



Leelanau Conservancy

*Conserving the Land, Water and
Scenic Character of Leelanau County*

Our 20th Year!

Newsletter: Summer, 2008

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For the Love of Trees

John Herrold was just a baby when he started coming north to Lake Leelanau with his family from their home in Detroit. His father, Edward, was a life-long General Motors employee who saved up his three weeks of vacation every year to spend time in a rented cottage on Billman's Beach. Here, they escaped the heat of the city and spent long days swimming, fishing and playing in the woods.

One year, Edward decided it was time for his family to venture west to see the Grand Canyon. He booked a train trip instead of the cottage, but when he announced his plan, John's then six-year-old sister Joan, burst into tears. Her heartfelt wailing threw Edward, who had assumed the family would be excited by his plan for a western adventure.

The trip was not to be. "He caved in after about ten minutes," laughs John. The train tickets were cancelled, and another idyllic vacation on the lake was preserved. "To me, Leelanau has been more 'home' to me than where I grew up in Detroit," says John, now 67. When he turned 12, his parents bought a place of their own on Lake Leelanau. After high school, John went off to the University of Michigan and earned a teaching degree. Soon after, he decided that he, too, must own a slice of Leelanau. At age 26, he found just what he was looking for: a 120-acre parcel with four streams running through.

The land featured patches of hardwood forest, but much of it had recently been logged. The science teacher dreamed of planting thousands of trees and restoring the land for the benefit of wildlife and the environment. He asked his parents to lend him the money to buy the land.

His parents obliged. "I paid them back bit by bit, a little out of every paycheck," says John, who would later purchase another 40 acres from his neighbor. Eager to begin restoring the land, he contacted the organization known today as the Leelanau Conservation District. A District Conservationist, Joe Luellen, would guide John's efforts in the ensuing years.

John's earliest, massive project came the first summer after he bought the land: planting 10,000 red pine seedlings on a

severely eroded hilltop. He enlisted his dad to help. "We did it in one single weekend," he recalls. "It was brutal. But it was a good time to plant them, a wet year, and most of them took."

Forty years later, that hill is now a cool, spongy pine forest. On the day I tour the land with John, we walk a trail lined with berry bushes and shrubs, grown from "wildlife packets" provided by the conservation organization. Luellen said that the shrubs would help join two forested areas, one of which shelters the headwaters of a large stream. If John planted the wildlife packets, Luellen promised that "the songbirds would be dancing back and forth between the stream and the shrubs," says John. And that's exactly what happened. On our walk, finches and sparrows flit past and the woods are filled with their songs.

John also enlisted the help of Consulting Forester Steve

Before



After



*Then and now:
These two photos
were taken from
the same position.
In 1969 (top
photo), John's
father walks
toward an open
area where he
tended a large
garden. Only
one lone apple
tree was present,
which you can see
just to his right.
Below, the road
today. The apple
tree is still there,
but is engulfed in
a grove of new
trees planted on
both sides of the
road.*

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GET LOST..... IN LEELANAU

I was recently asked by a couple on the street if I could give them directions to a certain county road that led to a beautiful vista of Leelanau they had visited once before on a trip up north. Not knowing exactly where this might be, I encouraged them to try and find this special place, but if they couldn't find it, they would, with certainty, find other vistas of comparable beauty.



I have been a homeowner in Leelanau County for 30-plus years and a full-time resident for the past eight. I admit that I have not yet explored many of the most scenic and interesting places in our county. My encounter with the couple I met has inspired my wife, Gretchen, and me to get off of M-22 and explore different routes when driving or biking. This, on almost a daily basis, has led to the discovery of new and beautiful sites. We have taken in rolling hills, woodlands, magnificent fruit orchards, hidden inland lakes, wildflower-covered meadows and better opportunities to view wildlife.

When was the last time you traveled to the tip of the peninsula and hiked our Kehl Lake Natural Area? Have you seen the Bohemian Valley and marveled at the beauty of the expansive farms and the magnificent fall colors? When did you last decide to pass up your usual return route from Traverse City and continue on M-72 west into Empire and explore the many alternate roads, all of which lead to spectacular views? So the next time you are out and about in Leelanau, take the road less traveled. If you get lost.....good for you. I suspect that you will find and experience unending beauty.

At the Conservancy we are constantly looking for those special places in order to preserve them for future generations. We continue to focus on our new Strategic Land Conservation Plan (SLCP) which will be completed this fall. In addition we will be ready to present our new farm initiative in early 2009, stepping up the pace to preserve farms and the farming profession. As part of the recently passed farm bill, Congress has extended for two years the tax incentives for placing important lands into conservation easements. This legislation will assist farm families in keeping farming economically viable. It will also help maintain the beauty of our landscapes and preserve the wetlands, wildlife corridors and watersheds so important to the beauty and productivity of our land.

The Conservancy would love to hear about your favorite views from public places. Write to us and send pictures if you can and include directions.

With the increased work load of land preservation new

challenges will confront us. As in the past, we will continue to rely on your unending support at all levels to insure that we protect Leelanau County for many generations yet to come.

Do not forget our annual summer picnic and auction on August 7. We will hold this event at the Newton farm off of M-204 just west of Suttons Bay. Have a great summer andget lost in Leelanau County

Tom Dwyer



Mary Taylor's nomination for best view in Leelanau County: Kovarik Road, west of 637.

Your Favorite View?

Every five years or so, we update our Strategic Land Conservation Plan and we're in the process of doing just that. The Plan will guide our work for the next 5-10 years. For the first time, we'll also consider scenic viewsheds, or as one of our board members likes to call it, "the windshield perspective."

It's no easy task! Every time you round a corner another view practically takes your breath away. Our goal is to identify the most important public viewsheds in the county – those places that can be seen from public places. And it's important to note that while the viewing spot may be public, the beautiful landscapes that you "view" from public places such as roads and parks are not necessarily protected. We are anxious to get started with your input. Here's what we need:

- A brief description of your favorite view (photo helpful, but not necessary)
- Basic directions, i.e. 1/4 mile from intersection such and such, facing north, etc.
- Note that the public must have the right to be standing or driving on your proposed site. Views can include hillsides, ridge lines, community gateways, public parks, waterways, etc. Whatever inspires you, as long as it meets the "public criteria."
- email your nomination to cfaught@theconservancy.com, or mail a note to us to describe your favorite view.

Your opinion is very important to this process. We hope you will take a moment to nominate your favorite view!



New Federal Law Extends Increased Tax Benefits for Conservation

Generous landowners who donate conservation easements to the Leelanau Conservancy are inspired by many things: they love Leelanau County, they feel connected to their land, and they wish to leave a legacy for future generations. This inspiration is also at the heart of our work to permanently protect the land, water and scenic character of this unique peninsula. Donating a conservation easement is a major financial decision for most landowners and the federal income tax deduction that comes with a donation helps makes that decision possible for many landowners in our community.

Congress recently passed a law extending for two years the increased tax benefits of protecting private land for many landowners (which had expired at the end of 2007). The legislation improves the tax incentive for conservation easements by allowing conservation easement donors to:

- Deduct up to 50% of their adjusted gross income in any year (up from 30%);
- Deduct up to 100% of their adjusted gross income if the majority of that income came from farming, ranching or forestry; and
- Extend the period during which tax deductins can be taken - from 6 to 16 years.

