

# HERON TRACKS



Heron Tracks

The Official Newsletter of the Chippewa Watershed Conservancy

Volume 15, No. 3

## Eighth Butterfly Walk at Sylvan Solace

CWC Executive Director Stan Lilley is an admitted butterfly fanatic. "Butterflies are amazing creatures," he says, "when you consider that some species, such as Monarchs, successfully migrate every fall thousands of miles to their wintering grounds in central Mexico. But the phenomenal ability to migrate aside, just consider the magic of the butterfly life cycle, including four totally different forms, from egg to caterpillar to pupa, to adult. Butterflies have captivated me for many years. And wait 'til you see how unique even the little brown jobs are when you see them up close." With this ringing endorsement, Lilley set off to lead the eighth annual Sylvan Solace butterfly walk on June 14<sup>th</sup>.



Some of this year's butterfly walk participants pose for a picture

Lilley, with the enthusiastic assistance of some of the youngsters, nets butterflies and other insects and places them in a clear collection jar that is passed around for everyone to see the "field marks" and physical structures of the specimens before they are released back to the preserve. Lilley talks animatedly of defense mechanisms such as mimicry and distraction, and searching for target butterfly species by learning about larval host plants. "If you want to see a Viceroy, you can increase your odds by knowing that the Viceroy caterpillar eats willow leaves. If you watch around willow thickets you'll eventually find the butterfly. And if you carefully check the tips of the willow leaves you may find an egg."

By the end of the walk the fourteen participants had observed 16 species of butterflies and seven species of dragonflies and damselflies. "Hey, that's what makes walks like these so interesting – you never know what you're going to see and the dragonflies and damselflies have their own unique colors and characteristics. We enjoy everything we observe," said Lilley.

## Mushroomers Explore Sylvan Solace



A basket shows some of the variety of fungi found at Sylvan Solace.

On August 16, local Mycologist, Sister Marie Kopin, and other members of the Michigan Mushroom Hunters Club (MMHC) conducted a foray at the CWC's Sylvan Solace Preserve. Nine participants identified 27 species of mushrooms. Enough "lobster" mushrooms for several meals were gathered. The MMHC, based in southeast Michigan, is



Two of the foray participants examine part of the find at Sylvan Solace.

affiliated with the North American Mycological Association and conducts a large number of mushroom hunts, or "forays" throughout the state. Sylvan Solace has long been known as a place to search for morel mushrooms in season, but it takes experts like Sister Marie and her colleagues at the MMHC to identify many other kinds of edible fungi. The MMHC forays are a great way to learn about mushroom identification and preparation for consumption. To learn more about the MMHC visit their Web site at <http://www.sph.umich.edu/~kwcee/mmhc/>.

## In this Issue Fall 2008

- Butterfly Walk
- Mushroom Hunt
- Executive Director's Corner
- President's Statement
- Peterson Natural Area Established
- Audubon Property Transferred
- 10th Anniversary for Hamlin Easement
- Director Profile
- Winawa Bioblitz
- Hall's Lake Acquisition Project
- Donor list
- Dow Endowment Update
- New Endowment fund for Mecosta County
- Fall Event: Familiar Places- Art from Our Parks



## Executive Director's Corner



Stan Lilley,  
CWC Executive Director

### Legacy Giving

Would you like to give a lasting gift to the Chippewa Watershed Conservancy but aren't sure how to do it? I read recently that more than 80 percent of Americans contribute to the nonprofit groups of their choice throughout their lifetimes, but according to research conducted in 2000, only about eight percent of people chose to continue this support through a charitable bequest.

What better way to thank the people or organizations that have had an impact on your life, than to make a contribution from your estate through a bequest? After providing for loved ones many people find they have assets left over that they can donate to an important cause, especially one that has touched their lives or the life of a loved one. Bequests may be provided via a will or a trust and may include a specific amount, specific items of physical property, or a percentage portion of your remaining assets.

Legacy giving, or "planned giving," is a way of making a gift by using the assets in your estate. By making bequests and other planned gifts, you can continue to help organizations such as the CWC that are making an important difference in your community. A legacy gift can be made to the CWC at any time during your life or at the time of your death.

