



Welcome to our new Executive Director



In mid-July, the GBLT welcomed new Executive Director **Bill Lougheed** aboard. He immediately immersed himself in all things relating to the Georgian Bay Land Trust. Bill was thrust straight into the busy and daunting event season; he acquitted himself admirably, spoke eloquently and even managed to remember everyone's name.

Bill is a life-long Go Home Bayer, and like many from this area has an abiding love for and extensive knowledge of the natural Georgian Bay. His work experience leading up to his new role has been wide ranging and has included leadership and directing positions in both the private and not-for-profit sectors. Bill is currently Vice President of the Madawaska Club and has been a

long time GBLT volunteer and supporter. Bill is married to Sally Lennox and has two daughters.

Bill is keen to streamline and optimize some of our processes and introduce some new development and land acquisition strategies. He is currently very busy breaking new ground with a couple of combined US-Canadian land donations in the Pointe au Baril area; their shared and cross-border ownership creates some new and complicated tax implications for the donors. In October, Bill was part of a panel presentation at the Ontario Land Trust Alliance conference discussing cross-border gifts of conservation lands. Bill is excited about other properties currently "in the pipe" and also about creating effective new partnerships while building on existing ones to further our mission.

With Bill's great enthusiasm, his sharp mind and connectedness to the people and land of Georgian Bay, he will be a huge asset to the GBLT in the busy times ahead. We're thrilled to have him working with us.

An Update on 2013 GBLT Property Acquisitions

Since its first donation of land in 1991, the GBLT has grown to steward over 1300 acres of geologically, environmentally and historically significant land on the eastern shore of Georgian Bay and the North Channel of Lake Huron. This is represented by 31 owned properties, 5 GBLT-held easements, 3 easements held by the Nature Conservancy of Canada and 2 properties owned by American Friends of Canadian Land Trusts. The GBLT added 3 properties to its portfolio of conservation land in 2013.

In late January, the Tadenac Coastal Lots property (Wah Wah Taysee) closed. Despite the name, the Lots are largely inland, although they do include a globally rare Atlantic coastal meadow marsh in the interior of Indian Harbour. This is a large tract at 66 acres and is densely forested. At the southern end of the Lots is a Virginia Chain Fern bog that is home to a large population of a globally rare species, the White-fringed orchid.

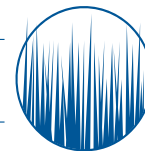
In mid July, the GBLT acquired the Russell Lords Bay property in Severn. This donation is slightly unusual in that it is located upstream from Georgian Bay proper, above Lock 45 in Little Lake. This area straddles the "contact zone" where the

Precambrian shield meets the Paleozoic bedrock characteristic of southern Ontario, resulting in an interesting and diverse collection of flora and fauna at both the southern and northern edges of their ranges. Lords Bay is a large shallow marsh; the Russell island property is dominated exclusively by Sugar Maple-Oak deciduous forest, a community that is rarely found along the Georgian Bay eastern shore, but is present here because of more extensive soil development.

A ten-acre island is the latest GBLT acquisition in the busy Pointe au Baril area. This is a different type of acquisition in that it is owned by several individuals, and also because the donors are both Canadian and American citizens. This means that the actual ownership of the island is now shared between the GBLT and American Friends of Canadian Land Trusts (American Friends).

There is one further pending donation in the Pointe au Baril area that we anticipate will close in early 2014. The property is also being donated by multiple owners who are of both Canadian and American citizenship.

Q&A With Stewardship Chairman, Jim Cooper



Dr. Jim Cooper has been the GBLT's stewardship chair since 2009. In keeping with the Cooper brothers' commitment and generosity to the Land Trust, Jim is always prepared to participate in any and all GBLT activities and initiatives, and can be relied on to go the extra mile – while preferring to stay out of the spotlight.

The Cooper family has been a fixture in northwestern Cognashene for generations. Jim and his siblings spent a portion of their formative years living in Midland, making the beloved Cog cottage an easy and frequent hop. Jim has lived and been a practicing ophthalmologist in Lindsay for some decades now; a contributing factor to the decision to move there was the comparatively unimpeded access to Georgian Bay.

Brooks Greer recently took the opportunity to interview Jim and here's what he had to say.

Briefly describe your involvement or experience with Georgian Bay.

My parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins all took it for granted that Georgian Bay (which really meant about 1/2 square mile in the north end of Cognashene) was the most wonderful place in the world. I have not had cause to question this assumption, but have grown to appreciate many other areas of the Bay.

How and when did you first become involved with the GBLT? Briefly describe your history with the Land Trust.

I don't remember exactly. I think my brother Peter asked me if I would be a steward for the Lizard when it was given to the Land Trust, so it has been likely eleven or twelve years. Both Peter and my cousin Neil Davis had been involved with the Land Trust so I knew something of its mission.

What do you enjoy most about stewarding?

I enjoy having a reason to spend a few hours on some of the most

beautiful islands in Georgian Bay. I enjoy meeting the people who are visiting the islands. Almost all the people are friendly and appreciative of the Land Trust's work. A few are a bit prickly but we all share a love of the Bay and can't resist chatting about it.

What do you think is or are the GBLT's greatest assets or strengths?

I suppose I should say that the people are its greatest asset, and they are vitally important, but I really think it is the beautiful land we have been entrusted with.

