SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN LAND CONSERVANCY

Protecting Nature

restoring habitat • ensuring water quality • supporting biodiversity • connecting people and nature

Three Lakes Paddle, part of a series of events held to raise awareness of conservation efforts going on in the Gull Lake watershed. Story on page 4.

Photo by Lynda Anderson.

Summer 2019 – Vol. 28, No. 2

2018 Annual Report & Highlights

If we, the people of southwest Michigan, don't protect our land and water – who will?

What's in a Name?

Peter Ter Louw, President and Executive Director

Improving our communications and sharing our message of protecting nature has been a strong focus for the past several years. We have expanded our social media presence and improved on our project and event materials to increase our community impact. And recently we reexamined our newsletter and decided that the name needed to recognize the active role we play in creating change.

"Protecting Nature" for today, tomorrow, and forever is our first priority – and we thought what better way to reach new people who are committed to nature and conservation than to make our newsletter's name clearly reflect our mission?

We thought long and hard about it, and realized that clearly stating our mission and goals on our newsletter cover could help to engage many more nature-minded folks in southwest Michigan who maybe haven't heard about us yet.

We also realized that our current members and supporters would understand the need to build our "brand" identity in order to reach more people and protect more nature in southwest Michigan. Raising community awareness is an important step toward building our identity, and this newsletter is part of that effort.

As always, we are committed to our mission to restore habitat, ensure water quality, support biodiversity, connect people with nature, and help families protect their land. And we ask that when you're done reading your copy of *Protecting Nature*, please pass it on and help spread the word!

Grapes | Bruno Glätsch, Pixabay

SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN LAND CONSERVANCY'S

Annual Members' Meeting

Tuesday, September 24

Wine & Cheese: 5:30 pm • Light Dinner: 6 pm
Business Meeting: 6:30 pm

Cody Kresta Vineyard & Winery
MATTAWAN, MICHIGAN

Celebrate all the green work you've done this year!

You saved the satyr's habitat!

Last fall, we asked you to open your hearts to a little brown butterfly that lives in a fen – and were blown away by the incredible love and generosity you showed. You went way beyond our $35,000 goal, donating more than $47,000 toward protecting the habitat where this endangered species lives.

Combined with funding provided by the Fort Wayne's Children Zoo, The Esther and George Jaruga Charitable Foundation, and the US Fish & Wildlife Service's Mitchell's Satyr Recovery Land Acquisition Grant, your support enabled us to move forward toward purchasing this important property.

A few unexpected expenses and setbacks delayed the closing but we're happy to announce that, finally, the deal has gone through.

Thanks to you, we can now focus on protecting this prairie fen habitat forever, and keeping it healthy for generations to come.

Thank you.

You are making a difference.

Mitch Lettow

Experience the Boudeman Family Farm

Saturday, August 17
10 am - noon

For our final Gull Lake area event of the summer, Southwest Michigan Land Conservancy invites you to experience the Boudeman Family Farm, a private 478-acre conservation easement.

Nestled between the shores of Gull Lake and the rolling farm fields of Richland, many of the farm's acres are in production, while cool forests support pristine wetlands, thriving prairies, and plentiful wildlife.

A property tour will be offered on Saturday, August 17 from 10 am to 12 pm. RSVP is required for this free event, and mobility accommodations are available.

Registration

Please call the office at 269-324-1600 and ask for Hilary. Or register on our website by using this QR code or typing: swmlc.org/boudeman-family-farm

Hope to see you there!

Boudeman Barn | Hilary Hunt

Glories of Gull Lake
PROTECTED FOREVER

Hilary Hunt, Land Protection Specialist

Looking out across the glassy blue surface of Gull Lake, the immense size and emerald depths of this glacier-born beauty stun residents and visitors alike. With a surface area of just over 2,000 acres, there's ample room for boating, swimming, paddling, fishing or basking in the scenery – all thanks to the lake's protective buffer of conservation lands, which provide regionally renowned clear water and gorgeous, green pastoral views.

To save the blue, we must protect the green.

Throughout the Gull Lake Watershed, Southwest Michigan Land Conservancy has permanently protected enough acreage to cover the entirety of Gull Lake one and a half times, including several miles of frontage on the primary waterways in the area, Gull Creek and Augusta Creek. Add that figure to the many state-protected and university-protected properties in the watershed, and behind every blue drop in Gull Lake, there is green conservation land hard at work to keep it pristine.

"Time spent out on the land teaches you so much."

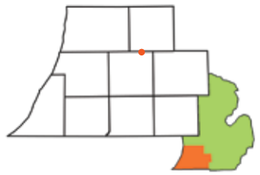
— Robert "Bo" Van Peenan

How does land protect water?

Although few know it by name, Prairieville Creek, Gull Lake's tributary at the north end, supplies 60% of the clean surface water flowing into Gull Lake. Thanks to conservation easements and preserves generously protected by many families along this creek corridor, the water that feeds into Gull Lake and out into the Kalamazoo River stays pure. These natural lands improve air quality, filter pollutants, reduce algae blooms, defend against floods, and sustain all forms of life.

Continued investment in the Gull Lake region

This summer, Southwest Michigan Land Conservancy has embarked on a project to bolster support for land conservation in the Gull Lake region, with the goal of connecting with landowners to find future conservation properties. Thanks to funding from the Kalamazoo Community Foundation, residents in the area have celebrated and explored the natural surroundings of Gull Lake, paddling wild inland lakes, riding in hay wagons on a family farm, and roaming ancient floodplain forests.



We look forward to continued investment in the treasured Gull Lake Watershed . . . watch for more land and water protection projects on the horizon.

Hilary Hunt

Participants enjoyed a hayride and learning about land protection at the Ford Family Farm CE.

Peter Ter Louw

Kayakers explored and listened to an on-the-water presentation about fish ecology and water quality in the Gull Lake Watershed given by Matt Diana of Michigan DNR during the Three Lakes Paddle event.

We were lucky to have Tom Springer – writer, naturalist, and conservationist – join us for two of these events, and his lively, thoughtful prose perfectly captures their flavor and texture. Read his illustrated articles on our website:

Boot-sucking Muck, Primal Diversity
http://bit.ly/2JfUYxQ

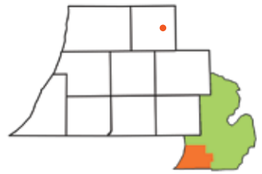
In Floating Classroom, Paddlers Learn Watershed Basics
http://bit.ly/2Yd3gu8

Emmons Augusta Floodplain Forest Preserve | Amelia Hansen

Amelia Hansen

"Time spent out on the land teaches you so much," remarks Robert "Bo" Van Peenan, who, along with his wife Melicent, generously protected his land with a conservation easement nearby. "The quality of life enjoyed by those living here is inextricably linked to water quality, which stems from what happens on the land. Protecting natural places from development is a critical way to invest in the health of our water resources."

As Nature Intended



C. Miko Dargitz, Development Associate and Amelia Hansen, Communications Specialist

You're making local conservation possible.

Every day, local families like the owners of High Bank Creek Conservation Easement are contacting Southwest Michigan Land Conservancy to explore whether conservation is right for them.

As a community-supported conservation organization, that's only been possible because of the support of people like you, our members and volunteers.

Your desire to conserve special places in southwest Michigan has protected over 15,700 acres in the past 28 years.

Together, we are making a difference.

Are you (or someone you know) curious about land protection options?

Call our Land Protection Team (Emily Wilke, Bruce Howe, and Hilary Hunt) for a confidential conversation at 269-324-1600.

Photo courtesy of High Bank Creek Landowners

"Right from the beginning, when we first purchased this property, we knew that we would be working with Southwest Michigan Land Conservancy (SWMLC) to assure that it would never be split. We knew from that very first walk that no one would be building a house in the woods overlooking the creek and no developer would be able to plat it out," stated the landowners (who wish to remain anonymous at this time) of a Barry County property in the Thornapple River watershed.

With oak-hickory woodlands, restored prairie, wetlands, and 4000 feet of frontage on High Bank Creek, the 140-acre property truly "protects the green to save the blue." The landowners have been good caretakers, too, working hard to create wildlife habitat, knowing that what they do on their land impacts downstream water quality in High Bank Creek, which flows into the Thornapple River.

SWMLC is grateful to the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy for awarding us a $116,000 grant that will be used to purchase a permanent conservation easement on the property, protecting it and keeping it in its natural state forever.

"The banks on this portion of the creek are extremely high and especially vulnerable to erosion. Keeping this property undeveloped helps to safeguard against excessive storm water runoff that can cause bank soil to fall into the creek, damaging the ecology of the creek and the Thornapple River system," stated Barry Conservation District Executive Director Sarah Nelson.

"No way did we want to worry about what would happen to this place when we were no longer here."

— High Bank Creek Landowners

SWMLC has worked in this region for decades and helped to conserve over 5,107 acres in Barry County in just the last two years, bringing the total amount of conserved land to 15,769 acres, or over 24 ½ square miles.

By placing a conservation easement on their land through SWMLC, the landowners have peace of mind, knowing that their property will be protected from development forever, no matter who owns it in the future. "No way did we want to worry about what would happen to this place when we were no longer here."

Nature is for *Everybody*

Amelia Hansen

People with mobility challenges sometimes feel as if nature is off limits to them. Unstable surfaces and steep grades are just some of the issues that can make spending time outdoors difficult – or impossible.

That's no longer the case at Bow in the Clouds Preserve, thanks to the amazing people (like you) who raised funds to bring barrier-free access to it. A crushed gravel loop trail – friendly to wheels as well as feet – leads visitors past thoughtfully-placed benches to an overlook deck that offers spectacular views of the marsh below. The deck's angled entrance ramp and sturdy wire railings invite people with mobility and visual challenges to safely share in the overlook's appeal to the senses.

The new overlook also provided a nice location for speakers at the Unveil the Trail event last May to share what the preserve means to them. State Representative Jon Hoadley commented on Bow in the Cloud's ability to bring diverse groups together through nature. Sam Lealofi, Executive Director of Eastside Youth Strong, described its role as an outdoor classroom for kids in their summer science program. Paul Ecklund, ADA Specialist & Systems Advocate at Disability Network Southwest Michigan, remarked on the beauty of a person in a wheelchair enjoying nature, side-by-side, with someone who is sitting on a bench. And Sister Ginny Jones of the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph, the preserve's main caretaker for 39 years, remarked happily that the preserve's ability to reach people through nature was bigger than she had ever imagined it could be.

