

# landscene

A publication of the Natural Heritage Land Trust Spring 2008

## Land Trust passes 5,000 acre mark!



Brad Glass, Doug Cieslak of Driftless Area Land Conservancy, and Barabara Glass.

Two end-of-the-year land transactions put us over the 5,000 acre mark for the amount of important land and water protected by the Natural Heritage Land Trust in our 25-year history. The two December projects resulted in the protection of 369 acres of farmland and forest in Iowa County, in conjunction with our partner the Driftless Area Land Conservancy. These projects bring the total amount of land and water we have protected in Dane, Iowa, Sauk, Rock, Columbia, and Juneau counties to 5,076 acres since the Land Trust was established in 1983.

The Iowa County projects were the result of generous donations of conservation easements by two landowners. Conservation easements are voluntary land protection agreements that

permanently restrict some uses of land to conserve important natural resources.

Brad and Barbara Glass donated a conservation easement on 290 acres of forest, savanna, prairie, and field in the Sneed Creek valley north of Dodgeville. Their property includes extensive areas of forest interspersed with savanna remnants and a restored prairie. Anne Bachner donated a conservation easement on 79 acres of farmland and forest adjacent to Governor Dodge State Park. The Glasses and Anne Bachner are long-time landowners with a deep appreciation for the Iowa County landscape. As Anne Bachner said, "The experience of preparing for the easement has helped me to appreciate the land even more." ■



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The Natural Heritage Land Trust protects natural areas, wildlife habitat, working farms, healthy lakes and streams, and recreational land to provide a high quality of life in the Dane County region.



Preserving Wally Bauman Woods was the Land Trust's first success.

## Thinking and Acting Local for 25 Years

**2008** is the Natural Heritage Land Trust's 25th anniversary year. The Land Trust, originally known as the Dane County Natural Heritage Foundation, was established to preserve a quarter-mile of woods along Lake Mendota in Madison. This land, now known as Wally Bauman Woods, is part of the beloved green corridor which includes Picnic Point and runs from Muir Woods to Eagle Heights Woods on the University of Wisconsin-Madison campus.

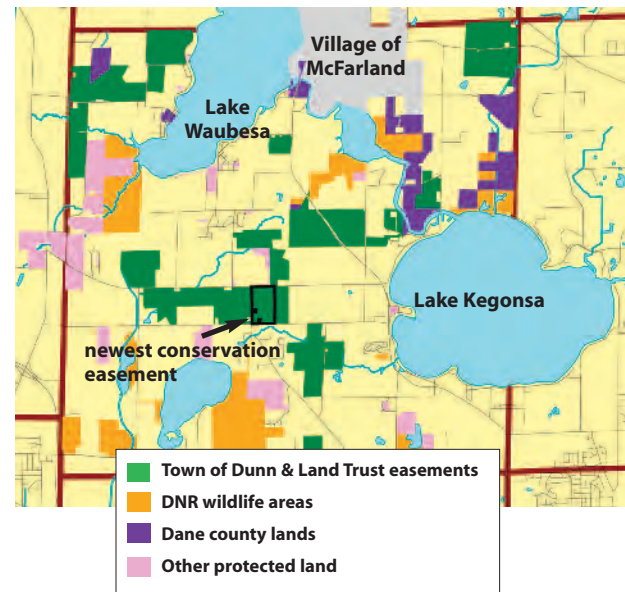
In 1983, a group of conservation-minded citizens formed a committee to make the case for saving the 2.6 acre parcel of woods. They rallied local support through high-level meetings and door-to-door canvassing. The Wisconsin State Journal asked its readers to donate to the cause. Both The Capital Times and the Wisconsin State Journal wrote pro-preservation editorials. In 1984, through a cooperative effort by individual citizens, various conservation organizations, the City of Madison, Dane County, and the State of Wisconsin, the Land Trust purchased the property for the benefit of current and future generations.

Today Wally Bauman Woods is owned by the University and is part of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve. The Land Trust, the City of Madison, and Dane County hold a conservation easement over the property, and the Land Trust monitors the property once a year to ensure that the terms of the conservation easement are respected.

