Fall 2014 Newsletter

Posted on September 15, 2014

Message from the President
Thank You Mr. Maki

Richard Weidman

Teachers devote most of their career in educating their students in the present time. It takes, however, special individuals who are able to look beyond those everyday routines and imagine or recognize what could be and proceed to make it happen. “Movers and Shakers” I believe is a common term to describe those people. Most of us who have known Jim Maki would agree that he fits that description very well.

From Crossroads’ humble beginning as a tract of land only described as a ‘School Forest’ to what it is today, Jim Maki has been a driver, passenger and mechanic for the vehicle, Crossroads. He has helped to create alliances with both public and privately funded groups and individuals to get projects up and running.

As a passenger, he then enjoyed the ride as other people joined in the journey to its destination. As a mechanic, he has helped keep the Crossroads vehicle running often times without missing a beat. From the mundane maintenance to fabricating new parts, Crossroads has traveled many miles because of his diligence and dedication to keeping the wheels greased and moving down the road.

At our last Building and Grounds Committee meeting, Jim announced his intentions to retire as our Building and Grounds Contractor. Although this creates the monumental task for our Board to decide on a course of action, everyone at Crossroads want to take this opportunity to thank Jim Maki for his vision and guidance in creating what we all associate The Crossroads at Big Creek as it is today.

Jim has agreed to stay on as our ‘unofficial’ Grounds and Maintenance Contractor till October 31st. When you see him, a

pat on the back and "Thank You Jim Maki" would be in order, and much appreciated by him I am sure.

Thank you Jim.

Richard Weidman,
President, Crossroads Board of Directors

Expand article

Experience-Based Learning

This summer, Crossroads has been a place of learning for young environmental professionals. We again hosted the "Beach Team", a group of researchers from the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh who have been doing sophisticated molecular level investigations in the lab of the Collins Learning Center.

We also employed two interns. Payton Parker, a recent graduate of UW-Oshkosh, did land management and public contact work throughout the summer and during August, helped with the preliminary planning at our Ida Bay Forest. His project was to survey, map and create a remediation plan for invasive species at Crossroads.

During August, Joel Kaminski, a senior at UW-Stevens Point, began work on a Land Use Plan for the Ida Bay Forest. With guidance from UWSP professors, he and Payton did GIS mapping of land forms, plant communities, and existing trails. They also did plant inventories. Joel will continue his project during the school year.

Internships were funded in part with at grant from Door County Community Foundation.

Expand article

For Teachers, Naturalists & Environmentalists
Educator-Workshops on Climate Science & the ACS Toolkit

September 27, 8:30 a.m. – 3:15 p.m.
Collins Learning Center • $12 registration includes lunch

Info: Frank Shaw (cfshaw@ilstu.edu) and Bruce Smith (bsmith733@gmail.com)

Registration: Please contact Sherrill Anderson (LNRP) at sherrill@lnrp.org or 920-412-1920

Sponsored by: Climate Change Coalition of Door County & Lakeshore Natural Resource Partnership, American Chemical Society Climate Science Outreach Team (Illinois Heartland), American Meteorological Association Atmospheric Education Program

Running Wet for Crossroads … OK Running Green for Crossroads

The rains came, yet the 5th annual Running Green for Crossroads Trail Run was once again a success, thanks to our loyal sponsors, volunteers, and participants. Despite the downpour, 324 runners and walkers, ranging in ages three to eighty two, splashed through the wetness, and crossed the finish line with triumph!

And we are happy to announce that, in spite of the weather, the event exceeded the goal, raising $6,200 for Crossroads at Big Creek.

Thank You to Our Sponsors!

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Schopf's Dairy View Country Store

Lautenbach Orchards

The Black Walnut Guest House

Econo Foods

Medical Services

Ministry Door County Medical Center

Thank you to Bob and LuAnn Desotelle, Mike and Kim Herlache, and the Ostrand-Harding families for sharing their land with us and making the 10K trail run possible.

Fall Fund Drive

Lower Level Learning Space

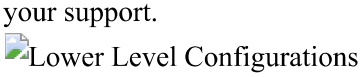
Sixty two thousand thank yous to the individuals, organizations, businesses, and foundations who have donated almost two thirds of the $100,000 needed to create our the Lower Level Learning Space in the Collins Learning Center.

Last spring, an anonymous donor offered to match up to $10,000 to kick-start our fund raising efforts. Our donors reached and exceeded that goal in the first month and gifts continue to come in. But we also need a new roller to groom our winter trails for skiing and hiking and we are planning to do extensive maintenance on the exterior of the Collins Learning Center.

