



LURE OF THE LAKE

Editor: Wendy Schultz

WE LOVE OUR CONSERVANCY LANDS

This article is written by guest author, Charlie Marks. You can read his bio at the end of this story.

Back in the middle 1990s, I was just beginning my tenure as the Administrator of the Green Lake Sanitary District (GLSD), and for the most part, I believed my overriding job description responsibilities involved the sewerage of over 1000 homes located around Big Green Lake. So when I received a call in the Summer of 1997 from a very friendly Wisconsin DNR man by the name of Jeff Pagels regarding the topic of "conservancy properties", I was a little surprised to say the least.

I still remember my first meeting with Jeff, we met in Green Lake on a sunny day in August 1997, I really didn't understand how the GLSD would be an agency that should be contacted about conservancy properties; especially since the GLSD had no involvement with this



Historic photo of one of the three stone arches that border the Winnebago Trail Conservancy

organization called the Green Lake Conservancy (GLC); however, their recent startup wouldn't allow them to accomplish all of their goals operating on their own.

More specifically, Jeff explained to me the benefits of a governmental organization such as the GLSD partnering with the GLC moving forward. The two primary reasons for involving the GLSD into the conservancy property business were as follows:

- First, the GLSD provided a local stable governmental organization to accept responsibility for the portfolio of conservancy properties should the local GLC organization decide to discontinue their work or dealings with conservancy properties.

- And the second reason involved the age-old issues of time and money. The GLC was an organization made up of volunteers trying to do the right things for the right reasons, but the work and money involved in writing state grants and administering these processes would be both extensive and time-consuming.

STORY CONTINUED
ON NEXT PAGE...



View of Green Lake from Winnebago Trail Conservancy

type of activity up until 1997 and there wasn't any mention of this work during my interactions with the GLSD Board of Commissioners during my hiring process in the Spring of 1996.

As Jeff and I began to discuss his reasons for contacting the GLSD, I couldn't resist the temptation to ask Jeff "Why are you contacting the GLSD with respect to conservancy properties, isn't there another governmental agency more suited to this type of activity?" Well Jeff was very patient with me and he went on to explain that Green Lake had recently started a new or-

A NIGHT TO TURN GREEN LAKE BLUE

ELWOOD & JAKE ARE ROCKIN' FOR GREEN LAKE AT THE ANNUAL GLA GALA TONIGHT!!

Heidel House
Dartford Ballroom
5:30-10pm



DON'T FORGET TO DRESS THE PART!

Oooh!

Aaah!

Ooh-La-La!



Hey Folks, come to the Wooden Boat Show!

At DEACON MILLS PARK down by the WHARF TODAY!!

Open to the public from 10am until 3pm. Be at the wharf 11am, 1pm or 3pm when Joe Norton gives the signal for the captains to "start their engines". You'll truly hear "thunder on the wharf" when you hear the rumble of these



Famous Joe Norton

BEAUTIFUL ANTI!QUE BOATS!
Boat parade at 3pm, weather permitting.



ENJOY THE BOATS!! ENJOY THE VIEW!



So, to the credit of both organizations (GLC & GLSD) a wonderful conservancy partnership was formed in the fall of 1997. Each of the partner organizations understood that by working together, the Green Lake community could ultimately benefit by protecting valuable conservancy properties forever through various legal steps. Furthermore, each of the partner organizations grew to understand the advantages held exclusively by the other organization. For example, the GLSD had the staff, resources and experience to apply for available state acquisition grant funds; while the GLC had the ability to negotiate and work with interested conservancy property sellers in ways that would have been impossible to a municipal organization like the GLSD.

By the year 2000, the Green Lake Conservancy partnership between the GLSD and the GLC was in high gear and a number of conservancy properties had been acquired for perpetual protection. All of the conservancy properties consisted of valuable sensitive environmental land, the most common characteristics included wetlands, water frontage and climax woods. For those who ask “why purchase these properties when they will almost certainly never be buildable due to their characteristics (i.e. wetlands)”, the answer is really very simple, just because current governmental regulations deem them unbuildable today, it doesn’t guarantee their protection down the road (i.e. changes in future governmental bodies and associated legal changes).

