



Leelanau Conservancy

Conserving the Land, Water and Scenic Character of Leelanau County

Newsletter

Summer 2005

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From Seed to Table

We're very excited about the food and drink we'll be serving at our Annual Friends Picnic and Silent Auction on August 4. It will be an all-local-foods affair, featuring Leelanau meats, produce, wine, as well as other edibles made or sold in our county. Highlighting local foods is a new emphasis for our Picnic, the Conservancy's largest event that has grown in popularity every year. This year the Friends Picnic will be held at the historic Charles and Hattie Olson Farm in the Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore.

The day before the Picnic, chef Nancy Allen will teach our volunteers how to make "summer rolls" and two delicious dipping sauces. (They'll be pros by the time they finish making hundreds of the rolls!) Meantime, five other chefs will be creating appetizers, as Stubb's Sweetwater Grill preps brats from Hansen's, Sloppy Joes made from Leelanau Beef and an array of salads with ingredients picked just hours earlier.



Jenny Tutlis of Meadowlark Farms inspecting her organic crops

We've kept tabs on some of the crops that will end up on your plate that day. For most farmers, cold weather and a late spring coupled with an unseasonably hot dry June have presented a variety of challenges.

Jenny Tutlis of Meadowlark Farms is growing salad mix for us. She's excited about two new varieties of red lettuce; "Merlot" and "Outrageous." It's unusual to have reds in summer. "Lettuce gets its red color from the cold—reds generally happen early or late," says Jenny. But her new varieties manage to thrive in the heat, and have a delicious flavor as well, she adds. Tutlis, who buys individual seeds and combines them by hand to create her mix, plants a new crop every week. In fact as of this writing the lettuce we'll be eating is not yet

even in the ground!



Above: A bumper strawberry crop at Gary Bardenhagen's farm.

Left: Chris Bardenhagen working the potato crop.

Expect to see a big bowl of Balaton cherries from Jim Bardenhagen's farm. Strawberries from brother Gary will appear in the dessert, a cherry/berry shortcake. While it was "the best ever" year for strawberries, says Gary, Jim reports that the Balaton crop will be short—only 40% of what it should be. Cool weather made for poor pollination. In general, he says, yields on the newer, versatile variety have been disappointing. Research is underway to find out why. "Bees aren't as attracted to the Balaton blossom for some reason," says Bardenhagen. Scientists are experimenting with bees that function better at cooler temperatures. Research includes sitting in the orchard and recording the number of times a bee visits a single blossom.

There you have it—just a few tidbits about what it takes to grow the food we all enjoy. We plan to post more stories and photos on our website: www.theconservancy.com. Hope to see you at the Picnic, where you'll be sure to taste the local difference!



Cherry tomatoes from TLC Tomatoes—which also promotes local foods through its own dinner series near Suttons Bay—are on our menu.



Joint Message from President and Executive Director

Taking sides: When Do We Get Involved?

Just a couple of days ago a Conservancy volunteer stopped in to a local business to drop off some of our brochures. Noting the literature rack out front, our volunteer probably expected no problems when he asked to leave a stack of brochures, but this time things didn't go that smoothly. The man looked up and said, "The Conservancy – didn't they oppose the new development in the Narrows?" Our volunteer acknowledged that he didn't know for sure, but he thought we might have been among many in opposition to certain aspects of the project. "No thanks," said the businessman to displaying our brochure.

Why relay this story? It's just a minor incident, and the business owner has every right to refuse. But what happened with our volunteer illustrates a larger problem: As the Leelanau Conservancy has grown we are asked to take a position on the issues of the day. Everything from the location of the Court-house, a Marina in the Lake Leelanau Narrows, a sewer system for Northport, to any number of controversial development projects or governmental proposals. They all have an impact on the "land, water, and scenic character" of Leelanau County – which our mission statement says we will do our utmost to conserve. First, why do we stay completely silent on the vast



majority of these issues? Secondly, how and when do we occasionally enter the fray?

This dilemma has been with us since our inception in 1988. In fact, our then-president Ed Collins wrote a thoughtful



Craig Miller



Brian Price

column on the topic in 1991. Ed noted that we try to protect the most precious land "before a problem arises." He added that, "Once a development or project reaches the stage of public presentation, the political process takes over. Then it is almost impossible to a.) be 100% right, b.) keep your friends, and c.) find the time and money for a protracted conflict."

Early on, Ed articulated some of the principles that guide our decision-making to this day. By not publicly taking sides in issues, we retain our independence and we provide a safe haven for problem-solvers. For instance, a developer may talk to us about alternatives to an unpopular plan that had been presented to a planning commission. If we had already slammed the plan in public, how likely would it be that we could engage in a constructive dialogue?

We have a fiduciary duty to all that is Leelanau County

Because we are the only local organization that is set up to preserve land and hold conservation easements we are uniquely positioned to work with all the parties to effect a solution. Time and again we've been willing to take risks to protect land that has been threatened by development when given the opportunity. Some of the most important victories for conservation over the past two decades have come only after hugely controversial development plans were proposed – and then quietly set aside. Examples abound: North Fox Island, the Lake Leelanau Narrows Marina proposed in 2001, the Crystal River, and a number of other lesser known developments that were either wholly or partially abandoned in favor of a conservation alternative. The Conservancy attempts to provide an alternative to ill-considered plans or decisions that threaten our natural assets.

What are the rules of engagement?

How do we decide when to get involved, and what is our role? Here are the guidelines we work from:

- 1. Provide landowners with alternatives, and do it early.** If we know that an important property with great conservation value may be next in line for development, we make an



extra effort to make sure that the landowner and/or the potential developer understand their options. We explain what conservation or “limited development” alternatives exist. Once a site plan for the property has been conceptualized, and money has been invested in designs and engineering, it gets much harder to shape the ultimate outcome.

2. When a project is before the local Planning Commission or another public decision-making body, the Conservancy will not take sides. Our position remains as Ed Collins stated it years ago: There are a number of advocacy groups whose role it is to carefully review such projects and provide input. We can be much more effective if we maintain open channels of communication, but keep our powder dry. There is one very important exception to this rule—if we think that the proposed project will have a significant negative impact on land the Conservancy owns, such as a Nature Preserve. In such an instance we are obligated to make our concerns known just as any other neighboring property owner would.

3. Confidentiality is key to helping to broker a solution. When an opportunity presents itself, confidentiality and acting in good faith is crucial to success. If a developer thought you were passing along information to their opponents, why would they talk to you?

4. If there is no solution, or the solution is prohibitively expensive, keep quiet and move on to other projects. This also makes sense, especially since we have found that successful developments often incorporate conservation into the design. If we and others find this feature lacking, and yet the project gains the approvals needed, often the marketplace brings the project to a halt. Maintaining a good relationship, even with someone who has a bad idea, means that we may get another chance.



