

**Mississippi Valley  
CONSERVANCY**

# Doing better together



*2023 Annual Report*



**CONTENTS**

Executive Director's Letter	3
New Lands Protected	4
Mighty Oaks	8
More Fun Outdoors	10
Red-Headed Woodpeckers	11
Thanks to the Volunteers!	12
2023 Financial Summary	13
Member Spotlight	14
2023 Supporters	15
Conservation Partners	19



FRONT COVER: Students from Logan Middle School harvesting native prairie seeds for land restoration plantings. Photo by Genesis Gordon

INSIDE COVER: Volunteers and wildlife at Trempealeau Lakes nature preserve, where 1,500 trees were planted and nurtured in 2023. Photos by Genesis Gordon and Allen Blake Sheldon.

# Better together.

**W**hen I think about doing better, many things come to mind. For me, personally, doing better means being a smarter gardener, being better at managing my time, and being better at my job each year so the Conservancy Team can do as much as possible to protect what nature does for everyone.

**A message from  
Carol Abrahamzon,  
Executive Director**

And when I think about bigger ways of doing better, I realize many of the changes needed to make our world a better place go far beyond what I alone can do. Whether you are a volunteer, donor, or partner, you have shown again and again that together we can do much more.

It can be overwhelming to think that we have to get better at everything. But it helps to consider how much better we've already made things – together.

When I think about Mississippi Valley Conservancy doing better, I think about how much better the Driftless Area is because of the work you support. Just this past year, you supported the planting of 1,500 trees and shrubs that will make Trempealeau Lakes a better place for the woodpeckers, beavers, turtles, and frogs that live there.

Your gifts helped clear invasive cedars from Boscobel Bluffs, allowing the decades-old prairie seeds to come alive and fill the hillsides with butterfly milkweed, bee balm, and leadplant.

Your support also makes it possible for us to partner with local organizations that share our mission. Those partners have helped us protect more land and restore more prairies and savannas to expand corridors that help wildlife adapt to changing weather patterns.

Because of you, more than 25,500 acres are permanently protected from clear-cut logging, mining, and future development.

Over the next year, I know that together we can continue to do better for our bees, birds, butterflies, frogs, and fish. Together we can do better by protecting and restoring more forests, prairies, wetlands, and farmlands – the nature-based solutions to carbon pollution that are right in our backyard.

Together we can do better for our communities, providing places in nature where people of all ages and walks of life can explore, dream, hike, hunt, fish, and take a break from everything else.

Together we can do better. Thank you for being a part of the Mississippi Valley Conservancy Team and making the Driftless Area a better place for all.



Carol Abrahamzon



# Protected Wildlife Corridor Expands

by Mitchel Block and Sarah Bratnober

The Twining farm, a 345-acre historic homestead property along the west bank of Kickapoo River just south of Gays Mills, Wisconsin, is now permanently conserved for the sake of the river, its native habitats, wildlife, and the communities that depend upon it. The well-known matriarch of the farm, Leita Twining Slayton (1898-1994), had strong feelings about its protection.



*“Granny would be proud to see it conserved,” said John Slayton as he decided to conserve his family’s farmland.*

Most everyone who lived in the town of Gays Mills during the 1900s is familiar with the Twining Farm and knew Leita Twining Slayton. If their grandfather didn’t fight in the Civil War with her grandfather, David Twining, then they likely knew him after the war as a well-respected farmer, lumberjack, mechanic, and gunsmith in Gays Mills. Leita, David’s youngest grandchild, eventually came into legal possession of the land and took over managing its operations. She focused on its timber, pasture, and tobacco crops – always caring for the land to give back.

Leita was a single mother, and she taught home economics at the Gays Mills public school for many years. On Sundays, the coffee pot was always on and she welcomed visitors to her home, including her son’s friend Ben Logan, renowned author of “The Land Remembers.”

The conserved property falls within three separate high priority areas for conservation. The property is part of a corridor of over two thousand acres of protected habitat that includes adjacent lands, protected by Mississippi Valley Conservancy, Wisconsin DNR, and The Prairie Enthusiasts.

The Slayton property includes a stunning array of diverse wooded blufflands, high-quality dry prairie and open grassland, springs, wetlands, and floodplain forest. Wetlands and perennial vegetation along the Kickapoo River also help prevent erosion, filter runoff, and play an important role in flood abatement while providing essential habitat for wildlife and scenic beauty for paddlers and other onlookers to enjoy.

In 1990, at the age of 92, Leita lived alone on the farm where she was born, stating “I will be in this house as long as I live... Everything in my house has meaning to me. When I look at my antiques, things that have been passed down through my family, I can live my life over, and I enjoy it.”

*Enjoy unabridged versions of our land protection stories in the Wild Reads section of our website.*





John Slayton, Leita's grandson, said the farm has been in the family for nearly 170 years. He signed the property into a conservation easement with Mississippi Valley Conservancy on November 30, 2023. John retains ownership of the private property, which is now forever protected from subdivision and development.

Perhaps Leita's greatest conservation legacy is the land where she lived and farmed, which is now conserved in her honor.

Above: Construction of the house at the Twining farm began during the Civil War. It has been maintained and updated by the great-great-grand children of David Twining since the passing of their grandmother, Leita Twining Slayton.

Left: John Slayton and his siblings are happy with their decision to conserve the farm for the protection it offers to the river and all who depend upon it.

## MORE LANDS PROTECTED

Each conservation project we take on requires careful analysis of the land's natural resources, its location relative to other protected land, and its potential to mitigate the effects of extreme weather. The unique legal, financial, and personal concerns of the landowner must also be understood. While this process is time-consuming, it is necessary for the landowner and the Conservancy to be able to reach an agreement that meets the long-term needs of both parties. Together, we agree on the terms for forever protecting the land – an act that is beneficial to all.



Photo by Sarah Brammober

65  
a c r e s

The north end of Barron Island, adjacent to Pettibone Park, is still mostly wild ... and will be forever, according to a newly completed easement on the land. The land remains private, but the easement prohibits future activities that would disturb the wildlife habitat. The site expands upon the largest protected corridor in Mississippi Valley Conservancy's nine-county service area. That corridor includes the surrounding US Fish and Wildlife Service Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge, which is a *Wetland of International Importance* and a *Globally Important Bird Area*.

144  
a c r e s

When Connie Champnoise and Arthur Plachinski acquired their land in Richland County, they pursued every possible way to conserve it, including replacing the crop fields with a perennial cover of grassland plants and a native pollinator planting – all surrounded by the forested areas of the property. This protects the water of Hall Bottom Creek and provides habitat for a variety of migrating birds including meadowlarks, bobolinks, and dickcissels – all Species of Special Concern.



Photo by Sarah Brammober

# 72 a c r e s

Soon after acquiring Crawford County land in 1998, Mark and Ann Grunwald hired a local expert to create a land management plan, which gave them a vision of what the land looked like in early settlement days. In 2005, they received a cost-share grant from the USDA that helped with some of the cost of restoring the land. Mark said the encouragement and advice they received from their USDA agents were invaluable. Then Mark's sister and brother-in-law acquired some of the land, and the expanded team did more! See the story below . . .



Photo by Tom Proffner

# 37 a c r e s

In 2008, Leigh and Forrest Carlson purchased thirty-seven acres from Mark and Ann Grunwald (see story above) and built a house on the ridge for their permanent residence. Now a bigger team, Mark, Ann, Leigh, and Forrest undertook more and more restoration work together. They have done an immense amount of work to manage a diverse array of habitats. From the remnant dry prairies to the restored prairie plantings, the plant diversity on their properties is very high. Even more impressive are the oak openings and woodlands that have been restored by their joint efforts – an ongoing project.