Consequently, by purchasing these properties and putting them into “permanent conservancy protection status”, we are guaranteeing two very important things. The first is that these conservancy properties will remain in their natural envi-

ronmental state forever, and the second is that these properties will remain open and available to the general public for hiking and other forms of enjoyment. All of the 16 conservancy properties obtained over the past two decades are open to the public with some minor restrictions on a couple of the properties. In total, the 16 Green Lake Conservancy partnership properties consist of almost 200 acres of land with over 17,000+ feet of frontage on various water bodies (i.e. Big Green Lake, Silver Creek, etc). All of these conservancy properties were purchased through combined efforts involving state grants, local tax dollars, public donations and in some cases contributions from other local organizations (i.e. Green Lake Association & Green Lake Public Schools). Refer to the attached spreadsheet for more details on the various conservancy properties along with their specific characteristics. All of the Green Lake conservancy properties combined have an estimated fair market value of approximately \$5,000,000 and these properties were obtained using under \$500,000 of local funding (tax dollars and contributions from local organizations).

Keeping all of the conservancy properties in their natural state allows for the

maximization of benefits to local wildlife as well as environmental elements such as filtering water draining to the lake, ground water protection, water clarity protection, preservation of the lake’s ecosystem in its most environmentally sensitive areas (where the water meets the land). Through our conservancy partnership, we have been able to acquire virtually all of the key wetland areas surrounding Big Green Lake. The protection and revitalization of these environmentally sensitive areas are critical to the ongoing health of our lake.

STORY CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE...

Conservancy Properties

Site Description	Acres	Date Acquired
Forest Avenue Oak Savanna Site of abandoned service station at corner of Forest Avenue and S. Lawson Drive.	< 1	1997
Blackbird Point Wetlands Five plus acres of marsh, wetlands, and some buildable lots near the southwest corner of Big Green Lake.	5+	1998
Norwegian Bay Wetlands Twenty plus acres consisting of mostly wetlands with some woods and a long boardwalk extending to Norwegian Bay.	20+	1998
Guskey Prairie Thirty plus acres of open prairie with some woods, replanted in native grasses.	30+	2001
Miller Prairie Just under ten acres of open prairie with some woods, replanted in native grasses.	8+	2001
Mitchell Glen Conservancy Twelve plus acres includes picturesque sandstone glen with climax forest, hundreds of native plants, and the origin of Glen Creek.	12+	2004
Sugar Island Wetlands Thirty plus acres of woods, wetlands and water, but no public access other than by boat or over the ice in winter.	30+	2004
Wick Nature Preserve Three plus acres of woods, wetlands and a number of buildable lots and natural drainage area for over 40 acres of agricultural land.	3+	2004
Tuleta Hill Prairie Over seven acres of open prairie, taken out of agricultural production and planted in native grasses.	7+	2007
Silver Point Wetlands Over fifteen hundred feet of water frontage along County Road A. Mainly lowland with shoreline vegetation.	2+	2007
Assembly Creek and Springs Conservancy Twenty plus acres of woods, wetlands, natural springs, and a nice loop trail over hilly terrain on Norwegian Bay.	20+	2008
Sunnyside Nature Preserve Forty plus acres of woods, wetlands & water frontage along Silver Creek Inlet and several man-made channels.	30+	2008
Winnepago Trail Nature Preserve Seven plus acres of woods with an old Indian trail running along the water, and near three historic stone arches.	7+	2009
Pools Hill Nature Preserve Consists of wooded and grassy hill, wetlands and nice water frontage along the southern shore of Silver Creek. Only accessible by water.	2.92	2010
Sunnyside Nature Preserve - Annex Property Mostly open farm land/prairie located directly north of the Sunnyside Nature Preserve purchased two years earlier.	14+	2010
Spaulding’s Bridge Landing Small property along Spaulding Hill Road adjacent to bridge over Silver Creek, with a dock for launching canoes and kayaks.	1.45	2011

