



Winter 2013-14
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www.landtrust.org

The Gift of Volunteers

SINCE ITS INCEPTION, VOLUNTEERS HAVE PROVIDED THE FOUNDATION of Little Traverse Conservancy's success. In 1972, a handful of volunteers put the idea of a land trust into action, and LTC remained solely volunteer-driven for several years until hiring the first part-time paid staff in 1978. All these years later, the organization has carefully grown its staff, able to remain "lean and mean" yet highly effective in large part due to the supplemental efforts of thousands of volunteers.

From board and committee members who set organizational policy and oversee operations to volunteers who clean up an old dump on a preserve, the tapestry of people who make LTC flourish is woven together with some common themes: love of land and love of community.

"Volunteers connect with other volunteers who have a lot in common, and whom they may have never met if it wasn't for their volunteer position with LTC. It makes us all feel more a part of the woven fabric of our community."

- *Cacia Lesh*
LTC volunteer coordinator

In recent years, LTC has devoted more staff resources to working with and coordinating our volunteers. This past year, a volunteer coordinator position was created and is held by Cacia Lesh, LTC's former administrative coordinator. "The position of volunteer coordinator was a response to a growing demand," Lesh said. "It was time to create a more formal system to coordinate the increasing number of people who were asking to help us out," Lesh said.

When asked about what she is learning in her new role, she notes, "Drawing in younger members of the community is challenging. Many of our volunteers are newly retired, new year-round residents who have been coming here since they were young and are fulfilling a life-long dream of making northern Michigan their home. The work we do is so much fun! I think people are really aching for time in the woods and having a reason to explore a new place, build trail, or 'adopt' a trail as a Volunteer Trail Steward. It fulfills that internal need for a connection to nature." ❄️

See page 2 for quotes from volunteers.

A total of 1,500 volunteer hours have been donated to LTC from January 1 to early November, 2013. Based on national volunteer value estimation of \$22.14/hour, the value of these hours is \$33,210!

533 Volunteer Positions Filled in 2013

- 145 Active Preserve Monitors
- 55 Active Trail Stewards
- 74 Work Bee Volunteers
- 18 Kestrel Nest Box Monitors
- 27 Mailing Volunteers
- 32 Other Volunteers

* 81 New Volunteers in 2013

* 31% of all 2013 volunteers were first-time or new this year

Examples of hours spent on volunteer projects:

- Braun stair building - 140 hours
- Taylor Horton Creek trails and clean-up - 100.5 hours
- Community service work - 127 hours
- Darnton trail and fence building - 195.25 hours





Mary Trout

EDUCATION & STEWARDSHIP VOLUNTEER

“Little Traverse Conservancy volunteer opportunities afford me both fun and enjoyment and enable me to share my love of birding and nature with others. As a former teacher, I appreciate the importance of environmental education: watching faces light up as feet walk through woods, meadows and, streams: looking, listening, learning and sharing these experiences with joy and excitement. Making nature more accessible is part of stewardship. That work can be hot, sweaty, physically tiring but, oh, so satisfying! What keeps me going is finding such a dedicated, convivial group whose passion for nature resonates with my own.”



Bev Warner

MAILING VOLUNTEER

“As a young girl, I roamed and explored the creeks and woodlands of Indiana and Michigan. Then as a young woman I volunteered at a local hospital where I decided to become a nurse. Taking care of people and nature go hand in hand for me. Volunteering at LTC gives me such good feelings working with people who love the land and nature as I do. When I do the mailing, I have a wish for every person to respond with the sense they are doing a little bit to help preserve our natural world. Paying forward is a big thing for me.”



CCI Greenheart

CENTER FOR CULTURAL INTERCHANGE

“Thank you for your help in organizing this summer's volunteer event with Center for Cultural Interchange (CCI) Greenheart. Sarah was such a delight! We worked hard, but we had fun doing it, thanks to Sarah. I hope CCI Greenheart has the opportunity to team up with your lovely organization again in the near future.”

- Joe Burns, CCI Greenheart

(NOTE: Intern Sarah Dillabough from Austin College volunteered 495 hours in exchange for college credit and experience at LTC.)

“A healthy social life is found only when in the mirror of each soul, the whole community finds its reflection and when in the whole community, the virtue of each one is living.”

– Rudolf Steiner, Austrian philosopher and scientist



Caitlin Donnelly

LTC AMERICORPS SERVICE MEMBER

A service program that offers a modest living stipend and benefits, AmeriCorps is not a true volunteer position. Yet as with previous members who have served with LTC, Caitlin Donnelly worked 999 hours at a minimal cost to LTC. Here, she shares how this program not only gave to LTC, but has also been of enormous benefit to her.

“Before starting at LTC, I didn't even know what AmeriCorps really was, or stop to think about how I would be a part of a nationwide service organization. Once I realized the instrumental role AmeriCorps had in my involvement and success at LTC, I embraced the opportunity wholeheartedly. AmeriCorps made me feel not only proud to serve my community I grew up in, but to be a part of something bigger, to be a contributor to my country. I was able to get the most hands-on experience I've gotten since college graduation and become a part of LTC. I learned to truly appreciate all those who work to make these programs possible. It is a win-win for everyone involved. I can't express how lucky I am to have had this opportunity, and I do and will continue to recommend it to anyone, no matter if you're a recent graduate entering the job world, or a retiree looking into a new direction. Little Traverse Conservancy gave me an amazing experience and helped me find my place and passion, and their partnership with AmeriCorps was the avenue to get me there. For that I am forever grateful.”

MACKINAC COUNTY

Another Piece for Leopold Preserve

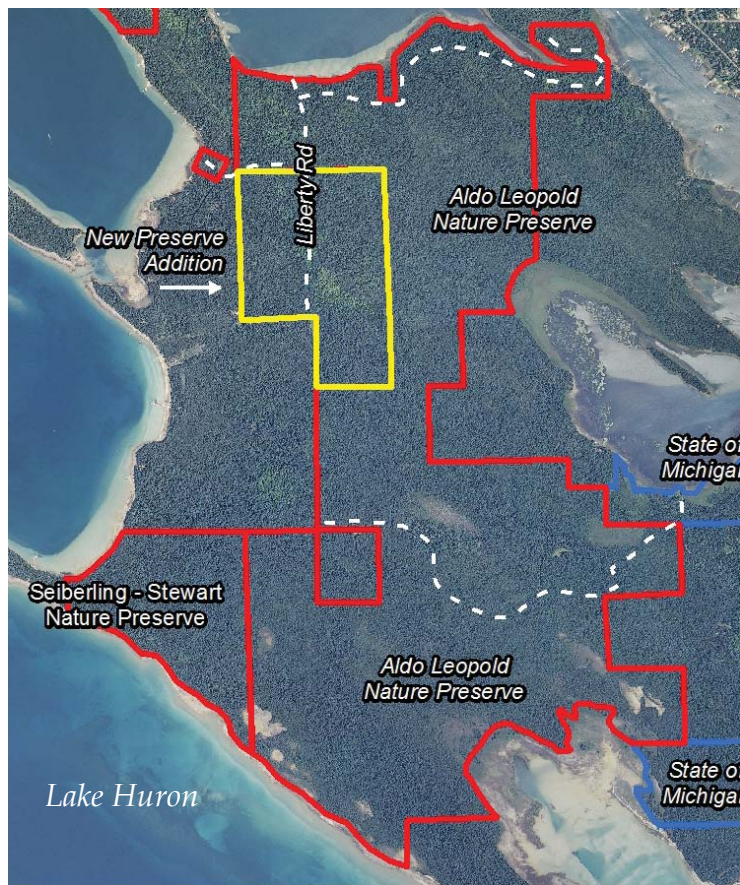
A 200-acre addition to the Aldo Leopold Preserve on Marquette Island, Les Cheneaux, was recently purchased with a grant from the J.A. Woollam Foundation. The new addition provides much desired trail access and brings the size of the preserve to 1,683 acres along with 3.8 miles of Lake Huron frontage.

