



*a community partner protecting land, water, and quality of life  
through conservation, stewardship, and education*

# NEWS

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## Change Your *Point of View* at KLT's Newest Nature Area

Thanks to the foresight and generosity of landowners Bob and Nancy Korth and the J.A. Woollam Foundation, the Keweenaw Land Trust was able to protect another gem on the Abbaye Peninsula. Bob and Nancy named their 46 acres of wild, old growth forest, wetlands, and about 1/3 mile of Lake Superior shoreline "Point of View." Located on the point of land we call the Abbaye Peninsula, it is also a place that will alter your point of view in ways that only unspoiled nature can. This parcel is surrounded by State and County land and was viewed as strategic since KLT first began mapping out a conservation initiative for the Abbaye Peninsula several years ago.

Conservation of Point of View fills a gap and creates a continuous stretch of over 5.5 miles of Lake Superior shoreline under protection. One can now hike (off trail) on public land from KLT's Koski Shores Nature Area on Keweenaw Bay, through Copper Country State Forest, Point of View, around the Baraga County Point Abbaye Park, and onto KLT's Finlander Bay Nature Area. As impressive as that is, the story and purpose of Point of View goes deeper than filling in gaps on a map.

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## Join Us For the Hungarian Falls Leave No Trace Hot Spot Week!

Hungarian Falls needs your help! Join KLT, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), and Leave No Trace Traveling Trainers for a week-long effort to improve the Hungarian Falls gorge. From **August 21-28**, KLT and Traveling Trainers Amanda Jameson and Junaid Dawud will be hosting a series of educational events, hikes, workshops, and cleanup days to get to the bottom of the issues that are affecting this popular scenic site. You are invited to come out and learn how you can lighten your impact on the landscape so that others may also enjoy nature's splendor.

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## Point of View Protects Rugged Shoreline and Storm-Weathered Woods

*"We have a deep love for Lake Superior. About 30 years ago we discovered a great, little, lonely cabin in miles of undeveloped shoreline on the Abbaye Peninsula. Sitting on the flat rocks, we found a place a person could watch spectacular sunsets and sunrises, a place to get away from it all and enjoy the Lake we love. It is not only a spectacular setting, but a community of friends who shared our love of the Point and the natural beauty it provides. Over the years our camp has hosted natural resource retreats, folk concerts, and an annual corn roast for neighbors. We have a commitment to this wild place and want to do what we can to protect it..."*



Nancy and Bob Korth at Point of View, July 2017

This story and place captured the attention of the J.A Woollam Foundation that once again offered its generous support for Great Lakes coastal conservation. With the help of a significant bargain sale from Bob and Nancy Korth, KLT purchased this scenic parcel in July 2017.

A large outcropping of Jacobsville sandstone serves as the front yard of the cabin with natural stepping stones into the water for a refreshing swim. A unique rock wall serves as a natural dock for vessels (see front page). Cobble beaches and a harbor allow access for canoes and kayaks. Being able to experience the moods of Lake Superior, the flocks of migrating birds, the sounds and movement of wildlife, the mysteries of old forests, and the dark night sky are wonders a property like this affords. The shoreline provides critical spawning and nearshore habitat for native Great Lakes fish and is an important stopover and seasonal habitat for migratory birds.



*The Point of View boat house is tucked into a natural indentation along the shoreline on a protected cove, giving paddlers a sheltered place to experience Lake Superior's beauty.*

Point of View comes with a well-maintained cabin, sauna, and one of the few boat houses on Lake Superior. Keeping these structures for as long as is reasonable will allow KLT to offer visitors the chance to experience this special landscape in a meaningful way - even those who may not be comfortable with a true "wilderness" experience.

As we look forward to the years ahead, it is reassuring to know that this special place will remain unspoiled and available forever. As Bob stated, *"They aren't making any more Lake Superior shoreline."* We are grateful for the opportunity to conserve and share this special place through the generosity of the Korths and the J.A. Woollam Foundation.

