



Leelanau Conservancy

Conserving the Land, Water and Scenic Character of Leelanau County

Newsletter: Fall, 2014

Vol. 25, No. 3

Kiessel Brothers Share A Love For Farming

In the heart of the agricultural corridor along Center Highway sits the old Green farm. The Leelanau Trail stretches back off to the east, and to the west is a beautiful, old barn. On a crisp fall morning, I pull off next to the barn to meet brothers Bill and Don Kiessel and Don's wife Jan. I stand looking out over 40 acres recently sowed with rye and Kentucky bluegrass, lined with red flags in preparation for rows of tart cherries that will cover the landscape by next spring. Don and Bill grow animated as they describe the row crops once planted here; explain why they took down windbreaks to make way for cherries; and point out perennial grasses planted to prevent erosion. Then Bill pauses for a moment and remarks, "Imagine being 74 years old and buying another farm!"

Bill and Don purchased this 67-acre parcel from Bill Green last fall with the intention of maintaining farmland on both sides of the road and applying for a conservation easement. "We'd been asking Bill Green about buying his farm for a while," Don explains, adding that Green is the great-grandson of the original farmer, and it was important to him that the land stay a farm. The Kiessels worked with Tom Nelson to apply for a Federal Agricultural Lands Easement (ALE). The ALE program provides matching federal funds for farmland conservation. This summer they received news that their parcel, with its excellent soils and community conservation value, qualified for funding.

Although Bill and Don are still relatively new to this land, they are certainly not new to the area. The brothers were born and raised on a farm just down the road – a subsistence farm with cows, chickens, vegetables, and 10 acres of cherry trees. By the time Don was 23, he already knew that he wanted to settle down in Leelanau County on a place of his own, with his wife Jan and their growing family. Don drove up and down the back roads, asking every farm family if they wanted to sell. Finally, Lena Rader and Stewart Grayvold on Fort Road agreed to sell Don their farm, but just a lot at first. "We went out to the south-east corner of the farm and walked along Fort Road. Stewart asked, 'Is this far enough?' I said, 'No, let's go a little farther.' We paid \$1,000 for a lot in 1969!



Three generations of the Kiessel family at last summer's cherry harvest

That started our long-term relationship with the Rader family and eventually led to our life of farming," Don says, smiling.

It wasn't until 1976 that Don, together with Bill, began farming. They started with 40 acres and 535 cherry trees, and both had full time jobs. "All our evenings, weekends, and vacations were spent on the farm," says Don. For over two decades, all farm income was reinvested in land, equipment, barns, and trees. Now they manage over 500 acres, with 250 acres in active production, including 2,500 cherry trees.

Bill and his wife Betty have two children and seven grandchildren. Don and Jan have three children, eight grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. In the summer, three generations come together to harvest cherries. "If they are old enough to help, they are here," Don says. "Even the little ones pick and sell cherries." Bill's son Mick works full time on the farm as well.

"We are so fortunate to have our family close by and working with us. Last week I was out pulling old roots out of this field and all it took was a couple of phone calls to get the kids out here with me," Don explains. "And Jan has been with me every step of the way. She does everything." Jan proudly shows me photos of the family crew harvesting together.

Talk of grandkids sends Bill and Don *continued on page 5*

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Message from our Executive Director

Find your place on the planet, dig in, and take responsibility from there. – Gary Snyder

This is the last column I will write to you as the Executive Director of the Leelanau Conservancy. As many of you know I am stepping down at the end of this year and turning the helm over to the very capable Tom Nelson.



I think it may be time to speak directly and honestly of my motivations, and the satisfactions that come from a long run as head of an organization that has come to mean so much to so many.

Like Conservancy Founders Ed and Bobbie Collins, I have always been moved by the beauty of the Leelanau landscape. As a pre-teen, my exposure to this area was limited to a week each year spent on Glen Lake in a cottage owned by family friends. During that short summer week, the Leelanau landscape was clearly “imprinted” on me. The sand dune looming at the end of lake, the first opportunity to operate a motorboat by myself, catching a few decent fish – all these things are pure adventure to a 13-year old. Leelanau provided these things and more.

When my family finally bit the bullet and decided to buy a cottage on south Lake Leelanau in 1968 that sense of adventure kicked into high gear. My brother and I took up waterskiing in a serious way, spent innumerable hours exploring without benefit of compass, maps, or sometimes common sense. Who else tried to float down Cedar Run Creek from Alpine Trout Ponds out to Lake Leelanau (after supper no less!)? Who else decided to carry a 14-foot boat around the Leland dam and spend a weekend camping on North Manitou?

For me, the 1970s were a continuation of this exploration; but as a full-time resident I was able to get to know the farming community, meet commercial fishermen both white and Indian, and slowly assemble a broader understanding and appreciation for our Leelanau communities. Susan and I married, and the 1980s became a blur of parenthood, with an opportunity to share this wonderful peninsula with the four new residents we had created.

But Leelanau was rapidly becoming less sleepy by the late 1980s. It was no longer the exclusive province of the locals and the “summer families.” The pressures to develop every buildable lakefront lot, and to cash in on the rising real estate values, were becoming obvious. My increasing familiarity with

our peninsula, along with an interest in natural history, revealed that this landscape of great beauty was also a landscape that had not yet recovered from various insults inflicted on it over the past 150 years. Chief among these “legacy costs” were the impact of deforestation in late 1800s and the era of subsistence farming when cattle were encouraged to browse the swamps and forests. To a more practiced eye, the damage was only beginning to heal and would take many more decades. The beauty was there, but so was the damage.

When the Conservancy was formed in 1988, I jumped at the chance to help shape an organization that would make a significant impact in protecting the unique beauty of a place I cared deeply about. The start-up and growth of the Leelanau Conservancy is pretty well documented: carving out a place and establishing an identity within the community, learning to mobilize the resources to protect some of the precious jewels that I explored as a kid, slowly developing and communicating a broader understanding of what the word “stewardship” means in managing some of the peninsula’s most precious lands.

Since the announcement in May of my pending retirement, many of you have offered congratulations and said, in effect, “You must be very satisfied when you see the results of the work done by the Conservancy.” I always acknowledge that sense of satisfaction, together with the observation that there is much



left to be done. But I almost never offer more details, or try to explain what is most satisfying in this work, and why I feel so blessed to have been in the right place at the right time. There truly is great satisfaction in the things we have accomplished together. A partial list would include: protecting places of great beauty and quality that I explored in my younger days, helping to bring significant farmland preservation to Leelanau, and applying real conservation science to our peninsula.

There is a deep pleasure in working for an organization that takes concrete action to address sometimes difficult

problems. I often tell new board members that I think they will find it totally refreshing to be able identify a problem, construct a solution, assemble the resources, and take action. And the actions that we take, in acquiring land for permanent preservation, and working with landowners to preserve cherished family lands, are forever. There is great satisfaction in doing good work that can't be undone.

Through all of this I have had Susan at my side, handling much of the administrative responsibility so I could concentrate on strategic goals. A dedicated and seasoned staff paired with a savvy and hard-working board has made my efforts to manage the organization a real pleasure.

Most importantly there is immense satisfaction in bringing Leelanau a little bit closer to being a true "conservation community." There is a widespread appreciation of our natural inheritance and the bounty of our land that is coupled with an increasing understanding of the magnitude of our "footprint" on this peninsula. Looking back, I think I just wanted to stake some small claim to my place on the planet, and as 60s poet Gary Snyder bluntly put it: "Dig in and take responsibility." Thank you for giving me that opportunity.



Brian Price, Executive Director

Tom Nelson Will Lead Conservancy as New ED in 2015

In October we announced that our Board of Directors had chosen a new director to replace Brian Price, who will retire at the end of the year. Tom Nelson, who has been with the Conservancy since 2004, and has served as Director of Farm Programs since 2008, emerged as a clear choice. He competed with a field of impressive and highly qualified candidates from across the country. Nelson will take over as Executive Director on January 1. Until then, he and current director Brian Price will work closely together to ensure a smooth transition.