Last spring, land protection and stewardship staff met with Clark Township to discuss the overall planning for land protection on Marquette Island. As seen in the map to the right, a majority of the island now comprises the Aldo Leopold Preserve.

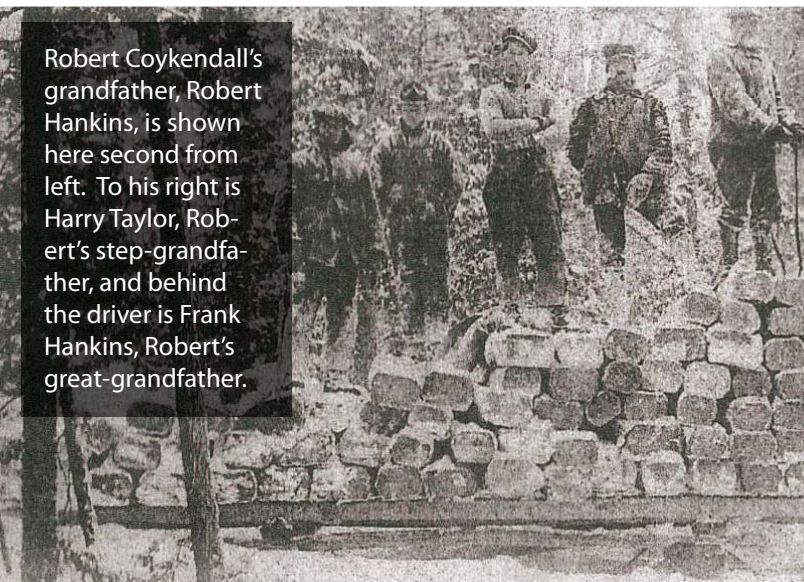
This most recent purchase was identified as the most important and strategic parcel to acquire because it includes a large portion of Liberty Road, the main road running north to south on the island.

“Until we owned more frontage on Liberty Road, LTC has been hesitant to fully promote the Aldo Leopold Preserve because access was limited,” explained Doug Fuller, the Conservancy’s director of stewardship. “With this new acquisition, large portions of the road are now found within the preserve’s boundaries.”

Future plans at the preserve are to create a loop trail through the north half of the island as well as a publicly-accessible trail through the south part of the island. It is hoped to eventually have contiguous trail shore to shore.



Robert Coykendall's grandfather, Robert Hankins, is shown here second from left. To his right is Harry Taylor, Robert's step-grandfather, and behind the driver is Frank Hankins, Robert's great-grandfather.



ROBERT AND MARY COYKENDALL RECENTLY DONATED A 13-acre property near the Bear River to become the Hankins Glen Nature Preserve. The fourth generation in his family to own the land, Robert recalls his childhood summers up north: “When I was a kid, I’d get out of school in June, my dad would take me to the train station and my grandfather would pick me up. I worked in the lumber woods with my grandfather. When I was 9 or 10 he took me up to the hardware and bought me an

EMMET COUNTY

Hankins Glen Preserve

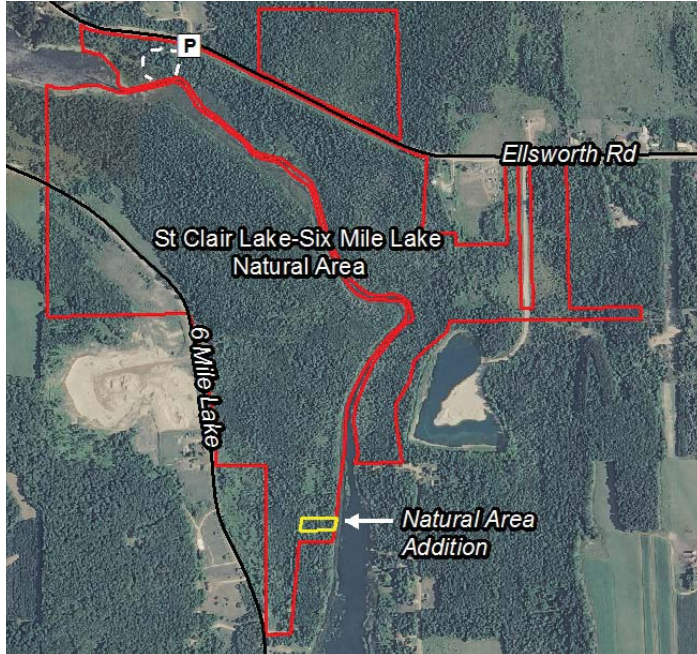
axe that I had to keep sharpened.” Robert used to have the job of feeding the logging camp horses. He also recalls that at one time, his grandfather grew ginseng on the land.

A small creek originates just west of the new preserve flowing toward the Bear River. Tree species include a mix of maple, hemlock, balsam fir, aspen and other species.

“We want this land to stay woods,” Robert explained. “We didn’t want it sold for development but left just the way it is.”

recently protected lands

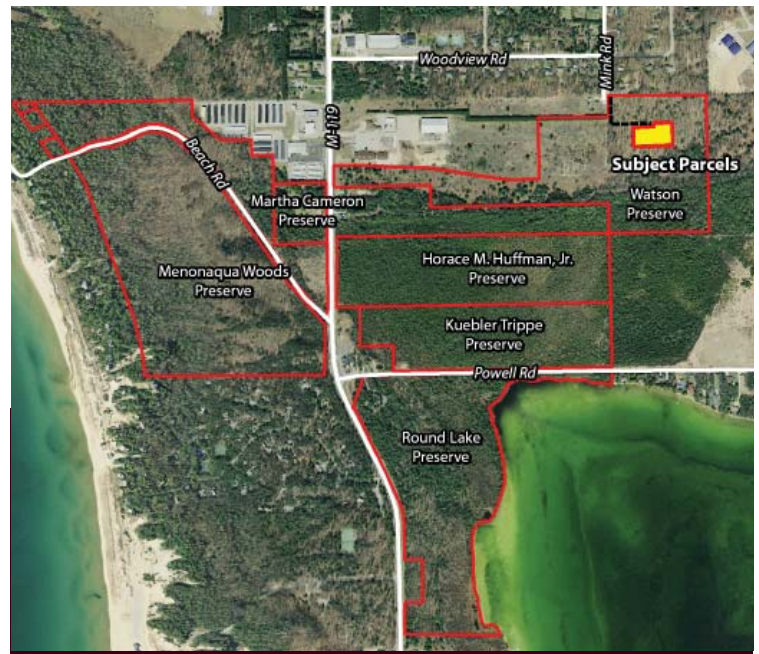
CHARLEVOIX COUNTY



New Addition to SCL-SML

A small addition with 100 feet of frontage on Six Mile Lake has been donated and added to the St. Clair Lake/Six Mile Lake Natural Area. Over many years, this protected region has grown to more than 192 acres and is a joint project of both Little Traverse Conservancy and the Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy based in Traverse City. A boat launch, small trail, and lake overlook give easy access to the natural area off of Ellsworth Road/C-48, two miles outside the village of Ellsworth.