Photo by Sarah Bratnober

# 17 a c r e s

With support from partner organizations, the Conservancy purchased a 17-acre property adjacent to the 8,600-acre Kickapoo Valley Reserve from a private landowner. It was the only remaining private property along an 18-mile stretch of the Kickapoo River, and it provides important conservation benefits and recreational opportunities. The property will be open to the public and will eventually be transferred to the Kickapoo Valley Reserve management board for ownership and ongoing management.



Photo by Jan Klocek

# Mighty Oaks: Migration smorgasbord and carbon capturers

By Dave Skoloda

There are thousands of good reasons why conservation-minded land owners are planting oak trees, thousands of them in 2023 alone, on private land and on Mississippi Valley Conservancy's nature preserves.

## The reasons?

Well, chickadees have 6,000 to 9,000 reasons alone – that's the number of caterpillars each pair must find and feed to rear one clutch of their young, according to ecologist Douglas Tallamy. He writes that oaks are the most prolific providers of food for wildlife of all kinds, especially caterpillars needed by migrating birds in the spring oaks host more than five hundred species – at least a hundred more than the next most productive source.

Tallamy, a University of Delaware entomologist, is the author of *Bringing Nature Home*, a book that was distributed to Conservancy board members, staff, and others many years ago by an early supporter of the nonprofit land trust. The book added to the awareness in the organization of the key role native plants such as oaks play in our work for wildlife biodiversity and human needs for climate change mitigation.

And that understanding has only grown in importance as the Conservancy develops plans to rebuild the biodiversity and climate resilience of the 1,600-acre Plum Creek Conservation Area it acquired two years ago. There alone, some 11,200 trees, mostly oaks, will soon be planted in fields previously subject to erosion caused by cultivating row crops on steep ridgetop terrain. In addition to being beneficial to wildlife, oaks were selected for the planting because of their deep taproots that give them the ability to withstand predicted drought conditions.

As with extensive plantings in previous years at the Cassville Bluffs State Natural Area, and plantings that include swamp white oak at Trempealeau Lakes, the young oaks have to be protected from browsing by deer – one of the key provisions in successful oak regeneration along with removing the invasive undergrowth, such as buckthorn and honeysuckle, that out-competes the young trees.

*David Linton stands in a field where thousands of oak seedlings (mixed red, white, and bur oak) have been planted to restore land where row crops grew before. Now the task is placing protective tubes around the young trees.*

Photo by Dave Skoloda



Photo by Dave Skoloda



## Some other examples:

Maggie Jones and David Linton had some 5,000 oak seedlings planted last spring on their protected land in Crawford County. They had previously planted another 5,000 and had also spread 47 bushels of acorns (mixed red, white, and bur oak) on 17 acres that was once row crops and disced them in. “They came up like gangbusters,” Maggie said. Now the task is placing protective tubes on the young trees (see photo below).

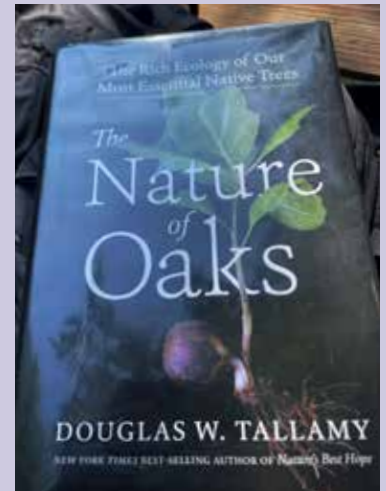
Since much of the land protected under easements with the Conservancy is forested, the value of oaks in those forests is another reason for keeping the land undeveloped. Oaks also excel in carbon sequestration – the removal and storage of carbon dioxide from the air. Forest researcher Timothy Fahey of Cornell University estimates a 50-year-old oak forest annually sequesters some 30,000 pounds of CO<sub>2</sub> per acre and produces some 22,000 pounds of oxygen.

If the Conservancy’s 25,000+ acres of protected lands have forest coverage that is typical of lands in the Driftless Area, a rough estimate suggests those lands might be sequestering up to 160,000 tons of carbon dioxide per year. That is the equivalent of the amount of carbon dioxide produced by about 35,000 gasoline-powered cars driven for one year (4.6 tons per year for an average passenger car, according to EPA). Exact numbers are hard to come by and the estimate is used here just to give a sense of scale, a sense of how important natural solutions are in the climate crisis. Fahey asserts that carbon storage is an urgent need and outweighs any worries about how durable the sequestration will be in the long run. That view raises the stakes for the conservation work the Conservancy does in mitigating climate change – protecting the lands that are storing away the CO<sub>2</sub> that is main cause of our climate chaos.



Photo by Allen B. Sheldon

*Ecologist Doug Tallamy estimates that each blue jay plants “somewhere in the neighborhood of 3,360 oak trees every year of its 7-to-17-year life span.”*



Douglas Tallamy, the ecologist and author, invites his readers to consider the insects when they worry about the loss of birds or other species that declining in number. The decline of plants in any given place means “we reduce the diversity and abundance of insects...”

“If we think of insects not as creatures with six legs, but as food for birds, amphibians, reptiles and mammals, we can start to appreciate the ecological significance of insect declines and why we must reverse them.” That, he concludes in his book, *The Nature of Oaks*, means planting native species wherever possible, especially oaks.

Tallamy also asserts the importance of oaks, with their enormous root systems, in carbon sequestration and soil stabilization, making them key components of watershed management.

He includes tips for growing oaks and oak best suited for Wisconsin.

And he introduces us to an oak-planting champion – the blue jay, which buries acorns for future use as food up to a mile from the source, not all of which are recovered. “So it’s no wonder that jays have enabled oaks to move about the earth faster than any other tree species.”



*Challenge yourself  
and enjoy the beauty  
of the trails at the  
nature preserves.*

# The 2024 Challenge starts on April 28!

Hike with family and friends, or go solo, in the 2024 Trail Trek Challenge. It's the free hiking program you can do throughout the year when the timing works for you. The downloadable trail guide and maps are free, too. And there's a nature hunt for every trail to help keep youngsters engaged.

**It all starts at Earth Fair in La Crosse on April 28, 2024.**

We'll celebrate those who completed last year's challenge (continuing through 4/15/2024), and we'll warm up for a new year of hiking with a guided walk at the La Crosse River Marsh.

**Details at: [www.mississippivalleyconservancy.org/ttc](http://www.mississippivalleyconservancy.org/ttc)**



*Hikers enjoy one of the many trails of the Trail Trek Challenge.*

Photo by Drake Hokanson

**MORE FUN OUTDOORS • MORE FUN OUTDOORS • MORE FUN OUTDOORS • MORE FUN OUTDOORS**



## Become a citizen scientist!

The Driftless Area BioBlitz is a free, annual, one-of-a-kind opportunity for families, students, and all nature lovers to search for and learn about plants and wildlife in the Driftless Area. Join us with our community conservation partners to discover and catalog the species that live here!

**Details at: <https://natureplacelacrosse.org/what-we-do/community-science/>**

The Driftless Area BioBlitz is a collaboration of The Nature Place, Mississippi Valley Conservancy, UW-La Crosse Biology Department, Viterbo University Biology Department, and the City of La Crosse Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department.



*Young citizen scientists help to identify insects at a session of the Driftless Area BioBlitz in 2023.*

Photo by Lee Harwell

# Red-Headed Woodpeckers

## Where Have They Gone?

by Frank Dravis

Photo by Allen B. Sheldon



Some of us living in the Driftless Area of Wisconsin will answer the *where have they gone* question with, “Nowhere, they’re right here!” Looking at the data from the 2022 Audubon Society Christmas Bird Count centered on Retreat, Wisconsin, someone is seeing red-headed woodpeckers, forty-two to be precise. Unfortunately, it doesn’t include me. My wife and I live on the banks of the Mississippi on fifty acres of forested coulee, and we never see red-headed woodpeckers. When I think I see one, I will call to my wife and point, and she will invariably say, “No. That’s a red-bellied.” She will then remind me that when she was growing up, less than two miles from where we live, she saw red-headed all the time.

