



# Leelanau Conservancy

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

Newsletter: Fall, 2009

Vol.20, No. 3

## Conservancy Receives \$418,000 to Help Protect Grand Traverse Bay Watershed

**H**ow many hundreds of times have you driven the stretch from Greillickville to Northport along M-22? Gazed out at the sparkling water, with Old Mission Peninsula in the distance? Majestic and far reaching, Grand Traverse Bay is one of our region's greatest assets.

A grant we applied for and received, to the tune of \$418,000, will help to protect this precious resource that is treasured by so many. The grant comes from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality and will help establish voluntary conservation easements in a 68-square-mile portion along the east side of Leelanau County that makes up the Grand Traverse Bay Watershed.

This area encompasses a 47-mile radius and about a third of the bay's entire shoreline in Leelanau. It includes land with a myriad of small streams and groundwater 'seeps' flowing into West Bay from Leelanau County. One caveat is that we must raise matching funds to claim the grant funds.

Our goal is to purchase permanent conservation easements from interested landowners that will protect and maintain high water quality and provide places for wildlife to thrive and move. Large portions of the east side of Leelanau County along M-22 have been converted from farms and forests to subdivisions. The reason: beautiful bay views and proximity to Traverse City. Protecting remaining parcels that contain significant wetlands, forested slopes and stream corridors will help maintain the water quality of Grand Traverse Bay that draws both residents and visitors alike.

The grant will fund up to 50 percent of the cost to purchase permanent conservation easements. Conservation easements provide permanent protection of identified conser-



Marge Beaver - www.photography-plus.com

*The goal: keep 191.1 tons of sediment, 826 lbs of nitrogen and 76.9 lbs. of phosphorus from loading into GT Bay annually.*

vation values such as wetlands, stream corridors and forested slopes. However, each document is customized to fit each landowner's desired uses for their land, provided that they are compatible with its preservation. Land under a conservation easement remains private and on the tax rolls. The public is not granted access.

The Conservancy hopes that permanent protection of at least 275 acres under this project will prevent approximately 19.1 tons of sediment, 826 lbs. of nitrogen and 76.9 lbs of phosphorus from loading into the Bay annually. The conservation easements will be established based on their ability to reduce nutrients, sediment and prevent habitat loss, which are the top three environmental stressors impacting the bay.

## Message from our Executive Director



"The Conservancy was built for the long haul."

Perhaps the question I'm asked most often is the simplest and most basic: "How are things at the Conservancy?" At first it seems that there is no simple answer to such a sincere and straightforward question. And given the upheavals in the economy over the past 16 months, the question is often tinged with genuine concern.



Brian Price

So- how are things going anyway? There are certain metrics that can be recited: members, both new and retained; the strengths and talents of our human capital including staff, board, and volunteers; dollars raised and spent. That most important metric of all, how much critical conservation land have we protected? And by the way, what's in the pipeline? We don't begrudge the use of such metrics, but prefer to assemble the data after year-end, when a more complete picture emerges. These numbers form the backbone of our annual report. And when this year is finished, I'm confident that 2009 will go into the books as a challenging but a "good" year.

But the "things" people are really asking about are not easily reached by the data alone. Lately people occasionally ask if I'm concerned about the future of the Conservancy given the ongoing economic crisis, especially in Michigan. My answer would be a simple and honest "no."

That does not mean we have not been impacted by the downturn. We have been. Like most institutions our endowment and fund balances declined along with the markets, but are now on the rebound. Direct contributions to support our operations will struggle to keep pace with last year. Our board of directors is doing what any prudent business does in tough times, constructing a budget that cuts any unnecessary costs and conserves capital. Next year's budget will strictly hold the line on expenses while ensuring that our core land protection and stewardship functions continue undiminished.

But I can honestly say that things are going well at the Conservancy because as an organization we have always been "conservative" in the original and best sense of the word. The Conservancy was built for the long haul, understanding that it takes special care and husbandry of resources to keep the promise of permanently protecting Leelanau's precious landscapes. We manage both land and money to last forever.

As to the future, I'm confident because what we do is uniquely valuable and meaningful. If you have doubts about that I invite you to visit the "Why Leelanau" section of our website ([www.theconservancy.com/blog2](http://www.theconservancy.com/blog2)). The heartfelt expressions

of what this lovely peninsula means to those who live here or visit regularly can only be properly appreciated by going direct to the source. When times are tough the "core values" emerge. Leelanau is part of our "core values" and not in the "discretionary" column.

Yesterday I drove home from a final fishing and sightseeing trip to the north shore of Lake Superior before the snow sets in. We'd left the brilliant sunshine behind not far from Wawa, and bore southward through the grayness of a late-fall weather front. Nearing Leelanau the sun, now low in the western sky, emerged from under the cloudbank, illuminating the autumn foliage with a wonderful glow. The forest seemed lit from within. I was thankful to be one of the few people who return from a short vacation to live and work in this exceptional place. Even after 36 years here, it's rare to go a full day without witnessing some special and new aspect of that beauty.

How is the Conservancy doing? The places we protect are beautiful and healthy. Our trees are growing and have put on their customary fall display. We'll continue to do what we've learned to do pretty well in the last 20-plus years: preserve land, manage and restore special places, and in the process help build strong and sustainable communities.

### Lovers of Lake Leelanau Take Note!

The Lake Leelanau Lake Association, The Watershed Center and the Conservancy are updating the Lake Leelanau Watershed Management Plan. As part of this process we are hosting a Stakeholder Meeting December 1st at the Leelanau County Governmental Center at 7 pm to gather input from all interested citizens, businesses, and organizations concerned about the health of Lake Leelanau.

The current watershed management plan no longer meets EPA requirements. As a result, the watershed is not eligible for further funding under Section 319 of the Clean Water Act and the Clean Michigan Initiative program. In addition to significant funding potential, the revised plan will allow concerned citizens and watershed groups to focus their objectives and delineate measurable goals that address the current concerns of the watershed. The purpose of this initial meeting is to introduce the major partners, describe the update process and gather any initial feedback about revisions/additions to the existing plan. Current concerns for the watershed will also be shared. More info: Yarrow Wolfe at the Conservancy (231-256-9665) or [ywolfe@theconservancy.com](mailto:ywolfe@theconservancy.com).

"She and Bob have been tremendous stewards of the land for over 40 years,"



# Sensitive Land Along Northport Creek Forever Protected With Conservation Easement

When our Director of Land Protection, Matt Heiman, returned after his first visit to Jan (Jeannette) Hunt's land along Northport Creek, he called it "possibly the most ecologically rich 10 acres I've seen in quite a while." He claimed that its values rivaled that of Hatlem or Cedar Creek, and marveled about the land's "wild feeling." "It is the last, intact, natural section of the creek before it hits Grand Traverse Bay," added Matt. "Its protection is important to preserving the water quality of Northport Bay, which is located just a few blocks south."

