

Nature News

Quarterly Newsletter of the Cadillac Area Land Conservancy

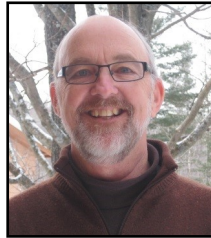


Winter 2020

New Year — New Board Members

Meet Chris Gentry

Chris Gentry brings 40 years of non-profit organizational leadership and management experience to CALC. He currently serves with the Michigan 4-H Foundation as Director of the Kettunen Center.



Chris came to the Cadillac area in 2002 as the first Executive Director of the new Cadillac Area YMCA. After leaving the Y, he served as Executive Director of the Oliver Art Center in Frankfort before assuming the Kettunen Center assignment.

He has served as a volunteer on the Wexford-Missaukee DHS board and is a current member of MSUE District 6 Advisory Council.

Chris is married to Julie who is a retired Physical Therapy Assistant and college adjunct dance faculty member. Julie volunteers with therapy dog Kiaya at Curry House and elementary schools; and coordinates the Joyful Spirit Dancers – a local worship dance group. Chris and Julie have one daughter, a son-in-law and three grandchildren.

Chris has had an interest in land preservation since his Boy Scout days. Through his professional positions he has had responsibilities in land management and preservation including securing a conservation easement on property along the wild and scenic stretch of the Grand River in NW Ohio. Both Julie and Chris enjoy the outdoors and open spaces through camping, hiking, snowshoeing, paddling, and simply walking the dog.

The opportunity to learn and grow while working to secure the special places in our region is what has excited Chris to serve on the CALC board.

Meet Sam Hogg

Sam Hogg is happy to serve on the CALC board starting in 2020. Sam was born and raised in Harrietta and spent his childhood getting lost in the Manistee National Forest.



He is an avid fisherman, paddler, hiker, multi-modal skier and enjoys just about any outdoor activity that isn't loud. He firmly believes that preservation of public and private lands against future development is the single greatest thing we can bestow to future generations.

Sam graduated from Albion College with a BA in Environmental Biology and received his MBA in 2008 from The Eli Broad Graduate School of Management at Michigan State University.

Sam currently leads renewable energy origination and procurement for Wolverine Power Cooperative. He lives in Hoxeyville with his wife, Lauren Rule.

Snowshoe Hike



With or without snow, come enjoy this year's candlelight snowshoe hike at the Oliver Family Preserve on Sat., February 8th. Hikers can meet at the Harrietta Village Hall, 6:00 - 6:30, before starting the hike. Cookies, hot chocolate and fellowship will be your reward after the hike.

Call Patti at (815) 871-8705 for more info. Visit our web page for directions to the preserve. (<http://calc-landtrust.org/public-preserves/>)



Students With a Passion for Bats!

The Cadillac High School Ecology Club spoke about bats and their habitats at our annual meeting. Club President Anesa Liptak told us about the 9 species of bats that call Michigan home. She also spoke on White Nose Syndrome (WNS) and its nation-wide impact on this sensitive species of mammal.

More than 1,300 species of bats make up a quarters of the mammal population on the earth. In an effort to assist the animal with alternative roosting for summer months, the Ecology Club designed two-chambered bat houses and four-chambered bat nurseries which they have installed around the community on city and school property. (and at CALC's Carl T. Johnson Preserve!)



Left to right: Anesa Liptak, CHS Ecology Club President, Steve Cunningham, CALC Chair, Debra-Ann Brabazon, USFS Employee & guest speaker, Will Gullekson, Eagle Scout

We learned that the largest hibernaculum in Michigan is in a cavity behind the Tippy Dam. Although the colony of 23,000 bats has shown the presence of the *geomyces destructans*, a fungal pathogen linked to WNS, the population has not shown any collapse or impact. The Michigan State University lab in Lansing is closely watching this colony and will conduct studies on how the bats are being affected by the deadly bacteria. Bats with the disease symptoms of WNS are found in 33 US states and 7 Canadian provinces.

At the meeting, the club had a nice display of interesting bat facts and the club's community service work building more than 52 bat habitats to support local bat populations.

Debra-Ann Brabazon, the ecology club advisor and USDA Forest Service Liaison to the Cadillac Area Public Schools, talked about the forming of the club for students interested in the environment. "By meeting and working alongside local environmental professionals, students can research and find ways to resolve local environmental issues impacting the community of Cadillac," Brabazon stated.

In an effort to provide students who have a passion and genuine interest in engaging their community, the Forest Service offers these students the chance to become Junior Ranger Volunteers earning valuable community service time while learning about their local ecosystems. From invasive species to litter and pollution, these students are learning firsthand while delving deep into local rivers, forests and preserves. "The Junior Rangers are more than just kids doing volunteer work cleaning up litter and making animal habitats. They are the future of Cadillac. They are the stewards of tomorrow who will grow up and live, work and vote here in the same town they grew up in. They are leaving a legacy for their children and grandchildren by starting to care about their community now," Brabazon reminded us.

Anyone interested in obtaining a copy of the plans for building their own bat habitat for a colony near their home should reach out to the Ecology Club.

Thank You!

The Hansen Family Foundation, one of our most generous benefactors, are providing funds to buy tools for our volunteer workers to use AND a fence to delineate our Waldeck Island Preserve. We certainly appreciate all they do for us!

