

Landings

Journal of the Door County Land Trust



Preserving Door County's
Wild Places and Open Spaces

Fall 2014, Vol. 17, Issue 1

The mission of the Door County Land Trust is to preserve, maintain, and enhance lands that contribute significantly to the scenic beauty, open space, and ecological integrity of Door County.



December 15, 2014 marks the fifth anniversary of the establishment of the Sturgeon Bay Ship Canal Nature Preserve. Beginning in 2015, the Door County Land Trust will embark upon the largest land restoration project in its history. 300 acres of woods and wetlands at this nature preserve will be restored to ecological health.



On our cover: Erskine Woods rushes after fall rains fill Hibbard Creek. This newly preserved property is home to a variety of wildlife and plants, including fish, birds, and numerous species of ferns. Photo by Dan Eggert

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LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Welcome to this issue of *Landings* and the coming joys of winter! As I pen this letter my thoughts are not on the months ahead, but on memories of last August when we hosted over 400 of our friends and supporters at the Grand View Scenic Overlook and Park for our 16th Annual Gathering. What a day it was! The weather was picture perfect, colorful kites soared high above the Grand View, conversation and camaraderie abounded, and the stories told of lands protected left us all with a renewed appreciation for the work we are accomplishing together. Those in attendance also heard me make a rather odd comparison: the Door County Land Trust, I professed, is very much like an onion. No, our smell doesn't drive us to tears (although the odor emanating from our land stewardship volunteers after a summer work party may come close!). But, like an onion, the strength of the Land Trust is derived from its never-ending multitude of layers.

I described the first layer of the Land Trust "onion" being our Board of Directors whose diverse talents and wisdom help ensure we are fiscally responsible, ethically driven, focused on priorities, and have the capacity needed to fulfill our mission. In this issue of *Landings* we will introduce you to three new directors and bid farewell to two board members who impacted the Land Trust in countless ways.

I spoke of the second layer being our staff who day-in and day-out steer the organization through complicated land deals, grant requirements, land management responsibilities, and the tireless work of securing the financial resources needed to achieve success. Inside this issue, we welcome two new staff members to our team and say goodbye to two professionals whose presence in our office will be sorely missed.

The third layer of our onion is composed of the many landowners we have had the honor of working with throughout the years. The deep appreciation and respect these families have for their lands is inspiring and gives us all hope that Door County's future is in good hands. Profiled inside these pages are families and individuals whose generosity, cooperation, and patience have enabled the Land Trust to establish three new public nature preserves and expand several existing preserves in 2014.

Finally, the last layer of the Land Trust onion that I described at this year's Annual Gathering is that of our generous community of supporters and volunteers. Did you know that you are joined by over 2,500 other individuals, families, and businesses that financially support our mission or volunteer their time? Your collective dollars are used to establish new nature preserves, expand, care for, and restore our existing protected places, and connect our lands with our youth, families, and elders. Every success story you read in this issue of *Landings* is made possible, in part, by your decision to invest your time and money with the Door County Land Trust.

Thank you for being a layer of the Land Trust "onion" and for partnering with us in building a healthy, strong, and vibrant Door County. Enjoy the coming winter season and reading about the good news you helped to create.

Sincerely,

Dan

Dan Burke

Right, geologist Roger Kuhns led a continuing education tour for Door County Land Trust volunteer hike leaders this fall. Trained hike leaders guided over 1,000 hikers on Land Trust protected properties this year. We thank them for their time and leadership!



ERSKINE WOODS PRESERVE

A PLACE KNOWN BY ONE FAMILY, MAY NOW BE KNOWN BY ALL

by Fran Burton

The rustic sign at the corner of Highway 57 and County Road V in Jacksonport reads “Erskine Rest Area.” The small park with the carefully restored root cellar merits a glance from most people driving by, but how many give a second thought to the significance of the name, “Erskine?” Although not well known, it is important in the history of Jacksonport, and now it is associated with another piece of property—Erskine Woods. Consisting of 15 beautiful and diverse acres along Hibbard Creek on County Road A, Erskine Woods was donated to the Door County Land Trust by John Erskine and his sister, Mary Ellen Erskine Rothwell. Recently, Mary Ellen talked about her family’s long association with Jacksonport and shared her memories of the place that is now Erskine Woods.

The Erskine name dates back to 1883 when Lincoln Erskine became Jacksonport’s postmaster. The post office was located in his Jacksonport house, which was actually two houses joined together. In one of the houses, Lincoln’s wife, Caroline ran a hotel—an overnight stop on the stagecoach line that passed by their door. While Lincoln sorted mail, Caroline fed passengers and put them up for the night. Directly in back of the house was the root cellar that survives today.

In the late 1800s, Lincoln and Caroline bought 80 acres on County Road A that included Hibbard Creek. They sold half the land but kept the portion with the creek. Mary Ellen said the 40 acres were “a resource to support their life style and the hotel.” They pastured cows, picked strawberries and blackberries, made maple syrup, and cut cordwood and cedar posts. When Lincoln died, Caroline inherited the property, which she gave to her sons, Fred and Arthur—20 acres each.

Fred had taken over as postmaster and lived in the post office building. He used his 20 acres to cultivate a large garden, make maple syrup, and chop huge piles of wood to heat the house. He was an excellent photographer, interested in recording the family’s history.



Photo by Dan Eggert

A portion of Hibbard Creek meanders along the northern edge of the Erskine Woods Preserve and attracts spawning fish in spring and fall, and is a source of fresh water for birds and animals.

Arthur used his 20 acres more as a summer getaway than as a source of income. He and his wife, Leone had three children: John, Mary Ellen, and Alice (Winnemann). The family lived in Milwaukee but spent as much time as they could in Jacksonport. At first they “tented” on their property, and in 1945 Arthur built a rustic cabin that still stands. It sits on five acres that the family will retain. The remaining 15 acres of what was Arthur’s tract make up the new Erskine Woods Preserve. Hibbard Creek runs through it.

Leone was a teacher who placed a high value on “keeping things in their natural state.” She was ahead of her time in her concern for the environment, composting kitchen scraps back in the 1940s. “She was knowledgeable about everything on the property and knew every plant and its characteristics,” said Mary Ellen. “A huge variety of plants grew along the creek, wildflowers and things like that. It was a treasure for her.”

Mary Ellen, who spent her childhood summers roaming the Hibbard Creek area, has a deep love of the place and its history. She remembers when “there were huge white pines all over that dropped their needles. They made a carpet.” She remembers hazelnut bushes, blackberries, strawberries, and countless bracken ferns that were so thick “it was kind



The Erskine family at the dedication of the new Erskine Woods Preserve. From left, Tim Erskine (son of John Erskine) and wife Holly Phaneuf Erskine, Mary Ellen Rothwell (formerly Erskine) and husband Dr. David Rothwell, and son Andy Rothwell.

of like a jungle.” She remembers jumping off sand cliffs at the back portion of the property and landing in the water, a spot that is now covered with beech trees.

She remembers hiking on the trail beside the creek, following it for about a mile up to an old Indian settlement site. She can point out a place where large boulders nearly fill the creek, a reminder of Lincoln’s time when a road crossed the creek and boulders were hauled in so buggies could traverse it.

She knows where there was once a beaver dam in the creek that caused a flood downstream during a period of particularly heavy rain, resulting in such anxiety that the village of Jacksonport bulldozed the dam and built a gravel dike.

She knows that the wide place where the creek begins is called “Robinson’s Pond,” and she knows where an old Episcopal cemetery lies in the woods. She knows where her grandfather found Indian artifacts along the beach in the ‘20s—ancient artifacts that began surfacing even earlier in the area’s history.

The place she knows so well is now the preserve known as Erskine Woods. John, Mary Ellen, and Alice began talking about its future after their mother died in 2002 at the age of 103. Mary Ellen said they “have great memories, and much of it is thanks to my parents and their interests and skills and the value they placed on keeping things in a natural state.” They decided it would be fitting to honor their parents by giving the land to the Door County Land Trust, for it would allow future generations to visit and enjoy the wild space that carries the Erskine name.

The trails at the new Erskine Woods Preserve will be complete and ready for public use in the summer of 2015.



The photo above shows Hibbard Creek in late August, before heavy September rains. A comparison with the cover photo (taken in mid-October) shows the water level had risen by six inches or more.