Gifts of cash are not the only way to make a lasting contribution. Other types of legacy gifts may include real estate and personal property, publicly held securities or stocks, life insurance proceeds, or assets from a retirement plan. Legacy gifts are special gifts from one generation to another. By donating a portion of your estate to the CWC, you are building a legacy of conservation for you and for your family.

Some people think they do not have an "estate," and that only the wealthy can be benefactors. This simply isn't true. Everyone has an estate, and the better you plan for its eventual use, the greater and more beneficial it can be.

Talk about legacy giving with your family and your financial planner. If you plan to make the CWC a beneficiary of a legacy gift, please let us know. We are fortunate to have already been designated by several of our members and supporters to receive legacy gifts. We are working on a way to acknowledge these gifts in a manner that suits the individual desires of our benefactors.

All gifts large and small are important. Charitable giving is not just for the wealthy!

### Audubon Club Transfers Properties

The planned transfer of properties owned by the Chippewa Valley Audubon Club (CVAC) to the CWC that we reported in the previous issue of *Heron Tracks* occurred on June 19, 2008.

As we reported, the properties consist of two nearby, but unconnected parcels in Deerfield Township, both bordering on the Chippewa River. The first, a 40-acre parcel located at the NW intersection of Wing and Gilmore Roads, is named the Florence Maxwell Audubon Woods Preserve in honor of the first president of the CVAC, and in recognition of its generally being called "Audubon Woods" over the years. CWC Executive Director Stan Lilley said, "Thanks to the foresight of the early members of the CVAC, this property has been protected for the past 44 years and we are very happy to continue that tradition."

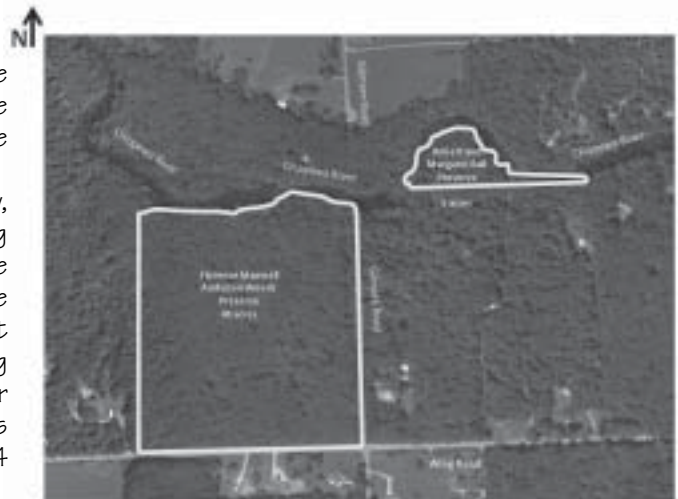
The second parcel, named the Robert and Dorothy Ball Preserve, is a 5-acre tract located about 250 feet upstream that is currently accessible only from the river. This land was sold to the CVAC for one dollar in 1994 by the late Robert Ball and never formally named by the CVAC. "We think Bob Ball, for whom the CWC's Bob Ball Award is named, would be happy to know that his name is memorialized in perpetuity on this piece of land," said Lilley.

We will work in coordination with the CVAC on future trail maintenance and marking plans and we expect to schedule bird walks and other opportunities to visit and enjoy the property.

### Corrections

In the Summer 2008 issue of *Heron Tracks* we neglected to acknowledge the contributions of Mary Ellen Blackburn and Margaret Blackburn to the CWC Land Acquisition Fund in memory of George Blackburn. We sincerely apologize for that oversight.

The closing on the Frank Hyde property reported in the Summer 2008 issue of *Heron Tracks* was conducted by Lori Young, of Mt. Pleasant Abstract & Title Company.





**Join the Fun** Celebrate this fall season by joining us at a very special event. Elsewhere in this newsletter you will read about the upcoming Art in the Park celebration at Deerfield Park. I hope that you will take the time to come out and be part of it. Party with us at Deerfield Park and find that inner child.

Winter's winds will soon be howling. When you're hugging your wood stove, will you remember that afternoon you spent watching another football game? Or will you fondly recall the afternoon you walked in the woods, the golden leaves of Large-toothed Aspen drifting by on the one brief flight of their lives as you walked along the Chippewa River and listened to the call of nature's creatures? Will you relish the memory of (what WAS it I did that weekend?) or the savory warmth of soup and fellowship?

