



the
VOYAGEUR

SPRING 2014

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GROSSE ILE NATURE & LAND CONSERVANCY

VOLUME 22 • NO. 1

“Everybody talks about the weather, but nobody does anything about it.”
Usually attributed to Mark Twain but actually from his friend, Charles Dudley Warner,
with whom he wrote the novel *The Gilded Age*.

SPRING EVENTS

BIRDING 101

Centennial Farm
Sat., April 5, 10 am

**ANNUAL
PROPERTY TOUR**

Meet at Centennial Farm
Sun., April 6, 11:45 am

**“BIRDING” THE GREAT
MIGRATION IN KENYA!**

Grosse Ile Golf
& Country Club
Sun, April 13, 7 p.m.

**NATURALIZING THE
HOME GARDEN:
A NATIVE GARDEN
DESIGN WORKSHOP
FOR BEGINNERS**

Centennial Farm
Tues., April 22, 7 p.m.

VOLUNTEER SIGN UP

Gibraltar Bay/Refuge
28820 E River Rd.
Sun., April 27, 1-2 p.m.

REFUGE / AIRPORT

Nature Area Open
28820 E River Rd.
Sundays May 4 - Oct. 26
1-4 p.m.

GARLIC MUSTARD PULL

Meet at Centennial Farm
Sat., May 10, 10 a.m.

BIRDS OF THE BAY

Gibraltar Bay/Refuge
Sat., May 17, 9 a.m.



Jack Frost’s Older Brother, Hoar Frost

BY BERT URBANI

On Wednesday, February 12, residents of Grosse Ile and other southeastern Michigan communities woke up to an even more magical Winter Wonderland than usual. Every surface, from tree trunks to limbs to twigs, evergreen branches, plant stalks, tall grasses, benches and fences – all were coated in delicate white crystals that sparkled in the sunlight and shone against the bright blue sky. While I suspected a midnight visit from the Sugar Plum Fairy, the reality was

the only slightly more prosaic meteorological phenomenon known as hoar frost.

I consulted DTE Energy’s meteorologists, Rick Foltman and Mike Lebis. Rick responded with this explanation: “The cold, moist atmosphere was looking for something to condense on or to deposit on. When it came in contact with something, such as trees, etc., it deposited and froze on contact. In a similar sense, clouds with ample moisture this time of year will only produce snow when there

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MEMORIALS

*In memory of
Dr. Bruce Jones,
Richard & Rosalind
Meyer, From the
Meyer Family
Foundation*

*In memory of
Dr. Bruce Jones,
Gordon & Blair Jones*

*In memory of
Bill & Cinda Foley,
Amanda Phillips*

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

*If you haven't
renewed your
membership for 2014,
we hope you will take
this opportunity to do
so with the enclosed
envelope. Check
your mailing label
to determine
your status.*

From President Liz Hugel

Is it Spring yet? The calendar says Spring, but we still have freezing temperatures and forecasts of snow. Hopefully, when you receive this newsletter, spring will really have arrived, although with the extent of ice coverage on the lakes this winter, it may turn out to be a very short season.

Welcome to our new board members and a big thank you to Greg Roginski who completed three terms on the board. Greg is now on sabbatical, but he'll continue to volunteer as our web administrator.

Your Conservancy board members have put together a long list of activities and programs for this spring. Check our website calendar for the full listing. We hope to see you at one of the events. Feel free to drop me a note at info@ginlc.org at any time to share any ideas or concerns. Thanks for your continued support of the Conservancy!

2013 CONSERVATIONIST OF THE YEAR

Art Payette was named the 2013 Conservationist of the Year at the GINLC

annual meeting in November. He was awarded for his leadership, dedication and outstanding contributions to the stewardship and public enjoyment of nature at the International Wildlife Refuge and Airport property on Grosse Ile. Art coordinated the Sunday afternoon Open House events and Monday morning stewardship activities at the Gibraltar

**Art was awarded for
his leadership, dedication &
outstanding contributions.**

Bay Unit of the Refuge until the weather became unbearable this winter. The refuge Visitor Services Manager, Jamie

Lanier reported that his efforts were "extraordinary and resulted in dramatic changes and numerous improvements in visitor accessibility and habitat management." We're delighted to know that Art will continue leading the Gibraltar Bay Open House & Stewardship programs this year starting the first week in May. Art has also been active with the Education Committee and the annual High School Photo Contest.



