



NORTHWOODS LAND TRUST

LEAVING A LASTING LEGACY
FOR THE NORTHWOODS



P.O. Box 321, Eagle River, WI 54521

March 2014

The Haupterts' Commitment to Save the Jump River

When Daniel and Catherine Hauptert signed their land protection agreement at the end of December, they completed a personal commitment to protect the Jump River more than a decade in the making.

Located in the town of Catawba in Price County, the Haupterts' 182-acre conservation easement includes about two miles (10,570 feet) of natural shoreline frontage on the North Fork of the Jump River. With land on both sides of the river, their property features one mile of scenic river corridor with no human-made structures visible. Accessible for canoeing and kayaking, the river in this area includes some whitewater riffles and rapids.

Dan first contacted NWLT and participated in an application to acquire conservation easements through the federal Forest Legacy Program in 2004. Although that Forest Partners project was not successful, the Haupterts did not lose their commitment to protecting their land.

"It stems out of our interest in protecting the Jump River," said Dan. "I was a founding member and President of the Friends of the Jump River, which started in 2000." Dan noted that one result of the Friends' efforts, with the River Alliance of Wisconsin, was to successfully petition the Natural Resources Board to have the Jump River, including the North and South Forks, listed as Exceptional Resource Waters.

"One of our chief aims was to protect the river corridor," said Dan. "We reached out to the Northwoods Land Trust to consider conservation easements. The Friends of the Jump River was 13 years old and we still hadn't protected any of the river corridor."

According to the DNR 2006 Land Legacy Report, "the Jump River and its two forks support a diverse assemblage of species including several rare insects, fish and reptiles. In-stream habitat throughout the system is excellent." The Jump River supports about 45 species of fish ranging in size from tiny dace and darters to muskellunge and lake sturgeon. The North Fork of the Jump River was also



Dan & Cathy Hauptert committed to protect in perpetuity 182 acres of land with a mile of corridor on the North Fork of the Jump River, one of the most biologically diverse river segments in Price County.

ranked as the 5th highest of 61 priority river and stream segments identified for protection in Price County by the DNR Northern Rivers Initiative.

Living in Hartford, Wisconsin, Dan's attachment to wild places started at an early age. "I grew up near Pike Lake, and part of the lake's shoreline was completely wild," remembered Dan. A local farmer "farmed 40 acres with horses and left the rest wild. We would cross the lake in our rowboats and he would let us camp out at his place, which became part of Pike Lake State Park. There were Indian arrowheads and fresh-water springs coming out of the ground. It was paradise for a kid. I always thought

(Continued next page)

MISSION:

The Northwoods Land Trust (NWLT) promotes conservation by private landowners of natural shorelands, woodlands, wetlands and other natural resources, as public benefits for present and future generations in Vilas, Oneida, Forest, Florence, Iron and Price Counties and the surrounding region.

Phone: (715) 479-2490 Email: nwlt@northwoodslandtrust.org Web site: www.northwoodslandtrust.org

Northwoods Land Trust

Purpose:

- To provide education and utilize voluntary conservation options with private landowners.
- To preserve natural shorelands on lakes, rivers and other waterways for protection of water quality, fish and wildlife habitat, erosion control, and natural scenic beauty.
- To conserve private woodlands and encourage landowners to manage their forest lands in an ecologically sustainable manner.
- To accept perpetual stewardship for secure conservation agreements with private landowners, such as easements, land donations and property acquisitions.
- To annually monitor NWLT land protection agreements.
- To seek support through donations, grants, endowments memberships and volunteers.
- To leverage our conservation efforts through partnering with other organizations and agencies.

Newsletter Editor: Bryan Pierce
Staff Writer: Trisha Moore

Save the Jump River - *continued*

about having a place like that of my own.”

“Hartford was a sleepy little farm town 30 miles from Milwaukee,” said Dan. “When I got out of high school in 1968, farmland was \$300 an acre. In a very short time it went up to \$3,000 an acre. The changes were unbelievable. Now Hartford is mostly a big subdivision, part of suburban Milwaukee.”

Dan went to college as a geography major when the only environmental studies course at the University of Wisconsin-Madison was in the school of geography. As a Dean’s List second-semester senior, Dan had a near-death motorcycle accident which caused him to change his perspectives.