Get out of the house and spend some time with people like yourself. Winter will be here soon enough. Now is our time to drink in the last sweet sip of Autumn. **Don't miss it!**

### Fall Event to Benefit CWC

The Chippewa Watershed Conservancy is excited to be part of a new fall event, *Familiar Places... Art from Our Parks*. Come join the CWC, Isabella County Parks & Recreation, and Art Reach of Mid Michigan at Deerfield Nature Park on Saturday, November 1, 2008 from noon to 4pm for this unique outdoor event. There will be park inspired art displayed, poetry reading, live music, a trail walk, the Creation Station, "Bowl of Soup" and much, much more! Take a swing at art while painting an Ash bat to promote Emerald Ash Borer Awareness throughout Isabella County.

This event supports the Chippewa Watershed Conservancy and promotes the arts and parks in Isabella County. Event fee is \$5.00 for adults and \$2.00 for children 10 and under. Bring friends and family to enjoy the day and support the Chippewa Watershed Conservancy. For more information on the event, contact Isabella County Parks & Recreation 989.772.0911 ext 340 or parks@isabellacounty.org .

### Director Profile – John Mitchell



John Mitchell is the President and one of the three Founders of the Chippewa Watershed Conservancy. By virtue of his 20-plus years of commitment to the organization long before a paid staff existed, John has been involved in every facet of the organization. In his day job he is a Professor of Finance at Central Michigan University, where he has been teaching since 1975. He is the author of over twenty journal articles on financial management, financial markets, derivatives, and assessment of learning.

In addition to his work with the CWC, he has served in a wide variety of positions and groups involving open space, environmental issues and wildlife. He was a member of the Isabella County Parks & Recreation Commission for 9 years, and a Founding Board member of the Michigan Loon Preservation Association and the Michigan Fund for the Environment. He was the long-time Treasurer of the Mackinac Chapter of the Sierra Club and held almost every office in the Wakelin McNeel Group of the Sierra Club. He has served multiple times as an officer in the Chippewa Valley Audubon Club. He helped in many good fights including the protection of more than 90,000 acres of wilderness in Michigan and the acquisition of Isabella County's Meridian County Park.

"The best part of being involved in the CWC," Mitchell says, "is the people I have the privilege of working with. Together we are building something beautiful." In looking back on his two decades of work with the CWC he says, "My only regrets are for the places we could not protect, the ones that slipped

through our fingers. But as with other disappointments in life; dwelling on our losses only makes them larger. Victory lies in focusing on our goals." He states unequivocally, "It is difficult to imagine a life without the CWC, just as it is difficult to imagine a world without the wild places we protect." John lives with his son (Tom) in the woods of Clare County.

(Note: This is the fourth in a series of profiles of the CWC Board of Directors. It is their opportunity to provide background and speak to you about why they are involved. All of our Directors are unpaid volunteers whose work is critical to the success of the CWC).



When the 1,648-acre Hamlin Ranch Conservation Easement was signed in December 1998 it was a banner occasion for the Chippewa Watershed Conservancy. Covering more than two and a half square miles in Clare County's Hatton Township, it was, at that time, the largest single conservation easement in Michigan. Then, landowner Delos F. "Fred" Hamlin noted that, if more easements such as this one were not created, there would be few large tracts of undeveloped and undivided land left 50 or more years into the future.

"I appreciate the opportunity the Conservancy has provided by agreeing to accept and monitor this easement," said Hamlin. "By doing so, they have given me the assurance that the property will be forever protected from activities that could jeopardize the quality of its wildlife habitat."

During a visit in July of this year CWC President John Mitchell and Executive Director Stan Lilley sat down with Hamlin and reminded him of the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the signing of the easement and asked him how he felt about the agreement and his association with the CWC now.

Reflecting back, Hamlin posited, "What else would I have done? I've always wanted to see this land remain natural and be able to demonstrate what effective timber management can do to keep the land healthy. My agreement with the CWC has allowed me to do both."