I was intrigued to see the property for myself, and to meet Jan, the 92-year-old landowner who had forever ensured its integrity with a conservation easement. When I arrived on a late September day, she was reading a mystery novel. A basket of knitting sat at her feet. Out the big picture window, birds flitted to and from a feeder from a nearby wetland. As we chatted, I was struck by the exceedingly quiet and peaceful surroundings, and thought about how the setting reflected the demeanor of its petite, soft-spoken owner.

Jan and her late husband, Bob, purchased the land in 1967. She says they weren't really looking to buy at the time; they were happy enough living on a wooden sailboat in the Northport Harbor. (Bob was a middle-school counselor in Midland and she also worked in the schools, giving them their summers off.) But a friend told them about a 10-acre parcel on the outskirts of town that had a spring-fed pond and a trout stream running through it.

They were intrigued, and once they saw it, quickly hooked. Jan was taken with a huge patch of blooming cardinal



Northport Creek - in a wild and undisturbed state

flowers. Her father, a professor of horticulture at MSU, had given her an appreciation for what she saw on the land. Bob, who loved to fish, was excited about the pond and 1,600 feet of trout stream next to it. Then as now, the stream is full of



Jan stands in front of a wagon once used to haul logs out of the forest and to a sawmill which once operated where her house now stands.

woody debris and shaded by dense wetland, making for ideal trout habitat.

The then-13-foot-deep pond had once been used to wash logs for a sawmill that stood where Jan's house is now. Bob stocked it with rainbow trout. "We didn't have any children, but Bob would always have the local kids come down for catch and release and taught them how to tie flies," says Jan. Sand hill cranes, blue herons and ducks were also frequent visitors.

After Bob retired, they moved north permanently, and enjoyed the change of seasons around the pond and along the stream. When pressed to name her favorite season, Jan says "They're all so beautiful here." But she eventually settles on spring, because of the wildflowers.

Before Bob passed away in 2008, they talked about preserving the land. "We were concerned about what future landowners might do with the property," she says. Her friend, David Brigham, who had preserved his land near Kehl Lake through a conservation easement, suggested she do the same. "I knew that she and Bob had been tremendous stewards of the land for over 40 years," said David. "I have a deep affection for trout streams and grew up fishing on feeder creeks like theirs. I offered to arrange a meeting with Matt and she was very receptive."

The house, pond and envelope around it remain unrestricted, but the surrounding 9.3 acres will remain forever in its current state. "I'm very happy to have done it," says Jan. "I think Bob would be happy about it too." ~ Carolyn Faught



“It takes many hands pitching in to make trails like these happen.”

## Happy Trails—Lighthouse West Officially Opens

On a blustery day in early October, two dozen people gathered to officially open a new hiking trail at Lighthouse West Natural Area near Northport. “This property and the tip of the peninsula in general have irreplaceable coastal values,” Conservancy Director Brian Price told those in attendance before he cut the ribbon. “The whole area has been a priority for protection for the Leelanau Conservancy from the beginning.”

Michigan can also be seen in the distance. One hiker who had been there earlier in the year observed a bear traveling through the woods from the ridge above.

The steep drop levels off to what Director Brian Price called a “boulder terrace.” Stairs off the trail lead down to the terrace, which was formed on an underwater shelf when waters in Lake Michigan were about 20 feet higher than they are today.

Leelanau’s geological history is well told at Lighthouse West Natural Area.

The property was acquired by the Conservancy in 2004. Matt Posner, who spent childhood summers nearby, and also helped to build the trail, brought an old aerial photo circa 1960 to the ribbon cutting ceremony, which he shared with the group. The photo showed a wild and rugged landscape with just a few homes. Posner recalled how he and his cousins would begin their day hiking across the peninsula to Cathead Bay in search of the best waves for body surfing. “Our family is very appreciative of the Conservancy’s efforts to preserve some of the wildness I knew as a child here,” said Posner.

Stewardship Director Jenee Rowe acknowledged all the volunteers who helped to build the trail. “It takes

many hands pitching in to make trails like these

happen,” said Jenee. She called attention to Eagle Scout Frank Leahy and Boy Scout Troop I15, who volunteered a combined 160 hours.

Lee and Candy Gardner helped to fund the trail work and attended the ribbon cutting and hike. “This peninsula is truly magical and remarkable,” says Candy. “It is wonderful to see what the Conservancy has been able to accomplish in terms of preserving so much land now and for the future generations. Lighthouse West is particularly special for us as it is practically in our backyard. It is a beautiful hike through different ecosystems and being Conservancy property, it is dog friendly - which is very important to us and our four-legged buddies!”

As soon as funds are raised, a viewing platform will be built to observe birds near the shoreline. A dedication for Lighthouse West will be held next summer so that the many summer residents who contributed to the project can also celebrate. More information on Lighthouse West and directions to it can be found at [www.theconservancy.com](http://www.theconservancy.com).



*Leelanau Conservancy staff, docents and supporters gathered at Lighthouse West in October to open the new, beautiful 3/4 mile trail*

The 42-acre natural area lies southwest of the Grand Traverse Lighthouse, thus its name. Cobble shore here provides excellent habitat for birds to stop, feed and rest before crossing the big water. Over 100 species of birds have been sighted along its 640 feet of Lake Michigan undeveloped shoreline. Also found here are car-sized boulders and dramatic topography that tells the tale of receding glaciers.

Heading north from the kiosk at the trail head, one of the first features hikers will see on this three-quarter-mile loop are old blackberry bushes, pear and apple trees. This was once a farmstead and there are reminders along the trail, such as rusting implements and old fence posts. Where hay or potatoes were once cultivated, volunteers have planted over 2,000 native trees and shrubs for wildlife. The trail continues through an area strewn with boulders and dotted with hummocks—sand hills that are created when trees topple over and decay. Then the trail hugs a steep ridge where there are dramatic views of the woodland below. When the leaves are off the trees, Lake

## DeYoung Farmstead Popcorn Harvest Provides Teachable Moments

In mid-October, Leelanau Conservancy volunteers helped to harvest and shuck “popcorn” at the DeYoung Natural Area on Cedar Lake. The bushel baskets full of corn will be dried and the hope is it will be popped and sampled at local theatres later this year.

The popcorn project came about last winter when Conservancy Stewardship Director Jenee Rowe talked with



local farmers, Michelle Ferrese and Marty Heller, about what crops she could plant at DeYoung that would be interesting, community oriented and educational. “When the DeYoung fam-

ily decided to work with us to preserve the land here, one of its wishes for the property was to provide experiences that integrate nature’s teachings with lessons about where our food comes from to the local community,” says Jenee. “Popcorn was an easy crop for us to experiment with.”