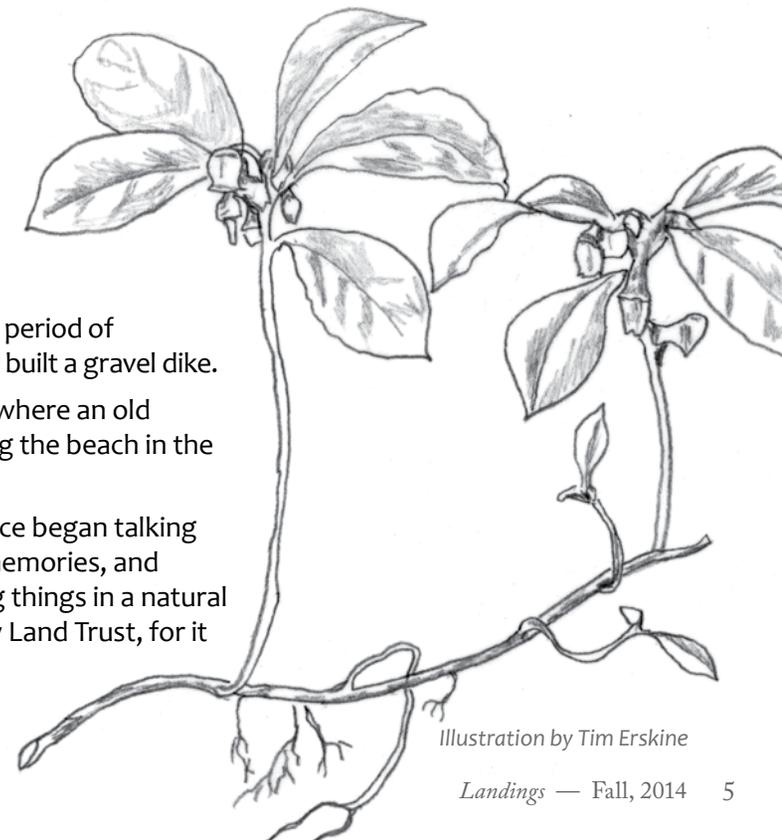


Illustration by Tim Erskine



The Places We Protect

WASHINGTON ISLAND SHOREFRONT DONATION HONORS WALL STREET LEADER

by Karen Yancey



If you are one of the leading traders on Wall Street, you need a place where you can retreat from the high-powered demands of the New York financial world. For Ann Curley Hartwell-Fassett and her husband, Michael, that place was a beautiful 10-acre shorefront property they bought in 1987 on Washington Island.

“Ann had a special tie to Door County even though she grew up in Connecticut,” said Michael Fassett.

“Her favorite aunt, Jeanne Boice, had a cabin near

Carlsville and she used to visit her in the summer.”

Michael also had special memories of Door County. Prior to spending several years living in Door County as an adult, his family spent summers in Sister Bay while he was growing up.

Ann was Senior Vice President of MFS (Massachusetts Financial Services) when she passed away. The last 15 of her 36 years at MFS, she broke the glass ceiling as the first female Director of Equity Trading at a major Wall Street firm.

In 1994 Ann was diagnosed with breast cancer and endured two years of intense but successful treatments. The couple, who had been together since the 1980s, married in 1997 in Ellison Bay and spent part of their honeymoon on Washington Island.

“We would usually stay at a local inn and go out to the land for picnics on the beach,” said Michael. “Eventually, we hoped to build a retirement home there.”

The property is on Sunrise Road on the eastern shore of the island and provides a magnificent view of the sunrise. It has 500 feet of lakeshore, including an alkaline rock shoreline with cliffs that vary from four to ten feet high. The majority of the property is mesic forest—including beech,

Left, Ann Curley Hartwell-Fassett.

Right, Boo’s Bluff now protects a remnant of boreal forest along the lakeshore.



basswood, hemlock, and sugar maple trees. A rustic driveway, which is growing over with fir and maple trees, leads down to the beach.

Thankfully they enjoyed many special times on the property for more than a decade before Ann’s breast cancer returned in 2003. She passed away in 2005.

After her death, Michael began talking with Terrie Cooper, Door County Land Trust’s Land Program Director, about preserving the land that Ann loved. “I knew she wanted to see it as a nature preserve, rather than have it built up someday,” he said. “After doing some research and talking with friends involved in the Door County Land Trust, I decided that the Land Trust was the best organization to ensure that Ann’s wishes were honored.”

Earlier this year, Michael worked with the Land Trust to complete the donation. “This generous gift is particularly significant because very little of the shoreline on Washington Island is open to the public for recreation,” said Cooper.

In honor of Ann, the nature preserve will be named Boo’s Bluff. Ann’s grandfather called her “Boo” when she was a few years old. “We had many, many special times there and the property is excellent for picnics, kayaking, swimming, or just relaxing,” said Michael. “We hope that other people will find special moments there as well.”

With volunteer help, a rustic hiking trail will be established along the existing driveway and a bench will be placed at the end of the trail along the lakeshore in summer of 2015.



Photo by Dan Eggert

MORE NEWS FROM WASHINGTON ISLAND

Detroit Harbor Nature Preserve Expanded

The Detroit Harbor Nature Preserve expanded this spring with two land purchases totaling just over six acres. These forested parcels adjoin lands already owned by the Land Trust and protect the groundwater recharge areas for the Richter Estuary and Detroit Harbor, which has been identified as northern Lake Michigan’s most productive small-mouth bass nursery. We thank the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Grant Program, the National Coastal Wetland Conservation Grant Program and Door County Land Trust supporters for making this preserve expansion possible.

Below, Detroit Harbor Nature Preserve addition.



Washington Island Lakeshore Property Protected

The Door County Land Trust protected 200 feet of Lake Michigan shoreline just south of Percy Johnson County Park on Washington Island this spring. The 1.6-acre property lies within the Big and Little Marsh State Natural Area and is an example of a high quality Great Lakes alkaline rockshore, a rare and unique coastal wetland community. It also possesses significant geological features including a diverse collection of Silurian fossils, such as cephalopods, clams, corals, and snails. We thank the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Grant Program, the National Coastal Wetland Conservation Grant Program and Door County Land Trust supporters for making this purchase possible.

Above, newly protected lakeshore. Left, Silurian sea fossils.



Photo by Dan Eggert

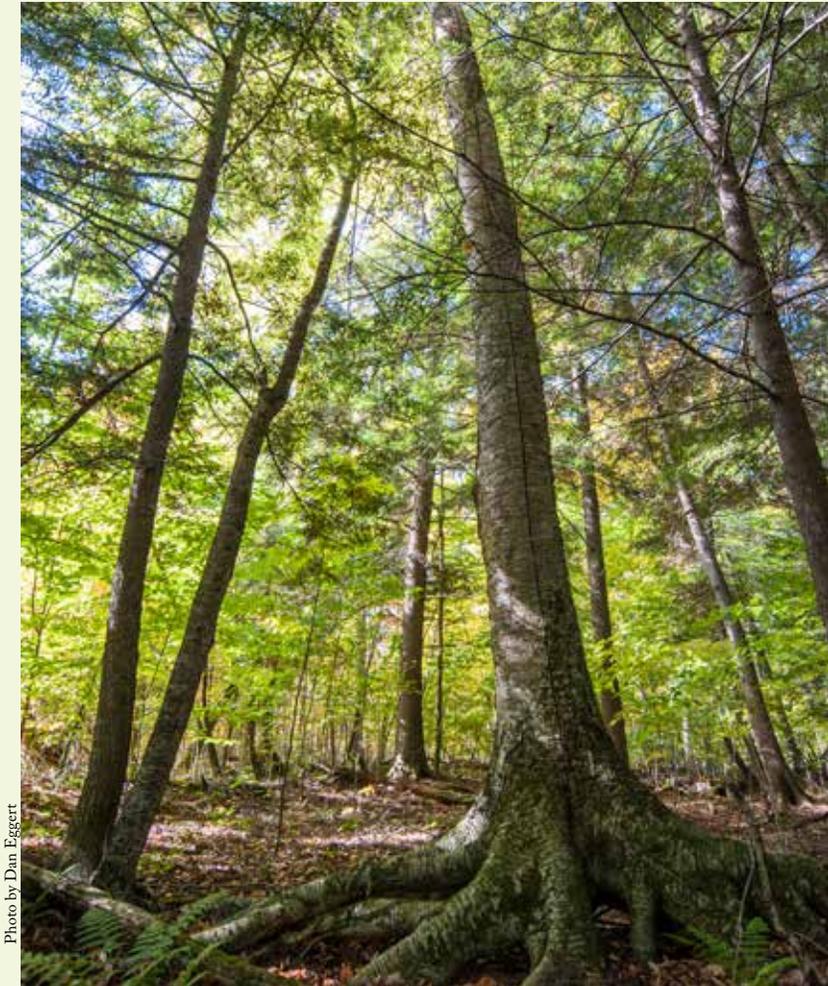


Photo by Dan Eggert

A CYCLE THAT CAN CONTINUE THE NEW WALT'S WOODS PRESERVE

by Katie Dahl

For the children of Walter and Mary Hirthe, trips to their family cottage on North Bay were the highlight of every summer—a time for exploration, restoration, and discovery. They spent long summer days exploring not only their own family's property, but also the property next door, whose varied topographies provided ideal grounds for adventure. The Hirthe kids were especially fascinated by what they called “the deer caves.”