## Leave No Trace Traveling Trainers to Assist at Hungarian Falls

Due to high visitation throughout the year, both KLT and MDNR land at Hungarian Falls has seen more than its fair share of unintentional degradation and intentional damage. From trail erosion and user conflicts to trash dumping and fire scars, there are a lot of man-made problems. However, with proper training and a motivated community, Hot Spots like Hungarian Falls can recover! We invite you to assist in this effort by attending one or more of the exciting events to be held during the Hungarian Falls Hot Spot week. All events are open to the public. There is no cost unless otherwise noted.

### **Tuesday, August 22, 6:00 PM - Guided Hike at Hungarian Falls**

Join the Traveling Trainers and Hungarian Falls champion Clay Hixson for a guided hike to the falls. Learn about Leave No Trace ethics and what inspired Clay to lead the charge to protect public access to all of the waterfalls in this scenic site. Meet at the upper trailhead on Golf Course Road.

### **Wednesday August 23, 6:00 PM - Guided Geoheritage Hike at Hungarian Falls**

Learn about the varied geology found at the Hungarian Falls gorge with Erika Vye from Keweenaw Geoheritage and Leave No Trace techniques from the Traveling Trainers as you hike around this beautiful area. Meet at the upper trailhead on Golf Course Road.

### **Thursday August 24, 5:30 PM hike, 7:00 PM Presentation – Leave No Trace hike at the Quincy Mine and “History on the Hill” Speaker Series**

Join the Traveling Trainers for a hike and discussion on one of the most important Leave No Trace Ethics: *Leave What You Find*. Rangers from the Keweenaw National Historical Park will lead a hike around Quincy, followed by a Leave No Trace presentation in the Quincy Mine Hoist. Meet at the Quincy Mine off of US-41.

### **Friday August 25, 4-7 PM - Meet ‘n’ Greet at Down Wind Sports - Houghton**

Stop and chat with the Traveling Trainers to learn about how you can integrate Leave No Trace ethics into your next adventure around the Keweenaw!

### **Saturday August 26, 7:00 PM - Gathering and music at the Orpheum Theater**

Celebrate Hungarian Falls with live music courtesy of Keweenaw Brewgrass and stories from the Traveling Trainers! \$5/person, BYOB. Learn about Leave No Trace and the Traveling Trainers at 8 PM, followed by live music from 9:00 PM until close.

### **Sunday August 27, 1-3 PM - Workday at Hungarian Falls!**

Help out on various projects in the gorge, from invasive species removal to trail cleanup. Bring gloves, water, and grubby clothes suitable for working outside. Meet at the upper trailhead on Golf Course Road.

If you have questions or would like more information, please contact Nathan Miller at [nathan@keweenawlandtrust.org](mailto:nathan@keweenawlandtrust.org) or call (906) 482-0820.



## Voices of the Keweenaw: Butterflies Take Flight!

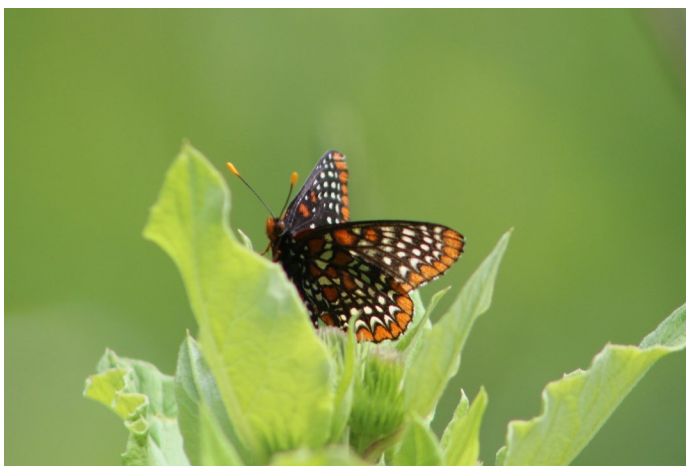
By Marcia Goodrich

Every chance I get, I tell people I am a butterfly monitor, because it is just about the coolest thing I've ever done. Despite its obvious coolness, people almost never ask me to elaborate on the finer points of butterfly monitoring. Perhaps they sense that once I get talking, there'll be no stopping me. Well, maybe by the end of this article you'll want to become a butterfly monitor, too!