Surveyor of Choice

A big thank you to Craig Pullen of Gosling Czubak in Traverse City for the survey work he did last summer on one of our preserves. His company gives Craig the time to help our organization. Thanks to them as well!



We've said it before and it is still true—even though we are an all-volunteer organization, we absolutely could not function without your financial support. We thank you for your donations, large and small.

Thank You!

GUARDIAN \$1,000 +

Sam Hogg & Dr. Lauren Rule
Hansen Family Foundation
Richard Hansen
Dr. & Mrs. Lewis Bender

PROTECTOR \$250-\$999

Anonymous
Larry & Margo Copley
Steve & Ria Cunningham
Robert & Rudean Fairman
Ruthann French
Thomas Harris
Denise & Floyd Justus
Steve & Bev Kalisz
Garold H. & Sandra F. Koester
Dave & Kathy McCurdy
Dan Minor
Jim & Shirley Petersen
Ritzema Family Dental
John & Nancy Silander
Cliff Sjogren
Alan & Jolyn Johnson Stockwell

CONSERVATOR \$100-\$249

Anonymous
Bruce Baker
Rod & Mary Bellows
Maria & Dick Bensel
John & Lois Bishop
Sperry & Gertrude Claypool
Dr. Charles & Marge Dumanois
Fred & Sue Goetz
Richard Harvey & Marcia Calkin
Gerald & Becky Herring
Marilyn & John Irvine
Tom & Diane Jobson
David & JoAnne Lawless
Doug & Barb Miller

Bud & Ann Oliver
Edwin & Barbara Patterson
Pat & Leo Paveglio
Mariette Potvin
Patricia Richardson
Cheryl Rock & Jeffrey Dysart
Andy & Marietta Smith
Cynthia Sorensen & Henry Reuter
Shari Spoelman & Gary VanHouten
Kerry Sprigg
Reggie Sprik
Pete & Mary Swaengen
John & Jan Trimmerger
Ron & Ann Vaughan
Glenn & Berniece Verbrugge
Evelyn Westmaas

SUPPORTER \$ 50-\$99

Alan & Pamela Anderson
Anonymous
Sandy Austin
Robert & Julia Borak
Esther Boughner
Beverly Brighton
Sue & Scott Conradson
Charles & Leta Mae Corwin
Bob & Patti Dunning
Robert & Elizabeth Garner
Bill & Wilma Gaylord
Chris & Julie Gentry
Chris Harris
Kathleen Kelso
Frederick & Patricia Lawless
James & Sarah Lawless
David & Judy Peterson
Elaine Smith
John Smith

OTHER CONTRIBUTORS

Anonymous
Jerry & Linda Adams
Arnie & Linda Borish

John & Kimbra Klarquist
Ada Lush
Richard Maatman
Doug Nelson

Cadillac Area Community Foundation Endowment Donors

Cheryl Brooks
Douglas Brown
Fred & Sue Eyer
Thomas Harris
Jack & Kathy Itnyre
Johnson Insurance Agency
Denise & Floyd Justus
Pat & Leo Paveglio
Christine Potter
Gordon & Patricia Roush
Fred & Sharon Sprague
Glenn & Berniece Verbrugge

MEMORIALS FOR TOM CASE

Beverly Brighton
Tom & Bev Rowland
Bob & Elda Soneral

GIVING TUESDAY

Ruth & Ed Bosworth
Chris & Julie Gentry
Annie Hanson
Anita & Jim Hunt
Marci Johnson
Ted & Debbie Lockwood
Marie Sherburne Mercier
Sara & Adam Peterson
Barbara Wolfe Van Laeken
Marty Williams & Amber
Jaworski
Mart & Teresa Williams

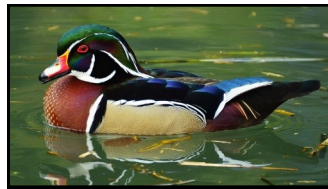
Thanks to Marty Williams for
championing this fund-raising
opportunity. We raised \$310!



For Margo . . .

The Peace of Wild Things by Wendell Berry

When despair for the world grows in me
and I wake in the night at the least sound
in fear of what my life and my children's lives may be,
I go and lie down where the wood drake
rests in his beauty on the water, and the great heron feeds.
I come into the peace of wild things
who do not tax their lives with forethought
of grief. I come into the presence of still water.
And I feel above me the day-blind stars
waiting with their light. For a time
I rest in the grace of the world, and am free.



©Copyright 2012 by Wendell Berry from New Collected Poems. Reprinted with permission of Counterpoint Press. <https://www.counterpointpress.com/contact/>



Outdoor recreation contributes **\$10 billion** annually to Michigan's economy! Michigan's boating industry is the 5th largest in the nation and we rank seventh in recreational vehicle activity. 127,000 jobs are tied to the outdoor recreation industry, 2% of our \$505 billion economy!

~ Bureau of Economic Analysis

Mission Statement

The Cadillac Area Land Conservancy protects ecologically significant, scenic, and farm lands for current and future generations and fosters an appreciation of the natural environment in Missaukee, Osceola, Wexford and northern Lake and Mason Counties.

CADILLAC AREA LAND CONSERVANCY
1244 NORTH MITCHELL STREET
SUITE 115
CADILLAC, MICHIGAN 49601

www.calc-landtrust.org
calc@calc-landtrust.org

(231) 775-3631