

Land

Waukesha County Land Conservancy

Letter

Waukesha County Citizens Protecting Waukesha County's Remaining Natural Areas

Volume 14 No.2

Oct 2006

Hot Chili, Cool Blues



Ron Siepmann, Elizabeth Lau and John Mesching toast the cooks.



Tony Meyer with his grandchildren, Emme and Eli Audley

Entertainment for Hot Chili, Cool Blues was provided by the Jim Liban Blues Band.



Tom Hagner and Jan Schleilein enjoy a bowl of chili.

Waukesha County Park Director, Jim Kavemeier, and his wife Kathy, chat with Chris and Shawna Gloe.



The Hot Chili, Cool Blues family event was held at the Delafield Fish Hatchery on Aug 25, 2006.

NEW MEMBERS:

September 2005 through August 2006

David & Liesl Ackley
 Bee Anderson
 Mr & Mrs Robert Baecke
 David & Eileen Baldus
 Scot & Christa Banholzer
 David & Susan Barnett
 Michael & Amy Bartholomew
 Harry & Pat Berg
 Richard & Jessie Beringer
 Sandy & Gers Bernhard
 Jim & Vicki Bernthal
 Gregory & Pamela Bisbee
 Herbert & Ruth Bly
 John & Maureen Boritzke
 Suzy & John Borland
 David Bostrom
 Sam & Nancy Bradt
 John & Judy Brennan
 Amy Stover & Bill Bruss
 Tom & Judy Calvy
 Scott & Debbie Carpenter
 Tom & Cherrie Catlin
 Marshall Clarke
 Neil & Jan Coakley
 Ted & Stephanie Compton
 Chuck & Gwen Conway
 Judi & Bill Coppinger
 Linda & Raymond Croke
 Bill & Betty Dale
 John & Kathleen De Carlo
 Bruce & Susan Davidson
 Mark & Mary Carol DeGuire
 Derek & Michele Deubel
 Cheryl Devitt
 Cindi & Craig Duchow
 John & Suzy Dyrud
 Mary & John Emory
 Jon & Tekla Fingland
 Gerhard & Lucille Fischer
 Diane Fleming
 Alison & Herman Fletcher Jr
 Joel & Joan Francoeur
 Thomas & Metrodora
 Fredricks
 Peter & Heidi Friend
 Bob & Diane Garbutt
 Sylvia Murn & James Garnes
 Dave & Carla Garnham
 Andy & Jill Gehl
 Faye Gehl Conservation
 Foundation

Kathleen & Daniel Giesen
 Debbie Ziegler & Jim Gluek
 Greg & Barbara Good
 Michael & Kelly Grebe
 Deb Loewen & Dan Grego
 Deonna Haines
 Kim Haines
 John Hardgrove
 Kent & Julie Haeger
 Olaf & Ruth Harken
 Chris & Elizabeth Harned
 Katherine Harrington
 Mehgan Harris
 Bruce Hawkins
 Mugsy & Tim Hinrichs
 Dawn & Bill Hinzey
 Mike & Sharon Hipp
 James & Carol Hoch
 Bruce & Anita Hopkins
 John & Virginia Horning
 James & Karen Hyde
 Tom & Kathy Hyslop
 Mark & Terri Isabell
 Jeff & Holly Juech
 Michael & Deborah Kaerek
 Tanner Kilander
 Cindy Kilkenny
 Tom & Nancy Kissinger
 John & Julie Kita
 Gale & Judith Klappa
 Jack & Nancy Koepf
 Suzanne Knutson
 David Koch
 Karin Kultgen
 Mr & Mrs Shane Lauterbach
 John & Lyn Lieber
 Jean Lindemann
 Scott & Colleen Lowry
 Jay C & Kiara Mack
 Andrea & Dain Mackay
 Wendy Fritz Mader & Victor
 Mader
 Robert & Carol Manegold
 Judith Maret
 Dr Stanley & Diana Markus
 Marsh Hill Ltd
 Frank & Mary Marose
 David & Rebecca Marx
 Mary Jo & Jim Mayer
 Dr Michael & Christine
 McBride