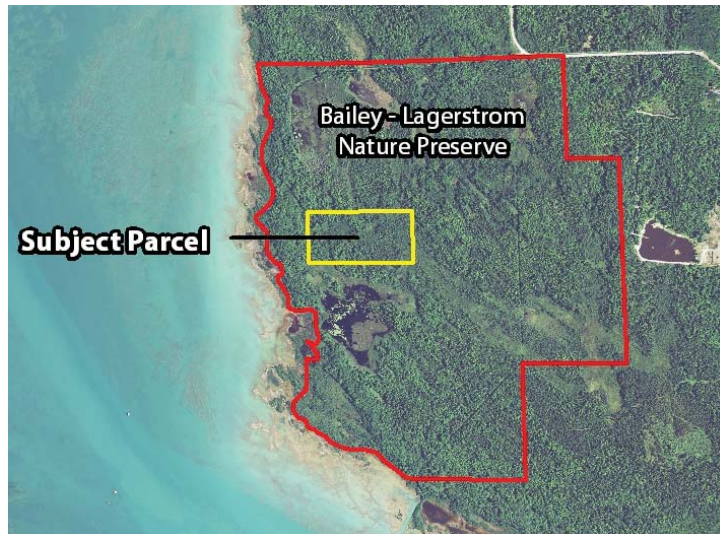
EMMET COUNTY



Additions to Watson Preserve

Two key pieces of land found within the Watson Nature Preserve have been purchased by LTC. This eliminates an access easement and will enable construction of a footpath and parking area at this preserve that was donated in 1998. “This preserve is situated between the Griffin Arena/county governmental complex on the west and several residential neighborhoods on the north and east,” explained Director of Stewardship Doug Fuller. “Although many people living and working nearby had already been enjoying the land, the expansion and improvement of the trail system coupled with the parking area should make for a really great neighborhood preserve now.” Look for the improvements to be completed in spring 2014.

CHIPPEWA COUNTY



New Purchase for Bailey-Lagerstrom Preserve

A 20-acre inholding within the Bailey-Lagerstrom Nature Preserve on Sugar Island was recently purchased. Surrounded completely by the preserve, the land is primarily forested in lowland conifer species with some open marshland areas with seasonal standing water. By acquiring this parcel, LTC eliminates any future concerns about access to it through the preserve, or inappropriate uses on a parcel within the preserve.

bright spots

In a recent post on his Children & Nature Network blog, Richard Louv, author of *"The Nature Principle: Reconnecting with Life in a Virtual Age,"* notes that there are reasons to feel hopeful about our children's future and connection to the land:

"The children and nature movement offers conservationists a powerful new way to make their case...The movement is helping build and strengthen the long-term conservation ethic. Past studies show that adults with such an ethic fell in love with the natural world when they were children. What happens if young lives are defined more by the virtual than the real? Among other groups, land trust organizations have realized that unless future generations learn to love the land, then the legal agreements to preserve land won't be worth the paper on which the contracts are written. The children and nature movement is, in a sense, a form of insurance, a way to ensure that future generations will value the nature that conservationists have worked so hard to preserve."



fall review

"I loved the fact that the lesson that they presented supplemented what is going on in the classroom as well as followed the common core standards that our district is implementing. Melissa and Sarah also made it fun for them even in the rain! The kids came back and we discussed what we did, what they saw, and finished their journal sheets that were provided."

- Becky Ance

Ottawa Elementary 4th grade teacher, Petoskey - October 4, 2013

resource sharing

Sarah Mayhew staffed a Little Traverse Conservancy information table at the recent Char-Em ISD Professional Development Day held at Boyne City High School. Cydney Steeb (pictured right) from the Emmet Conservation District and Melissa Hansen of LTC presented an "Introduction to Place-Based Learning" session. Two lessons from the *Great Lakes in My World* resource book were demonstrated. Thirty-one teachers participated. They were thrilled to receive a free copy of the *Great Lakes in My World* resource book made possible through a grant from the Baiardi Foundation. Input was sought from teachers on the best way to help connect them with a new Learn Local Initiative training and resources.



Loving Every Season

fresh air + fresh snow = renewed spirits!

LTC Winter 2013 Ecology & Snowshoeing Programs

Registration: December 2-20, 2013 & January 6-17, 2014

Programs: January 21 – February 28, 2014

Go to www.landtrust.org for program choices and more info!

Not getting education emails? Please contact Sarah at 231.344.1018 to receive our monthly environmental education e-newsletter.

2012-2013
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Professional
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Conservancy

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(*Denotes Benefactor gift of \$1,000 or more. Friends contribute \$500 or more.)

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Richard and Linda Mueller
Muller Electric Company
Stephen and Anne Murray
Music Makers of Petoskey
Rick and Meredith Neumann
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Dr. and Mrs. Edward Newcomb
North Country Restorations
Northern Star Broadcasting
Northern Michigan Construction
Pat O'Brien & Associates Real Estate
Dr. and Mrs. Gilbert O'Gawa
Dr. James and Beverly Osetek
Mr. and Mrs. Verne Osterlund
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Pellston Lodge
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Petoskey News-Review
Petoskey Plastics
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Dr. Beverly Zelt

BUSINESS PROFILE

Ferguson & Chamberlain Associates, Inc.

provided by Scott Papineau

In 1977, after receiving licensure as a land surveyor, John Ferguson formed his private practice under the name John E. Ferguson Associates, Inc. Shortly after opening the business from a home office to the Pine River building in downtown Charlevoix. In 1985 he added a business partner, Sherman Chamberlain. The name changed to its current title, Ferguson and Chamberlain Associates Inc. and they stayed in the Pine River building until 1999. That is when the business moved to its current location on Upright Street on top of the south hill in Charlevoix.

In 2003, shortly after receiving his license, Scott Papineau joined the company and was made a partner the following year. In 2006, Matt Wynsma was hired and he too was made a partner the following year. At the start of 2014, Scott and Matt will be the sole owners with John and Sherman continuing to work and hold officer positions in the business. Long-time employee Dan Hernden has been with the company since 1992 and has been invaluable with his drafting and technical knowledge.

Ferguson and Chamberlain is a full-service professional surveying firm. The types of survey services provided include boundary, construction, topographical, hydrographic, site plans, subdivision plats, site condominiums, parcel divisions, industrial, aerial control, flood plain determination as well as participating in the remonumentation programs in Antrim and Charlevoix counties. Our office has nearly 25,000 survey records covering Antrim, Charlevoix, Cheboygan, Emmet, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska and Otsego counties, as well as some records from the eastern Upper Peninsula and southern Michigan. In 2007, the firm purchased Lennox and Associates which added a large database of records covering Antrim and Kalkaska counties. Some large projects the company has worked on include the remediation of the Big Rock nuclear power plant site, the new schools in Boyne City and Charlevoix, the remediation of the Advance power plant and subsequent Somerset



Left to right: Sherm Chamberlain, Dan Hernden, John Ferguson, Matt Wynsma and Scott Papineau

Pointe development, and the East Park improvements in Charlevoix.