I got my start in 2015, when trainers from the Kalamazoo Nature Center came to recruit volunteers for the Michigan Butterfly Network. We would count butterflies! Report our results! Be citizen scientists! I'm a bug lover, so I jumped at the chance. The trainers asked us to find a route to monitor at least five times a summer. I picked Paavola Wetlands.

Over the past two-and-a-half years, I have been taking slow walks around a mile-long trail that begins and ends at the main trailhead, meandering through the woods and circling the old homestead. I carry binoculars, a butterfly guide, a camera, and a tablet for recording sightings.

Sometimes the butterflies make it easy. A Canadian tiger swallowtail the size of a Filet O' Fish Sandwich will land on a bush right under your nose. Other times, you'll barely catch a glimpse of something small and orange whizzing by – yet another “Unidentified Butterfly!”



Left: Baltimore checkerspot, *Euphydryas phaeton*. Right: Butterfly monitor, *Marcia Goodrich*, in her natural habitat.

So, what kinds of butterflies are in the Paavola Wetlands? Based on my observations, the most common by far is the European skipper, which is about the size of a dime and can often be seen flitting manically through the grasses around the homestead where most of my butterfly sightings happen.

In 2015, a smallish, orange-and-black butterfly called the northern crescent was also common there, but I haven't seen any this year. We had a beautiful bloom of Baltimore checkerspot earlier this summer; previously, I felt lucky just to see one. I've seen monarchs, white admirals, northern pearly eyes, eyed browns, painted ladies and lots more, including a tiny, exquisite striped hairstreak. My best sighting has been a harvester up in an alder tree. It's the only carnivorous butterfly in North America; its larvae eat aphids.

You don't have to be a butterfly monitor to be a butterfly watcher, though it helps to have a camera, binoculars, and a few good butterfly guides. Next time you are out on a nice, warm day, go somewhere sunny with lots of wildflowers. Put on your butterfly eyes. Do those things you always do if you want to see something special in nature: pay attention. Go slow. Be quiet and patient. What you see will be a revelation.

*Want to learn more about the Michigan Butterfly Network? Visit [www.michiganbutterfly.org](http://www.michiganbutterfly.org)*

## Din Egen Woods Guided Paddle and Grand Opening, September 16th

Din Egen Woods is finally open for business! Join KLT for a guided paddle on Saturday, September 16th as we unveil the work we have completed to ready the site for visitors. We will meet at the Sandy Bottom Park on Lower Point Mills Rd (just past Dollar Bay) at 2:00 PM and paddle 2.5 miles one-way to the Din Egen Woods shoreline. From there, we'll hike in to the cabin nestled deep in the woods next to a gurgling creek. Come check out what this nature area has to offer during our first public tour!

Outhouses are available at both Sandy Bottom Park and Din Egen Woods. Round-trip paddling will total just over 5 miles. This is not a one-way paddle, so be prepared to return to your vehicle! You are free to paddle back on your own; otherwise we will begin our return journey around 4:30 PM. Bring a snack and water for your trip. Well water via a hand pump is available at Din Egen Woods. In case of rain, we will reschedule to Sunday, September 17th at 2:00 PM (check the KLT facebook to be sure).



The Din Egen Woods cabin is available for overnight reservations and can sleep 3 on a futon and cot with extra space on the floor and loft for sleeping bags or small air mattresses. A propane heater will provide warmth for chilly nights while a fire ring out front offers visitors the chance to enjoy a quiet summer evening. The cabin is accessible via a quarter mile trail from either Portage Lake or Lower Point Mills Road. Parking is limited to 2-3 vehicles and you must hike in. For more information on reservations, call the KLT office at (906) 482-0820, email [nathan@keweenawlandtrust.org](mailto:nathan@keweenawlandtrust.org), or come out to paddle with us!