On some projects we have been through all of these stages, putting time effort and money into each stage. In the case of one very productive and highly visible cherry farm, we approached the farmers with an offer to buy the development rights. When they chose instead to sell to a development company, we began a discussion of alternatives. When given the opportunity to propose an alternate plan we did so, hiring a local land planner to devise a site plan which preserved the majority of the orchard land and reduced the number of houses by about 50%. That plan was rejected, and we are waiting for the roads to go in. Through it all, we never testified at a public hearing or spoke for or against any aspect of the project.

With regard to the business owner in Suttons Bay that was mentioned at the start of this article, he cited a rare case where we commented at a public hearing against the issuance of permit to dredge wetlands adjacent to the Lake Leelanau Narrows. We owned property just a few paces from the dredging, and felt there would be a direct and negative impact on land that we owned. This was only the second time in 17 years that we have made such public comments. And, despite our objections to the wetlands dredging, we expressed no objection to the buildings planned for the property.

If you wish we would take sides on a particular issue you care about, we hope that after reading this you have a better understanding of why we do not. In the case of the Crystal River, one of our supporters, Lissa Edwards, likened the Conservancy to Switzerland. We see ourselves as a positive, solution-seeking force that works to bring everyone around the table. It's been our experience that playing that role has made us most successful in carrying out our mission, quietly and effectively, working to conserve the land, water, and scenic character of Leelanau County.

Craig A. Miller, President

Brian Price, Executive Director



a plan to protect land in the Glen Lake area

In late May of this year the Conservancy applied to Clean Michigan Initiative funding for \$375,000 to implement the Glen Lake/Crystal River Watershed Management Plan. This land protection plan requires a fifty percent match, yielding a project total of \$750,000. The primary objective is to work with interested landowners to purchase conservation easements over wetlands and adjacent upland forests critical to maintaining the high water quality of the watershed. Sound familiar? Perhaps you've heard of the success of the Lake Leelanau Watershed Initiative, a similar project designed to preserve ecologically critical acreage in the watershed.

How are priority areas identified for a conservation project like this one? Conservancy staff, working closely with the Glen Lake Association, first developed a watershed management plan. The plan specified the Hatlem Creek area and Crystal River



dune and swale wetlands as two areas critical to maintaining high water quality. Sensitive wetlands are often slated for preservation as their unique ecology supports many rare and endangered plant and animal species. Wetlands also act as sponges for harmful nutrient inputs like nitrogen and phosphorous, often present in fertilizers. Groundwater recharge areas are also identified for conservation in the watershed management plan. These are places where rain and snowmelt collect, like sandy-soiled ba-

sins at the bottom of a hill, or sandy-soiled plateaus. Water accumulates in these areas and is quickly absorbed, cleaned by the filtering sand, and then makes its way back into the water table.

Protection of upland areas from development is another objective of an effective management plan. Buildings, pavement, and other infrastructure can inhibit the percolation of rain and snowfall through the soil and into the groundwater. Once land is devel-



"Hatlem Creek, probably more than any other area in the county, is a hotspot for rare and endangered species," says Conservancy Stewardship Director Meg Woller. Among them: Michigan monkey flower, Blanchard's cricket frog and ginseng. Shown here: sensitive fern, cattails and alder.

oped, surface water is more likely to collect pollutants, nutrients, sediment, and other harmful substances before it flows into the nearest water body. Preservation of specific uplands can help ameliorate the effects of these inputs and maintain the high water quality watershed users enjoy.

What's the bottom line? Careful land use decisions in all ecologically valuable areas identified in the watershed management plan will help maintain the high water quality of the watershed and ensure that unique plant and animal species persist. Although funding has not yet been secured, preliminary discussions with several landowners indicate that there is substantial interest in permanent protection of identified critical areas with conservation easements.

Putting the Pieces Together in the Glen Lake Watershed

In mid-May the Conservancy received a donated conservation easement that includes 7.38 acres of wetlands in the Glen Lake/Crystal River watershed. The land is near the Glen Lake Yacht Club and is adjacent to a 13-acre parcel already protected by conservation easement in 1993.

The 7.38 acres is part of a larger 22-acre parcel that was sold this past spring. The seller, Bob Jones of Glen Arbor, (also the son of Friends of the Crystal River's first president, Scott Jones) was concerned about possible degradation of the wetland portions of the prop-



erty by future development. His concern inspired him to make preservation of the wetlands a condition of sale. Jones and the buyers worked together with the Conservancy to make sure plans were in place that would do just that.

Although small in total acreage, the fact that the easement area is adjacent to wetlands already protected helps to create a corridor of preserved wetlands. These pockets of undisturbed habitat are vital for wildlife by helping balance the impacts created by development. By fitting our jigsaw puzzle of projects together the Conservancy hopes to project the big picture of conservation for future generations.

We're grateful to Bob and to the buyers, who wish to remain anonymous, for working with us to protect these ecologically rich acres.



Farm and Update—Just the FAQs

It's striking how frequently we're asked about what's happening with farmland preservation in Leelanau. Several times a week, it seems. Most of the time, the questions come from those who express serious concerns about the future of farming here. Occasionally, we hear a few doubters too. Either way, we see it as a very good sign that people are thinking about farming in Leelanau. It's exceedingly rare to hear anyone disputing that farms are crucial element of our economy, our heritage and our quality of life. Rather, the lingering questions involve how best to save this globally-significant resource. While we don't pretend to have all the answers, the Leelanau Conservancy is doing what it can to help create conservation-based incentives for Leelanau's farmers.

In addition to the farmland preservation projects we've completed thus far, the Conservancy continues to work hard to satisfy the complex federal requirements (including raising the \$489,000 in private matching funds necessary to leverage \$862,125 from the USDA) to preserve three historic Leelanau farms—the William & Elizabeth Casier Farm in Empire Township, the Gary & Christi Bardenhagen Farm in Leland Township, and the James & Janeen Bardenhagen Farm in Leland/Suttons Bay Townships. Once completed, these important farms will add another 410 acres of protected agricultural soils to the "forever preserved" column. These efforts are meaningful, and they're certainly worthy of support. Nevertheless, it's clear that private initiatives alone will not be enough to reach the very conservative goal of preserving 10,000 acres of farmland in ten years.

Because questions about farmland preservation persist, with this issue we begin a series of articles that attempt to provide some answers to those frequently asked questions or "FAQs."

Q We have lots of farmland, so why should we be concerned with preserving it?

A Saving farmland is a choice about the future of our community.