“I dropped out of school and started hitch-hiking around the country for the next ten or so years,” he related. “I came from Wisconsin, and always loved Wisconsin,” he continued. “After living in the lower 48 states and Alaska, I decided it just felt right to stay in Wisconsin.”

Dan worked “insane hours” at a manufacturing plant to save up money and spent weekends in the northwoods looking for land. “Wild land was \$100 an acre back then. I started out looking on the Chippewa and Flambeau Rivers, and eventually saw a listing on the Jump River which I had never heard of. It had a certain charm – smaller, but wilder. Bald eagles were still pretty rare then. Our place has two eagle nests on it now.”

In 1978 Dan paid cash from his savings to buy the first 127 acres and said he was “land poor” (with lots of land and no money) from that time on. He also built a small cabin on the site.

In the early 1980s, a fellow from Chicago inherited the adjacent 40-acres. Dan commented that “every time I’d see him he’d say, ‘Boy I love it here.’ But then he’d get in his car and go to town. Eventually it became obvious he couldn’t stand the quiet. He came over and knocked on the cabin door and asked if I’d like to buy it.” With a loan at 18% interest “it took a few years to dig my way out of that hole.”

“I was doing every odd job I could find, and was working on a heating system at a nursing home when this girl brought me a plate of chocolate chip cookies. She asked me out to the county fair,” Dan related. “We sat out at the lake and talked about canoeing the Mississippi River,” remembered Cathy. “A couple of our first dates were just walking out in the woods. Canoeing, water, land and forests were part of it from the start.”

“How often do you meet a girl who has her own canoe?” asked Dan. “It was kind of a no-brainer.”

Cathy is a local Price County girl who grew up with four brothers and sisters on a farm in the town of Hackett about ten miles from Phillips. “Dad was a hard-scrabble farmer who didn’t know anything about farming,” said Cathy. “He moved up from Illinois in the late 1940s and started farming, learning all he could. I helped on the farm and I was the oldest. There was never any division between boys and girls. I did everything that a farm boy would do, and I cooked which the farm boys didn’t do. We went out in the woods and peeled popple in the spring and made

(Continued next page)



The Hauperts built several ponds on their home property to enhance wildlife habitat. The ponds are used by Canada geese and lots of other waterfowl.

You Can Help!

The Northwoods Land Trust is a non-profit, tax exempt conservation organization. Your gift of cash, stocks, bonds or other financial support is fully tax deductible as charitable contributions under federal law. Donations of property or conservation easements may also provide tax benefits while promoting the conservation of our northwoods.

Save the Jump River - continued

firewood. I basically grew up in the woods and the fields, and we had a little pond that Dad had dug. When I met Dan, he was going to build a pond and he had woods and a river too.”

Dan and Cathy were married in 1984. Cathy had two daughters from a previous marriage – Rebecca and Tracy. “Instilling that sense of appreciation of nature and love of land started early.”

“When I was travelling around, sleeping on the ground, about all you think of is having a place of your own,” said Dan. “Once you are in one place for any length of time, all you can think about is travelling.” So an interest in sailing started a new travel phase.

“We both took sailing courses in Bayfield to try our hands at it,” said Cathy. They bought a derelict sailboat and developed a multi-year plan to save money to fix up the boat and go sailing. They were both working at the nursing home in Phillips, with Cathy serving as assistant director of nursing. “My nursing career helped finance some of the things we wanted to do,” she said.

“We spent 4-5 years sailing on Lake Superior,” said Dan. “We made trips to Isle Royale, and got our sea legs. We set a date for leaving in September of 1993 with our then two-year old child Mara. We ended up spending six months a year sailing in the Bahamas and Caribbean over twelve seasons - from 1993 to 2004. We’d come back and work in the summer time to make some money. As soon as it got cold, we’d drain the water in the house and leave.”

Mara spent a couple of months in school each year, but the rest of the time was home-schooled on the sailboat. “She was a great student and loved to learn,” said Dan.

“In 2004, we were in St. Martin sailing down island toward Trinidad when we got word that Mara was accepted at Conserve School, a college preparatory school in Land O’ Lakes,” Dan continued. “We turned and sailed downwind and brought the boat back to the United States. We came back north and that is when I started to build our house.” They also bought two additional 40s along the river which are included in the conservation agreement.