Plans are already underway for Phase 2 improvements, which will bring barrier-free access all the way down to Spring Brook and into the wetland. Please stay tuned for developments!

We are humbled to know how important Bow in the Clouds has become to so many community members and are deeply grateful in knowing that so many people care.

Thank you!

Bow in the Clouds Preserve | Peter Ter Louw

Changes at the Lakeshore Have you visited Pilgrim Haven Natural Area this summer?

Significantly – but naturally – the beach has shrunk! Record-high lake levels have narrowed Pilgrim Haven's famously pebbled beach, a natural response to recent heavy rains and a great example of Lake Michigan's dynamic nature. The beach will widen in future, drier conditions but, for now, it's an especially good spot for lovers of lake stones.

Other changes at Pilgrim Haven are very much human-made. Beginning this summer, Phase 2 improvements include paving the gravel parking lot, installation of an information kiosk new pit toilets, a new trail to connect the bridge to the barrier-free walkway, creation of a rain garden, and construction of a kayak rack for people who are paddling the Lake Michigan Water Trail. It should be mostly finished by the first week of August.

With its rich. 100-year history as a beloved summer camp, Pilgrim Haven Natural Area continues to connect the community with natural lakeshore experiences. We invite you to visit its pebbly beach – ***and use the new trail and bathroom while you're there!***

Through your contributions, amazing people like you have made possible amazing places like Pilgrim Haven Natural Area.

Thank you!

Pilgrim Haven Natural Area | C. Miko Dargitz

SANCTIONED BY SPARROWS

Plants are one thing, but what do the animals think?

Mitch Lettow, Stewardship Director and Amelia Hansen, Communications Specialist

"Plant it and they will come," an optimistic approach embraced by land managers hoping to attract wildlife to their habitat restorations. Because animals just show up when you create the correct habitat, right? Well, maybe . . .

Setting the scene

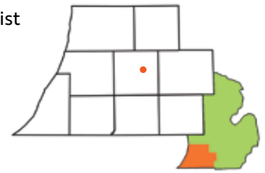
Thousand-acre tallgrass prairies and oak savannas were once common in Southwest Michigan. They attracted bluebirds, butterflies, bison – and European settlers who quickly turned them into pastures, farms, and villages, leaving scattered scraps of habitat where wildlife was scarce.

Development gnawed at these ecosystems into the 1990's, when concerned local conservationists organized and created Southwest Michigan Land Conservancy (SWMLC). Committed to the emerging field of stewardship and habitat restoration, they sought to recreate lost or damaged ecosystems.

In spirit

Could a young land conservancy really bring back prairies and savannas? If they removed invasive plants, planted appropriate species, and treated the land as carefully as native peoples did . . . would it help?

Because remaining local islands of prairie and savanna were often too small and vulnerable to be restored, maybe the answer lay in recreating the *spirit* of these habitats on land that was already protected. Chipman Preserve, generously donated to SWMLC by John and Patti Chipman in 2002, seemed the perfect place to try.



Determined

Chipman Preserve's sandy soil, rolling topography, and remaining patches of savanna wildflowers made it a worthy candidate for restoration – though a professional consultant disagreed. Undaunted, a determined bunch of SWMLC staff, donors, board members, and volunteers got their hands dirty and pressed forward with their vision: a place where people could experience historic open landscapes – complete with signature wildlife.

The project began with SWMLC staff member, Nate Fuller, creating a thoughtful management plan. Volunteers Bob Pleznak and Jason Cherry collected prized plants and seeds from disappearing nearby habitats, and John Chipman downed invasive autumn olive and Scotch pines with his trusty chain saw. Mowing mimicked grazing bison and managed fires cleansed the landscape for the first time in years. Preserve stewardship continues today by staff and volunteers, especially the dedicated Wednesday and Winter Warriors, who oust invasives, assist with burns, harvest seed, and transplant native seedlings.

Prairie restoration at Chipman Preserve | Amelia Hansen

Headway

Today, a walk through Chipman Preserve shows 17 years of Herculean progress. Lupine now covers acres instead of square feet, oak trees are plentiful and vigorous, and invasive plants are on the run. It's a beautiful mosaic of native vegetation – but have the animals returned?

The animals

The number and diversity of butterflies and birds can say a lot about the quality of our restoration work, because if they don't like it, they won't stay. But documenting wildlife can be difficult to do for small non-profits with limited resources like SWMLC. Luckily, we have loyal partners – as interested in Chipman's transformation as we are – who observe, study, and build habitat for these creatures at Chipman Preserve.

Courtesy of Ronda Spink

"I think the habitat restoration and management is making a huge difference for all pollinators."

— Ronda Spink, Kalamazoo Nature Center

Ronda Spink, coordinator for Kalamazoo Nature Center's Michigan Butterfly Network, is one such supporter. "I have been butterflying at Chipman Preserve since 2012 and I am never disappointed!" she exclaims. Her all-time high for the preserve is 632 individual butterflies and 26 species – in a single walk-through. "I definitely think the diversity is tied to the plants that are there. Host plants . . . and good nectar sources are a must to see a lot of butterflies! I think the habitat restoration and management is making a huge difference for all pollinators."

Michigan Bluebird Society has boosted bluebird, house wren, and tree swallow populations at Chipman Preserve by posting nest boxes, documenting 324 baby birds in 2017. Birdwatchers from Audubon Society of Kalamazoo recently savored the rare sight of a (usually) secretive brown thrasher singing from a treetop near Chipman's prairie restoration. Staff have even heard the calls of State-Endangered Henslow's sparrows.

(continued on next page)

Hoary Edge Skipper (Achalarus lycaides), Chipman Preserve | Ronda Spink

House wren nestling, Chipman Preserve | Erin Elizabeth Grabarczyk

(continued from previous page)

"eBird,"an online tool and mobile app used by citizen scientists, shows that many species suffering sharp declines are showing up at Chipman Preserve, including blue-winged warblers, Eastern towhees, yellow-breasted chats, and American woodcocks.

Sharon Gill, Associate Professor of Biological Sciences at Western Michigan University, and her students, have documented about 100 breeding pairs of field sparrows (another species in decline) at Chipman and seen about 50-60% of banded birds return the next year. Still, Dr. Gill expresses concern, "I was just at the annual meeting of the American Ornithological Society . . . researchers organized a special symposium about the alarming declines of North American species, even invasives that we don't often worry about. Scientists aren't prone to overstating things, but the concern about the declines was palpable. Restoration of natural areas, combined with connecting habitat over space, will be critical parts of trying to reverse those trends. Chipman and other SWMLC preserves can be an important part of conservation in southwest Michigan."

Promise

For people who care about wild things, it's crucial that quality habitats are restored, protected, and stewarded. Though restoration work is never finished, there are promising signs that native savanna and prairie wildlife are finding a place at Chipman Preserve. The buzz of blue-winged warblers, the bouncy whistle of field sparrows, increased sightings of 13-lined ground squirrels and the blue racer snakes that hunt them, all show that a group of hard-working, persistent, and optimistic folk can recreate a nearly lost landscape that both wildlife and people can call home.

Courtesy of Sharon Gill

"Chipman and other SWMLC preserves can be an important part of conservation in southwest Michigan."

— Dr. Sharon Gill, Associate Professor of Biological Sciences, Western Michigan University

Be part of the story!

Join Southwest Michigan Land Conservancy's habitat restoration movement by volunteering at our preserve workdays or joining the Wednesday Warriors volunteer group.

Support ongoing conservation efforts by donating to Southwest Michigan Land Conservancy or becoming a member.

Get involved with Michigan Butterfly Network, Michigan Bluebird Society, or Audubon Society of Kalamazoo. Submit your observations to eBird.

Field Sparrow | Public domain, Wikimedia Commons

WELCOME, HILARY!

We are excited to announce the addition of our newest full-time staff member, Land Protection Specialist Hilary Hunt!

Raised in the Kalamazoo area, Hilary grew into a deep affinity for the ecological communities of Southwest Michigan, in particular, the lakeshore. Returning to Michigan after working and learning in New York and Oregon, she feels drawn to the work of preserving intact land here. With interests in environmental policy, social justice, and environmental conservation, Hilary holds a bachelor's degree in Spanish, Environmental Science, and Community Action & Social Change from the University of Michigan, and a master's degree in Nonprofit Management from the University of Oregon.

Amelia Hansen

GOODBYE AND CONGRATS, NATE!

After 18 years with Southwest Michigan Land Conservancy, our Conservation and Stewardship Director, Nate Fuller, has moved on to a new job.

We don't want to embarrass him with a bunch of gushy stuff but, we already miss his calming presence in the office, his incredible store of knowledge, his quick wit, his creative cooking ideas, and his kindness. But as colleagues and friends, we are also very excited for him as he moves into his new position as director of Sarett Nature Center near Benton Harbor.

They are SO lucky to get him!

SWMLC Staff

Nate's Facebook farewell:

"18 years have flown by. In just a few days I bid farewell to Southwest Michigan Land Conservancy. It has been so much more than a job. I was given an amazing opportunity to grow professionally and personally as the organization grew. For better and for worse I wrapped a lot of my own identity into SWMLC. It was not easy to leave what many consider a dream job - working to protect and restore natural areas with a local non-profit. But now I am blessed to move from one dream job to another. After a little time off, I am excited to take on new challenges and rewards as the director of Sarett Nature Center."

SWMLC Staff

Trail Blazing at Corey Lake Preserve . . .

Thank you!

Corey Lake Preserve | Peter Ter Louw

Cousins on a mission – Deacon, Thomas, Freddy, Callan, Charlotte, and Jeremiah – joined forces to cut brush and mark a trail at Corey Lake Preserve this past July. Graciously donated by their grandmother, Charlotte Mittler in 2014, this gem of a preserve protects 1,500 feet of frontage on Corey Lake and an oak woodland with a rich understory. You can help build the kids' trail by volunteering with the Wednesday Warriors on August 28 from 9 am 'til noon. And join us at the preserve for the Three Rivers Area Fall Color Tour, October 13. Find details about the workday and Color Tour on our website: www.swmlc.org/swmlc-events-workdays.

Leaving Your Legacy

Erwin "Butch" Doerschler,
Southwest Michigan Land Conservancy Board Member

I met my soon-to-be stepfather when I was 15 years old. The first thing we did together was to go fishing. The second thing we did was to go hunting. It was the beginning of a lifelong love affair with the outdoors for me. He passed his love and appreciation of the outdoors on to me, and I will be forever grateful for that "gift."