It’s right about here that those who see red-headed woodpeckers all the time will ask, “How could you mistake the two?” Simple. Red-bellied have red heads, too. They are the same size bird, have a black and white back, and if you want to see a red-headed, you can imagine a red-bellied to be one. However, once you really see a red-headed, at least often enough, you’ll appreciate its stark coloration, especially in comparison to its red-bellied cousins.

So what gives with seeing or not seeing the red-headed woodpecker in the Driftless? It comes down to one word: habitat. Compared to the red-bellied, which prefer forest, the red-headed much prefer open woodland and oak savanna. These environs differ in the density of the trees and the openness of the understory. Red-headed prefer a landscape that has a more diverse and prolific population of bugs, specifically

the flying varieties. Yes, while they may be woodpeckers, red-headed are avid flycatchers, too. Fully a third of their diet may come from airborne protein. Red-headed are migratory, but just like robins, they will overwinter in the Driftless Area given the right conditions, such as an abundance of white oak acorns, as reported during the recent bird count. This is where comparison adds context. During the Retreat-area bird count, ninety-seven red-bellied were spotted, along with seventy-seven downy, forty-five hairy, and seventeen pileated. From this data, we might surmise there is some open forest or oak savanna in the fifteen-mile-diameter circle centered on Retreat. Maybe, but many variables impact bird populations from year to year, like acorn production and drought.

The red-headed woodpecker is a habitat indicator – like the proverbial canary in the coal mine. If you find oak savanna, look for red-headed, and vice versa. Over the past sixty years, red-headed population in the Midwest has declined by fifty percent. Some of that can be attributed to habitat conversion. The open forest and oak savanna weren’t so much lost as allowed to mature and age out. Some savanna was lost to crop production and urbanization, but without habitat management, such as prescribed burns performed by the Conservancy, the DNR, and private landowners, open woodland is gradually filled in by pioneer and invasive tree and plant species and, thirty years later, you have forest. You get more red-bellies in a mature forest but fewer red-headed. For me, who never sees them, I say, “That’s sad.” My wife, who actually *misses* them, says, “*That’s sad!*”



# Thanks to the many volunteers who helped throughout the year!

Hundreds of talented volunteers of all kinds helped us throughout 2023 with habitat restoration, guiding hikes, preparing mailings, data entry, hosting events, photography, videography, graphic design, writing, proofreading, board and committee duties, easement monitoring, auctioneering, music, cooking, and more. Some of them are pictured here.

Let us know if you'd like to get involved and earn a free membership!

In 2023, volunteers helped us accomplish the following habitat restoration work:

- Invasive brush removal: 35 acres
- Cedar clearing for prairie restoration: 6 acres
- Invasive weed control (garlic mustard and wild parsnip): 200 acres
- Prairie seed harvesting: 40 lbs
- Forest stand improvement: 12 acres
- Controlled burning: 230 acres of fire-dependent habitats
- Tree planting: 1,500 trees of diverse native species
- 10+ miles of trail maintenance throughout the year

Photos by Genesis Gordon



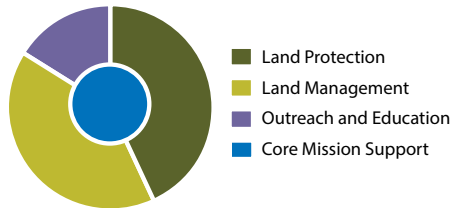
## 2023 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Every protected property requires an investment of scientific, legal, and administrative resources to assess, document, and monitor the health of the land. Fundraising and education efforts require time and resources to create awareness and engage communities with our mission.

Your support makes it all possible.

### FY 2022–23 Expense Allocation

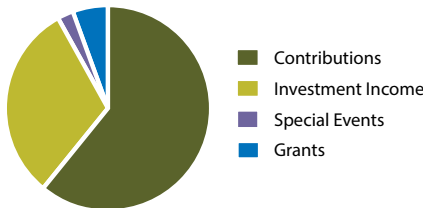
Total Expenses \$1,078,489



Land Protection	\$ 394,814
Land Management	374,217
Outreach and Education	146,000
Core Mission Support	163,458
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 1,078,489</b>

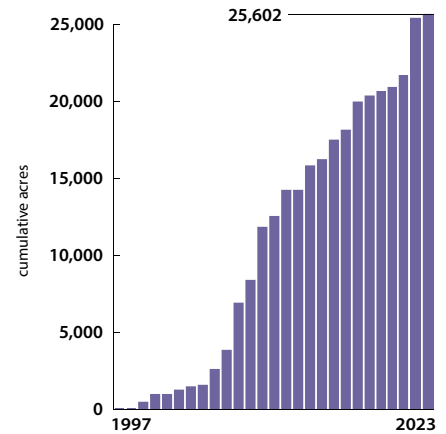
### FY 2022–23 Fundraising Revenue

Total Revenue \$3,017,545



Contributions	\$ 1,840,729
Investment Income	940,696
Special Events	71,614
Grants	164,506
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 3,017,545</b>

Land protected since 1997  
25,602 acres and growing!



### Expense Allocation

85% Programs



Mississippi Valley Conservancy is committed to strong fiscal health. The financial summary above is based on a complete financial audit conducted by Hawkins/Ash CPAs. Their full report is available on our website or by contacting us at 608-784-3606 ext.1.

## Save the Driftless for *them* . . . by giving through your IRA

“Them” includes wildlife – the birds, bees, frogs, turtles, fish, bats, bobcats, and butterflies that depend on undeveloped land with native habitats to do their jobs in our shared ecosystem. “Them” includes the trees, grasses, sedges, and wildflowers that depend on undeveloped land where they can filter the water, feed the wildlife, and store carbon underground. And “them” includes the next generation of people, who also need forests, prairies, wetlands, streams, and farmlands to nourish their bodies, lift their spirits, and love the natural world.

**Charitable gifts from your IRA are a great way to share your love of the land with “them.”**

### For those 70½+ years old

You can give any amount (up to a maximum of \$100,000) each year from your IRA directly to a qualified charity such as Mississippi Valley Conservancy without having to pay income taxes. This popular gift option is commonly referred to as an *IRA charitable rollover*, also known as a *qualified charitable distribution (QCD)*. The gift can satisfy *required minimum distributions (RMDs)*.

### For those 59½ years old

If you are at least 59½ years old, you can take a distribution from your IRA and donate it to the Conservancy without penalty. If you itemize your deductions, you can take a charitable deduction for the amount of your gift.

### At any age

No matter your age, you can designate Mississippi Valley Conservancy as the beneficiary of all or a part of your IRA and it will be gifted tax-free after your lifetime. It’s simple – just contact your IRA administrator to request a change of beneficiary.

## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

# Passing on their love of the land



*The Westrich family (Andrew, Roman, Anya, and Teresa) experiences the value of land conservation every day when they walk into their backyard adjacent to the La Crosse Blufflands. Above, they all came out to help with tree care after the tree-planting at Trempealeau Lakes nature preserve in early 2023.*

Photo by Genesis Gordon

When Andrew and Teresa Westrich moved to SW Wisconsin in 2016, they brought their nature-loving values and their two children with them. They moved here because Andrew had accepted a position in brand management with Organic Valley.

Andrew grew up fishing, hunting, and camping, and Teresa grew up on a Minnesota dairy farm, so they were no strangers to the great outdoors. When they resettled at the base of the bluffs in La Crosse, their relationship with nature became closer than ever before. Outside their back door are woods, bluffs, and trails that offer endless opportunities for recreation and connection with nature and people. And just next door lives a Conservancy board member who, soon after their arrival, invited them to get involved with the organization.

Backyard access to some of the area's most beautiful native habitats has given the Westrich children, Roman and Anya, many ways to build their own relationships with nature. Anya has developed an interest in foraging for mushrooms. Her older brother, Roman, who worked for both WisCorps and Mississippi Valley Conservancy in his high school years, was a passionate buckthorn warrior by the time he was fifteen years old. He's now studying in the Forestry Department at UW Stevens Point.

