

# Newsletter

Dane County  
Natural Heritage Foundation

Winter 1989

## Schmidt's Orchard: Another Link in the Greenway

The Dane County Natural Heritage Foundation successfully completed a cooperative purchase of 25 acres of land in a rapidly developing area of Fitchburg.

The property includes the west shore of Dunn's Marsh and is almost entirely within the boundaries of the Dane County E-way. The land is an important link in the greenway and will someday provide a major western access point to the environmental corridor.

The land was purchased in a bankruptcy proceeding by the Dane County Natural Heritage Foundation and the Friends of Dane County Parks Foundation.

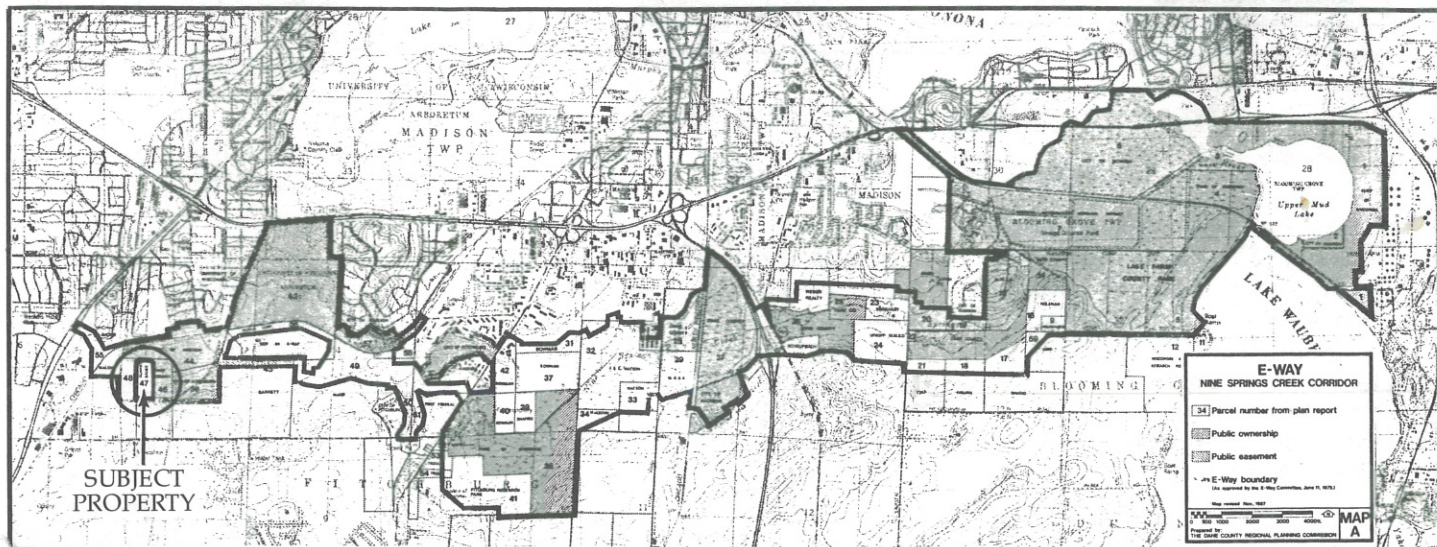
Conservation Director Bill O'Connor describes the purchase as "a rare opportunity to preserve E-way land at a genuine bargain price. Only a private conservancy

could act quickly enough to effectively involve itself in a federal court auction."

Within one month of the purchase, the two Foundations sold the parcel to Dane County at cost for \$66,000.

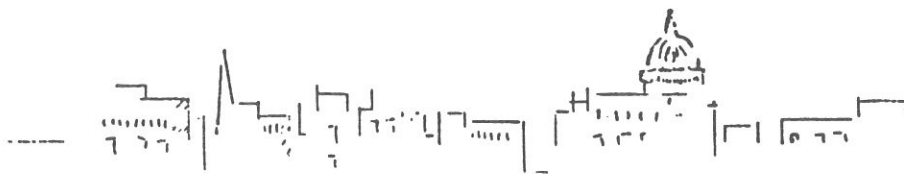
County Parks Director Richard Presney was pleased with the exchange and praised the Founda-

tion's involvement. He said "Because of the existence and action of the Dane County Natural Heritage Foundation, the Nine Springs E-way is closer to reality. Their assistance in the acquisition of a crucial land parcel indicates how active citizens can assist in making their community environmentally healthy." □



 preserving a splash of green





## From the President

In 1988 the Board of Directors restructured the Foundation to emphasize participation by directors and members. This reorganization occurred after a day-long board retreat where the directors discussed the role and effectiveness of the land trust.