The corn was planted in a new addition to the “Youth Garden,” tended by local at-risk high school students in the

Youth Corps program and other volunteers. “The project has helped us to share DeYoung Natural Area’s assets and agricultural heritage while giving our youth some great hands-on experience,” says Jenee.

In this case, the group learned some lessons about popcorn. This year it planted a new small area with minimal soil preparation. “Next year, the crop will do much better by adding some compost to build the soil and support the nutrient needs of the plant, resulting in much larger and more popcorn,” Jenee predicts. She is working with a cooperative seed company in Maine which saves heirloom varieties suited to cold climates for next year’s crop. Also on tap? Compost—if she can find it. “We are looking for a donation of a few loads of aged horse manure to be dropped off at DeYoung,” says Jenee. If you can help, call 231-256-9665 or email [jrowe@theconservancy.com](mailto:jrowe@theconservancy.com).



*Roland DeYoung is the nephew of Louis DeYoung and came to help harvest the popcorn. “I’m so pleased that my family’s heritage is protected and the Conservancy has done a stellar job fulfilling Louis’s vision to keep this farm from being developed,” he said.*

## Leelanau Conservancy Receives Heritage Center Community Award for Work at DeYoung Natural Area Farmstead

The Grand Traverse Heritage Center presented the Leelanau Conservancy with its coveted Community Award in September for permanently protecting the agricultural landscape and historic structures at the DeYoung Natural Area on Cedar Lake. The 145-acre farmstead is just minutes from Traverse City, with frontage on both sides of Cherry Bend Road. It is seen by many as the gateway to Leelanau’s agricultural landscape. The TART trail runs through the natural area; hiking trails and a fishing pier here have become popular destinations for locals and visitors alike.

An ongoing partnership with Eastern Michigan University has also led to the preservation and distribution of historic



artifacts found in the DeYoung home and other structures on the property. Treasures such as children’s toys and household items from the early 1900s will soon be on display at the Grand Traverse Lighthouse and have been added to the collections of the Leelanau Historical Museum, Traverse City Historical Society, and Preserve Historic Sleeping Bear. Last spring graduate students from EMU’s Historic Preservation program documented the treasures, built new windows for the pump house and made recommendations for restoration once funding can be secured.

“It feels good to be recognized for the work we have done to merge land protection with historic preservation,” says Jenee Rowe (pictured at left), Leelanau Conservancy Stewardship Director, who accepted the award along with Executive Director Brian Price. “In my mind, both the buildings at DeYoung and the landscape there really capture the spirit of Leelanau County’s early days.”



"I wanted to meet the people who grow the food we eat when we're here"

## Mario Batali Gets to Know Leelanau Farmers

In July, chef Mario Batali signed on for a summer share of veggies at Meadowlark Farm, savored the last of Bardenhagen strawberries straight from the field, and bumped along in a Chevy Suburban with Don and Ann Gregory through their cherry orchard. "I wanted to meet the people who grow the food we eat when we're here," said Mario, who spends a good part of the summer in Leelanau with his family. "I've always loved the landscapes from which this food comes and wanted to learn more about the people working the land," said Mario. The chef was also scouting out what produce will be coming into season for the dinner for 12 he hosted in late August, which was auctioned off at the Leelanau Conservancy's Annual Picnic.

"I have been to enough places in the world to know that once farms are gone, they are gone forever," added Mario. "This year, I'm directing all of the auction proceeds from my

name on it at Hansen's when I'm in town." He was delighted to learn he could sample everything they grow by joining the CSA, where members pay an up-front fee and pick up a box of produce every week at the farm or at one of Meadowlark's local drop sites. Mario signed up on the spot, and talked to Jenny about the possibilities of growing cardoons for next year, one of his favorite vegetables. He also made plans to come back the next day and help harvest garlic. "Just to smell the earth when it's fresh and redolent of garlic, it's the Mediterranean way," said Batali.

Next stop was Horn Road and the 184-acre Bardenhagen Farm. Christi Bardenhagen told Mario that her great-grandfather had homesteaded the land, and now her son, Steve, has taken over. Mario listened carefully as she explained that the transfer to the next generation would not have been possible without a sale of development rights to the Leelanau Conservancy.

"Helping Gary and Christi Bardenhagen pass this farm along to a fifth generation, while at the same time permanently preserving the source of so much of our local fruit, now that was a satisfying project," said Price.

Christi took Mario up into the orchards where laborers were hand picking sweet cherries. The chef sampled several along the way and at one point, commented "best I've tasted this year." Steve pulled up with a load of yellow cherries already soaking in brine, destined for the maraschino market. A short drive up the hill led to 'Early Glow' strawberry fields, where Mario enjoyed the spectacular views and ate strawberries warmed by the afternoon sun, and exclaimed over their flavor. "I've already eaten about six flats of these," he said. The harvest was officially over, but there were still plenty left to pick. "If this was close enough to my restaurant, I'd have my kitchen staff out here picking what's left," he said, adding that he had made gelato and sorbet this summer with the fruit.



Mario checks out ripening raspberry crop at Meadowlark Farms near Lake Leelanau with co-owner Jenny Tutlis

dinner to help preserve farmland, so that long after we're gone, people will still be sitting around the table eating the great food that comes from Leelanau."

Leelanau Conservancy Director Brian Price served as Mario's tour guide. The first stop was Meadowlark, a Community Supported Agriculture farm near Lake Leelanau. Owners John Watts and Jenny Tutlis and their crew were soaking spring mix in large vats, and then drying the greens in a modified washing machine set on spin cycle. Boxes for shareholders were lined up under an awning and being filled with that week's produce. Mario told Jenny "I buy anything that has your

Mario Batali with Christi Bardenhagen in the sweet cherry orchard. "Best I've eaten this year," Mario said after tasting a cherry off the tree.



This invasive quickly out-competes native flora, creating monocultures in coastal wetlands”



Mario Batali after an orchard tour with Ann and Don Gregory near Suttons Bay at the Gregory's "top of the world" property.

The final stop was at the Gregory farm near Suttons Bay, where Don and his brother, Bob, sat at a picnic table with Mario and talked about the difficulties facing the cherry industry. Mario expressed surprise when he learned that this year farmers have agreed to leave a certain percentage of fruit on the ground because of supply exceeding demand. He sees as part of the solution a need for savvy marketing and pointed to both the pomegranate and cranberry industry. "Those goofy guys standing out in the cranberries (in TV commercials), that's memorable, and the pommy product is everywhere now," he said. "What you need is a home run, to get someone to put cherry juice in a Cosmopolitan and have Sarah Jessica Parker talk about it for three weeks, or get dried cherries into some sort of hip candy bar or something," said Mario. He was intrigued by the fruit's marketing challenges and talked with Don Gregory about the merits of pursuing an organic brand and the fancy apple market.