Tom holds a BA from the College of Wooster and earned a law degree at Vermont Law School, specializing in Environmental Law and Policy. He and his wife, Stephanie, three stepdaughters and their four-month-old baby girl live in Centerville Township. They are deeply involved and invested in the Leelanau community.

"I'm absolutely delighted that Tom will take over the helm," says Price. "I have worked with him for the last 10 years and have the utmost confidence in his ability to lead our experienced and knowledgeable staff as well as our committed volunteers and supporters."

"I can't adequately express the depth of my gratitude and sense of humility to be handed the baton of leadership at our Conservancy," said Nelson. "Because of so many people, this organization matters profoundly. I am looking forward to deepening the relationship the Conservancy has with landowners, our members and the community as a whole in the months and years ahead."

Duffs Preserve Important Glen Lake-Area Property

Jim and Beverly Duff have six grandchildren between the ages of 8 and 13. One of the things they all like to do when the



The shores of Brooks Lake, a small lake near Big Glen

kids visit is to take their electric pontoon boat onto Brooks Lake. This tiny lake is located just a stone's throw from the Duff's beautiful home on the shores of Big Glen—and lies literally at the edge of their back yard.

"I love being back there," says Jim. "Sometimes we get out on the water, turn off the motor and just sit. Pretty soon the animals forget about us and they come out to play. A family of otters playing near a downed tree in the lake, five herons setting their wings and landing right in front of the boat, and a huge snapping turtle that seems to like checking the boat out are just a few of the creatures we've seen from the pontoon."

"Jim just loves that land and has nurtured it for years," says Beverly. "Every spring when we come back he just walks around the property as if he is seeing it for the very first time."

Jim is originally from Kansas, and spent the summers during his college years working for the U.S. Forest Service in Idaho. He lived on Priest Lake, a beautiful mountain lake in the Kaniksu National Forest in the Idaho panhandle. He got hooked on woods and water and all things related. When he later started his career in finance at Ford Motor Co., he asked his new boss (who was from Utah and knew Priest Lake) where he could find a lake similar to Priest Lake in Michigan. Well, we don't have mountains in Michigan but in my mind Glen Lake is our most beautiful lake, his boss said. Jim checked it out, immediately fell in love, and he and his family proceeded to vacation there every summer. They rented for a number of summers and in 1974 bought the parcel on Brooks Lake that includes almost all of the land included in the Conservation

Easement.

The ecologically rich Brooks Lake portion of the property is now forever protected. The Duffs have donated a conservation easement on nine of their 24 acres. Director of Land Programs, Matt Heiman, first visited the property in the spring of 2012. "I was blown away by how much water was pouring out of the ground," says Matt. "And as an avid fisherman, I was also pretty excited to see that the whole end of Brooks Lake along the conservation easement fills up with minnows when they come in to spawn in the springtime."

Normally, says Matt, the Conservancy doesn't take on projects as small as nine acres. Jim laughs when he recalls Matt's first visit. "I think he came at the request of Brian thinking why is he asking me to look at a 9 acre parcel? When he returned from touring the property, however, I saw a big change in his interest. I frankly didn't know that the Conservancy didn't do small easements. I just knew that that the parcel was the only way to protect what remains of the Brooks Lake watershed."

Matt agrees, calling the land "one of the most ecologically dense parcels I have ever seen in Leelanau County." Three distinct groundwater fed streams emerge from the Duff's wetlands and flow into Brooks Lake, which connects to Glen Lake. "These nine acres are very important to maintaining the water quality of Big Glen and its fishery," adds Matt.

Protecting his land was a decision that Jim struggled with. "I'm a person who likes to keep his options open and frankly I was torn about it," he says. "I knew I was caring for the land and that nothing was going to happen to it as long as I did so but I also knew that I couldn't be sure that somewhere down the road someone wouldn't damage the wetlands. Even though the law protects them, there's only so much policing that the DEQ can do. Thus, I embraced the formality of a conservation easement. It puts people on notice that the land is protected, defines what can and cannot be done to the property and it's monitored



*Jim and Beverly Duff with the protected land behind them
continued on page 5*

Kiessel Brothers Farm (continued from front cover)



Bill, Betty, Jan and Don Kiessel

into stories about their life growing up along Center Highway. “You could walk from here to Suttons Bay and not see a single car,” Bill says, laughing. Don graduated from Suttons Bay in a class of 22 kids; Jan was his high-school sweetheart.

“We love to farm. We do it for our family and for our community,” Bill explains. “We allow neighbors to walk on our land; we open it up for community events like the Harvest Stompede and Cherryland Amateur Radio Club. We want to leave behind some open space so our children and grandchildren can enjoy the quality of life we grew up with.”

When asked why they decided to put their land into a conservation easement, Don grows thoughtful and talks about his old neighbor and dear friend, Rex Dobson. Rex spent his whole life on a farm down the road from the Kiessel brothers. “Rex could be going 100-miles-an-hour bringing in his hay, and then you’d show up, and he’d stop and give you all the time in the world,” Don explains. Bill tells the story of Rex leaving roses on neighbors’ doorsteps. And Jan describes the way Rex cared for his mother through her final years.

Don worked with Rex in the early 1980s, harvesting cherries. “As Rex got older, he began to talk about what would happen to his farm,” says Don. Eventually, Rex, who was an only child, established the Rex and Ruby Ellen Farm Foundation. Don is a board member of the Foundation, which is committed to preserving the history of the farm and ensuring its future. The Ruby Ellen Farm was the first farm in Leelanau County to be protected by sale of a conservation easement.

Through Rex’s conservation legacy, Don and Bill became familiar with the Leelanau Conservancy. “Like other farmers, we were nervous when the Conservancy started,” Don explains, “but as we watched the county grow and more and more land get split up – we began to realize how very fortunate we are to have the Conservancy here. Farmland preservation began

with just a parcel here and a parcel there, but it really adds up. And now we have a beautiful corridor protected along Center Highway. It really is something significant.”

“We ask ourselves: what do we want to leave behind? Life isn’t about money. We want to set an example for our kids and continue to share the life we love with them.”

Don and Bill Kiessel’s application for the ALE Program has been approved and the transaction will be finalized in the coming year. The Leelanau Conservancy will purchase a conservation easement on the farm, permanently removing development rights. Half of the cost will come from federal dollars; the Conservancy will contribute twenty-five percent; and the Kiessels will donate a quarter of the value. As Don explains, selling the development rights to the Conservancy is a good way for the brothers to “pull some value out of the land and maybe step back a bit from the hard work of farming.”

Jan smiles at this comment. She shows me a photo of Bill and Don during harvest last summer – both men in the entrance to their barn. Bill is leaning up against a barrel and Don is resting on the edge of a tractor. “This never happens!” she says emphatically, “They never sit still!”

To be long past what many consider “retirement age” and still going strong – farming together, planting new trees, even buying more land – this is a testament to the dedication of the Kiessel brothers and their commitment to the life they’ve built in Leelanau County.

As Don says, “The longer you own land, the more attached to it you grow.”—*Zane Kathryn Schwaiger*

Duffs Preserve Important Property (continued from page 4)

and enforced. Perhaps more importantly, it does all this forever.”

The terms of the Duff’s easement allow them to maintain a driveway corridor that runs through it. “The Conservancy was willing to include terms that addressed my concerns about maintaining the driveway to our house. Thus, I’m happy with the terms we agreed to,” says Jim. “They include what the Conservancy needs to protect the watershed and it lets us maintain the drive to our house. I think that more needs to be done around Glen Lake to ensure its protection. Being labeled ‘the most beautiful place in America’ is adding to the human pressures on both the land and the lakes. I hope that our action will encourage Glen Lake property owners to consider creative ways to formally protect this most important asset. It certainly has encouraged us to see what more we can do.”

Coming Home to Clay Cliffs

Last summer my son, Sam, was home for a few weeks before starting medical school at the University of Cincinnati. (Okay, so I'm a proud Mom, who also watched him face total rejection the prior year.) Sam had read about Clay Cliffs so taking a hike there was on his list of must-dos (along with eating a lot of sandwiches from the Cheese Shanty). So on a lovely July evening we put our dog, Sunny, in the back of my Honda and drove the back way to Leland.