“In the late 90s, both of Dan’s parents died and their estate had to be divvied up,” said Cathy. “We started thinking ahead about what would happen with this land.”

“It was ‘step up to the plate’ time for us,” said Dan. “It was something we always wanted to do. Who can read

“It was something we always wanted to do. Who can read Aldo Leopold and not feel that land ethic rubbing off? We are old enough to remember the first Earth Day. You do what you can - it makes us feel better.”
- Dan Hauptert



About 10,570 feet of entirely natural shoreline frontage was protected by the Haupterts along the North Fork of the Jump River. The river in this stretch has riffles and rapids that can be canoed or kayaked in the spring when the water flows are high enough.

Aldo Leopold and not feel that land ethic rubbing off? We are old enough to remember the first Earth Day. You do what you can – it makes us feel better.”

“We are not the least bit naive,” commented Dan. “A significant part of our travels have been in third-world countries, and you see how most of the world lives. The planet is really in rough shape right now. Most people are totally oblivious to it.”

The Haupterts have also taken big steps to incorporate renewable energy into their home property. With extensive solar panels “we run a generous surplus during the summer and a little bit of a deficit in the winter. It is an all-electric house – electric stove, hot water heater and in-floor heat. We wound up with a \$350 surplus last year. It feels really good to take a shower with water that didn’t cost anything to heat.”

Just enjoying the land and sharing it with the kids is a highlight for Cathy. “You can definitely see the difference between our girls who grew up in the country and others,” she said. “The girls are very *in* to nature, and are not afraid to work and get their hands dirty.” “Nature deficit disorder is a real thing,” added Dan.

Although they are still waiting for their appraisal to determine the amount of a charitable tax deduction for their conservation easement donation, “we didn’t do it for the tax write-off, we aren’t that wealthy,” commented Dan. “We just didn’t want to have anybody develop it.

“It would have been called cutover wild land or just hunting land, but the longer you live on it the more you know about it,” noted Dan. “More little nooks and crannies mean something to you. It gets ahold of you after a while. We wanted to keep it wild. Our motivation is just the satisfaction that it is going to stay wild.”



Gifts of Stocks in 2013

Two generous donor families, who wish to remain anonymous, have recently provided gifts of corporate stocks as donations to the Northwoods Land Trust. These exceptional donors have provided stock gifts to support our efforts to “keep the northwoods the northwoods” each year for a number of years!

Donations of stocks, especially those which have appreciated significantly in value over the years, can be a great way to make charitable gifts. Stock donations can have important donor tax benefits from a capital gains perspective. As always, we do recommend that donors consult with their financial advisors.

The Northwoods Land Trust has a brokerage account set up specifically to accept gifts of stocks, making a donation transaction quick and easy to complete.

Please contact the NWLT office at (715) 479-2490 for details if you are interested in making a gift of stocks or other assets. Our sincerest thanks to these wonderful donors for all of their support!



Since forming in 2001, the Northwoods Land Trust to date has completed permanent land protection projects on 70 properties in the region, conserving over 9,600 acres of woodlands, wetlands and wildlife habitats and over 48 miles of natural lake and river shorelines.



100-ft. Lake Lot For Sale

Proceeds from the sale of this donated 100-foot lot on Pickerel Lake west of Eagle River will also support NWLT's conservation efforts. See the NWLT website for details: www.northwoodslandtrust.org.

Foundations Support Conservation Land & Easement Stewardship

As part of the national Land Trust Accreditation process, the Northwoods Land Trust is required to raise and set aside funds for annual monitoring and legal defense of every conservation easement project accepted. For conservation land donations, NWLT must also set aside funds for on-site management of the properties. Accepting conservation land and easements to be protected in perpetuity is a major commitment that NWLT does not take lightly.

A spreadsheet calculates the amount of stewardship funds needed to be reserved for each property accepted. The minimum funding requirement to meet accreditation standards is currently \$6,500/project. With a total of 70 completed projects to date, NWLT's funding requirement now exceeds \$500,000.

In addition to direct contributions from the conservation easement donors, grants from private foundations have been absolutely essential in helping NWLT meet our stewardship funding requirements.