Major committees now running the Foundation include Public Relations and Media, Membership, Finance and Budget, Natural and Heritage Resources, Development, Endowment, and Executive. The committees were established

to allow the Foundation to function as an efficient land trust, with specific activities assigned to each committee and its chairperson.

Each committee is developing an annual plan of operation and is responsible for managing their respective areas. Our by-laws encourage participation from overall membership and I would like to hear from anyone who would like to serve on any of the committees. Please feel free to call me personally or the Foundation office at 258-9797.

*William G. Lunney*  
William G. Lunney, President



*Yes, I would like to help.*

### Membership Category:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$15.00 Single     | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100.00 Donor    |
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Contributions are tax-deductible as provided by law. Please make checks payable to Dane County Natural Heritage Foundation, Suite 200, Churchill Building, 16 N. Carroll St., Madison, WI 53703

Special thanks to Howard Mead, a special friend of the Foundation, for his help in the production of this newsletter.

## Jeanette Tenney Memorial Fund Established

Jeanette Tenney was a charter member of DCNHF and played an important role in the first five years of the Foundation's history.

Her husband, Dr. H. Kent Tenney, was a great nephew of Daniel Kent Tenney, an early leader of the Madison Park and Pleasure Drive Association. Her son, Dr. Horace K. Tenney, now serves on our board as an active Foundation director.

The Foundation graciously

thanks the many members and friends of the Tenney Family for donations sent to use in memory of Jeanette Tenney. We also thank the Tenneys for their continued support for land preservation in Dane County.

Upon the Tenney Family's recommendation, the board of directors will decide how the memorial fund will be used. An announcement will be made in the next issue of "Splash of Green." ☐

# Dane County

## • Spring Land Trust Conference

The spring 1988 conference of Wisconsin Land Trusts was a big success. The conference was co-sponsored by the DCNHF and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

The focus of the meeting was on the growing role of private organizations in the conservation of land in Wisconsin.

Experts from national, state, and local land conservation organizations led informative and productive sessions. Representatives from over 25 conservation groups participated in discussions on fundraising, grassroots organization of land trusts, and setting conservation priorities.

We thank all DCNHF members and others who helped make this a worthwhile effort!

## • Noll Farm Preservation Compromise

Active negotiations that included the Town of Middleton, developers Atwell and Delkamp, and the DCNHF brought about a compromise in the development of the Noll Farm—a 110 acre farm southwest of Madison near the Cherrywood subdivision.

Provisions were made for an undeveloped corridor for the Ice Age Trail and the dedication of two parcels of land to the Town of Middleton. Each parcel is accessible only from the Ice Age Trail and provides limited recreational use of oak-savanna habitat.

The developers will fund a prairie-savanna restoration project on the property and limit the space for buildings and lawn on

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each lot. A plan has been set to use appropriate management tools to maintain the prairie areas.

## • Wisconsin Land Trust Coalition

DCNHF has been instrumental in the formation of the Wisconsin Land Trust Coalition. This coalition is a statewide network of land conservation groups.

The Coalition's first job is associated with a special committee appointed by the Wisconsin State Legislature and chaired by Representative Spencer Black (D-Madison). The committee's purpose is to provide long-term protection of land and water resources and to increase and diversify recreational opportunities.

Decisions of this committee could have important implications for the Dane County Natural Heritage Foundation and other land trusts. Funds for acquiring conservation easements could be made available to local conservancies.

The Wisconsin Land Trust Coalition will actively support legislation that would help private and local conservation groups.

## • Assistance Provided to New Foundation

DCNHF assisted the Monona Heritage Foundation in its efforts to preserve a threatened Indian mound in the City of Monona.

Weber Construction and Development originally had an option to buy the Indian mound property. The Monona Heritage Foundation began a public awareness campaign to save the mound from development.