After the orchard tour, the group headed up to Gregory's "Top of the World" spot, where Ann brought out picnic baskets filled with some of her special cherry appetizers, from a stuffed wheel of brie to dark-chocolate-covered dried balaton cherries. As with the other farms, Mario got a chance to sample both the joys and challenges of working farmers in northern Michigan. The common thread at all three farms was an appreciation of the knowledge and care that, coupled with the unique soils and micro-climate of Leelanau, brings forth the flavors that are so widely celebrated in kitchens across the country.

Don uncorked a bottle of chardonnay from nearby Circa winery. Mario took over pouring the wine and surveyed the sweeping view, which took in North Manitou to Charlevoix. "This has been just fantastic," he said. Raising his glass, he proposed a toast: "To farmland."

## Phragmites: What's Being Done?

Phragmites has been called the "Darth Vader" of the natural world. If there is an equivalent of a plant that replaces good with evil, phragmites is it. This invasive variety quickly out-competes native flora, creating tall monocultures in coastal wetlands. The result is a degradation of wildlife habitat, loss of recreation associated with wetlands including hunting and fishing, and loss of scenic views.

What's being done about it? The Leelanau Conservancy, along with partners including the Leelanau Soil Conservation District and several volunteers conducted surveys in 2009, documenting thousands of Phragmites infestations along Lake Michigan, paving the way for eradication. Working with a certified contractor, partnering organizations received grants and permission from landowners to kill phragmites with an approved herbicide in Leelanau and Suttons Bay Township this fall.

Our collected data will be stored and maintained in an online database <http://www.misin.msu.edu/> maintained by MSU. Knowledgeable landowners can take tutorials and submit their own GPS data on other invasive species such as garlic mustard, Japanese barberry or dame's rocket. More tutorials are coming soon including phragmites, baby's breath and blue lyme grass. There's a wealth of info online about Phragmites, including our own website: [www.theconservancy.com](http://www.theconservancy.com).



Phragmites threatens our own Lighthouse West Natural Area. It was treated this fall, along with 35 miles of shoreline in Leelanau & Suttons Bay Townships.



## Fall/Winter/Spring 2009-2010 Hikes and Events

### Hikers Take Note

We are pleased to offer this schedule of outings at no charge 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 by calling 231-256-9665. Most hikes last around two hours unless otherwise noted. Directions (both written or via our Google mapping feature) can be found on our website. Learn about our natural areas and the docent leading your hike at [www.theconservancy.com](http://www.theconservancy.com). If your schedule does not mesh with ours, or you have a special event such as a family reunion or wedding, our docents may be available to lead groups of five or more if given two week's notice to plan. School groups also may be accommodated with enough notice.

## November

*Sunday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> 8pm*

### *Jeff Lamont Preserve Story on CMU Public TV*

If you missed the October airing of this excellent program featuring stories of conservation it is being rebroadcast again. Hear from our staff and Bridget Lamont about her son, Jeff, and the making of the preserve in his memory. The program is an excellent representation of the land trust movement and features wonderful projects all over Michigan.

## December

*Tuesday, December 1<sup>st</sup> 5-7 pm*

### *Lake Leelanau Watershed Plan Update Meeting*

See story on page 2. Meeting to be held at the County Governmental Center.

*Sunday, December 27<sup>th</sup> 2pm*

### *Stomping the Snow at Chippewa Run*

Join docents Jack Schultz, Roland Drayson, and Sharon Oriel for a tromp through the snow at Chippewa Run. Sunny or snowy, this great area offers much to discover with its varied vegetation and landscape. From the "invisible stream" to the old apple orchard, to pine and spruce plantations, to open fields, there's always something interesting to be found. Wear snowshoes or boots, depending on the weather and your preference.

## January

*Saturday, January 2<sup>nd</sup> 10am*

### *Hounding the Trails at Houdek*

Docents Jack Schultz, Judy Hoeffler, Judy Smart, and Sharon Oriel welcome all comers to explore the wintry wonderland of Houdek Dunes. Animal tracks, winter buds of trees and shrubs, the fresh open air...all are enticing and invigorating on this largest of the Conservancy's properties. If you enjoyed it in summer, you'll love it in winter. Besides, you can keep warm by hiking!

*Saturday, January 23<sup>rd</sup> 10am*

### *Tracking Winter Wildlife at Kehl Lake*



Join docents Ann McInnis, Pam Schmidt and Holly Pharmer for a tracking adventure to discover the wintertime activities of Leelanau's wildlife. Read the stories told by tracks and traces, nibbles and nips, and possible sight-

ings. Discover survival strategies of wildlife in this relatively undisturbed high-quality natural area. Snowshoes advisable if there is lots of snow.

## February

*Saturday, February 13<sup>th</sup> 1pm*

### *DeYoung Farm Valentine Exploration*

Bring your Valentine(s) to the DeYoung Farm to visit Cedar Lake and the old farm buildings.

This is your chance to hear the DeYoung story (including a peek into the barns and other buildings) and to learn about Conservancy plans for the farm. If the ground is white, bring snowshoes. If the ground is brown, wear boots. Docents Sharon Oriel, Dave Amos and Judy Hoeffler will meet you in the parking lot by the barn.

*Saturday, February 20<sup>th</sup> 7pm*

### *Annual Blues at the Bluebird*

Come for a great evening of dinner and dancing at our annual Blues at the Bluebird featuring Chicago Blues virtuoso Melvin Taylor. See article on page 9.

## April

*Thursday, April 1<sup>st</sup> 1pm*

### *April Fool's at the DeYoung Farm*

Will we find signs of spring or will we have a last blast of winter?

Join docents Sharon Oriel and Dave Amos as we walk to the shores of Cedar Lake, looking for spring. We will also walk to the uplands and check the new



plantings for spring growth as well as look inside the buildings. Take a break from winter to think about spring. This hike was planned with families in mind who are here for spring break and looking for fun things to do!



## *Saturday, April 10<sup>th</sup>* **8am** *Spring Birding at Chippewa Run*

Join birding expert Alice Van Zoeren for our annual birding expedition at Chippewa Run. This natural area is outstanding for spotting a great variety of birds because of its diverse habitats. Beginning birders welcome; this is a fun event for the whole family. Docent Lou Ricord will provide an introduction to this natural area and answer questions along the way. Bring binoculars.



## *Saturday April 24<sup>th</sup>* **10am** *Earth Day Hike at Kehl Lake Natural Area*

Add new meaning to Earth Day by discovering the incredible marvels of nature readily seen in the biologically diverse habitats of Kehl Lake. Join Ann McInnis and Sharon Oriel, along with mushroom expert Ed Reinert, as we all welcome spring's profusion of renewed energy. Meadows, old growth woodlands, wetlands, lakes....all will reveal spring surprises.