Alas, when people are so generous in helping with special projects, giving to our general operating fund usually decreases.

We now are on our final push for the Learning Space and we hope to reach our goal before December. And we need the roller before the snow flies. But when people ask our greatest need, the honest answer is we need a steady revenue stream to continue to maintain our facilities and preserve.

So … if you want to help Crossroads this fall, please make your donation to our operating fund, and then, if you can afford to do so, make an extra gift to help us reach our special project goals. A gift of any size will help. And we thank you in advance for your support.


Lower Level Configurations

Uses for the Lower Level

- Meeting room
- Classroom

- Discussion groups
- Small luncheons
- Art room
- Dining for adult & kids
- Rehearsal hall
- Exhibit room
- Child care
- Potting room
- Breakout groups for conferences

Expand article

A Half Year of Generosity

Gifts made in 2014 (Donations made during the second half of 2014 will be listed in the next newsletter)

$10,000 and more

- Anonymous*
- Anonymous

$5,000 – 9,999

- Dennis and Bonnie Connolly*
- The Estate of Margaret Foster
- Don and Coggin Heeringa*+
- Ministry Door County

$2,500 to $4,999

- Christine Gritzmacher*
- Green Fund – Door County Community Foundation

$1,000 to 2,499

- Anthony Birdsall
- Breakfast Rotary*
- Fran and Arliss Everson *
- Meissner Family Foundation
- MMG Foundation*
- Sheila Turner*
- Wisconsin Space Grant Consortium
- Zion United Methodist Church*

$500 to 999

- Anonymous
- Philip and Cynthia Block*
- Door County Master Gardeners*
- Grace and Bruce Frudden
- Valerie and Jim Maki
- Bob and Carol Moellenberdt

- Noon Rotary Club*
- Jacqueline Szczepanski Thrivent Financial

$250 to 499

- Animal Clinic of Sturgeon Bay
- Anytime Fitness
- Bay Pharmacy
- Bill and Yvonne Boettcher*
- Carol DeVault – State Farm Insurance
- Jason Feldman Landscapes
- Herbert H. Kohl Charities*
- Tom and Jill Herlache
- Robert and Rebecca Hoover*
- Huehns Funeral Home*
- Delane Jome
- Tom and Marsha Kerley*
- Jeff and Barb Ottum
- Pinkert Law Firm LLP
- Daniel and Heidi Tomaszewski
- W E Builders*
- Whitetails Unlimited
- Steve and Joan Wilkie

$100 to 249

- Roger and Sandy Anderson*
- Dean and Susan Anschutz*
- John Asher*
- Associated Bank
- James and Barbara Bunning*
- R. David and LaVonne Callsen*
- John and Katherine Campbell*
- James and Joan Carlson*
- Anonymous
- Door Peninsula Astronomical Society
- Eagle Mechanical
- William and Sarah Freyman*
- John and Edith Fulkerson
- John Glesner*
- Anonymous
- John and Christine Guenther*
- Richard and Carrie Hauser*
- Howard Hintze
- Dean and Julie Hoegger

- Mark and Pam Honold
- Ed and Cindy Koutnik
- Emery Krueger*
- Joy Maccaux*
- Paul and Marilyn Mahlberg*
- Nancy Mattke
- Anonymous*
- Allen Miller and Victoria Dirst*
- Camilla Nielsen*
- Northern Door Pet Clinic
- Jan Olson
- Madelyn Ostrand
- Sandra Ott*
- Anonymous
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- Thomas and Elizabeth Polonus
- William and Karen Roberts
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- Cathy and Rob Vuksanovic
- John and Beth Yount
- Mary Wanke*
- Norm and Mabel Watkins
- Mari and Richard Weidman*
- Mary and Cap Wulf*
- Pam and Dwight Zeller

$50 – 99

- Rod and Sally Alexander*
- Marlene Allen
- Inge Alverson Bacon CPA
- Jeanne Barnard
- Thomas and Nancy Bennett*
- Pat Blizel
- Eileen and Rodney Bohn*

