

Nature News

Quarterly Newsletter of the Cadillac Area Land Conservancy



Fall 2011



Fall Fun

It was a glorious fall afternoon when CALC members met at Tom Harris's beautiful property for Member's Day.



The afternoon began with the required business meeting and election of officers. Larry Copley will be the new chair; Steve Cunningham will be vice-chair. Other officers remain the same.



Your CALC Board at work.



Ruthann's last official act—cutting the cake celebrating her work as CALC Chair.

High praise was given to out-going Chair Ruthann French who has been an inspirational leader during a period of growth and development. Ruthann encouraged everyone to advocate for land preservation and protection and take an active role in the organization.

Following the meeting, Tom Harris and his daughter Jennifer Sell welcomed the group and outlined the many activities they had prepared: a hay ride through the woods, a visit to the site of an old logging camp with a display of artifacts, walks through several habitats found

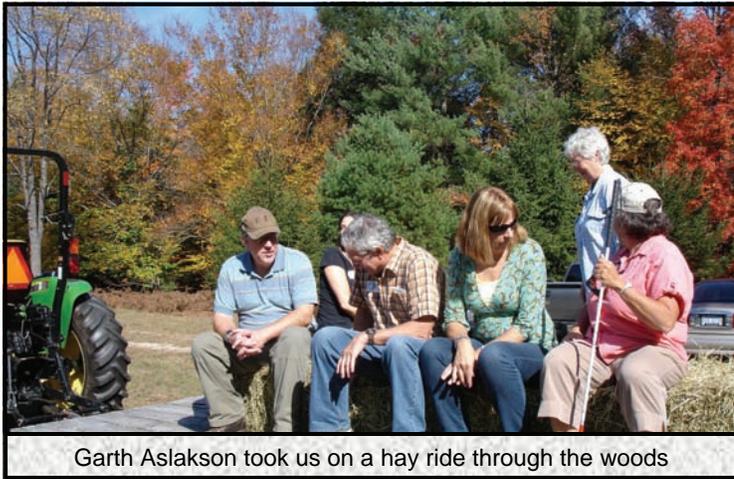
on the property, a tree-identification walk, or just sitting and talking in the warm autumn sunshine.



Our gracious hosts Tom Harris and daughter Jennifer Sell



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Garth Aslakson took us on a hay ride through the woods

Fortified by cake and cider, everyone set out to explore the woods, streambeds, fields, and exhibits.



How many rocks in the jar?



The afternoon's finale was a walk through the woods with forester Paul Drysdale, who gave us insights into the management of Tom's woods and explored some commonly held misconceptions about forest management.



Paul Drysdale explains forest management practices



The first sighting of beech bark scale in Tom's woodlot.





The Friends of the Cadillac Wexford Public Library presents

Wildlife Corridor

by Larry Copley

October 29, 2011, 1:00 p.m.

Cadillac Wexford Public, Library Community Room

As many of you know, the Wildlife Corridor is Cadillac Area Land Conservancy's flagship project. CALC's goal is to save open space for wildlife to travel between large swatches of state and federal forests in our four county area. As black bears travel through open, natural spaces the potential for animal-human conflicts is minimal compared to that of bears traveling through densely populated areas.

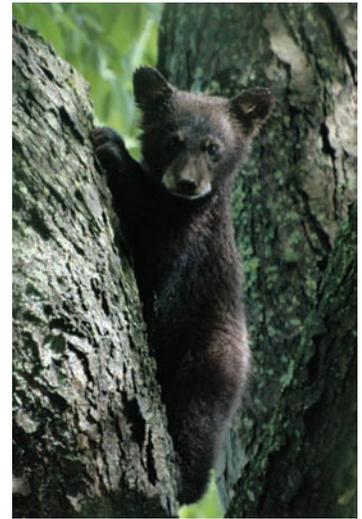


Photo by Jim Higgins

This program shows the results of a bear collar study that proves the Mitchell Swamp is a prime bear nursery. Bears, however, easily travel 30 miles and do not stay confined to the swamp. The connecting corridors they need can be provided with preserved lands in the CALC Wildlife Corridor Plan.

Michigan's natural areas — the rivers, lakes, forests and open spaces — are what make our region so special. Whether you own a home, cottage, business, or simply love the beauty of the area, you know how important our environment is to our quality of life. Finding the healthy balance between development and the need to protect the scenic beauty and wildlife habitat of our area is essential. This is what the Cadillac Area Land Conservancy (CALC) is all about.

*Thanks to the Friends of the Cadillac Wexford Public Library for inviting us to speak.
Visit their website at <http://www.cadillaclibrary.org/friendsofthelibrary.htm>*

*"The 37 million acres that are
Michigan is all the
Michigan we will ever have."*

~ William Milliken



Thanks to the work of Heart of the Lakes land conservancies, more than one-half million acres of Michigan land are now permanently protected, providing habitat for wildlife, rich soils for agricultural production, as well as recreational opportunities for Michigan's citizens and tourists.

October's Party

October gave a party;
The leaves by hundreds came -
The Chestnuts, Oaks, and Maples,
And leaves of every name.
The Sunshine spread a carpet,
And everything was grand,
Miss Weather led the dancing,
Professor Wind the band.

~ George Cooper





Mail Call



In September we mailed membership renewal notices. Your membership donations support our daily operations — the acquisition of easements, public relations, monitoring, and communication.

In November you'll get a reminder if you let your membership notice slip to the bottom of your "To Do" pile. (Thanks to everyone who has already responded!)

In December we send you a request for our endowment fund. This is of particular interest if you take advantage of the Michigan Community Foundation Tax Credit. These gifts go directly to the Cadillac Area Community Foundation. The principal is never spent. Only the interest can be used by CALC to protect easements.

Watch your mailbox — you'll be hearing from us!

CALC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Larry Copley, Chair
- Steve Cunningham, Vice Chair
- Margo Copley, Secretary
- Lindsey Hall, Treasurer
- Richard Harvey
- Steve Kalisz
- Vicki Long
- Mary Newhouse
- Nathan Piwowarski
- Craig Pullen
- David Smith
- George L. Rock, Director Emeritus

OTHER VOLUNTEERS

- Tom Bihlmeyer, Waldeck Island
- Sue Conradson, Clam River Greenway
- John Grix, Endowment Fund
- Denise & Floyd Justus, Waldeck Island
- Vicki Long, Website
- Pat Paveglio, Newsletter
- Fred Sprague, Conservation Easements

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.

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