## *Saturday May 8<sup>th</sup>* **10am** *Mother's Day Special at Kehl Lake Natural Area*

Learn about non-people moms and their activities that ensure their own species' future generations. Join docents Ann McInnis and Holly Pharmer in discovering fabulous springtime animal activities, woodland wildflowers, nesting birds, and much more while recommitting to things we can do to help the continuation of this fabulous diversity for our own future generations.



## **2010 Blues at the Bluebird Save the Date!**

Our 2010 Blues at the Bluebird will be held on Saturday, February 20<sup>th</sup>. Blues/Jazz/Rock virtuoso Melvin Taylor out of Chicago will headline the evening after the guests have enjoyed a bountiful Bluebird buffet. To describe the phenomenal talent of Taylor, one would have to list amazing, exhilarating, skillful and dazzling at the very least. Tickets are \$35 and include the buffet dinner, live music and great memories! Mark your calendar and call to reserve your tickets now: 231-256-9665.



### **You Can Bank on It**

In the past year, Northwestern Bank has made a commitment to "Going Green" and obtaining LEED Certification. In August, 2009, they obtained LEED Certification for their new Suttons Bay South office and was the first LEED-certified commercial building in Leelanau County. Three things they have done in the last year have helped our cause. Among them: sponsoring our picnic and donating funds when new checking accounts were opened and for current accounts that went "paperless." These programs have really added up and have made them great partners of the Leelanau Conservancy.

More info: [www.nwbank.com](http://www.nwbank.com)

## **Making a Commitment**

Twenty-nine teens that spend part of their summer on Northport Point held their ninth annual triathlon in early August. In this event the kids swim a half-mile in Northport Bay, bike six miles and run one more. All this energy is expended with one purpose in mind: to raise funds for the Leelanau Conservancy. Many of these same kids have also helped out at work bees or at our picnic. This year, \$2,700 was raised.

The funds will help create and maintain trails at Lighthouse West Natural Area at the tip of the Peninsula. A plaque in the teens' honor will be installed at the trailhead this fall. We appreciate this special group, which has fundraised about \$17,000 in the last eight years. We're also grateful to Lisa Randall, a Northport Point parent who organizes this event every year!

"I am proud of our teens for continuing the triathlon and their commitment to the Conservancy," says Lisa. "While many of our Northport teens do not live here year round, they do enjoy the beautiful sunsets, watching the moon rise and the spectacular Northern Lights. The triathlon is a great way for the teens to give back to their community and help preserve the peninsula they love."

# Volunteer Salute



**Hikes**



**Auction**



**Work**



**Picnic**



**Workbees**



**Auction**



**Picnic**



**Picnic**



bees



Workbees



Picnic



Hikes



picnic



Picnic



“Once a year we recognize those people who have really been exemplary in their dedication”

## Volunteer, Business Partner of the Year Named at Annual Picnic

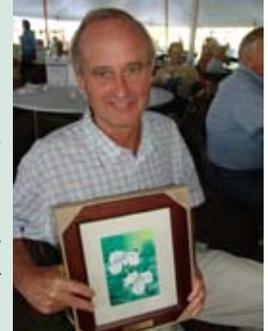
The Leelanau Conservancy named its Volunteer and Business Partner of the Year at its annual picnic on August 6 at Chippewa Run Natural Area in Empire. Both of the awardees hail from Gills Pier. The two received their awards amid a crowd of over 700 attendees at the Conservancy's annual event.



Mary Lyons received the volunteer honor and Biggs Construction was named as Business Partner of the year. “We are fortunate to have so many people who want to help us in our mission and are grateful to all those who give their time and efforts throughout the year,” said Brian Price. “But once a year we recognize those people who have really been exemplary in their dedication to the Conservancy.”

Mary served as a Conservancy Board member for nine years and also led hikes for many years as a docent. She sat on the Conservancy's Outreach Committee and was also a founding member and chairman of the Stewardship Committee. She helped to create the popular Leelanau Preservers gift-giving program. “Mary has also been a passionate advocate for farmland preservation and has worked tirelessly toward the goal of protecting our working farms,” added Price.

Biggs Construction was chosen as the Business Partner of the Year. “Bob Biggs has helped us in innumerable ways over the years,” said Price. “He played a key role in helping us reach out to neighbors near our Narrows Natural Area and helped us successfully negotiate a way to convince Consumers Power to put their power line near the Cherryland Power line, thus avoiding much damage to the natural area.” Most recently Biggs and his crew have rebuilt the porch and put a new roof on DeYoung Natural Area farmhouse and waterwheel building. Biggs is also a longtime sponsor of the Conservancy's Blues at the Bluebird.



“Both Mary and Bob are the kind of people who like to work primarily behind the scenes,” said Price. “They aren't looking for recognition, but rather they simply want to give back to the community. We at the Conservancy are fortunate to have them care so much about our work.”

The event featured local foods, a live and silent auction and a number of field trips early in the day. Over \$100,000 was raised from 150 auction items and unique Leelanau experiences that will help the Conservancy in its mission to conserve the land, water and scenic character of Leelanau County.

## Welcome New Sustainers

Conservancy Sustainers provide the lion's share of our operating support and are a big part of our success. Giving levels start at \$500. Benefits include special recognition in our publications, and two events per year where Sustainers can meet our staff and others who share their commitment to our work. Want to join? Call Gayle Egeler: 231-256-9665. The following people have joined since publication of our last newsletter.

- Anonymous
- Shirley Debelack
- John and Janet Mattson
- Mr. Charles E. Olson, Jr.
- Max and Linda Proffitt
- Anne and David Shane
- Dr. and Mrs. Reinhard A. Westphal



Our family's discovery of Northport and Leelanau County began in the summer of 1962. My Aunt and Uncle, Dr. Max and Mary Finton with their then young son, Douglas, left Charlevoix on their annual cruise of Lake Michigan and the Great Lakes when high seas forced them to seek shelter in Northport Bay.