While the Monona Heritage Foundation was in its initial stages of formation, DCNHF agreed to hold donations made to preserve the mound.

The Monona Heritage Foundation has now raised \$25,000 and with help from the City of Monona, the Department of Natural Resources, and the National Trust for Heritage Preservation, will purchase the mound property and preserve this piece of our natural heritage.

Rev. John Shields, co-chair of the Monona Heritage Foundation stated that "The Dane County Natural Heritage Foundation helped us get started in a principal way. Their assistance allowed our young foundation to get off the ground quickly and be effective in our land preservation effort." □



## Tribute to Norman C. Anderson

We are all deeply indebted to Norman C. Anderson, charter president of the Dane County Natural Heritage Foundation from 1983 to 1988.

Norm's term of office brought to the Foundation the ownership or protection of key properties in Dane County:

- Lower Eagle Heights Woods along Lake Mendota
- Evenson's Woods in the Town of Vermont
- The Dr. Alice Watts Preserve adjoining the Waubesa Wetlands
- Schmidt's Orchard in the Dane County E-way

While Norm was president, the Foundation established a member-

ship program of more than 300 members and the Endowment Fund for Heritage Conservation. The endowment fund provides a permanent funding base for the Foundation.

Norm can look back on his term as president and take pride in an increased level of environmental awareness throughout the county and the preservation of valuable conservation areas, set aside for the benefit of residents of Dane County.

On behalf of the DCNHF membership, the Foundation's Board of Directors express their sincere appreciation and gratitude to Norm for his major and enduring commitment to the work of the Foundation. □



# New Board Members and Staff Join DCNHF

Three new members were elected to the Foundation's Board of Directors. We also have two new staff people on board — a Program Director and a Public Relations Intern.

## Barbara Loftus

Barbara works for the State Division of Health as a policy liaison for the Medical Assistance Program. As a lifetime environmental enthusiast, Barbara lives surrounded by restored prairie at her home in Sun Prairie with her husband, Tom Loftus, Speaker of the Wisconsin Assembly, and their two children.

Ms. Loftus is active on the Public Relations and Development Committees. In September 1988, Barbara represented the DCNHF at the 1988 National Land Trust Exchange Conference in Colorado. She returned with inspirational energy for carrying out the Foundation's goals and is actively planning our media events for 1989.

## Anna Bender

A visit to Los Angeles in the early 70s (and the resulting daily head-

aches from pollution and horror over lack of green space and water access) triggered her involvement in open space preservation in Madison and Dane County.

After serving on the League of Women Voters Land Use Committee for two years, Anna was appointed to the Dane County Parks Commission and served for 10 years. She is presently a board member of the Friends of Dane County Parks and has also served on legislative study and DNR review committees.

Ms. Bender is currently restoring a sand prairie on rural land that she and her husband Dale own.

## William White

William White is a partner in the firm of Michael, Best & Friedrich with experience in land use, real estate and health care. He is a member of the City of Madison Public Health Commission, the Arthritis Foundation, the Perinatal Foundation, and was former Litigation Director for the National Treasury Employees Union in Washington, D.C.

Bill lives in Madison with his wife Kathie Nichols and sons Nicholas, age 5 and Andrew, 2. He is an active board member on the Public Relations and Development Committees.

## Jenny Chudzik

Jenny is a senior at UW-Madison completing a degree in journalism. She has emphasized course work in public relations and newspaper editorial and is assisting the Foundation with her writing and editing skills. We welcome Jenny's enthusiasm for writing about land trust activities and look forward to her contributions to the newsletter and public information campaigns.

## Robin White

Robin completed her Ph.D. in geography at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and has been working as the Program Director since June of 1988. She has a broad educational background in natural resource management and has conducted research on habitat management and distribution of birds in both North and South America. □



Dane County  
Natural Heritage Foundation  
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*The Dane County Natural Heritage Foundation was organized in 1983 to preserve, maintain, and enhance land areas contributing significantly to the beauty, open space, and ecological, scenic, historic, and archeological integrity of the lands and water of Dane County, Wisconsin, and the surrounding region.*

### Board of Directors

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William P. O'Connor

### Program Director

Robin P. White

### Foundation Intern

Jenny Chudzik

### Artist

Howard Sherpe

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 *preserving a splash of green*

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