The firm has had the pleasure of doing many surveys for local conservancies. "We are well aware of the changes and growth in our area and, while we know it is necessary, we feel it is important to maintain open spaces for everyone to benefit from," Scott Papineau said. "The Conservancy does great work in protecting sensitive areas and creating more access to land for the public to use and enjoy. This is why we have felt a need to give back to LTC so they can continue their mission of protecting open spaces. We feel blessed to live and work in such a beautiful area and we are glad to be able to support a group that feels the same way and works to keep it that way for generations to come," Scott said.

Memorials

The following gifts were given between August 21, 2013 to November 22, 2013.

Daniel Adams

Earl and Sandra Betts
Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Oberg
Mr. and Mrs. Jack Robbins

Donald Ballard

Mr. and Mrs. James Lahde

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Bill and Marlene Mayer
Mr. and Mrs. George E. Melzow
Mr. and Mrs. Michael S. Mitchell
Anthony and Pamela Morse
Rust and Mercedes Muirhead
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Mrs. Carl W. Nichols
Mr. James S. Offfield
Mr. and Mrs. Paxson H. Offfield
Mr. and Mrs. Richard M. Parker
Dr. and Mrs. David Parrish III
Mr. and Mrs. William A. Petzold
Mr. and Mrs. C. Mark Pirrung
Mr. and Mrs. Richard B. Platt
Mr. and Mrs. Hullihen Quarrier Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. George J. Records
George and Catherine Reindel
Mr. and Mrs. Greg Renker
Mrs. Thomas A. Reynolds
Douglas F. Ruby Family
The Rowen Family
Mr. and Mrs. John T. Sant
Mr. M. Rust Sharp
Mr. and Mrs. William W. Shelden, Jr.
Mr. Richard Siragusa
Mr. David W. Smith

Mrs. Joan F. Smith and Family
Stephen and Judith Smith
Mr. Robert Stackler
Mr. and Mrs. William M. Street
Mr. and Mrs. Donald H. Streett
Mr. and Mrs. William C. Stude, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen G. Sweet
Ms. Elizabeth Terry
Todd and Valerie Terry
Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Thomas, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Tomaski
Mr. and Mrs. Robert G. Vallee
Mr. and Mrs. Michael VanLokeren
Mr. and Mrs. John B. Warren Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. John H. Webster
Mrs. William K. Westwater & Family
Gill and Audie Whitman
Frederick C. Witsell Jr.

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Mr. and Mrs. J. Hord Armstrong III
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Mrs. Thomas H. Carruthers IV
Mr. and Mrs. James K. Dobbs III
Mr. Richard Dulaney
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Mrs. Jean I. Everest
Mrs. Joy Austin-Files
Mary L. Fischer and Family
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Mrs. Donald W. Fisher
Mr. and Mrs. Walter W. Fisher
Mrs. William A. Fisher II
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Mr. and Mrs. Jack H. Heckenberg
Mr. and Mrs. Johnson Hightower
Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Dean Hovey
Mrs. James H. Howe III
Mrs. William K. Howenstein
Mrs. Roger W. Hull
Joan Keller
James B. Kite, Jr. Family
Jinny McCoy
Mr. and Mrs. George E. Melzow
Randy and Diann Moran
Mr. James S. Offfield
Paxson and Susan Offfield
Mr. and Mrs. Richard M. Parker
Mr. and Mrs. Hullihen Quarrier Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Greg Renker
Mrs. William F. Souder Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Stockham
Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Thomas Jr.
Mrs. Mark L. Townsend
Mr. and Mrs. Michael L. Turnbull
Mrs. Mikki Snyder VanVuren
Mr. and Mrs. Byron L. West

Herbert Kirby

Joseph and Diane Brandonisio



Seven Springs Preserve/Margie Reh

Henry B. Kleinfeldt

Mr. and Mrs. Michael L. Mesmer

Jan Kopka

Mr. and Mrs. George E. Melzow

Mrs. Carl W. Nichols

Mr. and Mrs. William A. Petzold

Jeanne Marie LaFontaine

Giora Adam and Marilyn Boucher

Martha Homan and Curt Carter

Eastern Asphalt Co, Inc.

Ford Motor Credit

Henry and Noreen Giles

Brad, Erin and Gustov Morgan Helpap

The Holzers

Michael H. Morgan

Scott, Pam, Hannah and Reese

Morgan

Bryce and Eva Moulton Family

Varsity Ford

Varsity, Lincoln, Mercury

Mr. and Mrs. William Parker

Lou, Hank and Mike Stanford

Jerry and M.J. Waechter

The White Family

Bill and Pamela Yung

Donnie Lancaster

Mrs. Shirley Blair

Robert Landick

Lois Park

Elizabeth Larson

Mr. and Mrs. Paxson H. Offield

Dave Lesh, Sr.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter H. Lindsay

Robert and Mary Milne

Patricia Lewis

Mr. and Mrs. Richard J. Godfrey

William Makinen

David de Ferranti on behalf of R4D

Philip and Joyce Makinen

Mr. and Mrs. Michael T. Minasian

Lily and Wendy Wong

Marilyn Miller

Seberon and Dianne Litzenburger

Harold Norris

Seberon and Dianne Litzenburger

Susan Phelan

Mr. Ralph R. Carruthers

Ms. Sara Carruthers

Mrs. Thomas H. Carruthers IV

Larry and Judy Deutsch

Lilly Ann Feldman

Mr. and Mrs. David H. Irish

Marilyn Simon Lord

Jack and Sallie Phelan

Ms. Suzanne Phelan



Margie Rehn

Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Phelan

Jerry and Judy Rubenstein

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Jane and Bill Tyson

Mr. and Mrs. Allen W. Whittemore

William Phelan

Ms. Ann Key

Jack and Sallie Phelan

Ms. Suzanne Phelan

Arnie Saviano

Mr. and Mrs. Allen W. Whittemore

Margaret Schuberger

Ms. Darleen Flaherty

John "Jack" Sheets

Seberon and Dianne Litzenburger

Kathleen Smith

Mr. and Mrs. Allen W. Whittemore

Marylou Warren

Julie and Brooks McKinney

Al Winnard

Joan Keller

Mr. and Mrs. Kelley Newton

Dan and Sue Pienta

John and Martha Stewart

Thomas Winnard

Northern Trust Company

Lee Yff

Ms. Eliece B. Aiman

Mr. and Mrs. J. David Cummings

Ms. Judith A. Gillow

Joan Keller

Honorariums

In honor of Mr. and Mrs. William Boeschstein

Mrs. William Barnes III

Dorothy Krag in honor of her 100th birthday

Ms. Claire Elton

In honor of Mr. and Mrs. Ben Van Dam on their 5th wedding anniversary

Ben and Erika Van Dam

In honor of Mr. and Mrs. Al Winnard 65th wedding anniversary

Gregg Brumm and Carole Winnard Brumm

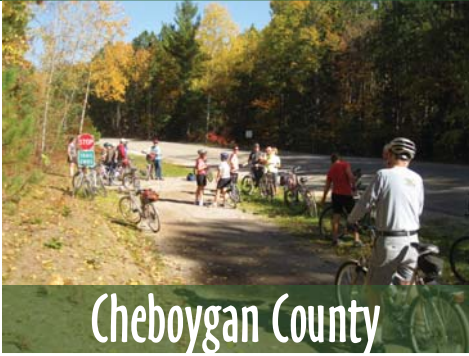
Wish List

- 2.5 hp, 25 to 30 gallon portable air compressor
- Contractor-style wheelbarrow

LTC recently received a donation of a Kubota tractor with bucket and brush hog attachment, plus a storage barn to keep them in at the new Reed's Pigeon River Preserve. To make full use of these gifts, we could also use the following:

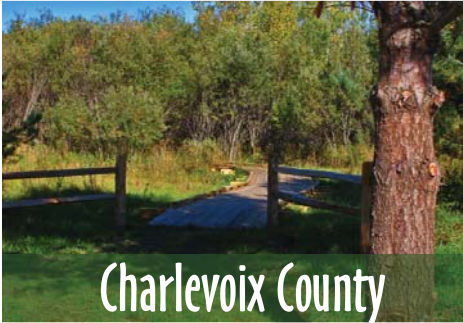
- 18' dual axle equipment trailer
- Back blade or box scraper attachment for the tractor
- Dump trailer
- 5' X 9' utility trailer

Stewardship Highlights



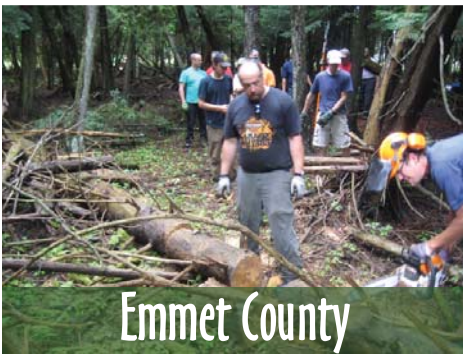
Cheboygan County

- A Pigeon River clean-up was completed along the shores of the Andreae Preserve as part of "River Sweep" by volunteers Darrell Schwalm and Roy Tassava.
- Trail at the Chaboiganing Preserve was reconfigured to adjoin the new Burt Lake Trail and a fall bike field trip was held to highlight new trails (pictured left).
- Trail improvements and clean up were completed at the Seven Springs Preserve.
- Gauthier trails were cleared by volunteers and trash was removed.
- Reed's Pigeon River cabin was cleaned and trails reconfigured.



Charlevoix County

- A volunteer work bee was held at the Barney's Lake Preserve to construct a new trail and address vandalism at the boat storage racks.
- A preserve dedication and several work days were held at the Darnton Family Preserve. A new boardwalk (pictured left) has been completed and significant progress on the trail system is underway.
- Scenic views and open meadows at the Ransom Preserve were maintained thanks to brush hogging by volunteer Miles Trumble and a volunteer work day to clear brush.
- Parking area and trail improvements as well as view clearing were completed at The Hill Preserve.



Emmet County

- The parking lot at the Bubbling Springs Preserve was completed with an Eagle Scout project underway to complete a boardwalk there.
- At the September Day of Caring volunteer day (pictured left) trails were significantly expanded at the Hailand and Helstrom preserves.
- The Offield Preserve informational kiosk was updated with new materials.
- Access to the Watson Preserve was improved thanks to the combination of a new land acquisition coupled with the construction of a cul-de-sac by the Emmet County Road Commission.



Mackinac County

- New trails were completed at the Derby Preserve (see story upper right).



Chippewa County

- The Vermilion Point Preserve area had six Piping Plover nests this past season. Four of the nests were successful in hatching a total 14 chicks and six chicks fledged (a modern-day record!).



The parking areas at the following preserves will be plowed this winter:

Andreae
Banwell
Birge
Driggers
Goodhart Farms
Offield (both)

The Hill (both)
Round Lake
McCune
Round Island Point
Susan Creek
Wisser-Saworski

Ski/snowshoe trails will be groomed at the following preserves this winter:

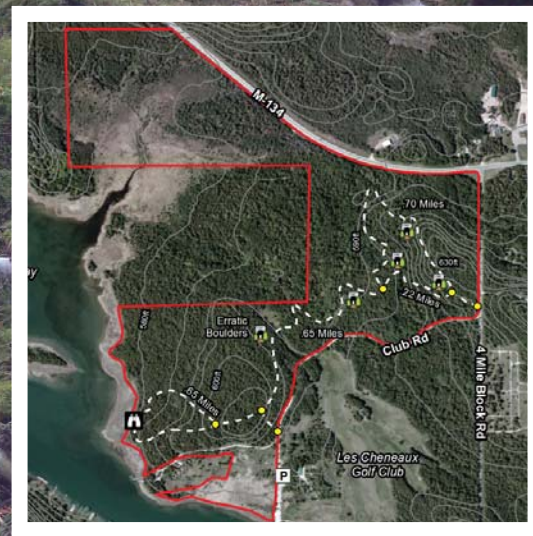
Birge
Driggers

Goodhart Farms
The Hill

MACKINAC COUNTY

New Trails Completed at Derby Nature Preserve

This past fall, staff and volunteers completed the three-mile figure eight trail loop at the 200-acre William B. Derby Preserve near Cedarville. The trail, shown on map to right, meanders through rock gardens, forest, and along the rugged shore of Lake Huron. You can find the preserve on our interactive map at www.landtrust.org or through the free LTC Explorer app. *See page 15 for a winter field trip to this trail.*



CHARLEVOIX COUNTY

Trail Expansion at Barney's Lake Preserve



In September, LTC staff and 10 Beaver Island volunteers constructed a .75 mile-long trail linking Barney's Lake Road with the Kuebler Trail. The new trail is on the Scully addition to the Barney's Lake Preserve. All told, 2.7 miles of trail are available at this 285-acre preserve.

In addition to trail clearing, a naturally-surfaced parking area was cleared, trail signs installed, steep sections of the trail were bench cut, and blue trail blazes were painted to permanently mark the trail.

The new trail runs through several different vegetation cover-types and landforms, highlighting the beautiful diversity of the land. The east half is flat, but the west half runs through beautiful, high wooded sand dunes, and includes views of Barney's Lake. "I've already heard a lot of good feedback about this trail segment," said the Conservancy's Director of Stewardship Doug Fuller.

With input from local residents, Conservancy staff will be assessing the need and feasibility of additional trail segments to the Barney's Lake shore, the Lake Michigan shore, or to the top of Bonter's Bluff.

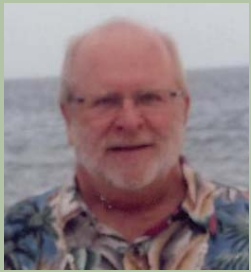
For more information about this or any other Conservancy nature preserve, please contact the office at 231.347.0991. Updated information can be found on the Conservancy's free smart phone app (*see back page for QR codes*) or on our website at www.landtrust.org where an interactive service area map of all Conservancy preserves can be found. We encourage preserve users to send us feedback! ❄️

Welcome new trustees

Dan Jarzabkowski and Kerri Mertaugh!