They immediately fell in love, built a home on Northport Bay and moved there in 1968. My mother, Lilian Mattson (sister of Mary), soon followed the Fintons. She bought a cottage on the Bay in 1970 and moved there in 1974. Our family, ever since, has had a strong interest in preserving the rural nature and natural environment of the area that we love. My brother Steve Mattson, who is an avid conservationist and a geologist, has been a leader in promoting the sewage project currently being built in Northport. My mother has worked to protect the wetlands around her home from encroachment and development. My extended family has appreciated the goals and efforts of the Leelanau Conservancy. Janet and I have chosen to express our interest in preserving this beautiful area by becoming Sustaining Donors. ~John & Janet Mattson



# Honorariums & Memorials

## HONORARIUMS & MEMORIALS

(Received between 7/13/2009 and 10/27/09)

### In Honor of

*Ruth Butler Arents*  
Mr. Adam Arents

*Jennie Berkson/David Edelstein*  
Sharon and Artie Raphael

*Dr. Max Finton*  
John and Janet Mattson

*Bob and Nancy Giles*  
Loree and Michael Meneguzzi

*Charlie Hall and Kit Mayberry*  
The Fort Wayne Over The Hill Boys  
- Kraut, Keegs, Jack Sloth, Hank &  
Rusty

*Justin and Paula Higdon*  
Grainger Matching Charitable Gifts  
Program

*Haven June Krawczak*  
Ms. Grace D. Johnson

*Karl Lawson*  
Chuck and Diana Edwards

*Lilian P. Mattson*  
John and Janet Mattson

*Tad and Wendy McKay*  
Mr. and Mrs. William T. McKay, II

*John and Violet Melstrom*  
Mr. and Mrs. Richard  
Gibout-Umphrey

*Roy and Rosemary Rushing*  
Mary Cusick and David Wible

*Special & Awesome Hike With  
Docents Bobbie Poor and  
Ann McInnis*  
Mrs. Luvian M. Owens

*The Coffman Girls -  
Sally, Cathy & Lucie*  
Ms. Mimi Mullin

*The Docents*  
Anonymous

*Taylor Scarlett Winkelman*  
Dr. and Mrs. Gary Armbrrecht

*Mary Wydman*  
Ms. Patricia T. Hofmann

*Mary and Marcy Wydman*  
Mr. and Mrs. Michael T. Coler

### Happy Birthday

*Lee Bowen*  
Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Tonneberger

*Melissa Chenault*  
Gene and Kathy Garthe  
Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Tonneberger

*Dave Edelstein*  
ELT

*Olivia Fellows - 11th Birthday*  
Kurt and Eleanor Luedtke

*Ella Day Hadjaris - First Birthday*  
Mrs. Monica Carman

*Beth Hoover - Special Birthday*  
Gina and John Erb

*Mary C. Linton*  
Ms. Maureen J. Delaney-Lehman

*Ann Mason*  
Mrs. Treva N. DeJong  
Rhys VanDemark & Kathi McGookey

*Dr. Pat Oriel*  
Mrs. Martha Thurston

*Ed Schocker*  
Mrs. Treva N. DeJong

### Happy Anniversary

*Susan and Mike Craig - 50th*  
Ms. Lisa Neild

*Their Anniversary*  
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas A. Eichstadt

*Curt and Judie Leece*  
David Leece and Kathy Brewer

*Allan and Barbara Longacre -50th*  
Drs. Ann and Conrad Mason

*Dr. and Mrs. Travis Olson - 50th*  
Mrs Evelyn Kitzul

### Wedding Wishes

*George Basta-Suzanne Gray*  
Mr. and Mrs. Jerry P. Palmer

*Marlis Mann/TomSkinner*  
Mr. and Mrs. Lee J. Workum, Jr.

*Don and Carol Reisig*  
Fred and Joyce Stackable

*Maura Varley -Rodrigo Guitierrez*  
Dr. and Mrs. James P. Varley

### In Memory of

*Fred Atkinson*  
Mrs. Geraldine Anderson  
Owen and Leila Bahle  
Mr. and Mrs. George A. Ball  
Mr. and Mrs. Lee A. Bowen  
Ms. Margaret Buchanan  
Bill and Janet Burmeister  
Mr. and Mrs. John Conder  
Tom and Gretchen Dunfee  
Mr. and Mrs. Eben M. Finger  
Mr. and Mrs. R. Jeffery Green  
Mr. and Mrs. Richard A. Grout  
Mr. David Hartley  
Mr. John H. Hoppin, Jr.  
Mr. and Mrs. Keith Jolliffe  
Mrs. Anne G. Kinzie  
Mr. and Mrs. Theodore J. Lanham  
Paula S. Leinbach  
Mrs. Marlis Mann  
Robert Marshall & Mary Easthope  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Maynard  
Mr. and Mrs. George F. McKisson  
Michael McManus &  
Sue Brightheart  
Mr. and Mrs. John A. Minnema  
Mrs. Patricia Pollock  
Mr. and Mrs. Brian R. Price  
Dr. and Mrs. Raymond E. Reinert  
Dale and Jane Rhoades  
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Fleishman  
Mr. and Mrs. David J. Sprout  
Mr. and Mrs. David B. Thompson  
Mrs. Sally Viskochil  
Mr. and Mrs. William J. Webb  
Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Wilson  
Mr. and Mrs. Lewis F. Wood  
Mr. and Mrs. C. Taylor Yoakam

*James Curtis Bach*  
Mr. and Mrs. Daryl F. Bach  
Patty and Dick Bach  
Mr. and Mrs. George F. Carpenter  
Mr. and Mrs. James D. Eskolin  
Mr. and Mrs. Allan A. Petersen  
Brian Wasson and Leslie Petersen

*Reed Bartlett*  
Paradesia Association Inc.  
Mr. and Mrs. William D. Peace

*Violet Baum*  
Mr. and Mrs. James V. Bardenhagen

*Mr. and Mrs. George Berry*  
Mrs. Nancy C. Haas

*Annie Bohn*  
Mr. and Mrs. Jerry J. Stanek

*Nonny Bolmer*  
Mrs. Cathleen C. Fisher  
Mrs. Anne G. Kinzie  
James Rae & Arleen Rakas-Rae

*Judge David F. Breck*  
Patty and Steven Kalbfleisch

*Libby Brydges*  
Dunes Golf League  
Ms. Jane A. Karel

*Jayne Bull*  
Dr. R. John Bull  
Gina and John Erb

*Altheta Burke*  
Mr. and Mrs. James W. Richardson

*Bob Byerly*  
Nancy Fitzgerald and Jerry Agnew  
Mr. and Mrs. George R. Fredrickson  
Mrs. Virginia R. C. Hendrickson  
Mr. Harold C. Jackson, Jr.  
Ms. Barbara J. Nowinski

*Scott Anderson Casey*  
Ms. Connie Thompson

*Mary Elizabeth Cassady*  
T. Jeff Davis & Ken Smith

*Anne Centner*  
Tom and Amy Behm  
Tom and Marsha Buehler

*Robert Chase*  
Mr. and Mrs. Richard H. Barrett  
Mr. and Mrs. James Blanchard  
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Bonneau  
Mr. and Mrs. Roger E. Ehle  
Grand Rapids Community  
Foundation  
Mr. and Mrs. Clarence E. Heerema  
Ms. Nancy Horton  
Ms. Claire E. Monsma  
Mr. and Mrs. Carrol R. Nichols  
Mr. and Mrs. Charles G. Stone  
Norman and Marjorie Tubbs  
Ms. Dori N. Turner;  
Mr. and Mrs. Larry C. Willey

*Judge Joe Deegan*  
Mrs. Sally Viskochil

*Elizabeth Dose*  
Gina and John Erb



## MEMORIALS

### *D. Preston Dozier*

Tom and Gretchen Dunfee  
Mrs. Anne G. Kinzie  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Maynard  
Mrs. Ann Nichols

### *Hugh Drum*

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas P. Price, Jr.