"We support the Conservancy because we like the idea of protecting natural systems, farming heritage, and the area's recreational lifestyle. Engaging with our family outdoors has provided us with conversations and connection to something we all love," said Andrew.

# Thanks to *YOU*, amazing things are happening.

## MEMBERS OF 2023

217 on Main  
Philip and Kathy Aaker  
Brian and Joyce Abernathy  
Carol and Bill Abrahamzon  
Jennifer Abrahamzon  
Amy Adams  
John and Maureen Adams  
William and Peg Agger  
Therese Ahlers  
Rhonda Akeson  
Rick and Barb Albrechtson  
Greg and Molly Aleckson  
Mark and Tracy Aleckson  
Michael Aleckson  
Abby Alexander  
All Glazed up  
David and Marie Allen

Jennifer Allison  
Altra Federal Credit Union  
Ronald and Therese Amel  
James and Debra Ames  
Patricia Amsrud  
Raymond and Jodi Andersen  
Sacia Andersen  
Craig Anderson and Kile Martz  
Donald A. & Marilyn M. Anderson Foundation, Inc.  
Joyce Arthur  
Connie Arzigian  
James and Carolyn Bagniewski  
Terry Baier  
Valerie Bailey-Rihn and David Rihn  
Kevin and Betty Baird  
Dr. Vance Baker

David Bange  
Jim and Marlene Bannen  
Frank and Irene Barmore  
Bruce and Kathy Bartel  
Tom and Kathy Barth  
Laurie Bartz  
Bill and Marsha Bateman  
William Bauman  
Dr. James and Peggy Baumgaertner  
Judy Bautch  
Allan Beatty  
Dennis and Joyce Beekman  
Julia and Thomas Behrenbeck  
Randall Bekkers and Laurie Harmon  
Erin and Colin Belby  
Jon and Metta Belisle  
Howard and Katherine Bell  
Dr. Bill and Heidi Bender  
Robert and Marilyn Bendiksen  
Sam Benesch  
Brian and Barb Benson  
Terry Benson  
Sara Bentley  
Cindy and Bill Berg  
Sister Sharon Berger

Julie Berkos  
Roy Berlin  
Mary Lou Biddlestone  
Eunice Bielefeldt  
Big River K9  
Big River Magazine  
Dr. Joseph and Mary Binegar  
Cassandra Bissen  
Todd Bjerke and Karen Kroll  
Jill Blackburn  
David Blackey  
David and Dorothy Block  
Ed F. Block  
Veronica Blount  
Alastair Boake & Nancy Vrabec  
Buzz Bocher and Pat O'Hara  
Beverly Bodine  
Patricia Boge  
Jan Brady  
Barbara Brandes  
Sarah Bratnober  
Don and Cheryl Brenengen  
Peg Brenneke  
J.F. BrennanCompany, Inc.  
Paul Brewer

Ann Brice and Bill Haviland  
 Bridges United Methodist Church  
 Tom Brindley  
 Craig and Sandy Brooks  
 Ellen Brooks  
 Dianna Brown  
 Michael Brown  
 Clarence Brown Jr.  
 Ryan Brubaker  
 Jennifer and Mark Brumm  
 Rhonda Bryhn  
 Marcus Buchholz  
 Bonnie Buchman  
 Martin and Kathleen Buehler  
 Deborah Buffton and Stephen Minnema  
 Jac and Susan Bulk  
 Joan Bunbury  
 Michael and Marge Buncak  
 Dave and Jean Burgess  
 Nancy Burgett  
 James and Mary Busch  
 Cathy Butterfield  
 Thomas Byerly  
 Loren and Margaret Cade  
 Frank Cadwell  
 Pat Caffrey and Peg Zappen  
 Duncan J. Cameron  
 Don and Louise Campbell  
 Elizabeth Campbell  
 Roy Campbell and Ellen Ullsvik  
 Charles and Diane Canniff  
 Carol Cantwell  
 Priscilla Capelle Haehn and Billy Wilson  
 Forrest and Leigh Carlson  
 Kathleen Carlyle  
 Cece Caron and Thomas Erb  
 Steve and Susan Carpenter  
 Wesley and Anna Carrington  
 Stephanie Carroll  
 John and Sandra Castek  
 Castle La Crosse  
 Peter Catalano  
 Ursula Cejpek  
 Justus Challoner  
 Champion Solar  
 Connie Champnoise and Arthur Plachinski  
 Barbara Chase  
 Rebecca Christoffel and Andrew Williams  
 Kyle Christopherson  
 Abbie Church  
 Catherine Chybowski  
 Todd and Kim Clark  
 Tom and Mary Jo Clark  
 Cleary-Kumm Foundation  
 Jerry Cleveland  
 John and Ardu Cleveland

Roland Cline and Mary Papenfuss  
 Dr. John Cochran and Margaret Grenisen  
 Timothy and Cheryl Collins  
 Susan H. Colliton  
 Community Consultants, LLC  
 Deb Congdon  
 John and Lisa Conzemius  
 Gert Cook  
 Coulee Bicycle Co.  
 Coulee Region Land Surveyors  
 Coulee Region Trout Unlimited  
 Timothy Cox  
 Crawford County Community Fund  
 Kathleen Crittenden  
 Ken and Val Critzman  
 Mary Lee Croatt  
 Thomas and Kimberley Culp  
 Curtis and Kristine Cvikota  
 Joyce P. Czajkowski  
 Richard and Shirley Dahlby  
 Lynn Dahlen  
 Dairyland Power Cooperative  
 Tim Dakin  
 Barb and Joe Dalton  
 Julie Damm  
 Dancing Waters  
 Steven Davis  
 Davy Engineering Co.  
 Peter Day  
 Sharon DeCicco  
 Claire DeCoster  
 Daniel Deetz and Rebecca Haack-Deetz  
 David and Julie DeHart  
 Dean Deick  
 Michael Delaney  
 Terry Derchia  
 Ruth and Daniel Devitt  
 Michael and Carmen DeYoe  
 Jennifer J. Dieck  
 James and Sue Dillenbeck  
 Bill and Anita Doering  
 Doris Doherty  
 Marcus and Judy Doolittle  
 Mary and Leland Drangstveit  
 Danya Dravis  
 Frank and Kim Dravis  
 Anne Drecktrah  
 Jan Dressel  
 Mary Dresser  
 Shane and Tim Drey  
 Driftless Earth  
 The Driftless Angler  
 Driftless Café  
 Sandra Drobnick  
 Patrick DuCharme  
 Peter Duerkop  
 Kathy Dummer  
 Tim and Sue Durtsche  
 James E. Dutton Foundation

Tim and Jan Dwyer  
 Aimee Ebersold Schultz  
 Joseph and Robin Edmunds  
 Eric and Kay Edquist  
 Greg and Diane Egan  
 Edie Ehlert  
 Tim and Linda Eisele  
 Karen Ekiss  
 The Elliott Family Fund  
 Elmaro Vineyard  
 Sr. Helen Elsbernd  
 John and Kathy Engh  
 Linda and Don Eppelheimer  
 Linda Essig  
 Ms. Joey Esterline and Scott Giraud  
 Karen Estrada  
 Scott and Wendy Evert  
 Explore La Crosse  
 Paul and Kathy Fairchild  
 Louise Fawcett  
 Melani Fay  
 Jay and Diane Fernholz  
 Joan Filla  
 Mary Fillner  
 Financial & Investment Management Group  
 Carol Finanger  
 Barbara Fisher  
 Patrick Fisher  
 Mark and Roxanna Flaten  
 Kristen Foehner  
 Russ and Diane Ford  
 Chuck and Debbie Forer  
 Mark and Kati Forsythe  
 Brad Foss  
 Fowler & Hammer, Inc.  
 Jim Fowler  
 David and Barbara Foye  
 Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration  
 Barbara Frank  
 Harold and Mary Frank  
 Ellen Frantz  
 Dr. Robert and Maureen Freedland  
 Freight House  
 Annette and Marv Friedewald  
 Marjorie Fries  
 Ruth Frise  
 Donald and Susan Fritsch  
 Andrea and Mark Fritts  
 Fritz Family Foundation INC,  
 Anita Froegel  
 Richard Frost and Teri Wachuta  
 Frozen Film Festival  
 Fun Fur Pets  
 Fred and Mary Ann Funk Family Fund – La Crosse Community Foundation  
 John Gaddo and Nancy North  
 Jim and Jan Gallagher  
 Mary Ellen Gallagher  
 Eric and Nora Garland