Since joining the Southwest Michigan Land Conservancy Board a few years ago, I have learned first-hand how our mission of protecting and preserving land for the benefit of future generations really works. I am pleased that our children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren will be able to enjoy all that the conserved land has to offer.

Courtesy of the Doerschler Family

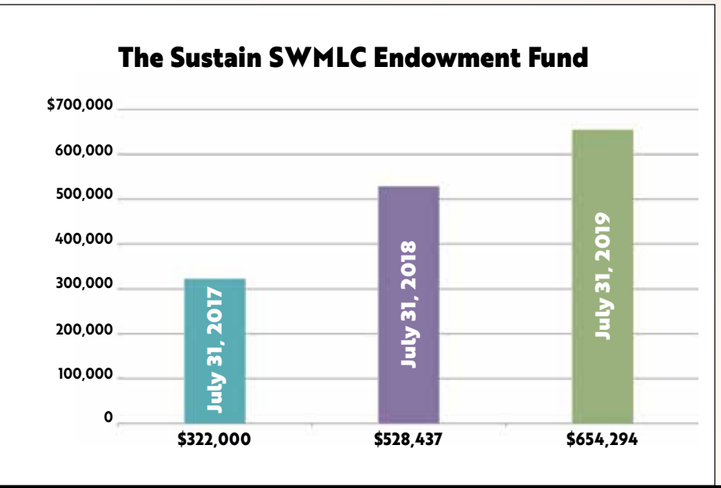
By including Southwest Michigan Land Conservancy in their estate plan, Butch and Debra Doerschler know that their passion for nature will live on, even after they're gone.

"I am donating, through an irrevocable gift, one of my existing life insurance policies. I see this gift to the Endowment as a "win-win" for many parties."

— Erwin "Butch" Doerschler,
SWMLC Board Member

Southwest Michigan Land Conservancy currently manages about 15,000 acres in southwest Michigan. There are several additional pieces of property that are under consideration to conserve and protect. It's a bright future, but comes with a big question . . . how will Southwest Michigan Land Conservancy live up to its promise to maintain, improve, and manage these properties?

Your Board has established the Sustain SWMLC Endowment Fund specifically to help meet these future expenses. If Southwest Michigan Land Conservancy is to continue to be financially strong and meet future obligations, having an endowment fund that generates income year after year is a necessity. Our current Endowment is approximately $500,000, which will need to grow in order to generate meaningful income. The Board is actively looking for ways to do that.



In an effort to support the Endowment Fund's growth, I am donating, through an irrevocable gift, one of my existing life insurance policies. I see this gift to the Endowment as a "win-win" for many parties: for Southwest Michigan Land Conservancy, it provides guaranteed money specifically for the purpose of funding the Endowment; for me, it's provides an opportunity to take advantage of an immediate charitable tax deduction; and for you, it's the promise of wild and scenic places, conserved for now, and forever.

To learn how you can help build the Sustain SWMLC Endowment Fund, call Peter Ter Louw, SWMLC President and Executive Director, for a confidential conversation at 269-324-1600.

Pilgrim Haven Natural Area | Courtesy of the Eyvaz Family

Show Your Love

by giving the gift of nature as part of your estate plan.

Over the past 28 years, more than 80 families have included Southwest Michigan Land Conservancy in their planned giving and wills.

They share the peace of knowing that their passion for nature will live on, improving the lives of many generations of people and wildlife to come.

By making a commitment to Southwest Michigan Land Conservancy as part of your estate plan, you will become a member of the Oak Legacy Society, joining other thoughtful supporters who have made a gift to our future and to the permanence of land conservation in southwest Michigan.

Feel free to contact us

If you're interested in discussing how you can accomplish your goals to leave a lasting gift, please call Peter Ter Louw for a confidential conversation at 269-324-1600, or send an email to conserveland@swmlc.org

Oak Legacy

Would you like to join the Oak Legacy circle?

By arranging to make a planned gift, you will join these amazing people who know that today is the time to ensure conservation for tomorrow.

Thank you to our Oak Legacy members

Paula M. Allred
Joan Orman and Eric Bekker
Susan Bond
Sherwood and Sharon Boudeman
Kristi and Stephen Chapman
Amy and Jason Cherry
Thomas Coder
Susan Gray
Barbara and John Guinness
Jack O. Haeger
Mary and Daniel Houser
Joel and Barbara Huber
Alice Jones
W. Jack and Nanette M. Keiser
Sandra Kuhn
George H. Lauff
Bill and Jeannette Maxey
Judy Mayo and Sid Aaron
Alan G. Mueller
Diane Murphy
Eileen L. Oehler
Stan and Connie Rajnak
Todd and Amy Sanford
Jennifer Schwab and Tom Miller
Lawrence J. Sehy
Thomas H. Seiler
Patricia Smetana and Thomas Krol
Roger Taylor
Peter D. Ter Louw
Philip Willson

If you have already included Southwest Michigan Land Conservancy in your will and/or estate plans let us know . . . we would love to thank you.

SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN LAND CONSERVANCY EVENTS & WORKDAYS

Unless indicated, all events and workdays are free and open to the public. Find details, maps, and directions on our website by entering www.swmlc.org/swmlc-events-workdays or using this QR code.

RSVP: Please help us to plan our events by registering. Use the secure form included in the online event descriptions, or contact Miko by phone at 269-324-1600 x302 or email at cmdargitz@swmlc.org.

Experience the Boudeman Family Farm
SATURDAY • August 17 • 10 am • BOUDEMAN FAMILY FARM CE • FAMILIES & KIDS

Come on down to the Boudeman Family Farm Conservation Easement (CE) for a morning of gorgeous pastoral views, excellent wildlife viewing opportunities, and unique storytelling about this beautiful, working farm that is conserved forever.

Create the Corey Lake Trail
WEDNESDAY • August 28 • 9 am - 12 pm • COREY LAKE NORTH BAY PRESERVE • VOLUNTEER WORKDAY

Join the Wednesday Warriors in opening this preserve's views of beautiful Corey Lake by lopping invasive brush and clearing trail.

Paddle with a Naturalist
THURSDAY • August 29 • 3 - 5 pm • JEPTHA LAKE FEN • NATURALIST PADDLE TRIP

Enjoy a peaceful paddle on Lower Jeptha Lake while learning about its unique habitats and ways to keep invasive plants at bay.

IN COLLABORATION WITH VAN BUREN CONSERVATION DISTRICT AND SWxSW CORNER CISMA

Grandparents Day Scavenger Hunt Tike Hike
SUNDAY • September 8 • 3:30 pm • BOW IN THE CLOUDS PRESERVE • FAMILIES & KIDS

Gramma and Grampa can give Mom and Dad a play date of their own by spending quality time looking for hidden treasures with kids.

IN COLLABORATION WITH KALAMAZOO AREA LITTLE ADVENTURERS' CLUB

Talk-n-Walk with the Sisters of St. Joseph
SATURDAY • September 14 • 10 am • BOW IN THE CLOUDS PRESERVE • SOCIAL HIKE

Join members of the Sisters of St. Joseph for stories about this preserve that's so close to their hearts, then explore the trails with new hiking buddies.

IN COLLABORATION WITH SIERRA CLUB'S SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN GROUP AND CONGREGATION OF THE SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH, KALAMAZOO

A Lake Michigan Rain Garden
SATURDAY • September 14 • 9 am - 12 pm • PILGRIM HAVEN NATURAL AREA • VOLUNTEER WORKDAY

Lend a hand in planting a rain garden that provides food for pollinators, soaks up runoff, prevents flooding, filters pollutants . . . and looks great, too.

Annual Members' Meeting
TUESDAY • September 24 • 5:30 - 8 pm • CODY KRESTA VINEYARD & WINERY • MEMBER'S BENEFIT

Appreciate the winery's rural landscape while mingling and enjoying cheese, wine (or non-alcoholic beverages, if you prefer), and light dinner on the patio. Then join us for the annual business meeting and learn about SWMLC's last 12 months, and future plans. Watch for your invitation in the mail.

Save a Savanna, Plant an Oak!
SATURDAY • October 5 • 1 - 4 pm • HIDDEN POND PRESERVE • VOLUNTEER WORKDAY

Help create a habitat legacy by planting oak trees that will be here for decades to come in our savanna restoration.

Families that Hike Together
SATURDAY • October 12 • 10 am - 12 pm • WAU-KE-NA PRESERVE - SOUTH TRACT • SOCIAL HIKE

Psychologists have found that spending time together in nature strengthens family bonds . . . great company and a beautiful location make it even better!

IN COLLABORATION WITH SIERRA CLUB'S SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN GROUP

Fall Color Tour
SUNDAY • October 13 • 12 - 5 pm • COREY LAKE NORTH BAY PRESERVE • FAMILIES & KIDS

Autumn color: one of southwest Michigan's natural wonders. Enjoy spectacular views and up-close, fantastic foliage finery at Corey Lake North Bay Preserve.

IN COLLABORATION WITH THREE RIVERS AREA FALL COLOR TOUR

Fall Color Tike Hike
SUNDAY • October 13 • 3:30 pm • SPIRIT SPRINGS SANCTUARY • FAMILIES & KIDS

Get inside a rainbow! Bring some kids and enjoy the intensity of fall color through their eyes. Come early, bring a picnic, and make it a day!

IN COLLABORATION WITH KALAMAZOO AREA LITTLE ADVENTURERS' CLUB

Pre-Turkey Trot
SATURDAY • November 9 • 10 am - 12 pm • SPIRIT SPRINGS SANCTUARY • SOCIAL HIKE

Walk off all that holiday food ***before*** you indulge with friends new and old who also love to hike and explore the area's wildest places.

IN COLLABORATION WITH SIERRA CLUB'S SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN GROUP

Savanna Restoration
SATURDAY • November 9 • 1 - 4 pm • CHIPMAN PRESERVE • VOLUNTEER WORKDAY

Help build on the the successes of our oak savanna restoration at Chipman Preserve by whacking and stacking invasive brush!

Announcing the release of 2018 Portman's Legacy by Cody Kresta Vineyard and Winery of Mattawan!