### *Jack Dunfee, Jr.*

Gina and John Erb

### *Kenneth Faller*

Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Schroer

### *John W. Fisher*

Mr. David B. Alpers  
Mr. and Mrs. Frank E. Ball  
Mr. and Mrs. George A. Ball  
Mrs. Lena A. Ball  
Gina and John Erb  
Mrs. Cathleen C. Fisher  
Mrs. Ann C. Galliher  
Mrs. Patricia M. Ganter  
Mrs. Susanne E. Geier  
Dr. and Mrs. Jack W. Gottschalk  
Mrs. Anne G. Kinzie  
Will and Joan Larson  
Mrs. Marlis Mann  
Craig A. and Nancy T. Miller  
Mr. and Mrs. William D. Peace  
Ms. Molly Phinny  
Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Rea  
Mr. and Mrs. Jerry J. Stanek  
Mrs. Sally Viskochil  
Mrs. Alice B. Weaver  
Mrs. Lucy H. Wick  
Dr. and Mrs. Robert L. Willard  
Joan and Randy Woods

### *Jack B. Frohman*

Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert A. Deibel  
Ms. Catherine W. Stephenson

### *Steiner Garthe*

Gina and John Erb

### *Frank E. Gates*

Mrs. Carolyn Gates  
Mr. and Mrs. Walter Thomas  
Ms. Lee Ann Woolcox

### *Marge Glasel*

Mrs. Ruth E. Brown  
Bill and Janet Burmeister  
Ms. Elizabeth F. Swift

### *Thomas Gotshall*

Birchwood Shores Preservation  
Association

### *William Hayes*

Traverse, Northern Michigan's  
Magazine

### *Ed Hebb*

Ed and Susanne E. Rose Kraynak

### *Ben Hitz*

Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan L. Birge  
Mrs. Anne G. Kinzie

### *Betsy Holt*

Mrs. Lena A. Ball  
Mr. and Mrs. William L. Elder  
Mrs. Cathleen C. Fisher  
Mrs. Anne G. Kinzie  
Mr. and Mrs. William D. Peace  
James Rae & Arleen Rakas-Rae  
Mrs. Evaline H. Rhodehamel  
Dr. and Mrs. Robert L. Willard

### *Antia H. Jones*

Folkert Schmidt &  
Kathleen Sullivan

### *Jim Keen*

Mr. and Mrs. George A. Ball  
Mr. and Mrs. Paul T. Leugers

### *Robert Krieger*

Mr. and Mrs. J. Parke Malcolm

### *Jeff Lamont*

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Mr. and Mrs. William R. Enlow  
Ms. Jane D. Johnson  
Mr. John R. Keith  
Dr. and Mrs. James E. Lamont  
Mr. and Mrs. George M. Pearce  
Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Passarelli  
Al and Susan Manson  
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Hardy

### *Jean Larigan*

Mr. and Mrs. James F. Hield  
Mr. and Mrs. William D. Peace

### *Phil Later*

Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey L. Grate

### *Marilyn Krehbiel McBride*

Peter and Vicki Alpaugh  
Mr. and Mrs. Gary W. Beck  
Ms. Raynelle Heidrick  
Mr. and Mrs. John Krehbiel  
Mr. and Mrs. Donald M. Loppnow  
Mr. and Mrs. Eric C. Nielsen  
Ms. Joan K. Montezemolo  
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas P. Price, Jr.

### *John McKisson*

Mr. and Mrs. Peter A. Borden  
Mr. and Mrs. William D. Peace

### *Gianni Montezemolo*

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas P. Price, Jr.

### *Mr. Mitchell*

Steve and Nancy Mauti

### *Herb Nichols*

Mrs. June H. Atkinson  
Mrs. Lena A. Ball  
Mr. and Mrs. Lee A. Bowen  
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas G. Briggs  
Mr. and Mrs. Charles J. Bumb  
Gina and John Erb  
Carolyn and Dave Faught  
Mrs. Nancy L. Ferrar  
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Mr. and Mrs. Richard A. Grout  
Al and Sharon Henderson  
Marc Hernandez and Sarah Hakken  
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Mrs. Jill B. McFarlane  
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St. Peters Episcopal Church  
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Mrs. Eleanor B. Stephenson

### *Barbara Owsley*

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Mr. and Mrs. Frank A. Bracken  
Mrs. Patricia M. Ganter  
Linda and Jim Shad  
Elizabeth Bracken Wiese &  
Fred Wiese

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Birchwood Shores Preservation  
Assoc  
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Mr. and Mrs. William W.  
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### *Jim Rich*

Lary and Bernadette Bernthal  
Mr. and Mrs. Lee A. Bowen  
Mr. and Mrs. Jay Brand  
Mr. and Mrs. Richard S. Cross

Gina and John Erb  
Mr. and Mrs. Jonathon S. Johnson  
Mr. Bernard Rink  
Mr. and Mrs. John T. Strugala  
Mr. and Mrs. Peter Taylor

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Mrs. Lena A. Ball  
Mrs. Sally B. Booth  
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Austin and Lucy Brooks  
Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert A. Deibel  
Tom and Gretchen Dunfee  
Gina and John Erb  
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas F. Evans  
Mrs. Cathleen C. Fisher  
Mr. and Mrs. William E. Gahlberg  
Mr. and Mrs. David A. Galliher  
James Ganey & Elizabeth Smith  
Mrs. Patricia M. Ganter  
Mr. and Mrs. R. Jeffery Green  
Mr. John A. Herbst  
Mr. and Mrs. Michael R. Howard  
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Mr. and Mrs. Theodore J. Lanham  
Will and Joan Larson  
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Mrs. Marlis Mann  
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Mrs. Ann Nichols  
Mr. and Mrs. William D. Peace  
Bob and Dorothea Pitcher  
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Mrs. Paula M. Robertson  
Barbara and Frank Siepker  
Mr. and Mrs. Ben A. Tefertiller, Jr.  
Mrs. Sally Viskochil  
Mr. and Mrs. George R. Wellman  
James and Susan Wilson