Fall Planting Effort on Thorofare Canal Preserve and at the Grosse Ile Waterfront Park

BY DOUG THIEL

A bright sunny day greeted the eleven volunteers who came out on Saturday October 12, 2013 to complete two planting efforts on Grosse Ile. Two Swamp White Oaks, three Sugar Maples and one Tulip Tree were planted at the Thorofare Canal Preserve which has been transformed into a beautiful diverse ecological site through the efforts of the Conservancy and two Eagle Scout Projects over the past five years. The majority of the cost of the trees was paid for by a DTE Energy Foundation/MDNR grant.

The second planting effort was completed at the Grosse Ile Waterfront Park and consisted of numerous bushes and plants purchased from Westcroft Gardens. This effort was needed to complete the planting plan for the park which was developed by Lisa Appel, who is a Naturalist. The first phase of the planting effort at the site was completed in May, 2013 and was reported on in an earlier issue of *The Voyageur*.

The dry soil conditions made for very difficult planting but with our enthusiastic volunteers the planting efforts were completed. We are looking forward to seeing how both properties look after leaf out in the spring. Many thanks to our GINLC volunteers who were Manfred Egerer, Peter Kantz, John Leon, Eric Michael, Jean Michael, Denise Pevarnek, Phil Pellett, Pete Rock, Armando Sardanopoli, Cari Thiel, and Doug Thiel.



REFUGE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Gibraltar Bay Unit (GBU) of the Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge will reopen on Sunday afternoons from 1-4 pm starting Sunday, May 4th, and several evenings during the summer.

Volunteers will be needed to host each "Open House" as well as for stewardship activities. Bring your date book and join us at the Refuge between 1 and 2 pm on Sunday, April 27th to sign-up.

Contact Liz Hugel at liz.hugel@gmail.com with questions.

INTERNATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

28820 East River Rd., Grosse Ile. Entrance to Gibraltar Bay Unit is across the street from Hoovers and Elba Mar Boat Club. May is the peak of Michigan spring migration time. Come see and learn about the avian visitors. Bring binoculars and field guides if you have them.

WANTED! Any naturalists or educators interested in providing nature programs for GINLC should send resume, proposals and requirements to info@ginlc.org

WORK GROUPS WILL BEGIN WORKING IN THE GBU ON MONDAY, MAY 5TH FROM 9-12. CALL ART PAYETTE 734.671.0540 IF YOU HAVE AN HOUR OR SO TO HELP.

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is something to condense on, such as dust, or ice crystals. The snow then falls out of the clouds.” Mike responded, “I don’t have anything else to add to the information

Hoar Frost or hoarfrost gets its name from the Old English word, “har,” or hoar,

that Rick already provided. It is really cool that water vapor has the ‘ability’ to go from a gas to a solid without

passing through the liquid phase. It sure is a very special compound!!!” They included this definition from the [wi.weather.gov website](http://www.weather.gov): “Hoar Frost: A deposit of interlocking crystals formed by direct sublimation on objects, usually those of small diameter freely exposed to the air, such as tree branches, plants, wires, poles, etc. The deposition of hoar frost is similar to the process by which dew is formed, except that the temperature of the frosted object must be below freezing. It forms when air with a dew point below freezing is brought to saturation by cooling.”

Hoar Frost or hoarfrost gets its

name from the Old English word, “har,” or hoar, which means grayish white and/or grizzled. The Hoary Bat, a native Michigan bat, is so named because its back fur has a whitish, grizzled coloration.

The explanations of hoar frost were interesting and educational, and added to my appreciation of the literal “eye candy” that morning, as well as my appreciation of the overall natural beauty that we enjoy every day on Grosse Ile.