We are deeply grateful to David and Mary Lou Butkovich, owners of Cody Kresta, who have created special editions of wine in support of Portman Nature Preserve and Southwest Michigan Land Conservancy ***for three years in a row.*** **Thank you!**

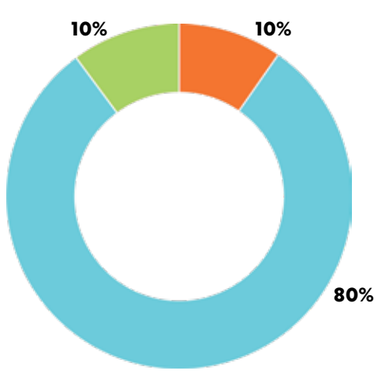
Located just three minutes away from the winery, may we suggest an exploration of Portman Nature Preserve's shady trails followed by a refreshing glass of Portman's Legacy at Cody Kresta's lovely, Tuscan-inspired tasting room this weekend?

Quantities of this delicious, light table wine are limited – so hurry and support local land conservation and local artisan farmers!

CONSERVATION SNAPSHOT: Southwest Michigan Land Conservancy Financials, Fiscal 2018

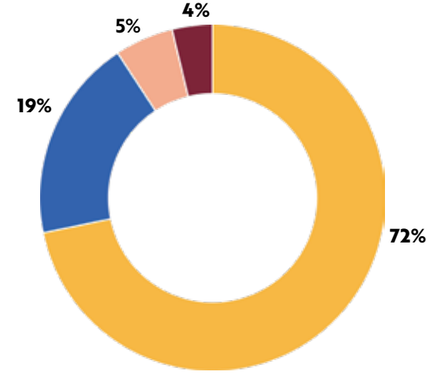
It's because of you and many other individuals, businesses, and foundations that we are able to conserve wild and scenic places in southwest Michigan – and to do so as a fiscally efficient and healthy organization.

For all that you have done to make this region a better place in which to live, work, and play, we thank you.



revenue

Contributions from Individuals and Foundations	$896,602
*Government Grant Funded Conservation Projects	$108,439
Investments	$113,525
Total:	**$1,118,566**



expenses

Programs	$657,368
Stewardship	$173,860
Management & General	$50,145
Fundraising	$34,606
Total:	**$915,979**

Increase in net assets: $202,587

Thank you to our 2018 Donors*

To everyone who cared, volunteered, donated, conserved their land, and partnered with us in 2018, take pride in knowing that you belong to a community of passionate nature-lovers that are working to save the places we all love and connect people from all walks of life to the outdoors.

Together, we are making southwest Michigan a special place to live, work, and play.

Thank you.

To save the blue water, we must protect the green land.

Blue Green Society

Thank you to those who have joined the Blue Green Society and made an annual commitment of $1000 or more.

Anonymous (2)
The Arctica & Abbey Foundation
Richard Atwell and Elizabeth King
Catherine and Dan Augenstein
Donald and Dorothy Ayer
Frank D. Ballo
Chuck and Jan Benner
Carole Birch
Jim and Patti Birkes
Peter R. Boerma
Brian and Lori Bosgraaf
Sharon Boudeman
Sherwood and Sharon Boudeman
George and Pat Burgoyne
Bob and Pat Burr
Larry and Barbara Case
Amy and Jason Cherry
John and Lynne Chipman
Patti Chipman
Thomas Coder
Dave Coleman
Maggie Coleman
Kalman and Becky Csia
Erwin H. and Debra Doerschler
Larry and Sherry Edris
Howard and Gussie Farris
Elisabeth R. French
Jim Galligan
John and Sharon Garside
Alfred and Jean Gemrich
Dana and Teresa Getman
Florence F. Goodyear
Fred and Jeane Groos
Nick and Hanna Groos
Tom and Lisa Groos
Bruce and Jeanne Grubb
Keto and Kathryn Gyekis
Henry B. Hawk
Larry and Noel Hayward
Larry and Jerrilyn Holcomb
Mary and Daniel Houser
Susan Houseman and Curtis E. Hall
Joel and Barbara Huber
Phil Johnson and Mary Baggerman
Alice Jones
W. Jack and Nanette M. Keiser
Rob and Donna Keller
Kenneth and Marlena Kirton
George H. Lauff
Phyllis LaVene
Robert and Joyce Leppard
John and Maureen Lewandowski
Bill and Kathy Main
Tom and Pam Mansager
Jerry and Betty Mason
Hugh and Connie Mehaffie
Philip Micklin
Verne and Cindy Mills
Charlotte G. Mittler
Mike and Susan Nave
Gail Walter and Tom Nehil
Bob and Kay O'Boyle
Betty Lee Ongley
Joel and Florence Orosz
Michael and Cindy Ortega
Karen and Tim Pederson
Melanie Perry
Stan and Connie Rajnak
Lynn Sagar
Patrick Sage
Todd and Amy Sanford
Carol and Robert Scallan
Lawrence J. Sehy
Richard Shaw and Shirley Sutton
Joel and Jennalie Shepherd
Bruce and Kathy Shurtz
Mark and Carolyn Speese
Lynn and Mike Steil
Peter D. Ter Louw
Steve Tomashefsky and Rebecca Sive
Roger and Jeanne Turner
Maren and Christopher Uggen
Christine Valentine
Bo and Mel Van Peenan
Dave and Janice Varney
Bradley and Cheri Weller
Dave and Joan Wendling
Earl Werner
TJ and Julia Wilkinson
Philip Willson
Jack N. Wykoff
Arno and Pam Yurk

2018 Membership Donations

Mitchell's Satyr Butterfly ($1000+)

Alex and Kathy Bozymowski
Rebecca Brock
Alica N. Cummings
Donald Cummings
Dave and Sharon Groendyk
Martin and Wendy McCormick
Sam and Tina Qualls
Dennis and Patricia Stelzer
Laurie Young

Eastern Massasauga Rattlesnake ($500+)

Anonymous
Bernard Baker
Dana Buoscio and John Szewezyk
Kristi and Stephen Chapman
John R. and Barbara A. Chenault
Gregory A. DiGennaro
Christopher M. Flynn
Jerry and Becky Gray
Jack O. Haeger
Randy Harvey
Brian Hoff
Andrew and Patricia Johnson
Lisa Klemmer
Matthew and Angela Kuiper
Jennifer Lau
Mr. Craig Alan Mahr
Helen McCauslin
Teresa Morris
Wayne and Karen Moss
Robin and Nancy Nott
Jeffrey and Emily Pearson
Ralph Pernice and Nancy Englander
Kathy Pullano
George and Louise Robeck
Craig L. Shumaker
Thomas J. Smith
Timon Tesar
Ms. Virginia Van Andel
Rachel L. Woodard
Ben Yost

Cerulean Warbler ($250+)

Phil Albain
Ned and Neva Asplundh

*** If we accidently omitted your name, or you find an error, we apologize.**
Please call Nicole at 269-324-1600 x307 so we can correct the mistake. Thank you.

Amelia Hansen

Your love for southwest Michigan's natural areas has ensured that these places will be protected forever. Thank you.

Todd Barkman
William and Victoria Brander
Susan and Tom Brooks
Dan and Stacy Burton
Ruth Caputo
John and Sally Carton
Robert and Elizabeth Code
Doug Coulter and Pam Hoppe
Mike and Martha DeGrandchamp
Mr. Luke Deubner
Brian and Maureen Dobbie
Marilyn H. Dopp
David Dvorak and Karol Peterson
Ed and Karen Dzialowski
Bruce and Martha Edger
Nate and Lisa Eimer
Helen Elkiss
Randal K. Eshuis and Maria J. Romero Eshuis
Jim and Shirley Freeman
Rene' and Bill Garrity
Beth Gibson
Edith Gilmore
Elmer R. Graber, DVM
Cynthia Hingtgen and Grant Nicol
Allan Hunt and Rochelle Habeck
Mark Jenness and Cheryl Lyon-Jenness
Susan Kavanaugh
Ann Klobucar
Keith and Catherine Konvalinka
Robert Linderman
Dennis Miczulski
Mr. Donald C. Nitz
Zaide Pixley and John Fink
Heather and Jim Ratliff
Patsy Richardson
Kathy Roschek
Beth A. Schluckbier
Jennifer Schwab and Tom Miller
Ken and Sarah Jamieson Shrum
Susan and Phillip Stott
Robert Swaney and Mary Stephenson-Swaney
Roger Taylor
Thomas Thornburg and Claren Schweitzer
John and Karen Thornton
Louise Wepfer and Ed Withey
Bonnie L. White
Tim Winslow
Ben and Kathryn Zimont

Spotted Turtle ($100+)