“The adjacent parcel had some deer caves on it,” remembers Walter and Mary's son, Peter. “Deer would winter there, and you could find old deer remains in there, in the caves along the old shoreline of North Bay. There was a 12 or 15-foot little bluff hidden back in the woods, and we'd go out and climb into the caves. I was one of the younger ones so I would be the one lowered in—mischief in the caves! We enjoyed our time there. The neighbors knew those caves, too, and the neighbor kids enjoyed the same thing.”

Walter, a professor of engineering, and Mary, a retired nurse, purchased a small lot on the shore of North Bay in 1967 as a place to spend summer weekends with their five children. The property was secluded (located at the end of a rutted two-lane road) and rustic, with a small cottage, a pier, and a few old buildings that wouldn't be damaged by active young children.

In 1971, the Hirthes decided it would be wise to have a buffer property in case of future development. Walter sent a letter to the Detroit area family who owned the adjacent lot, expressing interest in buying the property if they ever decided to sell it. For twenty years, the Hirthes heard nothing. In 1991 they received a reply, just a few months after Walter's death. The owners of the adjacent lot were finally ready to sell some of their land. Even in the immediate aftermath of losing her husband, Mary agreed to buy it.

“She knew my father would have been extremely tempted to buy it, but maybe would not have had the financial wherewithal to do it,” Peter Hirthe says. “The silver lining of the situation is that Dad left her in a good situation



Photo by Dan Burke

Door County's karst topography was carved out by the waters of ancient seas, leaving exposed the dolomite limestone of the escarpment, as shown at the new Walt's Woods Preserve, located within the Baileys Harbor Boreal Forest State Natural Area.

financially... and it was what he had envisioned at the writing of that letter [in 1971]. Mom said, ‘Walter's not here; I'll do it.’ She did it in a caretaker mentality.”

For the last twenty years, the Hirthes have indeed acted as caretakers of the land, which they call Walt's Woods in memory of Walter. A few years ago, it became necessary for Mary Hirthe to sell the land. None of the Hirthe children were in a position to assume ownership, but the family decided that protecting the land was of paramount importance.

Peter Hirthe says, “It was really clear that our first priority was to prevent the land from being developed in any way—which was tricky because it’s valuable land. Eighteen acres total with 335 feet of lakefront.”

In hopes of avoiding development of the land that meant so much to them, the Hirthes approached the Door County Land Trust. As the Land Trust started exploring Walt’s Woods in greater detail, it became obvious that the land was remarkable not only for its sentimental and financial value, but also for its ecological value.

The woods the Hirthe children grew up exploring are part of a high-quality boreal forest made up of white and red pine, white spruce, balsam fir, and white cedar trees. This thin band of boreal forest, a remnant of the Ice Age, is found hugging the shoreline of Lake Michigan from Rock Island to Sturgeon Bay. The lake effect of cooler springs and summers, warmer falls and winters, and reduced evaporation rates along the lakeshore has allowed these northern species and boreal forest to thrive here, far south of their normal range in Canada.

As it turns out, the forest the Hirthes came to treasure so highly is an ecological treasure itself, healthy and rare—the majority of the canopy trees are at least 150 years old and probably were saplings when Door County’s first logging clear-cut occurred in the late 1800s. Door County Land Trust Land Program Director Terrie Cooper says, “When you’re paddling in North Bay, those big white pines stick up above everything else.”

Moreover, the property contains prime examples of karst topography—a type of limestone landscape featuring sinkholes, deep rock fractures, and sea caves that the Hirthes knew and loved as “deer caves.”

Indeed, Walt’s Woods is home not only to deer, but also to a number of other animal and bird species that rely on the property’s pristine environment for migration and habitation. Black-throated green warblers, ovenbirds, red-eyed vireos, nuthatches, wild turkeys, and state-endangered Caspian terns can be seen flying along the shoreline in early summer; bald eagles and osprey nest and forage along North Bay; and the area is one of the few known nesting sites in Wisconsin for the common goldeneye, a diving duck that nests in forest tree cavities. The waters of North Bay (just off the Walt’s Woods shoreline) are the spawning site for a large portion of Lake Michigan’s whitefish population. The property is also home to a number of rare plants, including striped coral root, dwarf lake iris, gaywings, starflower, ninebark, bog laurel, maidenhair spleenwort, and a host of ferns.



Photo by Dan Burke

Caves maintain a relatively constant temperature, making them an ideal place for bats, insects, snails, and even salamanders to overwinter.

“It’s a pretty remarkable piece of Door County land,” says Terrie Cooper. “It’s home to so many different species and landscapes—we’re thrilled to partner with the family to protect it.”

Due to the extraordinary integrity and biodiversity of the property, the Land Trust was able to obtain grant funding to complete the purchase, including a Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program grant (45 percent) and a US Fish and Wildlife Service Coastal Wetlands grant (45 percent).

The other ten percent of the land value was donated by the Hirthes themselves. According to Peter Hirthe, the long-term preservation of the land was well worth the cost. “Now our kids and grandkids and great-grandkids and our neighbors who grew up on this land can make sure that this land can be shared with future generations. What began with my father saying we’d like to have a buffer has really become a matter of preservation.... No matter what happens in the future, the land that surrounds it, that we spent so much time with, is forever accessible to us. My kids can take their kids out to the deer caves. It’s a cycle that can continue, and that’s just priceless to us.”

The trails at the new Walt’s Woods Preserve will be complete and ready for public use in summer 2015.

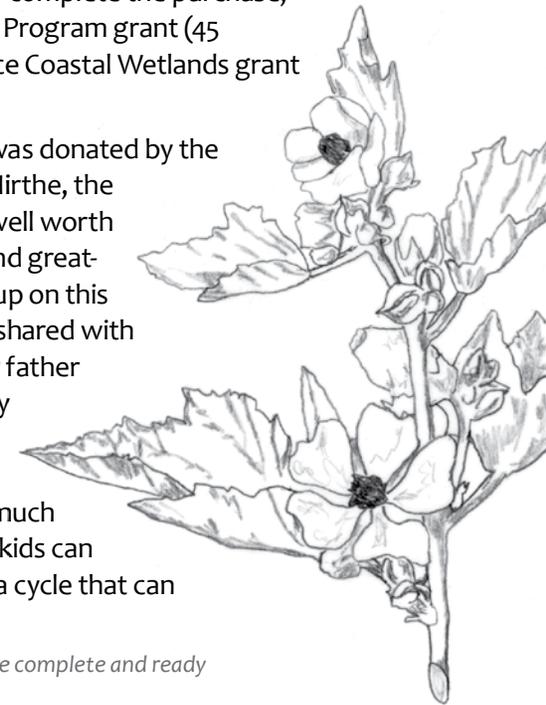


Illustration by Tim Erskine

FORESTS, FERNS, FLICKERS....AND A DREAM

WORK BEGINS ON CREATING A CHAMBERS ISLAND NATURE PRESERVE

by Dan Burke



When viewing Chambers Island from Fish Creek's shoreline, it appears tantalizingly close—almost close enough to swim to on a calm day. But open water has a way of distorting one's sense of distance, and the five miles of water separating the island from the mainland are enough to make this a place of mystery and fascination. Imagine an island where thousands of acres of towering forest grace the skyline; where an unspoiled 300-acre inland lake is narrowly separated from the Green Bay shore; where over 160 bird species of all shapes, sizes, and colors pay a visit; where the absence of stores, services, and amenities keeps the bond among the dozens of residents strong and resilient. This is Chambers Island—one of Door County's best kept secrets.

The biological diversity of Chambers Island's 3,000 largely undeveloped acres is valuable for the impact it may have on the health of the entire Great Lakes region. Sand roads (trails, more like it) wander through stands of hemlock, oak, and maple trees that shelter ferns, flowers, and flickers. It is this ecological abundance that first attracted the interest of the Door County Land Trust and led to the exciting dream of establishing a nature preserve here.

