



Geneva Lake
Conservancy

Connections

Protecting the environmental character of the Geneva Lakes area

Summer 2014



THURS JULY 17
5:30 - 9:00 PM

5695 Alvin Howe Rd
Burlington, WI 53105

Benefit Dinner & Guided Tour

Bring your walking shoes and enjoy an elegant evening at Joyce and Don Huml's Stonebeigh Farm with cocktails, music and farm-to-table dining in this pastoral, ecologically restored setting. Guest speaker Peter Layton, founder and CEO of Tallgrass Restoration, will share his knowledge, and guests can take a guided "walkabout" through garden, wood and field on the grounds of one of the earliest settlements in Walworth County and a jewel among Geneva Lakes area conservation efforts.

5:30 - 7:00/Tours, Cocktails & Silent Auction

7:00/Dinner • 8:00/Peter Layton

\$100 per person • RSVP BY 07/10/2014 • dressy casual attire
email Events@GenevaLakeConservancy.org

Geneva Lake Conservancy • 398 Mill Street • Fontana, WI 53125 • 262 275 5700 • 262 275 0579 fax

www.GenevaLakeConservancy.org

News from Friends of Hackmatack National Wildlife Refuge

A lot has happened since Hackmatack National Wildlife Refuge was established in November 2012 when a 12-acre wetland easement in McHenry County, Illinois was conveyed to the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. To bring you up-to-date, here is some information on how our new national wildlife refuge is growing in both land area and outreach to its neighbors!

For the land

In April 2013, Ducks Unlimited purchased an 86-acre parcel within the Hackmatack refuge boundary north of Genoa City, Wisconsin. DU plans to restore the parcel to a mix of wetlands, grasslands and savanna and to make it a part of the new refuge.

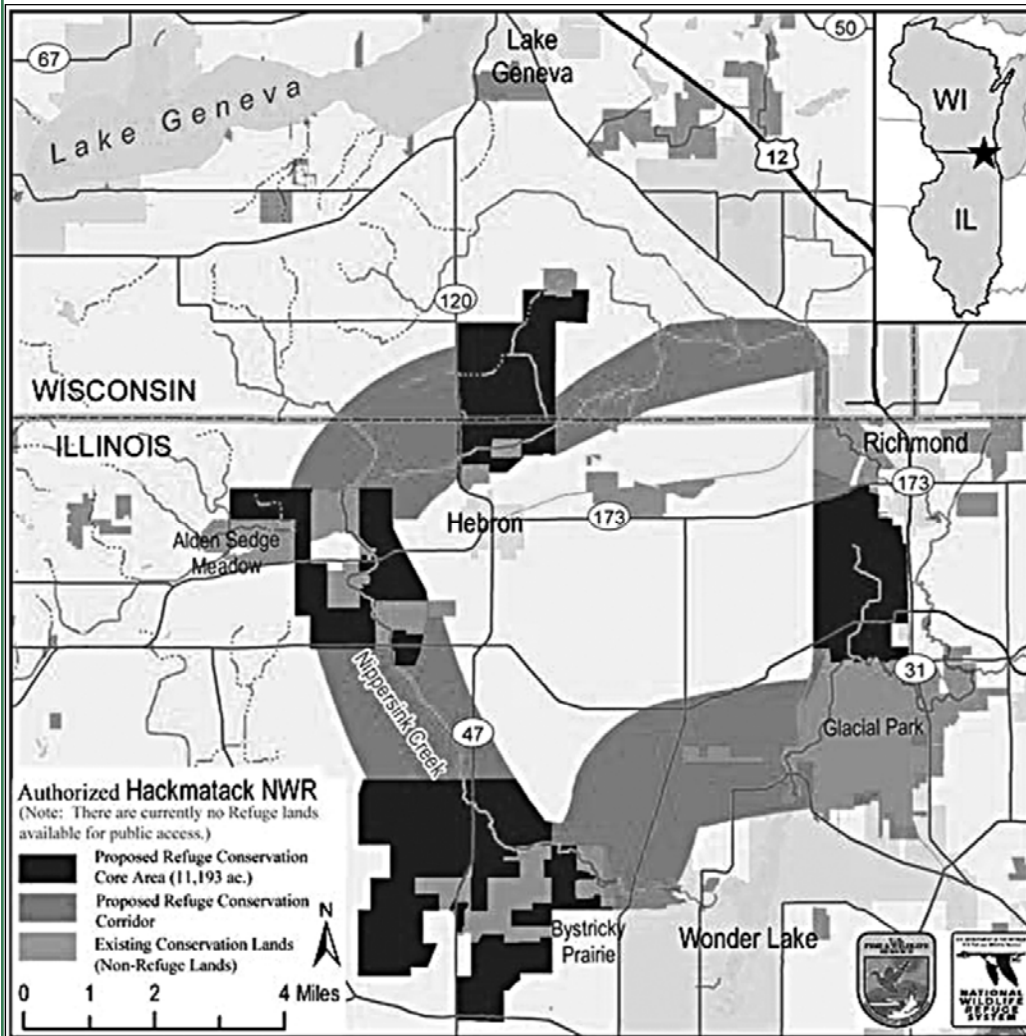
This summer, a Youth Conservation Corps crew will be conducting land restoration activities on refuge and other conservation lands.