Matt Heiman, Director of Land Protection, says the extension of conservation incentives should prove beneficial to a wide array of potential conservation donors in Leelanau County. "Because of greatly appreciated land values, many easement donors had previously found that they couldn't utilize the full value of a conservation gift within the required six-year period. Now if you want to protect your land there are significant federal income tax incentives to help make it a much more financially sound decision."

It is very important to note that conservation gifts must protect significant conservation values, as defined in IRS regulations. That rule has not changed. Congress also passed tighter appraisal standards for such gifts, and stronger penalties for appraisers who violate the standards, so landowners need to work with competent professional advisors who are up to date on the new rules to help them determine exactly what the incentives mean to their particular financial situation. Also important to note, these new incentives apply to conservation gifts made in 2008 and 2009. If Congress fails to extend the incentives, they will sunset December 31, 2009.

Heiman says the bottom line is this: "Permanently protecting land will never equal or exceed the financial returns

from maximum development of the property, but if you've been thinking of exploring a donation of a conservation easement on all or even a part of the land you own, there has never been a better time to contact us. The extension of federal income tax incentives coupled with the property tax benefits of PA 446, which keeps taxable values on land under a conservation easement from 'uncapping' upon transfer or sale, have made permanent conservation easement donations a prudent choice for many landowners."

For more information, call Matt Heiman at the Leelanau Conservancy.

Impact of Conservation Easement Gift on Federal Income Tax

Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) \$100,000

Marginal Tax Rate: 25%

Property Size: 80 acres

Value of Conservation Easement (CE):

Appraised property value: \$680,000

Appraised value with CE restrictions : \$240,000

Value of Conservation Easement: \$440,000

Charitable Contribution: \$440,000

Calculations	<u>Old Law</u>	<u>New Law</u>
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AGI	\$100,000	\$100,000
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Limitation on

Charitable Cont	30% AGI	50% AGI
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	\$30,000	\$50,000
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Total Deduction:	\$180,000	\$440,000
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Income Tax Rate	x 25%	25%
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Tax Savings:	<u>\$45,000</u>	<u>\$110,000</u>
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Additional savings under new law: \$65,000

Old law: Unused contribution = \$260,000. Deductions may be carried forward for only 5 years beyond the initial year.

New Law: Deductions could be carried forward for up to 15 years beyond the initial year.



"I didn't know it was possible to do what Matt and I have worked out together"

For the Love of Trees, continued from front cover

Alguire to manage timber and ensure a healthy forest. Only one selective cut has been done in 40 years. "To me, the concept of cutting down a tree is absolutely alien, but I also understand that you have to thin trees from time to time to make sure they don't choke themselves out," he says. John points out an area with an ideal mixture of young, "adolescent" and mature trees and credits Alguire's expert advice. "I can tutor you in physics or chemistry, and teach you how to fly an airplane, but I can't mark trees for thinning. It takes a professional," says John.

In the 40 years since he bought the land, John has married, raised a son, divorced, learned to fly, and remarried again just three years ago. He and his new bride, Ardis, and son Bill, spend time in a garage-like building converted to a home on the land. He also cleared a half-mile long runway and built a single plane airplane hanger. John flies back and forth between Leelanau and Arizona, where he spends the winter. (Ardis still teaches in Grosse Pointe at the school where they met, so their time is split among the three locales.) Every year, the couple throws a giant party in the hangar for their many friends and former students, and recently hosted a fundraising event there for John's church. He also donates an air tour to our auction every year.

Last year, when John emailed to donate to the auction again, he began asking questions about preserving his land. He'd read about the tax changes and said he'd always wanted to make sure his land would never be developed, but needed to learn more. He met with Matt Heiman, and worked out a

plan to meet his modest needs. Among them: a single home site, provisions for maintaining his grass runway and a field to park cars for his big annual party. "I can't tell you how happy I am to have done this," he says about his conservation easement agreement. "I didn't know it was possible to do what Matt and I have worked out together. I never ever, wanted this place to be developed and was worried that might happen some day. This solves it. There will never be a Walmart super store here."

As we walk back toward the red pine trees, he talks about organizing a collection of "before and after photographs" he's taken of his land over the years. "My goal always was to make sure this forest would be better off 50 years from now, and for my son Bill to inherit a healthier stand of trees. I think I've done that. I just wish my dad could see it today," says John, pausing to gaze up at the trees. "But I have a feeling he's doing just that, and looking down on us now."



John credits his mother, Mildred, for cultivating his love of trees, because she gave them to her children on every birthday. Behind him stands a lone elm tree that escaped the blight. John guesses it avoided disease because it stands alone in a field.

A New Preserve Opens in Memory of Jeff Lamont



Arlene Heckl

It was a tearful event, yet one filled with joy and celebration when the new Jeff Lamont Preserve was dedicated at the end of June. Jeff is the young man from Springfield, Illinois, who loved spending time at his family's cottage near Christmas Cove and was passionate about Leelanau County in general. He lost a six-year battle with bone cancer last year, and when he passed away, his family decided that the best way to remember him would be to buy a beautiful 40-acre parcel near the cottage and make it into a Conservancy Preserve. We helped, but the family did the heavy lifting when it came to fundraising for the purchase. Their letter campaign brought in nearly 500 donations. In this photo, over 50 Lamont family, friends, Conservancy staff and project donors gathered to see the new sign unveiled, to remember Jeff and to celebrate the opening of this lovely new preserve. If this is the first time you are reading about the Jeff Lamont story, you can read past articles on our website: www.theconservancy.com.



Carls Foundation Launches Community Challenge Grant for DeYoung

Executive Director, Brian Price, once characterized the fundraising for DeYoung as a marathon—and he was right! Today, we are thrilled to announce that the Carls Foundation has generously launched a community challenge grant to help us cross the finish line. From now until December 31, the Carls Foundation will match every local dollar donated or pledged to the DeYoung Natural Area until \$75,000 has been raised.

The story of “Funding DeYoung” has been moving and inspiring at every point. A few key supporters catalyzed the project by making strong gifts to launch us forward. Rose Oudemolen, a woman we never knew, but who used to fish the DeYoung shoreline, left her home to the Conservancy at her passing, becoming the project’s lead donor. The Edmund & Virginia Ball Foundation and Rotary Charities of Traverse City stepped in at various points to inject energy into our marathon run by issuing challenge grants. And, after holding our collective breaths, we celebrated the close of 2007 with a Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund grant of \$910,200. (As a staff, we recharged our batteries by making celebratory calls to many people who helped us achieve that goal. THAT was fun!)

Perhaps most inspiringly, all along the way, people of

every walk of life have said, “This is important to me” with gifts of \$10, \$50, \$100, \$500, \$1,000 and more. Some sent in notes with their gifts, urging us onward; others appeared at work bees and lent their backs (and sweat) to the task; still others wrote letters, asking friends to match their contributions, whether of time or treasure. With 594 gifts from 408 donors, the community has truly embraced DeYoung as its own.

Thank you. We look forward to celebrating a “victory lap” with you soon.

**Today
\$1 = \$2 for DeYoung!**

A generous challenge grant from the Carls Foundation will match the next \$75,000 in local donations to the DeYoung Natural Area on Cedar Lake.



Roger Craton

Blossom Tour Day a Hit!

We knew when people started lining up at 10 a.m. to board Blossom Tour busses scheduled to leave an hour later, that the day was going to be a huge success. And it was. Over 350 people rode BATA busses and raved about the tour, which took them on a one-hour drive through farm country. The sweets were in full bloom; with tart blossoms just beginning to emerge.