In 2012, a committed group of Chambers Island residents and landowners initiated conversations in an effort to safeguard the current natural character of this extraordinary place. They agreed that protection of the island's biodiversity, woodlands, and shorelines was essential. If no action was taken in the coming years, the island would surely become more subdivided, more compromised. They envisioned a nature preserve that would protect the land and water and would provide recreational access for

activities such as hiking, wildlife viewing, hunting, fishing, cross-country skiing, research, and educational activities. They turned to the Door County Land Trust to help turn this dream into a reality.

Over the last year, the Land Trust studied this dream, weighed the challenges and the benefits, and ultimately came to the decision that the Land Trust would take the lead in establishing the preserve and overseeing its long-term care and management. Working hand-in-hand with islanders as well as local, state, and federal agencies, the Land Trust has begun fundraising and grant-writing efforts and has secured purchase agreements for the first three properties that will form the nucleus of what is hoped to be a large expanse of protected forest and lakeshore.

Because of the partnership between the Land Trust and islanders, Chambers Island's unique ecosystem may soon become a living laboratory for field studies on plants and animals, sustainable forestry management, Great Lakes ecology, and global environmental issues. The Chambers Island Nature Preserve will become a place for the people of Door County to learn and explore while its biodiversity is protected for future generations.

Progress on making the Chambers Island Nature Preserve a reality will be reported in future issues of Landings, so stay tuned. If this effort is successful, Chambers Island will continue to stir the imagination and be a valuable resource for the community of the Great Lakes.

Images and graphics on the following pages are adapted from a brochure designed by Chamber's Island Nature Preserve volunteer, Kelly Spitzley.



What makes Chambers Island special?



460,000+ trees (approximate)

Hemlock (including older second-growth forests), beech, sugar maple, red & white pine, birch, oak, cedar, basswood and others.



2,000+ acres of contiguous forest

One of the largest remaining forested areas in Door County.



353 documented plant species

Four species listed as "Wisconsin Special Concern Species". Also the only leatherleaf-dominated muskeg community in the Grand Traverse Islands.



163 recorded bird species

Including a nesting bald eagle community.



36 recorded butterflies

Including the rare tawny crescent. Three sightings on Chambers confirmed by the Butterflies and Moths of North America (BAMONA) project- out of only five total sightings in the U.S. since 2006.



27 bird species identified as "SGCN"

Of the 27 "Species of Greatest Conservation Need" (based on Wisconsin's Wildlife Action Plan), two are Endangered (peregrine falcon & Caspian tern) and two are Threatened (red-shouldered hawk & great egret).



0 deer

Chambers is unique among large forested areas in Door County, with no deer for more than two decades, allowing abundant natural understory growth.

Did you know?

Chambers Island is critically important to migrating birds as a resting and refueling stop-over and for nesting habitat.

Chambers is also home to several endangered and threatened plants and animals.

Chambers Island... A Place Like No Other



A rare tawney crescent butterfly perched on a Chambers flower.

1 REMNANT GREAT LAKES BARREN COMMUNITIES

Location

Sand Point and North Bay.

Significance

With a prairie component, numerous bearberry (*Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*), and abundant mating populations of rhinoceros beetle, these barren communities may be the best examples in the state.

2 RIDGE & SWALE COMMUNITIES

Location

North end west of Mackaysee Lake and north of Krause Lake.

Significance

Complex and diverse habitat for shoreline plants. Supports rich assemblages of amphibians, reptiles, and breeding and migratory birds.



A 3-year-old bald eagle flying over the south side shore.

4 ACTIVE BALD EAGLE NESTS

Location

Southwest and Lake Mackaysee shoreline.



Abundant large patches of Sedum acre Linnaeus are found on the South and Western shoreline.

6 OLD HEMLOCK FOREST

Location

Throughout the wooded areas.

Significance

Important nesting habitat for neo-tropical birds, especially the black-throated green warbler and the Blackburnian warbler.

8 GREAT LAKES BEACH COMMUNITIES

Location

Along the southern shoreline.

Significance

These communities include state special concern species American sea rocket (*Cakile edentula*) and seaside spurge (*Euphorbia polygonifolia*).



A black-throated green warbler.

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3 LAKE MACKAYSEE & WETLANDS

Significance

A 347-acre shallow lake with two islands and wetlands containing diverse aquatic macrophyte flora and many fish species (large- and small-mouth bass, northern pike, yellow perch, bluegill and sturgeon). The wetlands provide a stop-over habitat for migrating birds.



One of several wetlands on Chambers, along the west coast of Lake Mackaysee.

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL FINDINGS

Location

On and near shorelines.

Significance

Artifacts found include burial mounds, a 10,000-year-old harpoon made of mastodon bone and various artifacts dating from 1500-500 B.C.E.

7 MUSKEG W/ LEATHERLEAF

Location

Just south of Lake Mackaysee.

Significance

This is the only muskeg (large raised bogs in wetlands) found on the islands of Green Bay and the Grand Traverse chain. Muskegs serve as important habitat for many landsnails, moths and butterflies, reptiles and amphibians, and birds.



A muskeg dominated with leatherleaf and containing pronounced hummocks and hollows. Home to a number of boreal bird and butterfly species.

END

Protected Nature
Preserve
Wetlands



Town of Gibraltar
public roads
Private roads

Map from Judziewicz, E.J., The Michigan Botanist 2001.

The Places We Protect

RICH HISTORY WITHIN THE NEW MICKELSON-PEOT ADDITION AT THREE SPRINGS NATURE PRESERVE

by Katie Dahl

When Catherine Peot was growing up in Sister Bay during the Great Depression, the property she calls the “Appleport farm” was home to her family through some hard times.

“My parents, Ruby and Walter Mickelson, rented the Appleport farm from Julia Evenson in April of 1933,” Catherine remembers. “Depression years.”

Despite the tough economic times, Walter Mickelson had a job at Peninsula State Park. After ten years of living on the Appleport farm, located on County Road ZZ, the family was able to buy a house on nearby Hill Road. But after his retirement, Walter decided to take another look at the Appleport farm.

“After retirement from the park, [my father] decided he was in good health and would like to raise beef cattle and have a farm for the grandchildren to have riding horses,” Catherine says. The same farm they had rented on Highway ZZ in 1933 was for sale, so they purchased the property.

Catherine now lives in the house on Hill Road that her parents bought in 1943; her son Mike and his family live on the Appleport farm property. After Catherine attended the Land Trust dedication for the Three Springs Nature Preserve in 2009, which abuts the Peot property, she became interested in

selling a portion of her land south of Highway ZZ to the Land Trust to become part of this preserve

In February 2014, the Land Trust closed on the purchase of the Peot property. Protecting the land from development will keep more than the Peots’ family history intact.

“This property is a wonderful addition to our Three Springs Nature Preserve in so many ways,” says Door County Land Trust, Land Program Director, Terrie Cooper. “The tract is over 40 acres, which adds to the nearly 500 acres the Land Trust has already protected here. The whole area is so important for a host of plant and animal species, especially the Hine’s emerald dragonfly.”

Indeed, the Peot tract has been identified by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as part of the Groundwater Contributing Area for the federally endangered Hine’s emerald dragonfly’s critical habitat. If this property were to be developed, the flow of groundwater to the wetlands where the Hine’s emerald dragonfly lives would be threatened.

Because protection of this land aids in the preservation of Hine’s emerald dragonfly habitat and the water quality of Three Springs Creek that flows into North Bay, the Land Trust was able to purchase the property with funding from two grants: a Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program grant (50 percent) and a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Coastal Wetlands grant (50 percent).

As for Catherine Peot, she is pleased that the land which has been such a large part of her life will be protected and preserved.

“By selling the property to the Land Trust, it’s here to stay,” Catherine says. “When our generation and those that follow are gone, it will be preserved—forever.”



Golden tamaracks line the edge of the old field. The 40-acre addition protects not only the groundwater of Three Springs Nature Preserve and Hine’s emerald dragonfly habitat, but preserves a scenic stretch along County Road ZZ as well.

Photo by Dan Eggert



From left, photos by Julie Schartner, Dan Burke, Dan Eggert, and Laurel Hauser

From left, Ephraim Preserve at Anderson Pond, Lake Mackaysee on Chambers Island, Bay Shore Blufflands Nature Preserve, and Sturgeon Bay Ship Canal Nature Preserve.