For over 10 years, the Northwoods Land Trust has received grant funding support from the John C. Bock Foundation. With a mission of helping to conserve old growth forest and mature woods in Wisconsin, the John C. Bock Foundation has helped NWLT leverage millions of dollars of conservation value through many land and easement donations. The most recent grant of \$22,000 in 2013 helped NWLT protect five conservation easement properties with a total of 468 acres of woodlands. Those properties include nearly two miles of natural lake and river shorelines.

Similarly, a \$20,000 grant from the Caerus Foundation (formerly Hurvis Charitable Foundation) helped NWLT to leverage conservation easement donations on 238 acres of land with over three miles of priority river and stream frontage. Two of those “wild river” projects in Florence County were also assisted by a \$7,500 grant from the James D. & Jane P. Watermolen Foundation.

The Arthur L. & Elaine V. Johnson Foundation provided an \$8,000 grant this year in support of NWLT's stewardship of the Dugan Squash Lake Nature Preserve in Oneida County. With previous foundation grants and contributions from the Squash Lake Association, and additional grants provided in 2013 by the Modestus Bauer Foundation and Wisconsin Land Fund, NWLT has now reached our \$20,300 total funding goal for this project.

Recent grants from The Suick Family Foundation and the Vectren Foundation (in 2014) are helping NWLT cover the transaction costs for our newest conservation land donation. We greatly appreciate the support of all of these foundations. With new projects completed at the end of the year, we are still looking to raise over \$50,000!



NWLT Annual Report of Contributions Received in 2013

Our sincerest Thank You to all of our continuing members and contributors, and welcome to our new members and supporters!

NEW CONSERVATION LAND DONORS

42 acres Richard Galaty,
George & Carol
Schneider

NEW CONSERVATION EASEMENT DONORS

40 acres Richard A. Miller
18 acres Donald & Virginia
Read (Trust)
34 acres Donald & Virginia
Read (Trust)
99 acres Tim Hagen &
Kimberly Kelling
60 acres Tom & Carol Mertens
20 acres Joseph Mertens
188 acres Daniel & Catherine
Haupt
250 acres Robert & Mary, Jacob
& David Lobermeier

GOVERNMENT, FOUNDATION & OTHER GRANTS

\$48,058 DNR Lake
Protection Grant
\$10,000 DNR River Planning
Grant
\$22,000 John C. Bock
Foundation
\$20,000 Caerus Foundation
\$8,000 Arthur L. & Elaine
V. Johnson
Foundation
\$7,500 James D. & Jane P.
Watermolen
Foundation
\$6,500 Modestus Bauer
Foundation
\$5,600 Jean B. & E.T. Juday
Gift Fund
\$3,459 Dale Druckrey
Conservation Fund -
Natural Resources
Foundation of WI
\$2,500 The Suick Family
Foundation
\$2,000 Coles Family
Foundation
\$2,000 Franklin Offner
Family Foundation
\$1,000 Land Trust Alliance/
Gathering Waters
Conservancy
LEAP grant
\$1,000 Pole Star Fund
\$600 Wisconsin Land Fund
\$575 Charles A. & Ida C.
Sanders Northwoods
Memorial Fund -
Natural Resources
Foundation of WI
\$200 Kimberly Clark
Foundation

MEMBERSHIPS & OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS

Land Legacy - \$1,000 +
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Memorial Gifts)
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NWLT Annual Report of Contributions Received in 2013 - continued

Please let us know if we have made an error so we can correct it in our database and in future publications. Thank you for your support!

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Miriam Zietlow
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Other Contributions

Andrea Yates
Richard & Mariel Henske
James Lenzi
Sharon & Clyde Greenwald
Janice Gumz
DeDe Hall
Mary Moore
Atty. Kevin Kelley & Lisa Kelley



Memorial Gifts in 2013

Conservation easement donor Dr. David Dawson of Rhinelander passed away on October 13th. David and his wife Minka protected their 26-acre property with NWLT in 2010. The land features 900 feet of natural shoreline on the Wisconsin River above Hat Rapids Dam, plus over 1,400 feet on several spring ponds.

Contributions in David's memory included gifts from the following family and friends: Minka Dawson, Emily Hofstra, Patricia Juday, Lee Swank, Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation staff, James Martin & Jennifer Dawson, Daniel Bruneau, Harold & Dianne Falan, Don & Dorothy Fowles, John & Claudia Knutson, Christopher & Gina Koepl, Hanz & Marj Nienstaedt, Randall & Michelle Beard, Gail & Daniel Somodi, Robert & Judith Thoms, Karen Vanzo,



Minka and Dr. David Dawson at the signing of their conservation easement - December 29, 2010.