Of the 240,500 surface acres of land/water in Leelanau County, only about one-sixth of it, approximately 40,000 acres, is still being farmed in the 21st century. With the intense development and economic pressures facing family farmers, how many farms will survive to 2010 or 2020? In a little over a generation, many American communities have lost most or all of their prime farmland. In Leelanau, our two primary economic engines are tourism and agriculture. Together they form the backbone of our



The Gary Bardenhagen Farm near Lake Leelanau

fiscal health. Apart from parks and shoreline, if we lost the scenic beauty of family farms, our tourist-dependent businesses and the jobs they create would suffer. Farming, especially fruit farming has been a way of life in Leelanau for 150 years. Even as some farms move into more "specialty" or "value-added" crops like wine grapes and lavender for example, the use of globally significant agricultural soils for farming should continue. In short, farming has always been a way of life here, so why should we allow Leelanau to become "Anywhere, USA"? Saving farms now is a commitment to everyone's quality of life in Leelanau County.

Q What's the Conservancy's policy on lobbying for public funding for farmland preservation?

A The Conservancy is a nonprofit, charitable organization and does not engage in political lobbying.

Legally, nonprofit organizations can expend as much as 20% of their annual budget on certain kinds of lobbying activities. However, the Conservancy's farmland policy is clear: we will not engage in lobbying on the issue. By this, we use the term "lobbying" in its true legal sense—we will not press individual elected officials to support a particular ballot initiative or endorse a candidate for office. Part of our long-term success and reputation is based on our ability to maintain our position as nonpartisan organization. However, we publicly support local funding for farmland preservation as being consistent with our mission to conserve the land, water and scenic quality of Leelanau County. We think it's good for business, good for farmers, and good for maintaining Leelanau's high quality of life. We are also supportive of programs that raise the public's awareness of the benefits of farmland preservation.



Power Line Predicament at the Narrows

The Conservancy purchased what is now called the Leugers Preserve at the Narrows (LNP), with tremendous community support in 2001. At that time, we were aware that a portion of the property was burdened with a power line easement held by Consumers Energy. Research prior to closing revealed that the easement was acquired in the 1950's as part of long-range planning for Consumers, and contacts with the power company indicated no immediate plans to use the easement. The purchase was completed, and like many of our Lake Leelanau neighbors, we were unaware that the easement would be exercised within five years.

Following numerous power outages Consumers Energy determined that a new transmission line was required to serve the area west of Lake Leelanau. Transmission lines are different from the more common distribution lines which carry electricity into businesses and homes, with higher voltages and therefore more serious consequences if damaged. As a result, the easements for transmission lines are wider. Easements include 40 feet of clear-cut on either side of the line along with an additional 40 feet beyond that for trimming of hazardous trees (a total of 160 feet).

Over a year ago, we were very concerned about the potential impacts of power line construction and tree clearing on the forested wetlands of the LNP. With the recent addition of the former Hutchinson property in early summer (2004), we began working on an alternate route across this property and Lake Leelanau.

Consumers Power agreed to discuss alternatives to the existing route across the LNP. We researched a number of possibilities such as using existing poles owned and operated by Cherryland Electric or placing lines underground (underwa-



ter), but unfortunately all such alternatives proved impractical or cost-prohibitive. Consumers agreed to reroute the planned line away from the LNP to the north, a plan which would significantly reduce the ecological impact of the new line, **if** we could negotiate agreements with all affected landowners. Unfortunately, we were unable to obtain unanimous support to move the transmission line. All but one of the landowners were in favor of rerouting the line.

Construction of the new transmission line may begin as early as fall 2005. We, along with affected landowners, are continuing to seek solutions. If no change in the route of the line can be negotiated, we will work closely with Consumers Power's engineering and forestry staff to minimize damage.

Thank you to many neighboring landowners and to Consumers Power, who have been supportive throughout this process. Our discussions have shown how people throughout the region truly value the Narrows and its abundant wildlife.

Native Wildflower Restoration at Chippewa Run Natural Area

Partnerships usually produce outstanding results as the native wildflower restoration project at Chippewa Run shows. The restoration of native wildflowers to this ecologically valuable area was a joint effort by students of the Leelanau School, members of the Glen Lake Garden Club, and the Conservancy. Thanks to a lot of hard work, this 110-acre Natural Area in the Village of Empire will soon be home to several species of native plants that attract songbirds and butterflies!

The project's goal was to restore part of an old agricultural field dominated by invasive species to a meadow capable of sustaining quality, native species. While Conservancy volunteers prepped the site, Leelanau School students determined plot locations, then met with members of the Glen Lake Garden Club to compile a list of suitable native plants. Seeds of

these plants were germinated by students in the Leelanau School greenhouse. A generous contribution by the Glen Lake Garden Club provided for interpretive signage, to be installed this fall.

A good partnership doesn't end there. An essential component of an effective restoration project is monitoring and this step will also be a joint effort conducted by project partners. Project maintenance like watering and weeding will continue, as well as data collection by high school students. In addition, Conservancy docents will lead hikes, describing the project to members of the public. In the future, depending on seedling success, the plots could be expanded.





The Lake Leelanau Watershed Initiative

... Working to ensure the health of Lake Leelanau by protecting the surrounding land and encouraging good stewardship.

More than any other season, it seems, summer inspires us to appreciate our water resources in Leelanau County. The lakes are warm enough for us to swim in comfortably, visitors can access the water from a number of parks and boat launches, and even the folks who live on the ridgelines enjoy the the unique “up-north” blue water of our many lakes. With more of us living within the watershed each year, it is increasingly important to understand how our individual actions create a cumulative impact on the water quality of our lakes.

For those living or spending time in the Lake Leelanau Watershed, an initiative to protect the lake is underway. The Lake Leelanau Watershed Initiative is a project working to ensure the health of Lake Leelanau by protecting the surrounding land and encouraging good stewardship.

The project began when the Conservancy received a Clean Michigan Initiative Grant late in 2003 to protect lands within the watershed critical to the health of Lake Leelanau. To date we’ve completed 3 projects and protected 204 acres, 3700 feet of stream frontage and 2300 feet of Lake Leelanau shoreline. We are actively working with 12 landowners to protect an additional 542 acres.

As a part of the Initiative, we are collaborating with the Lake Leelanau Lake Association (LLA), to create a new stewardship program called **Friends of the Lake**. The program gives residents in the Lake Leelanau Watershed a chance to shine just like the shimmering water of their favorite Lake by helping protect its water quality every day as they go about their lives. Are you a Friend of your beloved Lake Leelanau? We bet you

are.