The May 10th tour included a stop at the Gregory farm near Suttons Bay, one of the largest fruit growers in the region. “They had gone to the trouble of putting examples of all the fruit blossoms on a table so we city folk could see the differences,” says



Susan Green, a Conservancy board member who went on the tour. “We were also lucky enough to have the chance to talk with them about farm life in Leelanau County and learn about growing and storing Honey Crisps and so many other things. It was absolutely fabulous.”

The tour also made a stop at St. Wenceslaus for photo taking and to take in the spectacular view. Back at headquarters--the Connie Binsfeld building in Lake Leelanau-- free brats, Cherry Republic cookies and cherry punch were served while Lenny MacNeil entertained. All of this was made possible in large part by the *Leelanau Enterprise*, which underwrote the majority of the event cost. Special thanks to Buzz Long and Leelanau Conservation District for partnering with us, along with Don, Bob and Ann Gregory who went to great lengths to make the tour so enjoyable for tour goers. Participants also raved about tour bus guides Jim Bardenhagen, Judy Egeler, Larry Mawby and Jim Nugent, who narrated and shared their vast knowledge of our agricultural heritage. We’re most grateful to *Enterprise* publisher Alan Campbell who masterminded the whole day!

Will it happen again next year? Without a doubt! If you missed the tour, a map of the route and info to go with it can be found on our website: www.theconservancy.com.



Working Hard at Lighthouse West



Super volunteers Phil Von-Voightlander, Matt Posner, Tom Sutter and John Nelson (pictured left, left to right in photo at left, and Matt Posner in photo



below), helped to mulch the 800 native trees and shrubs planted at the Lighthouse West Natural Area during a May Work bee. This work was funded by the NRCS's WHIP (Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program).

Volunteers also planted rescued wildflowers at Lighthouse West and other work in the natural area continues this summer.

Raptor Poles at DeYoung Natural Area Aim to Help Control Rodent Population

This spring, two raptor poles were installed at DeYoung Natural Area with help from Traverse City Youth Corps, Bob Rauch of Electrical Contracting Inc., Wings of Wonder and farmer Bob Siera. The locale? At the edge of the agricultural fields. Why there? These fascinating raptors perch on the poles where they can hunt for voles, mice and other rodents doing damage to nearby crops. Stewardship Director Jenee Rowe says that using raptors for this sort of pest management strikes "a



healthy balance for agriculture and wildlife to coexist." So the next time you are out at DeYoung, check out the poles and what the raptors are up to!

Conservation Easement Landowners Annual Gathering

In June we held our second annual gathering of conservation easement landowners—a special group of folks who have worked with the Conservancy to protect forever their land for future generations. The party was held at Ted and Tali Lanham's beautiful 167-acre property. More than 50 landowners along with our board and staff enjoyed the lovely June day.

Forester Daniel Schillinger led a presentation and discussion on sustainable forestry methods. Nearly all of those attending joined us on a challenging hike through the Lanham's protected hardwood which their forester, Richard Cooper,

helps them manage. Attendees learned how sound forest management improves the forest's health, enhances the wildlife value and increases timber quality. Those attending walked away with a greater understanding of our northern forests, the pressures they face and tools for sustainable management. Special thanks to the Lanhams for hosting us this year!



l-r: Cara Cassard, Coralyn Riley, Barbara Richman, Gary Schultheiss and board member Mary Taylor

Safety First!

Part of creating and maintaining trails involves the careful removal of downed trees and brush. Every year our Stewardship Volunteer Network and staff receive training on how to safely and properly use chainsaws. Here, certified forester Mark Hill explains the basics of safe chainsaw maintenance and techniques to Conservancy staff and volunteers in the DeYoung Natural Area.





Eradicating Autumn Olive: Here's How

Taller than a one-story building. Wider than three football fields. What is it? The amount of autumn olive we have removed from our DeYoung Natural Area and other Conservancy properties. This nasty invasive, which is edging out our native species, loves the fallow farm fields at DeYoung, and other sunny, open places. Given the chance, it will take over with a vengeance.



We've had a lot of inquiries from property owners asking how to remove it. Here are a few simple pointers: "If you have a small grove, get it now," says Stewardship Director Jenée Rowe. "It's only going to cost you more later—both ecologically and financially. We have spent hundreds of volunteer hours trying to get rid of it."

This time of year is perfect to begin. We have found that using an herbicide is the most effective way to eradicate the shrub. Autumn olive is resistant to fire and if cut without also applying herbicide, it just grows back even more vigorously.

The bushes can grow up to 20 feet tall and have long silvery leaves. Once you have identified your problem trees, assemble your supplies to start treating the plants. For smaller trees, loppers or a small hand saw will work but for larger trees a chainsaw might be necessary (don't forget to wear your protec-

tive gear when using the chainsaw!). You will also need a pair of thick gloves, a bottle of Roundup (41% glyphosate active ingredient) and a small spray bottle or other means of transferring the Roundup. We recommend a small durable spray bottle that can be bought at your local hardware store.

Begin your treatment on a warm dry day, over 65 degrees, and start by cutting one tree and applying the herbicide directly to the stump. Concentrate the spray around the outer edge of the stump; and it should be applied right after cutting to make sure the treatment is effective. Once the plant is treated the shrub can be dragged, with gloves to protect your hands from thorns, into an open area to be burned later on a wet day with low fire danger. Now that you have the hang of it, keep going! —Sarah Cook, Stewardship Intern (who has spent a lot of hours with our volunteers, removing autumn olive from the DeYoung Natural Area.)



Volunteer Ron Dove, hard at work in the DeYoung Natural Area.

Conservancy Docents Grow in Number and Experience

We'd like to wish a warm welcome to six brand new Conservancy Volunteer Docents; David Amos, Roland Drayson, Judy Hoeffler, Sharon Oriel, Holly Pharmer, and Lou Ricord. We would also like to welcome back docents Judy Smart and Ed Arnfield, who are leading hikes again. These eight volunteers went through an extensive training this past May and June, and are now looking forward to sharing some of their enthusiasm and knowledge on hikes. We now have a team of 19 incredible docents, who volunteer their time to guide hikes on our preserves and natural areas. We hope you have an opportunity to get out on the trails this season with them! Local clubs and organizations are also invited to contact us to request a guided hike for your group, with advanced notice. If you are interested in learning more about how to become a docent, or have a special area of expertise to share, call Gayle at: 231-256-9665 or email: gayle@theconservancy.com.



It's Picnic Time!

Help celebrate our 20th anniversary at our Annual Friends Picnic and Auction on August 7. (See back page for more info). The event will be held at the beautiful new M-204 Newton Farm near Suttons Bay. We will hold some great field trips, show stunning photos of our natural areas and feature a local foods menu. We don't know yet what the talented chefs from Good Harbor Grill, Bluebird and Epicure Catering will prepare—but we know it will be great! Expect Kejara's Bridge hummus with Stone House bread, TLC (cherry) tomato and mozzarella skewers, Hansen's chips and Miguel Albarron's famous salsa. Gallagher's Farm Market will be providing homemade breads and rolls, and our caterer, Chef's Pride, is working closely with Cherry Capital Foods, a clearinghouse for local farmers. Local wines and even a local beer will also be on tap. Finally, Ann Hoyt of Leelanau Cheese turned us on to a source for biodegradable plates, cups and utensils, so everything you eat off of will be either composted onsite or broken down quickly in the landfill.

