



## What's in a name ?

By Mary Brown, President

What's in a name? A name is a way to identify a person, place or thing. In the case of a non-profit organization, it should in some way describe or relate to the organization's mission. Ideally, the name should be clear, appealing, easy to use and easy to remember. Unfortunately, as many of you may have noticed, our name, *Great Lakes Bioregional Land Conservancy*, matches few, if any of those criteria.

While that name had relevance at the time it was adopted, it no longer accurately depicts our organization and our updated mission. At best, the name is awkward. At worst, it hampers our ability to consistently connect with the people in our community in a simple, straightforward way.

The name *Great Lakes Bioregional Land Conservancy* came under scrutiny by the board in 2004 when we updated our strategic plan and again in 2008 when we participated in "Guided Organizational Assessment" facilitated by MaryKay O'Donnell of the Land Trust Alliance (Midwest Program). Now, as we assume the leadership role in the coordination of Wild Lapeer, it is even more critical that we have a name that more accurately portrays who we are and yet remains "user-friendly." With those goals in mind the Board feels that we should change our name to **Lapeer Land Conservancy**.

While it takes a complex, time consuming process to formally change our name, we have filed the necessary papers with the state to do business as **Lapeer Land Conservancy**. As coordinators of Wild Lapeer, we can now use this time of increased visibility in the community that we serve to re-introduce our organization, gain recognition and advance our mission.

Lapeer Land Conservancy  
To host Wild Lapeer in 2010

### Wild Lapeer

May 8, 2010

at the

Willows Ecology Center  
and

Chatfield School

This is a free public festival with a wide variety of educational programming related to local conservation and sustainability issues. Learn more at [wildlapeer.com](http://wildlapeer.com). The website will be updated throughout the planning period

Wild Lapeer will be held from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. in conjunction with the Flint River Watershed Coalition annual River Cleanup taking place on the same day from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Lapeer Land Conservancy has been involved with Wild Lapeer since its inception as a planning partner, presenter and major sponsor. We are resuming fiduciary and administrative duties due to budgetary and staffing cuts at Lapeer County Parks.

More information elsewhere in this newsletter.

To get involved call LLC President Mary Brown at 810.664.3941 X 3 or Peter McCreedy at 810.667.8970 X 241

#### SUTHERLAND NATURE SANCTUARY

A workday is planned for Saturday, June 5th - 9 a.m. to noon. Last May, over 30 volunteers showed up and what a great day we had - sprucing up the pavilion and flower garden, pruning limbs along the trails.. PLEASE mark your calendar - and watch for details in the spring.

#### • Board of Directors

- Mary Brown, President
- Peter McCreedy, Vice President
- Leo Dorr, Treasurer
- Joe Stock, Secretary

Candace Caveny-Collins

Mike Delling

Peggy Garrigues-Cortelyou

Steve Steffler

Fred Townsend

# Riseman Refuge signage

Clearing the site and erecting a sign to recognize the Riseman family for their donation:

The ten acre parcel , designated the 'Riseman Refuge' is located in Dryden Township, Sec. 13, along the Polly Ann Trail. Several members of *Lapeer Land Conservancy* and *Friends of the Polly Ann Trail* came together on October 3, 2009, to prepare the site and erect boundary markers and a sign near the trail that reads "In Memory of Harry & Meta Riseman and Joanne Riseman Mandel 'They truly loved nature' by Carl M. Riseman."



Joe Stock and Justin Townsend removing a stump to prepare the site.



Joe Stock and Peter McCreedy removing brush at the site.



Peggy Garrigues Cortelyou removing brush in the wake of Peter's chain saw work.



Larry Rumley, a Friend of the Polly Ann Trail, pauses by the newly erected sign to look out over the wetlands.

The 'crew'  
Larry Rumley  
Peggy Garrigues-Cortelyou  
Candace Caveny-Collins  
Joe Stock  
Russ Underwood  
Justin Townsend  
Peter McCreedy  
Leo Dorr took the picture



**Thank you** to all who helped with this project and a heartfelt thank you to the Riseman Family and especially to Carl Riseman who arranged for the donation of this property to the Land Conservancy so that it could be enjoyed by all while continuing to be a refuge for wildlife.

## Letter from the President

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Hello Everyone,

This is the time of year when spring's warmth and sunshine seem a lifetime away, with only a stack of garden catalogues or perhaps a trip to a warmer climate to help brighten dim days and shorten the long winter.