Garrity-Gokey Fund  
 Ned and Carol Gatzke  
 Joseph Gautsch and Barbara Sheehan  
 Dr. Kris and Jodi Gehrke  
 Philip and Melissa Gelatt  
 Sue Anne Gelatt Foundation  
 Scott Gelzer and Sherry Goldsmith  
 Elizabeth George and Paul Voytas  
 Jeff and Elaine George  
 Paul and Natalie Geyer  
 Tom Gianoli  
 Tom and Ann Gibbons  
 Mike and Kathy Giese  
 Terry and Norma Gilbertson  
 Judith Gill  
 Ted Glasbrenner and Jenifer Strand  
 Drs. James and Jo Glasser  
 Robert and Becky Glesne  
 Beth Glidewell  
 Ted and Val Glotfelty  
 Becky Goche and Cheryl Groom  
 Lana Goldsmith  
 Margaret Graff  
 Brian Gray  
 Great River Shakespeare Festival  
 Leonard and Helaine Greene  
 Mary Jane Greenewald  
 Dianne Greenley  
 Bill and Kathy Gresens  
 Jeannie and Jim Groskreutz  
 Lee and Rose Grosskreutz  
 Toby Grotz and Kathryn Bradley  
 Chris Gruendeman  
 Mark and Ann Grunwald  
 Sandy and Kurt Grunwald  
 Wendelin A. Guentner  
 Ole and Judy Gulbrandsen  
 Andrea Gundersen  
 Sigurd and Jean Ann Gundersen III  
 Gundersen Health System  
 Chuck and Carmen Gustafson  
 Rev. Ronald and Merle Gustafson  
 Peter and Janice Gutierrez  
 Randy and Yvonne Guzman  
 Julie and Chris Haas  
 Werner and Dianna Haas  
 Dale Hadler  
 Glenn Hagar  
 Jon and Kathy Hageseth  
 Thomas and Amber Halada  
 John Halbrehder and Carolyn Diekmann  
 Bud Hammes  
 Joe Hammes  
 Stephanie Hanna and Gregory Siemens  
 Andrea and Curtis Hansen  
 Karen Hanson  
 Charles and Cheryl Hanson  
 Janis Hanson

Mike Hanson	Mike and Linda Jawson	Robert Koehler	Richard and Dorothy Lenard
Rick Hanson	Carolyn Mahlum-Jenkins and Glen Jenkins	Walter and Judith Koehnlein	Stephen and Cynthia Lenser
Roger and Diane Hanson	Jim and Linda Jenkins	Fred and Lou Anne Koerschner	Todd and Donna Lensing
Peter Hartman	Alan and Nancy Jenks	Catherine Kolkmeier	Kevin and Colleen Leslie
Chris Haskell	Fred and Dawn Jensen	Lynn Konsela	Lynne Leuthe
William Hauser	Niels and Beth Jensen	Joan Koosman	Carol Lewis
Jennifer Hayes	Heather Jett	Ann and Carl Korschgen	Francis Lewis
Paul and Bernadette Hayes	Jerome Jiracek	Gloria Kowalski	Thomas and Margaret Ley
Jaime Healy	JK Farms LLC	Stephen and Barbara Kozerowitz	Lennie Lichter
Alan Hecht and Kristin Swanson	Jackie Joday	Eric Kraemer	Carolyn Lindeman
Sandra Heggeness	Johns, Flaherty & Collins, sc	Mike and Becky Kreiling	The Charles E & Rosemarie Link Trust
Richard and Jane Heiden	Amy Johnson	Jean Kreul	Gloria Linnell
Dale and Kathleen Hein	Bill and Catherine Johnson	Nancy Kroner	Fred Lintelmann
Hein Farms, LLC	Kent and Lee Johnson	George and Elizabeth Kruck	Mary Linville
Mary Ann Hein	Leta Johnson	Barbara and Joseph Kruse	Raymond List
Patricia Heizler & Aaron Berg	Tim and Regina Johnson	Al Kube	Sandra Locher
Jay Heldt and Karen Kouba	Tom and Patty Johnson	Donald Kuderer	Marge Loch-Wouters & Lloyd Lorenz
Mary Helgren and Richard Radek	Trudy Johnson	Jeff Kueny	Dr Jack and Joyce Lockhart
Ed Helmueller	Mark Jolivet	Patricia Kulig	Brent and Mary Lohmann
Clare Henneman	Janis Jolly	Jeffrey Kunzelman	David and Connie Long
Amy Heuslein	John Jones	Dianne Kurtz	Holly and Landon Loomis
Kathryn Hietbrink	Barbara Jordan	John Kussmaul	Nancy Lorenz
Joan Higgins and Carl Herrmann	Bob and Mary Jochen	Kwik Trip	Warren and Denise Loveland
Edwin and Nancy Hill	Justin Trails Resort LLC	Richard and Cynthia Kyte	David Lowman
Sue Hill	Greater Milwaukee Foundation - JayKay Foundation Fund	La Crescent Wine and Spirit	Ken and Sara Lubinski
Timothy and Bridget Hill	Jack and Ellen Kallies	La Crosse Community Foundation WEDA- WE Charitable Donor Advised Fund	Ted and Lisa Ludwig
William and Deborah Hiller	Gerald Kann	La Crosse Community Theatre	Ronald Luethe
Lorne Hillier	Sr. Karen Kappell	La Crosse Queen	Tom Lukens and Pam Saunders
Harry and Jean Hindson	Mark and Jacqueline Kartman	La Crosse Symphony	James and Jean Lund
Randy Hoard	Karen and Michael Keil	La Farge Lions Club	Karen Lyga
Dave and Patsy Hofer	Robert and Mary Kelemen	Richard Lagerman	John Lyons
Mike and Mary Carole Hoffman	Jerry Schmidt and Christine Kelley	Robert and Mary Lake	Helen MacGregor
John and Rita Hoffmann	John and Sangeetha Kelly	Fusheng and Haixia Lan	Milo and Beverly Mayer Mach Family Fund - La Crosse Community Foundation
Gracie and Jeff Hohman	Randall Kelly	Land Trust Alliance	Joe and Lisa Mackey
Drake Hokanson and Carol Kratz	Michael and Donna Keogh	David and Karen Lange	Kay MacNeil
Betsy Chris Holland	Kerbaugh Family Fund - La Crosse Community Foundation	Rick and Mary Kay Lange	Mike and Carol Mader
Jane Holzauer	George and Sharon Kerckhove	Mary Lansing	Randy and Rita Magno
Joe and Deb Hooyman	Roger and Mary Kerr	Ellen Lark	Gretchen Manthei
Kevin Horvath	Andrew Khitsun	Ann Larkin and Paul Owecke	Mary Marshall
Curtis Hottinger	Kenneth and Deneen Kickbusch	Rebecca Larsen	Ellen Martell
Marilyn Houck	Peggy Kimani	Joseph Larson	Mike Martin and Laura Siitari
Jeff Houser and Beth Mullen-Houser	Grear and Linda Kimmel	Ken and Lois Larson	Diane Martinek
Ronald and Carol Howard	Ron and Tawni Kind	Nola Larson	Edward Martinez
Robert and Mary Hubbard	Maureen Kinney	Randy and Nancy Larson	William and Candace Marx
Todd and Lin Huffman	Larry and Susan Kirch	Tim and Margaret Larson	Melanie Matchett
Tillman Hughes	Chris Kirkpatrick	Patricia LaRue	Edward Mathwig
Christopher and Krista Huiras	Dr. Fredric and Marion Kleinberg	Joel Lazinger	Wendy Mattison
James and Jane Hulke	Allison Kleist	Brenda Leahy and Michael Slevin	John May
Adam Huntington	Kathryn Kleist	John and Louise Leary	Maybe Lately's Food and More
Bob and Marilyn Hurt	Geoff and Myra Kloster	Tim and Nicole Lebakken	Kathryn and Christopher Mayer
Drew and Elisabet Ibach	Sue Knopf	William and Carol LeClaire	Mayo Clinic Health System
Cindy Imhoff	Cara Knothe	Stanley Ledebuhr	Jeff and Barbara McArdle
International Youth Media Summit	Karen Knox	Jean and Mark Ledman	Kathleen McCann
Karrie Jackelen	Ralph Knudson and Nancy Heerens-Knudson	Joel Ledvina	Dr. Mark McConnell
Jeffrey and Amanda Jackson	Melinda Knutson and Dave Ford	Chuck and Linda Lee	Scott McConnell
Emma Jacobs	Kevin and Dianne Koch	Rob and Pam Lee - La Crosse Community Foundation	James McCormick
Kirk Jacobson and Donna Pittman	Rita Koch Thometz	Scott and Judy Lee	Kevin and Jenny McCoy
Pamela Jambois		Fran Lee-Edwards and John Edwards	Don and Patty McCrery