Our popular children's tent (for ages 3-12) will be back, under the capable direction of retired school principal Sue Corbin and friends. Sandwiches, fruit, cookies and bottled water will be provided. If you plan to leave your child in the tent, please bring your cell phone so that Sue can communicate with you if necessary.

An exciting silent and live auction will cap off the evening, with over 120 unique Leelanau items and experiences. Bids are now being taken online, and if you can't make it to the picnic, we are happy to "proxy bid" for you.

Thanks to our appetizer chefs, underwriters, auction donors and hard-working volunteers who make this event a success!

Local Foods Champion:



Event Sponsor:



General Underwriters

Bahle's, Cherry Capital Foods, Cottage Books, Gallagher's Farm Market, Huntington Bank, Leelanau.com, Northport Highlands, Oryana Natural Foods, Venture Properties.

You should have received a flier in the mail with all the details. If you've lost it, you can download another copy from our website: www.theconservancy.com.



Bid Now on Amazing Auction Items!

Our members have really stepped up and donated items and experiences that you can't find anywhere else! Bid now, win something special and help the Conservancy too! Here's just a sampling:

- Sunday supper, cooking class & wine tasting for 12 with Mario Batali
- Fall orchard wagon tour, apple picking, and supper for 16 at Don and Ann Gregory's farm
- 3 nights for 4-6 at a Manhattan penthouse apartment overlooking the Empire State Building
- Harvest dinner and wine tasting for 12 by Epicure Catering and 45 North at Cherry Basket Farm
- 2 air tours of Leelanau County
- Private geology tour with Director Brian Price, lunch at Sharon Oriel's home on the Crystal River
- L. Mawby 24-bottle custom Conservancy Anniversary Champagne Collection
- 4 nights at fabulous Breckenridge ski chalet.
- One-week stay in Cabo San Lucas
- A horse-drawn sleigh ride for 12
- Wicked Weekend in Chicago
- Twin-engine airplane trip to Mackinac Island
- Week on Lake Michigan in beautiful director's cabin at Shady Trails near Northport.
- A week's worth of dinners for four delivered
- Beautifully restored canoe
- Week stay at the home of Martha Teichner on Seabrook Island near Charleston, South Carolina
- Dinner of local produce, wood-fired pizzas and wine for 12 at Black Star Farms
- Handmade quilts, jewelry, art and **MUCH** more!

Bid online! www.theconservancy.com



A Win-Win: Charitable Gift Annuities

By establishing a Charitable Gift Annuity (CGA) with the Leelanau Conservancy, you can accomplish three important things...

- 1) Support the mission of the Leelanau Conservancy and protect the landscape you love;
- 2) Receive an immediate charitable deduction;
- 3) Provide yourself or others with a fixed income for life.

To discuss your options or to request an illustration of how a charitable gift annuity could increase your income, reduce your tax burden and support the work of the Conservancy, please contact Anne at 231-256-9665.



"We decided that a charitable gift annuity was a very effective way to support an organization about which we care a great deal, while doing something smart for our retirement planning. With today's uncertain financial picture, we welcome a regular income, and have the satisfaction of knowing that at our passing, the body of the annuity goes to the Conservancy. In this way, we will have made a lasting impact on our favorite organization." ~ Enid and Rick Grauer (pictured above with daughter, Diane)



"The IRS has created some generous gift options for charitable organizations, one of which is a charitable gift annuity. As long-time supporters of the Leelanau Conservancy, we found that making such a gift was a safe way to leverage our money for our joint lifetimes. We receive a check twice a year, including a very generous, effective annuity rate of 9.3%." ~ Gil and Annette Deibel

Recommended ACGA Rates: Single Life

Age	Rate	Age	Rate
55	5.3%	73	6.5%
56	5.3%	74	6.6%
57	5.4%	75	6.7%
58	5.4%	76	6.9%
59	5.4%	77	7.0%
60	5.5%	78	7.2%
61	5.5%	79	7.4%
62	5.6%	80	7.6%
63	5.6%	81	7.8%
64	5.7%	82	8.0%
65	5.7%	83	8.3%
66	5.8%	84	8.6%
67	5.9%	85	8.9%
68	6.0%	86	9.2%
69	6.0%	87	9.5%
70	6.1%	88	9.8%
71	6.2%	89	10.1%
72	6.3%	90 and over	10.5%



Staffing News

The Board of Directors recently approved three changes to the staffing plan for the Leelanau Conservancy.

Matt Heiman, now in his seventh year as a Land Protection Specialist has been promoted to Director of Land Protection. Matt has been instrumental in the success of many land protection efforts, notably a series of projects in the Lake Leelanau Watershed designed to protect the water quality of the lake. Funded by the Clean Michigan Initiative, along with donations to the Conservancy's Lake Leelanau Watershed Initiative, the project has so far protected 8 properties, 362 acres and nearly 5 miles of frontage along groundwater-fed tributary streams flowing into Lake Leelanau. Phase Two of this project is still underway, and Matt has begun a similar project in the Glen

Lake Watershed.

Tom Nelson, Land Protection Specialist since 2004, has been named Director of Farm Programs. Following the departure of Dan Scripps, who was instrumental in helping the Conservancy research and design a new approach to farmland protection, Tom is taking on the responsibility of implementing the new plans and moving our efforts forward to ensure that farming remains a vibrant and viable part of our community and landscape. No stranger to farmland projects, Tom had notable success last year in completing four farmland protection projects, ensuring that 480 acres will continue as farms.

Yarrow Wolfe has been hired to replace Tom as Land Protection Specialist (see article to right).

Meet our Summer Interns!

Hello! My name is Hope Schmidt and I am the new outreach intern for the Conservancy. In the fall I will be a senior at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio and in the spring I will graduate with a B.S. in Marketing.



I am a Cincinnati native, but have been lucky enough to spend all my summers in Leland at my family cottage on Lake Leelanau. My great-grandfather was the first in the family to come to Leland and it is a favorite spot for

what is now a very widespread family. Leland and the Leelanau Peninsula have always been a very special place for me, so that makes it all the more exciting to be working for the Conservancy. Not only am I gaining insight into my field, but I am also learning more about Leelanau and hopefully helping a little to keep this place special forever. One of my favorite parts of the internship is the people. Not only the people I work with, but all the people I get to see when I am sitting at the front desk or working on a project like the auction. It is so wonderful to meet so many people who love Leelanau!

Hi, I'm Sarah Cook and I'm back for another summer as the Conservancy's Stewardship Intern. I've already gotten back into the swing of things by taking my chainsaw safety course, passing my commercial pesticide applicator licensing

exam, coordinating work bees and participating in invasive species training in coastal dunes. Even with all that behind me, the summer is just starting and I have plenty of new projects from our stewardship director such as greenbelt restoration projects, wildlife hedgerow plantings, trail planning and building, removal of invasive species, wildflower plantings, volunteer coordination for work bees, and budget planning.

My favorite new project is coordinating and working with the Traverse City Youth Corps who have already spent time with me in the field getting dirty and pulling Autumn Olive.

I am graduating next spring, ready to go out into the world with a degree in "program in the environment" from U of M to find a job in areas relating to environmental journalism, geology, or outdoor education. I stay busy keeping up with school work and volunteering at Mott Children's Hospital and the Botanical Gardens to bring environmental activities to kids. In the summer you can hear me on WNMC on "Radio Anyway" where I produce pieces about Northern Michigan. Currently I am working on a piece about farmland preservation. Most days you will find me out in one of our natural areas where I would love to see you come volunteer and enjoy the beautiful land the Conservancy has protected.