Sam Faught gets to know Clay Cliffs

On our way we passed my favorite view in Leelanau—the one from Jelinek Road of the Newton Farm. Before I could say it, Sam piped up. “Forever protected! I know, I know, Mom...jeez.” I always say that whenever I pass the farm. I want my passengers to know that this vista overlooking Lake Michigan will never change, thanks to conservation heroes Roger and Coco Newton.

When we arrived at Clay Cliffs, I grabbed some insect repellent, put Sunny on her leash, and we all bounded up the trail. Soon we were immersed in the deep green forest—evening's golden light striping the steep slopes formed by glaciers. I marveled at the beautiful, well-marked trail fellow staffer Sarah Cook and her volunteers had blazed. As someone who is directionally challenged, I really appreciated this.

Sunny pulled and sniffed all along the way. We heard the rustling of chipmunks and birds chirping in the forest canopy. Keeping Sunny on her leash was a must; just a week earlier a hiker's small dog ran over the edge of the sheer bluff and couldn't climb back up. Fortunately stewardship staffer Andrew Milliron was nearby working with volunteers. He rescued the shaking pup by tying himself to a tree and rappelling down the bluff. (Andrew was reminded of his good deed for days as he contended with a bad case of poison ivy.)

I told this story to Sam as we stood at the top of the bluff where our observation platform would be built. We took in the breathtakingly beautiful scene. I told Sam about the eagle's nest and how there is an amazing display of trillium here in spring. And that over 650 people had made gifts to save this place—our family included.

As a child, Sam spent a lot of time outdoors climbing trees, building snow forts, and messing around in the stream

across the road. As a teenager, he told me that the best part of his job at my flower farm was driving around the county doing deliveries. But like so many kids, it wasn't until he moved away to college that he really came to understand what he'd left behind. I remember how homesick he was in May knowing that the cherry trees were in bloom and that the woods were full of leeks and trillium. He started dreaming about coming back here someday to raise a family of his own. And so although there are a lot of reasons why he wants to be a doctor, one of them is that he might actually be able to make a living here.

I thought about this as we took one last look and made our way down the trail. On the way home, I pulled off the road by Newton Farm and we watched the sun sinking into the Manitou Passage. Sunny nosed her way between us and as Sam scratched her ears he talked about Clay Cliffs and thanked me for taking him there. I can't remember exactly what he said, but the gist of it was that he thought it was really cool that places like Clay Cliffs could be saved. And he was glad I was a part of “all that.” He made me feel like the work I did mattered.

My job at the Conservancy as Communications Director over the last 13 years has had many rewarding moments. But never one quite like this.—Carolyn Faught

Clay Cliffs Dedication

On Friday, September 26, Rachael Cray joined Brian Price, Board Chairman Larry Mawby, and Board President Steve Martineau to cut the ribbon on the newly finished Clay Cliffs trail. At the trail dedication, Rachael spoke about her father, Doug Cray, and how glad he would be to know that the beautiful Clay Cliffs property is now a Natural Area – preserved for the community and future generations. Many community members came out to walk the trails and celebrate the completion of this project, a collaboration between Leland Township and the Leelanau Conservancy.



Extraordinary Volunteers



Al Swiderski, Dave Coyne, and Steve Popper

Around the office, you'll often hear our stewardship staff mentioning two volunteers named Al and Dave. Their names are always said together, as in "Al and Dave spent the whole week out at Swanson Preserve building the boardwalk." This fall, however, the dynamic duo morphed into an awesome trio who took on the task of building our long-awaited Clay Cliffs deck. It took the better part of a week.

Who are these guys and why do they do what they do for the Conservancy? "What we used to say over at Swanson all the time is you can't get a better office than this," says Dave Coyne. "Any excuse to be out in nature is a good one."

Dave grew up in Traverse City and lives in Solon Township. He began volunteering when he moved back from Arizona after retiring as a sign painter (he reproduced photographs onto billboards.) "I wanted to be a part of the community," he says. "Volunteering seemed like a good way to do it." Carpentry is a hobby; he builds everything from boats to furniture and is "self taught."

Al Swiderski lives in Lake Leelanau and ran his own insurance agency for 32 years near Lansing. He also learned carpentry by trial and error. When his father-in-law needed new windows, the quote was "astronomical," recalls Al. "I told him, 'Geez it can't be that tough. Buy one window and let me try it.' I ended up doing all the

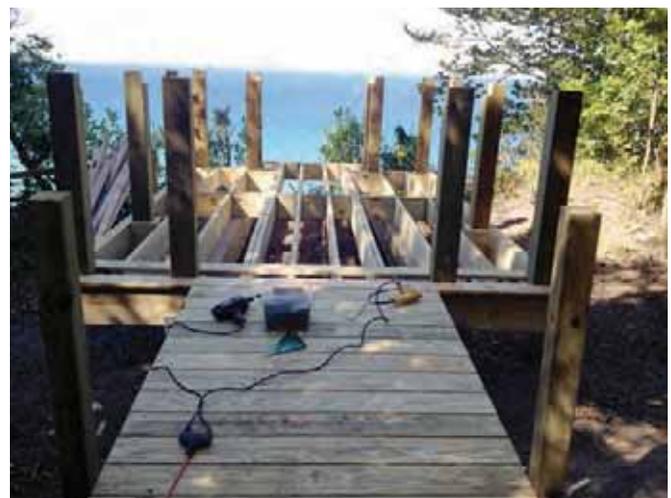
windows, then remodeled the kitchen too. You just need to have a little confidence—and good tools."

The duo met while volunteering for United Way. They serve as "Tuesday Tool Men," visiting the homes of low-income elderly people. They saw a notice for a brush-cutting workbee at DeYoung Natural Area and signed on. That led to digging fence posts and installing signs and benches. Last year they cut all 910 boards in the beautiful Swanson Preserve boardwalk.

Stephen Popper is a new stewardship volunteer who has been active all summer at Clay Cliffs, helping to clear the trail and install a split-rail fence. He is a newly retired pediatrician who summers in Northport. He and his wife, Janet, have long volunteered tutoring low-income youth at an after school program in Ann Arbor. Steve says that he is looking forward to doing more work at our natural areas. "The Leelanau Conservancy is very inviting," he says. "Sarah and Jenee are really energetic and knowledgeable and the whole experience was just a pleasure."

"We're thankful for these guys," says Sarah Cook. "They always go the extra mile and are real perfectionists." At Clay Cliffs, all three men appreciated the job site views and the structure itself. "This deck is built like a Sherman tank," says Al. The long t-shaped deck, designed by a structural engineer, anchors the deck on solid ground. Helical piers screwed into the bluff will accommodate shifts in the terrain and erosion. King Co. installed the anchor posts.

All three say that they feel good thinking about all the people who will enjoy the platform and the panoramic views of Lake Michigan. Although they have special skills as volunteers, Al stresses that you don't have to be a carpenter to get involved in stewardship. There are workbees opportunities aplenty with all kinds of jobs. Says Al: "At the Leelanau Conservancy, the nice thing is that there is something for everybody."



Clay Cliffs observation platform in progress

Conservation Buyer Property Available

We protect land in many different ways. One of “tools in the land protection toolbox” is what we call a ‘Buy, Restrict, Resell’ project, which is part of our Conservation Buyer Program.

But before we get to that, here’s a little background. There are over 220,000 acres in Leelanau County and the Leelanau Conservancy has protected 11,868 acres to date. Of those 11,868, we own just over 2,000 acres. These lands make up our Natural Areas, Preserves, and Forest Reserves, which are open to the public. The Conservancy does not wish to own many more acres because it’s costly to care for these public places and because we understand how important it is for land to stay on the tax rolls, supporting our schools, roads, and fire departments. Therefore, helping private landowners to preserve cherished family lands and ecologically significant parcels with “conservation easements,” legal agreements, restricting development, is a big part of our work.