Monday, Feb 17 brought more meteorological wonders, with high winds, thunder and lightning during a snowstorm. Our house is L-shaped, which caused the wind to whirl around and create mini “snonados,” small funnels of snow that carved bowl shapes in the snow on the ground. Real “snonados” are winter waterspouts that are rarely caught on film. For a video of a real “snonado” visit <http://boingboing.net/2013/12/16/rare-snonado-captured-on-l.html>

Here is the text from the website by Maggie Koerth-Baker on Dec 16, 2013: “According to the Weather Channel, there are only six known photographs of winter waterspouts in existence. Then, last week (Dec. 7),



All photos by Bert Urbani.

Jordan Detters captured a good minute and a half of video, showing winter waterspouts dancing along the waves of Lake Superior near Knife River, Minnesota.

"While water spouts are relatively common in warm months, producing one in the winter requires a pretty specific set of meteorological circumstances, writes Minnesota Public Radio's chief meteorologist Paul Huttner. Thus, the dearth of images. In fact, for one to form at all you need a temperature difference between the water and the air of 19 degrees C.

"Winter waterspouts occur when meteorological conditions are just right. You need a bitter arctic air mass passing over relatively warm lake water, and just enough light, low level wind shear to get the rapidly rising air currents spinning nicely.

"Saturday's contrast between bitter arctic air (air temp was about -7 degrees at Two Harbors nearby) and relatively warmer lake water (offshore surface water temps were around 40 degrees) create an 'enhanced lapse rate' as temps cooled rapidly with height above the water. That produces rising air, and the lift needed to generate strong updrafts. Slight wind shear gets the air spinning, and small vortexes can form into waterspouts over the lake."

Who knows, maybe we will still get a real snowstorm on the Detroit River before winter departs. We've had just about every other kind of winter weather phenomenon! Keep your cameras ready!

SIDE NOTE - DTE Energy employs two meteorologists; Rick keeps abreast of weather conditions to assist the electrical distribution department, particularly during storms, while Mike works in the environmental compliance group providing expertise on the relationship between power plant emissions and weather and atmospheric conditions. Bert Urbani retired from DTE Energy's Environmental Initiatives department in 2013 and still keeps in touch with her former colleagues.

2013 FROG & TOAD SURVEY SUMMARY OF RESULTS

BY NATALIE RAY

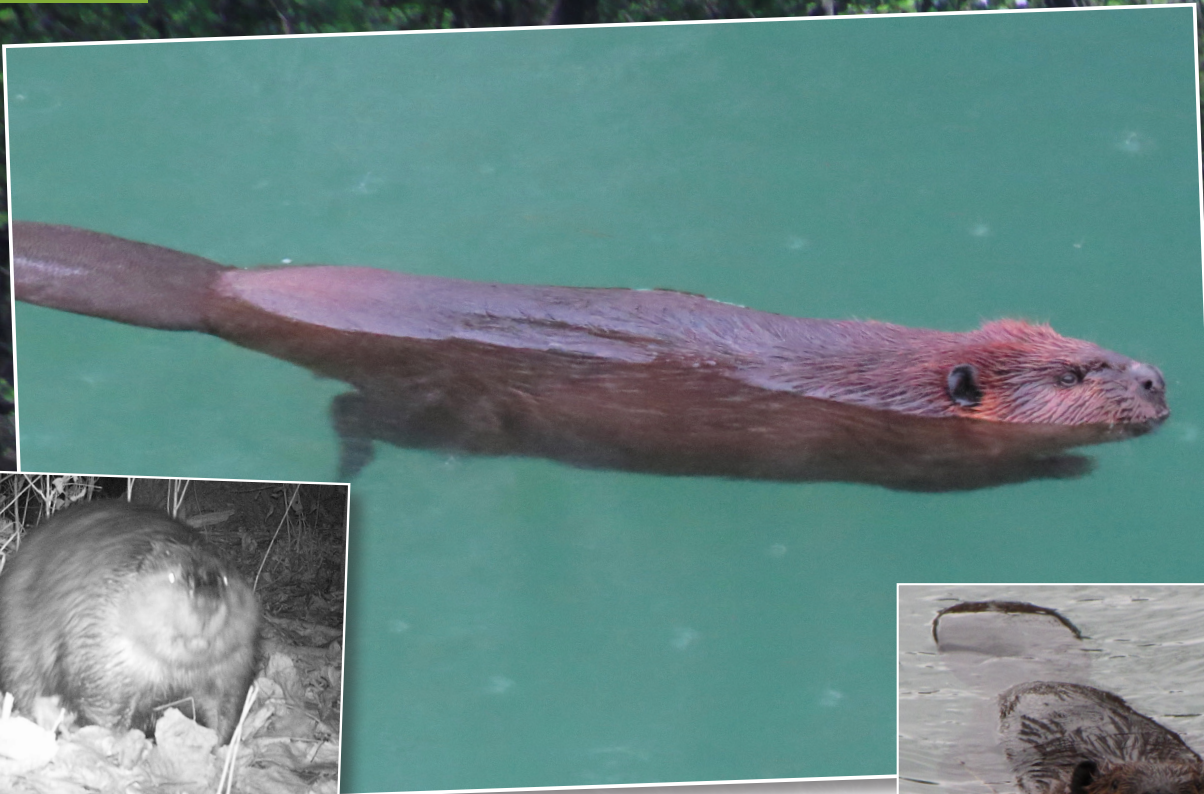
Last year, the Grosse Ile Nature and Land Conservancy Education Committee created a Frog and Toad Survey route on Grosse Ile, following Michigan DNR Frog and Toad Survey protocols. Ten survey sites were established on Grosse Ile, with habitats varying from temporary vernal ponds, to man-made ponds to cattail marshes. Sites were visited by our group of volunteers 3 times during the frog breeding season – roughly late March through June. Volunteers identified frog species and

