

ISLAND

Lake Erie Islands
Conservancy
Presents



GREEN SCENE

Lake Erie Islands Conservancy Quarterly Newsletter

Winter 2017

New Efforts to Save Cooper's Woods!

The efforts to preserve Cooper's Woods as a natural area is not going very well!

The DeRivera Park Trustees – the private trust that owns Cooper's Woods - was presented with a proposal to purchase the woods for \$2,025,000.00. The offer was turned down.

The DeRivera Park Trust wishes to build a dormitory/office/maintenance building on two acres of the property. With over two million dollars, a pretty nice building could be constructed in a number of other areas.

Some members of the Trust have said that they want to hold the property to see what future generations want to do with the wooded area—clear cut the majestic trees, construct a baseball field where trilliums grow, build a dormitory/

(Continued on page 12)

Our Mission:

To encourage conservation and Protection of Natural and Agricultural Lands in the Lake Erie Islands for the Benefit of Future Generations.



FUTURE GENERATIONS

Speaking of Future Generations....
Two adorable girls out enjoying the Preserve trails with their mom in October. We hope they enjoyed the day and come back soon!



Photos: Above—Concerned Put-in-Bay residents attending the Friends of Cooper's Woods meeting
Below—A drawing from one of the members of our Future Generations, Erin Urge, showing concern as well

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Welcome to Our Three New Board Members!



Ken Farber graduated from the Ohio State University in 1975 and operates Farber Specialty Products. He and his wife Jennifer

split their time between Granville, Ohio and their island home. Their children have been involved in Nature Camp and volunteering at our preserves. Ken worked closely with Richard Gump on the Massie Cliffside Preserve and is always assisting with our trails and preserves. Welcome to the Conservancy board Ken!!



Welcome Linda Shull to our Conservancy board! Linda's hometown is Bowling Green, Ohio and she was part of a farm family

growing up and learned to appreciate nature. Linda graduated from Flower Hospital School of Nursing in 1977 and retired after 40 years of practice this year. She is married to Joe Shull and resides on South Bass Island for the summer months and the cold months in Estero, FL. They have four children and 9 grandchildren with number 10 arriving in

Feb 2018! She received her bachelors degree from the University of Findlay in 2003 in Health and Human Resources. "I am looking forward to serving on this board and making a difference in our community and area!" she says. Linda you already have!



Welcome Paula Ziebarth to LEIC! Like the Eastern Bluebird, Paula Ziebarth is native to Ohio. She grew up on the west side of Cleveland

and settled in central Ohio after graduating from Ohio State University with a degree in Civil Engineering. She began monitoring Bluebird Trails in 2002. Paula is the Delaware County area contact for the Ohio Bluebird Society (OBS). She is also Coordinator of the Delaware County Chapter of Cornell Lab of Ornithology's NestWatch. Last year Paula monitored over 400 nest sites in Delaware and Ottawa Counties. Birds she has worked with include Eastern Bluebirds, Tree Swallows, Tufted Titmice, Carolina Chickadees, Carolina Wrens, House Wrens and Purple Martins. Aka: Madame Wingnut....with a great sense of humor!

LEIC Gift Idea!



in three different colors at the annual Christmas Bazaar on November 30. These hats have the LEIC logo embroidered on the front. They are available in olive (off-white stitching), stone (green stitching), and charcoal (with blue stitching). The ball caps can also be purchased by contacting Lisa Brohl at 419-366-2087 or leiconservancy@gmail.com if you need one for that special outdoor lover in your family! See the photos here for the design by PIB T-shirt Co. Price \$22 for a locally Made in the USA LEIC cap!

The Lake Erie Islands Conservancy will be offering ball caps with their logo on them

Swift Tower Donation by Lisa Brohl

Conservancy member Karen Jennings has donated the funds to see that we have a chimney swift tower and educational signage at either one of our preserves or suitable island habitat. Chimney swifts have been on the decline as we no longer have large hollow trees or large chimneys that they have adapted to nesting and roosting in. This photo is an example of a chimney swift tower that we will construct with these funds. There is at least one site on the island that held over 260 chimney swifts during the migration in late summer/early fall and many island chimneys hold swift nests. This is a great project-THANK YOU Karen!! Check out www.chimneyswift.org for more information on conservation efforts.



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Reel Bar Thanks!



Photos: L—Angela and Andy Christianson ready to donate the check!; R—John Ladd accepting the check from Andy!

Thanks Andy and Angela Christianson and the Reel Bar for the donation to our Conservancy from their 2017 barstool challenge!!! We are grateful to be included as one of the charities to benefit from the annual event. Shown here is LEIC board member and frequent Reel Bar patron John Ladd accepting the check! Thanks again everyone!



*Become an LEIC
Member for just \$25
for an entire year!
Please see page 15
for details.*

BSC visits MBIEPP



Melanie Coulter of the Black Swamp Conservancy and husband Michael Weintraub visited the Middle Bass East Point Preserve in October to monitor the conservation easement placed on the preserve to ensure it stays undeveloped. A beautiful day with an immature peregrine falcon visiting the preserve. Lisa and Russ Brohl and trail monitor Tedi Pertner were able to meet Melanie.

LEIC and PIBTPD Wish List

Winter is coming and does slow things down a bit, but that doesn't mean we won't need your help! Let us know if you can help us out with any of these items at leiconservancy@gmail.com or 419-366-2087. Or you may have skills you wish to contribute—please call!