Welcome Yarrow!

Welcome Yarrow Wolfe, a native of Menominee, who joined our land protection staff in July. She comes to us from the Black Hills of Wyoming, where she has managed a conservation district office for the past two years, working with ranchers on conservation options to help with water quality concerns. Yarrow is a graduate of Antioch College with a degree in Environmental Science, and attended Antioch New England for graduate work in Conservation Biology.



In her words: "My personal philosophy about land conservation is that it is our duty as humans to be good stewards of the earth," says Yarrow. "Land conservation is one of many tools we can use. I think deep down everyone wants to be a good steward of the earth; sometimes they just might not have the right tools or know how to start. I believe it is best to live life through action and by setting an example.

Taking action to conserve land is not an easy step and often takes much collaboration, information as well as educational outreach. In my opinion, this effort is worth the reward. I strongly believe that by conserving land and working with towns, counties, and communities to develop with a conservation ethic ensures that future generations will have a healthy place to live with open space to explore, plants and wildlife to appreciate, clean water to drink and clean air to breathe.

I am passionate about people working to be good stewards of the land and working towards responsible development in their communities. The land conservation movement in the United States has renewed my faith in humanity in many ways and showed me that there are many generous, adventurous and passionate people out there willing to volunteer time and money to conserve land. If I can make my career a part of executing a conservation easement or reaching out to a landowner who needs clarification on the process or find a unique plant or animal community that adds value to the property, I think I will be much fulfilled.

I enjoy hiking, mountain/road biking, swimming, camping, backpacking and canoeing. I also enjoy exploring the woods for rare or endangered plants along with cooking, gardening, reading, knitting and sewing. I am excited to explore Leelanau County and become involved in the community.

Stimulating Gifts

The day Ann and Herb Nichols' stimulus check arrived in the mail, they knew just what they wanted to do with the funds: give it away to their favorite charities. We were their first stop, where they made a donation to our Leelanau Preservers program so that a tile would be mounted on our Leland Village Green in June to honor their grandchildren, Elizabeth and Julia Filmer. We loved their idea so much that it "stimulated" us to get this photo on the same day. Thanks, Herb and Ann, for all you do!



Why Leelanau?

What a collection of great photos we've amassed, thanks to so many of you! See 150-plus great images on our website: www.theconservancy.com. This one is from Cara Lee Paige of Northport and Kalamazoo, who has submitted a number of gorgeous photos. Special thanks to Lou Ricord, who, along with all our wonderful photographers, makes this site happen.





2008 Summer and Fall Schedule of Events

Important Note: We are pleased to offer this schedule of hikes and programs, 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!) advanced registration. Most hikes last around two hours unless otherwise noted. All hikes are free unless noted otherwise in this calendar. Please call 231-256-9665 to register and for questions about directions. Want to learn more about the docent who will be leading your hike? Visit our website and read about their background, interests and teaching style.

July

Tuesday, July 22 1 - 3:30 pm
Work Bee at DeYoung Natural Area

Witness the comeback of the native species in the areas we began restoring last year! Now you can see the huge healthy oak trees towering over the fields. Help us to reveal more natural treasures as we remove invasive species in the upland portion of this property. Call us (256-9665) for details on the techniques we will use and how you may be able to help. These work bees require physically-fit folks, who can lift 30 lbs, drag brush and use a brush cutter.

Thursday, July 24 1 - 3:30 pm
Work Bee at DeYoung Natural Area
See July 22nd description

Saturday, July 26 1 - 3 pm
Come Explore Chippewa Run NA
Join docents Lou Ricord and David Harris for a hike around this special piece of land in Empire. Explore a trail system that will take you past a stream, through an old orchard and into a pine plantation to see some of this area's natural beauty. Please call to register and get directions.

August

Saturday, August 2 10 am - noon
Tour the New Jeff Lamont Preserve
Ann McInnis and Marsha Buehler will lead this hike around our newest preserve in Northern Leelanau Township. The trail leads deep into the lush forest where you will have an opportunity to discover a part of Leelanau that has been in private ownership and not open to the public until now. Bring bug spray.

Saturday, August 2, 3 - 5 pm
The Trees of the Teichner Preserve

This hike, led by docents Jack Schultz and Roland Drayson, will feature some of the trees, both common and unique, that are found on this interesting property. We will look at a very large American chestnut tree, honey locust, and tamaracks as well as other interesting vegetation leading down to the shores of Lime Lake.

Sunday, August 3 1 - 3 pm
Learn about the DeYoung Natural Area

This 145-acre historic farmstead in Elmwood Township has so much to offer to all ages. Docents David Amos and Roland Drayson will lead you on a tour of the property surrounding the historic buildings and the beautiful Cedar Lake Trail.

Tuesday, August 5 10 - noon
Venture around the Kehl Lake Natural Area

The trail system at Kehl Lake will take you through many diverse areas of this incredibly beautiful natural area. Join docents, Ed Arnfield and Marsha Buehler for a hike along these trails. You will wander deep into the woods and out to the platform that overlooks Kehl Lake.



Thursday, August 7th 5 - 8 pm
Annual Friends Picnic and Auction



This event promises to be even more wonderful than ever this year. Local food and wine, Kids Tent for children ages 3-12, live and silent auction. Pre-picnic field trips will begin around 3 p.m. Download more info: www.theconservancy.com

Tuesday, August 12 10 am - noon
Explore Houdek Dunes

Explore woodlands, dunes and meadow habitats as you hike this amazing 330-acre natural area with docents Ed Arnfield and Roland Drayson. Learn how glaciers shaped Leelanau and Houdek Dunes. Look for tracks and trails of secretive animals that are known to inhabit this part of the county.

Thursday, August 14 1 - 3 pm
Explore Chippewa Run NA

Join docents Lou Ricord and David Harris for a hike around this special piece of land in Empire. Come explore the new trail system that will take you to the stream, through the old orchard and into the pine plantation to see some of this area's natural beauty.

Saturday, August 16 7:30 - 10 pm
A Full Moon Kayak on Cedar River

Experience sunset and moon rise at the Cedar River Natural Area. Take an evening kayak trip (canoes are fine, too) down



Hikes, Events

Victoria Creek with Conservancy docents Alice Van Zoeren and Pam Schmidt, and paddle back under the light of a full moon. Meet in Cedar at the parking area near the ball diamonds. You will need to provide your own kayak or canoe.

Wednesday, August 20 10 am – noon
The Beauty of Belanger Creek

This hike, led by docents Jack Schultz and Judy Hoeffler, will feature an examination of the climax northern hardwood forest, a transitional forest of very large aspens, and the bottomland complex of hardwoods and conifers growing in the flood plain of Belanger Creek. Interesting lesser vegetation is found in the soft ground along the creek.

August 22 – 24 Photo Exhibit
of Leelanau Conservancy Lands

Empire photographer Jeff Ripple will showcase photos he has taken in Leelanau, including many from our properties. Jeff's large frame, high detail images of Conservancy lands will be made into a wall calendar for 2009. See story, page 14. Held at Old Art Building, Leland, the opening reception on Fri., Aug. 22 from 6-9 p.m.

