdom Keeper-Wisdom Seeker" summer lecture series for the past 12 years, this is a rare and wonderful opportunity. You will be free to explore the teachings of the Medicine Wheel, walk the largest turf Labyrinth in Michigan, sit in the Talking Circle or the coils of the Great Serpent. Interpretive signs at each of the features will allow for a self-guided experience. Arrive anytime between 2 and 5 pm and expect the unexpected. Due to the walking and fragility of structures, this program is not suitable for young children.

## **Mushrooming with Marilyn**

**Thursday September 12, 1-3pm**

## **Location TBA, Limited to 25**

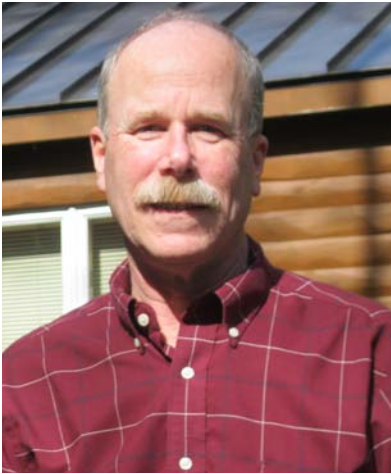
A mushroom hike with local mycologist Marilyn Smith is a special treat! Be amazed by her vast knowledge of all things fungal as you wander the autumn woods.



## Reflections...

Tom Bailey

*Thank you* –with no strings attached!



I donate to a number of charitable organizations just as you do, and perhaps it's because I work at a non-profit that I pay specific attention to the mailings and fund raising appeals that come from a broad variety of groups. Frankly, it bothers me when I send a contribution and receive an acknowledgment letter that includes an appeal for more.

It bothers me when every single newsletter or information piece includes the stapled-in envelope requesting more money, and it is especially frustrating when I receive so many fund raising mailers that I can't keep track of when I've sent my annual donation. I find myself suspecting that this multitude of mailings is intended to confuse me in the hope that I'll lose track and be guilt-tripped into sending more. Every time I feel those frustrations, I renew my vow to keep gratitude at the forefront in Little Traverse Conservancy fund raising, and to keep the number of appeals to a respectful minimum.

We do not pester you with phone calls asking for donations; our quarterly newsletter does not include those annoying envelopes that ask for money; and as long as I'm here, the letters we send to thank you for your donations will never include those insulting tear-off stubs with the not-so-subtle suggestion that you haven't done enough and need to send more.

It's not that I don't believe in support for good causes or that I don't believe in fund raising. Fund raising, properly

approached, is a helpful and noble activity to support a worthy cause. Because most of us genuinely appreciate the opportunity to give to projects and organizations which reflect our values, a good fund raising appeal which outlines the cause and its benefits can be a great help to us in sharing our blessings. The problem is that it can be overdone. Just as sales can be overdone – as in the pushy and obnoxious sales person versus the helpful sales professional who works to understand our needs and match us to the right products – so it is with charitable fund raising.

Guided by a Board of Trustees who support many causes as we all do; supported by volunteers who recognize that there are many needs in a community and operated by professional staff members who are mindful of many worthy causes, we don't send out any materials that we wouldn't want to receive ourselves. We do our best to share news of our accomplishments, share our deep and heartfelt attachment to the land and the beauty of northern Michigan, but at the same time to avoid excessive numbers of appeals, guilt-inducing messages or anything that comes off as too pushy.

We thank you for your support, we understand that there are many charities to choose from, and we hope that our fund raising is appropriate and respectful. We want our acknowledgments to show true gratitude, not ask for more. You'll only hear from us once or twice a year with a request for membership donations; there will be no additional request for an "annual appeal," and if we ask you about supporting a particular land project, it will be one in your area. We'll continue to do our best to offer you an opportunity to support the conservation cause through a good business deal: with our organization's capabilities and your donation, we can do great things together that we couldn't do on our own.

THANK YOU for your support!

### new members

*The Conservancy would like to thank the following new Friends or Benefactors or members who have increased their level of giving within the Friends or Benefactors level from March 1, 2013 to May 20, 2013:*

#### Friends and Benefactors

Mr. and Mrs. H. Hewett Brown  
Arthur and Becky Hailand  
Mr. and Mrs. Patrick J. McNamara  
Bruce and Linda Riley  
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Simms Jr.  
Mark and Francine Thuston  
Mr. John S. Wilson

#### New Contributing Members

Elizabeth Letts and Ali Alalou  
Ms. Judith Cutler  
Mr. Robert L. Kuehne  
John and Courtney Mathy  
Alan and Annoesjka Steinman  
William and Stephanie Veling



Concord 3rd and 4th graders during a recent spring program at the Offield Preserve (photo credit: Heidi Linklater)



A view of the Crisp Point lighthouse from the newly-protected land (see cover story). This award-winning photo was taken by Bruce Multup and appeared as the cover of Lake Superior Magazine. The newly-protected land does not include the lighthouse which is managed by the Crisp Point Light Historical Society.