**If you would like to visit Wally Bauman Woods, please join Jean Meanwell, Harriet Riley, and Jim Welsh for a hike there on Saturday, May 31st, 10:00 am – Noon.** Meet at Raymer's Cove parking lot on Lake Mendota Drive. This event is co-sponsored Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve and the Land Trust. ■

## Another farm conserved in the Town of Dunn

The completion of our 19th conservation easement co-held with the Town of Dunn brought another 96 acres of farmland into permanent conservation status last year. The latest farm to be protected is located on County Road B near the town hall. It sits between several other protected farms, creating an unbroken swath of 800 acres of permanently protected farmland in the heart of the town. The total acreage of farmland protected through the Land Trust-Town collaboration is 2,542. ■



Conservation easements in the Town of Dunn are starting to create connections in the landscape, with results that are visible throughout the town. (Please note that most conservation easements are not open to the public.)





The Land Trust is working to protect natural areas close to Madison including the mosaic of land and water at Cherokee Marsh.

## A Living Legacy

Imagine moving to Madison in 1950 and living on Turville Point. Your cottage is 20 feet away from Lake Monona. Your daughter and two sons play along the shore of Lake Monona and in the woods that are now part of Olin-Turville Park. This is how Clemens and June Baime came to love the natural beauty of Dane County.

Born in North Dakota, Clemens Baime served as a teacher at Nichols School in Monona and later worked for the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction. June Baime, born in Minneapolis, was as a ballet teacher and started the dance fellowship at the First Unitarian Society of Madison. Later, she taught ballet as part of the University of Wisconsin-Extension.

In December 2007, Clemens and June Baime made a living legacy gift to the Natural Heritage Land Trust to help protect natural areas and agricultural lands in Dane County for future generations. "For many years we sent \$25 checks to local groups that were doing good work. Recently we decided to do something to leave a living legacy," said June Baime. The Natural Heritage Land Trust is grateful for the Baime's very generous gift. ■

## 23 more acres added to Patrick Marsh

In October the Land Trust purchased another 23 acres of land at the Patrick Marsh Natural Resource Area on the east side of Sun Prairie. This land covers a portion of an historic Native American path and will provide an important off-road link in the hiking trail that will one day circle Patrick Marsh. The property is adjacent to land that we have previously purchased, as well as land owned by Dane County Parks.

More than 160 individuals, businesses, and foundations helped make this acquisition possible. Major donors include Bank of Sun Prairie, Oliver Berge, Dentistry of Wisconsin, Ducks Unlimited, The Evjue Foundation, General Casualty, Pan-O-Gold Baking Co./Village Hearth Breads, Richard and Susan Plonsky, Ritter Insurance Agency, Rotary Foundation of Sun Prairie, Sun Prairie Lions Club, Wal-Mart Foundation, and an anonymous donor. Landowners Bill and Sue Paulson generously sold the land to us at below its appraised value. Public funding came from the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Fund, the Dane County Conservation Fund, and the North American Wetlands Conservation Act. ■

## Hunting land added to Avon Bottoms Wildlife Area

Last fall, the Natural Heritage Land Trust donated a 349-acre tract to the state as an addition to the Avon Bottoms Wildlife Area in southern Rock County. The Land Trust purchased the property from the Lakin family in 2006. The former farmland was restored to wetland and grassland habitat by the USDA's Wetland Reserve Program to improve its wildlife values. Avon Bottoms is located about 10 miles west of Beloit and is open to the public for hunting, fishing, canoeing, and bird watching.

### Support Your Local Land Trust Today!

Become a new member or renew your membership today, and help protect natural areas and agricultural lands in the Dane County region. Please fill out this form and return it to Natural Heritage Land Trust, 303 S. Paterson St., Suite 6, Madison, WI 53703.

\$35    \$60    \$100    \$250    \$500    Other \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

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**Payment Method:**  Check enclosed (payable to Natural Heritage Land Trust)    Bill my credit card:  Visa    Mastercard

Name on card \_\_\_\_\_ Card number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

I am interested in making a gift through my will. Please send me information.

*To make a credit card donation by phone, please call 608-258-9797. Contributions are tax-deductible as provided for by law.*



**Volunteer Stefanie Brouwer at a Black Earth Creek work party last fall.**

## Save the Date!



**25th Anniversary Stewardship Awards Celebration**, Thursday, May 1st, 5:30 – 8:30 pm., Monona Terrace. Dinner and dessert will be served.