IT'S A WONDERFUL STEWARDSHIP FUND THE KNOWLES-NELSON STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM CELEBRATES 25 YEARS OF PRESERVING WISCONSIN'S SPECIAL PLACES

by Laurel Hauser

In the classic film, *It's a Wonderful Life*, George Bailey is given the gift of seeing what the world would have been like without him. At an event years ago, the Door County Land Trust (DCLT) staff presented *It's a Wonderful Land Trust*. A slide show of altered images asked the audience to imagine what Door County might look like without the Land Trust. One image turned our Bay Shore Blufflands Nature Preserve into an amusement park. In another slide, our Sturgeon Bay Ship Canal Nature Preserve became a toxic landfill. Although the slides were slightly hyperbolic and meant to contain some humor, they spoke to the dour fact that saving special places doesn't happen by accident and "irreplaceable treasures" are, in fact, replaced every day. Bottom line, Door County would look very different without DCLT. "Our message to Land Trust members that day," recalls DCLT executive director, Dan Burke, "was 'thank you. These places we all enjoy wouldn't be here without your support.'"

If Door County would be different without the Land Trust, the Land Trust would be very different without the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program (KNSP). The KNSP is a state-administered financing initiative created "to expand nature-based outdoor recreational opportunities and protect environmentally sensitive areas," and since its inception in 1989 it has helped fund the protection of over 560,000 acres throughout the state. The Stewardship Program is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year, and according to Burke, "everyone who loves the outdoors and loves Wisconsin's natural heritage should be celebrating. The Stewardship Program is the single most valuable tool land trusts have for preserving land in Wisconsin today. It makes us the envy of conservation

organizations across the nation, and it's not an exaggeration to say that we couldn't do our work without it."

To fully appreciate the current Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program, one must look back to 1961 when Democrat Gaylord Nelson was governor and introduced a bold conservation initiative to finance the protection of lands for public use. At the time, Wisconsin's population was expanding rapidly and becoming more urbanized. Better highways made travel easier, and among the places to which people traveled were public lands and parks. Demand on parks was growing 20 times faster than expenditures to improve and expand them. It was into this environment that Nelson, a lifelong conservationist and future founder of Earth Day, introduced the Outdoor Recreation Act Program (ORAP). The program was immensely popular and enjoyed strong bipartisan support.

According to Bill Christofferson in his biography of Gaylord Nelson, *The Man From Clear Lake*, ORAP represented a dramatically new way of thinking about conservation. "It expanded the boundaries of conservation programs beyond hunting and fishing and broadened the constituency for such programs beyond the so-called red shirts—outdoorsmen—to encompass family recreation, camping, picnicking, swimming, hiking and boating. It recognized that some wild and scenic areas should be preserved and left undeveloped, in their natural state." While fewer and fewer people had a "back forty" of their own, ORAP, in Nelson's words, "assures our children and grandchildren of the outdoor resources with which our state is so richly blessed." Interior Secretary Stewart Udall called it "the boldest conservation step ever taken on a state level in the history of the United States."

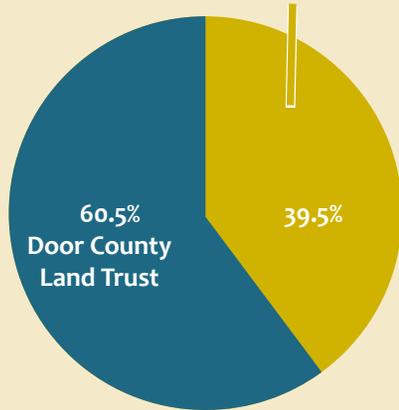
The bipartisan support initially given to ORAP continued over subsequent administrations and has been a trademark of Wisconsin's conservation history. In its original format, ORAP was a \$5 million/year program funded through a penny a pack tax on cigarettes. From the beginning, demand for

Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program

Nonprofit Conservation Organization Land Acquisition grants awarded between 1989 and 2013

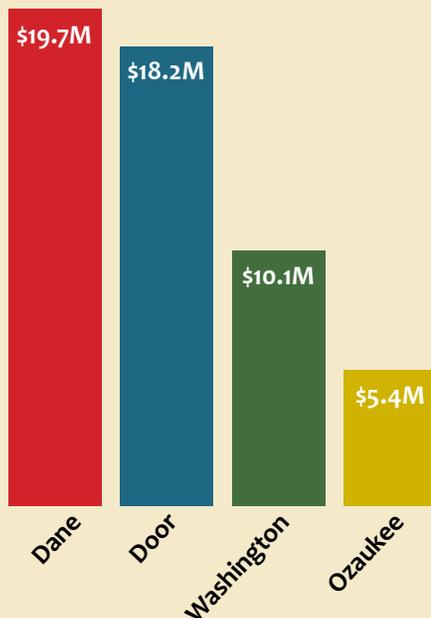
Total awarded to Door County:

Other Nonprofits, including The Nature Conservancy and The Ridges Sanctuary



It is a testament to the strength of Door County’s conservation community (as well as to the ecological significance of the lands it protects), that of the 72 counties in Wisconsin, Door County ranks second in nonprofit conservation organization grant dollars awarded by the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program. (Dane County has received \$19.7 million, Door County \$18.2 million; Washington County is a distant third at \$10.1 million and Ozaukee County is fourth with \$5.4 million.) Of the \$18.2 million received by Door County, approximately \$11 million was awarded to the Door County Land Trust for the purchase of lands. Partnering conservation groups such as The Nature Conservancy and The Ridges Sanctuary, among others, have split the balance. The Door County Land Trust has matched the Stewardship funds it’s received with \$7 million in other grants (both private and federal), over \$1 million from individual donors, and millions more in donations of lands and conservation easements from landowners.

Top funded Wisconsin counties:



funds vastly outstripped revenue. In 1969, Republican Governor Warren Knowles expanded ORAP to \$20 million per year and broadened its funding base through the selling of state bonds. In 1989, Governor Tommy Thompson further strengthened the commitment to land preservation by establishing today’s Stewardship Program and increasing its funding to \$25 million per year. In 1993, the program’s name was officially changed to the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program to honor the two governors responsible for its creation and to recognize its bipartisan spirit. In 1999, Governor Thompson further expanded funding for the program to \$60 million per year. Under Governor Jim Doyle, the program was reauthorized and funding increased to \$86 million per year. For the first time since its creation, funding for the popular Stewardship Program was reduced under Governor Scott Walker to \$47.5 million, a 45% decrease. It is the hope of conservationists across the political spectrum that funding at higher levels will be restored.

One of the most powerful ways the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program has impacted conservation over the years is through its partnership with local land trusts. A “pot” of \$12 million is specifically set aside for use each year by nonprofit conservation organizations or NCOs. (Other “pots” are available to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and local units of government.) The KNSP provides eligible NCOs with 50% of the appraised value of conservation lands they seek to purchase. In order to be considered for a KNSP grant, NCOs must submit an application that includes comprehensive documentation regarding the attributes of the property and future land management plans. NCOs also must provide matching funds.

“The Stewardship Program,” states Burke, “is, in many ways, a win-win program. It’s completely non-partisan; the lands it protects are open to everyone to enjoy and the ecological services these lands provide, like clean air and water, improve life for everyone. And, because of the partnership with land trusts, state dollars are matched by federal dollars and private donations.”

The Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program has helped DCLT purchase over 70 individual parcels and establish over 20 public nature preserves, preserves like Grand View Scenic Overlook and Park, Sturgeon Bay Ship Canal Nature Preserve, Three Springs Nature Preserve, Ephraim Preserve at Anderson Pond, Bay Shore Blufflands Nature Preserve, and Washington Island’s Little Lake Nature Preserve, among others. In honor of the Stewardship Program’s 25th anniversary, we may wish to pretend for a moment that these beautiful and beloved places no longer exist. As we erase them in our mind’s eye, we’d do well to remind ourselves what a truly wonderful Stewardship Fund it is!

Figures included in this article are taken from the Warren Knowles-Gaylord Nelson Stewardship Program Informational Paper 63 prepared by Erin Probst for the Wisconsin Legislative Fiscal Bureau, January 2013.

Connections with the Land

NATURE: A HEALTHY CHOICE

by Dr. Richard Hogan, M.D.

For 99% of human history we were closely connected to nature—one might say it is in our DNA—but life has put us inside buildings nearly 90% of the time. As a response to being estranged from nature in our cities, workplaces, and homes, many humans demonstrate a craving for the outdoors. The popularity of places like Door County is testimony to the need we have for a connection to the natural world.

Scientists do not fully understand why humans marvel at a sunset, or the stars, or a moonlit night. Why do we love looking at trees and mountains, lakes, rivers, and shores? Somewhere in our brains we must be hardwired for the love of natural beauty. A branch of psychology called eco-psychology investigates this phenomenon. An eco-psychology term, “nature connectedness,” describes a trait that is associated with extroversion, agreeableness, conscientiousness, and openness to new experiences. It is a trait that can be affected in a positive way simply by being in nature. The benefits of being in nature inspire cities to increase green space with the idea that it will improve overall human behavior.