- Copying Paper, Ink for Printers (Brother LC 61, HP970XL)
- Bottled Water, Garbage Bags, Work Gloves for volunteer events
- Part-Time Employee funding
- Architect or Engineer for Petersen Woods Boardwalk project drawings, donations for helical supports for boardwalk.
- Assistance with trail layout, construction, parking, mulching and signage with the Middle Bass Island Forested Wetland Area (Burgundy Bay and former Schneider tract)
- Interpretive Signs for the Dodge Woods, Middle Bass (\$200 each-can add donors name)
- Website and Social Media Assistance
- Laptop, Word, Adobe programs, filing cabinets for new office
- Volunteers ALWAYS NEEDED to spread mulch on trails and pick up litter-Massie Cliffside Preserve, Scheeff East Point Preserve, Dodge Woods, Jane Coates Trail
- Larger Office Space
- Assistance sorting, filing, organizing office

Support LEIC through Amazon Smile!



The Lake Erie Islands Conservancy website sports a new ad for the Amazon Smile website. Shopping here will send donations to the LEIC account. Click the box below to go directly to the Amazon Smile website!

The Put-in-Bay
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Lake Erie Islands Conservancy



Historic Weekend Help from the Boy Scouts

By Lisa Brohl

Boy Scout Troops # 488, 307, and 198 with leaders Chris Fanz, Ray Cooper, and Kent Purns and twenty-five scouts mulched the trail at the Massie Cliffside Preserve along with volunteers Bill Cherry and Ken Farber and PEVI Ranger Don Tkasz on Historic Weekend, September 2017. They got the trail done from the mulch pile almost all the way back to the road! And we are pretty sure they were having a lot of fun too!



The Lake Erie Islands Conservancy held their annual meeting at Heineman Winery

By Lisa Brohl

The Lake Erie Islands Conservancy held their annual meeting at Heineman’s Winery on Sunday, September 17, 2017 at 1:00 pm. Russ Brohl grilled burgers and brats for the group-everyone brought something to share. It was a beautiful day with temperatures in the 80’s. The warm fall day made for a great get together. Board members Marsha Collett, Susan Byrnes, Kristin Stanford, Peggy Leopold, and Lisa Brohl were all elected for another two year term. Bob Russell and Julene Market were placed on the advisory board and thanked for their time on the Conservancy board. Welcome to new board members Paula Ziebarth, Ken Farber, and Linda Shull! Thanks to Heineman’s for hosting and the beverages!

The following came out to enjoy the day-Russ and Lisa Brohl, Marty and Kelly Faris, Susan Byrnes, John and Peggy Leopold, Marsha Collett, Roger Parker, Marsha Parker, Dustin Heineman, Paula and John Ladd, Ricki and Ed Herdendorf, Amy and Peter Huston, John and Louise Titchener, Jeanette and Tim Luecke, Jim and Betsy Brohl, Paula Ziebarth, Bridget Wise, John Dodge, Laureen Mooney, Mike and Jean Gora, Stacy and Allen Link. Thanks to the Goat, John Ladd, and Marsha Collett for burgers and brats!



Photo: Snowy Owl makes a visit to Put-in-Bay! Photo by Donna Steinbach



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Some of the Wonderful Birds Banded in 2017



Photos of banded birds top to bottom: Male Ruby-Crowned Kinglet; Hermit Thrush; Blackpoll Warbler; Common Yellowthroat; Carolina Wren

Giving Tuesday 2017 to be held on November 28

Giving Tuesday is a global day dedicated to giving. Following Black Friday and Cyber Monday, [#GivingTuesday™](#) is a time when charities, families, businesses, community centers and students around the world come together for one common purpose: to celebrate generosity and to give. In 2017, [#GivingTuesday™](#) will be held on November 28.

The movement encourages nonprofit organizations to harness the power of social media to create awareness of their missions and to raise funds. To learn more about the national movement, visit www.givingtuesday.org

Here in Northwest Ohio, the Lake Erie Islands Conservancy has registered with the Toledo Community Foundation to receive up to \$500 in matching grants for any

donation received on that day. The last two years, we received \$500 from them to match what our donors sent in on that day!!! Please consider making a donation on November 28 to support our Conservancy's work on the islands.

There are several ways to donate—you can contribute through our PayPal or credit card link on our web site at www.lakeerieislandsconservancy.org or visit us in person that day with a check or cash—can be dropped off in one of our island preserves donation boxes.

We have also registered with the My Giving Story-Giving Tuesday Share my Story program: <https://goo.gl/3WJMbt> Check out his link and vote for our Conservancy daily to win a \$10,000 in prizes at the end and be eligible for weekly \$500 drawings.

#GIVINGTUESDAY™ NWO



Michigan Radio Visits

By Lisa Brohl

Rebecca Williams of Michigan Radio visited with Lisa and Russ Brohl at the Scheeff East Point and Massie Cliffside Preserve on October 27th. Listen for upcoming broadcasts about island land preservation and the recent Great Lakes Island Coalition meeting held at Beaver Island. www.michiganradio.org. She also spent time with Peter Huston at the Put-in-Bay Chamber of Commerce and Steve Poe at the Put-in-Bay School with the school children commuting to Middle Bass.

