

GBLT had a very successful picnic at the Umbrellas Saturday July 21st with over 60 people attending. Sandy Phillips spoke about the history of the island while Donald Fraser talked about the vegetation and wildlife on the island. Many thanks to Jane French for her hardwork as the volunteer organizer of this event.



**Landscript has New Corporate Sponsors**

This year we approached a few businesses in the area to see if they might like to become a sponsor for our Landscript. We have had great success and Midland Timbr-Mart, Jim Langley Marine, Glenn Burney Marine and Desmasdons have joined us as supporters of the Georgian Bay Land Trust. Our success is built on the support of all those who love the Georgian Bay and wish it to remain preserved for future generations.

**Thanks to our generous sponsors**



Glenn Burney  
Marina




*printed on recycled paper*

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Executive Director: Wendy Cooper .....416 440 1519  
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**Tribute gifts have been received in honour of:**

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**Help Wanted**

Volunteers needed for:

Landscript  
Layout and design four times a year

Communications  
Email newsletter and media releases

**Upcoming Events**

Tuesday, November 20th - "Get Bent Tree Event" the launch of our Trees of Georgian Bay Poster

Georgian Bay Land Trust  
2482 Yonge Street,  
P.O. Box 99,  
Toronto, ON M4P 3E3  
e-mail: [info@gbtl.org](mailto:info@gbtl.org)  
[www.gbtl.org](http://www.gbtl.org)



**GBLT secures a conditional purchase agreement for 450 acres of Sandy Island**

by Wendy Cooper

After a great deal of effort, and with the assistance of many key players, the Georgian Bay Land Trust (GBLT) in partnership with the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC), is pleased to announce that it has successfully secured a conditional purchase & sale agreement for a significant portion of Sandy Island, making up approximately 450 acres of the 529 acre island.

Sandy Island is located west of Parry Sound in the Township of The Archipelago. The Sandy Island area has been identified as one of the highest priority sites for conservation in our region as reported in NCC's Great Lakes Conservation Blueprint, the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resource's (OMNR) and NCC's Ecological Survey of Eastern Georgian Bay and NCC & GBLT's Eastern Georgian Bay Coast Natural Area Conservation Plan.

The ecological significance of Sandy Island is exceptional, even by eastern Georgian Bay standards. Sandy Island is known and named for the large sand bar that makes up the eastern shore, but this is only one of many features that make this island so unique. The interior of Sandy Island is dominated by a Red Oak-American Beech forest, a community more typical of the forests of southern Ontario. Numerous rare species, including the endangered Spotted Turtle, the threatened Eastern Massasauga and the provincially rare Atlantic Coastal Plain plant species call Sandy Island home. In addition, the island is recognized as a provincially significant wetland, a provincially significant Life Science Area of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSI), and the majority of the shoreline is recognized as important habitat for fish spawning and feeding.

In addition to the environmental significance, Sandy Island has a long history, which has evoked the interest of numerous generations, starting with the First Nations who are said to have used the

island as a meeting place. It was purchased from the Crown in 1904 by Walter L. Haight and stayed with the family until 1954. Under subsequent owners, efforts to subdivide the island were initiated and those efforts have continued up to this day. In addition, the island was selectively logged for Red Oak more than 20 years ago. The conditional agreement currently secured by NCC and GBLT will ensure that the largest remaining lot, approximately 450 acres, will remain in its natural state in perpetuity.

The agreement of purchase and sale includes a number of conditions to be met in the upcoming year, including raising the funds necessary to complete the purchase and secure the funds necessary to ensure responsible stewardship going forward. The GBLT has committed to raising \$600,000 towards these financial commitments. If you would like more information about the project and opportunities to assist, please contact Wendy Cooper (GBLT) at 416-440-1519 or Erica Thompson (NCC) at 705-424-1479 ext. 152. A project sheet with more details about the project and the partnership between GBLT & NCC is available upon request.



Sandy Island, aerial view from the South.  
Photo by Kathy Sutton.

OUR SINCEREST APOLOGIES

GBLT would like to apologize to those people whose names were missed on printing our Supporters List for 2006. We recently updated our database and have some growing pains. Without your support GBLT would not be able to continue to do its important work in preserving Georgian Bay for future generations.