Maureen McDowell  
 Dick and Julie McGarry  
 Gerald McGrath  
 Mary McGrath  
 Anthony McKimmy  
 Gladys McLenahan  
 Robert and Patricia McLoone  
 Maura McNamee  
 James McNeilly  
 Gene and Carolyn McNurlen  
 Barbara McPeak  
 John and Dee Medinger  
 Molly Meister  
 Nancy Melin  
 Mergenthaler Family Fund  
 Meringue Bakery and Cafe  
 Dave Mertins  
 Cindy Mettillie  
 Lance and Carol Meyer  
 La Verne Michalak  
 Bob Michelson  
 Robert and Patricia Mika  
 Mill Creek Land & Cattle Company  
 Christan Miller  
 Denise Milton  
 Minnesota Marine Art Museum  
 Griffin Moe  
 MOKA  
 David and Sheila Momont  
 Mary Monsoor  
 Mike Mooney and  
 Sara Anderson-Mooney  
 Mooney Photography LLC  
 Beth Moore  
 Betsy Morgan  
 David R. Morrison  
 Mark Mosey  
 Michael and Susan Mosling  
 Louis and Christy Mouglin  
 Nancy Mouser  
 Ursula Muehllehner  
 Paul Mueller  
 Teresa Mueller  
 Mary Mullen  
 Cecilia and Jared Mullenbach  
 Mike Mulroy  
 Dr. James Munn  
 James and Phylis Munsch  
 Jan and John Munson  
 Martin and Pam Murphy  
 Shaun Murphy-Lopez  
 Jim Murray  
 Mutschler Family Foundation  
 Kathy Mydy and Craig Sallander  
 Ken Nash  
 National Active and Retired Federal  
 Employees La Crosse Ch. 370  
 National Wild Turkey Federation  
 Natural Resources Foundation of  
 Wisconsin, Inc.  
 Rebecca Naugler

Stephen Nekola  
 Brad and Sarah Nelson  
 Julie Nelson and Ross Seymour  
 Neil and Linda Nelson  
 Susan Nesbit  
 Greg and Laura Nessler  
 Tim and Jodi Neve  
 Marilyn Nieckarz  
 Tom and Lori Nigon  
 Jim and Ruth Nissen  
 Noble Rind  
 Loran Nordgren  
 Dale and Connie Norris  
 Norse Holding Group, Inc.  
 NOSH  
 Tom Novacheck  
 James Novak  
 Gregory and Theresa Nowacki  
 Dave and Pat Nuesse  
 Darrin O'Brien  
 Mike and Sylvia O'Brien  
 Marcie and Mike O'Connor  
 Sharon Odahl  
 Dennis and Sarah Ohlrogge  
 Allan and Katie Ohm  
 Calvin and Joyce Oium  
 Jane O'Laughlin  
 Rita Oldenburg  
 Alice Olson  
 Todd and Christine Olson  
 Olson Solar Energy  
 James and Donna Omernik  
 Optical Fashions, LTD  
 Keith Organ  
 Organic Valley  
 John Osmundsen  
 Lyle Ostrander  
 Winston and Cheryl Ostrow  
 Linda Ott  
 Steven and Connie Overholt  
 Tim Padesky and Tara Johnson  
 Bonnie Page  
 Palmer Abstract Inc.  
 Sandy Pankratz  
 John Papenfuss  
 Paul and Cindy Patros  
 Andy and Laura Patten  
 Elsie Patterson  
 Eugene Patterson  
 MaryEllen Paudler  
 Lorraine Paulson  
 John and Cathy Pederson  
 Marilyn Pedretti  
 Susan Pehmoeller  
 People's Food Cooperative, Inc.  
 Karen and Ronald Petersen  
 Harry and Sylvia Peterson  
 Kurt and Joan Peterson  
 Mark Peterson  
 Nicholas Peterson

Russell and Rita Peterson  
 Joe and Gretchen Pfeiffer  
 Craig and Alli Pierce  
 Megan Pike  
 Ed Pilmonas  
 Pine Knob Organic Farm  
 Allan Pischke  
 Darrell and Darlene Pofahl  
 Michael and Jayne Polelle  
 David and Lynne Polodna  
 Darrell Pope  
 Laurel Porter  
 Michael Porter and  
 Rose Hammes Porter  
 Cy and Mary Post  
 Potala Company LLC  
 George Potaracke  
 Prairie Moon Nursery, Inc.  
 Prairie Rod & Gun Club  
 MaryEllen Prinsen  
 Steve Prosser  
 Pump House Regional Arts  
 Pete and Barb Putnam  
 Larry and Sherry Quamme  
 Steven and Martha Querin-Schultz  
 Peter and Ginny Quirin  
 Ron and Jane Rada  
 Wendy Rakower  
 Jeff Rand  
 Katie Randall  
 Lee Rasch and Susan Fox  
 Kelli Rasmussen  
 Mary Reber  
 Scott Reber and Marilyn Shultz  
 Leah Reimann  
 John and Kathy Reinhart  
 Michael Reitz  
 Bob Retko and Kay Wienke  
 Thomas Reuter  
 Richard and Lisbeth Reynertson  
 Tom and Cindy Rhorer  
 Barbara Rice  
 Bessie Richardson  
 Jeanenne Richardson  
 Richland Area Retired  
 Educators Association  
 John and Nancy Rieder  
 Jon and Ann Rigden  
 Jim Ringstrom  
 Mike and Kathy Ripp  
 K. Fred Rist  
 Rivoli Theatre  
 Daniel Roane  
 F.J. Robers Co., LLC  
 Barbara Roberts  
 Cam and Carlene Roberts  
 Craig Roberts and Mark Nofsinger  
 Glen and Lucy Roberts  
 Shelley Roberts and Dewey Moore  
 Stu and Char Robertshaw