Do you have a favourite place or places on Georgian Bay?

My favourite place is Mullabuoy Island where I spent my summers as a child. My favourite GBLT property is American Camp and the surrounding islands. It is exquisite.

Do you have a favourite stewarding anecdote, a situation or episode that took place during one of your stewarding visits?

I had fun at the fire drill organized by Barb Hale on American Camp early this summer.

I also recall once in late summer walking by the cedars at the southwest end of American Camp Island and being surrounded by thousands of Monarch butterflies that had been resting in the trees.

What would you say to someone considering volunteering to steward?

If you love the Bay, you will love this job. The islands, the people you meet and the Land Trust staff will enhance enormously your appreciation for Georgian Bay.

As an addendum, we are currently looking for stewards for the following properties:

Port Severn Wetlands, Port Severn

Giant's Tomb Lot 1, northern tip of Giant's Tomb Island, Tiny Twp.

Friend Island, Pointe au Baril

Holton Reserve in Indian Harbour, Wah Wah Taysee

If you are interested in learning more, contact Brooks Greer, Land Protection Program Manager at brooks.greer@gblt.org

Reflections on being a GBLT Property Steward

By Robert B. Suter, PhD, Editor-in-Chief, *Journal of Arachnology* and GBLT Property Steward



Warbler, photo by Robert Suter

When I first arrived on the northeast shore of Georgian Bay, at nearly 2 years old and entirely dependent on my parents for transport, room, and board, St. Davids Island (Pointe au Baril) was part of the distant landscape, foreign and incomprehensible. At the time, the island was owned by my mother and her sister who later gave it to their

children. Over the many years since my first appearance on the scene, the island has remained largely unchanged: uninhabited, seldom visited by campers and picnickers, a valuable defense against the ravages of storms coming across open water from the west and southwest. The only noticeable changes, to my eyes, have been the sudden charring of the north end of the island, perhaps 30–40 years ago, due to a camper's unquenched fire, and the much more gradual increase in the island's size as water levels have declined.

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Reflections on being...Continued from page 3

The seven of us, my five cousins and my brother and I, owned the island until last December when we gave it to the Georgian Bay Land Trust via a gift to American Friends of Canadian Land Trusts. This past summer, as a volunteer steward, I visited this 13-acre island several times, always on the lookout for signs of use by humans and for direct sightings of bears, mink, beavers, red squirrels, red-backed voles, great-crested flycatchers, great blue herons, black-and-white warblers, winter wrens, and so on. Human incursions, except by me and my close kin, seem to be rare—wildlife sightings, on the other hand, are frequent and altogether delightful.

I also explored the shoreline of St. Davids by kayak, as I did in earlier decades by canoe. That shoreline has certainly changed with the dropping water level, but it remains diverse, with small bays and inlets punctuating steep drop-offs and, elsewhere, one newly emerged isthmus joining St. Davids to nearby Childs Island and another linking it to Kneller Island.

It's difficult to think of my visits to the island as duties—the island is beautiful, rich in animal and plant species, sheltered on one long side and exposed on the other—better to make visits for their own sake and complete my stewardship duties almost as afterthoughts.



American Painted Lady, photo by Robert Suter

A GBLT Milestone and Canadian First



Just before Christmas, a very special gift was given to the Georgian Bay Land Trust and everyone who loves the Pointe au Baril area. A ten-acre property is now co-owned by the GBLT and American Friends of Canadian Land Trusts (American Friends), and protected in perpetuity. The property was donated by several Canadian and American individuals who inherited it from long-time owners. *This generous donation is the first cross border Ecological Gift in Canadian history that involves both American and Canadian owners.* The Canadians donated their portion of the property directly to the GBLT and the Americans donated their share to American Friends. The GBLT will be responsible for the property's upkeep and stewarding, and also for paying property tax.

The island is located in the seasonally populated group of islands north of the Ojibway Club in the western Pointe au Baril area. Its generous 10-acre size includes small woodlots of White Pine and Red Oak, open rock barrens with patches of shrubs and herbs and some coastal meadow marsh communities. The islands in this area are just inland from the extreme exposure of the outer coast and have developed better, although still minimal, soil.

It is identified as a priority property for protection in the Nature Conservancy of Canada's Eastern Georgian Bay Natural Area Conservation Plan (NACP). The island contains rock barren and coastal marsh habitat for two rare species: the Eastern Foxsnake and the Eastern Massasauga rattlesnake; the latter species has been spotted on the property by the donors. The local area is made up of a network of islands, the majority of which are privately owned. This property's protection will allow further important habitat and species protection within this mini-archipelago cottage community.

The achievement of this Canadian first was a joint effort between the GBLT and American Friends working together



with the American and Canadian donors. Both Canadian and Americans on title will receive capital gains and income tax relief proportional to their percentage ownership.

This Ecological Gift was made possible by the very considerable efforts of Environment Canada and staff at Ecological Gifts Program (both provincial and federal levels). We wish to especially thank Dawn Laing and Jack Miller at Eco Gifts and Sandy Tassel at American Friends who worked long and tirelessly to chart this new territory in Canadian gifts of eco-sensitive properties. This is a wonderful step forward and a great achievement for the GBLT, allowing for other similar gifts, one of which is presently in the GBLT pipeline.