- Whitecap level (\$150)
- Martin Abell  
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Joanna Nibbs  
Scott Northey

This Poem was found in the cabin of Prof. Kleinschmidt, owner of Friend Island, which was donated to the Land Trust in 1992

High Water

Oh what a curse high water is!  
Our docks are one foot under.  
It makes of life an awful biz  
’Tis worse than drought, by thunder.

We finally got the pump to work  
(albeit with many a blunder)  
I nearly froze but did not shirk  
To duck the cold flood under.

But still to get a pail to fill  
With this redundant stuff  
You have to put on rubber boots  
And pump until you puff

Our boathouse at an angle stands  
Our launch house roof now tips.  
There are no blessed shining sands  
And everything just drips.

Mosquitoes large, quite raw tartare  
But easy ’tis to whack them  
The caterpillars and black flies,  
Well, truth to tell we lack them.

Since then one bit me on the wrist  
Which swelled to twice its size,  
But with the water on our minds  
Such things just minimize.

Alas, alack I spoke too soon,  
About the fauna here,  
The caterpillars struck us hard  
A black fly bit my ear.

We think the worms are on the wane,  
The black flies getting fewer,  
Some other pest will strike us soon  
Which we must just endure

"regenerate GBLT" debuts at the AGM

by Michael Drinkwater

Over the past year, the Board of GBLT has been investigating ways to engage younger generations of Georgian Bayers in the Land Trust and its work. Under the leadership of Dana Porter, a working group was established to explore just how this vision could be implemented. At this year’s AGM, the team introduced “regenerate GBLT” to all in attendance and outlined its plans for getting its feet wet this summer.

The group selected Georgian Bay local regattas as an effective arena in which to connect with its target demographic. As a pilot project this summer, at local regattas in Pointe au Baril, Sans Souci, Go Home Bay and Cognashene, group members will be on hand to donate prizes of “regenerate GBLT” long sleeve t-shirts and custom designed paddles. To help fund these prizes, the group will sell the shirts at targeted locations throughout the summer as well as take orders for custom paddles.

We make it easy for U.S donors

by Janet Loughheed

American supporters have and continue to be an important part of the Georgian Bay Land Trust (GBLT) family. We are fortunate that the Great Lakes Basin Conservancy (GLBC) offers U.S. citizens the opportunity to donate to a U.S. charity to support the protection of the Georgian Bay.

For those who are not familiar with the Conservancy, it is a small non-profit organization that was established by Bill McCoy (Pointe au Baril) in Chagrin Falls, Ohio in 1997. Its purposes include preservation and protection of the land, natural environment, and open space of the entire Great Lakes Basin. The GLBC regularly awards grants to organizations with similar purposes, both in the United States and in Canada. Because many U.S. citizens share a love of the incomparable environment of the eastern shore of Georgian Bay, the GBLT has long been a grantee of the GLBC.

To help clarify how U.S. donors can ensure their support is helping GBLT with its efforts, the following is a guide on how you can contribute:



Four of the “regenerate GBLT” team introducing their pilot to be carried out this summer. From the left, Jen Kernaghan, Dana Porter, Michael Drinkwater and Geordie Dalglish.

The “regenerate GBLT” team includes Graeme Burt, Geordie Dalglish, Michael Drinkwater, Jen Kernaghan, and Dana Porter, supported by Executive Director, Wendy Cooper.

Email us at [info@gblt.org](mailto:info@gblt.org) to learn more and to get engaged.

1. Send your donation, made out to the Great Lakes Basin Conservancy to them at P.O. Box 504, Gates Mills, OH 44040 USA. Be sure to attach instructions for donation to be allocated to the Georgian Bay Land Trust.
2. GLBC will process your donation and provide you with a U.S. tax receipt.
3. GLBC will notify GBLT of those donors who expressed an interest in GBLT.
4. GBLT will thank you for your support by way of an acknowledgement letter and place you on the GBLT mailing list.

An overview of the process is also available on our website. Our thanks to the Great Lakes Basin Conservancy for their continued support of the Georgian Bay Land Trust and its efforts.

The Land Trust aims to make it easy for our supporters to help us meet our mission of preserving the Georgian Bay for future generations. Should you have any questions about making these and other gifts please contact Janet Loughheed at 705-735-2600.