Jill Allread
Charles J. Andrysiak
Ed Appleyard
Mike Bailey
Alan Baudler
Dean and Margret Bender
Susan R. Benner
Barbara Boven
Dennis Bradley
Richard Brewer and Katy Takahashi
Bob and Gail Brickman
Hugh and Rebecca Brown
William C. and Leslie Buhl
Bryan and Jordan Burroughs
Jon and Patricia Carlson
Charles and Janet Christianson
Marcus Clark and Lorrie Elliott
Casey Cole
Henry and Becky Cole
Serena Cole
Frank Conklin
Jeff Conner and Buffy Silverman
Eileen Coscarelli
Harry and Mary Ellen Cotterill
Robert and Nancy Cretsinger
Theodore and Pamela Cummins
Frank Cunningham
Jim and Jennifer Daniels
Jay and Gwen De Bruyn
Sally and John DeCardy
Maurice Decoster and Sonia Hill
Mitzi DeLuca
Pamela R. Dewey
Marilyn Doolittle
Trey and Becky Eldridge
Hans Engelke
Pat and Larry Farris
John and Carie Faul
Ed Fencl
Miguel Fernandez
Kate Ferraro
Shon and Sam Field
Dr. Joshua David Fisher
Dave Foerster and Sheila Birdsall
Lisa Wagner Forrest
Fred and Sandy Frederick
Artis Freye and Kevin Ulrich
Kent and Jeryl Fuller
Mike and Kathy Gallagher
Fran Galow
M. Rachel Garcia
Dan and Linda Garrett
Matthew and Tomomi Geisler
Nathan Geisler and Carrie Berger
Paul and Janet Gilbert
Susan and John Gillett
Anthony and Grace Gilmore
Jeff and Bette Glindmeyer
John and Diana Goes
Jim and Carol Gonzalez
Michael and Christine Grant
Kevin Haight and Mindy Russell-Haight
Dean and Cynthia Halderson
Linda and Charles M. Hall
Karen Halsted and Patrick Cronin
Mr. Robert L. Hamel
Stephen Hamilton
Ladislav J. Hanka
Donald and Ronnee Harrell
Jean Hartmann
Ms. Sassafras Havilar
Jennifer and Matt Haywood
Erin Heskett
James R. Hewitt
Malcolm Hickok
Susie and Gerry Hoar
Charles and Pamela Hodgman
Allen Holcomb
Patricia A. Huberty
David Jackson and Margaret MacAllistar
Pam and Mark Jackson
Judy Johnson and Mark Loehrke
Rose Jordan
Sarah Jordan and Patricia Lutsky
Raelyn and Richard Joyce
Frank and Gail Jurenka
Linda and Joseph Kanamueller
Paul and Nancy Kantor
Richard and Brenda Keith
Judith A. Kepler
Paul and Judith Kindel
Mary Kittredge
Mr. John Kleb
Karen E. Knapp
Margaret Kohring
Kenneth M. Kornheiser
Pat and Cheryl Krause
Sandra L. Kuentzel
Bob and Margaret Laatsch
Gail Lauzzana
Keith and Julie Lewandowski
Kent and Lauri Lindquist
Charles Lines
George R. Livingston
Erika Loeffler
Diana K. Lubic
Joseph E. Ludy
Jim and Julie Luginbill
George and Linda Macleod
Bobbi Martindale and Jon Towne
David C. Maturen
James Maxwell
Cecil and Susan McIntire
Mike and Cathy McMinn
Phyllis Malpas and Yvonne Caswell
Denny and Eileen Mead
Matt and Danielle Meersman
Jamie and Phil Michael
Margaret I. Miller
Dr. and Mrs. Donald L. Minter
Sally Mittler
Dr. James P. Motiff
Christopher Nagy and Shannon Thornton
Tina Nap
Douglas Nickerson
George M. Nielsen
Dr. Mark A Noffsinger
Dr. Sandra E. Nordmark
Sandra Olsen
Roger and Susan Olson
Bill and Gerrie Peet
Lynda Pelkey
Ken Peregon
Mike and Phyllis Petersen
Greg Petty
Lori and Floyd Phalen
Richard and Carol Purdy
Mr. Janis Putelis, Jr.
Phyllis Rappeport
R. A. Rifenberg
Chuck and Lou Ritter
Rosamond Robbert
Eleanor Roberts
Cindy Roman
Dr. and Mrs. Arthur H. Rossof
David and Jan Ryder
Michael and Judy Salada
Jim and Rachel Sankofski
David and Janet Scarrow
Randall and Joyce Schau
Robert and Georgette Schirmer
Thomas H. Seiler
Rebecca J. Shank

Member Support = Water Quality

Your 2018 membership support has protected over one mile of stream bank habitat, 300 feet of undisturbed shoreline, and over 250 acres of high quality wetland.

Thank you for thinking downstream.

2018 Membership Donations CONTINUED

Cybelle Shattuck
David Sheldon
Elaine Ritter Shirk
Patricia Smetana and Thomas Krol
Lawrence and Babbette Smith
Glenn and Sylvia Sperry
Ms. Victoria Staniszewski
Jane Steward
Judi Stimson and Bill Myers
Margie and Ed Stinson
Ursula Storb
Richard and Mary Sutton
Jane Ter Louw
William Thacker
John and Betty Tilton
Mr. Michael A. Travis
Nick and Nancy Tuit
Mrs. Ahni Turner
Henry Valkema
Tom Van Doren
Jan van Schaik
Carol R. VandenBerg
William and Carol Venema
Donna Vogtmann and Robert Leet
Dr. Kyle Vonk
Nils Vos
William Wagner
Joseph M. and Holly Duffy Walls
Jonathan and Anne Marie Warner
Fred and Cam Weber
Bruce and Jean Williams
Susan and Kerry Badger
Daniel and Rachel Bair
David Blum
Norman Bober
Brenda L. Breen
Rick Brigham
Rudy and Diane Broekhuis
David and Barbara Brose
Karen Brown
Dick and Lois Brunvand
Fred and Sharon Buckley
Paula and Joe Buckman
David and Mary Lynn B. Bugge
Robin K. Byrn
Mary Ann Carey
James Carlson and Christine Hartzell
Marilyn Case
Mr. Kim Cauchy
Mike and Gayle Champagne
Judith Kay M. Chase
Leonard and Patricia Chase
Dallas Chester
Linda Clark
Ms. Sarah Cohen
Robert Cooley
James and Catherine Coury
C. Robert and Marcia Cowell
Geoffrey and Sarah Cripe
Patricia Crowley
Jerry and Karen Culp
Connie and Steve Ferguson
Sarah Ferguson
Frank Finken
Dr. and Mrs. Clifton W. Fisher
Ms. Sarah Fitzpatrick
Ms. Margo Foreman
Dennis and Mary Frailing
Ann and John Fraser
Dr. Gabriela Freese
Doug and Nancy Geisler
Charles Glatt
Sue and Dave Goldenberg
Matthew Gorentz
Robert and Paula Gorman
Christopher and Linda Gosling
Brandon and Tiffany Greenfield
Gary Gross
Pat Gudlaugsson
Thomas Hagadone and Pamela Miller
MaryEllen Hains
Robert and Sharon Handelsman
Gerald and Lelane Hardie
Ellen Harrington and John Stodola
Dale P. Harrison
Susan Harrison and Jeff Price
Barbara Hasan
Chuck and Sue Hefner
Ed Henby
Bob and Joan Hiddema
Frederick S. Higdon
Sherry L. Higgins
Gregory Himes
Donna Hippensteel
Mark and Mary Sue Hoffman
Tom and Lauri Holmes
Carolyn Hornev
Phil Hoskin
Patrick Hudson and Gina Frasson-Hudson
Bruce Hutchinson
Anna and Carl Ill
Ronald L. Johnson
Patrick Jones and Celeste Chambers Jones
Sister Virginia Jones, CSJ
Wilma J. Kahn
Dorothy A. Kasunic
John A. and Martha L. Kendall
Susan and Robert Kinde
Evelyn Kirkwood
Robert and Nancy Klesert
Kevin Kline
Mr. and Mrs. Paul C. Kline
Peter Kobrak
Paul and Janet Koestner
Kelvin & Julie Kohlhaas
Victor A. Kordish
Danielle Kuzma
Jacqueline Ladwein
Cheryl A. Larabee
Lois E. Larson
Pamela and Lee Larson
Laura and Dale Latulippe
Julie Leavitt
Ms. Sarah Lee
Carol LeFevre
Brian and Bridget Leppard
John and Betty Lerg
Steven Leuty
David Littke
Joanne Lowery
Jacqueline V. Mallinson
Dora L. Mann
William and Shirley Martinus
Coral Mason
Anne May
Judy Mayo and Sid Aaron
Mike and Cindy Mazurkiewicz
Kevin and Linda McCall
Tom and Valli McDougle
Tom Mears
John and Debbie Mellein
Ms. Susan Mesch
Bettina Meyer
Dr. David J. Millard
George and Elizabeth Miller
Greg and Patrice Mindock
Ron Morton
Vi Murphy
David Nesius
Jane Norton
Paul D. Olexia
David and Carol Overton
Dr. Richard M. Oxhandler
Sally Padgitt
Donna Marie Parr
Rebecca Patterson
Janet H. Pendergrass
Stephen E. and Kathleen M. Keelan Pew
Pfizer Foundation Annual Giving Program
Barbara E. Plampin
Robert and Mary Jo Poel
Jasen and Mary Potts
Mrs. Elizabeth Anne Powell
Cyndy Priest
Mr. and Mrs. Allan S. Puplis
Tim and Sally Putney
Jim Quebbeman
Chuck and Rose Quoss
Valerie Reed
Lance R. and Julie Richmond
Beatrice C. Ritchie
Margaret and Dwyer Roche
William F. Rocker, DDS

120 minutes

In a recently published study, researchers from University of Exeter Medical School have shown that spending at least 120 minutes a week in nature is associated with good health and wellbeing.

Judith R. Willson
Mr. Cam Wilson
Michael W. and Linda Lou Winkel
Michael Wolske
Foster and Carolyn Woodward
Amanda and Peter Ziemkowski

Little Brown Bat ($50+)

Anonymous
Wade Adams
David and Wanda Aikens
Ethan and Maura Alexander
Susan Allen
Kathryn Almy and Robert Kakuk
Amy Anderson
Dale Anderson
Jeanne M. Anderson
Lynda Anderson
Ralph E. Babcock
Susan Damon
Randy Day and Betsy Floria
Wayne and Marj Dennis
Dan Denov
Alaine Depner
Carole Deutch
Brian and Kelly Dissette
Suzanne Dixon
Joann Dodson
William Dolak
Ms. Rachel Dupuis
Mary Durand
Richard and Sandra Edwards
Mrs. Laura Eklov
Alan and Sally Enderle
Jill Engels
Laurel Eppstein
Thomas Paul Erdmann

Amelia Hansen

Judy Kraft Rowe
Mr. and Mrs. John C. Roy
Tom Ruesink
Mrs. Jackie Marie Ryan
Sarah Rydecki
Dean Sanford
Moselle and Steve Schoenfelder
David and Deb Schuette
Tonya Schuitmaker
Dale and Marlene Schultz
Kathleen Schwegel
Lucinda A. Sebald and Andrew Van Doren
Maxine Sherburn
Beth L. Shirley
Charles Sittig
Georgia P. Sizemore
George and Harriet Slomp
Fred and Virginia Snell
Paul R. and Pamela H. Sotherland
Deborah Sparbel
Ronda Spink
Kathryn Steadman
Joan G. Stewart
Tom Stolz
Donald and Linda Szeszycki
Carolyn and Gary Tolliver
Lynwood and Joan Topp
Michelle and Chris Tracy
Dale and Emma Turton
Barbara and Joel VanDyken
Joan Verwilst
Louis A. Villaire
Nancy A. Virgilio
John P. Vrbancic
Barbara Walters
Mary Ann Wannamaker
Glenn and Nancy Wengert
Susan L. Whitney
Robert and Rebecca Wilcox
Richard D. Williams
R.J. and Donalee Williams
Mark Winkel
Ginny Speeter Wippel
Tim Wixted and Ana Clelia Vincenti
Diane D. Worden
Jonathan Wuepper
Petal Pushers Garden Club
Schlessman Seed Company
Secure Start Inspections
South Haven Garden Club