If you can identify 10 out of the 17 practices listed below that you are already doing, or intend to begin, you are eligible to become a Friend of Lake. Just check all the practices you agree to and send the list to **LLA, Water Quality Committee, PO Box 123, Leland 49654**. Feel free to either copy this page or tear it out and save paper!

In return, the LLLA will recognize you in its newsletter and send you a certificate. You will also be eligible to purchase a plaque or windsock to put up on or near your cottage or home that identifies you as a **FRIEND OF LAKE LEELANAU**. Our hope is that the plaques and windsocks will help inspire your neighbors to get involved too. Most important, you’ll have the satisfaction of knowing you are doing what you can to protect our beautiful lake.

The LLLA Water Quality Committee has loads of information to help you carry out good stewardship practices. For questions regarding the checklist, refer to your Lake Leelanau Lake Association’s Landowner’s Handbook if you are a member of that organization, or contact Mary Taylor, Chairman of the LLLA Water Quality Committee (256-9856 or imagearts1@aol.com).

We are happy to partner with the LLLA on this project. The Friend of the Lake component complements our land protection efforts in the watershed. If you would like to learn more, need a speaker at your next association meeting, or would be willing to host an informal gathering in your home to help spread the word about the Initiative, call Natasha Lapinski 231-256-9665 or email nlapinski@theconservancy.com.

Friends of Lake Leelanau

- Understand and care for my septic (or other) waste treatment system.
- Use a 4-stroke outboard engine versus 2-stroke for boating recreation.
- Maintain a shoreline buffer strip of vegetation, preferably native.
- Use only low phosphate fertilizers, or none at all. I will not fertilize closer than 20 feet from the shoreline.
- Refrain from putting leaves, household chemicals, or other foreign materials into the lake
- Landscape property so that stormwater soaks into the soil and does not run directly into the lake.
- Use lake water (a natural nutrient source) to water lawns and gardens.
- Preserve wetland areas of my property and maximize native vegetation to protect water quality, wildlife habitat, and the aesthetics of the lake.
- Speak out to local governments when their actions (or inaction) may affect the lake.
- Subscribe to the Michigan Riparian to learn of matters affecting our lakes.
- Contact a Land Protection Specialist at Leelanau Conservancy to discuss conservation options for my property.
- Establish shoreline stabilization with the use of rip-rap (or other acceptable methods) to control erosion.
- Set up a compost system for organic waste.
- Respect speed limits, no wake zones, and other water safety regulations.
- Take precautions to eliminate hitchhiker species (such as zebra mussels) when moving my boat from one lake to another.
- Support my lake association by membership and volunteer assistance.
- Support the Leelanau Conservancy—our partner in protecting the Lake Leelanau Watershed.



2005 Late Summer and Fall Hike Schedule

Important Note: We are pleased to offer this schedule of hikes, led by our knowledgeable volunteer Docents. Do dress according to weather. So that we may provide the best experience possible and be fully prepared, we require (and appreciate!) advance registration. Please call: 231-256-9665 to register and if you have further questions about directions.

Thursday, August 4 5 pm
Annual Picnic & Silent Auction

The event of the summer!!



Refer to the flier you received or visit our website (www.theconservancy.com) to view all that's going on, from pre-picnic field trips to a local foods extravaganza to a Silent Auction.

Wednesday, August 10th 10 am
Exotic Invasives or Natives at Kehl Lake?

What is an exotic invasive plant species? Which species are native to Michigan? Why would it matter? Why might native wildlife be attracted to Kehl Lake and its surrounding area? Why would this have made a great summer encampment area for Native Americans? Explore all these questions and more with Docent Ann McInnis.

Thursday, August 18th 10 am
Hardwood/Conifer Forests of Kehl Lake

What does a pristine, northern hardwood/conifer forest look like? Observe, first-hand, the fascinating and complex diversity of life that exists in this old growth forest and lake ecosystem. Contrast that with the adjoining, formerly-farmed homestead site which is slowly returning to forest. Join Docent Ann McInnis in exploring these special wildlife communities.



Sunday, August 21st 10 am
Hiking along the Crystal River

This is a great opportunity to join Docent Jack Schultz for a guided tour of the newly acquired Crystal River property now owned by the National Park and the Leelanau Conservancy. Jack will discuss the geology of the land and the various tree species and other forms of wildlife that inhabit the shores of the river. Please wear appropriate shoes as your feet may get wet or muddy. The hike will begin on County Road 675 approximately 3/8's mile from M-22 where you see the river on your left.

Sunday, September 4th 10 am
Labor Day Weekend Hike at Whaleback

Enrich your Labor Day weekend with an invigorating hike up Whaleback, one of Leelanau's most famous landmarks. Join Docent Jack Schultz for a gentle ascent through a hardwood forest to a viewing platform. The views of Lake Michigan, Pyramid Point, the Manitou Islands and South Fox Island are unmatched from this location.

Wednesday, September 14th 10 am
The Wide Angle Vision of Houdek Dunes

Join Docent Ann McInnis for some "wide angle vision" nature sleuthing. Who lives at Houdek? What's goes on there every day...and night? How can we figure out? Look for tracks, listen to animal language, make new discoveries as you learn about and enjoy the 330 acres of this unique Great Lakes barrens ecosystem.



Sept 20 and 27 8:30 am
Explore Lighthouse West

Join the Conservancy's own Natasha Lapinski and Saving Birds Thru Habitat's Kay Charter on a discovery hike like none other. Participants will explore the wildlife, plants and geologic history of the Conservancy's latest land purchase. The Lighthouse West property is just south of the tip of Leelanau and is an important bird migration corridor for Northwest Michigan. Come see what's flying! Please bring binoculars and supportive footwear. Terrain is rocky and can be unstable at times. Meet in front of Barb's Bakery in Northport at 8:30 am.

Sunday, October 2nd 2 pm
An Autumn Hike at Chip Run

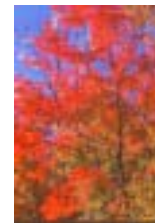
The scent of pine trees and sounds of the rolling brook will all add to the natural effects as you stroll through the beautiful Chippewa Natural Area in Empire. Join Docent Jack Schultz as you explore this wonderful natural area.

Tuesday, October 4th 9-Noon
Mushroom Workshop and Slide Show

Leelanau County's own mushroom expert, Ed Reinert, has lead many hikes through Conservancy properties to look at various species of mushrooms. This year Ed has offered to hold an indoor workshop and slideshow featuring many samples and slides that he has collected over the years. If you have any samples that you might have a question about, please bring them in to show Ed. The class will be held in our new Edward and Barbara Collins Conservation Resource Center at our office in Leland.

