

ParkLands Foundation

Officers & Staff

President: Don Schmidt
Vice President: Todd Bugg
Secretary: Terry Caines
Treasurer: Barry Brenneman
Land Steward: Jason Shoemaker
Administrative Director: Mike Hall

Website

www.parklandsfoundation.org



Directors

Nancy Armstrong	Roger Anderson
Mac Arnold	Michael Brown
Todd Bugg	Dan Deneen
Julie Elzanati	Matt Fraker
Given Harper	Krista Kirkham
Maria Lemke	Les Luginbuhl
Jim Mohr	Susie Sears
Eric Smith	

Newsletter

August -

September 2012

Honorary Directors
Dale Birkenholz & Guy Fraker

Report to Our Members on ParkLands Foundation's Financial Condition And Endowments

First and foremost: ParkLands Foundation is solvent and doing well. Nevertheless, the Board of Directors in the past year has closely analyzed the unrestricted cash situation. In the past 18 months the financial assets have been segregated for better financial management as well as for the long-term financial health of our foundation.

Hiring an administrative director was considered necessary because the expanded responsibilities for ParkLands' officers had become unduly burdensome. Unfortunately, the membership dues and other administrative income are insufficient to cover the salary of the part-time Administrative Director.

The Outreach Committee has distributed a fundraising request to the membership to assist ParkLands Foundation over the next two years in funding the Administrative Director position. A capital campaign will be initiated in 2013. The campaign will include establishing an unrestricted endowment to cover the Administrative Director position as well as expanded outreach programs for ParkLands, including educational programs for children and the general public.

ParkLands will also establish a land acquisition fund. The fair market value for conservation ground has doubled in the past decade. The Land Acquisition Fund will be used for acquiring small tracts of property and to allow ParkLands to apply for grants to purchase larger tracts of property.

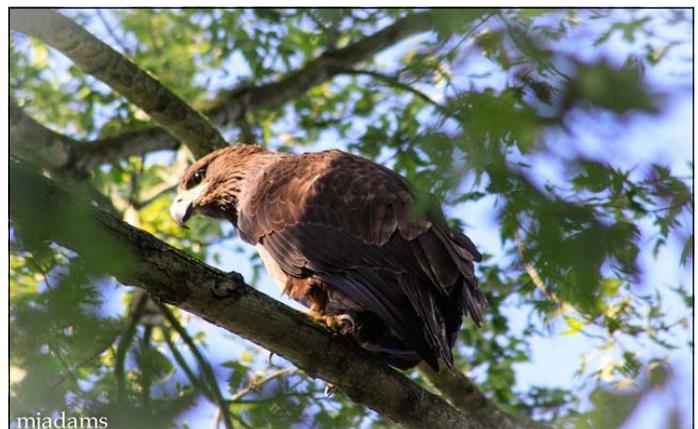
The financial restructuring included adding approximately \$250,000 to the Birkenholz Endowment (for the Merwin Preserve) and establishing the Rhymer Endowment for the Woodford County properties. The income from these two endowments is used to fund stewardship activities, including the Land Steward salary. The funds

have been invested in roughly equal proportions of income-producing assets and conservative equity assets. In the long-term it is anticipated that the net total return from the funds will equal or exceed 4% per year. We have budgeted only 3% for this year because of low interest rates.

If you have any questions about ParkLands Foundation's finances, or how the support of ParkLands Foundation can fit into your estate plan, please contact Dan Deneen (dandeneen@ilaw202.com) or another member of the Board of Directors. ParkLands Foundation can offer you and your family many different ways to help ParkLands while obtaining tax benefits.

To sum up, it will be necessary for us to establish a much wider financial base to allow for the foundation's continued expansion of landholding, restoration, maintenance and public activities.

Dan Deneen



One of the 3 Letcher Basin eaglets seeking food, no doubt.

**PARKLANDS ANNUAL MEETING
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9 @ DAVIS LODGE**

**ORDER YOUR LUNCH NOW
DEADLINE: AUGUST 20 !!**

For your meal, please select from the Garlic Press Brown Bag Lunch Menu

Each sandwich comes with a bag of chips, a cookie, and bottled water.

Cost for each is \$10.00

NO SUBSTITUTIONS PLEASE

_____ **Artichoke Garlic Tuna Salad**, on multigrain bread, with tomato, red onion, and ro-maine lettuce.

_____ **Boar's Head Tavern Ham and Swiss**, on multigrain bread, with tomato, romaine let-tuce and house-made Stoneground Mustard Sauce.

_____ **Boar's Head Roast Beef**, on a toasted Ciabatta roll, with tomato, red onion, romaine lettuce and house-made crumbled Blue Cheese Sauce.

_____ **California Smoked Turkey Club**, on sesame semolina bread, with applewood bacon, cheddar cheese, tomato, red onion, romaine lettuce and guacamole.

_____ **The "Knuckle" Sandwich**, a favorite Italian Hero style sandwich, on a toasted Ciabatta roll, with Tavern Ham, Fennel Salami, spicy Capicola, provolone cheese, with our sig-nature sweet & spicy Peppadew Pepper Medley.