For more information about these sites, visit the Green Lake Conservancy website at: greenlakeconservancy.org



Sugar Island Wetlands Conservancy

The unquestioned filtration benefits of wetlands is one of Big Green Lake's most important keys to continued good water quality. The preservation of the lake's wetlands helps to fortify and protect Big Green's water quality for future generations.

In addition to the "good science" behind the environmental benefits of our conservancy properties, we have also been able to incorporate some enjoyable amenities on a number of these properties. More specifically, over half of the conservancy properties have walking trails which can be used and enjoyed by the public on a year-round basis. Furthermore, these properties also allow for other activities which are usually allowed on public lands such as: hiking, hunting, swimming, kayaking, canoeing, cross-country skiing and other outdoor activities.

It is also important to emphasize that a number of the conservancy property purchases were made possible through generous financial contributions from the public. In a number of cases, people living in a particular area (neighborhood) recognized the benefits of a conservancy property project and made the decision to support it, both financially as well as through ongoing maintenance. The public, neighbors and neighborhoods have made conservancy projects happen in our Big Green Lake community. Does your neighborhood have a "conservancy property project" waiting to happen?

In conclusion, the Green Lake Conservancy Partnership works because we have a number of local organizations willing to work and sacrifice now in order to perpetually protect our Green Lake environment for future generations. It is



Charlie Marks
Green Lake Sanitary District
Administrator and very cool guy.

important to mention that the Green Lake Conservancy Partnership is continuing to move forward and always on the lookout for good conservancy opportunities. It is also very important to mention that REGULAR MAINTENANCE is required on all of the conservancy properties so VOLUNTEERS are always welcomed to join our ranks. Your volunteer contribution can be made through actual labor (working on the properties) or through a valued tax-deductible monetary contribution..

Lastly, if you or someone you know is considering the idea of putting an environmentally valuable piece of property into everlasting protection, feel free to contact either the Green Lake Sanitary District at (920) 291-6688 or the Green Lake Conservancy at (920) 294-3592. We exist through good people sacrificing and trying to do the right things for the right reasons.



Time to TOOT some HORN!!
Special thanks to Charlie Marks for providing this week's feature story.

Charlie was born and raised in Waukesha, WI, and graduated from Waukesha HS in 1977. He graduated from Marquette University in 1981 with BS in Business Administration. He worked 15 years (1981-1996) for Wisconsin Energy Corporation as IT Project Manager. In 1996 he accepted the position as GLSD Administrator, and he continues there to this day. Charlie spent many of his summers on Big Green Lake growing up. He has been married to Cathy for 31 years, and has four children: Stu (25); Paulina (23); Andrew (22) and Peter (20).



Winter view of creek entering Norwegian Bay from Assembly Creek and Springs Conservancy



Trees and reflections at Sunnyside Conservancy

Call us with your comments, questions or ideas. We want to hear from you!
920-229-4841

Editor Wendy Schultz

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greenlakerenewal@gmail.org

Farmer's GREEN LAKE Market
Weekly Cooking Demonstrations!
by Chef James Simmers
Don't forget to stop - Playground Park
FRIDAYS 3 PM 'til 7 PM



Oh DARLING!!
Have you heard the wonderful news?? Shoreline's BOAT JAM has been RESCHEDULED for August 4th! That's tomorrow!! Let's take our friends and go! It will be so much FUN!! .



HOLY SMOKES!
 These cooking classes at
TOWN SQUARE are SO
POPULAR this summer!!