Photos: Above Left—Russ Brohl explaining to Rebecca Williams of Michigan Radio about island life on her visit to Massie Cliffside Preserve; Below Right—Rebecca Williams standing by the sign after her visit to Scheeff East Point Nature Preserve.



Become an LEIC Member for just \$25 for an entire year! Please see page 15 for details.



Tree City USA Award 2017



Photo: As you can see in this photo from the Arbor Day Celebration this Spring, Put-in-Bay residents are very proud of their designation as a TREE CITY USA! Congratulations for 2017!

Press Release: The Village of Put-in-Bay was recognized as a Tree City USA at the Northwest Ohio award ceremony. This is the eighth time Put-in-Bay has been honored with this nationally recognized award.

The awards were presented to the Tree City USA communities by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry.

The title of Tree City USA was bestowed on the Village of Put-in-Bay for its ongoing efforts to maintain and improve the quality of life through a tree management program.

The Village of Put-in-Bay Tree Commission works with Stephanie Miller, Regional Urban Forester, of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. The Urban Forester recommends a community to the Arbor Day Foundation for this standing. In order to achieve the title and the honor, a community must meet four standards: A Tree Ordinance, an active Tree Commission, a comprehensive urban forestry program supported by a minimum of two dollars per capita, and an annual Arbor Day proclamation and public observance.

Ohio boasts the greatest number of Tree Cities in the country with a total of 243. The Village of Put-in-Bay is the smallest community to participate in this program.

Stephanie Miller, Regional Urban Forester, stated, "Ohio is so fortunate to have such amazing communities and dedicated citizens. It's an honor to review Northwest Ohio's Tree City USA applications. Keep up the wonderful work."

Members of the Village Tree Commission are Lisa Brohl, Kelly Faris, and Kendra Koehler. Each member is appointed for a three year term by the Council of the Village of Put-in-Bay and serves without compensation.

Overwintering Insects *By Carmen Trisler*

You have probably noticed outdoor insects trying to get indoors in the past few weeks. Box Elder Bugs and Stink Bugs (true Bugs) are two that try to come indoors for winter. They congregate in great numbers, especially on south and west vertical surfaces such as outdoor house walls, to gather as much warmth as they can from the sun. Once on the house, they look for cracks and crevices to get into the warm wall. Some Bugs (Order Hemiptera) can distinguish between one degree in temperature, so once they get into a crevice in the wall, they continue to seek warmth working their way into your warm home. They eat plants and do not sting or bite, so are harmless except for the nuisance factor. When removing them, do not crush them on the wall or fabric, as they can leave a stain and exude a foul smell.

Other insects seeking warmth in your home to overwinter in large numbers are Asian Ladybugs (Ladybird Beetles) and Cluster Flies. The Asian Ladybird Beetles are the light orange beetles that are larger and lighter colored than the native American Ladybugs. They also congregate in large numbers outdoors, working their way inside through overlapping weatherboards and tiny gaps in window trim.

Cluster Flies look like common House Flies, but are a little larger. You can often hear them buzzing from the attic as they congregate on the inside of windows on warm fall and winter days. Like the Box Elder Bugs, Stink Bugs, and Asian Ladybugs, they are harmless and do not contaminate your food. None of these overwintering insects breed once they get into your house. Like us, they are just trying to stay warm while they wait for spring.



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Fall Banding 2017

September 25-October 5 — East Point Preserve, Put-in-Bay Park District

The fall of 2017 was the ninth year of a fall bandout at the East Point Preserve on Middle Bass Island in Lake Erie. As seems to be the tradition, winds were a problem. Most days winds were out of the south or south west and rain was a problem for only part of one day. In spite of that, we managed our second highest number and diversity of banded birds. We banded 142 individuals of 43 species over a period of 9 days. In the fall of 2013 we banded 213 individuals of 37 species in only 4 days. We did have our highest number of recaptured birds (28) this year. Most were birds banded earlier in the week but several were from years past. Fall banding on the Lake Island Islands is a very hit or miss effort as we are very limited by weather. But our research is showing that these islands (Kelleys, Middle Bass, and South Bass) are clearly important as resting and refueling sites for migratory birds. This fall we added two new

species to the Middle Bass Island list of banded birds: Bay-breasted Warbler and House Sparrow. In addition we added two more species to the fall bandout list.

Special thanks to all the volunteers who helped setup, monitor, scribe, extract, and takedown. I would like to thank Paula Bartlett, Russ and Lisa Brohl, John and Peg Leopold, Teddi Pertner, Shane Roberts, and Nancy Welter. We had 116 visitors to the station this fall and many were first timers. I would especially like to thank the Lake Island Islands Conservancy and the Lake Erie Islands Nature and Wildlife Center for their financial and in kind support, Miller Boat Line for passenger fare, and the Put-in-Bay Township Park District for access. And Nancy Welter and Teddi Pertner for great food, lodging, and hospitality.