Later, during a driving tour of the vast property, Hamlin proudly showed off the beneficial results of his stewardship of the land, accomplished in accordance with a professional forestry management plan. Selective thinning over the years has greatly enhanced the habitat value of the land by removal of less desirable trees in favor of a more mature forest and healthy understory. Rotational clear-cutting of small tracts has created areas of regeneration of new fields and deciduous forest that further add to the age diversity of habitat and continue to attract a wide variety of wildlife to the property. Hamlin said, "I've always had a sacred feeling about growing things from seed. One of my greatest pleasures in life is creating a sustainable forest."

John Mitchell said, "Habitat fragmentation is a problem we must continue to combat, especially here in the Lower Peninsula where we continue to see woodlots and contiguous forest nibbled away every year. Fred has done a wonderful job of ensuring that this piece of land will always be available for the benefit of future generations, even as his family continues to enjoy the property as a vacation home site and a hunting camp for family and friends."

Not only was the permanent protection of this tract of land a significant accomplishment, but it was also the CWC's first conservation easement. 21 easements and ten years later we are now protecting nearly 3,200 acres of land in central Michigan, but it all began with the Hamlin Easement.

The Hamlin's true love of the land is apparent whenever one drives north on U.S. Highway 127 and looks west, at the high ground between Hatton and Mannsiding Roads, especially during the vivid fall color displays. The Hamlin's dedication was further cemented by a substantial donation to the CWC Endowment Fund to ensure our capability to monitor it in perpetuity.

"We owe a true debt of gratitude to visionaries like Fred Hamlin," said Lilley. "Thanks to Fred there will always be a large piece of habitat available for wildlife in Clare County, and a watchable landscape available to us all."



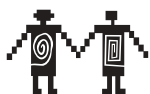
Fred Hamlin relaxes on the patio at the Hamlin Ranch property

## CWC Establishes Endowment Fund in Mecosta County

In order to give our Mecosta County members and supporters a better opportunity to contribute locally to benefit the CWC, we have established a new endowment fund with the Mecosta County Community Foundation (MCCF). Robert Jordan, Director of Philanthropic Services for the Fremont Area Community Foundation (FACF), said, "We know the CWC is gaining a solid reputation for its work in Mecosta County and we are glad that there is now a direct way for local supporters to contribute." The MCCF is a geographic component under the FACF.

CWC Executive Director Stan Lilley said, "We have 181 acres of permanently protected land in Mecosta County and we are currently in discussions with other potential donors. It just seemed like the right time to open up an opportunity for Mecosta County supporters to contribute directly within the county and to take advantage of potential extra tax advantages."

One of the advantages of contributions to Community Foundation-administered funds is that they may qualify for a Michigan State tax credit up to fifty-percent. Check with your tax advisor for more details about the credit and how it may apply to your situation. Checks should be made payable to: MCCF, P.O. Box 1012-C, Big Rapids, Michigan 49307. Indicate on the memo line that you wish to contribute to the Chippewa Watershed Conservancy Endowment Fund. This fund allows tax deductible charitable contributions, preservation of your principal and the knowledge that you are helping us stay in business for the long term.



With the November 8 deadline to complete the \$50,000 Herbert H. and Grace A. Dow Foundation endowment challenge fast approaching we are thrilled to announce that we have met the challenge! We announced in our summer support renewal letter that CWC President John Mitchell made a pledge to match the first \$3,000 of endowment contributions received before the November deadline. The extra boost from John has allowed us to meet the second year challenge nearly two months early. Thank you so much to those who jumped in early to meet John's challenge and thanks to John for his generosity.

Up to now we have put all undesigned contributions received this year into the endowment funds in order to meet the Dow challenge. Now we need to concentrate our efforts on the General Fund. Unless specifically designated for endowment or land acquisition, any additional contributions we receive will be designated for the General Fund.

If you would rather have your contribution go to endowment, please indicate so in the memo line of your check. Contributions to our endowment funds stay there. We use the interest to help to augment our General Fund budget while your principal remains to generate more interest. There are now four endowment funds you can choose. Two are administered on our behalf by the Mount Pleasant Area Community Foundation – the Chippewa Watershed Conservancy Fund or the Bill Brehm/CWC Stewardship Fund. Contributions may be sent c/o the Mt. Pleasant Area Community Foundation, P.O. Box 1283, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48804-1283, to either fund. Or you may contribute directly to the CWC-maintained Endowment Fund by sending your contribution to CWC, P.O. Box 896, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48804-0896. Our newest fund, the Chippewa Watershed Conservancy Endowment Fund, is held by the Mecosta County Community Foundation. This allows our Mecosta County supporters to contribute directly to a fund on our behalf that remains in Mecosta County. Checks should be made payable to: MCF, P.O. Box 1012-C, Big Rapids, Michigan 49307.