Erica Roelofs  
 Jim and Diane Rogala  
 Richard and Joan L. Romeyn  
 Mary Rondeau  
 Jo Ronning  
 Arnie Roper  
 Mike and Ellen Rosborough  
 Patrick and Jackie Rose  
 Adam and Lori Rosenstein  
 Aisha Rosh  
 Roger Roslansky  
 Arden and Penny Ross  
 Michael Ross  
 Katherine Rowan  
 Brooks Rownd  
 Brian and Karen Rude  
 Gerard Rugowski and Jayne Stokke  
 Gary and Jean Ruhser  
 Leigh Running  
 Lisa Russell  
 Paul and Barbara Rusterholz  
 Dennis and Sharon Ryan  
 Kevin and Anna Ryan  
 Mary Fran Rybarik  
 Carol Sagan  
 Emile and Marcia Salvo  
 Kenny and Mary Kay Salwey  
 Chris Saudek  
 Jed and Melanie Schaller  
 Nancy Schermerhorn  
 Gary and Susan Schettle  
 Firman and Cheryl Schiebout  
 Randy and Marian Schiesser  
 Thomas and Mary Schilling  
 Jane Schley  
 Patricia and Harald Schmid  
 Robert and Carol Schmidt  
 Robin Schmidt and Michael Bohn  
 Schmidt's  
 Erich Schmidtke  
 Adam Schneider  
 Gail Schneider  
 Roz Schnick Consulting, LLC  
 Paul and Joan Schoenfeld  
 Jay Schotzko  
 Paula Schraback  
 Steve and Jo Schuldt  
 Marc and Sue Schultz  
 Michael and Karen Schultz  
 Alan and Rosanne Schulz  
 Dale and Vicki Schumacher  
 Val Schute and Deb Prath-Schute  
 Martha Schwem  
 Jacob Sciammas  
 Glenn and Lila Seager  
 Jeri Sebo  
 Sandy Sechrest  
 Laura A Seielstad  
 Jessica Selby

Marty Sellers and Nancy Hartje  
 Sharon Sharp and Doug McVey  
 Tom and Sharon Sharratt  
 Barry and Ruby Shaw  
 Colleen A. Shaw  
 Carl and Denise Shedivy  
 Allen Blake Sheldon  
 Dr. Charles and Judy Shepard  
 Sister Nina Shephard  
 Mark and Krista Sherin  
 Karen Sherman  
 Barbara Sherwood  
 Linda Sherwood  
 Larry Shingleton and  
 Mary Frohnauer  
 Freddie Shird and  
 Joanne Adragna Shird  
 Sierra Printing Co.  
 Michael Sigman and  
 Kelly Krieg-Sigman  
 Jim and Rose Sime  
 Steve and Manyu Simpson  
 Don and Dee Dee Sims  
 Scott Sinks  
 Kelly Skaff  
 Ann Skemp  
 Dr. Samuel and Jean Skemp  
 Fred and Jean Skemp  
 Dave and Barb Skogen  
 Irene Skoglund  
 David and Gretchen Skoloda  
 Lucas and Steph Skye  
 John Slayton  
 Kelly Slentz  
 Lucy Slinger  
 Barbara Smith  
 Chuck Smith

Grant Smith  
 James Smith  
 John and Joanne Smith  
 Kurt and Mary Margaret Smith  
 Amy and Barry Smyth  
 Art and Pat Soell  
 Bonnie Sokolov  
 Vaneer Songsiridej and  
 Terry A. Baker  
 Spartek, Inc.  
 Jonathan Specht  
 Rick and Jeanne Specht  
 Kathy Spelker  
 Edward Spencer  
 Mark Spiess  
 Bill and Linda Spietz  
 David Spildie  
 Bryan Stanley  
 Dennis and Betsy Stannard  
 David and Linda Stark  
 Angie and Michael Steele  
 Mary Stefanski  
 Neil and Susan Steiner  
 Karen Steingraber and John Durbrow  
 Mark Steingraeber  
 Nancy Steinhoff  
 Rob and Sara Stelloh  
 Robert and Sharon Stensven  
 John and Jean Sterling  
 Kathy Stevenson and Dave Alderman  
 Kristy Stokke and Adam Reich  
 Edgar Storey and Wanda DuCharme  
 John and Kathy Storlie  
 Michele Strange  
 Andrew and Sara Strassman  
 Richard Strauss  
 Susan Strehl

Patricia Strittmater  
 Shel and Ann Stromquist  
 Jeffrey Strong  
 Brad and Lynn Sturm  
 Mark Sturnick  
 Mary Sullivan  
 Kelly Sultzbach  
 SUTRA Global Imports  
 Daniel Sutton  
 Robert Swartz  
 Mary and Kent Sween  
 Duanne and Ann Swift  
 Jerry and Sue Swim  
 Susan Swingen  
 Ashley Tao  
 Dr. John and Rachel Teske  
 James Theler and Suzanne Harris  
 Pam Thiel  
 Dan Thoftne  
 Christine Thompson  
 Craig and Mary Thompson  
 Eric Thompson and Mary Graziano  
 Jeffrey Thompson and  
 Sandra Romagnoli-Thompson  
 Richard and Marcia Thompson  
 Meredith Thomsen  
 Gerald Tibbitts  
 Timburr Ridge, LLC  
 Bhaj Townsend  
 Brett Townsend  
 Carla Townsend  
 John Tracey  
 Thomas Trannel  
 Tom and Jane Treglowne  
 Jennifer Trendel  
 Ann Trondson  
 Trust Point, Inc.

Alec and Nancy Turner  
 Rob and Kathie Tyser  
 Keith and Lynne Valiquette  
 Thomas Van Der Linden and  
 Jean Silberman  
 Gary Van Domelen  
 David and Betty Van Dyke  
 Robert and Dana Van Hoesen  
 Kathy Van Kirk and Paul Przywojski  
 Joseph Van Moer  
 Rebecca Van Ness  
 Laura VanderLei and Matthew Kubly  
 Blong Vang  
 Larry Vangen  
 Mary Veldey  
 Steve Ventura and Margaret Krome  
 Verve – a credit union  
 Theresa Vick  
 Jason Vidas and Erin Malone  
 Viroqua Food Co-op  
 Ken and Terry Visger  
 Ken Von Ruden  
 Diane and Bill Waller  
 Robert and Lori Wallock  
 Mark and Marilyn Webster  
 Mary Jo Webster  
 Stephen and Katherine Webster  
 Russ Wedeking  
 Connie Weedman  
 Leslie Wegener  
 Charlene and Rickey Wegner  
 David and Susan Weigandt  
 Ken Weinberg  
 Topf Wells and Sally Probasco  
 Tom Seals and Ruth Wene  
 Al and Jane Wernecke



## The Stewardship Circle

Members of this special group of Conservancy supporters have made a lasting commitment to land protection through a variety of estate plan options such as bequests in a will or trust, charitable gift annuities, charitable remainder trusts, IRA designations, and gifts of life insurance.

Please consider joining this dedicated group of conservationists today by making Mississippi Valley Conservancy a part of your legacy plan.

Jen Abrahamzon  
 Dave Bange  
 Allan Beatty  
 Sara Bentley  
 Thomas Boston\*  
 Jim\* and Jan Brady  
 Ellen Brooks  
 Dianna Brown  
 Kurt Brownell\*  
 Mark and Jennifer Brumm  
 Deborah Buffton and  
 Stephen Minnema  
 David Burbach  
 Ed Burgess  
 Tom Byerly  
 Frank and Kristi\* Cadwell  
 Pat Caffrey and Peg Zappen  
 Emily Campbell\*  
 Susan and Steven Carpenter  
 William and Bev Cary

Western Great Lakes Bird and Bat Observatory, Inc  
 Mary Westlund  
 Andrew and Teresa Westrich  
 Dorothy Wetterlin  
 John Wetzel  
 Eric and Vicki Wheeler  
 Jim and Jean White  
 Joanne and Michael White  
 Jim and Jo Ann Wickizer  
 Simon and Theresa Widstrand  
 Monica Wiebke  
 Gary and Amy Wiegel  
 Ann Wilde  
 Tim Wilfahrt and Lois Peterson  
 William Wilharm  
 Jeremiah Wilke  
 Jennifer Williams  
 Marc and Janet Williams  
 Douglas Wilson  
 Pat and Bobbie Wilson  
 James and Marcia Ann Wine  
 Bill Wingen and Barb Chaney  
 Wisconsin Land Fund - Greater Green Bay Community Foundation  
 Wisconsin State Council of Trout Unlimited  
 Robert B. Wish  
 Mary Wisneski  
 Wanda and John Wochos  
 Janet Wollam and Dana Fisher  
 Women With Purpose Inc.  
 Wonderstate Coffee  
 Levi Wood  
 Margaret and Daryl Wood  
 Tim Wucherer  
 Pat Wuttke