Last but certainly not least, we wish to thank the donors for their generosity and their perseverance as we broke new ground together. Thank you!

For more information on this cross border conservation success project, please contact Bill Loughheed.

Love of Nature Leads to \$122,000 Bequest

By Janet Lougheed, Director of Development



Late in January of 2010 I received a phone call from Bill Marrow. He said he had seen our ad the previous May in the Planned Giving supplement of the Barrie Advance, and wanted to know more about the GBLT. I dropped off a package and followed up with him at his home in Barrie. He asked me some questions about our work and talked to me about his canoe tripping days with his friends. Although he had never been out on Georgian Bay, he had canoed in Killarney, Algonquin Park and Quebec.

I promised him then that I would call in the spring and we would visit some GBLT properties. He told me he would commit to a gift of \$1000 a year and would consider moving his planned gift to the GBLT.

Late that spring, we visited the Lizard Island in Cognashene and we continued onto American Camp. He loved them both. We sat by the pond where we discussed GBLT's visions and plans, and Bill asked many questions. When I drove him back to King Bay, Bill thanked me profusely and I agreed to keep in touch. I tried to connect with Bill again several times but had no luck. However, he continued to send us \$1000 every year.

In early May of 2013, Mark Carabetta called me and said that a William Marrow had left us a gift. At first I was stumped before realizing it was my picnic friend Bill. Bill had passed away at the age of 67 and left his RRSP and tax free saving account to us.

I contacted Bill's cousin Barb Jacklin and she told me Bill was an only child who had never married. He worked for the LCBO in Toronto and on retiring, he had moved to Barrie. Bill had told Barb all his money was going to charity, but she never knew who would be the recipient of the money. Barb also told me that



Bill loved the outdoors and was happiest there. He was like a brother; he was generous and thoughtful and she missed him.

Bill understood the importance of preserving the nature he so enjoyed. Thank you Bill for choosing the GBLT. Your gift will ensure that we can continue to preserve this special place.

It doesn't matter if you have visited Georgian Bay once or for many years. It is a precious place for anyone who has the opportunity to visit, and it stays with you forever. There are people like Bill who look beyond their own enjoyment, and do what they can to make sure it is available for others forever.

Thanks, Topper!

By Janet Lougheed



Tim Topornicki and Heather Duncanson

When considering writing about our corporate sponsor Tim Topornicki (aka Topper), I didn't know where to begin. This is with good reason since I cannot fully recount the number of generous things Topper has done in support of the GBLT in the past six years. The most important is that our relationship is really never ending.

Working with Tim is like working with the Tasmanian Devil; but in truth, he has much more charm. John Stark, a past director of GBLT's Board of Director's, first introduced me to Tim. Our relationship was off to a start when Tim offered to donate table linens to our Bayscapes event on behalf of his company, Topper Linens. Since then, Tim's generosity has multiplied. He has

donated beautiful GBLT logo embroidered cooler bags; he has sold Muskoka chairs with the proceeds going to us and he has also provided his local Cognashene cottagers with cooler bags to sell at their events. Tim can also be found selling raffle tickets at our Bayscapes event. Very few get past Tim without buying tickets.

Tim has spoken to many of his friends and business acquaintances about getting involved with the GBLT. When meeting any of them, I say "Topper sent me," and a big smile appears, usually accompanied by a hilarious story about something Topper had done.

Last year, when Peter Cooper took Tim and me out for lunch, Tim surprised us by producing a cheque for \$5000 from his company. He also made an additional personal gift to the GBLT. There is no denying that Topper is a positive force at the GBLT and is always looking for creative ways to be of service to us.

As John Stark always says, "We couldn't do it without you". In Topper's case, it really couldn't be more true.

GBLT creates new Catto Philanthropy Award



In the past 10 years, since hiring its first employee and Executive Director Wendy Cooper, the GBLT has grown its annual budget from \$160,000 to \$500,000. We have raised \$1.3 million in stewardship endowment funds that ensure the GBLT's protected properties will be forever looked after and our work is now supported by a

network of over 110 committed property stewards.

We have made remarkable progress and we owe this to the support of a growing group of people who value the protection and appreciation of this world-renowned area. Many people have the ability to donate, but it is a small portion of people that give both time and money. The GBLT has been able to achieve significant conservation success thanks to the support of these individuals who play a critical role in our growth.

John Catto is one of these outstanding individuals. To say thanks, we thought it would be fitting to recognize John by naming our Philanthropy award after him. John is engaged in every sense:

he is a board member, past Treasurer, past Stewardship Chair, land donor and most of all, a committed Georgian Bayer. John is a welcoming face at every event, rolls up his sleeves when there is work to be done and has kept a keen eye on our funds. When things looked a bit scary, he sent in a gift; then another, and another.

Most recently, John stepped up and initiated a matching gift challenge for our Little McCoy project. Although he had already made a gift to the project, he committed to match any additional gift up to \$50,000 and as a result, we reached our goal. We are thankful to the Catto family for having chosen us as their charity of choice. We are better for having John on board in all ways; as a volunteer, land donor and financial supporter.

The Catto Philanthropy Award will be given on an ad hoc basis to an individual who shares the GBLT values and has committed significant gifts over a number of years allowing us to preserve and steward more land. It is fitting that John is the first recipient of the award. It's hard to surprise John, but nothing can match the shock and pleasure on his face when it was announced at the AGM that we had a new Philanthropy Award and it was named in his honour.