One aspect of this work is our Conservation Buyer Program which connects conservation easement sellers with buyers who are interested in purchasing protected property. Our website features a Conservation Buyer page where you can view available properties with existing conservation easements as well as properties the Conservancy and current landowners would like to protect. In the last two years at least six conservation easement properties have sold to new owners.

In some cases, the Conservancy will purchase land with important ecological features and hold it until a conservation buyer can be found. The property will then be sold at fair



The beautiful land along Echo Valley Road awaits a conservation buyer

market value with the conservation easement restrictions in place. This is called a Buy, Restrict, Resell project. At the moment we have two great properties for sale.

One is a 40-acre Echo Valley property near Empire. “We acquired it because the land preserves the ridgeline surrounding Big Glen Lake and the property is an important part of the Hatlem Creek sub-watershed,” says Yarrow Brown, Conservation Easement Program Manager. For those who are seeking the ultimate seclusion, this parcel adjoins the Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore and is located midway along scenic (seasonally maintained) Echo Valley Road.

“The Conservancy is willing to work with a prospective buyer on the details of the conservation easement agreement,” adds Yarrow, “but we won’t allow the two-acre building site to be along the upper ridge line.”

This could be a great property for someone looking for a seasonal cottage in the woods or a hunting camp next to the National Park. It features a diverse forest with mature hardwoods and hemlock trees. A park-like setting offers filtered views of Big Glen when leaves are on the trees and “wow” views during the time when leaves are off. Just north of this parcel, on Park property, is an amazing “kettle drumlin,” a spectacular crater left thousands of years ago when the glaciers sculpted the land. Echo Valley is listed at \$95,000, per the terms of a conservation easement, which can be reviewed by contacting Realtor Rob Serbin or Yarrow Brown.

To view this property and others listed, please visit our website Conservation Buyer page.



The orange square on the map is the property that is available to a conservation buyer

Leelanau Forever—Together

A Message From Susan Green and Larry Mawby, Campaign Co-Chairs

You've seen this tag line. It describes the \$21 million dollar Leelanau Forever Capital Campaign: \$7.5 million to acquire natural lands, \$7.5 million to protect farmland, and \$6 million for endowment and stewardship of those lands. We're in the home stretch of the Campaign where we will reach the goal – together.

Natural Lands

Think about what the Campaign is making possible for natural lands. Leelanau combines ancient and spectacular geological features: sand dunes, clay cliffs, and kettle holes, along with beautiful forestland, world-class inland lakes, and sensitive wetlands teeming with life. Leelanau Forever is allowing us to strategically protect these pieces in a way that strengthens Leelanau as a whole – connectivity helps ensure that the overall health of an entire landscape is protected. And we are already benefiting from what Leelanau Forever has accomplished with the help of our community – hiking has never been better, wildlife corridors are extended, the long views from the platform at Clay Cliffs of the Manitous and the Fox Islands are spectacular, and the wildflowers in the spring and the maples in the fall reward us all for the efforts, hard work, and generosity of many.

Farmland

Think about what the Campaign is making possible for farmland. When you crunch into a fall apple or spit a cherry pit out the car window; when you eat local asparagus everyday for a month or drink a glass of local wine with your whitefish dinner; when farm stands glow with peaches, plums, and nectarines, and the Farmer's Market sells five kinds of kale—remember this is possible because our community knows the value of farmland and works hard to protect it. The Conservancy shares this dedication and the Campaign allows us to purchase agricultural conservation easements that guarantee that farmland will never be developed and that the lands stay in private hands.

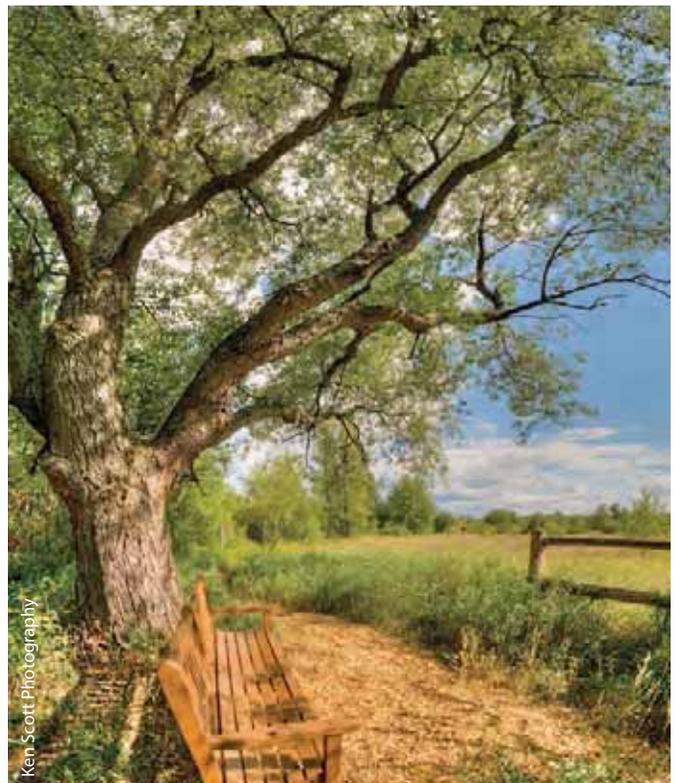
Stewardship

Stewardship, the third leg of the Campaign stool, describes the caretaking and monitoring of all Conservancy properties and conservation easements – things like trail building, training volunteers, taking inventories of natural communities, and managing invasive species. As the legal stewards of the lands in our care, we take the phrase “forever protected” very seriously. In seeking to protect fragile and significant elements

of Leelanau, we must also plan for their diligent and perpetual care and create opportunities for visitors to hike and enjoy our public lands while ensuring their ecological integrity.

Those of us who love Leelanau can think of hundreds of reasons to protect it. We feel profoundly the importance of this peninsula. Protecting natural lands, farmland, and stewarding those lands are the things the Leelanau Forever Campaign is protecting. These three pillars are pieces of the beautiful mosaic that we call Leelanau, which we can protect right now – but only with your support.

In August, you received a charming map of Leelanau County and a request to support the Campaign to make preserving the Leelanau we love possible. If you have already joined us and supported Leelanau Forever – thank you. The Leelanau Forever campaign ends December 31, 2014. It's a community effort and we want you to be part of it. Please join your friends, neighbors, and family and support the Campaign. We can do this. Help save the pieces. Help preserve the landscape. Help keep Leelanau connected. Leelanau Forever—Together.



Ken Scott Photography

Hidden Gem: Hatlem Creek Preserve Expands by 20 Acres



Enormous fallen birches at Hatlem Creek Preserve

Rare marl springs, enormous birch trees, and a glimpse of the endangered Michigan Monkey Flower are just a few of the

natural features at the newly expanded 40-acre Hatlem Creek Preserve. Joe Lada was one of the hikers who were enthralled with this hidden gem in June on a docent-led hike. He emailed this photo and said he was “so thankful” to previous property owner Juliet Berkshire Sprouse for helping to preserve this special spot. As for docents Sharon Oriol, Joanne Gerben, and Judy Hoeffler who led the hike, Joe described them as a “very lively and smart bunch.” We agree!

With the recent addition of 20 acres along Plowman Road, Hatlem Creek Preserve is now easier to access. Visitors will park in the area where a small aging structure was recently removed. A sign is on tap for 2015.

The Preserve also features high-quality northern forest, wetlands, and seeps. The Plowman Road property protects a additional 1,400 feet of frontage on tributaries flowing into Hatlem Creek, a MDNR classified trout and salmon stream. More hikes are planned at Hatlem Creek, including one set for December 20th (See page II).

“There’s a lot to see here on this very short trail,” says Director Brian Price. “The marl spring is in a class of its own.”

The Herbert H. and Grace A. Dow Foundation: A Clay Cliffs Partner

Back in summer of 2010, the cover story about our Clay Cliffs project headline read as follows: “Leland Township and Conservancy Team up to Protect Spectacular Property with both Lake Michigan and Lake Leelanau Shoreline.” Accompanying the headline was a cost estimated at \$6 million.