Nancy & Bob Van Hook, James & Diane Voborsky, Kara Yaeger, Connie Lon & Kenneth Thome, John & Carol Burton, Grant & Jeannette Cummings, Peggy Jansen, Gladys Johnson & K. Shaffer, Mary McCarren, Chet & Darlene Eaton, Mary & Charles Martin, John & Camille Maurice, Tom & Stacey Nelson, Wendy Petak, Deborah & Don Riemenschneider, Tom & Dorothy Rudolph, Ron Teclaw, Gail Wilcox, Bill Baugh, Walter & Shirley Dahlquist, Scott Dankmeyer & Cyndi Polakowski, Lance & Mary Lindwall, Steven & Beth Ann Plautz, David & Bernice Tolsted, Sandra Bergman, Bobby Rice and others whose gifts came to NWLT anonymously.

Conservation easement donor Catharine (Betty) Beverly also passed away January 13, 2013. She protected her 39-acre parcel on a "wild lake" in Vilas County in July of 2004. Gifts in memory of Betty were received from: Anita & Tom Hauske, Eleanor & Robert Rodini, Willa Schmidt & Kim Genich, Judson & Helga Rikkers, Karen & Terry Emmrich, Barbara Weston Corry & Joe Corry, Jeanne Baxter and Betsy Behnke.

Other memorial gifts received in 2013 include:

- *Contributions in memory of Bradley Streich, son of conservation easement donors Eugene and Elenore Streich, from Sara Streich and Chet and Darlene Eaton.
- *Gifts from the family and friends of Jane Illich, including Martha S. Daly, Helen & Robert Towner, and Jane and Burt Kolb.
- *Gift in Memory of Jim Rice, from Ed Drager.
- *Gift in Memory of Joe Sullivan, from Ed Drager.
- *Gift in Memory of his wife, Karen, from conservation easement donor Mick Mlinar, Vanguard Charitable Fund. 🌲



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E mail Address: _____

Membership Contributions

- | | |
|--|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual | \$25 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family | \$35 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Supporter | \$50 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Founder | \$100 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservator | \$250 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Steward | \$500 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Land Legacy | \$1000 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> My additional contribution of _____ | \$ _____ |
- is also enclosed.

Please make checks payable to:

Northwoods Land Trust, Inc.
PO Box 321
Eagle River, WI 54521-0321

Interests

- ☐ I have property I may wish to conserve, please send me the free landowner's guide.
- ☐ I am interested in becoming a volunteer to assist the NWLT.

- ☐ I am interested in contributing to NWLT in my will.



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Give a gift that will last forever!*

Easement Volunteer Monitor Training to Focus on Invasive Species

The Holmboe Conifer Forest State Natural Area will be the site of the 2014 Conservation Easement Monitor Training session on **Saturday, May 3rd**. The session will begin at **10:00 a.m.** with a special workshop focusing on identification of some of the northwoods' most invasive terrestrial plant species. This training session will be conducted with technical assistance from the Wisconsin Headwaters Invasives Partnership (WHIP).

Volunteer monitors provide landowners with an extra set of eyes as they visit each of the properties on an annual basis. With training, volunteers can also help as an "early warning system" for detection of the most common invasive species. Early detection is often critical for eradication of the invasive species before they are able to take over the habitat by out-competing our native species.

The day will include a free picnic lunch at noon provided by NWLT. Following lunch, NWLT will kick off our 2014 monitoring season with an organizational session to ensure that the 75 properties that NWLT either owns or holds an easement on will be monitored this year. The annual visits ensure that regular contact is kept with landowners and that the conservation agreements are being upheld. Monitoring also helps the organization meet national land trust accreditation standards.

We invite and welcome any new volunteers to the training who are interested in helping with these site visits. In case of bad weather, the alternate training date will be Saturday, May 17th.

If you are interested in participating in the volunteer monitor training at the Holmboe site, please contact Trisha or Bryan at (715) 479-2490.



Coleen Matula, plant ecologist with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, demonstrates how to pull an invasive honeysuckle.