Thanks for all your committed support, John!

NCC and GBLT – a continuing partnership with a new manager



by Kristyn Ferguson, Program Manager, Georgian Bay-Huronian

When I close my eyes and think back to the summer of 2013, I see the pink rocks of an island set against the deepest blue of Georgian Bay. I had my first taste of the Bay in late May when Brooks Greer, Land Protection Program Manager of the Georgian Bay Land Trust (GBLT) toured me out to the recently acquired Tadenac Coastal Lots property. I came into my role as Program Manager for the Nature Conservancy of Canada's (NCC's) Georgian Bay – Huronia subregion just as the Tadenac property was about to close, using funds from NCC's *Other Qualified Organizations* program and it was so wonderful to see the place in person, finally. The Virginia Chain Fern bog, the embayments alive with northern water snakes and the air alight with dragonflies. Scrambling along the sheer rock faces, with a huge smile on my face, I was completely sold on Georgian Bay. About six weeks later I was invited back to the Pointe au Baril area to join GBLT's celebration for the securement of Little McCoy Island. Another bright sunny sky warmed the day, and as I dipped my hand in the cool water as the boat carried us to our destination I thought, "it doesn't get much better than

this"... and then a young moose swam across the channel right in front of our boat! To cap off my summer on the Bay I had the pleasure of joining Nick Eyles' "Rock Walk" at Painted Rocks and I learned more about geology in that hour than I did during my entire university education. I took a few minutes that afternoon to breathe in the cool air over the big waters and feel the warm rocks under my toes, already missing the place and wondering when I could find another reason to return!

It's been great not only getting to know Georgian Bay this past summer, but also the amazing GBLT staff, donors and volunteers who welcomed me on Little McCoy and a variety of other islands, into their boats, and into their homes with warm smiles and amazing stories gained from generations of living on these waters. The partnership between NCC and GBLT has been strong for years and I'm glad it's one I was able to inherit as I moved into this new role at NCC. I look forward to many more years working together towards successful conservation of those amazing pink rocks and everything else the gorgeous landscapes support.

Georgian Bay Query: How and when does ice formation develop on Georgian Bay?



By Bill Lougheed, GBLT Executive Director

When you curl up by the fireplace in the late fall, things are happening, especially at night, in the great outdoors. The few of you who have been lucky enough to observe the ice come or go on the shores of Georgian Bay have witnessed the spectacular natural process of which I speak.

In early December of most years, ice will first form in those small, protected, inland shallow marshes, bays and lakes. If one were to look from the air at the Georgian Bay coastline at this time using the near-real-time satellite (Modis: coastwatch.glerl.noaa.gov/modis/modis.htm) one may actually watch the ice "come in" over several weeks as the inner lakes, such as GBLT's Tadenac marshes, begin to freeze. Indeed, all of the inland areas with quiet water-bodies from Hwy 69 to the coast will now progressively form an ice cover and turn white as snow falls on them. Since water flow (or current) is an enemy of ice, rivers feeding the Bay remain open - warmer bottom water is continually stirred up in these systems and never forms thick/safe ice. Water depth is also an archenemy of ice so you will see that Lake Joseph, with its deep water, is the last of the Muskoka lakes to freeze in the early season.

The big Georgian Bay remains wide open at this time, its massive thermal body yet to cool, snuggling up to its coastal bays and keeping them open (think maritime climate).

On Georgian Bay proper, the big freeze comes weeks to a month later. The first to succumb to winter's onslaught are those small and shallow sheltered bays and coves. These areas

will slowly expand and interconnect to form thin bands of "near shore ice" along most coastal stretches of the Bay (that are protected from wind and wave by outer guard islands). These areas will slowly expand further to form an ice band that by mid-winter extends 1-2 miles off the eastern shore. Conversely, unprotected areas not guarded by islands, for example, O'Donnell Point, will remain exposed and dangerous for the entire winter season.