Photos: Top to Bottom—Shane, Tom, and Tedi at the banding station; Yellow-rumped warbler myrtle race; Jane and Bill Ibold assist Tom with the nets; Eastern Screech Owl banded at East Point

- 1 Yellow-billed Cuckoo
- 1 Ruby-throated Hummingbird
- 3 Eastern Screech-Owl
- 3 Downy Woodpecker
- 1 Eastern Wood-Pewee
- 2 Yellow-bellied Flycatcher
- 1 Philadelphia Vireo
- 5 Red-eyed Vireo
- 1 Blue Jay
- 3 Black-capped Chickadee
- 2 White-breasted Nuthatch
- 2 House Wren
- 6 Winter Wren
- 1 Carolina Wren
- 2 Golden-crowned Kinglet
- 1 Ruby-crowned Kinglet
- 16 Gray-cheeked Thrush
- 15 Swainson's Thrush
- 3 Hermit Thrush
- 1 Wood Thrush
- 1 American Robin
- 1 Gray Catbird

43 species

- 4 House Sparrow**
- 5 Ovenbird
- 4 Nashville Warbler
- 4 Common Yellowthroat
- 3 American Redstart
- 1 Cape May Warbler
- 1 Magnolia Warbler
- 6 Bay-breasted Warbler
- 12 Blackpoll Warbler
- 7 Black-throated Blue Warbler
- 1 Palm Warbler (Western)
- 3 Yellow-rumped Warbler (Myrtle)
- 1 Black-throated Green Warbler
- 1 Wilson's Warbler
- 1 Song Sparrow
- 1 Lincoln's Sparrow
- 3 Swamp Sparrow
- 7 White-throated Sparrow
- 2 Dark-eyed Junco (Slate-colored)
- 1 Northern Cardinal
- 1 Indigo Bunting

142 individuals

Bold = new for the Middle Bass Island banded list

There were 28 recaptures of 19 individuals during the week; 1 banded 2010, 2 banded 2014, 1 banded 2016 and the others earlier in 2017. The Black-capped Chickadee was banded September 30, 2010 as a young bird so it is seven years old. There was one escaped bird (Blackpoll Warbler) and no casualties during the week.

H. Thomas Bartlett, Research Associate
Cleveland Museum of Natural History
Department of Ornithology
1833 South Winfield Drive
Tiffin, Ohio 44883

Federal Permit #21624
hthomas.bartlett@gmail.com



Photos: Top to Bottom—Black-capped Chickadee; Eastern Screech Owl banded at East Point; Bird Banding Recorder Nancy Welter; Ian, Ashley, Genevieve, Roman and Susan Sapecki come out to view the birds

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Scheeff East Point Preserve Entrance Clean-up



Photos: Conservancy board member Ken Farber has been busy making the entrance to the Scheeff East Point Preserve more inviting to visitors to the island. Here is a before and after photo of Ken's hard work.



More Great Publicity *By Lisa Brohl*

The Lake Erie Islands Water Trail committee is working on a State of Ohio Designation with a meeting of stakeholders at the Put-in-Bay Town Hall this fall. Lisa Brohl attended a special meeting in Columbus on August 23 in Columbus to meet new members of the Ohio Division of Wildlife team and discuss LEIC involvement—watching the eclipse that with Wildlife employees from the parking area in Columbus.

She also attended the Ohio Division of Wildlife Diversity meeting on Sept 6-7 at Lakeside, Ohio with a special field trip to the new wetland at the Howard Farms in northwest Ohio. It is a great opportunity to meet with our conservationists and wildlife staff.



The new Wildlife Legacy stamp was chosen that day—a beautiful photo of an eastern garter snake by Ryan Wagner. It will grace the new 2018 stamps that will be available for sale starting March 1, 2018

[The 2018 Ohio Wildlife Legacy Stamp](#) with the garter snake will be for sale beginning March 1, 2018. Fourteen dollars of every \$15 Ohio Wildlife Legacy Stamp sold are invested in the state's Wildlife Diversity Fund. This fund supports habitat restoration, wildlife and habitat research projects, creation of wildlife educational materials, and efforts that restore and conserve endangered and threatened species. No state tax dollars are contributed to this fund.

Lisa also had a radio interview with Darcy Egan with WCPN and WPIB in September on the work of LEIC and PIBTPD events and programs.

Susan Byrnes updated the LEIC brochures to include large maps of island preserves.

Winter Bird Seed Sale Thanks *By Lisa Brohl*

It is that time of year again to fill your feeders for our feathered friends! Thanks to all who ordered bird seed this year to make our sale a success. We especially wish to thank Titgemeier's Feed and Garden Store in Toledo for working with us, Marv Booker for the use of his suburban and trailer, Miller Boat Line for getting the vehicle

over and back, Russ Brohl for picking up the seed, Rudy Rence for delivery help, and to Heineman's Winery for allowing us to store the seed in their building while we distributed. We really appreciate everyone's support—and so will the birds this winter!



Photos: L to R—Titgemeier's Feed and Garden Store Co-owners Kip Nickerson and Nick Stambaugh; Loading the birdseed on Russ' truck; Getting ready for delivery

Conservation Fund Aerial Photography



Photos: Photographer Ivan LaBianca visited Middle Bass Island in October to film forested wetlands being purchased with grant funds from the Conservation Fund by our Put-in-Bay Township Park District. Del Taylor met Ivan on his visit to help him get around and set up his drone for some great aerial photos of the woods when fall colors were just beginning to pop. We thank Ivan and the Conservation Fund for these lovely images and their support of our preservation projects!



A Busy Day on the Island *By Lisa Brohl*



Matthew Luecke, Josh Bittner, and Jeff Miller work with Richard Gump to clear up a lot donated to the Put-in-Bay Township Park District! Thanks also for the assistance of Anthony at Lake Disposal!

Looking good!
Now if we can get rid of invasive amur honeysuckle and periwinkle will be perfect!