DAN JARZABKOWSKI

New trustee Dan Jarzabkowski and his wife Patty have been coming north for nearly 30 years. "We have lived on the Pigeon River and several places on Mullett Lake," Dan explained. "I am a member of the Mullett Lake Area Preservation Society and Patty and I were active in the yoga ranch dam flood clean up in the '80's."



Following service in the Army National Guard and the U.S. Marine Corps, Dan served in Vietnam for 13 months, earning,

among other medals, the Combat Action Badge and, as a member of the 12th Marine Regiment, a Presidential Unit Citation.

After graduating from Saginaw Valley State with a teaching certificate, Dan earned a masters degree from Central Michigan and progressed through a career as a teacher, coach, class advisor and later principal and co-superintendent. He retired from public schools after 30 years of service and began a second career as an adjunct professor in Ferris State Universi-

ties School of Education, finally retiring after 10 years.

When Patty retired from her teaching position three years ago, the Jarzabkowskis sold their Reed City home and moved to their Mullett Lake home for year-round residence. The couple has two children: Kitt Daniel of Royal Oak and Victoria Ann of Austin, Texas.

In his spare time, Dan enjoys fishing and a little deer hunting in Cheboygan County. He and Patty also own a small home in Florida where they plan to become active in water conservation efforts.

"My areas of interest on the Little Traverse Conservancy board, at this point, would be education and the process of land acquisition. I would also like to see parcels donated that are in the northern tip of the mitt. I also wish to get to know all board members, especially our member from Burt Lake.

"I am impressed with the meetings I've attended so far and with the great staff of LTC that I have met. I look forward to an outstanding term on the board!"

KERRI MERTAUGH

New trustee Kerri Mertaugh comes from a family that has lived in the Les Cheneaux Islands for generations.

"My grandfather EJ Mertaugh, established EJ Mertaugh Boat Works in 1925, and was the first Chris Craft dealer. Our area is still home to many of the original

wooden boats he sold," Kerri remarked.

"My favorite preserve is the Jack Mertaugh Preserve in Hessel," Kerri said, noting its personal significance. After her father died in 1998, Kerri and her sister Margo worked with LTC to protect more than 1,400 feet of Pt. Brûlée/Lake Huron shoreline in their father's memory. "It has beautiful views



of Hessel Bay and is a sanctuary for bird life," she said. The Jack Mertaugh Preserve lies adjacent to the Birge Preserve as part of a now 528-acre preserve complex with 1.5 miles of Lake Huron shore. (The most recent addition to the preserve was the 2012 purchase of an 83-acre parcel once part of the Mertaugh's original land.)

"Growing up in northern Michigan, I spent lots of time in the woods and on the water. Each summer we spent time cruising in the North Channel of Canada with my grandfather Glen Bailey. My time spent on Drummond Island is equally as influential as the time I have spent in Les Cheneaux."

Kerri spent a decade working in Manhattan as an editor at *Martha Stewart Living* magazine. She now spends summers at her island cottage on Coryell Island in Les Cheneaux and the rest of the year, resides in Old Lyme, Connecticut.

New Members

The Conservancy would like to thank the following new members as well as members who have increased their level of giving from August 21, 2013 to November 22 2013.

Friends and Benefactors Businesses

Belle Aquatic
Consumers Energy
Taylor Rental Center

Individuals/Families

Steven L. and Barbara Berry
Mrs. Dwight P. Black
Clannad Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. David G. Gabriel
Mr. Timothy A. Garry
John and Christine Giampetroni
Mrs. John W. Kausch
Ms. Karen L. Klomprens

Mr. David Lundeen
Malloure Family Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Miesel
Mrs. John E. Riecker
Mr. and Mrs. Peter Simons
Mr. and Mrs. Steve Toth Jr.

New Contributing Members

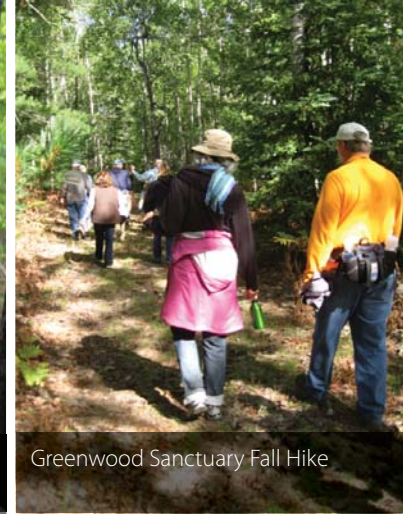
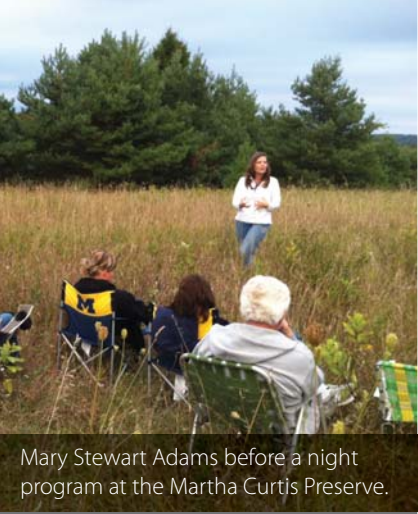
Businesses
RE/MAX North

Individuals/Families

Mr. Steven M. Beard
Danny and Doty Bloxom
Thomas and Joyce Buerge
Michael and Mary Ellen Carraway
Dave and Carole Cole
Walt Dark
Mary and Lee Ekstrom
Andrew and Jacalyn Elsoffer
Mr. Jim Elzinga

Fernanda and Brian Fisher
Michael and Rose Fitzgerald
Mr. and Mrs. Dave and JoAnn Fowler
Dick and Susan Fox
Ira and Deborah Ginsburg
Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Haley
Ms. Michele Harmala
David and Barbara Henning
Mr. and Mrs. David H. Henning
Jim and Jeri Huntington
Mr. and Mrs. Mark Jones
Carolyn K. Klender
Thomas and Pamela Koch
Dave and Doreen Kresnak
John Land
Mr. Alvin LaFreniere
Luane and Catherine Lumbert
The Stephen Mallett Family
Nancy and Duane Miller
John R. and Lynn Mills
Mrs. Greta G. Nelson
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Nolan

James B. Oliver
Ms. Elizabeth Phillips
Bob and Leslie Picken
Brian Coco and Mary C. Pittman
Theron and Molly Reibel
Richard and Brenda Roberts
Daniel and Mary Ann Ryan
Dan and Sandy Sampson
Mr. and Mrs. Chris and Michele Shafer
Dr. Douglas J. Springborn
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Torbeck
Linda and Lawrence Ulrey
Mr. Walter Vallett Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. John Vine
Mr. and Mrs. Jack Wagner
Mr. and Mrs. Jim Walker
Douglas Walls
Robert and Jennifer Wedge
Mr. and Mrs. Norman W. Wells
Stephen P. Wilensky
Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Wright
Stephen A. and Kelly M. Wright
Ms. Julia Yuill



Mary Stewart Adams before a night program at the Martha Curtis Preserve.