### Winawa Preserve Mini-BioBlitz Nets Data



Keith Frame with one of the snakes netted for identification, then released.

On June 28, 2008 we conducted our first mini-BioBlitz at the Winawa Preserve. A BioBlitz is a concerted attempt over a period of time, usually 24 hours, to identify all living organisms in an area. The purpose is both to establish the degree of biodiversity and to bring attention to the area being surveyed. As was the case during the Neyer Preserve mini-BioBlitz, our brief three-hour effort was not comprehensive nor scientific, but we identified 29 species of wildflowers and shrubs, 27 bird species, six tree species, species five grasses and sedges, three butterfly species, two dragonfly and one damselfly species and one snake species.

Given that a substantial portion of the Winawa Preserve includes a vernal pond, we know it harbors at least seven species of frogs in season, although we saw only Green Frogs during the survey. CWC Treasurer Keith Frame has been a volunteer with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Calling Frog Survey for more than ten years. He reports that the Western Chorus Frogs at Winawa Preserve are “deafening” during his spring survey. “Winawa is not one of my survey stations,” said Frame, “but I pass it on my route and I hear more chorus frogs there than anywhere else in my area.”

Conspicuously present during the survey were Eastern Garter Snakes. They were draped over the cattail leaves and thick grasses, enjoying the warm sunlight and the many small frogs foolish enough to get close.

### Peterson Natural Area Established in Mecosta County

The Chippewa Watershed Conservancy has assumed possession of property formerly owned by the late Alyce J. Peterson, near Stanwood. Mecosta County Probate Court Judge LaVail Hull ordered that the 79-acre property be transferred to the CWC, saying, “I find that the CWC is a qualified conservation organization capable of holding the property as a wildlife sanctuary in accordance with the wishes of the decedent.”

Alyce Peterson, a life-long Stanwood area resident, died on August 31, 2007, at the age of 91. She moved to the family farm, located at 180th Avenue and 11 Mile Road, as a child and lived there nearly all of her life. She was a nature lover according to neighbors Rocky and Yvonne Symon. “She loved animals and wanted her property to be permanently set aside for wildlife,” said Rocky Symon.

CWC Executive Director Stan Lilley said, “We are proud to be able to hold this property for the benefit of the people of Mecosta County as a wildlife sanctuary. We hope to eventually open it up for non-motorized access by the public.”

The land, located in Mecosta Township, consists of a mix of habitats, including old fields and grassland that once supported farming, some large maple and beech trees, and a small creek that flows through the property, emptying into the Muskegon River about half a mile to the west. An early survey indicated the presence of deer, turkey, several species of resident birds and butterflies and habitat suitable for supporting seasonal migrants. An encouraging find was a Wood Turtle, currently listed on the Michigan Natural Features Inventory as a Species of Special Concern.

We plan to eliminate some identified hazards before allowing public access. The parcel includes an uninhabitable farm house and several dilapidated outbuildings which contain asbestos. A grant request for funds to remove the asbestos, demolish the remainder of the buildings and restore the area is currently being considered. “We want to do more than just hold the property,” said Lilley. “We feel this project to clean up environmental and safety hazards and prepare it for the public to enjoy as a wildlife sanctuary is a win-win for the people of Mecosta County and the State of Michigan.”

This acquisition brings our total permanently protected acreage in Mecosta County up to 181 acres.



For more than ten years the CWC was in discussion with John and Betty Kabana about a possible conservation easement on their 175-acre property at Hall's Lake in Isabella County's Broomfield Township. Located near the Mecosta County line, Hall's Lake is one of the largest natural lakes in the county with a significant amount of undeveloped shoreline remaining. The Kabana property buffers the entire eastern half of the 68-acre lake. There is a platted subdivision around the western half. Sadly, before they made a decision to put an easement on the land, both John and Betty Kabana passed away. The estate was inherited by their five children. Much of the property might have been sold for development had the CWC not stepped in. Working in concert with one of the children, John A. Kabana, the CWC has just launched an ambitious effort to protect as much of this undeveloped land as possible.