Hiking in nature has huge benefits for the human species. In addition to helping us reconnect with the sights, sounds, and smells of the natural world, we get the benefits of exercise. We were not meant to be sedentary creatures. Our ancestors walked out of Africa a long time ago and literally travelled the wilderness of the world on their feet. Walking is indeed in our nature.

Modern life has turned us from physical creatures into sedentary ones, to the detriment of our health both physically and mentally, and perhaps even spiritually. Aerobic exercise like

hiking not only reconnects us with nature, but provides many well-known physical benefits. Exercise boosts mood, helps control weight, and prevents high blood pressure, diabetes, heart attack, stroke, and obesity. It is known to decrease the risk of dementia and certain cancers. Bones stay dense with regular exercise. Muscles stay strong. Sleep and sex life are reported to be better in those who exercise regularly. Clearly, the benefits are HUGE. So, find a beautiful trail, know where you are going, make sure it is within your ability, bring a buddy and a compass, and start hiking!

Dr. Richard Hogan leads several hikes per year to Land Trust nature preserves as part of the partnership program, “Take a Hike and Call Me in the Morning,” sponsored by Ministry Door County Medical Center and the Cordon Family Foundation.



THE DRAW OF NATURE

by John Hermann

Land Trust preserves are magnetic in the way they pull at me. At Heins Creek, the morning light through the pines always appears new and different than it does in any other place. Similar feelings arise as I walk in the dappled afternoon light at the Bay Shore Blufflands’ escarpment, through the woods, and above the limestone outcroppings. The dense, stately forest of Lautenbach Woods Nature Preserve and the meadow at Oak Road Nature Preserve—both aglow with delicately and intensely colored wildflowers—bring quiet contemplation. I volunteer to groom Land Trust trails, and as I do, it leads me to the unique characteristics of each nature preserve and to interpretation of nature for future hikes.

It always pleases me to tell the story of the Niagara Escarpment, in human as well as geological time. To see the “light bulbs” come on—as hikers ask questions and offer their personal insights—is fulfilling. It is a joy to watch hikers come upon a field mouse, tail up, chasing across the trail or the rare sighting of a western fox snake. Bluebirds in April or a nesting pair of sand hill cranes—now that is special!

Hikers are my guests—locals and visitors, grandparents, parents and children. With preparation, my hope is to leave them with some new insight or appreciation of nature as observed during the hike.

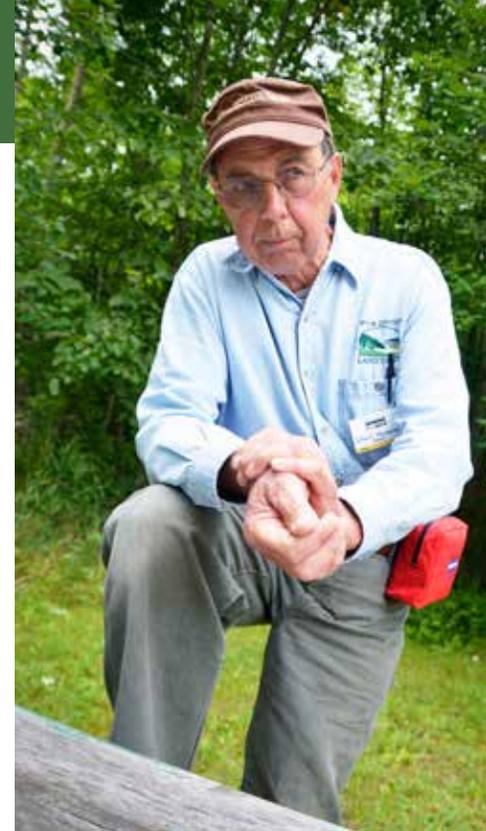


Photo by Dennis Connolly

Volunteer hike leader, John Hermann led a hike teaching the hydrology of the Lautenbach Woods Nature Preserve in August 2014.

Connections with the Land

THE CHEMISTRY OF NATURE

by Holly Phaneuf Erskine

I have a funny habit. After identifying any new plant, I look it up in the National Library of Medicine's Pubmed. I want an ingredient list. I was trained to be a medicinal chemist, one who synthesizes new drugs—and plant compounds inspire me.

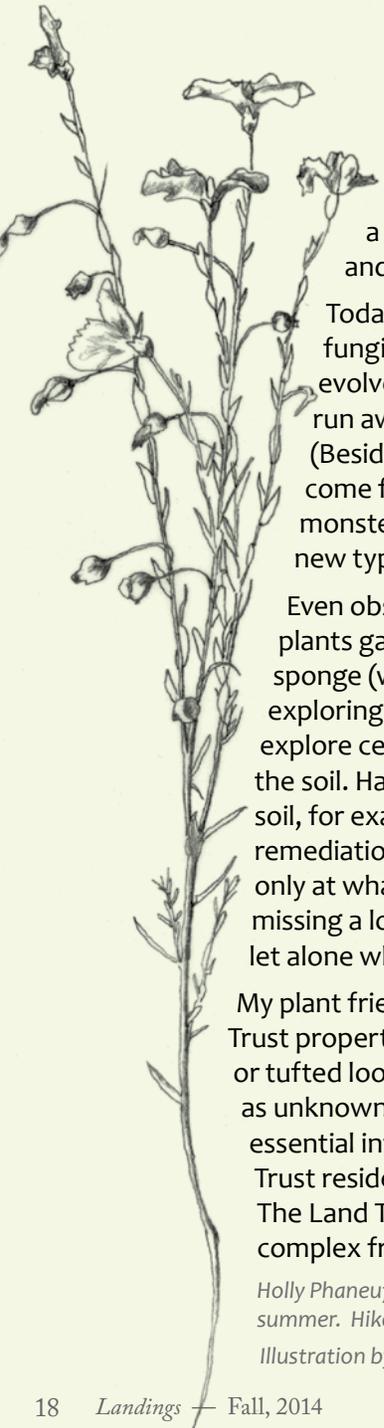
Today's pharmacopeia originated mainly from plants, fungi, and sometimes even animals. Immobile beings evolve more varieties of chemical tools, since they can't run away from predators or radiation, so I focus on plants. (Besides, I love plants!) But lifesaving medicines can come from surprising sources. A peptide in poisonous Gila monster lizard spit provided the recent development of a new type of anti-diabetic drug, for example.

Even obscure plants yield handfuls of studies, and well-known plants garner hundreds. Our overlooked local freshwater sponge (which is an animal, I know!) produced three studies exploring its skin-healing properties. Many scientific papers explore certain roadside weeds' accumulation of toxins from the soil. Hawkweeds may naturally remove lead from our soil, for example, and may be managed to aid mechanical remediation. Unfortunately, most therapeutic research looks only at what pays the bills: heart disease, cancer, diabetes. We're missing a lot. Millions of microbial species remain undiscovered, let alone what they synthesize.

My plant friends often appear exclusively on protected Land Trust properties. Developed areas rarely sport gaywings, boneset or tufted loosestrife. Maybe it's microbes in the protected soil, as unknown as the dark matter of our gut flora, supporting essential interactions. We're not smart enough to recreate Land Trust residents from scratch, and they can't survive in isolation. The Land Trust helps me protect my extraordinary, chemically complex friends.

Holly Phaneuf Erskine co-led a hike at the Three Springs Nature Preserve last summer. Hikers learned to identify medicinal plants on the preserve.

Illustration by Tim Erskine



THE FUNGUS AMONG US NATURALIST CHARLOTTE LUKES MAKES DISCOVERY

by Laurel Hauser

Lands protected by the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program (see page 15) provide us with many benefits—scenic beauty, recreational opportunities, clean air and water to name a few. They also provide places for wild things to grow. Well-known local naturalist, Charlotte Lukes, has been on a mission to document the many mushrooms found in Door County. This past year's rainy weather has provided her with twelve new species, two of which were found at Door County Land Trust nature preserves. "A species can lie dormant for years waiting for the right conditions," she said. "The longer it lies dormant, the more moisture it needs to grow again. This has been a great year. Every time I go out hunting it's like a treasure hunt! I'm grateful for the Land Trust and for the Stewardship fund."

The Door County Land Trust extends its heartfelt congratulations to friends Roy and Charlotte Lukes for receiving the Gathering Waters Conservancy's

2014 Harold "Bud" Jordahl Lifetime Achievement Award. The well-deserved award recognizes their life-long, extensive work in the field of conservation. The Door County Land Trust is particularly grateful for their help in 2006 as co-chairs of the 20th Anniversary Capital Campaign, an effort that resulted in the protection of many special places throughout Door County. More information on the Lifetime Achievement Award is available at www.gatheringwaters.org.