Din Egen Woods was generously donated to KLT for use as a water trail campsite by Jo Ann Carlson and Tom & Jill Newhouse in early 2017. Tom and Jill also donated funds to help KLT get the site ready for public use.

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## Stewardship Work Continues at Din Egen Woods

Site improvements at KLT's Din Egen Woods water trail campsite are ongoing, with several major projects completed. The biggest change has been the addition of a parking area along Lower Point Mills Road. A quarter-mile long trail leading from the parking area to the cabin is under construction. For those able to make the trip by water, the cabin is accessible via a lakeshore trail which has been extended to the shoreline. A water trail signpost marks KLT's landing on Portage Lake.

The woodstove that once heated the cabin is to be replaced with an easier-to-use propane heater. As much as we love the crackle of a compact Jøtul stove, it was too easy to accidentally turn the cabin into a sauna! Plans are also in the works to replace the aging shingle roof with long-lasting metal. Have roofing skills and want to help? Email [volunteering@keweenawlandtrust.org](mailto:volunteering@keweenawlandtrust.org)!

## KLT Completes its First Reserved Life Estate Land Donation

KLT recently had the chance to try out a new ‘tool’ in the bag of approaches available to landowners interested in protecting their property – the reserved life estate, or charitable remainder interest land donation. Using this method, KLT accepted from an anonymous donor about 46 acres of forest with about 850’ of Keweenaw Bay shoreline on the Abbaye Peninsula as high quality conservation land subject to a Life Estate. This property will eventually be open for public use once the Life Estate expires.

With this approach, the landowner donates and deeds the property to the land trust now but reserves the right to continue to live on and use the property during his or her lifetime, as a Life Tenant. The deed lists the terms of the Life Estate and typically states that the Life Tenant will continue to pay for taxes and upkeep of the property. The Life Tenant can still use and manage the property in a way that will not degrade its value. The land trust has a right to inspect and document the condition of the property over time to help ensure it will come to the land trust in good condition.

When the landowner dies or releases the Life Estate, the land trust already has title and assumes full control and use of the property. The important decisions are made and taken care of now, so the landowner knows the land trust has accepted their gift and how it will be used while they continue to enjoy the property as they have. The landowner may also receive a charitable tax deduction for the value of the land minus the value of the Life Estate at the time of the donation as calculated from IRS actuarial tables.

It is important to note that homeowners in town can also benefit the land trust by donating their home now and reserving the right to use it for their lifetime. In this case, the land trust will eventually sell the home and use the proceeds to support our programs as directed by the homeowner in the gift deed or agreement. One potential benefit is that once five years has passed (the current penalty period for charitable gifts), the homeowner could receive benefits for care without having to sell the home. These important decisions require serious consideration. We recommend that you discuss the goals for your property with your estate planner or other professionals to help tailor an agreement that will bring peace of mind and create a lasting legacy.

### Keweenaw Water Trail Campsite Established at Le Chance Creek



There's a new spot to camp on the Keweenaw Water Trail, and it's at KLT's Le Chance Creek Nature Area! Located along a beautiful stretch of Lake Superior shoreline (photo left), the low, rocky beach provides paddlers one of the few safe places to get off the water for several miles. A campsite suitable for 2-3 tents has been cleared a short distance from the lake and is marked with a small sign. Located 6.5 miles north of White City Beach and 15 miles south of Grand Traverse Bay (GPS: 47.036532N, 88.361738W), the campsite is open to the public on a first-come, first-served basis. Due to its isolated location and extensive sandstone cliffs along the shoreline, we recommend only experienced paddlers attempt the trip.