Additional observations included several large Snapping Turtles, Painted Turtles, a Common Map Turtle, & an Eastern Fox Snake.

approximate numbers based on the calls that the males gave at their breeding location. Frogs were recorded at 9 out of the 10 sites, and species included: Spring

Peeper, Western Chorus Frog, Gray Treefrog, American Toad, Green Frog, and Bullfrog. Additional reptile and amphibian observations included several large Snapping Turtles, Painted Turtles, a Common Map Turtle, and an Eastern Fox Snake. Results were submitted to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Wildlife Division as a part of their statewide Frog and Toad Survey. Frog and toad species have been in decline in recent years, therefore the collection of these data sets are critical for long-term monitoring so that we can increase our knowledge of their distribution and abundance across the state. Thank you to all of our volunteers - stay tuned for 2014 results!





Beaver – *Castor canadensis*

BY DOUG THIEL

CHARACTERISTICS

The beaver is North America's largest rodent. Adults can be up to four feet long and weigh over 60 pounds. The beaver has webbed hind feet and a large flat, nearly hairless tail. It uses its tail to help maintain its balance when it is gnawing on trees. It will also slap its tail against the water to signal danger or to warn away predators. The beaver has short front legs with heavy claws. Their rear legs are longer and their webbed feet help propel them through the water when they are swimming. When the beaver is under water, its nose and ears close up and a special membrane covers its eyes. It has dark brown fur on its back and sides and lighter brown fur on its chest and belly. The beaver waterproofs its thick fur by coating it with castoreum, an oily secretion from its scent glands. The beaver has a thick layer of fat under its skin that helps keep it warm underwater. Beavers have long sharp upper and lower incisor teeth that they use to cut into trees and woody vegetation. These teeth grow throughout the beaver's life.

RANGE

The beaver can be found in most of the United States and Canada. The only exceptions are Florida, the desert Southwest, Mexico and the very northern parts of Canada. By the early 1900s, beavers were almost extirpated from North America, due to trapping and the subsequent draining of lands for agriculture. Estimates of the current North America population are as low as five percent of those present prior to European settlement. In the last two years beavers have been sighted in several locations in and around Grosse Ile after being absent from this area for over 100 years. Sightings have been reported adjacent to Grosse Ile in the Detroit River and near the Gibraltar Bay Unit of the International Wildlife Refuge (Nature Area) by the airport.

HABITAT

Beaver live near rivers, streams, ponds, small lakes and marshes. They build lodges of sticks and mud on islands, on pond banks or on lake shores. Beaver dams are dome-shaped and can be up to ten feet tall.

Bottom left image from the GINLC trailcam. Photo from Art Payette.

Other photos are of the first beavers spotted on the US side of the Detroit River, at Conners Creek Power Plant in Detroit. Photos by Gerry Wykes.