In late 2011, Leland Township received a \$2.9 million Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund grant, and the Leelanau Enterprise front page photo of Clay Cliffs was captioned “OURS!” But to see the project through, we still needed to raise \$1.8 million.

And so we were grateful to receive a letter from the Herbert H. and Grace A. Dow Foundation awarding a \$250,000 grant “to acquire and protect a 104-acre Lake Michigan shoreline property known as the ‘Clay Cliffs.’”

“We are delighted to partner with the Leelanau Conservancy to fulfill its goal of permanently preserving one of the last significant stretches of undeveloped and unprotected Lake Michigan coastline on the lower peninsula of Michigan,” said President Macauley (Mike) Whiting, Jr.

This generous grant propelled us forward at a time when the \$1.8 million still needed seemed as steep a fundraising climb as the Clay Cliffs themselves. We’re grateful to the Dow Foundation for its significant contribution. The lives of Leelanau



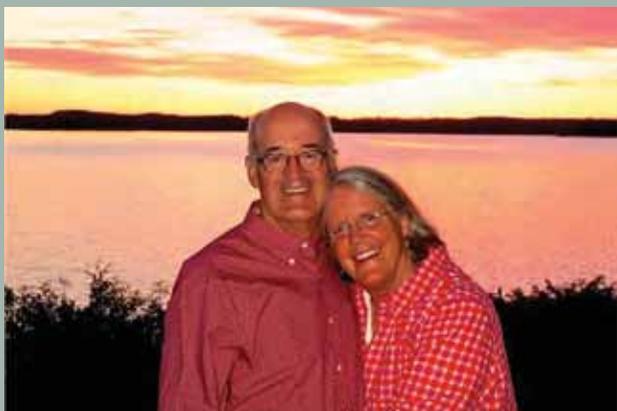
County residents and visitors are enriched by the addition of the Clay Cliffs Natural Area. It is partners like the Dow Foundation and broad public participation that has made the new Clay Cliffs Natural Area a reality.

Learn more about the mission of the Herbert H. and Grace A. Dow Foundation: www.hhdowfdn.org.

Photo of Clay Cliffs by Ken Scott

Welcome New Sustainers

Since the year we started the Sustainers Circle in 1991, Conservancy Sustainers have been integral to our success, providing stability that has made our organization thrive and given us the ability to take on daunting projects.



New Sustainers Justin and Sallie Stanley say, "There's no place like 'the Leelanau.' It has been a privilege to spend so many summers in the mysterious beauty and light of Leelanau. We are thrilled to be able to give back to this unique peninsula which has given so much joy to our family and friends. We support the Conservancy's efforts to help preserve this 'land of delight' for future generations to enjoy."

If you would like more info on joining, contact Gayle Egeler. Annual giving levels begin at \$500. Benefits include special recognition in our publications, and two events per year where Sustainers can meet our Staff, Board, and other Sustainers who share their commitment to our work. The following people have joined since publication of our last newsletter. Thank you!

Mark and Connie Adamson
Ed Arlin and Deb Greenman
Bahle's of Suttons Bay
Glenn and Patty Barnes
Jim and Elizabeth Fisher
Mark and Betsy Fisher
Michael and Mary Fleishman
Jane Gale
Lynn and Diane Hedeman
Sandie Kilinski and Larry Ganz
Jeffrey and Rebecca Kremin
Doug and Mary Lake
Linda LeMieux

Todd and Wendy Lininger
Carol McFadden
John and Jerry Risk
Carl Robinson & Karen Fujisawa
Justin and Sallie Stanley
Thomas W. Swift
Kathy Turner
Karen Wachs
David and Sheen Watkins
Doug and Jacqueline Watson
Brian Williams & Linda Fisher-Williams
David and Kenna Zorn

2014 Winter Hike & Event Schedule

Please note: Full descriptions of each hike and a signup link can be found at <http://leelanauconservancy.org/events/hikes/>.

- Hikes last about two hours
- Please dress according to the weather, wearing sturdy boots or snowshoes (provide own gear)
- There are no rest areas at our natural areas
- Dogs are not allowed on docent led hikes but are welcome on leashes at our natural areas any time
- Register so that we may plan for best experience for all

Saturday, December 20, 10am, Hatlem Creek Preserve
Monday, December 29, 1pm, Clay Cliffs Natural Area
Tuesday, December 30, 2-4pm **OPEN HOUSE FOR BRIAN PRICE**, Conservancy Office, Leland
Wednesday, December 31, 10am, Kehl Lake Natural Area
Sunday, January 11, 1pm, Clay Cliffs Natural Area
Saturday, January 17, 2pm, Houdek Dunes Natural Area
Sunday, January 18, 2pm, Lighthouse West Natural Area
Sunday, January 25, 2pm **SUSTAINERS CIRCLE WINTER GATHERING**: Location TBA
Saturday, February 7, 2 pm, DeYoung Natural Area
Sunday, February 15, 1 pm, Kehl Lake Natural Area

Please note: No workbees are currently planned for the winter. Please visit our website or contact Sarah Cook for information on future workbees: scook@leelanau-conservancy.org or call 231-256-9665.



Our kiosks got a makeover this summer! Check out the new information and watch for updates.

Wish List, November 2014

Shelving units (tall) for Stewardship Shed
Small boxes to store nails, tools for Stewardship Shed
Working Generator

Stewardship

Our stewardship team was busy this summer building new trails, getting Clay Cliffs Natural Area ready to open, and removing invasive species.



Center for Conservation Leadership students at Clay Cliffs after restoring trails on the property.



Volunteers Steve Popper and Jim Montie installed a new split rail fence along the bluffs at the Clay Cliffs observation area.



The Invasive Species Network Crew spent the week with us in June surveying and treating invasive plants. Crew member Lindsay Sutherland took a break on top of a huge pile of wild parsnip the crew was pulling. Don't try this at home though, wild parsnip is phototoxic!



The Carpenter family was back again this year and helped create a new trail at Clay Cliffs along with new volunteer Emma Watson.



Summer intern Carey Kunz during chainsaw training



Wildflower Rescue volunteer Barry Dove found an enormous Jack in the Pulpit at Clay Cliffs while the group saved spring wildflowers along our potential trail route.



Summer staffer Andrew Milliron worked hard with the tractor and hand tools to smooth and widen the Clay Cliffs trail which is designed for Universal Access.

Summer Happenings

We love involving kids in our activities and to expose them to wonders of our natural areas. Conservancy staff and docents have worked with school, scouting, church groups, and families. Here are a few youth-centered activities that happened throughout the year.



Traverse City West Middle School Greenagers spent the day at DeYoung Natural Area this spring helping to install new kiosks.



Our Kids Tent at the Picnic was a hit! Many thanks to Evy Sussman for heading up crafts and to the Leelanau Children's Center for supervising this popular spot for kids age 3-12.



The Redfields returned for a second summer of trail work at Clay Cliffs NA.



All the second graders from Glen Lake spent time at Chippewa Run Natural Area learning about water quality with Natural Areas and Preserves Manager Sarah Cook. Nets were used to catch, examine and then release bugs and amphibians.



Leland High School students remove invasive garlic mustard from Clay Cliffs Natural Area.



Jenifer Zywicki's Leland Middle Schoolers pulled invasive garlic mustard from Clay Cliffs with volunteer Abby Strietmann.



Second graders from Glen Lake found morels while looking for spring plants and animals at Chippewa Run Natural Area.



Kelsey LaCross' Leland High School Spanish students helped plant trees at the Narrows in preparation for their trip to Costa Rica where they will also be planting trees.

Picnic Wrap Up

Coming Together

Our Annual Friends Picnic and Auction held in August was one of the best yet. The Gregory family's setting was so beautiful. The Auction displays were amazing. The Kids Tent kept our youngest guests so happy.

The Picnic is an important event for many reasons. It raises funds to help preserve the best of Leelanau, gives us the opportunity to introduce new people to what we are all about, and allows us to get closer to members who have long supported our mission.

