

## Volunteers THE LIFEBLOOD OF OUR PRESERVE MONITORING PROGRAM

New volunteers who have started between Spring 2006 and Spring 2007:

### New Monitors

Joanne and Micheal Cromley - Helmer's Dam  
 Chuck and Jeri Feltner - Williams Preserve  
 Andrea and Mike Harmeling - Schulz Preserve  
 Paul and Marjan Lowley - Ray Johnston Preserve  
 Francis Rostar - new (unnamed) preserve on Horton Creek

Larry Rychlick - McCune Preserve  
 Karen Swenor - Winston Preserve  
 Trisha Woollcott - Seven Springs Preserve

### New Trail Stewards

Eric and Angela Rowell - Round Island Point Preserve

## Current Preserve Monitors & Trail Stewards

Daniel Adams  
 Jim and Sue Adams  
 Joey Arbaugh  
 Les Arnold  
 Gary Barfknecht  
 Matt Blandford  
 Eric Brown  
 Mike and Bonnie Brunett  
 Craig Burke  
 Michael and Tammy Buttigieg  
 Joseph and Bridget Cadreau  
 Nadine Cain  
 John Campbell  
 Susan Sparrow Carson  
 Sharin Clairmont  
 Diane Conn  
 Dave Cummings  
 Al and Jane Damschroder  
 Bill, Jack, and Barbara Danly  
 Jack Dean and Family  
 Stan Dickinson  
 Gretchen Dorian  
 Mike Dow

Jim and Judy Eddy and Family  
 Lorraine Edwards  
 Joel Evans  
 Sharon Gerlach  
 Lois Graham  
 Judy Harvey  
 Roger Heimbuch  
 Steve and Jane Horn  
 Bill Horntvedt  
 Kelly Joyce  
 Ken Kelsey  
 Roger Knutson  
 Barbara Kurtz  
 Don LeClair  
 Kip and Linda Linklater  
 Hugh and Beverly Lockhart  
 Ric and Lisa Loyd  
 Kristin Majkrzak  
 C.T. Martin  
 John Maximiuk  
 Marge May  
 Bill Mayhew  
 David McCauley

Harriet and Vaughn McGraw  
 Charles and Norma McKinley  
 Betty Menzi  
 Carl and Diane Meyer  
 Bonnie Mikkelsen  
 Al and Jean Moberly  
 Dick Moehl  
 Chuck and Margy Murray  
 Jay and Shawn Neff  
 Ted and Pam Newcomb  
 Pat Nows  
 Jim and Anne Oleszek  
 Jeff Pagel  
 Jeannine Palms  
 Lynne Petersen  
 Dale Petty  
 Sandy Planisek  
 Dean Pollard  
 Arch Reeves  
 Gerald and Patricia Rintimaki  
 Barbara Rivard  
 Susan Rutledge  
 Brian Schmann

Glen Schmiege  
 Scott Smith  
 Stan and Marilyn Smith  
 Tom Stanley  
 Kenyon and Sally Stebbins  
 David Stepanovich  
 Mike Supernault  
 John Taylor  
 Bernie Tillson  
 Dave Treglown  
 Mary Jane Ulrich  
 Jean VanDam  
 Steve and Connie Vorenkamp  
 Jim and Betty Vosper  
 Ed Voss  
 Jim Ward  
 Paula Welmers  
 Carson Whitley  
 Pat Moira Wilson  
 Ron Winchester  
 Ken Winter

### Stewardship Staff



Cindy Mom  
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# Volunteer Steward Newsletter

Issue VIII  
 Spring, 2007

a newsletter for Preserve Monitors, Trail Stewards, and Project Volunteers of the Little Traverse Conservancy



## Monitor Profile

Al and Jean Moberly

Wendy O'Neil Memorial Preserve, Cheboygan County

*In the spirit shared by all of you who are passionately dedicated to the land, we introduce you to two of your fellow volunteers who are keeping an eye on one of our most ecologically significant properties in Cheboygan County. In addition to volunteering for the Conservancy, the Moberlys are spending their retirement on long distance bicycle trips and hiking the North Country trail, segment by segment. These are people who are truly grateful for protected lands!*