Beaver lodges have one central chamber and one or two entrances. The floor of the chamber is a little bit above the water level and is usually covered in wood chips to absorb moisture. A vent in the lodge lets in fresh air. Some beavers prefer to build burrows in the banks of rivers.

DIET

Most of the beaver's diet is made up of tree bark and cambium, the soft tissue that grows under the bark of a tree. They especially like the bark of willow, maple, birch, aspen, cottonwood, beech, poplar and alder trees. Beavers also eat other vegetation like roots and buds and various water plants. The beaver has a specialized digestive system that helps it digest tree bark.

LIFE CYCLE

Beavers mate for life, but if one mate dies, the other will find another mate. Beavers mate when they are about three years old. Mating season is from January through March in colder regions and in late November or December in the south. Gestation lasts about three months and females have one litter of 1-4 kits per year between April and June. Before birth, the female makes a soft bed in the lodge. The baby's eyes are open when they are born. They can swim within 24 hours of birth and will explore outside the lodge with the parents within a few days. The kits are weaned in about two weeks. Both the male and female take care of the kits. They stay with their parents for two years before venturing out on their own. Beavers can live up to 20 years.

BEHAVIOR

Beavers live in family groups or colonies. A colony is made up of a breeding pair and their offspring. Beavers are very territorial and will protect their lodges from other beavers. They mark their territory by building piles of mud and marking it with scent. Beavers can have both a positive and negative impact on the environment. When beavers build dams, they create new wetland environments for other species. These wetlands can help slow erosion, raise the water table, and help purify the water. Beaver dams can also cause problems. Dams can slow the flow of water in streams and cause silt to build up, and some other species can lose habitat.

VIEWING OPPORTUNITIES

Look for beaver near wetlands on Grosse Ile, swimming in the Detroit River along the shoreline, or while canoeing or kayaking on the Thorofare Canal.

Please report any sightings of beavers or beaver activity to the GINLC. We are trying to monitor their presence on Grosse Ile.

Strangers from Abroad

BY INGO HASSERODT

When we think of invasive species, the usual suspects come to mind—phragmites, zebra mussels, Asian carp—no love there! Some we have learned to live with—purple loosestrife, house sparrows, starlings. And some we cannot live without—the European honeybee.

But there is one species that causes a dilemma. It is a graceful bird that is part of Greek mythology, and has been celebrated in operas and ballets. You cannot possibly miss it and probably admire it while driving on East or West River Roads—the mute swan.

Being large birds, they consume a large amount of aquatic vegetation, which appears to shortchange our native waterfowl. Therefore, the wildlife experts are considering whether to reduce their numbers, or even eliminate them.

Whatever means will be adopted, it will not be popular with many people. Elimination is going to be politically tough, too many people love these majestic birds, and hopefully it will not be necessary. Reducing their numbers is not going to be easy either. They are fearless, when it comes to defending their nests.

Let us hope a solution can be found that protects our native waterfowl, and yet retains a bird that has become so much a part of Grosse Ile.



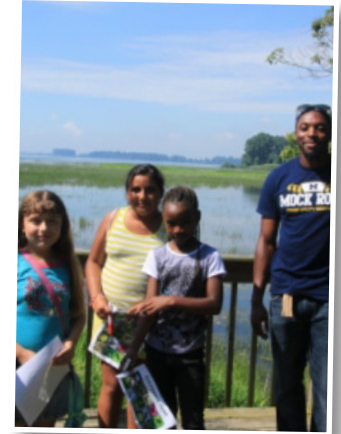
SIDE NOTE - Reducing or eliminating the invasive mute swan from the area would not leave Grosse Ile swanless. There are two native species of swans that could be expected to increase in numbers if there were fewer mute swans. Trumpeter swans are currently a threatened species in Michigan and rarely seen in the area. Tundra swans appear during migration in large numbers on their way from or back to their arctic breeding grounds. For more info on mute swans, visit the River Rouge Bird Observatory website www.rrbo.org/conservation-science/cooperative-research/mute-swans-on-the-detroit-river



Detroit School Kids Visit the GBU

BY KAREN SKROCKI

There is a summer tradition at the refuge! Every year we get to host a group of students from the Delray area of Detroit for a day of nature studies. In the past, they have explored ecology, geology, art, photography and biology complete with hands on activities and animals. Besides our volunteers and the sponsorship of the Grosse Ile Rotarians, the USFWS and Erie Metroparks have generously supplied staff and supplies. The visits of the 40-70 students have been educational and rewarding for all.