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Great Lakes Island Summit on Beaver Island *By Lisa Brohl*

On September 24-26, Lisa and Russ Brohl, Peter and Amy Huston, Kristin Stanford, Steve Poe from South Bass Island, Mike and Jean Gora from Middle Bass Island, and AnneMarie Fortner and Shelly Seguin from Pelee Island attended the Great Lakes Island Summit on Beaver Island. Islanders including local government officials, business owners, school administrators, and local leaders traveled to the summit from three states and the Canadian province of Ontario. The island get together was sponsored by the Michigan Office of the Great Lakes with facilitators from the Island Institute in Maine. Participants stayed at the Central Michigan University Biological Station and enjoyed field trips to cultural, historical, natural and institutional attractions on the island as well as many sessions of discussion and discovery on common island issues.

A Great Lakes islands coalition could be a powerful tool for islanders to share solutions and best practices and create ideas to address challenges unique to these coastal communities. These include natural resources, transportation, healthcare, sustainability, demographics, education, and energy. A unified Great Lakes Islands

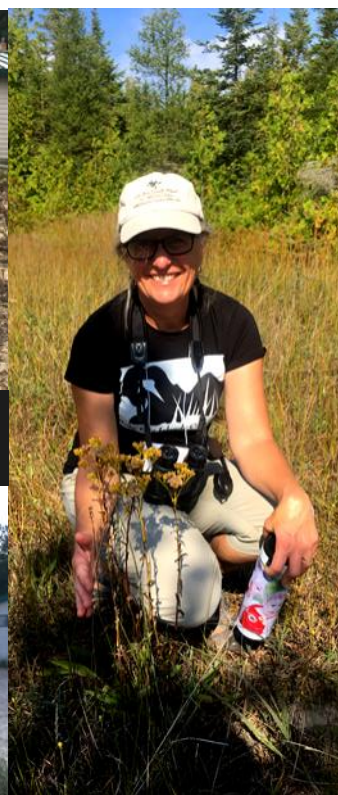
voice has the potential to help islanders support and advocate for each other. After two days of sharing and brainstorming, participants agreed that there is value in partnering to create a sustainable, healthy future for island communities. They looked forward to inviting additional island communities to the network and supported making the Islands Summit an annual event. Madeline Island has agreed to host an event next year.

Beaver Island had much to share environmentally as they had newly completed an Island Birding Trail as well as a successful initiative to eradicate the invasive Common reedgrass from their beautiful sand beaches. Conservancy board members Lisa and Kristin both enjoyed exploring their natural areas and what they have done to preserve them on another great lakes island. A summary of the meeting by Matt Preisser is available on our

www.lakeerieislandsconservancy.org and future sharing may be hosted on the website of Northland College. Visit too the www.islandsinstitute.org for more information on their programs in Maine.



Photos: Clockwise—Group of Summit Attendees; Lisa Brohl with goldenrod; Central Michigan University Biological Field Station; Kristen Stanford with a lovely garter snake



EnviroScience eradicating invasive plants! *By Lisa Brohl*

Jeffrey Niehaus from EnviroScience with Conservancy board member Paula Ziebarth at Middle Bass. EnviroScience is killing invasive amur honeysuckle and buckthorn at the Middle Bass Island Forested Wetland Preserve for our Park District and will be working on the nonnative Common Reedgrass next year. These plants crowd out the natives and usually make a monoculture where

found. The Put-in-Bay Township Park District has been awarded funds from the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative for habitat restoration through the National Park Service. We look forward to healthier forests and wetlands as a result. Jeff is no stranger to the islands having spent time at the Ohio State University's Stone Laboratory.

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OSU Buckeye Island Hop *By Lisa Brohl*



The Ohio State University Stone Laboratory's Buckeye Hop was held on October 21, 2017. LEIC Board Member Ken Farber met participants Cassandra Craig, Susanna Olsavsky, Megan and Chris Corwin, at the Massie Cliffside Preserve with tools and water. The crew mulched trails at the Massie Cliffside Preserve and moved asphalt and concrete debris into piles for removal in the area of the Massie Drive. They enjoyed their sack lunches at the Farber residence and then were joined by Joe and Michelle Pennington, Dave Ganzfried, and Julie Conry at the Scheeff East Point Preserve

where they helped with some much needed trail maintenance. We really appreciate and look forward to this volunteer event every year! Last year they planted trees at the Massie Cliffside Preserve on the site of the old pole barn-trees are doing great. Thanks again to Kristin Stanford, Sue Bixler, Kelly Dress, and Sheila Lewicki of the Ohio State University Stone Lab for organizing the volunteers and all who participated and made possible the 2017 Buckeye Hop!!!

Photos by Ken Farber

New Signs Going Up Around Preserves!



These signs will be erected on our preserve trails soon. Thanks to the donors Kalen Cap, Gary Coates, Suzanne Kostura and Sue Amrine and to Jack Kerin at Great Lakes Reprographics.

New Bench to be Dedicated in the Spring *By Lisa Brohl*

A group of island friends have donated funds for a bench at the Massie Cliffside Preserve in memory of Danny French. Parents Joan and Richard French chose the following to be inscribed on the bench. The bench will be dedicated in the spring.