The 2014 Picnic was the biggest ever; nearly 900 attended. Many who came bid on the 154 items that were donated to our Auction, which raised just over \$100,000. We are grateful to all who donated and bid on these items—and to those who participated in our President's Paddle Raise too! The PPR, including an anonymous \$50,000 match, raised \$120,316 to preserve natural lands, working farms and to care for the lands we have already protected.

Brian Price received a standing ovation after addressing the crowd for the last time as their Director. The evening ended with a beautiful video, including a "One Word Leelanau" segment featuring many of our members trying to sum up Leelanau in just one word. Both videos can be viewed on our website.

Putting on an event of this magnitude doesn't happen without the dedication of over 100 volunteers. Thanks to everyone who made this day so successful.



Waiting for 850 attendees!



Joanie Woods and David Edelstein working picnic registration



2014 Annual Picnic - View from Top of the World



Over 100 volunteers helped to put on the event including Julie Baran Bachman

Business Partner of the Year: Cherry Bay Orchards

Don and Bob Gregory and their families bent over backwards to host our Picnic and prepare their Top of the World property so that everyone at the event had a beautiful experience. They donated cherries that day and for many years before that. The Gregorys have signed letters to recruit new members and have talked with other farmers on our behalf. Finally, they have protected land with a donated conservation easement.



Volunteer Abby Strietmann helps in the Kid's Tent



Torey Wigfield promotes 9 Bean Rows Bread Baking Class auction item



Kay Rossiter (l) and Charlotte Read enjoy appetizers and peruse auction items

Volunteer of the Year: Kent Holton

Kent is a licensed electrician with a passion for great sound and has for many years donated his equipment and services to the Picnic, Blues at the Bluebird, our Sustainer gatherings, and more. He also ran cable and hung TVs at the last two Picnics so that our videos could be viewed. Kent and his wife Becky are also long time Sustainers and have helped us in so many ways.



Accreditation: We Did it Again!



We're pleased to announce that the Leelanau Conservancy has received re-accreditation status from the Land Trust Accreditation Commission, an independent program of the Land Trust Alliance. The Commission has conducted an extensive review of our policies and programs and determined that they meet national quality standards for protecting important natural places and working lands forever.

"We were proud to be among the first land trusts in the nation to receive accreditation in 2008, and now, six years later, we are again among the first to receive re-accreditation status," said Director Brian Price. "Accreditation means that we meet the national standards for excellence, we uphold the public trust, and we ensure that our conservation efforts are permanent. That means that Leelanau's iconic landscapes will remain for future generations to enjoy. It means that the farms protected will continue Leelanau's agricultural heritage and contribute to the local economy. When we say Leelanau Forever, we mean FOREVER!"

"The seal of accreditation is a way to prove to their communities that land trusts are worthy of the significant public and private investment in land conservation," notes Land Trust Alliance President Rand Wentworth. To learn more: www.landtrustaccreditation.org.

Speaker Series Wrap Up



At our final Speaker event, Strengthening Community, panelist and Tribal Councilor Derek Bailey shared a question that guides him daily – one that his elders often ask: “What kind of ancestor will you be?”

It’s an appropriate question for all of us, it seems. Will we leave Leelanau County in better shape than when we arrived? In this final Speaker event we explored the topic

of strengthening community. It became clear that when we consider our strengths, Leelanau’s beautiful natural lands and working farms are our greatest assets. Knowing that the quality of our lakes and streams, forests and farmland, dunes, and meadows are the foundation of life on our peninsula – what can we do to maintain the Leelanau we love and strengthen our community for the people who live and visit here?

Keynote Speaker Mark Wyckoff challenged an engaged audience to consider five main points:

- WHERE NOT TO BUILD – preserve these areas
- WHERE TO BUILD – in existing villages
- HOW TO BUILD – in sustainable ways that are authentic/indigenous to the area
- TOLERANCE OF THE POPULATION – to new and different ideas, and to diverse populations
- EMBRACE THE REGION – your long term economic success depends on the success of the region, and to some extent on the state as a whole

For more detail on the first three points, Mark referred us to the Leelanau General Plan (<http://www.leelanau.cc/old/generalplan.asp>) as an excellent starting place. He encouraged us to preserve our greatest assets: the incredible natural resources in our county; to celebrate the diversity of people and perspectives; and to strengthen our connections with the region and state. There was a lengthy discussion among our panelists, Chet Janik, Leelanau County Administrator; Sarah Landry Ryder, President of The Redheads; and Derek Bailey, Tribal Councilor, Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians, about the lack of young people in our county, the need for affordable “family” homes, and the lack of good jobs.

Conservancy supporter Lianne Somerville, who attended three of the four speaker programs, said, “All Leelanau County residents would benefit from hearing and processing the information we learned from the keynote experts and from the local panelists who shared their own relevant stories. The challenge will be to motivate our citizens – young, more venerable, year-round, seasonal, new to the area, and long-time families – to work together on the issues we face to preserve the land, water, forests, and farms that we love. Who will lead? Who will follow?”



Bravo!

The Ken Scott exhibit of Leelanau Conservancy protected land at the Dennon Museum in Traverse City opened to rave reviews.

Pictured here on opening night is Ken with daughter Jane and curator Barbara Krause. We’re grateful to Ken for his dedication to getting the quintessential images of our natural areas over two years time, and to Barbara who spent hours reviewing hundreds of images.



Next Generation News

“Glasses and Galaxies” held at Tandem Ciders in Suttons Bay in September was a hit! Staffers, Sarah Cook and Sara Michael thought up this event to raise awareness of our mission with their peers. “We had a great time sipping hard cider and admiring the night sky on a crisp fall night,” said Sara Michael. Thanks to Tandem Ciders for hosting, Dick Cookman of Enerdyne for teaching us about telescopes and stary wonders and Custom Stems for donating the awesome pint glasses.

Local blogger mittenbrew.com said, “Glasses and Galaxies captured the essence of Leelanau: the best of what nature has to offer.” We’ll drink to that!



Shop Leelanau Thank You!



We're grateful to the 42 businesses listed below who partnered with the Conservancy on August 8th during our "Shop Leelanau Save Leelanau" promotion. These businesses all across the county donated 1% of their sales to the Conservancy that day, and represented all kinds of shopping—from food to fun!

The effort encouraged people to shop locally and also raised awareness about the Leelanau Conservancy on a busy weekend when many visitors were in the county.

Empire: Anchor Hardware & Gifts, Empire Holly House, Empire Outdoors, Grocer's Daughter Chocolate, Horizons N Sunsets, Secret Garden, Sleeping Bear Orchards, Sleeping Bear Surf & Kayak, The Misers' Hoard

Glen Arbor: Blu, Cherry Republic, Forest Gallery, Lake Affect, Leelanau Coffee Roasting, M22 Glen Arbor, Northwoods Hardware, Ruth Conklin Gallery

Leland: Aurora Borealis Designs, Brownwood Farms, Greta's of Leland, Harbor House Trading, Tampico, The Cove Restaurant, The Riverside Inn, Ursa Fine Art Gallery

Lake Leelanau: Bluestone Vineyards, Laurentide Winery

Northport/Omena: Barb's Bakery, Dog Ears Books, Fischers Happy Hour, The Pot of Gold, Waukazoo Tee's, Omena Cut Flowers

Suttons Bay: Bahle's, Black Star Farms, Great Goods, L. Mawby, Nifty Things, Suttons Bay Bikes, Suttons Bay Trading, The Happy Woman, The Painted Bird



M-22's Commitment to Conservation

Director, Brian Price (center) meets with Matt (right) and Keegan Myers, owners of the M-22 store in Traverse City and Glen Arbor. Every year M-22 donates 1% of gross sales to the Conservancy. Over \$23,000 has been donated by M-22 since 2008 to help further our mission. M-22 also helps to raise awareness at its popular M-22 Challenge race, and by printing our logo and website info on their merchandise tags. "Matt and Keegan are great spokesmen for the connection between outdoor fun and recreation, and our responsibility to protect our resources in Northern Michigan," says Price. "They are the next generation of Conservancy stewards and set a great example for their peers. We're grateful for their dedication to preserving the best of Leelanau."