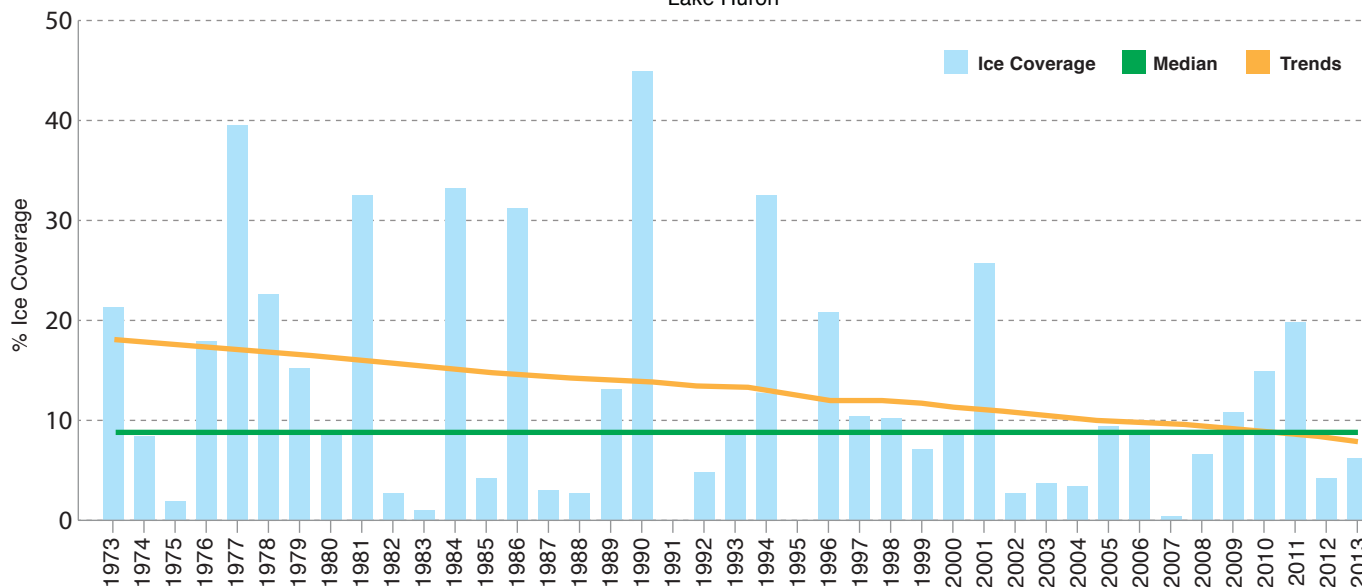
The first major area of Georgian Bay to see large "sheet ice" coverage is the shallow area of Severn Sound (think Midland and Penetanguishene Bays across to Beausoleil Island to Waubashene). This usually happens in the first 2 weeks of January, but has occurred as late as February 1st. Most of the large bays of the northeast shore of the North Channel will freeze in these first weeks of January where winter still sets in earlier and brings colder winter climes. A substantial ribbon of shore ice also takes its hold at this time on the more northerly coast from Key Harbour to Killarney.

In rare and exceptional years, Georgian Bay has frozen entirely over (twice in my memory), the latest being in 1994 (see map below).

Ice conditions can vary greatly from year to year. In a mild winter, the maximum ice coverage on Lake Huron and Georgian Bay may be as low as 26% (winter 2001-02) while during a severe winter the coverage can be more than 95%. Ice has formed as early as the last week of November and has persisted as late as the third week of May.

Environment Canada Ice Service Archives

Same Week: Historical Ice Coverage for the week of 0101 seasons: 1972/73-2012/13
Lake Huron



Average progression of ice cover on the Great Lakes. Credit: Environment Canada



In 1994 Georgian Bay froze completely over.
Credit: Modis Real-time Satellite (coastwatch.glerl.noaa.gov/modis/modis.htm)

In sheltered harbours and bays, lake ice typically grows to 45 - 75 cm during a normal winter. Areas of ridging out offshore on the Bay can contain ice thicknesses of up to 18 metres.

Ice Physics

Ice can be **black ice** (it is crystalline with a columnar structure and so you can see through it), which is formed when heat is lost to the cold atmosphere from the water underneath the ice. Per inch, "black ice" is much stronger and safer than other forms. Four inches (10 cm) of black ice will support a team of horses.

Ice can also be **snow ice** (it is a disordered structure so you cannot see through it) that occurs when the ice layer is submerged by heavy snow and water subsequently freezes in the slush layer.

Ice on a small lake is formed rather quickly after the surface water is cooled down to the freezing point – most often after a cold night with no wind. Two concurrent still nights of -20°C can form 3-4 inches of ice. Large lakes require much longer to freeze-over, since relatively warm water is brought to the surface during the more intense mixing in a large lake.

Interestingly, water is a weird molecule. It is most dense at around 4°C but gets lighter below this temperature. Because ice on a lake is less dense than underlying water, it floats. Without this unique property, life on Earth would probably not exist. Without it, surface ice would form; sink to the bottom; more surface ice would form and sink etc. Quite quickly the lake would freeze to the bottom, killing all aquatic species present.

The History of Ice

Today, scientists use ice cores from Greenland and Antarctica to determine world temperatures dating back over 100,000 years using ratios of two types of oxygen that occur within ice.

Calendar dates of freezing and thawing of lakes has been recorded in writings for hundreds of years. These records existed before the invention of modern thermometers. For example, Lake Suwa in Japan has an ice record dating back more than 550 years. Often, these early ice measurements were made for religious, cultural,

or practical reasons concerning transportation over ice vs. open water. Scientists can use these records to estimate past climate and weather conditions, using lakes as sentinels of broader climate change.

What Factors Make Ice Thin and Dangerous

- Narrow waterways – water will flow here
- Narrow gaps between islands
- Beaver ponds – the beavers make channels and you can break through even in the depth of winter
- Marshes in March – bogs heat up due to bacterial processes.
- In the spring, near-shore areas where the land is warm and will heat the ice
- All rivers
- Big open areas where wave action occurs
- All areas on GB not protected by outer guard-islands
- All big open stretches where waves can build
- Points - wind and water are forced to sweep around these areas

You need local knowledge to travel on the ice in winter. If you don't have this knowledge, go with a friend who has it or stay by the fire where this story began.

The King Family Bursary Program

The GBLT is excited to announce the creation of an annual **King Family Bursary Program**. Two bursaries of \$3500 will support the objectives of the Wally and Marilyn King Endowment Fund. The Fund supports one of the bursaries and an anonymous donor has offered to match this bursary.