*Danny French
A Man for Others
A.M.D.G.*

Danny was educated at St. Ignatius High School in Cleveland. The Jesuits recurring theme throughout all of their educational classes is, Men for Others, also they put A.M.D.G. on all papers. These initials represent Latin words meaning, for the honor and glory of God. Danny lived by these ideals and so his family chose this for his bench.

A very special Thank You to the friends of this family for this wonderful donation in Danny's name.



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shop/maintenance building on the walking trails, or sell the property at a profit.

It is pretty clear what this generation wants -- Keep Cooper's Woods just the way it is!

It was hoped that with this offer to purchase the Woods from a conservation agency, the situation would be resolved: Cooper's Woods would be preserved and the DeRivera Park Trust would have their dormitory/ office/maintenance building. It seemed like such a civilized way to resolve this long conflict. And it appears that the basic conflict is that the vast majority of the people on the Island want to preserve Cooper's Woods and the majority of members of the DeRivera Park Trust do not represent the people. They represent themselves.

There are three members of the trust: Kelly Faris, Don Thwaite, and George Stoiber. Kelly Faris wishes to protect Cooper's Woods and Don and George want to do what they want to do and have no interest in what the people want. The 4th paragraph of the 1886 Trust Deed seems to state differently. The Trust land is "...for the sole benefit and enjoyment of the inhabitation of South Bass Island..."

There is something fundamentally wrong about not listening to the people, especially since the tax payers on the Island will have invested about \$400,000.00 of public money to pay off the debt on Cooper's Woods. The tax payers should have

some involvement in the decision making process concerning the Woods.

In 1997, the Friends of Cooper's Woods created a mission statement: "to listen to and carry-out in a democratic manner, the will of the majority of residents and property owners of South Bass Island in an endeavor to ensure that pledges stated in the original Cooper's Woods Town Hall Meeting [held by the DeRivera Park Trustees] on May 18, 1997, are fulfilled."

Twenty years later, the mission is the same.

Cooper's Woods is in jeopardy -- again!

[The Friends of Cooper's Woods](#) is being revived and is back!

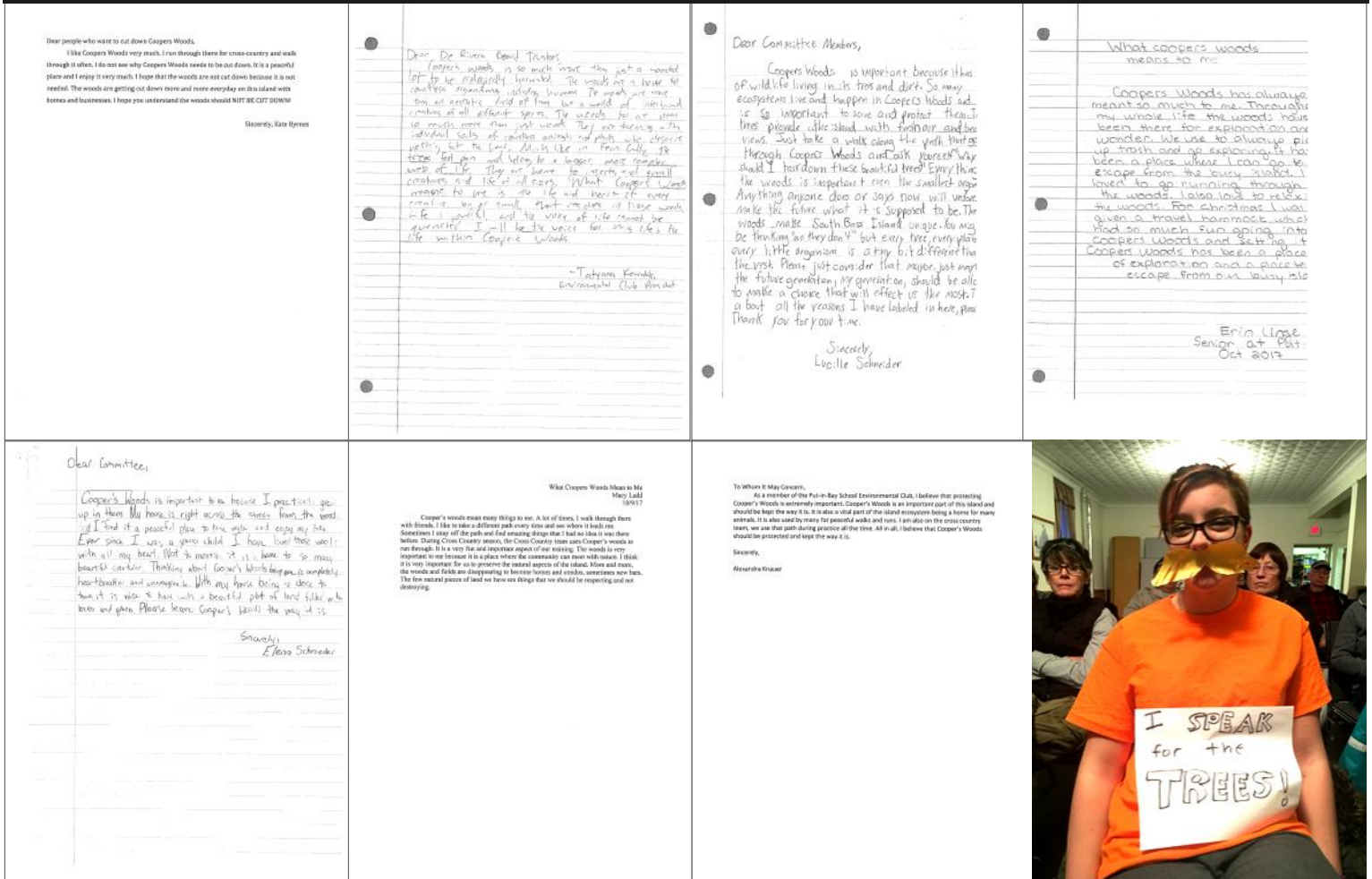
They are dedicated to the preservation and protection of the 18.7 acres of Cooper's Woods in a natural state -- forever. It is what the overwhelming number of people on South Bass Island want.