Wednesday, August 27 10 am – noon
Scenic Views from Whaleback



Learn songs of birds, enjoy the lush green forest and look for evidence of animal activity...all while hiking up this glacial moraine to a spectacular view of Lake Michigan. Join docents Judy Smart and Judy Hoeffler for this

ascent up Whaleback.

but how crucial it is to incorporate them into our personal landscapes on behalf of birds, butterflies, amphibians and other wildlife. More details about the presenters are on our website calendar. This event is free, but space is limited. More info: 231-271-3738.

Thursday, Sept 11 10 am – noon
The Many Habitats of Houdek Dunes

Explore woodlands, dunes and meadow habitats while hiking through this natural area with docents Judy Smart and Judy Hoeffler. Learn a bit about the history and the geology of this special place.

Saturday, September 13 3 – 5 pm
The Diverse Forests of Kehl Lake

Join docents Jack Schultz and Judy Hoeffler for a stroll through the lowland mixed conifer and hardwood forest adjacent to Kehl Lake. Large white pines and aspens, along with other species, make this a unique forest community.

Thursday, Sept 18 10 am – noon
The Forest Terrain of Whaleback NA

Join docents, Ann McInnis and Marsha Buehler for a vigorous hike up Whaleback. You'll wander up a forest path to the platform to see one of the North's most spectacular views of Good Harbor Bay, the Manitous and Pyramid Point.

Saturday, Sept 20 1 – 3 pm
Nature's Beauty is Found at the Chippewa Run Natural Area

Join docents Lou Ricord and David Harris for a hike around this special piece of land in Empire. Come explore the new trail system that will take you to the stream, through the old orchard and into the pine plantation to see this area's beauty.

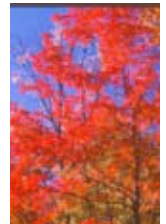
Leelanau and Houdek Dunes. Look for tracks and trails of secretive animals that are known to inhabit this part of the county.

Saturday, October 11 10 am – noon
Leaves and Breezes of Kehl Lake

Come and enjoy the remaining October hues during a refreshing hike at the Kehl Lake Natural Area north of Northport. Conservancy Docents Ann McInnis and Marsha Buehler will lead you through this precious and unique natural area and help you to appreciate the end of fall in Leelanau County. Please dress accordingly.

Saturday, October 18 2 – 4 pm
Afternoon Fall Colors of Whaleback

Take time from your busy afternoon with an invigorating hike up Whaleback, one of Leelanau's most beautiful points. Join Leelanau Conservancy Docents Ann Mason and Holly Pharmer for an ascent through a hardwood forest to a fantastic viewing platform. The views of Lake Michigan, Pyramid Point, the Manitou Islands, and South Fox Island are unmatched from this location.



Saturday, October 18th 2 – 4 pm
Autumn at Chippewa Run

Join docents Jack Schultz and David Harris for a leisurely walk through the many varied habitats, both upland and lowland, at Chippewa Run. An old apple orchard, a recently thinned stand of red pines, and the low areas surrounding the creek will help you appreciate the variety of terrain here.

Sunday, October 19th 2 – 4 pm
Leelanau's Hidden Gem – The Teichner Preserve

Join docents Ann Mason and Lou Ricord for a hike around one of Leelanau County's hidden gems – The Teichner Natural Area on Lime Lake. From the magnificent chestnut tree to the shores of this inland lake, you will be treated to a very enjoyable fall stroll.

September

Saturday, September 6 1 – 4 pm
Sustainable Gardening Seminar
Traverse City Public Library

This presentation will demonstrate how native plants are not only sustainable,

October

Saturday, October 4 2 – 4 pm
Explore Houdek Dunes

Explore woodlands, dunes and meadow habitats as you hike this amazing 330-acre natural area with docents Sharon Oriel and Jack Schultz. Learn how glaciers shaped



DIRECTIONS TO NATURAL AREAS

TEICHNER PRESERVE

There is a short trail down to the lake but much of this tangled wetland area is best viewed on a guided hike. From Leland, head south on M-22 about 8 miles and turn left on South (East) Lime Lake Road, near the southwest corner of the King's Challenge Golf Course at Sugarloaf. Once you turn off of M-22 onto Lime Lake Road, it is just a short distance—about a mile—to the Preserve. the sign on the right and park there.

DEYOUNG NATURAL AREA

The 1/4 mile Cedar Lake Trail is located just across the TART trail. See kiosk. It is flat and winding.

FROM TRAVERSE CITY: From intersection of M-72 and M-22 in Traverse City (Tom's West Bay) go north on M-22 1.2 miles, turn left onto Cherry Bend Rd. Go 2.0 miles down Cherry Bend Rd., and look for the barn on your right. Pull into the parking area by the barn.

FROM LEELANAU COUNTY: From CR 641 and Cherry Bend Rd. intersection, go towards Traverse City on Cherry Bend Rd. about 2.1 miles, look for the barn on your left. Pull into the parking area by the barn.

CHIPPEWA RUN NATURAL AREA

Explore a 1 1/4 mile trail here on easy terrain. From the intersection of M-72 and M-22 in Empire, head north on M-22 about 7/10 of a mile. The parking area is located on the left, or northwest side of the street just south of the creek.

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. 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.

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 3/4 mile north along M-22. A sign on the west (left) side of the road marks the entrance to the parking area.

KEHL LAKE NATURAL AREA

There are 2 loops here--a 1 mile loop that meanders along the lake and through the forest and our new 3/4 mile "Old Birch" trail through the upland portion of the property, which features moderate winding terrain. Beginning from the junction of M-22 and M-201 (S of Northport), take M-201 through Northport. At 1.5 miles, M-201 ends and CR 640 begins as you follow the curve to the right. Follow 640 for 1 mile to Snyder Road and turn left. Follow Snyder Road for 1.5 miles to the parking area on the left.

JEFF LAMONT PRESERVE

Take M-201 North out of Northport. Bear **RIGHT** as M-201 becomes County Rd 640 and turns East. Take County Rd 640 for approx. 0.3 mi. **PLEASE USE CAUTION** to go **LEFT** onto N. Kilcherman Rd (As a landmark, there is an antique farm windmill on N.

Kilcherman Rd., about 100 yards North of the intersection).

Take N. Kilcherman Rd approx. 0.9 mi, then the road will bend **SHARPLY** to the **LEFT** and become Christmas Cove Rd. Take Christmas Cove Rd approx. 0.6 mi., staying straight/right as you pass Scott Rd on your left.

The Jeff Lamont Preserve is approx. 0.15 mi downhill past Scott Rd on your right.



August 22 - 24 "Jewels of the Peninsula: Leelanau Conservancy Preserves and Natural Areas" Old Art Building, Leland

Empire photographer Jeff Ripple, owner of Ripple Effects Gallery, will be showcasing photos he has taken in Leelanau, including some from our natural areas and preserves. Jeff's large-frame, high-detail images of our properties will be made into a wall calendar for 2009. He will donate 10% of sale proceeds from limited edition photographs of Conservancy lands sold during the exhibit. Jeff will also donate a portion of the proceeds from his upcoming calendar, which may be viewed and ordered at this event. Opening reception on Friday, August 22 from 6-9 p.m. Pictured here is the newest 100-acre addition to our Cedar River Natural Area.



Building? Let Us Rescue Wildflowers

Over 3,000 pots of rescued wildflowers made their way from construction sites to our annual Memorial Weekend Plant Sale and then into woodland gardens and back yards everywhere. Fifty two dedicated diggers from our Wildflower Rescue Committee spent hours potting up plants last fall and this spring, whisking them out of the way of a planned driveway, home or addition. Later, sale leftovers found their way to our natural areas and are thriving, helping to restore these areas with native plants.