The Gorge field trip

Greenwood Sanctuary Fall Hike

Nutty for Squirrels Knee-High Program

THANK YOU

- Lisa Loyd for donating tablecloths and promoting LTC at a fundraising event.
- Mike and Karen Donnelly for 12 pairs of snowshoes and waders donated to education program.
- Leonard Schrier for helping clear boundaries at the Braun Preserve.
- Jack Ivey and Nicholas Roznowski for help cleaning up downed trees at The Hill Preserve.
- Volunteer photographers Todd Petersen, Gary Osterbeck, Mary Jane Ulrich, Jason Brabbs, and Todd Parker.
- Grain Train of Petoskey for donating snacks for stewardship volunteer work bees.
- Field trip leaders Mary Stewart Adams, Tom Allan, Andy Reyburn, Karie Slavik, and Mary Trout.
- James Buckhout for painting our storage garage.
- Kable Maxwell for deck repairs at the LTC office.
- Bob and Cindy Speeter, Mary Trout, and Kable Maxwell for help with meadow restoration at Ransom Preserve, and Miles Trumble for brush-hogging the meadow.
- Lorraine and Nick Klein, Ron Oesterreicher, Bob Speeter, and Trisha Woollcott and "Hobbes" for trash clean-up and trail reconfiguration at Seven Springs Preserve. Thanks to Ron and Bob for bringing a tractor and their trailers to haul trash.
- Sandy Birdsall, Jim and Mary Gillingham, Brad Grassmick, Jim and Sarah Haveman, Jacque LaFreniere, Kitty McNamara, Eric Naranjo, and Betty Scoggin for help creating the new trail system at the Scully addition to the Barney's Lake Preserve on Beaver Island, and Jim and Sarah Haveman for housing and feeding three LTC staff during the Barney's Lake trail work event.
- Matt McDonough for making his van available to LTC staff for use on Beaver Island.
- Jeremy, Brandy, John Griffin, Amy Polk, Bob Speeter, and Pat Wilson for help creating the new trail at the Derby Nature Preserve, and John Griffin for buying dinner for staff and for donating five "no snowmobiling" signs.
- Marlene Bartson, Zach Ginop, Mike Grant, Tamara Meyer, and Circuit Controls Corp. staff Beau Depauw, Bob Evans, Roger Fosmore, Jack George, Diane Morse, Greg Moyer, Jamie Shepherd, Bill Waltonen, Sally White, and Dean Williams for help clearing new trails at the Hailand and Helstrom Nature Preserves on the Day of Caring 2013; and to Bill Dohm for donating his time and the use of his tractor in these efforts.
- Maple Grove Martial Arts owner Christopher Demanaeus, and participants Brittany Stuhr, Jaidyn Brooks, Gabe and Alice Wright, and Jon Purdy for clean-up at Taylor Horton Creek Preserve.
- Ed and Diane Strzelinski, Mary Trout, Diane Winchell, and CMU Alternative Breaks volunteers Marisa Enos, Kaitlyn Hawald, Terrance Hodges, Nicole Lahoun, Hannah Matich, Alexis Reaume, Arianna Svestka, Jessica Walls, and Samantha Zettler for trail building at Darnton Preserve, and neighbors David Beek and Kenny Cregg for loaning power equipment.
- Bluegreen Corporation volunteers Monica Spencer, Theresa Schneider, Nellie Crothers, Larry Crocker, Shauna Anderson, and Christina Duff for help with Darnton preserve trail building.
- Ed Grice and Boyne Mountain for housing a group of CMU Alternative Breaks Program students so that they could spend a weekend trail building at Darnton Preserve; and Jim Baumann for connecting LTC with Ed Grice.
- Todd Wright for grading and re-routing a trail at The Hill Preserve; Mary Johnson and Gary Osterbeck for seeding and landscaping the trail.
- Dave Caroffino, Jim Paris, Marlene Piekos, Blake Brunmeier, Dick Post, and Mary Trout for help at The Hill Preserve view clearing.
- Stephen Satmary for updating hunting maps as a GIS intern this fall.
- Mike Cameron for funding an interpretative sign at the Cameron Preserve.
- Glen Matthews for invasive species control at Offield Preserve, and for conducting a resource assessment at Reed's Pigeon River Preserve.
- Lois Ann Reed for donating tools and equipment, including a Kubota tractor and brush hog attachment.
- Sam Williamson for helping clear trees to improve visibility at a road intersection at Mulberry Farm Preserve.
- Jordan Valley Rental for donating chairs for the Darnton preserve dedication ceremony and Charlevoix County Road Commission for grading Dyer Road to improve access for the dedication ceremony.
- City of Boyne City for donating the use of the Veteran's Memorial Park Pavillion for our Annual Meeting.
- Scottie Lansill for donating funds for a bench at Roaring Brook Preserve in memory of her father, Bim Lansill.
- Darrell Schwalm and Roy Tassava for river clean-up on the stretch of the Pigeon River through the Andreae and Banwell preserves as part of Huron Pine's RiverSweep.
- Joe Claramunt and Aaron Zmiky for their work leading Scout Troop 55 of Harbor Springs in building a new trail segment at the Offield Preserve.
- Fall 2013 RSVP Mailing Volunteers: Marlene Bartson, Barb Bechhold, Gretchen Brown, Judy Brummeler, Mona Fay, Jan Green, Karen Knapp, Betty Kujat, Doris Lark, Sharon Ledingham, Nancy Fay Packer, Jean Reberg, Shonny Riehl, Betty Trippe, Lurli Vaughan, Delores Wehrenberg and Fall 2013 other Mailing Volunteers: Greta Jankoviak, Lorraine Lucy, John Maximiuk and Bev Warner.

Reflections... Tom Bailey

Public Opinion, Science and Resource Management: a Conundrum

The issue of public opinion versus science, and that of scientists with differing analyses and opinions, has been around in resource management for a long time. It arises in a variety of contexts and in connection with a variety of issues. A couple of current examples are wolf hunting and motocross racing.

Regarding wolves, over the past couple of years there has been a vigorous public debate in Michigan about whether hunting of wolves should be allowed in the Upper Peninsula. When it comes to wolves (and other species as well; I recall the debate in Michigan a few years ago about a mourning dove season) we learn from biology that certain populations can absorb some mortality from hunting and still remain viable. Many say that hunting pressure can also modify the behaviors of those populations, such as reducing wolves' depredation on livestock or making them more wary of humans. And so emerge the questions: we "could" hunt wolves; but should we? We "could" hunt doves; but should we? Some people see the answer in terms of science, some in social policy and still others in matters of spirit (our local Tribe has strong feelings about this). Aldo Leopold, who virtually invented the science of modern game management, wrote beautifully about the joys of the outdoors and about watching the "green fire" fade in the eyes of a dying wolf. On the other hand, he wrote about the ability to love ducks and shoot them, too. Where does that leave us? Our state resource agency, legislature and groups of voters battle for control as various experts, administrative regulations and a voter-approved referendum collide.