The only goal of the Friends is to protect and preserve Cooper's Woods. If the DeRivera Park Trustees refuse to listen to the wishes of a majority of the people of South Bass Island, then the process to save Cooper's Woods may involve significant legal fees.

It is so simple, the DeRivera Park Trustees can sell the 18.7 acres to a conservation agency and the property would be preserved and protected in a natural state forever!

We are trusting that common sense will prevail but we need your help!

Photos: Below is a representation of the letters sent to the DeRivera Park Trustees to let them know how important it is to Preserve Cooper's Woods and most importantly, one of the youth these decisions will impact most "Speaking for the Trees."



A Special THANKS...



Special thanks to Marty and Kelly Faris for not only driving to Toledo to pick up the newsletter but labeling, folding, and stamping them all too in September.



Ken Farber on the Bruckner-Ladd bench at Scheeff with visitors after clearing the view on the trail there.



Thanks to new board member Linda Shull for her membership letter and Gazette campaign! We are looking forward to more of Linda's magic!



Board Member Susan Byrnes brought a new desk to the airport office of the Lake Erie Islands Conservancy.



Supporter Kalen Cap visited in November to take some great photos for Facebook as well as write an article for our newsletter.



Mike McIntire spent some time this summer keeping the grass clipped under the purple martin rig at the Scheeff East Point Preserve.

Thanks to Paul and Nancy Kohrs for donation of split rail fence for boundaries at the Massie Cliffside Preserve!



Found a few invasive Tree of Heaven at Dodge Woods-cut and applied herbicide to stump immediately. Hope this will help maintain our native mix of hackberry, basswood, maple, eastern red cedar at this site. Great crop of black walnuts this year too! Thanks to Russ Brohl for his help.



Chris and Ron Helman with their friend Bruce Deck removed this massive hackberry tree that was

blocking the path at the Middle Bass Island East Point Preserve. We really appreciate all the constant help we get from the Helmans!!



The Put-in-Bay Township Park District is purchasing six new brochure boxes for use at all of its preserves. These new sturdy boxes from Bright Idea Shop will keep supplies of our LEIC brochures and new LEI Water Trail guides dry for visitors!

New and Renewing Members

Friends

Barb Chrysler
Ed and Michelle Heineman
Bob and Jean Hilt
Karen Jennings
Charles Pearson
Ruth Scarpelli
Joe and Linda Shull
Pam Stephens
Pat Thwaite
Janice Williams
Paula Ziebarth

Friend with Newsletter Ad

Jeff and Kendra Koehler, Put-in-Bay
Gazette
Mike and Susan Byrnes, Arbor Inn

Supporters

Joe and Carol Cerny
Tina M. Larson
Johnny and Rose Reising
Ray Traverso, donation in honor of
Yardworks for mowing

Contributors

Jeremy Mann

General Fund Donations

Jean and Bob Hilt
Jean and Bob Hilt with bird seed order



Don't forget!

Become an annual sponsor of our newsletter for \$100. Place an ad in our newsletter and receive an annual Friend Membership FREE!

Call 419-366-2087

THANK YOU!

Johnny and Rose Reising of Chillicothe, Ohio recently became Supporter members of the Conservancy with the following note. "My husband and I met at Put-in-Bay on 6/23/05 so the island has special meaning to us. We visit every year."

Jeremy Mann became a Contributor member with the following, "I stayed on South Bass Island October 17-20 and in addition to walking through Cooper's Woods, I visited Scheeff East Point Preserve and the Massie Cliffside Preserve. I liked them both very much. Thank you for preserving natural island areas."

PLEASE NOTE: For our members that have donor advised funds, our conservancy has received some donations from these sources recently. If you currently have an active fund, please consider us in your funding designation from this year or next.

Ohio Wetlands Association Meeting *By Lisa Brohl*

Lisa Brohl of the Lake Erie Island Conservancy recently attended the annual Ohio Wetlands Association Science Summit in Westerville, Ohio. The keynote speaker was former Ohio State University professor Bill Mitsch on the importance of restoring wetlands in northwest Ohio to remove phosphorous from the tributaries before reaching Lake Erie. His talk was titled "Wetlands: The Kidneys of the Planet." His modeling estimates put a figure of 10% or 100,000 acres of the historic wetlands in

the Great Black Swamp restored to the landscape would remove the 40% phosphorous target that has been set for restoring Lake Erie and avoiding harmful algal blooms (HABS). Dr. Mitsch is currently on the faculty at the Florida Gulf Coast University in Naples, Florida where has studied and made recommendations for restoring wetlands to solve similar problems with nitrogen enrichment in the Florida Everglades and to prevent flooding along the Mississippi and reduce the

growing dead zone at the mouth of the Mississippi. Dr. Mitsch has taught ecosystem modeling and wetland courses at OSU Stone Lab in the past.