Susan & David McClurg
 Michael & Mary Daniels
 McCormick
 Scott & Diane McCuaig
 Joanne Mennick
 Walter L & Grace M Merten
 Charitable Trust
 Kurt & Amy Mihelich
 Dr & Mrs T Meinerz
 John & Florence Melster
 Doug & Ginny Mills
 Thomas & Lynn Mount
 Dinah & Brian Mueller
 Larry Nelson
 John & JoJo Neumann
 Nancy Norris
 Fred & Judy Oaks
 Jane S O'Connell
 James & Denise Oehmcke
 Arin O'Hair
 Daniel O'Hair
 Judith O'Hair-Reagan
 Carrie O'Malley
 Joan Pabst
 Dr James & Eloise Paloucek
 Harlod & Hollace Paulsen
 David Perrigo
 Joel & Mary Pfeiffer
 Ronald & Barb Poe
 Nancy & Tod Poremski
 Caran & Joel Quadracci
 Will & Laura Quinn
 Gail & Gary Reynolds
 Dean & Katherine Richards
 John & Mary Rickmeier
 Robert & Gayle Ritter
 Gay & Jake Ruby
 Mary Ann Russell
 Tammy Sawyer
 Carl Schultz
 Tina & Ben Schwarz
 Carolyn & Jay Scott
 John & Joyce Seebth
 Fritz & Anne Seidel
 Joe & Michelle Shea
 Lisa & Tom Sheedy
 Jim & Sue Siepmann
 Ross & Judy Skelton
 Carl & Sarah Spencer
 Chad & Barbara Sprinkman
 Terry Ann Stevens

Cindy & Muff Tanriverdi
 Jim Tessmer
 Pat Tews
 William Thomas
 Suzanne Timmer
 Mark E Torinus
 Kim Tornehl
 Kate & Ted Tornehl
 Peter & Susanna Toumanoff
 Steve & Kathleen Traudt
 Mr & Mrs William Van Dyke
 Susan Van Vleet
 Heidi & Dave Vollmar
 Dwyn von Bereghy
 Carrol Waldenberger
 Kevin & Hillary Wanecke
 Meg Watson
 Mark & Debbie Wierman
 John & Karleen Wilde
 Dave and Beth Yenerich
 James & Rosanne Young
 Katherine Zvesper

New Corporate Donors

Alby Materials Inc
 First Weber Group
 Urban Herriges & Sons, Inc
 Robert Loepfe Builders Inc
 North Shore Bank FSB
 Pilates on the Lake LLC
 Weiss, Berzowski Brady LLC

2004

WCLC MEMBERSHIP COUNCIL

2006

Eliza Audley
Elaine Burke
Michele Deubel
Sonja Durkee
Susan Esslinger
Donna Gager
Joan Hardy

Sue Hoagland
Barb Holtz
Mary Ellen Leubke
Lori Longtine
Susan Marguet
Diana Markus
Pamela Meyer

Tizza Meyer
Denise Oehmcke
Julie Gallagher Rolfs
Mary Siepmann
Sallie Siepmann
Evie Woods
Cindy Ziegler-Fritz

We are grateful to our Membership Council. Each has helped at some time during the last two years in gathering new members for the Waukesha County Land Conservancy.