Marilyn and Wally King have established a permanent endowment for the purposes of providing research, educational programs and creative projects from writers, artists and musicians that further advance that part of the

Land Trust's stated mission to promote appreciation of the Eastern Shore of Georgian Bay and the North Channel.

The King Family Bursary program will award funding to special projects that promote the appreciation of Georgian Bay and its unique environment. Scientists, academics, artists, authors, musicians, writers and others are encouraged to apply. Applications to the Bursary Program are being accepted until **January 31, 2014**. Further information and an application form are available on our website.

GBLT's Summer Conservation Staff Roundup

By Paige Stewart & Catriona Boyd



George Lougheed, Catriona Boyd, Paige Stewart & Janet Lougheed

The Land Trust was very lucky to rehire the Summer Student team of Paige Stewart and Catriona Boyd for a second season in 2013. Their conscientiousness, their enthusiasm and their creativity will all be hard acts to follow.

Catriona and Paige – thanks so much for all your hard work!

Being able to return and work for the Georgian Bay Land Trust again this past summer has been a great privilege for us. Overall

the weather was not quite as nice compared to last year, which means this past summer we had fewer people joining us at the islands than previous years. We only had to put up the flag on American Camp once. Still, between American Camp, the Southeast Wooded Pine and the Lizard, we were able to reach 1011 people and talk to them about the Land Trust and our incredible properties. Even the harbours we monitored- Indian Harbour, Monument Channel and Bone Island being the main ones, had much fewer boats on average than last summer.

Despite the weather, we had great turnouts to all our events. The Tadenac paddle brought out 7 people despite the serious wind, while 45 people were able to make it out to Cocktails on the Lizard. Our biggest event by far was our Kids Conservation Quest - we reached over 55 kids in one afternoon and were able to teach them useful lessons about conservation on the Bay all while ensuring they had a great time. It's an event we hope to repeat in different areas across the Bay in the coming years. Seeing people of all ages interested in our cause is just one of the many benefits we encountered almost every day. We wouldn't trade this opportunity for the world and are excited to watch the Georgian Bay Land Trust evolve even more over the coming years. Thanks to everyone who has made this experience so wonderful for us!

Little McCoy Celebration Picnic

by Patti Muir, Lead Steward, Friend Island



Some of the many supporters who made the Little McCoy project possible

This past summer we enjoyed a picnic day that we dream of all winter, creating vivid memories of beautiful clear skies over our Georgian Bay waters. This particular Pointe au Baril day had a rather celebratory feel about it – the dedication of the Little McCoy Island to the Georgian Bay Land Trust. Picture this: about 25 boats taking off from the Ojibway dock full of moms and dads, grandparents, active children, a couple of dogs plus

lots of delectable picnic lunches, roaring out Empress Channel into the Bay.

Arriving safely but not without a few bumps and crunches along the way in these shallow channels – everyone unpacked their boats, tied up or anchored out and clambered ashore to be greeted by Peter Cooper, GBLT Board Chairman and the GBLT staff. We gathered to hear the dedication of this beautiful Little McCoy Island with previous owners Bill McCoy, speaking for his Cleveland, Ohio family; children Peter McCoy, Sandy McCoy and Louise Franke. The Little McCoy Island project was completed thanks to generous funding contributions from the Nature Conservancy of Canada through the Government of Canada's Natural Areas Conservation Program, and generous support from the Pointe au Baril community. The project was also made possible by the support of a family truly committed to preserving this island for future generations. A dream for the GBLT has come to fruition and our heartfelt gratitude was definitely heard.

Delicious picnic lunches were enjoyed followed by a walk around the island. Upon returning to our destination many of us fell into the cool waters grateful for a good swim before venturing home across the open waters.

Kids Conservation Quest

by Ali Ballantyne, Go Home Bay



It was no ordinary day at American Camp on August 6th, 2013. The Georgian Bay Land Trust was holding its first Kid's Conservation Quest, and attendance was in full swing. From those who traveled out of Wah Wah Taysee to the fleets of children from the Cognashene area, taking up 6 different boats, the island was crawling with children who were excited to begin the fun games, cool stories, and of course, snake sightings.

The activities went even better than planned as kids separated into groups and were sent off to different stations. Some stations challenged the children in their recognition of the environment around them. One of these stations included finding their islands and cottage locations on a map ranging from the Parry Sound area all the way down to Midland and being able to recognize local fauna and invasive species. Some stations allowed the children to express their creativity using nature as an outlet. Catriona Boyd and Paige Stewart created stamps out of potatoes that resembled local animal prints and cut out little disks of wood that the children could paint their names on. The kids excelled in the quizzing games such as "name that bird" and "invasive bingo" and really impressed the hosts of those stations with their knowledge on the subjects. We all received a special treat as Jacquie Ballantyne, a Go Home Bay cottager who had recently been treated for her bite by a Massasauga rattlesnake, came and gave a very helpful talk to the kids about rattlesnake safety and



Glenda Clayton of the Georgian Bay Biosphere Reserve (GBBR)

the importance of protective footwear and what to do in the event of a possible bite.