- Cal Bonnivier and Herb Klein*
- Randy and Jane Bumgardner
- William and Cheryl Chaudoir*
- Barb Chisholm
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- Luke Collins*
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- Jane Guthrie
- Earl and Ruth Hellman
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- Dale and Joan Jeanquart
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- Marne Kaeske*
- Gary and Michelle Kemp
- Lucille Kirkegaard*
- Kathy Laba
- Roy and Charlotte Lukes
- Joyce Miller*
- Eunice McCormick
- Doug and Pam McGee*
- Gretchen Montee
- Clifford G. Orsted*
- Paul Pinkston*
- Matthew Propsom
- Anna Quale
- Gordon Saron
- Brent Sieling and
- Megan Schliesman
- James Tellstrom
- Thelma Walker
- Randy Watermolen
- Frank and Carol Weber*
- Louis C. Williams and Mary C. Moster
- Betsie and Jim Williamson*
- Carmen Youra
- Carol Zago

$1 – 49

- Donna Asher

- Jacqueline Aufrere-Sebetic*
- Heidi Bader
- John and Carol Bartoszek*
- Elizabeth and James Baxter*
- Dolores Bullis
- Cheryl Choronzy
- Rose Coisman
- Nellie DeBaker*
- Cathy Eckers
- Myrtle Felhofer*
- Laurie Hoffman
- David Furnjanic and
- Maureen Kellyfurjanic
- Elaine Gabert*
- Harold and Catherine Gerdman*
- Travis Grooters
- Brian and Lori Holtz*
- Ed and Margo Ireland*
- Deborah Jeanquart
- Tammy Kroll
- Jean and Doug Laundrie
- Arlene Lenius*
- Ellen Looker*
- Peggy Lott
- Marian Mailand*
- Janet Mickelson*
- James Nelson*
- Betty Ostrand*
- Bill and Sonja Polster
- Harry and Judith Porter
- Helen Reed*
- Belinda Richard
- John Rosenthal
- Jeanne Schopf
- Sally Schopf*
- Marian and Roderick Schlise
- Edward Schriner-Schmitt
- Marguerite and Dennis Skahen*
- Dorothy Tlachac
- Suzanne Wagner*
- George and Catherine Wentz*
- Herb Klein and Cal Bonnivier*

- Jolene Wilson
- Clifford Wind
- Duane and Leslie Youngstead*
- Janet Ziemann*

MEMORIALS FOR…

- John Collins
- Baylake Bank
- Leif Everson
- Bill and Sonja Polster
- Tyler Frea
- Lori and Scott Frea
- Chris and Connie Larsen
- Helen Knipfer
- Sarah and David Koelling
- Richard Kroll
- Nancy Deutsch TeSelle
- John Deutsch
- Carl “Curley” Larsen
- Michael and Barbara Sweeny
- Robert Reed
- Julia and Bill Meyers
- Kurt Robertson
- Eileen Robertson
- Orv Schopf
- Mary Wanke

IN HONOR OF…

- Madelyn Ostrand on her 90th Birthday
- Norm and Mabel Watkins
- Lori Orlander
- Norb and Pat Lenius
- Eric and Dee Paulsen
- Thelma Walker and Hap Smith
- Don and Coggin Heeringa
- Mona Simpson
- Kathie and Kerry Vavra
- John Toppe
- Catherin Caen
- Jeannie Eggert
- Darrel and Elaine LaLuzerne

Thank You!

- Gerry Banks

- Boy Scout Troop 1140
- Door County Advocate
- Door County Daily News.com
- Door County Historical Society
- Door Peninsula Astronomical Society
- Evergreen Nursery
- Fran and Arliss Everson
- Friends of Crossroads
- Brian and Lori Holtz
- Jason Feldman Landscapes
- LAKESHORES Landscape and Design
- Little Hoppers
- Master Gardeners of Door County
- Ministry Door County
- Running Green Organizers
- Peninsula Pulse
- Pete and Carol Schuster
- Sturgeon Bay Utilities
- WDOR
- The Raibrook Foundation
- Dale Vogel

Crossroads at Big Creek & The Door Peninsula Astronomical Society Present

Astronomy Day 2014

Saturday, September 27 1:00-4:00 Rain or Shine

- Light Demonstrations, Solar Viewing, Planet Walk, Crater-Making, Sundial for all ages!
- At the Stonecipher Astronomy Center (use the Utah Street entrance)
- 7:30 PM Lunar/Night Sky – Viewing with Telescopes (clear sky only)

Wisconsin Science Festival 2014

- Saturday, October 18 Spectrum Day: Beyond ROY G BIV
- 2:00 – 4:00 Family Activities at the Collins Learning Center
- 2:00 – 4:00 Spectroscopy Demonstrations at the Stonecipher Astronomy Center
- 7:00 Planetarium Show

If skies are clear, move outside for night sky viewing.

The activities for both events are free and open to the public.

Download a pdf of our Fall 2014 newsletter

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