## thank you...

Ben Musielak, Kyle Underwood, Bruce Multup, and Don Faber for the use of their beautiful photos shown throughout this newsletter.

For their support of Getting Kids Outdoors workshops and the Spring Kickoff: Doug Craven, Frey Foundation, Jolly Lama, Julianne Tomatoes, Moosejaw, Litzenburger Landscape, Mackinaw Historical Society, Mackinaw Library, Maple Moon, McLaren, Michigan DNRE, Natureology, North Country Trail Association, Olesons, Petoskey-Harbor Springs Area Community Foundation, Kim Buntin of Polly's Planting and Plucking, Pond Hill Farm, Raven Hill Discovery Center, Rocking Horse, Barb Sydow, Spoon Foods, Tara Nichole Photography, Thorne Swift Nature Preserve, and Mary Johnson Graphics.

Ron Oesterreicher for plowing the Seven Springs Preserve parking lot for the past couple of years without taking any credit for it!

Miles Trumble for helping build the Taylor-Horton Creek Preserve parking area.

All of our Kestrel monitoring volunteers, and Jim and Wendy Bean for coordinating the volunteers – keep up the good work!

Volunteer field trip leaders Roger Knutson, Eric Hemenway, Mary Stewart Adams, and Dan Johnson.

Roast and Toast for donating coffee for our dedicated stewardship work bee volunteers on a cold and snowy spring day.

Todd Petersen for a GoPro Camera and for continued volunteer photography for our publications.

Dan Mann, Todd Wright, and John Griffin for ski trail grooming, and Tim DeWick for plowing.

Bill Aten for help with the Wissner-Saworski preserve management.

Brad Gerlach of the GTRLC for trail building consulting.

Steve Schnell of the Top of Michigan Mountain Biking Association for trail planning collaboration.

Paul Mooradian for allowing “overflow” parking on his neighboring commercial property.

Taylor-Horton Creek & Schulz Work Bee Volunteers: Kathy Lawson, Darrell Lawson, Scott Olmstead, Michael Karr, Lisa Morris, Tony Amato, Mike and Chris Grant, Katherine Brown, Jim Rudolph, Steve Nelle, Doug Hoek, Sheryl Morford, Hailey Judkins-Ladd.

Bret Huntman of North by Nature for expert advice and help coordinating restoration at the Meadowgate Preserve.

Bill Hodges for using his farm equipment for Meadowgate restoration.

Susan Letts for donation of resource management books.

Wissner-Saworski work day volunteers Bill Aten, Cheryl Hofweber, Michael Karr, Jim and Frances Paris, Don “Snake” Schnetzler, Don and Mary Trout, and Diane Winchell.

Special thanks from the education staff to Dale Lewis and Ginny Cole for their time and assistance to our department.

Ian Bund for donating binoculars to the education program, and to Eagle Optics for three additional free binoculars through their Matching Donations Program.

McLean & Eakin for a book donation through their 10% for Schools Program.

Rogers Preserve work day volunteers Kelvin and Cindy Johncheck and Heather Rinkel.

Mary Trout for leading the Birding by the Seasons for Families winter and spring sessions and for donating materials and books.

Bay Harbor Equestrian Center for collecting horse hair for the Spring Birding for Families field trip.

Susan Dempsey and Greg Czarnecki for donating their photographs for the LTC office.



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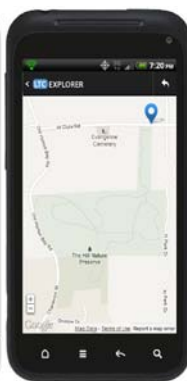
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Smart Phone user? Scan the QR codes below to download the free LTC Nature Preserve app. Search for LTC explorer in the Apple app store or Google Play. Maps, trail recommendations, and much more!



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## Come on out...let's take a hike!

Your smart phone app is downloaded, but you prefer to hike with others? No worries!  
This summer newsletter is packed with outside learning, working, and adventure opportunities.



**Nature Preserve  
Work Days**...p. 15

**Knee-High Naturalist  
Outings** (ages 3-5)...p. 10

**Junior Naturalist Outings**  
(ages 6-8)...p. 10

**Adventure Naturalist  
Outings** (ages 9-12)...p. 11

**Family Outings near  
Boyne City**...p. 11

**Thorne Swift Nature  
Preserve Programs**...p. 11

**Getting Kids Outdoors  
Educator Workshops**...p. 11

**Community Field Trips**...p. 13

*A 2006 study of 345,000 Holland residents published in the Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health found that people living near a green space had lower rates of 15 out of 24 diseases including asthma, diabetes, intestinal complaints, and back and neck problems.*