Gifts Beyond Membership

$1000 and Over

Ned and Neva Asplundh
Frank D. Ballo
Charles and Jan Benner
Mr. and Mrs. Rodger V. Bittner
Peter Boerma
Robert Boisture
Brian and Lori Bosgraaf
Kappy Boudeman
Sherwood M. Boudeman
Alex and Kathy Bozymowski
Jo Beth Bridleman
Patricia Chipman
Thomas Coder
Dave Coleman
Harry G. Conway
Kalman and Becky Csia
Trey A. Eldridge III
Jim Galligan
Thomas and Barbara Gelehrter
Don and Janet Gladstone
Nick and Hanna Groos
Dr. Laurel A. Grotzinger
Susan Houseman and Curtis Hall
Andrew and Patricia Johnson
Alice Jones
Nanette and Jack Keiser
Kenneth and Marlena Kirton
Mr. and Mrs. Paul C. Kline
George H. Lauff
Cody Kresta Vineyard and Winery, LLC.
William and Kathleen Main
Carole and Jim Majka
Rich Mather
Henry and Martha Miller
Charlotte G. Mittler
Charles and Mary Moore
Mike and Susan Nave
Bob and Kay O'Boyle
George and Valerie Opdyke
Joel and Florence Orosz
Tom and Linda Powell
Stan and Connie Rajnak
Jon and Stephanie Rambow
Louise D. Safron
Todd and Amy Sanford
Lawrence J. Sehy
Mr. and Mrs. Joel M. Shepherd
Bruce and Kathy Shurtz
Mark and Carolyn Speese
Bradley and Kathy Sullivan
Peter D. Ter Louw
Gary Van Horn
Robert and Melicent Van Peenan
Erik and Michele VanAllen
C. Glen Walter and Edite Balks Walter, MD
TJ and Julia Wilkinson
Pamela and Arno Yurk
Karen Bondarchuk and Art Winslow
Jeremy and Marleen Bottoms
Sherwood and Sharon Boudeman
Barbara Boven
Mrs. Valerie A. Boven
Gilbert Bowman
Richard and Lisa Bowser

Memories of Bow in the Clouds

"Out of curiosity, I searched the internet to find this location that I grew up exploring in the '70's and '80's. I remember camping over night there when I was only 10 years old – when the world was a safer place. It's great to find out this property is being preserved. I'm very happy about that. I was always afraid that it would be developed. I'm glad it's safe."

— Jeff Dykhuis, on Facebook, used with permission

Up to $1000

Anonymous
Elaine F. Adams
Ethan and Maura Alexander
Jill Allread
Amy Anderson
Susan and Larry Anderson
James and Joy Andrews
Tom and Molly Andrews
Charles J. Andrysiak
Danielee Awaad
Korine and Jeff Blyveis
Albert and Renee Bair
Bernard Baker
William H. Baker
Bud and Judi Baldwin
Paul Ballard and Colette Lewis
Phyllis J. Barents
Chris Bass
Alan Baudler
David K. Baute
Brandon Bazan
Sandra Beach
Melissa Becker
Beatrice H. Beech
Robert and Janet Beemer
Rex and Denise Bell
Vernon Bennett III and Sally Muniz
Susan R. Benner
Betty Bennett
Lisa Benscoter
Gerald and Mickey Benson
Jill Berglund
Mr. and Mrs. Ron Bernstein
Mrs. Martha A Betke
Harry Bird
Dr. Jack Bley
Sara Bode
Dennis Bradley
Raye Bransdorfer-Polasek
James Brewster
Rudy and Diane Broekhuis
Ben and Hollie Brousseau
Donald J. and Mary C. Brown
Shannon Brown
Dick and Lois Brunvand
Fred and Sharon Buckley
Rose Bundy
Mr. Jewell D. Burdette
Dennis and Janice Burke
Robert Burkett
Philip and Patricia Burton
David and Mary Lou Butkovich
Robin K. Byrn
Ruth Caputo
Paul Carbery
Tim Carlson
Sharon Caron
Nick and Kathy Carter
Larry and Barbara Case
Marilyn Case
Kay Caskey
Mr. Kim Cauchy
Kristi and Stephen Chapman
Judith Kay M. Chase
John R. and Barbara A. Chenault
Amy and Jason Cherry
Tony and Traci Chipman
David and Nancy Clark
Harley and Lynn Clinard
Dan and Nancie Closson
Matthew Clysdale
Ms. Sarah Cohen
Casey Cole
Serena Cole
Terry Coleman

Business, Club & Group Memberships

Approved Protection Systems
Audubon Society of Kalamazoo
Carnegie Community Garden Club
Cody Kresta Vineyard & Winery
Geum Services
Great Lakes Adventure Club
Houser & Associates
Kalamazoo Garden Club
Kalamazoo Garden Council, Inc.
Little Adventurers' Club
Native Connections