Patty Shea, one of the founders and organizers, says her group hopes "more people will tell us about building sites before it's too late." Often people begin projects without realizing that her group works quickly and efficiently to remove the plants they want to save.

Landowners should call ahead when beginning any project because the group is looking to dig even in areas where builders are just putting in a road or an addition. Contractors such as Glen Noonan from Maple City, who supplies gravel for roads, says he is "happy to oblige" the group. This year, they even rescued an entire perennial garden and moved it to the farmstead at the DeYoung Natural Area. Help redistribute the unique plants found in Leelanau by allowing your building site to become the newest project for the Wildflower Rescue Group. To plan a dig, contact Patty Shea: 256-9249.



Wildflower Rescue workers dig plants from a future building site.

Cheers! A New Conservancy Wine!

Here's a reason to pop the cork and make a toast...another county winery is on board with our Conservancy Wine program. Leelanau Wine Cellars has produced a dry vignoles and will donate to the farmland fund \$1 for every bottle sold. "The wine is on the sweeter side of dry, with a bit of the fruity taste still present," says general manager. Tony Lentych.



The grapes that went into the vignoles were grown in Omena, just up the hill from the winery's new tasting room that overlooks lovely Omena Bay. The wine is available only in their tasting room in Omena (right in town on M-22), or may be ordered and shipped within Michigan. Look for the beautiful bottle with a county map on it, with our logo sticker above the wine label. To learn more about Leelanau Wine Cellars, visit their website: www.leelanaucellars.com/

Bag It For Good!

Member Melani Wilson (of Leland and Ft. Wayne, IN) and her children are spearheading the sale of these bags. The family has generously underwritten the purchase of 3000 bags, and will be selling them throughout the summer at different events and through area merchants, and donating all proceeds to the Conservancy. Bravo, Wilson Family! Merchants like Leelanau Produce, the Leland Merc and the Ugly Tomato are also selling them for us. (If you have a business and would like to help, call us: 231-256-9665!).

The bags are dark green and feature our Conservancy logo and website. They are sturdy, hold a lot, and are comparable to the ones sold by national and local grocers. Melani hopes to reduce the use of plastic bags while also raising awareness for the Conservancy. "The bags are great and would also make great, meaningful corporate gifts," she says. Think upcoming holidays! Her daughters, Maddie and Molly, carried

armfuls of bags in the Leland 4th of July Parade, and sold all they could carry.

To purchase one or more bags, please stop by our office in Leland at 105 N. First St. We will ship bags, too, but must have a minimum order of five bags, which also adds \$5 to the cost for shipping.



Jeannie Dennler (in green sweater) and her husband, Bill, organize volunteers every year to march in Leland's 4th of July parade. This year, volunteers also carried the new Conservancy reusable bags. Pictured with Jeannie are (l-r) Samantha Hoffman, James Simons, and Maddie and Molly Wilson.



Welcome New Sustainers!

We now have over 475 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 Sustainers Circle, call Gayle at 256-9665 or email her at gayle@theconservancy.com. Thanks to all our loyal Sustainers. Your support is critical to our ongoing success.

Joe and Nancy Belton	John Nitschke & Jean McLaren
Peter and Eleanor Blitzler	Dave and Jean Redfield
Mark and Emma Christensen	Joseph and Doris Spielman
Kim and Rachel Forster	Todd and Coco Stachnik
Judith Gass	Vik and Susan Theiss
Jim and Diane Gilbo	Robert and Anne Tucker
Jeff and Cindy Kane	Emily Veenstra
Josephine Marquis	Brent and Jean Wadsworth
Kristi S. Martin	Eric and Barbara Winkelman
Dr. Patrick and Michelle McCarthy	
Stephen and Mary McGraw	



Sustainers head out on Lake Leelanau to learn about Conservancy efforts to protect water quality and the surrounding land as part of the annual summer Sustainers event.

Sustainers Circle Get-together

Nearly 200 Sustainers attended our annual summer gathering, held this year at the Old Art Building in Leland. Pre-party boat trips on Lake Leelanau showcased our projects and the work we are doing to protect the watershed. Ten and fifteen-year Sustainers were honored, and the new Leelanau Cellars Conservancy wine was unveiled.

Pictured: top left, Nancy and Bob Giles; top right, the Josh and Kaylyn Shelby family; bottom left, Nancy and Berkley Duck; bottom right, Jim and Gwen Rich.





Volunteering Matters

Dear Volunteers: We Can't Thank You Enough!

It amazes me how many times over the course of the year I ask people to do things to help me, to help the Conservancy. And I am just one of a number of staff here who relies on volunteers and their willing, giving spirit to help move this organization forward. The sheer number and scope of the things I alone ask for is astounding. "Can you bring your truck over and move 16 huge boxes for us into a nearby garage? Who is willing to take care of 100 children at the picnic? Can you write descriptions for our auction items? Would you mind spending 50 hours this year keeping our Why Leelanau website active? Will you host this gathering? Spend an afternoon in our booth? Spearhead a massive photo project to showcase our natural areas?" The list goes on and on, and it's only my list. There are Jenée's stewardship volunteers, Gayle's mailing crews, not to mention our board and assorted other committees who give so much. Together, these people multiply the hours and the jobs and the backbreaking work that make up the living, breathing, organism that is our volunteer base. And what a group this is. Without

all of you, we could not accomplish a fraction of what we do.

At this time of year, when it gets particularly busy, I find myself driving home from work wondering if I've thanked all of my volunteers with the sincerity I truly feel. Have I been too hurried or distracted to stop and acknowledge their special efforts, to say thank you, or to write a personal note? As a volunteer myself, I know that this is important to me.

What I would hope, dear volunteers, is that every time we announce yet another successful land protection effort, you feel a part of that success, that you own it. Because whether you stuff an envelope, clear a trail, recruit a new member or rescue a wildflower, you are a huge part of our collective success. I know that for all of you who give your time and talent to our organization, the protection of Leelanau for future generations is reason you do what you do. Together, we have accomplished so much. As we move toward the next 20 years, let me say once more just how grateful we all are to have your help.—Carolyn Faught

Booth Workers

Dave and Jackie Amos
Nancy Cooper
Bob and Carol Crumbaker
Mary Lyons
Mary Ellen Marik
Ann McInnis
Leon and Folly Michael
Charlotte Read
Ed and Barb Reinert
Walter Schmid
Cate Varley

4th of July Marchers

Bill and Jeannie Dennler
Sam and Will Faught
Ann and Herb Nichols
Molly and Maddie Wilson
Samantha ?