Watch for news of and the chance to volunteer for this year's program coming in July or August.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE PLANS UPCOMING PROGRAMS

To register for programs or for more information contact Natalie Ray at 734-624-7993

Unfortunately, because of the deep snow and ice in and around the Gibraltar Bay area over these past few months, we were unable to hold our "Winter Ways of the Bay" program this February. We apologize to anyone who was planning to attend, as this winter provided many great opportunities to discuss how nature survives through such cold and snowy conditions. However, we are looking forward to offering many great programs this upcoming spring.

Birding 101 Saturday, April 5, 10 am, Recreation Building at Centennial Farm – 25797 Third St, Grosse Ile
Birding has become one of the fastest growing hobbies in the country, providing endless opportunities for excitement, fun, and relaxation. Come and learn the essentials of what you need to get started, just in time for spring migration! We will take short walk after the program to ID some local birds.

Naturalizing the Home Garden: A Native Garden Design Workshop for Beginners Tuesday, April 22, 7 pm, Recreation Building at Centennial Farm – 25797 Third St, Grosse Ile
Friends of the Rouge River Restoration Program Manager Cyndi Ross will present on how you can help improve water quality and wildlife habitat here on Grosse Ile by incorporating Michigan native plants in your home landscaping! Come learn how to design a garden with native wildflowers – this workshop is intended for those with little or no experience gardening with native plants.

Birds of the Bay Saturday, May 17, 9 am, Gibraltar Bay Unit of the Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge – 28820 East River Rd, Grosse Ile
May is the peak of spring migration time – come see and learn about the avian visitors that stop here on Grosse Ile. Please bring binoculars and field guides if you have them.

"Merry" Month of May @ GI Middle School (Tentative date, Friday, May 23rd) Outdoor Garden Celebration with a student jazz concert and a reception immediately following.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE PLANS

GINLC School Garden Project

BY BARBARA THAYER

On January 31st, GINLC Education Committee members, Barbara Thayer and Courtney Solenberger-McNeill attended a Michigan State University Extension program “Starting and Sustaining a School Garden.”

The garden area at the Middle School will be ready for more extensive planting this spring and expect the project to be completed by the end of the school year. We will continue to assist in helping the teachers connect the garden to the curriculum by expanding the connection to Language Arts and Art as well as Science.

GINLC Education Committee members, Barbara Thayer and Courtney: “Our goal is to use Michigan native plants, keeping in mind that most, but not all, flowering plants bloom in the summer, when school is not in session. Consequently we are

looking into ferns, sedges and ornamental grasses, native flowers that bloom early in the spring or later September when school is in session. Plant material will be purchased from Westcroft Gardens, the oldest farm in Michigan that is still owned by the same family,

or from other Michigan growers of native plants. The choice of plants will bring texture and variations of leaf color to the garden.

For attention to “pretty colors” on the patio portion of the Middle School garden, we will supplement with Michigan grown annuals planted in pots purchased last fall. Summer maintenance of the garden, when school is not in session, is a concern. Any garden,

even a very well planned garden, requires work and watering so the garden will be designed to be as easy as possible to maintain. One solution to the maintenance issue is to establish a summer weekly rotation of families who will attend to the garden

throughout the summer. With funding from a past Grosse Ile Educational Foundation grant, GIMS teachers Melissa Bringard (English) and

Kristine Hahn (Science) have now also attended the MSU Extension garden sustainability program. After the snow melts, we plan to work closely with the school, students, and teachers to make sure the garden project is sustainable.”

We are looking into... native flowers that bloom early in the spring or later September when school is in session.