In Honor Of

Ruth Butler Arents
Adam and Mary Arents

Jennie Berkson & David Edelstein
Sharon and Artie Raphael

Yarrow Brown
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen J. McShane

Mark & Laura Foerster
Chris and Maureen Bunch

Josephine Jahoda
Mrs. Rebecca Raines

Bridget Lamont
Ms. Judy Erwin

Dave and Kathy Leugers
Mr. and Mrs. Paul T. Leugers

Shelley A. Longmuir & David C. R. Feld
Jonathan Feld

Ann McInnis
Mr. and Mrs. Edward McInnis

Sandy Mitchell
Ms. Mimi Mullin

Mimi Mullin
Jeff and Jenny Mullin

Janet Pepler
Terry and Susan Sutherland

Brian Price – His Legacy
Mr. and Mrs. John J. Carter
Mr. & Mrs. W. Richard Summerwill

Bob Schleuter
Mr. and Mrs. Warren H. Watkins

Dr. Susan Wainwright
Mrs. Joyce L. Wainwright

Larry Webb
Thom and Rachelle Peters

Happy Father's Day

Doug McInnis
Mr. and Mrs. Edward McInnis
Mr. and Mr. John McInnis

L. J. Noling
David Noling and Victoria Bailey

Wedding Wishes

Julie Baran and Bill Bachman
Mr. and Mrs. Gary B. Twomey

Bud and Connie Fliss
Jane and Gordon C. Spink

Allen Northcutt & Ellen Mershon
Mr. and Mrs. Warren H. Watkins

Happy Anniversary

Andrew and Tamera Bamford
Jan and Mike Owens

50th – Bruce and Judy Lance
Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Lance

1st – Mr. & Mrs. Robert Pittman
Mr. Ralph Ginocchio
Ms. Ellis Phyfe

Happy Birthday

70th – Jim and Sharon Doyle
Jerry and Martha Martin

David Edelstein
Gershon and Suzanne Berkson

Arron Ellenbogen
Bob and Judee Sternberg

Olivia Fellows
Kurt and Eleanor Luedtke

Camille Leugers
Mr. and Mrs. Paul T. Leugers

Karl Marsh
Mr. and Mrs. Joe Dressel
Drs. John and Judy Hoeffler

Mimi Mullin
Holly and Dan Mullin

New Baby

India Wren Winter Nelson
David Edelstein & Jennie Berkson

Happy Retirement

Dr. Greg Bond
TERC Employees

Honorariums & Memorials

Memorials

Merrill Almquist

Marlis Mann and Tom Skinner

Peg Ashbury

Joyce Bartels

Ms. Joyce Clevenger

Roy and Maribeth Dangel

Lawrence and Carol Dreasky

Roger and Gail Genshaw

Ms. Sharon K. Greanya

Phyllis Harrington & Bonnie Kern

Mr. and Mrs. John A. Laitala

Carl and Donna Melinat

Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Melinat

Marcia M. O'Neill

Randall and Denise Shourd

Jerry and Linda Wirostik

Ms. Maryann F. Zimmer

Frank Ball

Mrs. Lena A. Ball

Mrs. Cathleen C. Fisher

Mr. and Mrs. Jud Fisher

Mr. and Mrs. Warren H. Watkins

Tom Barry

Mr. Adam Berkson

Thomas Bentley

Mr. and Mrs. Douglas D. Freeth

Mr. and Mrs. Gary B. Twomey

Doris Blair

Canadian National Railway

Ms. Mildred Clemeson

Friends from External Audit

John Greiner & Martha Warpehoski

Ms. Sue Jennings

Ken Blodick

Sharon and Steve Alguire

Helen Brant

Mrs. Lena A. Ball

Mr. and Mrs. Charles J. Bumb

Ms. Melissa M. Conroy

Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Fitzgerald

Bob and Debbie Gilbert

Dave and Betsy Hendricks

Tad and Wendy McKay

Manitou Passage Association

Jim and Marie Preston

Reed and Rosemary Tupper

Bob and Debbie Varecha

Elise Weisbach

Peter Burr

Marlis Mann and Tom Skinner

Ronald Cacossa

Shawn Ricker & Steven Cacossa

Louise Cavagnini

Mrs. Sharon Smith

Sarah Crane (on the occasion Of Ben Goldman's Bar Mitzvah)

Jennifer Crane and Scott Denning

Frank and Mary Crane

Abigail Crane and Benjamin

Goldman

John and Mary Lou Damm

Tom and Karen Cogswell

Wilhelmina Danilovic aka Oma

Mr. and Mrs. Dan S. Harkness

Constance Dean

Mrs. Doris Webb

Judge Joe Deegan

Mrs. Jeanne A. Deegan

Anna Dickson

Mr. and Mrs. Kipp Bingham

Mr. and Mrs. Paul T. Leugers

McCloskey Family

Gatto Family

Ryna Family

Edward Dohrmann

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas P. Price

Charles Fisher

Mrs. Sharon Brehmer

Charles and Judith Connelly

Mr. Michael S. Gaber

Kim and Jim Lyne

Cora and John Rubitschun

Ms. Genie Swick

Ian and Elizabeth Wilson

Anne Frankel

Gina and John Erb

Mr. and Mrs. Allan F. Meyer

Ann G. Fullerton

Birchwood Shores Preservation
Assoc.

Ms. Jane K. Stiverson

Ms. Charlotte L. Stiverson

Dr. and Mrs. R.A. Westphal

Patricia Ganter

Mrs. Lena A. Ball

Mack and Lorraine Beers

Mr. Phillip Bernhardt

Alexander and Sally Bracken

Mr. and Mrs. Ronald S. Culp

Ms. Susan J. Finke

Mrs. Cathleen C. Fisher

Mr. and Mrs. David A. Galliher

Mr. and Mrs. C. Robert Heaton

Brian and Jennifer Jaffe

Mr. & Mrs. Gregory A. Johnstone

Dr. and Mrs. William J. McCool

Ms. Barbara J. Nowinski

Mr. John W. Pepler

Ms. Molly Phinny

Ann Rogers

Chris and Ann Stack

Joan and Randy Woods

Jack Garrison

Mr. and Mrs. Allan F. Meyer

Margaret Gass

Ms. Caroline Hirth

Edward Goss

TC West Titan Athletic Boosters

Doris Greenough

Mrs. Joan Chandler

Ms. Marci Eisenstein

Mr. Peter Fazio, Jr.

Jeff and Susan Green

Mr. Stephen Hankins

David and Liane Hodgman

Allan and Carolyn Horwich

Mr. and Mrs. Charles W. Kepler

Will and Joan Larson

Mrs. Nancy H. Liley

Mr. Sean Maloney

Larry Mawby and Lois Bahle

Robert and Deborah Riley

Schiff Hardin Foundation

Mrs. Betty W. Smykal

Frederick and Priscilla Sperling

TIAA-CREF Trust Co., FSB

Mr. and Mrs. Gary B. Twomey

Mr. Bruce Weisenthal

Mark and Linda Zaander

Patricia Hagerman

Mr. Robert L. Hagerman

William V. Hancock

Folkert Schmidt & Kathleen Sullivan

Sally Hedges

Mrs. Rosemary R. Bennett

James E. Helmers

Ms. Susan J. Finke

Anne Higgins

Richard and MeeRan Anderson

Bonek Agency, Inc.