For the people

Friends of Hackmatack National Wildlife Refuge is hosting quarterly Friends Gatherings in 2014. Forty-five eager volunteers attended the first gathering on March 11. We celebrated the 111th birthday of the national wildlife refuge system, updated attendees on refuge lands in Illinois and Wisconsin, and explored the ways people can be involved in refuge activities. Future gatherings will be held at 6 pm on June 10, September 9 and December 9 at Lost Valley Visitor Center at Glacial Park, on Rt. 31 just south of Richmond, Illinois.

The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service will also be holding activities throughout 2014. To celebrate International Migratory Bird Day, rangers will band birds at Lost Valley Visitor Center from 8 – 9:30 am on both Saturday April 26 and Sunday April 27. On Oct. 12, A Big Sit bird-watching event will be held at various locations.

These are exciting times as we explore the opportunities before us as we work with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service on our refuge! Keep abreast of our activities by visiting the Friends of Hackmatack NWR website at hackmatacknwr.org, friend us on Facebook or let us know you want to be on our email list by contacting us at info@hackmatacknwr.org.



Ketterhagen on Land Protection “Roller Coaster”

By Chuck Ebeling, Former GLC Chairman

In June, Lynn Ketterhagen marked her 10th anniversary on the staff of the Conservancy. A lifelong resident of Fontana, Lynn was barely two weeks out of the University of Wisconsin, LaCrosse, with a bachelor's degree in geography and a concentration in environmental science, when she Googled her way to find the Geneva Lake Conservancy. A staff member referred her to Acting Executive Director Tom Ramsey, a Conservancy board member, who promptly hired Lynn. Several months later, after learning the basics of conservation easements under Mary King, a former Conservancy Executive Director and land protection expert, Lynn was promoted to Land Protection Specialist. Demonstrating her resilience, Lynn has worked effectively with four GLC Board Chairpersons and many Board members over her decade of service to the organization.

To quote Lynn, she was, “now on a land protection roller coaster, and I like rides.” Since joining the organization, Lynn has played a key role in developing and adding 12 land protection agreements (or conservation easements), bringing some 1300 acres of natural habitat and open land in the Geneva Lakes area under permanent environmental protection. In addition, Lynn regularly monitors, makes conservation recommendations and records progress on the overall protection of the Conservancy portfolio of 27 easements on over 1900 acres of land. She assures that this core land protection mission of the Conservancy meets the highest standards of the state's Gathering Waters umbrella organization and of the nationwide Land Trust Alliance.



Lynn Ketterhagen enjoys a quiet moment while monitoring a Conservancy easement. Lynn, thanks for sharing your poignant selfie!

Lynn's job is all about building and maintaining valuable “behind the scenes” trusted relationships with area land owners and municipalities. In recognition of her achievements and growing professional capabilities, Lynn was promoted in March of 2011 to Manager of Land Protection and Operations. She thinks one of the more challenging and rewarding relationship-building experiences was in working with Harold Friestad and village officials and volunteers over 3 ½ years in developing the land protection agreement covering the massive Kishwaukee Nature Conservancy in Williams Bay, completed at the end of 2011. Another of Lynn's favorite achievements has been the ongoing restoration of the 15-acre Hermansen Woods property owned by the Conservancy off of Lake Como. Lynn also enjoyed coordinating the Conservancy's watershed program including placement of educational signage around the entire Geneva Lake watershed, which involved working closely with every area municipality.

Lynn looks forward to being part of continued growth of the Conservancy's contributions protecting the natural environment of the Geneva Lakes communities.

Thank you for our Volunteers...

Al Hermansen and Charles Obligato for their continued work at Hermansen woods • Nancy Williams for her help at our spring luncheon, *A Sand County Tribute* as well as help with the Stonebeigh Farm Walkabout invitation mailing • Tim Southwick Johnson for performing at *A Sand County Tribute* • Jim Frost for working on the updated newsletter design • Sharon Ketterhagen for managing the volunteers from Big Foot High School • Big Foot High School Honor Students • JaNelle Powers for helping with the Spring Membership Mailing

- A heartfelt thank you to the 2014 *Stonebeigh Farm Walkabout* Committee •

John D. Cobb Joins Conservancy Board

John D. Cobb currently serves as Ventas's Executive Vice President, Chief Investment Officer, after serving as Senior Vice President, Chief Investment Officer from 2010 to March 2013. Prior to that, Mr. Cobb was President and Chief Executive Officer of Senior Lifestyle Corporation, where he led the strategic direction of a 9,000+ unit retirement company with over 3,400 employees. Prior to that, he held various positions with GE Healthcare Financial Services, a division of General Electric Capital Corporation, which is a subsidiary of General Electric Corporation, with the last being Senior Managing Director, where he led a team focused on debt and equity investments of healthcare real estate totalling over \$9 billion. Mr. Cobb has served as a member of the Board of Directors of the National Investment Center for the Seniors Housing & Care Industry (NIC). He is currently a member of the Executive Board of the American Seniors Housing Association. Mr. Cobb holds a Bachelor's degree in Finance from Lehigh University.