**Friends of the UW-Madison Arboretum Native Plant Sale**, Saturday, May 10th, 9 am – 2 pm ([www.uwarboretum.org/foa](http://www.uwarboretum.org/foa))

**Wally Bauman Woods field trip** with Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve and the Natural Heritage Land Trust. Saturday, May 31st, 10 am – Noon. Meet at Raymer's Cove parking lot on Lake Mendota Drive.

## Thank you!

- To the Law Firm of Christenson and Alex for donating three office chairs
- To Steve Robertson for donating a carrying case for our laptop
- To Black Earth State Bank for allowing use of their space for open house
- To Kevin St. Angel for updating and maintaining our website

## Work parties at Black Earth Creek

Join the Natural Heritage Land Trust and the Southern Wisconsin chapter of Trout Unlimited for one or all four Saturday work parties at Black Earth Creek. We will cut vegetation to improve habitat and public access to the stream, and we need your help. The work parties will run from 8 a.m. to noon on March 8, March 22, April 19, and May 10. Stay for lunch provided by Trout Unlimited.

Bring work gloves, hand tools if you have them (loppers, small saws, etc.), and rubber boots if you don't want to get your feet wet. Wear long pants and long sleeves. Anyone over age 14 is welcome. Please contact Kate Wiperman at 258-9797 or [kate@nhlt.org](mailto:kate@nhlt.org) if you would like to join us, and for details about the location of the work parties. ■

**President's Circle and Other Major Donors** (as of February 15, 2008). To join the President's Circle, please contact martha Frey at 258-9797 or [Martha@nhlt.org](mailto:Martha@nhlt.org).

**\$50,000+** Eugenie Mayer Bolz Foundation, Dane County Conservation Fund, Madison Community Foundation, North American Wetlands Conservation Act, Bill and Sue Paulson, Wisconsin Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program **\$10,000 - \$49,999** Anne Bachner, Clemens F. & June M. Baime, General Casualty, Martha Lound, Pan-O-Gold Baking Co./Village Hearth Breads, Southern Wisconsin Chapter Waterfowl USA Limited, Frank & Mariana Weinhold **\$5,000 - \$9,999** The Evjue Foundation **\$3,000 - \$4,999** Sherren Clark, Glenn Reiml & Sara Krebsbach, Town of Dunn **\$2,000 - \$2,999** BT<sup>2</sup> Engineering & Science, Michael & Shelley Dubis, Ducks Unlimited, Brad & Barbara Glass, Larry Hitch, Natural Resources Consulting, John & Lorie Raihala, Ritter Insurance Agency, Sun Prairie Lions Club **\$1,000 - \$1,999** Johanna & Mike Alex, Bank of Sun Prairie, Tom Bergamini & Herika Kummel, Oliver Berge, Robert & Ann Bolz, Ed & Lois Brick, Doug & Sherry Caves, Dentistry of Wisconsin, Lloyd & Pat Eagan, William Fairbanks, John Feith, Martha M. Frey, Richard & Mary Frey, Rob Gottschalk & Joy Stieglitz Gottschalk, Gary & Lynn Hebl, Thomas & Patty Hebl, Hooper Foundation/Hooper Construction & General Heating & Air Conditioning, John J. Frautschi Family Foundation, Inc., Julie Hayward & Donn D'Alessio, Lathrop & Clark LLP, Phoebe & John Lewis Foundation, Bill Lunney & Judie Pfeifer, Tom McGregor & Anita Gallucci, Norcross Wildlife Foundation, Bill O'Connor & Krista Roys, Kathy F. & Bill Pielsticker, Placon Corporation, Richard & Susan Plonsky, Scott & Cary Reich, David Rice, Rotary Foundation of Sun Prairie, Michael & Linda Slavney, State Bank of Cross Plains, Jeff Strobel, Vandewalle & Associates, Inc., Wheeler, Van Sickle & Anderson, S.C., Wal-Mart Foundation, Bill & Lorette Wambach, Bill & Win Welsh, and Jim Welsh

**Would you like to receive e-mail updates?** We send out approximately 8-12 e-mails a year, primarily to share news of land protection successes. Please send your e-mail address to [martha@nhlt.org](mailto:martha@nhlt.org)



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