Photography

Jim Boismier
Jeff Corbin
Arlene Heckl
Jeff Ripple
Jack Schultz
Mary Taylor

Mailing Crews

David Amos
Jackie Amos
Lou Aug
Jan Bauer
Dottie Bergman
Carol Bishop
Nonny Bolmer

Marie Christianson

Treva DeJong
Rita Dick
Judy Egeler
Bob Elliott
Ruth Elliott
Gail Evans
Keith Evans
Dennis Ferguson
Erika Ferguson
Mooney Fitch
Roger Fitch
Judy Frederick
Judy Gass
Penny Gordon
Jane Grewe
Barb Hatt
Bart Ingraham
Gail Ingraham
Barb Krause
Mary Machin
Bob McKelvey
Janet McKelvey
Sharon Oriel
Kathy Rymal
Cathy Schocker
Annie Schoelles
Gabby Smith
Leif Sporck
Betty Waite
Jean Wood

Picnic/Auction Committee

Marsha Buehler
Jeff and Sue Corbin

Annette Deibel

Nancy Duck
Gina Erb
Judy Frederick
Chris Halbert
Molly Harrison
Frank and Mary Ann Krebs
Courtney Miller
Kathy Rymal
Alison and Andrea Spohn
Larry Mawby
Bill & Dorothy Mudget
Ann and Herb Nichols
Christina Pfeufer
Kathy Ricord
Leslie Schmid
Leif Sporck
Laura Swire

Newsletter proofing

Judy Egeler
Dick Ristine

Conservancy Bag Sales

Melani and Pete Wilson
Family
Leelanau Produce
Leland Merc
Sisson's
Crystal River Outfitters

Why Leelanau Webmaster

Lou Ricord
Thanks also to all of our photo submitters!

Sustainer Party Helpers

Andrea and Alison Spohn
Stacie Sumin

Docents

Ed Arnfield
Marsha Buehler
Tom Dunfee
David Harris
Mary E. Lyons
Ann Mason
Lisa Myers
Ann McInnis
Bobbie Poor
Pam Schmidt
Jack Schultz
Alice Van Zoeren
David Amos
Roland Drayson
Judy Hoeffler
Holly Pharmed
Lou Ricord
Judy Smart

Strategic Land Conservation Plan

Mary Taylor
Kathy Ricord
Jeff Corbin
Greg LaCrosse
Barbara Nelson-Jameson
Trudy Galla
Kris Smith
Todd Kalish
Ken Hyde

Ceic Ellis
Tom Dunfee
Larry Mawby
Craig Miller

Stewardship and Trail Stewards

Hank Bailey
Tom and Kate Brodha-
gen of Greystone
Gardens
John Bull
Kay Charter
Tom Comstock
Bob Doughty
Gail and Keith Evans
Erica and Dennis
Ferguson
Lindsey Fox
Emma Kelly
Greg LaCrosse
Ted and Tali Lanham

Micheal Lamont
Mary Lyons
Ann Mason
David Mertz
Phil Mikesell
John Nelson
Barbara Nelson-Jameson
Sharon Oriel,
Lenora Paige
Matt Posner
Ed Reinert
Richmond Architects
April Stuck
Tom Sutter
Suttons Bay Public
Schools Montessori Elementary
TCAPS YouthCorps
Kyle Trevas
Phil VonVoightlander
Chuck Whetsel
Warren Watkins
Bill Watson



Alison and Andrea Spohn, volunteers, serving wine at our Sustainer Event



HONORARIUMS & MEMORIALS

(Received between 4/21/08 and 7/14/2008)

In Honor of

Jim and Jan Bardenhagen

Chris and Heather Bardenhagen

David Edelstein and Jennie Berkson

Alan and Carol Friedlander

Ben Isaac Blessman

Mr. James W. O'Bannon

Elisabeth and Julia Filmer

Herb and Ann Nichols

Charlotte Rose Gould

Ms. Cindy Moore

Greta R. Langweg

Nancy and Jim Mogle

Al Manson

Susan Manson

Bill and Marian Pearson

Dr. and Mrs. Jeffrey P. Pearson

Richard O. Ristine

Richard M. Fairbanks Foundation

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas H. Ristine

Bob and Kathy Turner

Ms. Mimi Mullin

Joanie Woods

Stephanie and Mark Duckmann

Happy Birthday!

Sarah Ferris - 100th

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Keenan

Mr. B. William Lewis

Anne Kinzie

Mrs. Mildred Hurley

Tom Lawton - 90th

Owen and Leila Bahle

Mr. and Mrs. Robert W. Bailey

Mr. Jack E. Burton

Mr. and Mrs. D. Preston Dozier

Mr. and Mrs. William F. Fuertges

Mr. and Mrs. Richard A. Grout

Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Maynard

Mrs. Mary C. Page

Dr. and Mrs. Joseph H. Wyatt

Mary C. Linton

Ms. Maureen J. Delaney-Lehman

Mary Lyons

Michael and Debbie Lyons

Don Myers

Mrs. Carolyn J. O'Grady

Eleanor Stephenson

Mrs. Elizabeth B. Drinkaus

Happy Anniversary

Ted and Marilyn Sichler - 50th

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Burr

Mr. and Mrs. Gary B. Twomey

Happy Mothers Day

Judie Leece

David Leece and Kathy Brewer

Happy Fathers Day

Tom Dunfee

Ms. Julie Dunfee

Doug McInnis

Mr. and Mrs. John F. McInnis

Lawrence J. Noling

Mr. David E. Noling

Baptism

John Howard Kropp

Mrs. Anne G. Kinzie

In Memory of

Dan Babitch

Ms. Janet Kelman

Ben Berry

Mr. and Mrs. James A. Ham

D'Anne Bramer

Mr. Todd C. Bramer

Ms. Kerry Hearn-Smith

Mary Brecht

Dr. and Mrs. Neal H. Fellows

Jeanne Buettner

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LEAVE A LEGACY

We would be honored to have you as a member of our Heritage Society, which includes Conservancy supporters who have chosen to contribute to the Leelanau Conservancy through wills, charitable remainder or lead trusts, gifts of insurance, retirement plans or other estate planning arrangements. Many of you have already named the Conservancy as a beneficiary in one way or another. If you have done so and not yet informed us, please let us know: we would like to list you as a member of our Heritage Society to recognize your commitment and because your actions may help to inspire others. If you have questions about the Heritage Society or would like to learn more about your options, call Director of Charitable Giving, Anne Shoup (256-9665) or email ashoup@theconservancy.com.

Tile Time

In early July we invited Leelanau Preservers to the Leland Village Green. It was a celebration of sorts and a chance to view all the new tiles mounted this spring on the beautiful tile wall that encircles the big maple tree on the Green. Over 50 people had coffee together and marveled over the tiles created by tile artisan Leif Sporck. Each tile represents some aspect of Leelanau, from flora to fauna to some natural feature or experience in Leelanau.

Director Brian Price told attendees that "behind each tile is a story of time spent in Leelanau, about people and families who love being here, and about the connections we have with each other about that shared love for Leelanau." Nearly 2,000 gifts have been given since the idea was conceived, with nearly \$300,000 raised for land protection projects through Leelanau Preservers. If you have not yet viewed this work of art, and the visual expression of love for Leelanau, be sure to stop by the Village Green soon!



Pictured: Tile recipients Keith and Joanne Burnham view the wall with Executive Director Brian Price.



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Don't miss our Annual Friends Picnic Thursday, August 7th The Newton Farm M-204, Suttons Bay



3-5pm Pre-Picnic Field Trips. Choose from 7 fun and informative options for all ages that highlight our work. Check out all the trips online at www.theconservancy.com

5 pm The Main Event Begins!

- Social hour
- Silent Auction bidding: check out more than 120 auction items online
- Leelanau Wine and Beer
- Appetizers utilizing local produce created by seven area chefs/caterers. Taste the local foods difference!
- Kids Tent with activities for children 3-12

6 pm Picnic Dinner featuring local foods

7 pm Short program with Volunteer and Business Partner of the Year Awards

7:20pm Live Auction, with eight fabulous items, including Mario's evening of hands-on cooking lesson, wine tasting and, as Mario says, "Sunday Supper in the true style of Rome!"



Leelanau Conservancy

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