STEWARDSHIP DATES

Please join us this spring for a work party!
More info: PeterKantz@sbcglobal.net

April 12, 9 am Phragmites Cut at Hennepin Marsh Gateway Preserve

May 3, 9 am, E River Waterfront Park Clean Up & Maintenance

May 11, 12pm E River Waterfront Park Pavers & Bench Installation

May 24, 9 am Intrepid Pond, Clean-up & Maintenance

June 7, 9am, Thorofare Preserve, Clean-up & Maintenance

June 21, 8 am Hennepin Marsh Gateway Clean-up & Trail work

Garlic Mustard Pull

May 10, 10 am, Meet at Centennial Farm

Garlic Mustard is an invasive plant that’s taking over our woodlands. It crowds out our beautiful native wildflowers and endangers forests by preventing tree seedlings from growing. And, none of our North American insects or wildlife eat it! (But it is edible, if you like a little garlic flavor in your food!) Help the GINLC remove this invader from GI and keep our green spaces healthy. We’ll be reporting the garlic mustard we remove as part of The Stewardship Network’s Garlic Mustard Challenge – a regional effort to remove 300,000 lbs from local natural areas. Meet at Centennial Farm at 10am, and dress for the weather and conditions (sunscreen, rain gear, bug repellent, long sleeves, closed toe shoes, etc). For more info about garlic mustard and the competition, visit <http://garlicmustardchallenge.wordpress.com>. To sign up for May 10, contact Natalie Ray at natalieray27@gmail.com.

UPDATE

East River Road Waterfront Park

BY PETER KANTZ

GINLC is playing a major role in turning what was once an eye sore at the eastern end of Grosse Ile Parkway into a much used and greatly appreciated community park. The park provides access to the Detroit River, plenty of shade, a sandy beach and a quiet place to sit and watch the wildlife that surrounds Grosse Ile.

Last spring, GINLC planted a wide variety of native vegetation at the park on the slope leading from East River Road down to the river. A berm was built at the top of the slope to act as a barrier and improve the overall appearance of the property. Additional plantings were added in the fall and should be in full bloom this spring.

GINLC installed a spotting scope at the park last fall. The scope, a memorial to Dr. Bruce Jones, one of the founders of GINLC, affords the opportunity to study the waterfowl and other water loving birds that inhabit the river between the park and Stony Island, which is located due east of the park.

The scope overlooks the river between the park and Stony Island, which is located due east of the park and anchors the northeast portion of the Conservation Crescent.

This spring, GINLC will install a park bench along the shoreline, as a part of the Dr. Bruce Jones Memorial and add more plants

to the park. Some nature interpretive displays are also planned to be installed at a later date.

WELCOME to our new BOARD MEMBERS!

DENISE PEVARNEK feels strongly about making a difference in the community she loves by volunteering her time to assist a number of organizations on Grosse Ile. Since moving to Grosse Ile in 2000, she has been involved with the Sacred Heart Church Community including teaching young students, the GI Music Booster which supports school music programs, is currently an active member and Webmaster for the GI Kiwanis.



Denise is a Financial Manager at BASF Corporation and earned her MBA from Wayne State University, and a Bachelor's degree from the University of Michigan. Denise's greatest source of pride is her children who both graduated from GIHS. Jonathan graduated with Honors from the School of Engineering at the University of Michigan in December, 2013. Jennifer is on the Dean's list at Michigan State University and is pursuing her degree in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology.

Denise is currently serving on the Stewardship and Finance Committees of the GINLC. Denise is honored to be a member of the Board. She believes the fit is natural with her strong respect for the environment and her dedication to our children's future and the natural resources that make life beautiful.



SUSIE HARRISON has been an Island resident since 1973 and a realtor for 36 years. She was Past President of Downriver Association of Realtors and owned 3 Prudential Real estate offices including her Victorian office on Macomb Street. Susie and her husband, Rob, recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. They raised three children who attended Grosse Ile Schools.

Susie believes in giving back to the community through the many civic groups that she has been involved with over the years and is looking forward to being on the Board as well as participating in many of GINLC activities.



CAROL MACHUGA has been a life long island resident. Her family moved to the south end of the island when she was an infant and she has since lived in the middle and now at the north end. She has many fond memories growing up spending hours outside catching frogs, snakes and turtles to bring home inquiring "can we keep it?" only to hear, "but its family will miss it..... You'd better take it back where you found it," from her wincing mom's voice.