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Mr. and Mrs. Craig M. Bruns  
Bill and Janet Burmeister  
Mary and Jerry Byrne  
Mrs. Cathleen C. Fisher  
Mrs. Jeanetta Gibson  
Mrs. Elisabeth Heikel  
Mr. and Mrs. Hans H. Heikel  
Mrs. Theresa Hitchens  
Gerd and Dennis Moore  
Ms. Sharon K. Nelson  
Mrs. Patricia Pollock  
Mr. and Mrs. Brian R. Price  
Mr. and Mrs. Jere Rasnick  
LuAnn and Fred Shuman  
Dale and Kit Whalen



### *Bob Siera*

Mr. and Mrs. Gary Bardenhagen  
Mr. and Mrs. David O. Bear  
Gail and Keith Evans  
Mr. and Mrs. Edward O. Falberg  
Mrs. Patricia M. Ganter  
J. Kay Johnston & Jeff Sanborn  
Joan Kalchik & Michael Tenbrock  
Bette and Dick Patton

### *Bruce Simpson*

Stephanie and Mark Duckmann

### *Sydney Spadorcia*

Ms. Karin A. Castle  
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Mr. and Mrs. Thomas P. Price, Jr.

### *Rick Steffens*

Mrs. Cathleen C. Fisher

### *Burtram Stoffelmayer*

Steve and Nancy Mauti

### *Janet Sutfin*

Margene and Alex Berry

### *Annette Taber*

Mrs. Mary E. Lyons

### *Millie and Herbie Taglauer*

Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Taglauer

### *Dr. John Varley*

Gina and John Erb

### *Bernard A. Wichman*

Ms. Catherine W. Stephenson

### *William Wick*

Mrs. Doris B. Webb

## Bob Siera - Forever a Teacher

We lost a good friend in Bob Siera in September. Bob died after a battle with bone cancer. But not before touching the lives of so many people—especially area youth—and helping us at our DeYoung Natural Area in a hundred different ways. He was the best of neighbors and long before we acquired the property, kept an eye on it and cared for it. He and his wife, Meeghan, own nearby Leelanau Produce.

Bob was endlessly generous with his time and expertise. He helped our Stewardship Director, Jenée Rowe, with emergency stabilization of the old farmstead after we bought the property. "Even if he didn't know how to fix something, he always found a way," says Jenee. "He was so similar to Louis DeYoung in that way. Bob's ability to take old stuff to reuse it showed his amazing ingenuity and resourcefulness."

In an online guestbook, one of our past summer interns, Peter Povolo, made the following entry. Peter's sentiments pretty well sum up how we all felt about Bob: "I worked for two summers as a stewardship intern with the Leelanau Conservancy spending a great deal of time at the DeYoung Farm adjacent to Bob's. While I was there Bob was always stopping by to say hi, offering a helping hand, or even bringing our crews treats with a smile. If I ever had an issue and needed some help, I would find Bob who always had a productive solution. Bob always provided great insight into the work we were doing and practical advice. He always had great stories and shared his lessons learned through his life. Although I was never a former student, Bob never stopped teaching and I thank him for that."



Here's Bob driving his tractor on one of the many days he spent working at DeYoung. At right is Peter Povolo, and at left, Casey Stanton, our 2006 summer interns.

## Board Transitions

At the end of October we said goodbye to departing board members Craig Miller, Molly Harrison, Jack Seaman and David Cassard, who have completed their terms after working tirelessly on behalf of the Conservancy. Many many thanks to these talented individuals who have helped us become a stronger and more effective organization. We also welcomed the following new Board Members:

**Steve Martineau** and his wife, Deb, live in Mt. Pleasant and are transitioning to full time life on North Lake Leelanau. Steve, a retired attorney, has assisted with numerous community activities including serving on the boards of the Mt. Pleasant Area Community Foundation and the Central Michigan Community Hospital. He brings a wealth of experience on nonprofit boards to our organization.

**Bruce Wagner** and his wife, Betsy, live in Glen Arbor. He is a retired advertising agency and international marketing communications management executive. Bruce serves on our Outreach Committee and brings a wealth of marketing and communications expertise to the Conservancy. He has served on many boards in a leadership role before moving north permanently a few years ago.

**Sharon Oriel** and her husband, Pat, live on the Crystal River. She has served on our Stewardship Committee, is a docent and also serves as our Docent Liaison, helping to coordinate this great program. Sharon serves on a number of local boards and her 30-year career at Dow Chemical included experience in research, technical service, and marketing. She brings with her finely honed leadership and organizational skills.



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Edward and Barbara Collins  
Founders

Craig Miller  
Frank Siepker  
Honorary Chairmen

Thomas Dunfee Chairman  
John Erb, President  
Jeff Corbin, Vice-President  
Kathy Ricord, Vice-President  
Warren Watkins, Treasurer  
Susan Green, Secretary

John Bull  
Kyle Carr  
Greg LaCross  
Steve Martineau  
Barbara Nelson-Jameson  
Jim Nugent  
Sharon Oriel  
Todd Stachnik  
Mary Taylor  
Sally Viskochil  
Barbara VonVoigtlander  
Bruce Wagner  
Harvey Warburton

## STAFF

Executive Director  
Brian Price

Finance Director  
Susan Price

Land Protection  
Matt Heiman  
Tom Nelson  
Yarrow Wolfe

Stewardship  
Jenee Rowe

Charitable Giving  
Anne Shoup

Membership and Outreach  
Carolyn Faught  
Gayle Egeler

Administration  
Arlene Heckl  
Nancy Thomas

## Attention Future Homebuilders!

If you are planning to build a home within the next five years, PLEASE give us an opportunity to remove precious native plants long before the bulldozers arrive. Learn more about our Wildflower Rescue Committee and how it all works. You can make a difference in the future of Leelanau's native plant population.

[www.theconservancy.com](http://www.theconservancy.com)



## Need a Great Gift That's Meaningful Too?



When you give a gift through the Leelanau Conservancy Preservers program, you can preserve land in a child's name, and instill in them at an early age that they have a stake in what Leelanau is to become. You can also give a gift to friends or family who live far away, but have Leelanau in their hearts. Or, preserve land in your own name. As a result of your contribution, your gift recipient becomes a "Leelanau Preserver." We send a beautiful card acknowledging your gift and keep track of the total acres that have been preserved in your gift recipient's name. When Preservers reach the 1/10 acre

milestone (\$500) a beautiful personalized hand-made tile is mounted on our Preservers Circle in the Leland Village Green. This summer we mounted 79 new tiles honoring or memorializing loved ones. Learn more about Leelanau Preservers on our website:

<http://www.theconservancy.com/leelanaupreserve.html>

## Leelanau Conservancy

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Leland, MI 49654  
231-256-9665  
[conservancy@leelanau.com](mailto:conservancy@leelanau.com)  
[www.theconservancy.com](http://www.theconservancy.com)

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