Tuesday, October 11th 10 am
Kehl Lake in the Fall

Come along for a morning hike at the 140-acre Kehl Lake Natural Area. Enjoy a leisurely morning enhanced with beautiful fall colors. Learn about this exquisite protected area beneath soaring white pines and tall aspens with Docents Mary Lyons and Marsha Buehler.



Saturday, October 22nd 10am
Fall Colors/ Geology of Houdek Dunes

The Houdek Dunes Natural Areas has some of the most majestic geology characteristics in Leelanau County. Come enjoy the October hues on this refreshing hike. Docent Tom Dunfee will lead you through this precious and unique natural area.

What's on Your Land?

Would you like to know what makes your land special from an ecological standpoint? One of our trained Docents can come out to your property and help you identify plants and habitats that are valuable to wildlife and water quality. Just give us a call (231-256-9665) or email cfaught@theconservancy.com and we'll arrange for a Conservancy Docent to visit your land.



DIRECTIONS TO NATURAL AREAS

KEHL LAKE NATURAL AREA

The Kehl Lake Trail is approximately a 1 mi. loop, meandering along the lake and through the forest. Although this hike is relatively easy, hiking shoes are necessary. Beginning from the junction of M-22 and M-201 (s. of Northport), take M-201 through Northport. At 1.5 mi., M-201 ends and CR 640 begins as you curve to the right. Follow 640 for 1 mi. to Snyder Road and turn left. Follow Snyder Road for 1.5 miles to the parking area on the left. Kehl Lake is shown as Leg Lake on some maps.

WHALEBACK NATURAL AREA

The Whaleback trail is well-groomed and easy to follow, however, the trail quickly gains in elevation which can be rigorous at times. Wear shoes suitable to hiking. Beginning from the junction of M-22 and M-204 (3 mi S. of Leland), take M-22 north approx. 1 mile. A sign on the west (left) side of M-22 marks the entrance to the parking area. Continue straight for a few hundred feet on the gravel road entrance to the parking area. PLEASE NOTE: If you approach from the North, the sign is difficult to spot, so look carefully as you approach 3 miles south of Leland.

HOUDEK DUNES NATURAL AREA

There are two loops here totalling 1.25 miles that traverse gentle, but sandy terrain. Steep steps lead you from the parking area to the trailhead. Beginning in Leland, drive north along M-22 approximately 5 miles to County Road 626. Proceed another ¾ mile north along M-22. A sign on the west (left) side of the road marks the entrance to the parking area. PLEASE NOTE: The sign is located parallel to M-22 so it can be hard to spot.

CHIPPEWA RUN NATURAL AREA

There is currently no trail system here, but you are welcome to explore the property via deer trails or find your own gaps in the grasses. From the intersection of M-72 and M-22 in Empire, head north on M-22 about seven tenths of a mile. The parking area is located on the left, or northwest side of the street just south of the creek.

For a complete look at all our Natural Areas and Preserves, refer to our Natural Areas Guide or our website: www.theconservancy.com

WISH LIST

- Patio furniture for our new deck
- Birdbath for our natural landscape in the back of our office building
- Digital camera, 3 megapixels or greater

HIKE AT CRYSTAL RIVER

In celebration of Sand Dune Day on May 17, we offered a hike along the Crystal River with Brian Price. Twenty or so Conservancy supporters—along with Sarah Chapman from the Leelanau Enterprise—turned out on a cool and overcast



morning. We trekked through the low dune and swale ridges, gazed up at giant hemlocks and stood in places close to the river where silt fencing remains and houses might have been built. It was fascinating and inspiring to learn about the geology of this area and why it is “globally rare.” Brian will repeat the hike as one of our pre-Picnic field trip offerings. If you would like to attend register early as space is limited: 231-256-9665.

Guest Check?

Summer is here and no doubt many of you will have houseguests. We loved it when Ed and Joan Hanpeter wrote us with a novel idea last August. In their letter they enclosed a check from Ed’s nephew to the Conservancy, explaining, “We are asking our summer guests to contribute to the Conservancy in lieu of some gift to us,” Ed wrote. Over the course of the next few months we received more gifts honoring Ed and Joan.

“Everyone who comes to Leelanau says how wonderful it is,” Ed told us later. “We’re asking them to help maintain it.” We provided the Hanpeters, who live on the Leland River, with a stack of our brochures. The brochures include beautiful photos and information about the Conservancy, along with a handy tear-off reply envelope that makes it easy for your guests to donate to the Conservancy. We would be happy to provide you with some too! Stop by our office, call 231-256-9665 or email cfaught@theconservancy.com and we will get them right out to you.

Matchmakers

This group from Merrill Lynch’s branch office in Traverse City tripled their individual donations by tapping both a regional and corporate matching program. All together they were able to turn \$750 in individual donations into \$2,250. As Local Foods Champions for our Annual Picnic, their donation helps to underwrite this portion of our event and we are grateful!





Wildflower Rescue Plant Sale: Spreading the Joy

By Brittany Husted

The first thing Joy Lang sees in the spring when she looks out her window is a reminder of her childhood—a gorgeous display of wildflowers.

“As a young girl, we had a field of daffodils and wildflowers where I lived. I proceeded to pick every single one and bring them all back to the house,” said Lang, who has always loved the outdoors.

Her childhood memories have taken shape in her own backyard as a result of her work as a volunteer for the Wildflower Rescue Committee. Their Annual Plant Sale is a chance for wildflower enthusiasts like Lang to begin or expand their gardens and is a result of months of work.

When an area is being developed, the Committee gets permission from landowners to rescue wildflowers that lie in the path of the bulldozer. This year, 70 diggers worked at seven sites and potted 3,500 plants. The \$19,000 netted from the sale will be used to maintain the gardens at the Conservancy’s beautiful Village Green. Rescued wildflowers also helped to beautify nonprofit gardens all over Leelanau. Native plants were donated to Leland Public School, Leelanau Children’s Center, Old Art Building, and Old Settlers Park’s Native Plant Garden near Glen Lake.

Lang knew when she retired that she wanted to devote time to wildflower gardening. She takes great pleasure in suc-

cessfully replanting wildflowers in her shaded yard. As a volunteer who also helps to dig, she hopes that these rescued plants will live on and spread throughout Leelanau, and beyond.

The ferns, trout lilies and trillium—just a few of the varieties sold—are all native to Leelanau County, so they grow very well here. Naturalists believe that wildflowers were once much more prolific in our woods, but were lost when forests were timbered and grazed. If planted in an environment similar to the one they came from, success is likely.

As for Lang and her flowers, she says, “I check them at least twice a day because I enjoy them so much. I don’t have a favorite. They’re all my favorite.”