2018 Gifts Beyond Membership CONTINUED

Mary Colliflower
Mrs. Stephanie Comrie
Jeff Conner and Buffy Silverman
Nina L. Consolatti
Harry and Mary Ellen Cotterill
C. Robert and Marcia Cowell
Robert and Nancy Cretsinger
Randy and Sally Crockett
Tamara Crupi
Alica N. Cummings
Darnell Day and Catherine Case
Sue Hallead-Deming and Robert Deming
Jeffery and Barbara Denny
Pamela R. Dewey
Gary and Marjory Dietz
Bill and Mary Lee Dimond
Dr. and Mrs. John Dircks
David and Susan Doan
Marilyn Doolittle
Mary Durand
Mrs. Bob Dykstra
Ed and Karen Dzialowski
Kent and Cheryl Early
Ms. Margaret Eaton
Bruce and Martha Edger
Richard and Sandra Edwards
Mr. Brian D. Elliott
Steve and Cindy Ellis
David W. and Nikki J. Elrod
Wendy Field
Finch Greenhouse
Joyce Fink
Mr. Jack Finley
Alice Fish
Elaine G. Fishman
Fleis & VandenBrink Engineering, Inc.
Jeff and Mary Fleming
Tara Fletcher
Matthew and Cheryl Flora
Elaine Fluck
Mr. Kelly Ford
Dave Foerster and Sheila Birdsall
Lisa Wagner Forrest
Dennis and Mary Frailing
Karl and Gloria Frankena
Fred and Sandy Frederick
Jeff and Beth Freeman
Dr. Gabriela Freese
Kent and Jeryl Fuller
Nate and Erin Fuller
James A. Funke
René and Bill Garrity
Ilse Gebhard and Russ Schipper
Timothy and Paula Geiman
The General Store
Thomas and Nancy Georgoff
Jack and Martha Gesmundo
Getman Corporation
Michael and Christine Grant
Great Lakes Adventure Club
Brandon and Tiffany Greenfield
Katherine Gross and Gary Mittelbach
Lisa and Tom Groos
Barbara and John Guinness
John Guthery
Keto and Kathryn Gyekis
Jack O. Haeger
Ms. MaryEllen Hains
Dean and Cynthia Halderson
Ladislav R. Hanka
Bill and Kathy Hanley
Tobi Hanna-Davies
Gerald and Lelane Hardie
Maren Harkness
Donald and Ronnee Harrell
Ellen Harrington and John Stodola
Roger Harris
Dale P. Harrison
Randy Harvey
Hastings City Bank
Ms. Sassafras Havilar
Matt and Krystal Hawkins
Larry and Noel Hayward
Jennifer and Matt Haywood
Haywood Studios
Phillip and Lynne Heasley
James and Mary Heaton
Rich and Joan Heffelbower
Gary and Mary Herder
Erin Heskett
Ed and Ginnie Hessler
Sr. Claver Hickmott
Ms. Susie Hildenbrand
Heather Hill
Emily Hirschman
Terry Hluchyj and Richard Roosenberg
Jocelyn and Richard Hodgman
Mr. Brian Hoff
Rick and Mary Hoffman
Phyllis J. Hoger
Katya Hokanson
Kay and Bill Hokanson
Allen Holcomb
Linda Holden
Heidi Hollenbach-Wall
Phil Hoskin
Mary and Daniel Houser
Bruce Howe
Connie and Fred Hubbell
Patrick Hudson and Gina Frasson-Hudson
Allan Hunt and Rochelle Habeck
Hilary Habeck Hunt
Karen and Andrew Jacobs
Jerre James
David Jamieson
Ms. Cindy Janecke
Mark Jenness and Cheryl Lyon-Jenness
Steve and Sue Jessup
Ms. Lisa Johnson
Phil Johnson and Mary Baggerman
Ronald L. Johnson
Judy Jolliffe
Cher M. Jones
Frances Jones
Patrick Jones and Celeste Chambers Jones
Sister Virginia Jones, CSJ
Marie L. Josephsen
Raelyn and Richard Joyce
Kirk and Cynthia Jubenville
Kalamazoo Garden Club
The Kalousdian - Lawrence Family Fund at the Chicago Community Foundation
David Karowe
Susan Kavanaugh
Robert and Donna Keller
Kendall Electric
Dr. Peter C. Kesling DDS, ScD
Eleonore Killinger
Jessica Kinkela
Amelia Barker King
Douglas and Kathy Kirk
Evelyn Kirkwood
Renee Kivikko
Peter Klan
Lisa Klemmer
Mike and Carol Klug
Ms. Adriana Kniffin
Ed and Kathy Knox
Paul and Janet Koestner
Sue Kolanowski
Jerry and Michele Kollig
Mr. Donald L. Konopa
Janet Krettek and David Fuller
The Kuehl Family
Sandra L. Kuentzel
Chris and Mary Lampen-Crowell
David and Jan Landry
Landscaper's Garden Club
Pamela and Lee Larson
Laura and Dale Latulippe
Jennifer Lau and Jason Winters
Dr. and Mrs. A. Gregory Laurell
Lawrence Garden Club
Peter LeFevre
Darla and Hunter Leggitt
Amy Lehman
Lucas and Amelia DeLuca Leibold
Benjamin Cole Leonard
Candace Cole Leonard
Robert and Joyce Leppard
Magen Lindstrom
Little Adventurers' Club
George R. Livingston
Paul and Linda Locey
Lois Loeffler
Ron J. Logan
Joanne Lowery
Diana K. Lubic
Gail Lucas
Alicia Ann Luft
Justin Lynk
Kelly Lynk
Rhonda Lyons
Karen Maas
Karen Macklom
Sheila Macmanus
Paul and Gail MacNellis
Joshua Manning
Manfred Martin
Mr. and Mrs. William Martin
Nancy Marttila
Tom and Michelle Mason
Mattawan Garden Club
Mattawan Later Elementary
Mattawan Leo Club
Ms. Linda May
Helen McCauslin
Tony and Maggie McComb
Martin and Wendy McCormick
Russell and Connie McFee
John and Connie McKeague
Mrs. Lisa H. McNeel
Christopher and Stephanie Measzros
John and Debbie Mellein
Mary Ann Menck
Kraig and Cindy Meyer
Myrtis D. Meyer and Marty Cohen
Jamie and Phil Michael
Lynda Krupansky
Dennis Miczulski
Anna Mae S. Miller
George and Elizabeth Miller
Kat Miller
Kip Miller
Margaret I. Miller
Sheryl and Mark Miller
Miller-Davis Company
Linda and W. Joseph Mills
Verne and Cynthia Mills
Nicole Mitzel
Jeffrey Mohney
Mol-Son, LLC
Nancy Mollhagen and Bruce Jaksa
Jim Montgomery
Beth Morgan
Alan G. Mueller
Craig and Linda Munson
James and Beverly Munson
Chris and Steve Murray
Jane Murray
Christopher Nagy and Shannon Thornton
Lisa Neeb
Mr. Paul S. Newman
Catherine Niessink
Jim and Terry Novaria
Brian and Katy O'Boyle
Noel Ocen-Gorgone
Mark and LaRae Odland
Layton E. Olson
Betty Lee Ongley
Bill and Judith Ott
Dr. Richard M. Oxhandler
Donald and Suzanna Paarlberg
Kim and Lula Palmer
John Paquin
Rodger Parzyck
Walter and Shirley Pascal
Tim and Julie Peasel
Bill and Gerrie Peet
Lynda Pelkey
Louis J. Pepoy
Ken Peregon
Ann M. Perry
David Charles Perry
Kay Perry
Melanie J. Perry
Mike and Phyllis Petersen
David Peterson
Greg Petty
Lori and Floyd Phalen
Michael and Lisa Phillips
Robert and Jean Picking
Julie and Michael Pioch
Robert and Susan Pleznac
Robert and Mary Jo Poel
Portage Garden Club
Jerry and Julie Portman
Franklin and Paula Presler
Scott Joyner and Donna Pugh
Mr. and Mrs. Allan S. Puplis
Chuck and Rose Quoss
Michael Raphelson and Carla Langerveld
Richard and Lynne Rapparlie
Mr. John and Mrs. Carol Rasmussen
Heather and Jim Ratliff
Scott and Anne Raue
Ray and Suzanne Reed
Valerie Reed
William and Leslie Reed
Tamiko Rehagen
Eric and Martha Reid
Philip Reitenour
James M. Reslock
Robyn Richardson
Barbara Rider and Fred Sammons
Mark Ridley and Sara Cullen Ridley
R. A. Rifenberg
Arthur and Janet Riley
Rosamond Robbert
Eleanor Roberts
Miss Madeleine Roberts
Cindy Roman
Harold Ronk
Susanne Rose
Dr. and Mrs. Arthur H. Rossof
Judy Kraft Rowe
Pamela Rups
Sean Ryan
Mary Alice and Donald Ryder
Gary and Judith Sabo
Lynn Sagar
Michael and Judy Salada
Sarett Nature Center
Ellen Sbarounis
Jeffrey and Darci Schimp
Susanne Schipper
Dr. Marilyn J. Schlack
Ruth E. Schmitter
Treva Schoneboom
Ms. Bobbie Schrader
Mrs. Beth Schultz
Mrs. Donna Schumann
Jennifer Schwab and Tom Miller
Lucinda A. Sebald and Andrew Van Doren
Rachelle Secson
Jon and Kami Seeberger
Daniel and Krystal Seibert
Thomas H. Seiler
Evie Sellers
Vance Senecal and Lynne Bruehlman
Eric and Georgina Shafer
Rebecca J. Shank
Anne Shaughnessy
Judy Shaughnessy
Julie Shaw
David Sheldon
Jan Shillito
Elaine Ritter Shirk
Beth L. Shirley
Carleen Shook
Shoreline Garden Club
Craig L. Shumaker
Kathy Sills
Mary R. Sive
Rebecca Sive and Steve Tomashefsky
Michelle and Steve Skedgell
Bradford Slaughter
Aimee Slocum
George and Harriet Slomp
Tom and Ruth Small
Carole G. Smith
Karl and Dana Smith
George and Karen Solliday
George J. and Sarah A. Sotos
South Haven Rotary Club
Ronald Spears
Scott Sperry
Wes and Dee Stafford
Anthony and Donna Stapleton
Marijo Steenstra
Dennis and Patricia Stelzer
Mary Stephens
Carole Stevens and Mike Willy
Elizabeth M. Stickelmeyer
Robert G. Stickland
Diana and Houston Stokes
Michael Stoline
Tom and Nanci Stone
Susan and Phillip Stott
Laura Strehlow and Walt Oberheu
Jon L. Stryker
Marcia V. Stucki
Charles Stull
Robb and Stephanie Surns
Richard and Mary Sutton
Robert Swaney and Mary Stephenson-Swaney
Donald and Linda Szeszycki
Roger Taylor
Thomas Thornburg and Claren Schweitzer
Gerald Tilmann
Jim Tobin and Gina Heagney
Tom and Sarah Tollefson
Edith Trent
Beth Troxell
Nick and Nancy Tuit
Roger and Jeanne Turner
Roger and Carole Ulrich
Cheryl Van Engen and Jay Gavin
Mr. and Mrs. Peter E. Van Nice
Jan van Schaik
Carol R. VandenBerg
Tom and Sarah VanderMeulen
Dave and Janice Varney
William and Carol Venema
Lawrence and Susan Vihtelic
Nils Vos
Terry and Marilyn Voss
Michael and Elaine Wallace
Gail Walter and Tom Nehil
Barbara Walters
John and Amy Walters
Mary Ann Wannamaker
Michael and Karen Warner
Warren Washington
Emily S. Watts
Bruce Wechsler
Dr. and Mrs. John and Marianne Wendt
Trevor Wendt
Louise Wepfer and Ed Withey
Earl Werner
Teresa L. West
Western Diversified Plastics, LLC
Wild Ones, Kalamazoo Area Chapter
Dave and Jan Wilder
Wildtype, Ltd.
Frank Wilhelme
Bruce and Jean Williams

HOP! can Help

"It's so true, the Hop program has greatly influenced our lives. We moved here from Ottawa County, where I am from, and just always hiked as a family most weekends from the time the oldest kids were babies. I was sad in this new location for a while because I didn't have many connections and didn't know where the trails were. Then I saw the HOP poster at the pediatrician's office, and we got to it right away! So fun."

— anonymous HOP! participant

Stephen Engberts
Joan and Hub Erickson
Ann S. Evans
Deb Everett
Caitlin Eyvaz
Rebekah L. Fatzinger
John and Carie Faul
Ann and Greg Feldmeier
Connie and Steve Ferguson
Sarah Ferguson
Kate Ferraro
Geum Services, Inc.
Sharon Gill and Maarten Vonhof
Anthony and Grace Gilmore
Alberta Goebel
Michael and Jomie Goerge
Loretta Gold
Charles and Nancy Goodrich
Steven and Diane Goodrich
Mr. Tom Goodwin
Bruce and Leslie Gosling
Christopher and Linda Gosling

Allyson Wentela

2018 Gifts Beyond Membership CONTINUED

Judith R. Willson
Philip Willson
Tim Winslow
Ginny Speeter Wippel
Dan and Joan Woodard
Glenn and Carrie Woodard
Rachel L. Woodard
Mrs. Jeanne M. Woodhams
Foster and Carolyn Woodward
James and Kathleen Woodworth
Diane D. Worden
Susan and Gerald Wray
Pat and Sherry Wykstra
Betty H. Yagi
Ben and Kathryn Zimont

Matching Gifts

Apple, Inc.
Approved Protection Systems
ExxonMobil Matching Gift Programs
IBM Corporation
Lexis Nexis Risk
Microsoft Corporation
Pfizer Foundation Matching Gifts Program

Grants

Amazon Smile
Arcadia Brewing Company
The Arctica and Abbey Foundation
Audubon Society of Kalamazoo
Burdick Thorne Foundation
Charles Stewart Mott Foundation
The Colina Foundation
The Esther and George Jaruga Charitable Foundation
Great Lakes Brewing Company
The HP and Genevieve Connable Fund
ITC Holdings Corporation
Kalamazoo Community Foundation
Land Trust Alliance
The Lawrence and Sylvia Wong Foundation, Inc.
Michigan Department of Environmental Quality - Battle Creek River Watershed Protection
Michigan Department of Environmental Quality - Paw Paw Priority Wetland Riparian Conservation
Michigan Department of Natural Resources SW x SW Corner Cooperative Invasive Species Management Areas/Van Buren Conservation District
Nancy Malcomson Connable Fund
National Fish & Wildlife Foundation Sustain Our Great Lakes - Eastern Lake Michigan Invasives Species Grant
The Nature Conservancy
Sarah Gilkey VanderWeele Children's Fund
Tyden Ventures, LLC
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

In-Kind Donations

Kalman and Becky Csia
Fire protection gear

Ronald L. Johnson
Railing repair and mowing costs at Coon Hollow Preserve

Fred and Sandy Frederick
Work gloves, safety glasses, trash supplies, and first aid supplies for the Earth Day Workday at Bow in the Clouds Preserve

Finch Greenhouse
Plants used in habitat restoration

Double the impact with a matching contribution

Are you an employee of – or retired from – a company with a matching gift program? Include your company form with your gift and we will be happy to follow up. Please call Nicole at 269-324-1600 x307 or email her at nmspeedy@swmlc.org.

Make a difference for nature every month

Set up a sustaining membership that will be automatically billed to your credit card and you will provide Southwest Michigan Land Conservancy with a stable source of support.

You decide how much you want to contribute and how often – monthly, quarterly, semi-annually, annually.

It's easy: set up your account by using this QR code or type in *www.swmlc.org/become-a-member* and click *join now!*

Thank you to these local sponsors who are helping to bring nature to our community.