This winter, for Lapeer Land Conservancy, planning for spring will include more activity than we've had in the past because we will once again be coordinating *Wild Lapeer*. As most of you probably know, *Wild Lapeer* is an annual Earth Day celebration that has taken place in downtown Lapeer for the past six years. In the past few years, *Wild Lapeer* has been coordinated by Ken Elwert, Director of Lapeer County Parks, and the county parks staff. With this year's budget restrictions and the resulting reduction of staff, Lapeer County Parks will no longer be able to manage the *Wild Lapeer* workload, especially since the event has expanded each year since its inception.

What would become of *Wild Lapeer*? That question came up at our last Lapeer Land Conservancy board meeting on November 3. Most of our board members are involved with more than one group that has previously participated in *Wild Lapeer*. All of the board members agreed that the event has been an important focal point for those of us whose mission is to encourage interest in our natural world. Indeed, the "support of environmental education programs" is a central theme of Lapeer Land Conservancy's mission statement. With that in mind, the board voted to take on the coordination of *2010 Wild Lapeer*. Our Vice-President, Peter McCreedy, courageously consented to apply his ample leadership skills to chair the event. (Thank you, Peter!)

In this newsletter, you will find more information about *Wild Lapeer*, including the opportunity to volunteer time, talent and energy to a fun and educational event that will also bring a lot of community attention to Lapeer Land Conservancy. Please reflect on ways that you can contribute to the *Wild Lapeer* effort! We will need many extra hands and look forward to your support.

Meanwhile, on behalf of the Lapeer Land Conservancy Board, I would like to wish you and your family a safe and happy holiday season!

*Mary Brown*, President, Lapeer Land Conservancy

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Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack in an interview published in American Farmland magazine:

One of USDA's priorities is to support and encourage a sustainable, safe and nutritious food supply for America. We believe in the mantra 'Buy Fresh, Buy Local' because it will help conserve our natural resources, combat climate change and provide our children with better diets. ..it is critical that we work to support family farmers and mid-sized operations so that we open up more opportunities for Americans to consume local food..

.. conservation and renewable energy programs offer farmers and ranchers new sources of revenue but also create public benefits for all Americans, such as clean water, clean air and wildlife habitat.

Please consider a financial donation in support of *Wild Lapeer* -

send your donation to:

Lapeer Land Conservancy

P O BOX 303

Lapeer MI 48446-0303

Contact Peter McCreedy at 810.667.8970 X 241

or Mary Brown at 810.664.3941 X 3

if you would like to sponsor a specific event or activity (i.e. the injured raptors) or for more information about *Wild Lapeer*

**GREAT LAKES BIOREGIONAL LAND  
CONSERVANCY  
DBA**

**LAPEER LAND  
CONSERVANCY**

**P O BOX 303  
LAPEER MI 48446-0303**

Phone: 810-664-5647  
FAX: 810-664-5862  
E-mail: ldorr@usol.com  
On the web at: www.glbic.org

Sutherland Nature Sanctuary  
810-797-4643

*Working to preserve farmland and  
open spaces through education  
and conservation*

**We encourage our membership to support the leadership role of Lapeer Land Conservancy in  
Wild Lapeer 2010 with your time, talent and financial donations as you are able**

List of current

Wild Lapeer partners & sponsors:

Chatfield School  
CSA Farm Market  
Flint River Watershed Coalition  
Lapeer City Parks  
Lapeer Conservation District  
Lapeer County Historical Society  
Lapeer County Parks  
Lapeer Land Conservancy  
Lapeer Rotary Club  
Mott Community College  
North Branch Archery Club  
Seven Ponds Nature Center  
Three Roods Farms  
Willows Ecology Center

**Wild Lapeer highlights**

**canoe rides\*injured raptors\*guided  
nature hikes\*energy  
tours\*films\*live music\*a feast of  
local foods\* and more**

To request



bumper stickers

call Leo Dorr at 810.664.5647

or e-mail: ldorr@usol.com

Also visit www.NoFarmsNoFood.org

To learn more or comment on this program

**Membership/donation form**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Membership year is July 1 to June 30

Family dues- \$25.00

Individual/Student/Reduced - \$15.00

Donations of any amount are appreciated  
and will be used to advance the mission of  
the conservancy.

Please mail your check along with this  
form for your dues and/or donation to:

Lapeer Land Conservancy

P O Box 303, Lapeer MI 48446-0303