If you know of a site where wildflowers might be saved, or are planning to excavate your own property, call committee chairs Patty Shea: 256-9249 or Joanie Woods: 256-7154.



Meet our Summer Interns

Hi! My name is Brittany Husted. I have lived most of my life in Leelanau County and graduated from Suttons Bay. I attend Western Michigan University, where I am majoring in journalism and will be starting my junior year in the fall. Being away at school the past two years has made me appreciate how gorgeous Leelanau County is, and I try not to take it for granted anymore. I’ve also realized how much I would like to see it preserved.



As a summer intern at the Conservancy, I hope to broaden my skills in communications and event planning, as well as writing. I am also looking forward to getting better acquainted with Leelanau County. My responsibilities include coordinating our booth appearances, working with volunteers, putting together materials for our donor parties, and helping with the Silent Auction and Picnic in August. I was raised to appreciate and respect the environment, and I know my work here will be rewarding. I hope to gain knowledge for my future career, as well as help preserve the best of Leelanau.

Hi. My name is Markelle Smith and I’m looking forward to a productive summer spent here at the Conservancy! It’s great to be living and working in Northern Michigan again after being away from the area to pursue my studies. This summer internship is part of my curriculum at Yale University’s School of Forestry and Environmental Studies where I am a candidate for a Master of Environmental Management.



My work at the Conservancy will allow me to pursue my interests in watershed management, focusing on the land-water interface, and to explore community-level stewardship in the area where I grew up. Some of my responsibilities this summer include updating existing management files, conducting vegetation surveys in the field to enhance Natural Area and Preserve management plans, and revising watershed management plans to comply with current EPA specifications. I’m happy to be here and look forward to making a contribution to the conservation of valuable places in Leelanau County.



New Members

We're grateful to have you as a part of our growing, vital organization! There is strength in numbers, and together, we can protect the land we love. Thanks so much for your new membership contributions, as well as to all those who have supported us for many years.

New Members from 3/1/05 to 6/22/05

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Crystal River Outfitters | Mr. and Mrs. Tom Durkin | Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Keeble | Dr. and Mrs. John R. Sanborn |
| Mrs. Lynn E. Adler | Mr. Hans Engelke | Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Kellogg | Thomas Sawyer & Kate Vilter-Sawyer |
| Mrs. Ann Babcock | Ms. Nancy English | Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Kepler | Mr. and Mrs. Peter H. Schaff |
| Mr. and Mrs. Jack Beam | Mr. and Mrs. David R. Fay | Mr. John Kirk | Mrs. Sarah H. Schaff |
| Mr. and Mrs. Thomas B. Bender | Mr. Mason Ferry | Mr. John Kolozsvary | Mr. and Mrs. Timothy L. Schaub |
| Mr. and Mrs. John Bennett | Mr. and Mrs. Russell Fincher | Mr. and Mrs. David Kraus | Mr. and Mrs. Robert Scholz |
| Mrs. Cindy J. Bilisko | Matthew Fletcher and Bethany Renfer | Mr. and Mrs. Christopher L. Kropp | Mr. and Mrs. Robert Serbin |
| Norman Bistodeau & Andrew Mitchell | Mr. and Mrs. Thomas F. Frank | Ms. Laurie Kupferer | Mr. and Mrs. Carl F. Shelton |
| Mr. and Mrs. Douglas J. Black | Mr. and Mrs. Edward C. Gits | Mr. and Mrs. James D. Kuras | Mr. and Mrs. Fred B. Shoaff, III |
| Mr. and Mrs. Peter A. Borden | Mr. and Mrs. George A. Giza | Mrs. Anne G. Lewis | Mr. and Mrs. Duane L. Shugart |
| Mr. and Mrs. Henry Boucher | Mr. and Mrs. Pete Goodspeed | Mr. and Mrs. Al Manson | Mr. and Mrs. Michael Shupert |
| Mr. and Mrs. Russell G. Bow | Mr. and Mrs. Philip W. Goodspeed, Jr. | Mr. and Mrs. Dave Manthei | Dr. and Mrs. Edward T. Stewart |
| Mr. and Mrs. Guy Grossy | Mr. and Mrs. Philip W. Goodspeed | Mr. and Mrs. Russ Maranzano | Martin Strand |
| Mr. Kenneth Browde | Mr. and Mrs. Brian Gorcyca | Mr. and Mrs. John Marshall | Mr. and Mrs. George Strietmann |
| Mr. Greg Brown | Mr. and Mrs. Chris Gross | Mr. and Mrs. Steven Martineau | Mr. Soren Teichman |
| Mr. Larry Brown | Mr. James J. Gross | Jim and Ellen McLean | Mike and Marcia Thompson |
| Mr. and Mrs. Carl Bulat | Mr. and Mrs. David J. Hall | Ms. Suzanne Meyer | Lisa and Ben Tyler |
| Jeff and Debbie Burt | Gwen Hall | Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Moore | Mr. and Mrs. G. Neil Tyler |
| Mr. and Mrs. Xavier Cabanne | Mr. John Harbottle | Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Moore | Mrs. Richard S. Tyler and Family |
| Tim Calkins and Carol Saltoun | Mr. Kevin S. Harty | Mrs. Judith B. Morgan | Mr. and Mrs. John H. Vetter |
| Mr. and Mrs. Bob Christina | Mr. Dick Hasbany | Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Nixon | Mr. and Mrs. Peter Visser |
| Dr. and Mrs. Robert Crane | Ms. Laurel Hauser | Ms. Nancy Nunemaker | Mr. and Mrs. Robert Walsh |
| Ben and Ruby Creed | Mrs. Sally F. Hedges | Mr. and Mrs. Greig A. Patton | Mrs. Mary E. Weaver |
| Mr. and Mrs. Alexander B. Curchin, III | Mr. and Mrs. Donald J. Herzog | Ms. Linda Peppler | Mr. Jeffrey Weemes |
| Mr. J. Dankovich | Mr. and Mrs. William Hischke | Mr. Blake Perrigo | Mr. and Mrs. William Weemes |
| Mr. and Mrs. Howard Datema | Ms. Tracy Hobbs | Mr. and Mrs. Thomas A. Persha | Mr. Foster Winter |
| Mr. and Mrs. Arthur DeCook | Mr. William A. Hoffman | Mr. Francis J. Pollnow, Jr. | Mrs. Elva Witle |
| Ms. Joanne DeJonge | Mr. and Mrs. Terrence Howe | Mr. and Mrs. Stan Ponstein | Mr. and Mrs. William Witle |
| Mr. and Mrs. Charlie DeSando | Mr. and Mrs. Edward G. Huller | Mrs. Marian B. Potter | Mr. and Mrs. John R. Woods |
| Mr. and Mrs. John S. Dorsey | Mr. and Mrs. Skip Jackson | Mr. and Mrs. Mark Raaymakers | Ms. Debbi Workum |
| Mr. Frederick Dose | Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Janecke | Mr. and Mrs. Dewey J. Renneker | Timothy and Kathy Young |
| Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Dotterweich | Mr. and Mrs. Roswell D. Jennings | Mr. Edward Roloson | Dr. and Mrs. Ivars Zadvinskis |
| Mr. and Mrs. Michael F. Dowley | Mrs. Elise Johnson | Mr. and Mrs. Michael T. Sagges | Mr. and Mrs. Stephan vonJena |

Thank You, Volunteers!