Regarding motocross racing, a private land owner has proposed a motocross track at an abandoned gravel pit site near Indian River. Plans include holding an annual national event that would draw an estimated crowd of thousands to the area. Many local businesspeople and residents support the idea, while nearby cottage owners and others have raised strong objections. Opponents have suggested that the track be located farther away from their cottages, and some have pressed the Conservancy to take a position against the proposal as ruinous to the environment and damaging to our nearby nature preserves. The difference between one location and another is, of course, very significant in terms of impact on the human environment, but not as clear when it comes to the natural environment. It thus seems to be one of those matters that falls more into the category of a social issue than an environmental one.

In land conservation and resource management on scales ranging from the National Parks to neighborhood nature preserves, we wrestle with these question all the time and find no easy answers. Both science and social issues matter. Renowned wolf researcher Rolf Peterson has written, eloquently, that "our National Parks should be seen as



not only laboratories, but cathedrals." He goes on to observe that "there is genuine creative tension between science and soul, reason and myth," and suggests that we should celebrate this in our National Parks, not bury it. I believe the same applies to our own back yards. We "protect" land for reasons that include recreation, aesthetics, and many things that are not expressed in terms of science.

So what's the "right" answer? Scientists don't always agree. And social points of view vary depending on people's locations and their views on matters ranging from the economic to the spiritual. These differences make it nearly impossible to develop a single policy that will please everyone.

Because of these diverse views some people are appalled, for example, that hunting is allowed on certain Conservancy preserves while others are appalled that it isn't allowed on more of them. Some applaud our forest management practices on select properties while others decry any logging at all. Some think that our organization should take positions on issues such as wolf hunting or zoning disputes in local government, and others believe that we should steadfastly avoid such advocacy.

Our founders were acutely aware of the many ways in which the Conservancy could be pulled to and fro by differing views on a variety of issues. Having been involved previously with advocacy and litigation, they charted a deliberate course that would approach conservation with a focus on land ownership and ownership interests. As a result, the Conservancy avoids taking positions on public policy issues and zoning matters. Our Board of Trustees focuses on land protection through acquisition, partnerships and education, leaving issue advocacy to groups that were formed for that sort of work. There is no "Conservancy position" on wolf hunting, and we leave zoning decisions about things like the proposed motocross track to local government and citizens. There is no litmus test here, and people with all views are welcome in our organization.

The fact that these resource management conundrums have no easy answers does not mean that we in any way underestimate their significance. Quite the opposite: because of their importance, we encourage people to participate in public processes that have been established to deal with these matters, each in accordance with his or her view. The resulting discussions can be healthy and informative, and can lead to more informed and appropriate public policy.



Winter Field Trips

Most Conservancy field trips are offered at no charge. However, space is limited and pre-registration is required by calling 231.347.0991. All outings require your own ski or snowshoe equipment, but if you would like to borrow a pair of LTC snowshoes at no cost, please let us know ahead of time. None will be available without a reservation.

Andrae Peterson/ Todd Petersen

Winter Snowshoe Hike at The Hill Saturday, January 18, noon-3pm The Hill Preserve, Charlevoix Co.

Join LTC for a winter outing through The Hill Nature Preserve in Boyne City. There will be hot chocolate and snacks at the viewing area where we will have amazing view of Lake Charlevoix and the surrounding area.

Family Bird and Nature Program on Snowshoes Saturday, January 18, 10am-noon Offield Family Preserve, Emmet Co.

Join local birder Mary Trout and LTC educator Melissa Hansen as we look for birds and mammals that brave the north woods winter. Listen and look for birds and discover how they survive our cold, frozen winters. Search for tracks and trails of wildlife and learn about animal survivor skills. We'll end our time back at the LTC office to warm up with some hot cocoa and make an edible bird seed wreath to take home for our feathered friends. Snowshoes and binoculars will be provided, but please bring your own if you have them.

"Nicely mowed trail through field and woods along the Jordan River. Many sites to jump in the river on a hot day. Easy xcountry skiing in winter."

- quote re. Rogers Family Preserve from "Maggie" posted on Nature Preserve App

Winter Celebration Saturday, January 25, 3-7 pm Reed's Pigeon River Preserve, Cheboygan Co.

Explore the two miles of trails on 109 acres at this new Cheboygan County preserve that includes 4,400 feet of frontage along the beautiful Pigeon River. Warm drinks and snacks will be provided. All guided tours depart from the Cabin. This will be an open house with a variety of guided tours:

3:00 – 7:00 Open House – ski and snowshoe trails on your own, warm up at the Cabin

3:30 – Winter River Ecology - guided ski/ snow shoe tour with LTC stewardship director Doug Fuller and water resource specialist Dan Myers from Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council

4:00 – Kids Snowshoe Adventure - with LTC environmental educator Sarah Mayhew

4:00 – Winter Tracking - guided snowshoe tour with LTC director of land protection Kieran Fleming and retired MDNR wildlife biologist Glen Matthews

5:30 – Winter Star Stories - at the cabin campfire with The Headlands International Dark Sky Park Program Director and Star Lore Historian Mary Stewart Adams

Goodhart Farms Nordic Adventure Saturday February 1, 10am-noon Emmet Co.

No pass required! Come ski groomed trails within the beautiful woods of Goodhart Farms. All abilities welcome, though be ready for a variety of terrain. Meet at the Robinson Road parking area.

Derby Preserve Winter Exploration Saturday, February 1, 10am-noon Mackinac Co.

Come ski or snowshoe the newest three miles of trail in the Les Cheneaux region with LTC education assistant Caitlin Donnelly. This beautiful new trail meanders through rock gardens, forest, and along the rugged shore of Lake Huron.

Winter Wildlife Adventure Saturday, February 8, 10am-noon Greenwood Sanctuary Windswept Gate - Cheboygan Co.

Greenwood Sanctuary is a privately-owned property near Wolverine, protected with a conservation easement held by LTC. Greenwood welcomes the public to enjoy and explore this almost 1,400-acre property for this special event. Groomed trails will offer a chance to find respite in the beauty of this winter wildlife haven.

Knee High Naturalists: A Snowy Home Saturday February 22, 10-11am Round Lake Preserve, Emmet Co.

Bring your 3-5 year old to explore animal life in winter! They'll discover which animals are sleeping through the winter and which ones are active plus what special body parts or behaviors help them survive the harsh weather! This program will include a story, indoor component and outdoor hike. Siblings are welcome to tag along.

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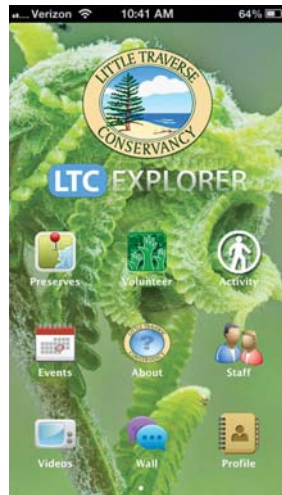
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Little Traverse Conservancy, Inc.
3264 Powell Road
Harbor Springs, MI 49740-9469
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Happy Holidays LTC Style
no high heels or ties required



The LTC staff is pictured in front of a pond at the Hailand Nature Preserve. Volunteers assisted staff in creating expanded trails that will connect to the new M-119 to Alanson segment of the North Western State Trail.

photo credit: Jason Brabbs