_____ **Boar's Head Arrostica Chicken Caesar**, on sesame semolina bread, with tomato, red onion, romaine lettuce & house-made Roasted Garlic-Parmesan Caesar Sauce.

_____ **Vegetarian Muffaletta**, a veggie lover's delight on a toasted Ciabatta roll, with herbed goat cheese, artichoke hearts, roasted red peppers, red onion, baby spinach, olive spread, and sweet & spicy Peppadew Pepper Medley.

_____ **Gluten-free option**, Crustless Quiche and Greens Salad

Coffee and Lemonade will also be available. Lunch will be served about noon after the Annual Meeting.

NAME(S) _____

Please print

PHONE/eMAIL _____

PLEASE SEND THE COMPLETED ORDER FORM WITH YOUR PAYMENT BY AUGUST 20 TO:
ParkLands Foundation
P.O. Box 3132
Bloomington, IL 61702-3132

ParkLands 46th Annual Meeting September 9

This year's annual membership meeting will begin at 11:00 at the Davis Lodge on Lake Bloomington (see directions) on Sunday, September 9th. The meeting is open to all ParkLands members.

A picnic lunch with a choice of several box lunches prepared by The Garlic Press will be served following the Annual Meeting at about noon. To make reservations for the lunch, please complete the form on page 2 and **mail it so it will arrive no later than August 20, 2012.**

Following lunch, we will car pool to Sweeney Woods to learn about ongoing restoration and future plans for this tract.

Come dressed for a hike, and remember your bug spray and sun screen.

Susie Sears

Directions to Davis Lodge, Lake Bloomington:

1. Take I-39 N/US-51 N toward Rockford - 7.6 mi
2. Take exit 8 for IL-251 toward Kappa/Lake Bloomington Rd - 0.3 mi
3. Turn right onto IL-251 N/E 2500 North Rd (County Hwy 8). Continue east - 3.5 mi
4. Turn left at Green Gables onto N 1750 East Rd
5. Take the 2nd right onto County Rd 2535N/Davis Lodge Rd - Welcome to 25549 Davis Lodge Rd

ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

To fill two vacated seats and one unfilled director seat, the following three individuals are hereby presented for nomination for three-year terms (2012-15):

Mary Horgan
Angelo Capparella
Matt Hickman

Members may nominate candidates for director by petition filed with the secretary (Terry Caines) at least 7 days prior to the annual meeting. The petition must contain the signatures of at least 15 ParkLands members. No nominations are allowed from the floor during the annual meeting.

*Nominating Committee
Barry Brenneman
Eric Smith
Don Schmidt*

Directions to Sweeney Woods

Follow #1-4 above.

5. Turn left onto the first road after the spillway and follow this road until it comes to a "T"
6. Turn left at the "T" and follow the road about 2 miles
7. The Sweeney Woods parking lot is on your right about 200 yards before you cross the Mackinaw River



Spotlight on Spring

- ◇ Several areas of the Merwin Preserve were successfully burned this past spring.
- ◇ Michigan lilies have been found in one area at Merwin after the burn.
- ◇ Fifteen acres at Merwin were reseeded this past spring as part of the effort to improve the quality of the prairie.
- ◇ Land Steward Jason Shoemaker set up a ParkLands display at the Peoria Forest Park Nature Center's Earth Day and attracted considerable interest.



*Jack-in-the-Pulpit photo
by Robt. & Lynn Meeker*



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Bloomington,
Illinois 61702-3132
(309) 454-3169
Ecology Action Center

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Thanks to our Summer Interns



ParkLands Foundation hired two interns to help out with many projects this summer. They started at the end of May and will be working through the second week of August.

They have been helping with trail maintenance, equipment maintenance, exotics removal and foliar spraying of exotic re-sprouts on many of our preserves. The two interns have been working out very well for the organization.

Ian Fairweather (on the left) is a 22 year old recent Illinois State graduate from Batavia, Illinois, who majored in geography. He enjoys playing sports, hunting, fishing and going out with friends. Ian has always enjoyed being outdoors and interacting with nature. Ian's goal is to pursue a career in a GIS/Remote Sensing/Cartography related field.

Alex Lorschbach is a 2011 graduate of Normal Community West High School. He is currently a student at Heartland Community College and plans to major in biology. He is particularly interested in conservation biol-

ogy. Alex has enjoyed his time as a ParkLands Foundation volunteer and intern. He has already learned a great deal in restoring the Mackinaw River Valley and has a new appreciation of the work that goes into the removal of the invasive plants. In his spare time, Alex volunteers as a baseball and basketball coach at Kingsley Junior High School and plays softball.

Jason Shoemaker

Calendar

Annual Meeting

Sunday, Sept. 9, 11 a.m.

Davis Lodge, Lake Bloomington

Reservations must be received by 8/20/12

Susie Sears

309-378-2406

susiesears@hotmail.com

Seed Collection

Saturday, Oct. 6, 9 a.m.

Cayuga Ridge (Pontiac)

Meet @ BP gas station @ Lexington I-55 exit

Leader: Jason Shoemaker

(309) 531-7065

shoemaj@hotmail.com

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