We could not do all that we do without the help of so many volunteers. This summer we are especially grateful to our Board Chairman, Bobbie Collins, for the endless hours she has spent helping with our office remodel. She has cleaned closets, hung pictures, shopped for hardware and more. She and husband Ed, who founded the Conservancy, have also contributed generously on everything from helping us purchase office furniture to loaning artwork for our walls.

Special thanks also to Board President Craig Miller and his wife, Nancy, who purchased three paintings for our office and new shrubs and trees. Craig, along with Bobbie, Ed and their grandson Eric Justusson, from New Paltz, NY, and his friends Ben, Mer and Paul McLaughlin planted and mulched all the new trees and shrubs around our building. Staffers Susan, Brian and son Nate Price along with Tom Nelson also helped out!

Board Member Jeff Corbin was integral in designing and selecting our new efficient workspaces. He and wife, Sue donated the birch and twig coat rack for our conference room.

Marsha Buehler hit the road in June, taking our brochures around to Leelanau B&Bs and small resorts, helping us to spread our message. Carl Hammond made his usual rounds as well to area businesses and restaurants—thank you so much.

Booth keepers: Barbara Abbott, John and Carol Peterson, Dick Ristine, Mollie Harrison, Leon Michael and Annette Deibel. Thanks.

Thanks to our mailing crew: Gail Ingraham, Betty Waite, Treva DeJong, Bill & Shirley Orcutt, Cathy Schocker, Bob & Janet

McKelvey, Mooneyen Fitch, Nonny Bolmer and Dottie Bergman.

Our local foods committee has been hard at work all spring putting together plans for the local foods portion of our Picnic (see page 1 for names). Special thanks to Courtney Miller for designing our Local Foods logo.

Thanks also to Kennedy Sandoval, Joy Lang and Dennis and Erika Ferguson for help with office recycling.

Our Stewardship Network, as usual, was busy maintaining our Natural Areas. Thanks to Jim Vachow, Bob Hagerman, Tom Dunfee, Rick Halbert, Chuck Whetsel, Kyle Carr, John Scott, Bill Maul. Dave Brigham and Dan Ray also helped with trail planning: thank you!

If we somehow neglected to mention you, please know that you are no less appreciated!



Board President Craig Miller works with volunteers to plant shrubs and trees at our newly remodeled office building



Welcome New Sustainers!

We now have 369 individuals/families who make an annual pledge of \$500 or more to support the operations of the Conservancy, giving us the consistency we need to insure we meet our long-term goals for protecting this very beautiful place. Sustainers are special people with special events held in their honor. To learn more about joining the Sustainer's Circle, call Gayle at 256-9665 or email gayle@theconservancy.com. Thanks to all our loyal Sustainers. Your support is critical to our ongoing success.

New Sustainers in 2005:

Kurt Bowden and Nancy Dady
Mr. Ron Brooks
Mr. and Mrs. Arthur H. Bunn
Mr. and Mrs. Jack Burton
Mr. and Mrs. Al Chetcuti
Michael and Patti Chetcuti
Dr. and Mrs. Michael Craig
Jeff and Mary Dixon
Mr. Parker Field
Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey E. Fisher
Jan Garfinkle & Mike O'Donnell
Mrs. Jane G. Haley
Mr. and Mrs. Alan Hartwick

Drs. John and Judy Hoeffler
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Howes
Mr. and Mrs. Mike Jacobson
Kalin and Phia Johnson
Mr. T. Scott Jones
Mr. and Mrs. John Ling
Don and Emily Lowe
Mr. and Mrs. Donald McMullen
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Meese
Mr. and Mrs. Scott Myers
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Paine

Jeff and Emily Pearson
Lou and Kathy Ricord
Jane Schwertfeger
Mr. and Mrs. Richard J. Stephenson
Ms. Janet Wander
Warren and Ann Watkins
Kenneth Zino & Mary Robertson



The Meese family of Lake Leelanau and Bloomfield, Michigan, are new Sustainers. Sally and son Bill, left and middle, chatted with Annette Deibel last summer at a Conservancy event at L. Mawby Vineyards.

Tribute to Larry

Larry Verdier, who guided the Leelanau Conservancy in infancy as its first Chairman, passed away in Leland in early June.

Larry played a vital role in the organization's early years, not only presiding over Board meetings, but drawing up all necessary corporate papers and mentoring our fledgling staff (me). Verdier's wealth of experience in real estate law, and his equally impressive contacts with virtually everyone on the Leelanau County scene, not only lent a needed degree of credibility to our young Conservancy, but guaranteed that our early projects were conducted properly. Larry jokingly mentioned from time to time that one of his main duties was to make certain that our inexperienced Executive Director, who at the time not only managed the day-to-day activities of the organization, but also drafted nearly all legal documents such as conservation easements, would not be prosecuted for practicing law without a license. Accordingly, Larry dutifully flyspecked every single recorded legal document produced during our first four years, and also drafted or reviewed most of the important letters sent out on Conservancy letterhead.

In November of 1998, Ed Collins wrote a moving tribute to Larry Verdier upon his retirement from our Board of Directors after serving the maximum nine full years. Recalling his early invaluable assistance in getting the Leelanau Conservancy

off the ground, Ed recounted how Larry gradually warmed to Ed and Bobbie's idea of a private non-profit dedicated to conservation in Leelanau County. Once invested in the idea, Larry not only took on the responsibilities of watching over the activities of this small band of idealists, he no doubt in his common-sense approach to the issues of the day, prevented innumerable mistakes.

So we in Leelanau County owe a deep debt of gratitude to Larry Verdier. His many years of service on the Leelanau County Planning Commission is legendary, but he also served on the Sleeping Bear Citizens Advisory Council, was a loyal supporter of Leland Public School and the Leelanau Children's Center, and he was engaged in all aspects of the life of his community for over 40 years. As Ed said in closing: "We shall forever be thankful to Larry Verdier for the Conservancy that he so attentively and lovingly brought into existence."