Would you like to see your business save open space, care for nature, and connect people to the outdoors?
Bring purpose and meaning to your organization or business by joining these generous community supporters.

Call Nicole at 269-324-1600 x307 to find out how.

Amelia Hansen

Donations • February 1, 2019 – May 31, 2019

The following contributions were made by people who share our vision for southwest Michigan in which clean water and wildlife habitat are protected for future generations.

Honor Gifts

In honor of Boettcher-Winslow wedding:
Anonymous
Bryan Blackburn
Matt and Maryvic Brakora-Cuison
Adam Cefai
Philip Dooley
Jenna Gatski Einstein
Richard Ford
Amy E. Keller
Paul and Karen Nickels
Erin Pietrak

Carnegie Community Garden Club
In honor of Nate Fuller's guided hike at Portman Nature Preserve on May 9, 2019.

Lorin Gallivan
In honor of Amy Lehman

Rick (Max R.) and Mary Hoffman
In honor of Nancy and Dave Clark

Suzanne Stimson Leech
In honor of my aunt & uncle Connie & Fred Hubbell – for whom I am grateful!

Michigan Botanical Club, Southwestern Chapter
In honor of Nate Fuller's evening presentation on February 18, 2019.

Robert and Margo Rebar
In honor of Nate Fuller's evening presentation to the Club of Little Gardens, May 23, 2019.

Elaine Ritter Shirk
In honor of the Landscaper's Garden Club
In honor of the Kalamazoo County Master Gardener's Association

Memorials

In memory of Rita Bober
Carol Austin
Larry and Karen Bober
Jim and Jill Copeland
Jonathan Gingerich
Kimberly Ginn
Daniel and Patricia Greene
Robert Mac
John Schmidt and Terri Tomaszek
Lynn and Mike Steil
Barbara Walters
Ms. Jo Ann Zanotti, *"Rita cherished the earth."*

In memory of Kay Caskey
Borgess Run for the Health of It
Marie Bryant
Jane H. Fletcher
Carl and Sycketa Giacobone
Fred and Judie Glick
Charles and Nancy Goodrich
Jim and Sally Gunderson
Patrick M. and Celeste C. Jones
The Kopecky family: Ed, Robin, Amy, Scott, Lena, Will and Jimmy
Jane Kramer
Patricia Pettinga and Bil Willging
Wendy Pierce
Phyllis Rebori
Shelley Schaub
David and Jill Sluyter
Sue and Bill Smilie
Lynn and Mike Steil

In memory of Howard Farris
Andrea M. Allen
R.M. and M.C. Arceo
Mike and Loree Flad
Diane Hammerman

Cheri Branch
In memory of Jack Harrison on his birthday

Pamela Breniser
In memory of Sue A. Fitzgerald

Robin K. Byrn
In memory of Tim C. Murphy

Alberta Goebel
In memory of Mel Goebel

Ms. MaryEllen Hains
In memory of Joseph Szalkowski

Connie and Fred Hubbell
In memory of Scott Norris

Lori , Mike and Luke Moss
In memory of Wendy Dawson, "We miss her and know how passionate she was about your organization."

In-Kind Donations

Jack Haeger
Sear's bench grinder for use in maintaining tools and gear
Jennifer Haywood
Games, books, puzzles, and prizes for the 2019 HOP! program

New Memberships

Spotted Turtle ($100+)
Jan and Bob De Shazo
Mr. Ralph L. Freed
Donald Miller
Joe and Shirley Mitchell

Little Brown Bat ($50+)
Melissa and Craig DeSimone
Kris and Marty Green
Ms. Jenny Miller
Brian Priest
Bruce and Wendy Simrod
Patricia Sulier
Virginia Wells

Gift Memberships

Christopher Dawson Miller, Benjamin Dawson Miller, and Sam Boase Miller
from Don Miller

Grants

Amazon Smile
The Conservation Fund
Great Lakes Brewing Company, Brewing Good program
Mattawan Consolidated Schools
Network for Good

In Memory of Thomas Baker

A lifelong area resident, Tom spent his youth tromping through the wetlands of Portage and Kalamazoo, hunting for duck and pheasant. When his children were young, he liked nothing better than taking his family fishing for bluegill in his battered aluminum boat, or sitting with them on the ice, waiting for their bobbers to disappear. In all but the very worst weather, Tom would drink his morning coffee on the deck, listening to the birds and watching the sun rise.

Donald and Louise Anderson
Anna Daly
Annastasia (Baker) Dayton, Bradley Baker and Austin
Bruce and Yolanda Glidden
Herbert Hames
Michael and Colleen Hames
Gerald and JoAnn Harvey
Lyn and Mary James
Craig and Mary Jbara
Carol Lotz
Mark and Nancy Mitchell
Debbie and Keith Parkett
Julie and Todd Ream
James and Virginia Shaw
The Staff of the Kalamazoo Valley Museum
Judith Van Tilburg

Courtesy of the Baker Family

Southwest Michigan Land Conservancy
8395 East Main St.
Galesburg, MI 49053

FORWARDING SERVICE REQUESTED

Nonprofit
Organization
U.S. Postage PAID
Grand Rapids, MI
Permit No. 1

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dave Coleman
Chair

Thom Coder
Vice-Chair

Mary Houser
Treasurer

Gail Walter
Secretary

Robert Burr

Erwin H. Doerschler

Thomas Georgoff

Bruce Grubb

Jennifer Haywood

W. Jack Keiser

William Main

Michael Nave

Earl Werner

TJ Wilkinson

STAFF

Peter D. Ter Louw
President and Executive Director

C. Miko Dargitz
Development Associate

Amelia Hansen
Communications Specialist

Bruce Howe
Land Protection Specialist

Hilary Hunt
Land Protection Specialist

Mitch Lettow
Stewardship Director

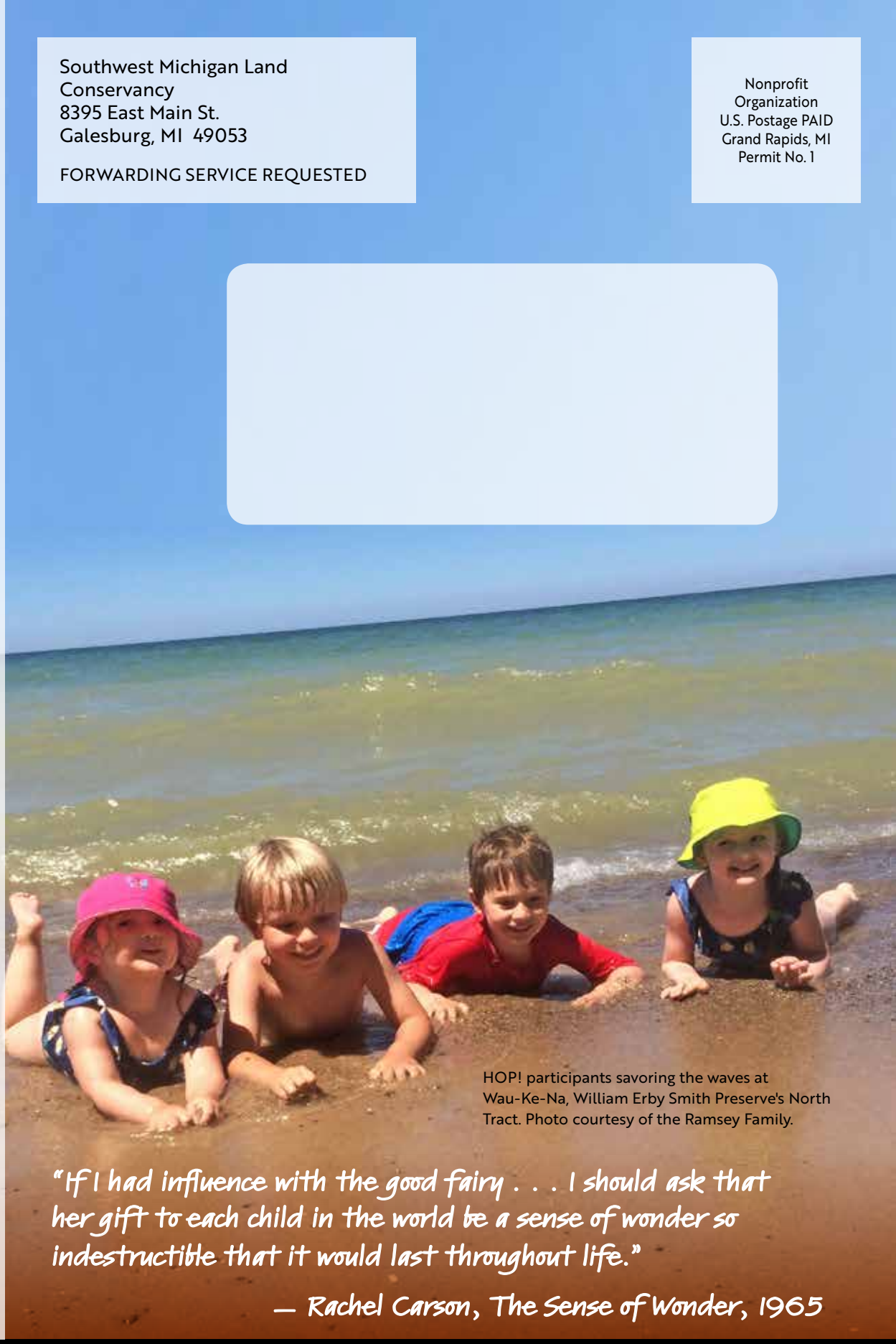
Megan Martin
Stewardship Team

Cindy Mills
Conservation Easement Specialist

Nicole Speedy
Administrative Manager

Allyson Wentela
Stewardship Team

Emily E. Wilke
Conservation Projects Manager



HOP! participants savoring the waves at Wau-Ke-Na, William Erby Smith Preserve's North Tract. Photo courtesy of the Ramsey Family.

"If I had influence with the good fairy . . . I should ask that her gift to each child in the world be a sense of wonder so indestructible that it would last throughout life."

— Rachel Carson, The Sense of Wonder, 1965

Southwest Michigan Land Conservancy is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation. Our mission is to conserve ecologically important and scenic landscapes that give our region its natural character — now and for generations to come.

All programs and services are provided on a nondiscriminatory basis. Federal EIN 38-3038708

SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN LAND CONSERVANCY
8395 East Main St., Galesburg, MI 49053 • www.swmlc.org • 269-324-1600