Cut Here

**Please Consider a Membership With The
Waukesha County Land Conservancy**

Name: _____ \$35 Contributor

Address: _____ \$50 Sentinel

City: _____ St: _____ ZIP: _____ \$100 Guardian

E-Mail: _____ \$250 Steward

I am a member. I would like to give a gift membership to: \$500 Conservator

I would like to make a gift in honor or in memory of: \$1,000 Benefactor

Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ ZIP: _____

Match this gift through my employer's Matching Gift

Payment by: Check Visa Master Card

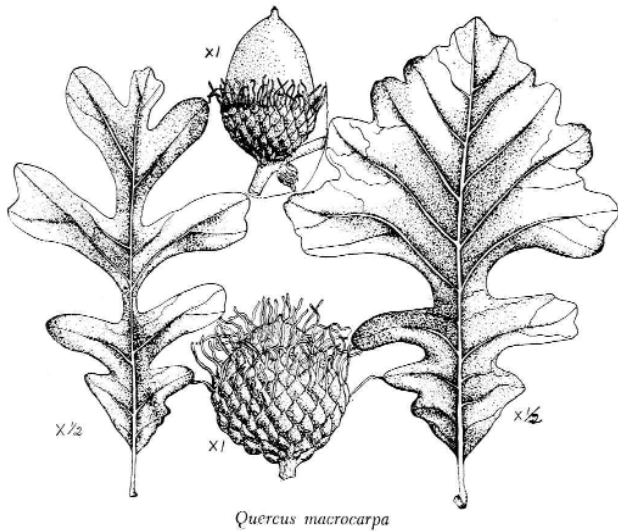
Name on Card: _____

Card Number: _____ Exp Date: _____

Amount: _____ Signature: _____

Please make checks payable to WCLC (Waukesha County Land Conservancy.) WCLC is a non-profit 501(c)(3) charitable organization. Your gift is tax-deductable. All donors, unless directed "anonymous" will be listed in our annual donor recognition report.

Visit a Bur Oak This Fall



Quercus macrocarpa

The Eagle Centre Prairie is a fine place to learn to identify one of our most magnificent trees. Standing like sentinels in the fall prairie, look for bur oaks (*Quercus macrocarpa*) watching over the golden grasses. Commonly living to be 200-300 years old, many of these trees were here when the first European settlers arrived in Wisconsin.

Fire swept through these prairies in the past, both started by lightning and more often by Native Americans who used fire on their hunting grounds. These fires rejuvenated the grassland vegetation and cleared many of the woody plants. However, the bur oak, with its very thick bark, was able to survive prairie fires. Without these periodic fires, most oak openings changed into forests or were cleared for the plow.

Today the Conservancy's land management team, headed by Jason Dare, have worked many hours at the Eagle Centre Prairie. To liberate the bur oaks from plants that did not occur in "oak openings" in pre-settlement times, Jason uses controlled burns as well as hand-cutting, piling and burning these woody invaders, followed by planting seeds of plants native to this plant community.

Any of the large trees at Eagle Centre Prairie are likely to be bur oaks. Look for the thick, ridged bark and the distinctive acorns with their shaggy caps. You may be standing beside a tree whose acorn germinated when buffalo still roamed Waukesha County.

Workday Schedule for Fall 2006

Saturday Sept 30 1:00 - 4:00 PM Ottawa Wildlife Refuge. Plant the prairie. Meet at the the Glacial Drumlin Bike Trail parking lot on Main St in Dousman across from the bike shop.

Saturday Oct 14 1:00 - 4:00 PM Tamarack Swamp Nature Preserve. (Menomonee Falls). Meet at the entrance on the south side of Good Hope Rd and west of Pilgrim Rd. Look for an old log house. Our entrance is just east of the house.

Saturday Nov 4 1:00 - 4:00 PM Nelson's Woods. Meet at the the Glacial Drumlin Bike Trail parking lot on Main St in Dousman across from the bike shop.

Sunday Dec 3 1:00 - 4:00 PM Lakewood Farms Preserve. Meet at the gas station at the intersection of Road E and CTH LO.

Questions contact: Marlin Johnson 262 965-2227 or Jason Dare 262 391-0159
or E-Mail Jason at jason_dare@hotmail.com

Ellen Gennrich Receives Garden Club of America Award

On September 18, 2006, Ellen Gennrich, President of Waukesha County Land Conservancy, received the Certificate of Acknowledgement Award from the Midwest Chapter of the Garden Club of America at their annual meeting in Oconomowoc. She was granted the award for her "significant contribution to conservation", namely for her leadership efforts in preserving environmentally significant lands in Waukesha County.