*Charlotte Lukes' identified Mushroom #609, the Gray Almond Waxy Cap (*Hygrophorus agathosmus*), was discovered at the Door County Land Trust's Three Springs Nature Preserve.*



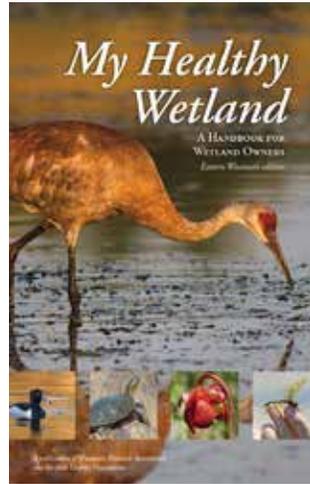
Connections with the Land

MY HEALTHY WETLANDS A HANDBOOK FOR WETLAND LANDOWNERS

If you are a wetland landowner, you know that you are a caretaker of the birds, amphibians, and other animals whose existence depends on healthy wetlands. Backyard wetlands offer a continual connection with nature, as well as an opportunity to learn, enjoy, and manage them for the health of the wildlife.

Wisconsin Wetlands Association has produced a basic handbook for private wetland landowners in eastern Wisconsin. The *My Healthy Wetland* handbook describes what wetlands are, why they matter, and how to care for them, in an easy to read, informative, inspirational, and attractive way.

To order a copy of the *My Healthy Wetland* handbook, please visit www.wisconsinwetlands.org/MyHealthyWetlandHandbook.htm



BUILDING A STRONGER LAND TRUST

The Land Trust Alliance (LTA) is a national organization that sets standards and practices for conservation work. LTA entrusts an independent group called the Land Trust Accreditation Commission to review the policies and programs of land trusts and award land trusts meeting high-quality practices with Accreditation.

The Door County Land Trust is pleased to announce that it will be going through the Accreditation process in 2015. While the Door County Land Trust has been following these practices for years, once awarded, foundations, partner agencies, and members may be assured the Door County Land Trust is a stronger organization.

The Door County Land Trust invites public input and accepts signed, written comments relating to how the Door County Land Trust complies with national quality standards. To learn how to submit a comment for record, please email info@doorcountylandtrust.org.

EXPLORING DOOR COUNTY'S NATURAL BEAUTY

by Joshua Mayer

With a new camera in hand as a recent graduation gift, I sought off-the-beaten-path and lesser-known places to explore and photograph. My research led me to the Wisconsin DNR's State Natural Area (SNA) program which protects 673 ecologically significant sites around the state. I began exploring SNAs around Dane County, where I reside, and was soon compelled to travel further—including to Door County numerous times over the last few years. With the help and advice of the Door County Land Trust, I was able to visit all 28 SNAs found in Door County, many of them protected and owned by the Door County Land Trust. I have now visited nearly 500 SNAs over the course of my travels.

Amazing places in Door County—from the majestic bluffs at Ellison Bay and Bay Shore Blufflands to the unique shoreline ecosystems at Midnight Bay, Jackson Harbor, and Baileys Harbor and everything in between—vibrantly reveal that there is no shortage of natural beauty to behold in Door County. I look forward to my next visit to explore those areas again and visit the many other preserves and important lands protected by the Door County Land Trust. I am grateful for their work that preserves these important remnants of Wisconsin's original and natural state for future generations to ponder and enjoy.

Joshua Mayer's photographs are regularly published on the Door County Land Trust Facebook page and in other publications.



A Wealth of Experience... Board of Directors

THE LAND TRUST BOARD OF DIRECTORS BIDS FAREWELL TO TWO MEMBERS WHILE WELCOMING THREE TO ITS RANKS

The Land Trust is blessed to be governed by a group of talented and dedicated board members. They volunteer hundreds of hours of their time in the pursuit of organizational excellence, sustainability and responsibility. The Land Trust recently bid farewell to two directors who retired from the board while it welcomed three new faces to its ranks.

Early in 2014, **Judy Lokken** and **Jim Lester** retired from the board in early 2014, but not before leaving indelible footprints the Land Trust will continue to follow. The Land Trust community owes Judy and Jim a big thank you for their years of service! Judy served on the board for over 10 years and was the creative genius behind the Land Trust's successful *Dining for Open Spaces* event series. She is one of the most effective and inspiring ambassadors the Land Trust has ever had, introducing countless volunteers and members to the work of the Land Trust, and by doing so greatly increasing the reach of the Land Trust in our community. Jim served on the board for four years and was instrumental in strengthening the Land Trust's annual giving program and for encouraging the growth of the Land Trust's Endowment Fund. Both Judy and Jim continue to be involved with the organization, so the Land Trust will benefit from their input for years to come.

We thank Judy and Jim for their years of dedication and service!

While retirements from the Board can be sorrowful occasions, they do provide the opportunity for new faces that bring new viewpoints and new perspectives. This year the Land Trust is excited to announce the elections of Donna Hake, Jeff Ottum, and Judy Perkins to the Board, as they all personify the rich spirit of giving that defines the Door County community.

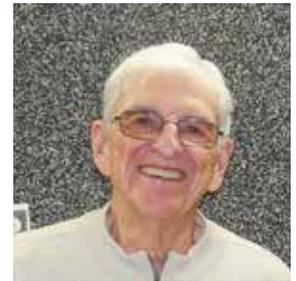
In addition to the Land Trust, **Donna Hake**, gives her time and talents to the Boys and Girls Club, the Women's Fund, Master Gardeners, and the Jacksonport United Methodist Church. Donna has more than 40 years of experience in leadership roles working with organizations in the areas of strategic planning, employee performance, and manufacturing, and organizational development and training. She holds a bachelor's degree and an MBA from Pepperdine University, an MA in Organizational Psychology from the University of Chicago, and completed three years of doctoral studies in clinical psychology at Adler Institute of Psychology.

In addition to Door County, **Jeff Ottum** has deep roots in the Green Bay community. He spent nearly 30 years with Schreiber Foods as a Plant Manager, General Manager and Senior Vice President of Human Resources. Jeff's volunteer credentials are equally as impressive. Jeff served on the Board of Lakeland College, the Greater Green Bay Community Foundation where he was also Chair, and as a founding Board Member of Big Brothers Big Sisters, Northeast Wisconsin. Jeff earned a BA in Psychology from Vanderbilt University and an MBA from the University of Wisconsin.

Judy Perkins has her fingerprints on many initiatives in Door County and beyond. Among the organizations that have benefited from Judy's volunteer spirit are the Peninsula School of Art, Ding Darling National Wildlife Refuge in Florida, Milwaukee Art Museum, and the United Performing Arts Fund. In addition to her volunteerism, Perkins spent 30 years as Assistant General Counsel for The Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company based in Milwaukee. She earned a JD at the College of Law at the University of Iowa and holds a BS in Education from the University of Kansas.

Welcome aboard Donna, Jeff, and Judy!

From top, Judy Lokken, Jim Lester, Donna Hake, Jeff Ottum, and Judy Perkins.



and Staff

Welcome to...

SUSAN GOULD

Susan Gould joins the Door County Land Trust as the Development Director. Susan brings a wealth of experience in nonprofit management and development, from United Way community investment work to independent consulting for small businesses, educational institutions and nonprofits. She is a graduate of University of Wisconsin- Parkside in Geology, specializing in Environmental Science with a teaching certification in Earth Science (grades 7-12) and has a Master's degree in Curriculum & Instruction. Relocating from Racine, Wisconsin, Susan grew up in central Michigan with family vacations throughout the north woods. "My early visits to Door County felt like coming home, and now living and working here is a dream come true." Susan looks forward to meeting and working with people who care deeply about the many special places in Door County.



AMY DWYER

Amy joined our Door County Land Trust team in September as a part-time Administrative Assistant. Most recently she was known as "Miss Amy," teacher of Door County 2 and 3 year olds, but prior to that she lived in the suburbs of Chicago where she raised her son and worked as a high school secretary for 20 years. She comes to us with a degree in Psychology and Human Development from the University of Kansas. Amy moved to what she refers to as her "beloved" Door County in September of 2012, after being a visitor for 25 years. Here she loves to hike with her dog and fellow Land Trust members, kayak, stargaze, camp, cross country ski, and snowshoe. She marvels at the natural beauty that surrounds us here and often exclaims in wonder and gratitude, "I live here!" Amy started her association with the Land Trust as a Land Steward volunteer and member and is thrilled about her expanding role with us.



Door County Land Trust staff kayaked across North Bay in July to view the lakeshore of the new Walt's Woods Preserve...and to have a little fun. From left, Dan Burke, Julie Schartner, Laurel Hauser, Bobbie Webster, Terrie Cooper, Jodi Milske, Cinnamon Rossman, and Kristi Rice.