## Join the KLT as a new or renewing member!

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone# \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Please Circle: Summer - Winter - Permanent

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

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to receive email notices about: ☐ Upcoming events; ☐ General KLT News; ☐ Volunteer workdays

### Choose your membership giving level:

☐ \$20 STUDENT Membership

☐ \$50 Supporter ☐ \$100 Guardian ☐ \$250 Steward ☐ Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I am interested in receiving information about planned giving to support KLT

*KLT respects your privacy and confidentiality. We do not sell our lists and we honor requests for anonymity.*

**\*\*\* New: Give a FREE gift membership to a friend or family member! \*\*\***

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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

Thank you for your gift! Dues and contributions are tax deductible. Please mail this form and payment to:

Keweenaw Land Trust, 101 Quincy St., Suite 303, Hancock MI 49930

## KISMA Puts Invasives on Notice

The Keweenaw Invasive Species Management Area (KISMA) has been making steady progress on removing some high-profile invasives around the Copper Country this summer. With funding from the Michigan Invasive Species Grant Program and US Forest Service, KISMA was able to hire a fantastic 4-member weed crew to lead removal efforts at several sites. With plenty of ground to cover and relatively short field season, the KISMA team has been busy!

**Battling Knotweed:** The KISMA weed crew has been working extremely hard to eliminate knotweed along US Hwy 41 by the Michigan Tech golf course. Teams have been cutting a 1.5-acre infestation at a local quilt shop every 2 weeks since the start of the season and are pleased to report that the density of the patch is greatly reduced. Recently the team also cut down a huge patch along the Houghton-Chassell rail trail which is said to have been there for up to 20 years! Says KISMA Coordinator Sigrid Resh, *"This infestation was the reason I initially became actively involved in invasives removal, so cutting down these nearly 14 foot plants was particularly satisfying."*

**Purple Loosestrife Biocontrol:** In early June, KISMA, the Wetlands Club at Michigan Tech, Alger County Conservation District, Keweenaw Bay Indian Community (KBIC), and the US Forest Service met up to collect *Galerucella* beetles to raise and release in our respective management areas. Look for these biocontrol insects at the Nara Nature Preserve wetlands, where purple loosestrife has recently infested.

**Protecting the Keweenaw's History:** KISMA has assisted both the Keweenaw County Historical Society and Keweenaw National Historical Park in their efforts to reclaim historical sites from invasive plants. The weed crew led knapweed removal at the Eagle Harbor Lighthouse and wild parsnip control at Central Mine. At the Quincy Dry House ruins, the crew removed 13 contractor bags full of highly toxic poison hemlock.

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101 Quincy St., Suite 303  
Hancock, MI 49930

(906) 482-0820

[info@KeweenawLandTrust.org](mailto:info@KeweenawLandTrust.org)

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## Breakers to Bridge Paddle Festival Returns September 9, 2017!

The Michigan Tech Outdoor Adventure Program and KLT are proud to announce the 2017 Breakers to Bridge Paddle Festival! Positioned in the heart of Michigan's Keweenaw Peninsula, the Portage was the artery of America's first great metal mining region. Join us to celebrate the culturally significant mine ruins to virtually untouched waterfalls, coastlines, and crags by paddling 10 miles from Breakers to the Lift Bridge to help raise awareness of the Keweenaw Water Trail.

This year features a number of changes in response to last year's inaugural event. The signature 10-mile paddle will begin at the Stanton Township boat launch just south of the actual breakers. This was done to avoid potentially dangerous water conditions should another early fall storm arise. Additionally, the East Houghton Waterfront Park near the Super 8 will serve as both the finish line and gathering area before and after the paddle. For those looking to take part in a more casual paddle, shorter guided looped paddles around town and kayak try-outs will take place throughout the afternoon leaving from the East Houghton Waterfront Park. No matter your skill level, there are fun options available for you to take part in!



Registration is now open for the 10-mile Breakers to Bridge paddle. Visit [www.BreakersBridge.com](http://www.BreakersBridge.com) for a full schedule and to sign up! Space is limited so be sure to register early to reserve your place. Cost is \$45 for a solo kayak or paddleboard or \$60 for a tandem kayak or canoe.

Interested in volunteering? There is a need for assistance with loading and unloading boats on both Friday evening and Saturday all day as well as general help on Saturday during the event. Go to [www.BreakersBridge.com](http://www.BreakersBridge.com), then hit Volunteer at the bottom to learn more.