Ellen was one of the founders of the Waukesha County Land Conservancy in 1992. During the last 14 years, the Conservancy has obtained 1266 acres of land in 22 separate parcels around the county. Conservation easements protect another 410 acres in 14 sites. As of September 1, 2006, the total assets were worth \$5,550,404 and liabilities were \$0. Membership is over 600 households. The 12-member Board of Directors and 15-person work crew are all volunteers. There is one full-time employee (Land Manager) who hires (and trains) three to five college students during the summer.

Accomplishments such as these only come about through strong leadership. Board members all agree that the Organization would not be where it is without Ellen. Her unrelenting enthusiasm for the organization and its mission, have made us one of the most successful land trusts in the state. We have become a model for others to emulate. Ellen is our rallying post.... her energy is contagious. We all do a better job because of her.

Besides running the Board meetings, Ellen is an active participant in the fundraising, membership and stewardship committees. She writes successful grants (thus far, we have never been denied a grant request). She makes endless phone calls and writes endless letters to donors and potential donors, politicians, state and local officials, attorneys and developers. She puts out a newsletter -- writes articles and edits others, and does the typing, lay-out and mailings. She is also our unofficial photographer and uses her photos in the newsletter and for

press releases. She gives promotional programs to garden clubs, civic organizations and government bodies.

She will do almost anything to win over a reluctant landowner. For three years she negotiated with an 84-year-old gentleman including baking black walnut cookies for him. He said the cookies were good, but not as good as his mother's. (He did finally agree to sell his land to us.) She does all this for free!

One aspect of her position she enjoys the most is walking on our land. She braves thick brush, mosquitoes, wet feet and sweat just so she can see the wildflowers and the birds we are protecting. Nature is her garden. This is what motivates her. Working with the Waukesha County Land Conservancy is the center of her life and will be one of her greatest life accomplishments. She truly is deserving of the recognition this award provides.

(These words were extracted from a letter of recommendation written by Professor Marlin Johnson, a Board member of the Waukesha County Land Conservancy.)



Wish List for Land Management

1. ATV

An All Terrain Vehicle could more efficiently take equipment to areas where we are spraying herbicide, doing prescribed burning, mowing, planting and seeding.

2. Trailer.

A trailer is needed to haul equipment and ATV to our properties.

3. Chain saw

4. Brush cutter

5. Boundary marking.

We need someone to offer their services to survey our boundaries, or we need the donation of survey equipment.

Land Letter



Waukesha County Land Conservancy
P. O. Box 2572
Brookfield WI 53008

Non-Profit Org.
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Permit No. 133
Mukwonago WI
53149



Fall's golden Tamaracks glow on an island in the Wilson Wood Duck Sanctuary.

Board of Directors

Ellen Gennrich, Pres	<i>Land Conservation Advocate</i>
Marlin Johnson, VP	<i>Manager, UWW Field Station</i>
Steven Schmuki, Treas.	<i>Attorney</i>
Riene Wells, Sec	<i>Owner: Eagle Centre House</i>
Phil Crump	<i>Community Volunteer</i>
Christopher Gloe	<i>VP & Trust Counsel; Marshall & Ilsley Trust Co.</i>
Phillip J. Hinmann	<i>VP Financial Analysis: Fiserv, Inc.</i>
Janet M. McKenna	<i>Community Volunteer</i>
Donna Meyer	<i>Community Volunteer</i>
Neal O'Reilly	<i>VP Water Resources Hey & Associates, Inc.</i>
Ron Siepmann	<i>Board Chairman Siepmann Realty Corp.</i>
Cindy Ziegler-Fritz	<i>Community Volunteer</i>