Mary Yahle  
 Joan Yeatman  
 Richard W. Yerkes  
 Scott Yess  
 Ric and Betty Zarwell  
 Nick and Yonok Zeller  
 Roger and Carol Ziff  
 Krysten Zummo

**IN HONOR OF:**

Abbie Church  
 Tim and Linda Eisele  
 Lee Grosskreutz  
 Marilyn Houck  
 Chris Huiras, MD  
 Kickapoo Valley Forest School  
 Elly Leslie  
 Rick and Eric Schermerhorn  
 David Skoloda  
 Lynn Sullivan  
 Kelly Sultzbach  
 John and Mary Uhler  
 Unity Fitness  
 Dorothy Wetterlin  
 Jennifer Williams and Roald Gundersen

**IN MEMORY OF:**

Steve Alton  
 Richard Amundson  
 Jim Brady  
 Kristi Cadwell  
 Mark and Sue Cleghorn  
 Jim Czjakowski  
 Steve Finanger  
 Bob Fisher  
 Don Frank  
 Granvil Gilbertson  
 Tina Marie Haas Wright  
 David Hackett  
 Barb Hammes  
 Les Hill  
 Frances Kaplan  
 Carolyn Klein  
 Francine Klein  
 Ervin and Marian Lange  
 Ron McKelvey  
 Jacline McKimmy  
 Linda Paremski  
 Earnest Parker  
 Rita Pehler  
 Charles Rodman  
 Patricia Roslansky  
 Tony Scholze  
 Schumacher Family  
 Stephanie Stannard  
 Mike Strittmater  
 John Thiel  
 Jean Tyser  
 John Withers  
 Lars Wold

Abigail Church  
 Susan Colliton  
 Dean\* and Phyllis\* Dempsey  
 Aimee Ebersold Schultz  
 Don and Linda Eppelheimer  
 Robert Fisher\*  
 Jim Fowler  
 Barbara and Donald\* Frank  
 DK Franson  
 David\* and Nancy Goode  
 M. Jane Greenewald  
 Kim Hammer  
 Bernard Hammes  
 Mark and Anne-Marie Hein  
 Joan and Carl Higgins/Herrmann  
 Ed Hill  
 Lin and Todd Huffman  
 Tim Jacobson  
 Maggie Jones and David Linton  
 George and Sharon Kerckhove

Maureen Kinney  
 Sue Knopf and Jim Rothwell\*  
 Carl and Ann Korschgen  
 Al and Carol\* Kube  
 John and Louise Leary  
 Mark and Jean Ledman  
 Chuck and Linda Lee  
 Lennie Lichter  
 Ron and Aileen\* Luethe  
 Rita McGaughey\*  
 Richard and Jan\* Meloy  
 Maureen Mooney  
 David Morrison  
 Pamela and Martin Murphy  
 Jim Murray  
 Kathy Neidert  
 Gretchen Pfeiffer  
 Allan Pischke  
 Ron and Jane Rada  
 Brian and Christine Reynolds

Mike and Kathy Ripp  
 Gerard Rugowski and Jayne Stokke  
 Kenny and Mary Kay Salwey  
 Gary and Susan Schettle  
 Marc and Sue Schultz  
 Edgar Storey and Wanda DuCharme  
 Tom\* and Michelle Strange  
 Mary Rose Strassser Colclough  
 Sue Strehl  
 Craig and Mary Thompson  
 Eric Thompson and Mary Graziano  
 Keith and Lynne Valiquette  
 Laura VanderLei and Matthew Kubly  
 Janet Wollam and Dana Fisher

\*Deceased

*We thank these generous organizations for their support in 2023.*

**CONSERVATION PARTNERS**

PLATINUM

Dahl Automotive  
 Vendi Advertising

DIAMOND

Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration  
 Olson Solar Energy  
 Radisson Hotel La Crosse

GOLD

Associated Bank  
 Fowler & Hammer General Contractors  
 J.F. Brennan Company, Inc.  
 Organic Valley  
 Spartek, Inc.

SILVER

Dairyland Power Cooperative  
 driftless.earth  
 F.J. Robers Co., LLC  
 Gundersen Health System  
 Mayo Clinic Health System  
 People's Food Cooperative  
 Trust Point, Inc.

**CONSERVATION SUPPORTERS**

Altra Financial Advisors  
 Auntie A's Sweet Treats  
 Champion Solar  
 DuraTech Industries  
 Festival Foods  
 Johns, Flaherty & Collins, SC  
 Kwik Trip  
 McCoy Accounting Services, LLC  
 MOKA  
 Optical Fashions  
 Prairie Moon Nursery  
 Seven Rivers Signarama  
 Verve, a Credit Union  
 WKBT/News 8 Now  
 WLWX-Fox 25  
 WXOW/News 19



1309 Norplex Drive, Suite 9  
 La Crosse, WI 54601  
 608.784.3606  
[mississippivalleyconservancy.org](http://mississippivalleyconservancy.org)  
[info@mississippivalleyconservancy.org](mailto:info@mississippivalleyconservancy.org)

**Like us on Facebook for more news!**

Mississippi Valley Conservancy is a regional, nonprofit land trust based in La Crosse, Wisconsin. The Conservancy has permanently conserved 25,602 acres of bluffslands, prairies, wetlands, streams, and farmlands in and around the Mississippi, Kickapoo, and Wisconsin Rivers since its founding in 1997. Over 6,000 acres are open to the public for hiking, bird watching, hunting, fishing, photography, and snowshoeing.

**Board of Directors**

- Gretchen Pfeiffer, *President*
- Rob Tyser, *Vice President*
- Roy Campbell, *Treasurer*
- Allan Beatty, *Secretary*
- Pat Caffrey
- Tim Dakin
- Barbara Frank (*Emerita*)
- Sheila Garrity
- Philip Gelatt (*Emeritus*)
- Julie Haas
- Bud Hammes
- John Kelly
- Maureen Kinney
- Karen Kouba
- Dave Lange
- Dorothy Lenard
- Mike Ripp
- Ross Seymour
- Pam Thiel
- Craig Thompson (*Emeritus*)
- Steve Ventura
- Janet Wollam

**Staff**

- Carol Abrahamzon, *Executive Director*
- Abbie Church, *Conservation Director*
- Chris Kirkpatrick, *Conservation Manager*
- Michael Reitz, *Restoration Ecologist*
- Mitchel Block, *Conservation Specialist*
- Connor Kotte, *Stewardship Specialist*
- Levi Plath, *Land Manager*
- Genesis Gordon, *Restoration Coordinator*
- Nancy Larson, *Finance & Operations Mgr*
- Shane Drey, *Development Associate*
- Sarah Bratnobar, *Communications Director*
- Karen Solverson, *Communications Associate*

*Printed on paper made with mixed-use recycled content.*

Non-Profit  
 Organization  
 U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
 Permit No. 372  
 La Crosse, WI



## What's your link to the land?

Come outdoors with family and friends to learn from local experts who share their knowledge and love for the land. You'll discover more of what makes the Driftless Area beautiful and unique. Schedule and details at: [www.mississippivalleyconservancy.org/events](http://www.mississippivalleyconservancy.org/events).

Linked to the Land, our annual series of free guided hikes and workshops, is generously sponsored by Olson Solar Energy with promotional support from WXOW/News19.