John and Barbara Carton

Mr. and Mrs. William R. Davy

Glen Lake Beauty Shop

Mr. and Mrs. Richard A. Grout

Anne Higgins' Pilates Friends

Mr. and Mrs. Phillip E. Hengdes

Dr. and Mrs. Robert E. Knode

Janie and Chuck Kolb

Ms. Mary C. Mintz

Ms. Ellen Monahan

Mrs. Cheryl Naperala

Tim Nelson & Nancy Johnson

Mrs. Denae L. Nierman

Dave and Karen Phipps

Dr. Matthew Houghton

Mrs. Virginia R. C. Hendrickson

Nancy Hunt

Marlis Mann and Tom Skinner

Anna Johnson

Mr. and Mrs. Roy F. Trifilio

Anita Jones

Folkert Schmidt & Kathleen Sullivan

Katie Kieren

Mr. and Mrs. Leo G. Shea

Brian J. Kilinski

Sandra Kilinski and Larry Ganz

Anne Gard Kinzie

Marlis Mann and Tom Skinner

Mr. David Steel Janet

Eugene Klein

Birchwood Shores Preservation
Assoc.

Norman Knudson

Tom and Karen Cogswell

Charles Krause

Nancy R. and Berkley W. Duck

Kaye Kristen

Mr. and Mrs. William D. Peace

Jeff Lamont

Mr. and Mrs. Philip Boria

John and Lana Keith

Thomas and Bridget Lamont

Jim, Anita and Kathryn Lamont

Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Later

Al and Susan Manson

Mrs. Nancy Hollowell

Mary Lyons

Mrs. Nancy Hollowell

Mr. and Mrs. Kent N. Holton

Mr. and Mrs. Bruce C. Jacobsen

Dave and Jacquie Johnson

Mr. James Logan

Marlis Mann and Tom Skinner

Mrs. Bette M. Puschel

Honorariums & Memorials

Daniel and Janet Rosemergy
Mr. and Mrs. Peter Taylor

Walter McCord

Ms. Louise Coleman Jones
Roger Wallace & Mary Baughman
Mrs. Alice B. Weaver

Janet McKelvey

Bob McKelvey

George and Christine McKisson

John and Jo Anders
Ms. Marianna Bell
The Bell Boys – Graeme, Roger
Frank and Walter Bell
Walter and Jacqueline Bell
Bob Maleski and Sons LLC
Annette Boice
Ernie and Dottie Cronk
Ms. Dora E. Crowther
Gene and Jo Hardy
Mr. Henry Heuerman
Ms. Margaret Hiatt
Mr. John H. Hoppin, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. David D. Hunter
Lucy L. Lambert
Ms. Marcia McCready
Timothy Mennel & Colleen
Frankhart
Robert and Susan Mennel
Donald and Louise Mennel
Mr. and Mrs. William D. Peace
Mr. Robert St. John
Steve and Lynn Sutherland
Mr. and Mrs. Daniel D. Sweeney
Mr. and Mrs. Gary B. Twomey
Blaine and Joan Wiley
Dr. Robert L. Willard

Eugene Miller

Mrs. Lena A. Ball
Larry and Jane Carter
Richard and Carole Darst
Bruce and Lynn Dunn
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas F. Evans
Mrs. Cathleen C. Fisher
Mr. and Mrs. Carl B. Headland
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Hiatt
Mr. and Mrs. George A. Lemcke
Marlis Mann and Tom Skinner
Karen C. Martin
Mr. and Mrs. William D. Peace
Fred and Beverly Ruebeck
Mr. and Mrs. Timothy L. Schaub
Linda and Jim Shad
Mr. and Mrs. Leo G. Shea
Mr. Eric E. Stoll
Mr. and Mrs. Warren H. Watkins
Mrs. Alice B. Weaver
Mr. Gil Wheeler

Mrs. Lucy H. Wick
Elizabeth Bracken Wiese & Fred
Wiese

Earl Morrow

Mrs. Rosalind B. Sell

Lewis Moulton

Mrs. Patricia Moulton

John Mulligan

Mrs. Charlotte Read

Brian Nachazel

David and Suzanne Alpers

Walt Nielsen

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Taylor

Glen Noonan

Mr. and Mrs. Clifford G. Egeler

Terry Novak

Mrs. Beth Bowerman
Mr. Dominic V. Pittiglio
Randy and Darlene Schoe
Tim and Michele Soules

Stephen Panek

Ms. Violet M. Felker

Matt Pleva

Sonya Shoup

Bernard Prudhomme

Mr. and Mrs. Charles J. Andrews

Dorothea Renneker

Bill and Gail Strietmann

Elaine Ricker

Shawn Ricker & Steven Cacossa

Dick and Lou Ristine

Nancy R. and Berkley W. Duck

Lou Ristine

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Mrs. June H. Atkinson
Dr. Amy G. Bolmer
Mr. and Mrs. John Conder
Tom and Gretchen Dunfee
Mr. & Mrs. William L. Elder, Jr.
Dr. James and Sally Fadely
Mrs. Cathleen C. Fisher
Mr. and Mrs. William Livingston
Dr. and Mrs. Robert J. McElroy
Mr. and Mrs. William D. Peace
Mr. Jay Peacock
Mr. Benjamin Rogge
Gary Schultheiss & Barbara
Richman
Carl and Cynthia Snipes
Edward and Samar Srour

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Wilson

Matthew Rohde

T. Jeff Davis and Ken Smith

Joey Scott

Ms. Sara Michael

Richard Seward

Greg Szafranski & Heather
Szafranski nee Seward

Meme Babcock Smith

Mr. James W. O'Bannon

Bouly Smulders

Karen L. Chase & David Bellizi

Katerina Stavros

Mr. and Mrs. Themistocles L.
Majoros

Roy Taghon

Ms. Christina D. Campbell

Millie and Herb Taglauer

The Taglauer Cabin

Jim Thatcher

Mrs. Marilyn M. Schneider

Billy Thomas

Mrs. Cathleen C. Fisher

Robert Turner

Ms. Eleanor W. Caughlan
Mrs. Marion K. Purdy
Mr. and Mrs. John T. Todd
The Ladies Hiking Group

John B. Watkins

Mr. and Mrs. Frank J. Address
Nancy R. and Berkley W. Duck
Martha Grogan and Ross Haller
Mr. and Mrs. Carl B. Headland
Mr. & Mrs. Theodore J. Lanham
Marlis Mann and Tom Skinner
Mr. and Mrs. David Miller
Craig A. and Nancy T. Miller
Mr. and Mrs. Albert Pawlick

John and Jean Watkins

Mr. George H. Watkins, Jr.

Donald J. Weeks

Fred and Mary Lu Strange

Mollie Weeks

Fred and Mary Lu Strange

Mary Wenstrup

Mrs. Cathleen C. Fisher
Jack and Janice Purse
Bill and Gail Strietmann
Mrs. Ann Studer

Hibert & Antionette Wiedenkeller

Mr. L. M. Dolson

William Wise

Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert A. Bogley
Andrew and Kimberly Cherry
Susanna and Tim Cullinan
Arlene Dean
Becky Ewing & Bob Eichenlaub
Barb Gillen
LTC & Mrs. Steven Gravlin
Dr. and Mrs. Timothy B. Hanley
Mrs. Toshio Harada
Ronald and Kerry Jenkins
Bob and Shirley McFee
Joe and Ian Mielke
Mr. Fred Nelson
Jack and Sally Nesbitt
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A new sugar maple was planted at the Leland Village Green to replace the old beloved maple, which had come to the end of its life and was removed this spring. The new tree is big and beautiful, and we look forward to seeing it leaf out come spring! Hats off to Brian Zimmerman and his crew from Four Season Nursery for a job well done.



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Member's Open House For Brian Price

You're invited to celebrate Brian's legacy at an open house set for Tuesday, December 30th. Come by our office at 105 N. First Street in Leland anytime from 2 to 4 pm to visit with Brian, who is retiring after devoting 26 years to the mission of the Leelanau Conservancy. Have some refreshments, raise a glass to Brian and also meet our new Director, Tom Nelson.

Leelanau Forever

We are in the final two months of our campaign to preserve many of the most important areas on the Peninsula. Since the campaign started, we have completed 44 projects, permanently protecting about 4,000 acres! (Learn more on page 9.)

Campaign Challenge!!

Now is the best time to give! All gifts made before December 31st (up to \$405,000) will be matched dollar for dollar by a group of generous donors.



If you did not receive our beautiful Natural Areas map, visit our website Home page (leelanauconservancy.org) and click on the map icon to request a copy.