Jean and Al Moberly

### What brought you to northern Michigan?

**Jean and I moved from down state to the Cheboygan area in 1974 when I finished graduate school. I was a school psychologist and Jean a school librarian. We had both taught in the thumb area prior to my return to graduate school at CMU. We found ourselves traveling to northern Michigan to do the outdoor things we loved (mostly camping at that time) and decided it made more sense to live up here and visit downstate. We have never regretted that decision and have raised three boys in the north to love hiking, skiing, snowshoeing and biking. We are both retired now, but that just means more time to do the things we love.**

**What changes have you observed in land use or land use ethics? We have seen many changes in our 30+ years in northern Michigan. One of these changes is a move from quiet activities to motorized activities. This puts more pressure on the open lands and wildlife. Another is increased division of large, often sensitive, lands as our area grows in population or just in vacation homes. When hard times come to our state, the temptation is to sell off public lands and abandon long held beliefs about public lands and their uses. Agreements with governmental agencies are seemingly always subject to future negotiation and interpretation. The conservancy sets aside lands with a clear overriding purpose that is not subject to political winds.**

### Can you tell us a bit about the Wendy O'Neil Preserve?

**The Wendy O'Neil Preserve is located near an expressway with varied terrain and vegetation on and around the property. There is little development in the immediate area, but as one walks the property perimeter, it is easy to imagine the attractiveness of the rolling property for future development. As we walk the protected tract we see it as a tribute to the beliefs of Wendy O'Neil about the quality of our lives and the need to protect what makes northern Michigan special to all of us. We never had the opportunity to meet Wendy, but feel a common bond.**

**What prompted you to become preserve monitors through the Conservancy? We had read about preserve monitors in the conservancy publications, but never really thought about it until talking with our friends Bonnie and Mike Brunett who are preserve monitors at the Sleepy Hollow Preserve near Charlevoix. We had volunteered for other short-term activities such as trail maintenance, but had not thought about taking on a set responsibility. The task is not a difficult one, but is a necessary**

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one if we are to maintain the objectives of the organization. People can support the aims of the conservancy in many ways. Donations of money or land are very important. The maintenance and monitoring of the lands is another way. We are all in this together.

**End Note:** The 132-acre Wendy O'Neil Memorial Preserve (also known as Mud Lake Bog) was protected in 1999 thanks in large part to donations given in memory of Wendy, a noted conservationist whose life was cut far too short by cancer. Located close to the University of Michigan Biological Station, the land has been used for more than 85 years by students and faculty from the Station and is considered to be one of the finest examples of a floating sphagnum mat in northern Michigan. The protection of Colonial Point Forest on Burt Lake is among Wendy's many accomplishments.



The Wendy O'Neil Memorial Preserve is also known as Mud Lake Bog.

## 2007 Nature Preserve Projects

### Charlevoix County

- Ransom Preserve: Trail planning, addition, and improvement; Installation of gates or other vehicle access barriers; Site restoration and view enhancement.
- Jordan River Preserve: Clean up and restoration event; Installation of gates or other vehicle access barriers.
- Little Sand Bay Preserve (Beaver Island): Boardwalk repair/replacement; Possibly beaver and Phragmites (exotic plant species) control.
- Rufus Teesdale Preserve: Site clean up and restoration; Parking area construction.

### Cheboygan County

- Andrae Preserve: Major cabin repair and restoration and minor bridge repairs.
- Helmer's Dam Preserve: Re-position a barbed wire fence to exclude livestock; Installation of gates or other vehicle access barriers.
- Chaboisganning Preserve: Control invasive autumn olive to improve grassland wildlife habitat and the actively-managed hayfield.