Chris Collier accepted the Wetland Leader Award for Restoration on behalf of our former parent organization, The Black Swamp Conservancy. Alan Cyzayka accepted the Wetland Leader Award for Protection on behalf of the Western Reserve Land Conservancy, our partners in the Scheeff East Point Preserve project.



More beautiful photos from the Fall Bird Banding 2017

Photos: From L to R — Winter Wren; Black-Throated Blue Warbler; Male Gilded-Crowned Kinglet; Swainson's Thrush

LEIC Membership Form

Membership Notices are sent out annually-
this is for new memberships-share with your friends

___\$25 Friend ___\$50 Supporter ___\$100 Contributor

___\$100 Friend/AD ___\$250 Steward ___\$500 Patron



___\$1000 Life

Name _____

Spouse/Companion _____

Island Address PO Box _____ Put-In-Bay, Ohio 43456

E-mail _____

Permanent Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone # _____ Cell # _____

Island # _____

In addition to my membership, I would like to donate to:

Land Protection Fund

I would like to contribute \$ _____ to the Lake Erie Islands Conservancy, to be used only for expenses related to the purchase of land.

I understand that I will receive a *Certificate of Donation* for income tax purposes.

Stewardship Fund

I would like to donate \$ _____ to the Stewardship Fund to help maintain those properties owned by the Lake Erie Islands Conservancy.

Please make checks payable to (LEIC) Lake Erie Islands Conservancy

Please Send to: PO Box 461, Put-in-Bay, Ohio 43456

All donations are tax deductible.

Thank You!

Some things to do to beat the winter blues...

Audubon Christmas Bird Count 2017

For 118 years, wildlife enthusiasts have been counting birds at Christmas time. This citizen science effort has given us data on changing bird populations-and is great fun! Birders everywhere will be out looking and counting during this count week time. If you want to be part of this historical event, here is how locally.

The Annual Audubon Christmas Bird Count will be held in the Lake Erie Islands Count Circle on Sunday, December 17, 2017. Participants will be needed on Kelleys, Pelee, and the Bass Islands that day. On South Bass, we need volunteers to listen for owls in the early morning, travel the island bird watching during the day, and to watch their feeders at home. We are also looking for birders or feeder watchers to help with Middle Bass and North Bass.

If you are interested in watching your feeders or traveling South Bass for all or part of the day, call Lisa Brohl at (419) 366-2087 or e-mail at

leiconservancy@gmail.com. Those on South Bass can meet at the Brohl residence (441 Mitchell Rd.) at 7:00 AM for coffee. We will get together for pizza and to share results after the count. Please contact Nancy Welter to participate on Middle Bass at 419-341-5806 or nkw2329@yahoo.com.

John Pogacnik, the official Count Circle Compiler, will be coordinating the efforts on Kelleys Island. Please correspond with him at jpogacnik@hotmail.com or Tom Bartlett at thomas.bartlett@gmail.com if you wish to help at Kelleys.

Participation in the Christmas Bird Count is free and a lot of fun! Join us this year!



Photo: If you come out, maybe you will get to see a beauty like this Black-Capped Chickadee

Christmas Bazaar - Thursday, Nov 30 from 3 to 7pm at Town Hall



Photos: Selling creative handmade pillow cases and beautiful scarves are Donna Martens and Elaine Martens at last year's bazaar. Photo by Susan Byrnes

Mark your calendar for local holiday shopping – the Annual Christmas Bazaar on Thursday, November 30 from 3pm to 7pm at the Town Hall, sponsored by the Lake Erie Islands Conservancy and the Lake Erie Islands Nature and Wildlife Center.

Local crafters and artisans are needed as well as local businesses with Put-in-Bay merchandise. If you would like to reserve a table or need additional information, please contact Susan Byrnes at byrnespib@frontier.com or 419-285-2306. Let's make this year's bazaar the best one yet!



Photos: Jill Cooks selling her ever popular "sail" bags and other island related creations during last year's bazaar. Photo by Susan Byrnes

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Put-In-Bay, Ohio 43456
Phone: 419-366-2087
E-Mail: leiconservancy@gmail.com

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Email: jd4mb2011@gmail.com

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Bruce Miles

Linda Shull - Kristin Stanford

Nancy Welter

Paula Ziebarth

Advisory Council

Carol Richardson - Richard Gump

John Dodge - Julene Market - Bob Russell

Newsletter Editors

Lisa Brohl

Michelle Pennington

Lots of events coming up this Winter—keep checking our website and Facebook pages for more info!



November 28 for Giving Tuesday—Watch for details on our website!

December 12 for LEIC Christmas Potluck

December 17 for Audubon Christmas Bird Count

August 4-11, 2018 for Island Green Week



A HUGE Thanks to Bostwick-Braun for printing assistance!!



You're Invited!

LEIC Christmas Potluck

Our annual LEIC potluck will be held at the Reel Bar on Tuesday, December 12 at 6:00 pm. A ham, hot cider, and coffee will be provided. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. As we are a Conservancy, we ask that you bring your own plate and table service for the festive evening. We will have a social hour first and then potluck meal. Please RSVP to Lisa Brohl by email at leiconservancy@gmail.com or phone or text at 419-366-2087.