The area includes more than .6 mile of natural lakeshore and 175 acres of adjoining cattail marsh, floodplain forest, bogs and swamps, and higher, mature deciduous tree-covered land. Much of the land contains marketable oak, maple, beech and aspen timber and there is the potential for at least six to eight high-end homesites with lake-frontage. In short, this land is under imminent threat of loss to development and the character of the lake and surrounding land would be forever changed.

This land has great capacity for water quality enhancement as a ground water filtration and recharge area, it supports a variety of resident and migrant wildlife, and its protection from future development would substantially help to maintain the rural and scenic character of this part of Isabella County. In a brief bird survey in June we documented 43 species, including probable nesting Canada Warbler, uncommon in this area.

Preservation of this land in its current natural state would benefit not just the 26 families who own homesites on the western half of the lake, but all of the people of Isabella County for the water quality enhancement, scenic beauty and wildlife habitat values it possesses.



The land will be owned and stewarded by the CWC as a preserve, open to the public for quiet, non-motorized recreation. By holding the land as a preserve the CWC will provide opportunities for the enjoyment of its natural beauty and quiet in an area not presently available to the public.

We are not able to buy all of the property at once. It has an appraised value of \$511,000. We are currently in the process of buying 22 acres on the southern end of the property at a cost of \$65,000, thanks in large part to a major donation by Linda Neely and Peggy and Al Minert. This property will be named the Neely Preserve, in honor of Linda and Peggy's parents, Olga and Harry E. (Gene) Neely and we will host a dedication of the preserve at a later date. This parcel is bordered on the south by historic Old State Road, and portions of the original wooden corduroy road are still visible.

John A. Kabana intends to hold 100 acres of the original parcel until we are able to purchase it from him. Larry and Judy Schaffenaar, who are Hall's Lake residents, have purchased the northern most 41 acres and have agreed to sell it to the CWC in a bargain sale as soon as we are able.

We are confident that we have the majority of the property in "protection-friendly" hands until we are able to buy it. We have a grant request currently under

consideration to help us with the purchase, but it is likely that we will be asking for your financial support in response to a challenge grant to make these purchases. Expect to hear much more about this project. We have an opportunity to make this, our most ambitious undertaking to date, another showcase for private land protection in the vein of the Sylvan Solace Preserve. We are grateful to John Kabana and Larry and Judy Schaffenaar for their faith in our ability to make this project a success.



## Donor List (May 13 – September 10, 2008) Thank You for Your Support!

7

Anonymous	Keith & Mary Frame	Paul Murray
Don & Claudette Bosscawen	Ronald & Julie Frame	Dixie Neier
John & Donna Buckley	Mark Freed & Brooke Harrison	Jack & Cora Neyer
Bob & Betty Clason	Stephen & Teresa Frey	Bill & Wanda Odykirk
Michael & Jean Claus	Dianne L. Haas	Steven D. Pung
Gary Collins	Tim & Nancy Hartshorne	Rosemary Reid
W. Larry Collins	Isabella County Master Gardeners	John Scheide
Bob & Elaine Connell	Raymond & Janet Johnson	Susan Schiller
Dan & Teri Cowie	Joan Bradshaw Kadler	David Shepherd
Harold & Beverly Crawley	Lew & Carol Keim	K. Leann Sherwood
John & Audrey Cumming	Michael Libbee & Kristin M. Sheridan	Paul Snyder
Doris Dale	John & Priscilla Lorand	Donald & Karen Stearns
James & Elizabeth Dealing	Douglas McDonald	Tom & Chris Stewart & Family
Kimber & Judy DeWitt	Daniel & Sharon Milan	Muriel Straight
Norm & Marilyn Dzingle	G. Thomas Mitchell	Summit Petroleum Corporation
Louis & Sue Ecker	Tom & Gisela Moffit	Jean M. Toner
William & Patricia Farley	Alinda Moore	Jack & Sally Weisenburger
Bud & Mary Ann Fisher	Richard & Diana Moreau	Shawn Zimmer
Ed & Nedra Fisher	Mt. Pleasant Water Department	Marilyn Zorn