### Chippewa County

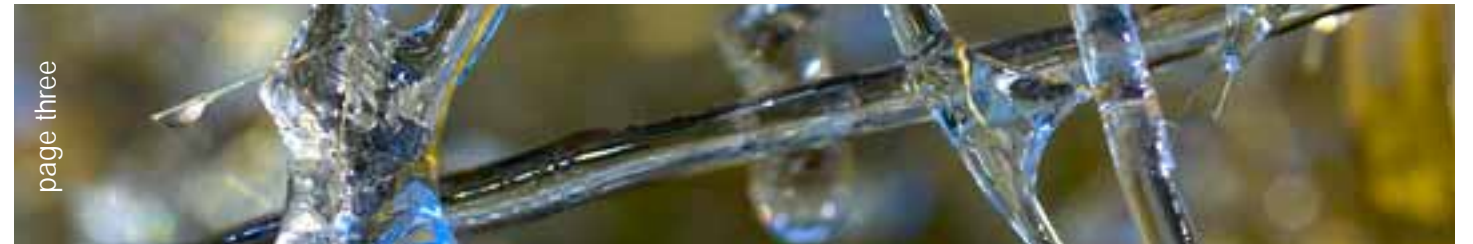
- Round Island Point Preserve: Planning for new trails and possibly some construction; Boundary surveying and marking.
- Cook Island Preserve: Site clean up and restoration.
- Pickering/Hay Point Preserve: Construction of a parking area.

### Emmet County

- Goodhart Farms Preserve: Installation of gates or other vehicle access barriers.
- Fochtman Preserve: Installation of gates or other vehicle access barriers.
- MacDonald Preserve: Control invasive scotch pine and restore native plant communities.
- Ray Johnston Preserve: Plan for new trails and possibly some construction.

### Mackinaw County

- Birge Preserve: Planning for new trails and possibly some construction.
- Williams Preserve: Planning for new trails and possibly some construction.



Please Join Us!

## Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon

**When:** Saturday, June 23, 2007 11:00 am  
**Where:** Jordan River Watershed Center, East Jordan

The efforts of the many individuals that help manage our preserves and maintain our trails are greatly appreciated. As a small token of our gratitude, we will again be hosting a volunteer appreciation luncheon. This year we're moving the location to the southern end of our service area to the Jordan River Watershed Center in East Jordan. The event will be held on Saturday June 23 starting at 11:00 am.

This is an opportunity to dine with your fellow land stewards and get updated on LTC Stewardship topics. In addition, you'll also have a chance to learn about the Friends of the Jordan River, Inc. (one of the most effective grassroots groups in Michigan) and the Jordan River Watershed in the surroundings of a beautifully restored historic structure on the edge of the Jordan River "Spreads."

Afterward, we'll head out a short distance to visit LTC's new Jordan River Nature Preserve and an adjacent property which we are raising funds to purchase. Together, these two projects lie along almost 10,000 feet of the lower Jordan River, with multiple benefits to water quality, wildlife, and people in the East Jordan area. Your invitation with more details will be mailed next month.

Nature Preserve Statistics as of March, 2007		
County	#	Acres
Charlevoix	38	1,373.5
Cheboygan	25	1,291.3
Chippewa	19	2466
Emmet	82	2,857
Mackinac	18	2459.9
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>10,447.7</b>

## 2007 Volunteer Stewardship Work Days

Help us spread the word to others who may want to work on a local preserve! For all volunteer work days, please wear sturdy shoes and bring gloves and drinking water. For some of the work days, we welcome the use of extra tools when possible. For more information or to sign up, please call our office at 231.347.0991.

### Thursday June 7, 2007

Ransom Nature Preserve  
Hayes Township, Charlevoix County  
Site clean-up, plantings, landscaping, trail construction, and view maintenance

### Thursday June 28, 2007

Chaboiganing Nature Preserve  
Burt Township, Cheboygan County  
Autumn olive evaluation and continued removal

### Thursday August 9, 2007

MacDonald Nature Preserve  
Little Traverse Township, Emmet County  
Weeding and nurturing the young regenerating forest

Additional summer events at the Jordan River Nature Preserve and Little Sand Bay on Beaver Island are still being planned. Check the Conservancy website for more information later this spring and summer.

Want to learn new technology that will aid you in your preserve monitoring? We now have two GPS units loaded with preserve property boundaries available for your use. Training is also available. More information will be given at the June 23 luncheon or contact Charles at [charles@landtrust.org](mailto:charles@landtrust.org).



Preserve monitoring and trail steward report forms, as well as this newsletter, are now available on the Stewardship Page of LTCs website. If you're willing and able to take advantage of this on-line option (thereby saving paper and reducing mailing costs) please let us know.