# The Eastern Hog-nosed Snake

by Sue Russell

This harmless but fascinating snake is one of the many reasons the GBLT is conserving the land along the eastern shore of Georgian Bay and the North Channel. The hog-nosed snake, like so many of our reptiles and other fauna, is threatened with extinction by the loss of their traditional home. The Hog-nosed prefers sandy woodlands and oak savannas, which are rapidly disappearing as land is being developed, mined or built upon. The Land Trust helps to protect habitat for this species through the acquisition and ongoing stewardship of lands that are environmentally significant and include habitat for this threatened species.

This snake is also known as a Puff-Adder because of the way it puffs out its cheeks as a defensive mechanism to frighten predators. It is harmless because it has no venom in it and its few teeth are at the back of its mouth. The Nature Conservancy of Canada as well as the Ministry of Natural



Resources are asking Georgian Bayers to keep an eye out for them.

If you see one just say good day to it and let it go on its way. But more importantly let the MNR know that you have seen one. Send a message to: Biologist/SAR, Ministry of Natural Resources, 7 Bay Street, Parry Sound, ON P2A 1SA

# History of Parry Sound West on DVD

by Perry Harris

Anything you ever wanted to know about Parry Sound West will soon be available on DVD. This is a project of the Parry Sound West District called the Ontario Visual Heritage Project, funded by the Ontario and Federal governments with a certain percentage of funds raised locally. Besides having the history of the area on DVD, there will also be a streaming web page for future generations to learn about the history of the area. (A streaming web page provides a time line so that anyone, particularly students, can go into the line and pick a certain date. The information will come forward both in print and visual)

This project will be completed in 2008 and of the 1,000 DVD's produced, 500 will be given to the Parry Sound school board in order to have the

DVDs introduced into the curriculum. There will be local re-enactments as well as local historians providing stories on the area with background music and pictures. The re-enactments will take place throughout the West Parry Sound area and will be starting this spring and carrying on through the fall until winter.

Everything will be captured on DVD and we are also hoping that our local cable channel will air it as well. This is a fantastic project that was started in January 2006 and is to be completed early spring/summer of 2008.

For more information contact the co-ordinator Perry Harris at [perry\\_harris@hotmail.com](mailto:perry_harris@hotmail.com)



## Volunteers save a tree at Lizard picnic

On Saturday, July 28<sup>th</sup>, a group of Cognashene and Go Home cottagers enjoyed a picnic on Lizard Island to celebrate the efforts of the Georgian Bay Land Trust. In order to take advantage of the number of people on hand, the stewards of the Lizard Island in attendance, Peter Cooper, Jim Cooper, Craig Bowden and T.D. Melhuish, had willing participants help them raise one of the Lizard's pine trees which had fallen over in a past wind storm. Our thanks to Janet Murphy for organizing this great event.



Using a very long seatbelt, several people grabbed hold and raised the tree. While people enjoyed their picnic and chatted with friends, the seatbelt was tied to the local sign. Before leaving, everyone helped by grabbing a rock to help hold the root back in place.

## Shoot a Tree, Save the Bay - The GBLT 'Trees of Georgian Bay' Poster

by Jeff Butler

People up and down Georgian Bay love the incredible trees unique to and indicative of the Eastern shore and North Channel. People use them as landmarks for navigation, as favourite picnic sites – even islands such as 'One Tree' have been named after them. As part of our efforts to spread the good word and good will about the GBLT (and also to raise funds), the Trust will be printing and selling a full colour poster showcasing 25 photos of these fabulous icons with all proceeds going to the GBLT.

We need your help to make it as great as we all imagine. Everyone is asked to send in a photo of a favourite tree and a panel of judges including photographic and environmental experts and personalities associated with The Bay will have the difficult task of choosing which snaps best capture the spirit of Georgian Bay. The guidelines are simple: any seasonal or permanent resident of

Canada of any age is encouraged to send in a photo. There is no fee to submit your photo. You may submit a maximum of 4 photos, either electronically or mailed to the GBLT. Photographs can be of one or more trees or any parts of trees, such as branches or leaves; photographs can be black and white, colour or duotone and can be current or decades old.

The only restrictions are that there can be no people in the photo, and it must be of the Eastern shoreline and North Channel of Georgian Bay.

Deadline for your photo is October 11th (the Thursday after Canadian Thanksgiving to give you time to capture those fall colours), and the full poster will be unveiled at a terrific 'Get Bent Tree Event' in late November. So get snapping, or go through the family photo albums, and stay tuned for more details.