Farewell to...

LAUREL HAUSER

On June 27th, Laurel Hauser resigned as the Land Trust's Director of Charitable Giving in order to spend more time with her children and to pursue a life-long interest in writing. Having served on the Land Trust staff for a decade and on the board for six years prior to that, Laurel was integrally involved in the Land Trust's growth from a fledgling, relatively unknown organization supported by a few hundred members to a respected community institution supported by thousands. She played a critical role in protecting some of Door County's most treasured and iconic landscapes. "The Door County Land Trust realized many inspiring accomplishments during Laurel's tenure, and she was so instrumental in all of this success," expressed executive director, Dan Burke. "Laurel's enthusiasm was contagious, and her presence in the office truly cannot be replaced. What amazes me about Laurel is that the tougher the challenge and the greater the odds, the more Laurel shines. We wish her all the best and can't thank her enough for what she gave the Land Trust over the past 16 years." All the best, Laurel!

BOBBIE WEBSTER

This summer, our Land Stewardship coordinator, Bobbie Webster, accepted a position with the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay's Cofrin Center for Biodiversity where she will manage a portfolio of natural lands under the care of the University. Bobbie joined the Land Trust staff in the spring of 2011 and quickly went to work strengthening our land stewardship programs. Bobbie was instrumental in growing and coordinating our Preserve Steward program that matches every land trust owned nature preserve with volunteers who agree to be the "eyes and ears" for these special places. Bobbie helped in the development of comprehensive land management plans for our nature preserves and developed an annual monitoring program for every parcel of land under the ownership of the Door County Land Trust. But more than anything else, Bobbie will be remembered for the meaningful relationships she fostered with the dozens of Land Trust volunteers who give so much of their time in stewarding the lands we own and manage. The University is fortunate to have Bobbie's skills and talents, and we wish her well.

Where There's a Will, There's a Way

Planned giving is a great way to share your love for Door County. You can leave a legacy of protected lands for future generations by making provisions for the Door County Land Trust in your estate plans.

For more information on becoming a member of our *Sustainers Circle*, please contact Susan Gould, Development Director, at (920)746-1359. If you have already named the Land Trust in your estate planning documents, please let us know so we may thank you.

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Jo Sedar

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In Memory of Janet Wilson

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In Memory of George Wittekind

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In Memory of Cynthia Young

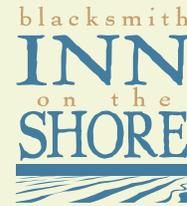
Bob and Liz Dickson



Photo by Dan Eggert

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| Door County Nature Works | Premier Properties of Door County | Washington Island Ferry Line, Inc. |
| Door Landscape & Nursery | Ross Estate Planning | White Gull Inn |
| Eagle Harbor Inn | Shoreline Restaurant | The Wickman House |
| EcoDoor, LLC | Staudenmaier Chiropractic | Roxanne and Curtis Wiltse |
| Ecology Sports & Base Camp Coffee | | Young Automotive |
| Edgewood Orchard Galleries | | |

If your business would like to become a Business Sponsor of the Door County Land Trust, please contact Susan Gould, Development Director, at (920) 746-1359 or sgould@doorcountylantrust.org.

TRIBUTE GIFTS

In Honor of Bev Blietz's Birthday
Jack and Diane Finger

In Honor of Paul and Lori Crittenden
Curt Wessel and Beth Coleman

In Honor of Tonya Crowell and Scattergood Family
Kirk and Donna Scattergood Family Fund of the Greater Green Bay Community Foundation

In Honor of Kurt and Marlene Dramm's 50th Wedding Anniversary
Hans Dramm and Sarah Keller

In Honor of Kirby D. Foss
Kirby and Margaret Foss

In Honor of Barb and Rick Frank
Mary Brevard

In Honor of Laurel Hauser
John and Julie Carpenter
Tony and Cathy Fiorato
Jim and Donna Janning
Bill and Barb Perloff

In Honor of Doug and Barbara Henderson's Kindness In Showing Their Garden
PEO Sisterhood Chapter EE

In Honor of Kathy Hubing
Dan and Marjorie Andrae

In Honor of Rev. Cynthia Johnson
Bill and Sue Jacobs

In Honor of Darryl and Dianne Johnson
Jon and Judy Hollingshead

In Honor of The Marriage of Barbara Markoff and River Kaster
Irv and Reesa Gottschalk

In Honor of Jane McKie and Dave Zuhlke
Eldon and Kathryn McKie

In Honor of Sandra Place
Bernie Harrer and Lisa Schab

In Honor of Roberta Raymond
Richard Larson

In Honor of Marianne and Paul Roppuld
Maureen Riopelle and Robin Baliszewski
Judith Kalb

In Honor of Kirk and Donna Scattergood
Tad Gilster

In Honor of Pete and Carol Schuster
Peg Sankey

In Honor of Don Sessions
David and Frances Sessions

In Honor of Irma Stiemke
Dan and Marjorie Andrae

In Honor of Bill Wolff
Cynthia Stiehl

Tributes and memorials are a great way to honor your loved ones, friends, and family. If you would like to make a special gift in memory of a loved one or in honor of a life event or special occasion, please contact Susan Gould, Development Director, at (920) 746-1359 or sgould@doorcountylantrust.org.

Left, *Polygala paucifolia*, commonly known as gaywings, photographed by Joshua Mayer on an exploration of Door County's State Natural Areas. Read more on page 19.





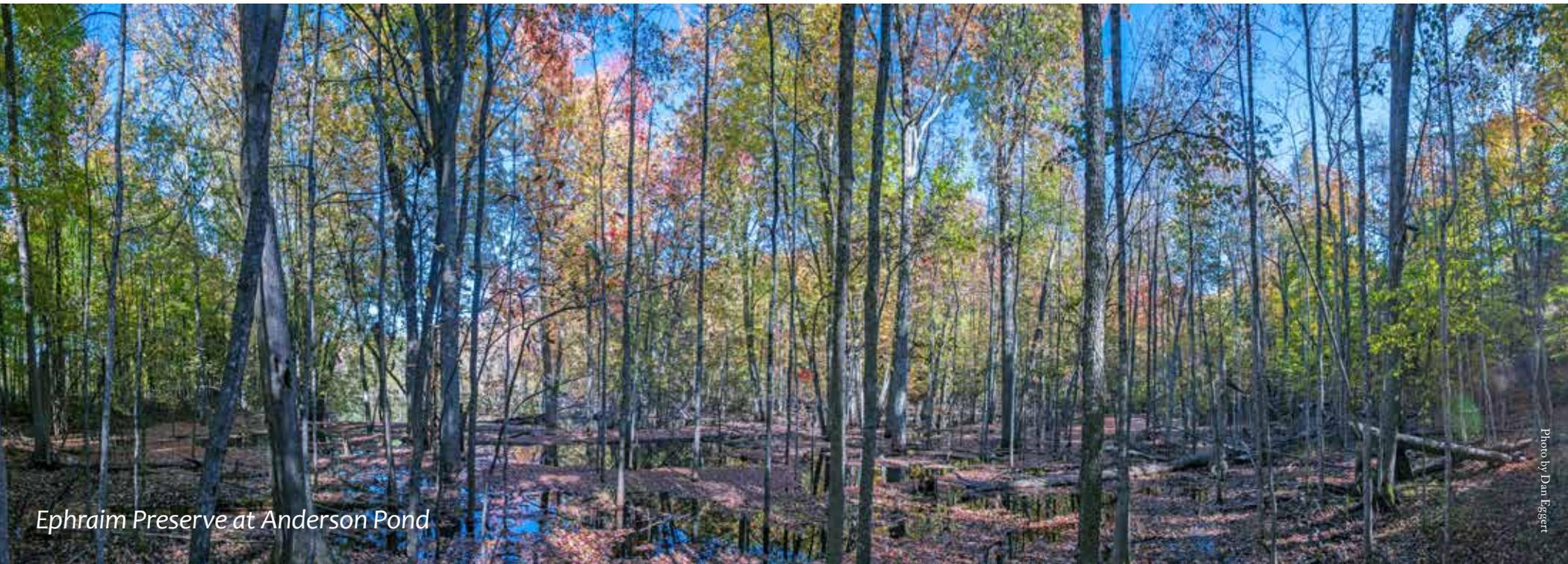
Door County Land Trust

(920) 746-1359 • www.DoorCountyLandTrust.org

PO Box 65

Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235

FORWARDING SERVICE REQUESTED



Ephraim Preserve at Anderson Pond