



GROUNDWELL
CONSERVANCY



2021-2022 Annual Report

Ben Jones

This past fiscal year our relationships with landowners and communities resulted in the permanent protection of wetlands, farmland, a park, and shorelines. That means our communities are more resilient to flooding, farmers can invest in their soil with the confidence that it won't be developed, wildlife has more places to thrive, and we all can enjoy more public nature spaces. Your support makes it possible for us to invest in relationships and build new ones that will yield incredible conservation benefits now and in the future.



1

Vicki France Photography



2

Dennis Franke



3

Sue Ann Schwanke



4

Mario Quintana

PROTECTED FOREVER



5



6



7



8

- 1 Through a conservation easement, Groundswell added another layer of protection to the Town of Perry's 30-acre Hauge Historic District Park. The park is the second highest public park observation point in Dane County, with several miles of mowed hiking trails and a spectacular view of Blue Mounds.
- 2 Groundswell purchased 40 acres of land at Dell Creek Wildlife Area in Sauk County. This acquisition came together thanks to the generosity of the landowner, anglers, Sean McBride, Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program, and supporters of Groundswell, including our Norm Anderson Conservation Opportunities Fund.
- 3 An anonymous landowner sold us 38 acres of land along Black Earth Creek. The property includes 3/4 of a mile of shoreline on both sides of the creek. It is adjacent to land owned by the Department of Natural Resources as part of the Black Earth Creek Fishery Area.
- 4 Nancy Heiden, a founder of Groundswell Conservancy and lifelong conservationist, generously donated a 13-acre parcel of land on the south side of the Wisconsin River to Groundswell. Groundswell will place a conservation easement on the property and eventually sell it to a conservation-minded landowner. The proceeds from the sale will support our conservation work for years to come.
- 5 Groundswell purchased 20 acres of wetland and woods at Anderson Waterfowl Production Area in southern Columbia County. This Midthun addition was donated to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
- 6 David Cooper sold us just over one acre of land on Black Earth Creek within the Village of Black Earth. The property includes 120 feet of shoreline on the creek and was donated to the Village to create access for canoeists and kayakers.
- 7 An anonymous landowner sold us 35 acres of wetland and woods at the Becker Lake Waterfowl Production Area in northern Columbia County. The property was donated to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
- 8 A conservation-minded family sold Groundswell an agricultural conservation easement of over 93 acres along Black Earth Creek.



A Centennial Farm on the shore of Hook Lake



In early August, the Town of Dunn and Groundswell Conservancy placed a permanent conservation easement on the Peterson Family centennial farm. This easement preserves valuable farmland by restricting development on the 133-acre property. A 300-foot-wide vegetative buffer between the cropland and Hook Lake will protect water quality and provide wildlife habitat. The lake encompasses Hook Lake Bog State Natural Area, a rare community in southern Wisconsin.

We thank landowners Lea Ann and Randall Heacox for their dedication to protecting this land. We also thank the Town of Dunn for their leadership on this project and for their continued commitment to conservation through their Purchase of Development Rights (PDR) program. Since 1997,

Groundswell and the Town of Dunn have worked together to help protect nearly 4,000 acres of rich farmland.

Lea Ann's great-grandparents, Rasmus and Minnie Peterson, bought the property in 1910. They passed it down through her grandfather Elmer Peterson to her mother Norraine Peterson Kvammen. According to Lea Ann, "The Town of Dunn's PDR program was instrumental in keeping this farm in our family. We are very grateful."

This project was made possible through the generosity of Lea Ann and Randall Heacox, the Dane County Conservation Fund, the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service's Agricultural Conservation Easement Program, Town of Dunn residents, and supporters of Groundswell.

Wetlands at Lower Mud Lake

In July, we purchased 34 acres of wetland habitat within the Lower Mud Lake Natural Resource Area in the Town of Dunn. Together with our acquisition of the Brosts' wetlands in 2020, we have protected 103 acres within the Lower Mud Lake wetlands complex. We are thrilled to protect these critical wetlands just south of Madison. We will manage the property consistent with the adjacent state land to provide permanent habitat for ducks and other wildlife. We thank the landowners, Craig and Renae, for wanting to see this land protected. Funding to purchase the land came from Wisconsin DNR's Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program, a U.S. Fish and Wildlife North American Wetlands Conservation Act grant administered by Ducks Unlimited, and Groundswell supporters.

Ben Jones

More Wetlands at Lower Mud Lake

In August, we purchased 40 acres of wetland habitat within the Lower Mud Lake Natural Resource Area in the Town of Dunn. With this acquisition, we have now protected 143 acres within the Lower Mud Lake wetlands complex. Historically, this was an area of great importance to indigenous cultures in southern Dane County. This wetland habitat has been, and will continue to be, an invaluable resource which filters pollutants and improves water quality.

This acquisition was made possible thanks to the generosity of the anonymous landowner, the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Habitat Areas Grant Program, North American Wetlands Conservation Act funding administered through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Ducks Unlimited, and supporters of Groundswell, including Norm Anderson Conservation Opportunities Fund donors and Sean McBride.

Below is a bit of wisdom to contemplate, courtesy of the landowners:

“Our family has a long-standing connection with this land and is committed to preserving and protecting it. Knowing now the benefits wetlands provide to our ecosystem and the intrinsic value of the indigenous culture, it's crucial that we protect this priceless heritage.”

Ben Jones



A field of prairie coreopsis on one of our conservation easements

82 Easements Monitored!

Each year, Groundswell has the privilege of monitoring each and every one of our permanent conservation easements. These easements limit what can and cannot be done on the land to protect farmland, as well as the conservation values of each property. Over this past year, we visited 82 properties protected by conservation easements, totaling 7,300+ acres. It's always a joy to step foot on land that Groundswell and our supporters have helped protect throughout the years.