John
Cobb

7th Annual JPPT (John Palmer Personal Training) Lake Walk

Benefitting the
Geneva Lake Conservancy

When: Saturday, October 4th

Where: Fontana Lakefront next to Chuck's Bar

Time: Check-in: 8:15am -8:30am

Start: 8:30am (Right after group picture)

Donation: \$30 Walker; \$50 Supporter; \$100 Sponsor

Distances: 3, 7, or 21 miles

Includes

- Route map and pace guide
- Aid stations with light snacks and drinks
- All personal gear transported to rest stops
- Light post walk meal & socializing

Description:

This fully supported event is designed to be a great day of exercise, accomplishment, and fun for people of all ages and abilities. Walkers will receive a route map and pace guide to keep them on track for their chosen mileage goal which includes a 3 or 7 mile out and back route or the full 21 mile Lake Walk. Fully stocked aid stations are setup roughly every 3 miles to maintain energy and motivation. Sag support transports personal gear to the various rest stops and provides aid if needed. This is a great opportunity to accomplish a goal, promote good health, enjoy the beauty of Geneva Lake, and support the Geneva Lake Conservancy all in one day.

7th Annual JPPT Lake Walk benefitting the Geneva Lake Conservancy

Name: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____ City _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Participants will be asked to sign a waiver at check-in.

Checks payable to: Geneva Lake Conservancy

PO Box 588 Fontana, WI 53125

2014 Spring Luncheon

On April 25, a picture perfect spring day, Conservancy supporters gathered at Pier 290 for *A Sand County Tribute*. The spring luncheon focused on Aldo Leopold and the legacy that he left. Guests read quotes from Leopold's *Sand County Almanac* and were treated to a performance by Tim Southwick Johnson. Johnson, a talented musician and song writer, played selections from his album, *A Sand County Tribute*. He credits the purchase of *A Sand County Almanac* at a Conservancy event as the inspiration of his album, *A Sand County Tribute*. Johnson, a Lake Geneva resident, will be playing at Pop More Corks, 617 W. Main St., Lake Geneva, on July 12 and August 9.



Musician and songwriter Tim Southwick Johnson

White River County Park—Dedication July 10

July 10 Park Dedication and Opening

Join Conservancy Board and staff at Walworth County's dedication of the White River County Park on Thursday, July 10 at 6 p.m. There will be a brief program to recognize those who were instrumental in helping the County acquire this beautiful 195 acre parcel for the perpetual use and enjoyment of Walworth County's citizens and visitors. After the ceremony, enjoy the park

Thank you to our Sustaining Sponsors:

John & Linda Anderson

Dan & Betsy Ferguson



Carol Bernick & Bob Fates

Jeff & Molly Keller

Share the Vision and Donate Now.

Enclosed is my tax-deductible Membership donation:

- ☐ \$50 Naturalist ☐ \$100 Steward ☐ \$150 Advocate ☐ \$200 Protector ☐ \$250 Guardian ☐ \$500 Benefactor
☐ \$1,000 Stewardship Society ☐ \$5,000 Preservation Society ☐ \$_____ Other

Donor(s) _____

Yes, I would like to be a volunteer:

Address _____

☐ Call me when you need help

City, State, Zip _____

☐ Mill House restoration and maintenance

Summer or Winter Address _____

☐ Mill House Gardens ☐ Data Entry

City, State, Zip _____

☐ Educational programs

Credit (Visa, M/C, AMEX or Discover) _____ Ex _____

☐ Event volunteer

☐ Mailings

We need your email addresses so we can keep you up to date with the latest GLC news!

Email: _____

Please mail to: Geneva Lake Conservancy | P.O. Box 588 | Fontana, WI 53125

262 275 5700 | 262 275 0579 fax

Email: GLC@GenevaLakeConservancy.com | visit our website at: www.genevalakeconservancy.org



Geneva Lake Conservancy

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2014 Calendar of Events

Thursday, July 17

Stonebeigh Farm Walkabout

Lyons Township

Settled in 1842, this restored and loved farm is one of the earliest settlements in Walworth County, and guests will view prairie grasses, wildflowers, vegetable gardens, woods, and more. Guest speaker Peter Layton, founder and CEO of Tallgrass Restoration, is a perfect fit for this occasion, as his firm has had a great impact on the restoration work in the Geneva Lakes area and, coincidentally, helped with the restoration work of this bucolic farm.

**Tuesday, September 16—An evening at the Driehaus
Estate with noted Wisconsin Historian John Gurda**

***“Chicago and Milwaukee: Siblings and Strangers in a
Shrinking World”***

Saturday, October 4

Lake Shore Path Walk

8 a.m., Fontana lakefront, Details & entry form on page 4

Saturday, December 6—Holly Ball

Big Foot Country Club, Fontana

Join us for this significant annual fundraiser that includes a live band, dinner, mini-mall, and the presentation of the Conservation Stewardship Award. A long-favored tradition, this year marks the 33rd annual Holly Ball.

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