

Nature News

Quarterly Newsletter of the Cadillac Area Land Conservancy



Spring 2019

Eagle Project Takes Wing

CALC is honored to have Will Gullekson completing the Eagle project portion of his Eagle Scout rank at our Carl T. Johnson Nature Preserve. Will has used his leadership skills to reach out and find the resources he needed to make all of his plans come to fruition. He will complete projects many adults would find daunting.

Will plans an impressive list of additions to the preserve:

- 10 interpretive signs with information about the trail and the preserve
- 14 tree identification signs
- 4 benches for sitting and reflecting



Will is setting a leadership example for fellow scouts. He would like to express his thanks to:

- Troop 125 who chipped in some funds, gave moral support and will provide some of the manual labor needed to complete the project
- S&A Design who donated labor and the vinyl signs
- The Rotary Grant Fund that covered \$375 in materials
- Home Depot for donating \$200 in materials
- Steve Kalisz of Old School Forestry who helped with the interpretive signs
- Eric Zeitz who developed QR codes so the signs can link smartphones to the CALC website
- Dan Valley will help dig holes and pour cement on June 15th when the benches and signs are installed

To bring the project to a conclusion, June 1st will be a marathon workshop day with Troop 125 constructing signs and benches.



Lend a Hand

On June 15th, starting at 9:30 am, the public is invited to the preserve for sign and bench installations. There will be plenty of other projects to do as well. Show up any time in the morning. Your help will be appreciated and you can give Will his well-earned applause.

(Visit our web site for driving directions to the Carl T. Johnson Nature Preserve. <http://calc-landtrust.org/public-preserves>)



CALC Helps a Land-Save



CALC recently worked with the Land Conservancy of West Michigan to put 209 acres of land on Hamlin Lake near Ludington under a conservation easement.

After CALC made initial contact with the property owners, it became apparent that the easement was going to be

complicated and should be handled by a professionally staffed conservancy. CALC then turned to the west Michigan conservancy.

In December 2018, 209 acres were protected in perpetuity when the Silander family completed the conservation agreement—called the Rednalis Conservation Agreement. This property has belonged to the Silander family for over 100 years. The agreement keeps sacred a century of Silander family history, and it ensures the plants and wild-life who also call that land home can do so for generations to come.

More information available on their web site:
<https://naturenearby.org/working-together-to-protect-hamlin-lake/>

NOTE: CALC introduced the family to former CALC Board Member Steve Kalisz of Old School Forestry who developed a Forest Management Plan that will guide future stewardship of the timber on the land.

Former Eagle Scout Still Helping

CALC's legal needs are met thanks to Nathan Piwowski of McCurdy Wotila & Porteous, P.C. Nathan's earliest CALC involvements was his Eagle Scout project making a trail on Waldeck Island, our first nature preserve. He later served on CALC's board and is currently president of the Cadillac Area Community Foundation. He says, "I loved growing up in Cadillac! I want my children—and someday my children's children—to benefit like I did from our outstanding natural resources and vibrant community. The conservancy and foundation help make that possible."



Nathan specializes in Estate Planning, Estate Administration and Elder Law and was recently inducted into the highly-selective American College of Trust and Estate Counsel.



Shout Out

A Shout-Out to Pam at Cadillac Printing for her patience and creativity when she helps us with our newsletters.

Another Shout Out to the Cadillac Area Community Foundation for their professionalism in administering our endowment funds.

“MUST DO” for Every Outdoorsperson

It's no secret that the outdoor industry is an economic powerhouse and time spent in nature, research shows, provides critical health benefits. Advocating for the places that have such an impact on our economy, well-being and hold memories and adventures is a “must do.” What can you do?

Get Kids Outside! Playing outside is critical to kids' health (and to fostering a love of the outdoors). Sadly, not everyone gets outside or feels comfortable there. Affinity for nature forms at a young age. Screen media, urbanizing populations, and busy schedules make it harder to get kids out in mother nature. So grab a kid you know and get outside!





Stick-to-it Recognition 10 gifts given over 10 years

We thank the donors who have stuck with us for the long haul and made us a part of their regular giving. Their donations are our life blood. Through CALC's work they've made a difference in the local landscape which still reflects northern Michigan's beauty.

CALC computerized their donor-giving records 10 years ago. The people listed below have given 10 or more times over the last 10 years. It validates our work and enables us to continue. Thank you!



Image provided by thepacepartners.com

Rod and Mary Bellows
Maria and Dick Bensel
John and Lois Bishop
Robert and Julia Borak
Homer and Esther Boughner
Cheryl Brooks
Sperry and Gertrude Claypool
Larry and Margo Copley
Charles and Leta Mae Corwin
Steve and Ria Cunningham
Robert and Rudean Fairman
Ruthann French
Robert and Elizabeth Garner
Bill and Wilma Gaylord
John and Andrea Grix
Richard Hansen & the Hansen Family Foundation
Thomas Harris
Richard Harvey and Marcia Calkin
David and Joy Hogg
Sam Hogg and Dr. Lauren Rule
Joan (William) Irvine family
Tom and Diane Jobson
Denise and Floyd Justus
Kathleen Kelso

John and Kimbra Klarquist
David and JoAnne Lawless
Frederick and Patricia Lawless
James and Sarah Lawless
Mark McCartney
Dave and Kathy McCurdy
John and Mary Jane McCurdy
Doug and Barb Miller
Bud and Ann Oliver
Edwin and Barbara Patterson
Pat and Leo Paveglio
David and Judy Peterson
Tom and Diane Rensberry
Patricia Richardson
Cheryl Rock and Jeffrey Dysart
Gordon and Patricia Roush
Chris Schumacher
Andy and Marietta Smith
Elaine (Dave) Smith
John Smith
Fred and Sharon Sprague
Kerry Sprigg
Reggie Sprik

Others may have given more and many give when they can. Some skip a year and then double-up to be able to itemize charitable contributions on their tax returns. However you give, you are all vital to CALC. Thank you.

*All of us could take a lesson from the weather.
It obviously pays no attention to criticism.*





Meet Sandy, CALC's Dedicated Bookkeeper

Sandy is CALC's new volunteer bookkeeper. She has a background and a degree in accounting. She has proven herself valuable in preparing financial reports for the board and her accuracy and professionalism have been real assets. If you need a full time accountant, CALC's office manager would highly recommend Sandy.

In Sandy's own words:

I grew up in Northern Michigan and I think I spent more time in the backyard playing than in the house. As an adult, there is a lot less hanging in trees and splashing in mud puddles (although I can't resist a good splash now and then when no one is looking), but I do spend as much time outside as possible. I enjoy hiking in the summer and snow-shoeing in the winter and have come to know some local nature trails pretty well.

I have always loved the area. As an adult, I have seen a lot of woods and fields transform into houses and commercial property. The first thought I always have is what will happen to the wildlife I have seen there? When I first heard of CALC, I was so happy to learn there is something to help preserve our beautiful area. The chance to join a friendly group of volunteers and help preserve the area has been a very positive experience. I love that I have the opportunity to help protect natural areas for humans and wildlife alike.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Larry Copley, *Chair*
Steve Cunningham, *Vice-Chair*
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VOLUNTEER POSITIONS

Sandy, *bookkeeping*
Pete Eliot, *finance*
Richard Harvey, *monitoring*
Bob Hess, *preserves*
Pat Pavaglio, *newsletter*
Eric Zeitz, *website*

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.