2013 SUMMER COOKING COURSES
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LOWER LEVEL OF TOWN SQUARE
 RESERVATIONS are REQUIRED

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Kids in the Kitchen

(For kids 5-12 years old)

Member \$12, Non-member \$13.50

Instructor Wendy Bogdanský

*Saturday, August 17th,
 10-1:45 am*

Project: Apple Cartwheels

Celebrity Chef Cooking Classes

Member \$30, Non-member \$35, Teen w/parent \$15

Instructor Brian Taylor

Wednesday August 7th, 6:30-8:30 pm

Class: Ciabatta: 5 Breads 1 Dough

Wednesday, Sept 4th, 6:30-8:30 pm

Class: Harvest Quiche

"Hands On Cooking Class"

By Lynn Bult of Peppercorn Catering

Thurs., Aug 15 - Moroccan Cooking

Starts at 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm.

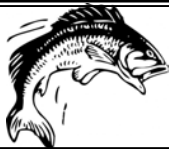
\$35.00 each.

*Most classes include an appetizer,
 soup / salad, a few entrees and dessert.

Demonstration Room at Town Square

Sign up through the Town Square website:

www.greenlaketownsquare.com



Look for the
SS SUBWAY
 Norwegian Bay
 Sat-Sun 1-4pm



Green Lake School District (GLSD) is an excellent school system located on beautiful Green Lake. Our system includes early childhood through 12th grade, with approximately 317 students and approximately 30 full time teachers.

GLSD has something unique to offer our students and community. With small class sizes, individualized instruction, private access to the Green Lake Conference Center property, and state of the art fitness and technology equipment, this is a school like none other!

For more information call (920) 294-6411 or



go to www.glsd.k12.wi.us

SHORELINE
 boat center

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509 Commercial Ave., Green Lake



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Two of the Chris Crafts making deliveries on July 27th



Doug Norton's Chris Craft



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Attention one and all!

CHN Now has a Pharmacy at Cross Roads Market!

Community Health Network

Hours of business:
9 AM—6 PM Monday-Friday
9 AM—1 PM Saturday
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American White Pelican

Monday-Thursday 11am-8pm
Saturday 9am-9pm
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Can be found at the
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Public Library

518 Hill Street
Green Lake
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DON'T FORGET:

Friends of the Library
Summer Book Sale
AUGUST 10th-11th

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

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Learn more about the Operation Migration program by scheduling a viewing tour at the White River Marsh, just north of Princeton. Watch the pilots and specialized volunteers work closely with the 8 young Whooping Cranes, training them to follow an ultralight, which will eventually take them to their wintering grounds.

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Calendar of Events.....



The CHN
Green Lake
Area
"13dot1"
is just around
the corner.
Sign up soon!

August 1-4 Green Lake County Fair

*August 2 Friday on the Square and
Farm Market Playground Park*

August 3 "Ride to the ABA" Bike Club

August 3 Wooden Boat Show-Deacon Mills!!

August 3 Goose Blind-DJ & Lights Show

AUGUST 3 GLA GALA BLUZ BROTHERS

AUGUST 4 SHORELINE'S BOAT JAM

AGAIN!! NORWEGIAN BAY

AUGUST 7 CONCERTS IN THE PARK
"THE DEL RAYS"

August 8 Goose Blind-Travis Lee

August 9 Friday on the Square and
Farm Market Town Square

August 10 Science Saturday Alien Invaders

August 10 "Around the Town" Bike Club

AUGUST 10 THRASHER OPERA HOUSE

ANDY ARMSTRONG, SCOTT LOSS & FRIENDS 7:30PM

AUGUST 10-11 FINE ART SHOW

August 16 Friday on the Square and
Farm Market -Town Square

August 16 Escapade Beer Cruise-Heidel House

AUGUST 16 THRASHER OPERA HOUSE

SUSAN WERNER: THE HAYSEED PROJECT 7:30PM

August 17 *Battle of the Bands!*



Turn OFF the TV and go for a BIKE RIDE...It's GOOD for YOU!!