As the kids huddled around for Mr. Freezies and picnic lunches, Glenda Clayton from the GBBR gave an exciting talk to the kids about the local reptiles that we can find around Georgian Bay and surprised us all when she brought out her Fox Snake and let the kids have a chance at handling this native (and at risk) species.

All in all, it was a very successful day filled with lots of amazement and smiles. I can't wait to see the turnout at Kids Conservation Quest next year!

Painted Rocks Walk, Bayfield

By Carolyn Rymell



The Painted Rocks provided the outdoor classroom for over 100 Georgian Bay enthusiasts this past July. Dr. Nick Eyles, Canada's "Rock" star, led a leisurely walk and talk around this beautiful island of banded gneiss on behalf of the Georgian Bay Land Trust.

Starting around noon, kayaks and motorboats continued to arrive, looking for places to anchor and disgorge their cargo. Disembarking

passengers scrambled up the rock ledges to the relatively flat rock surface of the island like an invading army. An unarmed army if picnic hampers, backpacks and cameras are ignored.

Prior to the Nick Eyles' walk and talk, the clear sunny day invited individuals to explore on their own, to rest and enjoy the sun's rays, and to mingle with other day-trippers. As people came from up and down the eastern shore of Georgian Bay, it

was an opportunity to meet old friends and make new ones.

Once Nick Eyles, University of Toronto geology professor, author, and television advisor started his talk, participants were all ears. Lessons were learnt this particular afternoon, which forced our surroundings to be viewed through fresh eyes. Colliding landmasses, plate tectonics, the creation and destruction of the Grenville Mountains provided one story. Changes in climate, and the impact of glaciers was the other dominant story. Both of these themes provided the background for the geological history of this and other Georgian Bay islands.

Painters and photographers have captured the various shades, swirls and stripes in these rocks for decades. But it is not until the full history of the area is learned can one appreciate and marvel at the force and power of nature that created the quartz dikes, the ridges in the rocks and the patterns that Georgian Bay cottagers, year round residents and tourists have grown to love.

Unfortunately late afternoon arrived too quickly before all the highlights of the Painted Rocks were seen and appreciated. But the visitors to the island that day were armed with new knowledge when they walk this or other Georgian Bay islands in the future.

Bayscapes Photography Auction

by Carolyn Bowden, Chair



Steam Whistle Brewing was the host to this year's Bayscapes Photography Auction and what a night it was! With over 250 in attendance including photographers, volunteers and many new and familiar faces from around the Bay; the venue was humming with excitement. Many inspiring pieces of photography were joined by other unique items like a sailing trip and a picnic excursion aboard a Bertram. A Rossiter Loudon rowboat donated to the GBLT

was front and centre garnering many stimulating conversations.

Our thanks go out to all of the GBLT staff, the enthusiastic volunteers who participated so willingly and to our sponsors who helped to make the event a great success! We raised over \$55,000 through the many auction pieces, ticket sales, and the GBLT Tuck Shop that offered the Waters of Georgian Bay tartan merchandise among other great items.



photo: Maddie Laforest

Brendan Morrison & Shannon Beddoe



photo: Yvonne Bambrick

Sarah Tawaststjerna, Neal Southam, Brooks Greer, and David Tawaststjerna.



photo: Yvonne Bambrick

Chris Bulger, David Doritty & Peter Cooper



Photo: Maddie Laforest



Photo: Maddie Laforest

Joanne Browne, Wendy Bunston & Anne Doritty

Welcome to our new Chairman

By Peter Cooper, Past Chairman, GBLT



It is a pleasure to welcome **Janny Vincent**, currently Vice-Chairman of the GBLT, as the new Chairman of the GBLT as of January 1, 2014. I have had the pleasure of working with Janny for the past five years and her commitment to the Land Trust has been outstanding. As Chairman, I have witnessed her dedication to the organization and also have noted that she is an incredibly able individual who has great experience, clear vision and well-honed leadership skills. When Janny first became involved with the Trust, she enthusiastically joined our Fundraising Committee, Long Term Stewardship Task Force and acted as Chair of our Communications Committee for two years. Janny has supported the Land Trust in many other ways and when it comes to taking on a new initiative, she rolls up her sleeves and digs in.

Janny was born and raised in Toronto and is a U of T graduate. She has been a committed Georgian Bayer since her early childhood, when her parents acquired Rum Island in the Sans Souci area in 1962. Janny is married to Peter McCann and has two daughters and a wonderful extended family, all of whom enjoy their retreat on Georgian Bay. Janny is the founder and President of her information management company, Vincent and Associates and is also President of Fundata Canada Inc., Canada's leading provider of investment fund and market data.

Janny feels strongly that the Georgian Bay needs to be preserved for the people, flora and fauna to live in harmony now and in the future. Please join me in welcoming Janny to her new role and I know she is looking forward to seeing many of you out on the Bay next summer.

Farewell to our past Chairman

By Janny Vincent, incoming Chairman, GBLT



Peter Cooper is a fourth generation Georgian Bay cottager who believes it is his responsibility to do as much as he can to protect and preserve this Unesco designated Biosphere. He has certainly done an excellent job in living up to his personal goal.