The photos will be revealed at fundraising event on November 20th at the Capitol Event theatre in Toronto. This event has been generously supported by Main Sponsor Payne Marina of Pointe au Baril, other sponsors include Georgian Bay Wet Wood and Canadian Yachting. Should anyone wish to participate as a sponsor please contact Janet Loughed at 705-735-2600.

P.S. Check out the GBLT website to see the great photos that have already been submitted: <http://www.gbtl.org>





# GBLT Welcomes New Board Members

At the Georgian Bay Land Trust's Annual General Meeting on June 13, 2007, the members of the organization officially welcomed 5 new Directors to our Board. Each bring incredible skill and passion to the organization and have been involved with us as volunteers in a number of capacities. In addition to welcoming the new members, the Board said goodbye to several Directors who are moving on, Anneliese Grieve, Don Lawson, Georgia Rennick, and Sue Russell. Our thanks to all of them who made such an incredible contribution to our organization. The good news is that all of our retiring Directors have joined us as Advisors and continue to participate as volunteers and members of our various committees.

## Carolyn Rymell

Carolyn Rymell has been a cottager on Blackstone Lake since the early 1970's. She is a Past-President of the Blackstone Lake Cottage Association and has been a Director of the Georgian Bay Association for the past eight years. A supporter of the Oldfield Lake Reserve from the beginning, Carolyn assists John Hackett ( a GBLT Advisor) with stewardship of that property.

Carolyn has a B.A. in pure mathematics and an MBA, both from York University. While her professional career started in the area of information technology, Carolyn's career progressed through the senior management ranks in materials management, and manufacturing operations. Carolyn is currently a Director and Treasurer of a poverty legal clinic in Toronto, and has a wealth of experience gained as a Director of an international foundation.



## Geordie Dalglish



Geordie confesses to being an outdoorsman, pilot, property developer, and a Georgian Bay addict. He is currently living in Toronto, and spends as much time as possible at the Bay in the community of Pointe au Baril. He sees his commitment to the GBLT Board as "a way to give back and help preserve something that has become dear to my heart".

A graduate of Dalhousie University, Geordie is currently self-employed as a Property Developer. He has been a member of the W. Garfield Weston Foundation Board here in Canada, and the Rita Lila Howard Foundation in the U.K. – both organizations focused on environmental causes. Currently he chairs the committee for Northern Affairs at the W. Garfield Weston Foundation where his experience in land transaction, preservation, conservation and stewardship are put to good use.

## Graeme Burt

Graeme Burt has ten years experience working with a broad range of private and public sector agencies in Canada and around the world. His extensive background in physical, environmental and socio-economic planning, has led to his involvement in activities that range from the creation of a Green School Master Plan for one of Canada's oldest private schools, to the preparation of a Development Plan for a new community of 70,000 people. Many of the projects have involved strong grassroots involvement, most recently, the award-winning Master Plan for Evergreen at the Brick Works. His projects have been recognized with a number of local and national awards.

Following undergraduate work at McGill University, Graeme received an MSc in Geography from Pennsylvania State University. He is a member of the Canadian Institute of Planners and a Registered Professional Planner. Graeme cottages with his family at the mouth of Twelve Mile Bay.



## Michael Drinkwater



Mike is a management consultant with the Canadian strategy practice of Accenture, a global consultancy, and specializes in the telecommunications and high technology sectors. In 2005, he worked with Accenture's UK practice, and in 2002, with a Spanish consulting firm in Madrid. Now back in Toronto, his work also involves the recruitment of new and talented staff to the operation. Mike holds an undergraduate degree from the Richard Ivey School of Business.

The highlight of last summer for Mike was reviving his family's old sailboat and exploring the waters around his family cottage in Cognashene. His family has enjoyed the water, rock and trees of Georgian Bay for almost a hundred years. His ambition is for that enjoyment to continue for a hundred more.

## Peter Cooper

Peter has over 20 years of general business operations, and consulting experience, and now focuses primarily on executive searches in a wide range of commercial sectors. In addition to his corporate experience, Peter has also served on boards and management committees in both the business and volunteer sectors including Henry Birks and Sons, The Canadian Opera Company, The Canadian Council of Better Business Bureaus, and a national consulting firm in the human capital management sector.

Peter has been a steward of Lizard Island - a GBLT property in the Cognashene area - and is a member of the Stewardship Committee. In addition, Peter currently co-Chairs the Annual Giving Campaign.

