CLEAR THINKING

CLEARLAKECONSERVANCY.ORG

JANUARY 2022 | ISSUE NO.41

OUR LETTER

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Development
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Outreach & Education
Water Quality



WINTERBERRY, A BRIGHT SPOT IN THE COLD WINTER WEATHER.

COUNT THE WAYS

Happy New Year! We are incredibly grateful for the spirit of community we saw in 2021. Your generosity gives us optimism for our work together in 2022.

You'll notice that most of this newsletter issue is taken up with the list of people who supported the Giving Tuesday and Year-end appeals. We're very happy to celebrate over $194,000 in gifts from 193 people! These contributions represent giving from 22% of our community members.

Your unrestricted donations—and those of your family, friends and neighbors—puts the Conservancy on a firm foundation for our 2022 staffing and fundamental stewardship and education programs.

Some of your donations give us a head-start on the Aquatic Vegetation Management Plan and Watershed Diagnostic Study projects slated to begin in the spring. Some of your donations added to our Land Acquisition and Sustainability Funds, helping to ensure our long-term growth and financial base.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT IN SO MANY WAYS.

You'll also read about a new Conservancy property preserving our natural environment for future generations, FOREVER. This land adds to our growing group of protected wetlands, which serve as "kidneys" to filter water as it flows towards and into our lakes. The .6-acre tract was a donation from Clear Lake Lutheran Church, a wonderful community partner with the Conservancy since our founding in 1991. We gratefully accepted stewardship of this preserve and honored the gift by naming it "Clear Lake Lutheran Wetlands". This donation took our preserved land to triple digits – 100 acres, protected forever! You'll hear about more growth as 2022 unfolds.

We think of your donations as investments in our world for now and for the future. Please contact us if you want to explore making a difference in a particular way for the community. Our mission is "to preserve, protect and manage the natural environment within the Clear Lake Watershed and Township for future generations." Our mission and our projects provide all of us choices among the many ways we can make a difference for our future generations.

LAND. WATER. ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION. TOGETHER, WE ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE.

Enjoy the winter months and stay healthy wherever you are. We'll be back together before we know it.



Karen Horrell *President*



Bridget Harrison *Executive Director*



CELEBRATING CLEAR LAKE LUTHERAN WETLANDS

It's a story of double stewardship.

For many decades, the Clear Lake Lutheran Church (CLLC) has owned and stewarded .6 acres of wetlands on the south shore of Clear Lake between the church buildings on Outer Drive and South Clear Lake Drive. CLLC recently concluded that the wetlands best fit the mission of Clear Lake Land Conservancy and completed the donation of the wetlands to the Conservancy in October, ensuring that the wetlands will remain in good hands now and for the future.

The Conservancy was honored to accept ownership of the wetlands and memorialized the property's history by naming the preserve "Clear Lake Lutheran Wetlands". Conservancy President, Karen Horrell commented: "We appreciate the trust of the CLLC congregation in donating these wetlands to us for preservation. We especially recognize and express appreciation to CLLC Board Chair Tim Knoblauch, longtime CLLC land steward Bob Burris and to CLLC Secretary Penny Retcher for their assistance in documenting historical records to enable the transaction closing."

Clear Lake Lutheran Wetlands is the 17th property protected by the Conservancy, FOREVER, and brought the total acreage preserved to exactly 100 acres! This generous donation continues a strong community partnership between CLLC and the Conservancy to benefit future generations in the Clear Lake Township. While not publicly accessible, the wetlands serve the valuable role of filtering sediment and nutrients from surface and ground water before it enters Clear Lake.

Clear Lake Lutheran Wetlands is the 17th property protected by the Conservancy, FOREVER, and brought the total acreage preserved to exactly 100 acres!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Anonymous (7)

Steuben County Community Foundation on behalf of an Anonymous Donor

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Aquatic Enhancement & Survey

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Bok Family Partnership
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M: Shanna Woodbury

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M: Imogene and Dallas Young

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M: Lolly and Jimbo Zachrich

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H: Bill and Jo Ellen Culbertson

The Denver Pepples
H: William Greffin

Anonymous
H: Ron and Kay Kummer

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H: Little Long Lake Healthy Lake Association

Cindy Stovall
H: Todd Rumsey

Greg and Meghan Webster
H: Nancy Webster

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Alex and Susan Connett

Jeff and Kathy Greer with employer match from Cardinal Health

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Terry and Koggy Newcomb

Deborah and Erik Oiler

Tom and Jenny Parker

Nancy and Bob Webster

EURASIAN WATERMILFOIL PROJECT

Jim and Karen Bushey

Sue Compo

The Chicago Community Foundation on behalf of Judy & Bill Greffin

Cindy and Steve King

Molly and Jeffery Nagle

Matthew and Claire Timmer

Denny and Sheryl Vetter

GRANT SUPPORT

Amazon Smile

Clear Lake Fund at the Steuben County Community Foundation

PayPal Giving Fund

Steuben County Community Foundation

IN-KIND

Alex and Susan Connett

Jonathan Cox

Jack and Karen Horrell

Tom and Jenny Parker

KASOTA ISLAND

Conner Slee

LAND ACQUISITION

Anonymous (2)

Lincoln Financial Foundation on behalf of Jim Horein

STEUBEN COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION ENDOWMENT FUND SUPPORT

Bill & Chris Geiger & Family Endowment Fund

Jack and Karen Horrell

SUSTAINABILITY ENDOWMENT FUND

Anonymous

Jack and Karen Horrell

WATER QUALITY

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Dan and Christine Rippe

Joan and Jerry Rippe

*List reflects contributions since our November issue of Clear Thinking. Contact us if you see a mistake.

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"Let us come alive to the splendor that is all around us and see the beauty in ordinary things."
– THOMAS MERTON

MISSION STATEMENT

We preserve, protect, & manage the natural environment within the Clear Lake Watershed and Township for future generations.

VOLUNTEER | CONTACT | DONATE

clearlakeconservancy.org
or call (260) 527-1072

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Neighborhood Cleanup Project
WHEN: 3/22 – 4/22

Spring Wildflower Hike at CLNP & BW
WHEN: 4/30 at 9:00 am

Garlic Mustard Pull Week:
Koeneman Lake & Clear Lake Lutheran Woods
WHEN: 5/3 at 2:00 pm

Flora Husselman Trumbull Nature Preserve
WHEN: 5/5 at 2:00 pm

Monthly Water Quality Testing
WHEN: 5/6, 6/3, 7/1, 8/5 at 8:30 am

Kasota Island Cleanup
WHEN: 6/11 at 9:00 am

Knee-high Naturalist
WHEN: 7/1, 7/8, 7/15, 7/22, 7/29 from 10:00 am – 11:30 am

Summer Wildflower Hike at CLNP & BW
WHEN: 8/6 at 10:30 am

Macro Day
WHEN: 9/14 at 9:00 am

Halloween Trail at Brennan Woods
WHEN: 10/22 from 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

National Hike Day with Area Girl Scouts
WHEN: 11/17 at 4:00 pm

CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE DETAILS

SCAN THE QR CODE