Peter's term as Chairman of the GBLT was filled with many accomplishments. During his tenure from 2011 through 2013 he was instrumental in attracting many talented new directors to our Board. Peter has been both a strategic and hands on leader. He has volunteered as a Steward for the Lizard and Alexander Islands since 2005 right up to today. Peter was elected to the Board on June 13, 2007 and served as Chair of the Fund Raising Committee from 2007 to 2011 when he relinquished that role to become Chair of the organization in 2011. Peter attends countless committee and strategic meetings with leaders of government and other organizations, all in the name of furthering the goals of our organizations. His time, insight and forward-looking thinking have been a real gift to the Bay and specifically to the GBLT.

I have had the pleasure of working with Peter for the past several years. I have watched him practice his incredible art of connecting people to purpose over these years. During his time as Chairman, he has helped to grow and bring immense leadership to the Board. We have an amazing team of dedicated people, all of whom know the "power of Peter".

On Peter's watch and aided by this dedicated team of people who care so deeply about the Bay, this organization has grown not just in terms of talent, resource and capacity but also in terms of our mandate of protected properties. In these years of his Chairmanship we have protected 12 properties, with others in the pipeline.

On behalf of all of our GBLT community we say a huge "thank you" to Peter for all that he has meant to each of us, as a friend, a colleague and a fellow supporter of the Georgian Bay Land Trust. As a group we will be able to continue to count on Peter's steady and consistent help in steering people towards the goals that we all hold so dear.



WE'RE WILD FOR IT! CONSERVING THE WILDFLOWERS OF GEORGIAN BAY POSTER FOR SALE

The GBLT photography competition began in 2007 with the goal of encouraging all people who enjoy Georgian Bay to *take only pictures, leave only footprints*. Interest in the competition has continued to grow and we are excited to reveal our 4th poster in the GBLT poster series.

Posters make great gifts and are available from the GBLT office.

Rolled \$20 | Plaqued \$50

Winterlude

Edward Burtynsky: Watermark Film

Watermark is a feature documentary from multiple-award winning filmmakers Jennifer Baichwal and Nick de Pencier, and renowned photographer Edward Burtynsky, marking their second collaboration after *Manufactured Landscapes* in 2006. The film brings together diverse stories from around the globe about our relationship with water: how we are drawn to it, what we learn from it, how we use it and the consequences of that use.

Thursday, March 6, 2014 Serving up samples from sponsors
Bishop Strachan School
298 Lonsdale Rd., Toronto
Welcome reception 6:30 pm
Screening 8:00 pm



No cost; but donations welcomed

Board Appointment & Awards



We are pleased to announce and welcome **Diane MacDiarmid** as a senior leader who has joined our Board of Directors.

Diane MacDiarmid is a Senior Partner with Korn/Ferry's Board Services HR practice. Previously Diane was Executive Vice

President, Corporate Resources with Bentall Kennedy LP, a North American real estate investment and services company. In that position, which she held for seven years, Diane led their human resources and strategy functions. Prior to joining Bentall Kennedy, Diane was President of Oliver Wyman Delta Canada. In her sixteen year consulting career with them, Diane worked with the senior leadership of companies across North America addressing issues of strategy, organization design and leadership effectiveness.

She is a member of the Boards of Morneau Shepell and Altus Group. Diane and her husband Ian MacDonald have owned a cottage in Go Home Bay since their oldest son, Kenzie, was born 22 years ago. Both Kenzie and their younger son, Angus, who is 20, attend Dalhousie in Nova Scotia.

GBLT board member, Georgian Bay rock star and U. of T. Physical and Environmental Sciences professor **Nick Eyles** has been selected for another honour. Nick was recently recognized by the Royal Society of Canada and awarded the prestigious McNeil Medal for his outstanding promotion and communication of science to students and the public across Canada.

Nick's publications, awards and accomplishments are very impressive; he has been editor or author of several books on various geological topics, and notably hosted a fascinating five part CBC 'Nature of Things' series with David Suzuki.

Bravo, Nick!

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Tribute Gifts

Received from May 1 to December 31, 2013

In Memory

Robert Allen Anderson	Elinor Kohler
William Southam Balfour	Robert & Della Labrecque
Charles Barrett	Mary & Peter McCullough
Doreen Bray	Peter McDonald
Art Breithaupt	Alice Minett
Betty Breithaupt	Patrick A. Monaghan
Neil Campbell	Gordon Ridgely
Dave Chantler	Rosalie (Lee) Robbins
Joe Clark	John David Sanderson
Daniel R. Daley M.D.	Norman M. Seagram
Dr. Donald Fraser	Bob Shelley
George German	Mr. Hamilton Strayer
Peter Harman	Johann Van Koll
Robert (Mel) Hodgins	Jinny Weekes
Margaret (Peggy) Hopkins	Reid Williams
Dr. Peter Kewin	Susan Worts

In Honour

Tom & Virginia Atkins	Margaret Evans
John, Jenn, Caitlin & Eric Bate	Stephen & Cathy Griggs
Apple Sue & Fred Beck	Wally King
Vincent Beretta	Donald & Lorraine Lawson
Jamie & Gillian Coyles	Heather Neely
Margaret Cross	John Van Nostrand
Bill & Kathy Davis	Miranda Pyette
Adrienne Deeks	Nancy Rogers
Bob Deeks	Elizabeth Ross
Doug Deeks	Betty Stanley
James Deeks	John Stark

Thanks to our generous sponsors



By including Georgian Bay Land Trust in your will you are helping to create a legacy of nature conservation for future generations.



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