### Contributions in Memory of Ted Kjolhede

Dean & Dorothy Adams	Donald & Helen Kilbourn	Ronald & Arlene Poel
Donald & Kaye Bouck	Richard & Barbara Kirchner	Frank & Marisue Reihl
Thomas & Lynn Buell	Kathleen Kjolhede	Nancy Rivard
Drs. John & Helen	Herb & Jane Lenon	Janet L. Robinson Living Trust
Casbergue & Hagens	James & Patricia Loser	Daniel & Eleanor Sorrells
Patricia Coen	Allen & Joan MacDonald	Rick Souder
William C. Collins	Jean Mason	Sydney & Mary Walston
Casey & Mary Edell	John Mitchell	Ardith Westie
Julie Freeze	Wayne Newman	Marilyn Wickert
John & Cindy Graham	David & Gwen O'Mara	Dick & Sandy Wood
Ken & Kathy Herman		

### Contributions In Memory of other Special People

Margaret Blackburn in memory of George Blackburn – Endowment Fund  
Margaret & Mary Ellen Blackburn in memory of George Blackburn - Land Acquisition Fund  
Woody Eber in memory of Linnea Eber  
Hans & Dorothy Fetting in memory of George Schneider  
Harry & Virginia Herman in memory of Martin Boger – a pioneer in conservation  
Winifred Sponseller in memory of Alvah & Tressa Smith

### Time Donors - Thank You

**Mike Brockman** for Web site management and production of *Heron Tracks* - **Donna & John Buckley** for trail maintenance at Sylvan Solace - **Doris Dale & Donna Buckley** for work on the butterfly garden - **Dianne Haas** for grant writing advice and assistance - **Pat Lilley** for help with mailings - **Cristina Lucas** for database work - **John Mitchell** for invasive species removal at the Williams-Blackburn Preserve - **Diane & Michael Morey** for stewardship at Sylvan Solace - **Cathy Murray** for invasive species removal at the Neyer Preserve - **Lori Rogers** for grant writing - **Larry & Judy Schaftenaar** for hosting open house to discuss the Hall's Lake project - **Alicia Shantz** for summer intern assistance - **Katrina Stock & Sue Ann Kopmeyer** for work on the new CWC fall event

**We are grateful to all of the volunteers who have so generously given of their time and resources**

Chippewa Watershed Conservancy  
P.O. Box 896  
Mount Pleasant, MI 48804-0896  
(989) 644-5045



Presorted  
Standard  
US Postage Paid  
Mt. Pleasant, MI  
48858  
Permit No. 110

printed on recycled paper

## Volunteer Opportunities

Do you have a helping hand that is itching to help the Conservancy? We can regularly use help with mailing newsletters, conducting membership drives and fund appeals. If you have computer skills and familiarity with MS Word or MS Excel, we are developing new mailing lists that can be compiled from home. Following are several opportunities available now:

- Capital campaign fund appeal
- New membership appeal mailing list development
- Sylvan Solace Butterfly Garden maintenance
- Education and publicity outreach
- Spring Banquet Committee
- Stewardship Committee



Call the office at (989) 644-5045 to volunteer or to get more details on these opportunities.

### 2008 Board of Directors

John Mitchell: President  
Tim Odykirk: Vice-President  
Lori Rogers: Secretary  
Keith Frame: Treasurer, Investments  
Donna Buckley: Sylvan Solace Monitor  
Sue Ann Kopmeyer  
Don Nagler  
Tom Stewart  
Amy Shindorf

### Scientific Board

Nancy Atwood  
John Grossa  
Gilbert Starks  
Richard Moreau  
Doug Valek

### Executive Director

Stan Lilley

### Board of Advisors

Scott Bellinger  
Richard Bolton  
Michael Brockman  
John Buckley  
John Caldwell  
Brian Doughty  
Norm Dzingle  
Jim Hill  
Julie Murphy  
Carrie Paquette-Schalm  
Paul Siers  
Jacob Wilkes

### CWC Land Protection Successes

22 Easements- 2,868 acres  
12 Preserves - 267 acres  
Total - 3,135 acres

<u>County</u>	<u>Acres</u>
Clare	1,966
Gratiot	104
Isabella	413
Mecosta	181
Montcalm	471