—Brian Price



Larry Verdier



MEMORIALS

(Received between 3/9/05 and 6/20/05)

If you would like to remember someone special or celebrate an occasion, what better way to do so than by helping to protect the beauty and natural treasures of Leelanau? We welcome donations in memory of loved ones as well as donations to honor birthdays, graduations, marriages, anniversaries or any other reason you can think of! The honoree or their family will be notified of your gift, so please include a clearly written address. You may make donations online at our secure website (www.theconservancy.com), over the phone with credit card (231-256-9665) or by mail: PO Box 1007, Leland, MI 49654.

SPECIAL GIFTS

IN HONOR OF JACK AND JANE ANDERSON

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Beuerle

IN HONOR OF PAT AND IRENE BRUEN'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

Mr. and Mrs. Paul T. Leugers

IN HONOR OF STEVE CHAMBERS

Stephanie and Mark Duckman

IN HONOR OF DREW A. CUMMINS' 1ST BIRTHDAY

Arleen Rakas Rae & James Rae

IN HONOR OF JACOB DANES

Mr. and Mrs. Adam Danes

IN HONOR OF PAUL DECHOW'S BIRTHDAY

Mr. and Mrs. James McAndrews

IN HONOR OF TOM DUNFEE

Mr. J. Richard Emens

IN HONOR OF THE MARRIAGE OF IRENE AND PHIL FAULKNER

Ms. Sue M. Levy

IN HONOR OF AUSTIN FELLOWS' 9TH BIRTHDAY

Kurt and Eleanor Luedtke

IN HONOR OF BEN FELLOWS' 14TH BIRTHDAY

Kurt and Eleanor Luedtke

IN HONOR OF RICK AND ENID GRAUER

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur M. Kretchmer

IN HONOR OF SARAH JANE JOHNSON

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas F. Frank

IN HONOR OF THE MARRIAGE OF DENNIS LAUTERBACH AND KATHRYN COLLETT

Mr. and Mrs. Douglas J. Bradford

IN HONOR OF JUDIE LEECE'S BIRTHDAY

Ms. Kathleen Brewer

IN HONOR OF LELAND CLASS OF 2005

Mr. and Mrs. Perry Pentiuik

IN HONOR OF MARY LYON'S BIRTHDAY

Mr. and Mrs. Kent N. Holton

IN HONOR OF ROBERT W. MACKINNON

Mr. and Mrs. Robert S. Mackinnon

IN HONOR OF WILL MANTY'S BIRTHDAY

Mr. and Mrs. James McAndrews

IN HONOR OF CATHERINE MCGAVRAN AND DREW HORNING

Ms. Christine DeBurton

IN HONOR OF BILL AND MARY MARTIN

Ms. Polly Jo Kemler

IN HONOR OF MASYN BRYN LEE COLE

Mr. and Mrs. James C. Gilbo

IN HONOR OF MILES "TED" OVERALL

Tim Sparling and Lynne Tobin

IN HONOR OF TOM NELSON

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Shuster

IN HONOR OF BRUCE REIZEN

Dr. and Mrs. Maurice S. Reizen

IN HONOR OF LOU AND BONNIE RICORD

Kathy Ricord

IN HONOR OF DR. & MRS. CHRISTOPHER STACK

Dr. Chris Stack, Jr.

IN HONOR OF SHELLEY AND ADAM STEVENS

Ms. Velva L. Willemin

IN HONOR OF LOUISE THOMAS

Ms. Mimi Mullin

IN HONOR OF JOANIE WOODS

Stephanie and Mark Duckmann

MEMORIALS

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IN MEMORY OF CARL BEHRENDT

Mrs. Caron B. Heimbuck

IN MEMORY OF GRAHAM BENEDICT

Mrs. Rhea J. Benedict

IN MEMORY OF IRENE BOOTH

Mr. and Mrs. Mark E. Carlson

Mr. and Mrs. I. William Cohen

Mr. and Mrs. Edward J. Collins

Pepper Hamilton LLP

Mrs. Berta-Anna Steinkamp

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Mrs. Lena A. Ball

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Mrs. Cathleen C. Fisher
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Chris and Ann Stack

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IN MEMORY OF DR. H.H. HANDORF

Col. and Mrs. Harold C. Braly

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HARRELSON**

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Mr. Kevin S. Harty

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HEIDRICH**

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Mr. and Mrs. Mark E. Carlson

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Mr. and Mrs. Timothy C. Wilcox

IN MEMORY OF HAROLD H. SMITH

Ms. Sara E. Smith

**IN MEMORY OF SUSAN STRANG AND
ARNOLD SPRAYMAN**

Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Overmyer

IN MEMORY OF BARBARA THATCHER

Mr. and Mrs. Larry Price

IN MEMORY OF DOROTHY TIMMIS

Dr. & Mrs. Daniel Silvasi & Family

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Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Burt

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Mrs. Lena A. Ball

Mrs. Marion L. Bischoff

Mr. and Mrs. Frederick W. Bloom

Mr. and Mrs. Lee A. Bowen

Mr. and Mrs. Frank A. Bracken

Mr. and Mrs. Richard W. Budinger

Mr. and Mrs. Edward J. Collins

Mr. and Mrs. William R. Cory

Mrs. Jane W. Domke

Mr. and Mrs. William L. Elder

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas F. Evans

Mr. and Mrs. James S. Favors

Mr. and Mrs. Eben M. Finger

Ms. Susan J. Finke

Mr. and Mrs. Roger H. Fitch

Mr. and Mrs. Tom H. Fox

Mr. and Mrs. James W. Frederick

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Peggy and Fred Stoepel

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Mrs. Alice B. Weaver

Mr. and Mrs. William J. Webb

Mr. and Mrs. Harry N. Wieting

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**Don't miss our Annual Friends Picnic
Thursday, August 4th
The Olsen Farm**

- 3 p.m. Pre-picnic field trips. Choose from 6 fun and informative options ranging from a hike along the Crystal River to an Empire Farmland tour. Check out all the trips online at www.theconservancy.com.
- 5 p.m. **The Main Event Begins!**
 - ☆ Social hour
 - ☆ Silent Auction bidding check out more than 100 auction items online, including cooking with Mario, at www.theconservancy.com
 - ☆ Music by NewThird Coast
 - ☆ Leelanau wine
 - ☆ Appetizers utilizing local produce created by five area chefs/caterers. Taste the local foods difference!
 - ☆ Supervised Kids Tent opens with entertainment for ages 3-12.
- 6 p.m. Picnic dinner catered by Stubb's Sweetwater Grill. More local foods on tap!
- 7 p.m. Short program with Volunteer and Business Partner of the Year Awards.



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