Carol enjoys biking, kayaking and going on nature hikes with her family and now her daughter is the one asking "can we keep it?" She has been employed with the Grosse Ile Golf and Country Club for 30 years and also has the pleasure of being a Girl Scout leader for the past six years. Carol lives on Harbor Pointe with her husband Dave, daughter Paige, three dogs, a turtle and a snake she let the frog go back to its family.

PHIL PELLETT is a Professor in the Wayne State University School of Medicine, where he teaches virology and conducts research related to herpes viruses. He has been active in the international herpesvirus community for over 30 years, and is a member of the Scientific Advisory Board of the HHV-6 Foundation (HHV-6 is human herpes virus 6) and served on the Board of Directors of the Brendan B. McGinnis Congenital Cytomegalovirus Foundation.

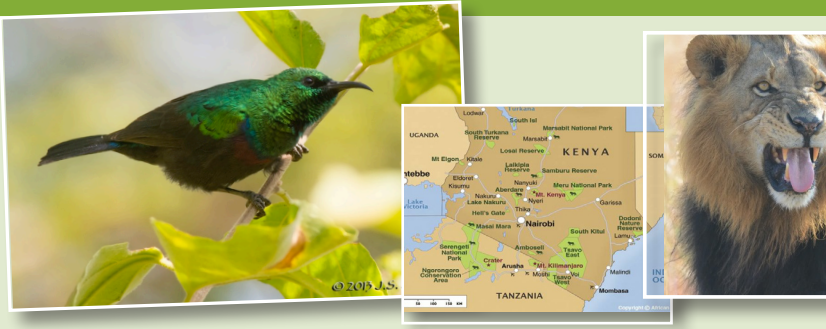
Phil and his wife Marie have three children and three young grandchildren. They have enjoyed many vacations that included hiking in National Parks. Their choice to move to Grosse Ile was made easier by the products of long-standing commitments of islanders to the establishment and preservation of publicly accessible green spaces. Although relatively new to the island, they intend to retire here and are identifying activities that connect to enjoying and taking care of such civic treasures.



PATTY SMART has lived on Hickory Island since 1982. She has a commercial pilot license and owns and operates a Cessna XP from Grosse Ile Airport. Patty taught elementary school for 27 years in Ohio, Arizona and Michigan. She wrote a curriculum course in Environmental Education for grades 3 – 6 for Mt. Clemens School District. She received her undergraduate degree from the University of Rhode Island and graduate degrees from Marygrove College and the University of Rochester.

Patty has traveled extensively visiting all continents except Asia. She is a member of the local Wyandotte Downriver Chapter of AAUW and served a term as the president of the Grosse Ile Garden Club in the early '90s. Besides flying she enjoys hiking, sewing, painting, beading, reading and traveling.





"BIRDING" THE GREAT MIGRATION IN KENYA! BY JERRY JOURDAN, BIRDER/PHOTOGRAPHER

Sun., April 13, 7 pm, Grosse Ile Golf & Country Club, Grosse Ile

Considered one of the Great Wonders of the Natural World, the annual migration of millions of Wildebeest and Zebra from the Serengeti of Tanzania into Kenya is a spectacle to behold. Join Jerry Jourdan as he takes a tour through the Masai Mara of Kenya photographing the herds of animals (and local bird life) and the dangers they face, including lions, hyenas, and crocodiles! **For reservations send email to info@ginlc.org or call Susie Harrison 734-250-0299.**

TAKE IT OUTSIDE AND CAPTURE YOUR WORLD

Our 5th annual GINLC sponsored Nature & Wildlife photo contest for high school students is underway. The contest was initiated to celebrate Earth Day and get our kids outdoors. We are looking for photos taken in Southeastern Michigan that inspire us to appreciate and steward our environment: the air, water, land, resources, wildlife, and ecosystems. See the Photo Contest tab on our website for details. A gift from the Meyer Family Foundation is being used to fund this year's contest. Rosie Meyer is remembered fondly for her passion for Art, Nature and Education.

TO RECEIVE EVENT NOTICES & NEWSLETTERS BY EMAIL, CONTACT US AT INFO@GINLC.ORG



To sign up for
a work party
call Peter Kantz
734.558.2149

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Barbara Thayer
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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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