Every year we call our landowners who have an easement on their property and coordinate a day and

time to come out for a visit. We like to meet with as many landowners as possible and ask plenty of questions like: "Have there been any changes to the property since last year?," "Do you have plans to do anything differently this year?," "Will the property be farmed the same as last year?" and so on. This is a great chance to learn more about the property and to help build a relationship with these conservation-minded landowners. This year's monitoring went very smoothly, and we're already looking forward to next year!

New Boardwalk at Patrick Marsh

With the hard work and dedication of Girl Scout extraordinaire Laurretta Loesch, we added a completely new boardwalk to Patrick Marsh last year! Laurretta's focus was on accessibility, and she saw a community need to improve access to nature at one of her favorite local green spaces. She had a team of supporters to help her get the job done, and Patrick Marsh has never looked better! A special thanks to all our outdoor volunteers who helped with construction.



Groundswell volunteers on the completed boardwalk.

Roberta Herschleb



Restoring the Land

Patrick Marsh Middle School helped plant 25 acres of prairie at Patrick Marsh

Roberta Herschleb

Groundswell has been very busy restoring special places. Over the last year, we planted 30 acres of prairie with the help of so many people.

Over 300 Patrick Marsh Middle School students, along with their teachers and countless trustworthy outdoor volunteers, helped us plant 25 acres of native tallgrass prairie on what was once agricultural land at Patrick Marsh. Like the students who helped with the planting, we look forward to watching the

prairie grow and thrive.

At Westport Prairie, we added another 5 acres of prairie habitat with the help of our seed collector Kaylee Nelsen, outdoor volunteers, and Waunakee High School students. These volunteers collected seed, prepared the site, and distributed the seed.

Thanks to everyone involved who helped make these plantings a success!



A Phoenix Reborn

This year, we celebrated our first annual burning of the phoenix sculpture at Patrick Marsh. The phoenix represents resilience and second chances, while serving as a symbol for the important role fire plays in prairie ecosystems. Throughout the year, visitors to Patrick Marsh were encouraged to weave vegetation and flowers through the steel flames of the sculpture so that it could be burned in the spring. At the celebration, everyone had a chance to warm up by the fire. We're already looking forward to weaving more vegetation this year for our next phoenix fire!

The first burning of the phoenix sculpture at Patrick Marsh

Ben Jones



Fall Harvest Picnic

We held our second annual Lifting Hearts Fall Harvest Picnic at Westport Farm on Saturday, September 10. This year, we had a record turnout, with over 120 adults and kids attending. The event featured a HMoob elders fashion show with traditional HMoob clothes, HMoob cucumber tasting, and garden tour. Groundswell supporters, volunteers, and friends also enjoyed a variety of home-cooked dishes for lunch and perfect fall weather. Thank you to the HMoob elders for hosting this event and helping us connect people of all cultures with this special place!

AmFam Donation for Water

Having access to water for farming is a basic, essential need. Thanks to generous gifts of \$35,000 from American Family Insurance Institute for Corporate and Social Impact and \$5,000 from Alliant Energy Foundation, we are one step closer to creating permanent water access for Neighborhood Food Solutions at Pasley's Swan Creek Farm.



Roberta Herschleb



Message from the Executive Director Inspired!



I've been on board with Groundswell Conservancy for just a short time, but long enough to know how special and important the work we do is to our community. Over the past eight months, I've seen the deep love of the land in the eyes of the landowners I've met - and the strong desire to protect it. I've heard incredible stories about the healing properties of the land from HMoob elders at Westport Farm's Lifting Hearts Therapy Garden. I've felt Wisconsin's soil, both rich and sandy, beneath my feet as I've walked along the shores of our rivers and peered with wonder at ancient Native American burial sites.

For me, this work all comes down to people and their connection to the land. Each time I meet someone in our Groundswell community, I am inspired by the awe, wonder, and pride in their hearts for this beautiful landscape and all it provides.

As I continue on this journey, I am excited about our future and what we can learn together. Our dedicated staff – Tony Abate, BJ Byers, Mike Foy, Heidi Habeger, Jen Krzak, Liz Pelton, and Yimmua Yang - are working on everything from soil health to seed collection for prairies to technical skills for farmers of color to securing legacy gifts that will protect our land forever. They inspire me, and I hope they inspire you.

Thank you so much for all you do! I'm excited to experience our incredible natural places with you and to learn and grow with you along the way!



Introducing the Community Committee

As Groundswell continues our Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) journey, we have created a Community Committee to guide the work we're doing. Current committee members include Tracy Wiklund, Carrie Breunig, Ali Baker, Tom Krauskopf, Glenn Reinl, Stacy Rhone, Angela West Blank, Tony Abate, and Yimmuaj Yang. Since February 2022, the committee has created a Community Committee Project Approval Form and recruited two new committee members by focusing on a member expansion plan and inclusive member role description. We also created a Community Committee Workgroup to ensure we stay on top of our DEI commitment and stay engaged in meaningful conversations to learn from others.

Welcome Jennifer!

Welcome to Jennifer Krzak, Groundswell's new part-time administrative assistant! As administrative assistant, Jen makes sure our bills are paid on time, our donors and volunteers have positive and meaningful experiences, and our events run smoothly. She loves working with people to address their needs – and being in nature, where she finds peace and comfort. Jen earned her B.S. in Meteorology from Northern Illinois University. Before joining Groundswell, she served as accounting and administrative assistant for Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish in Madison. Prior to that, she was an air quality and environmental consultant and worked as an air dispersion modeler for the Iowa Department of Natural Resources' Air Quality Bureau. Jen is a native of Wisconsin and has lived in the Midwest all her life, including Illinois and Iowa. She and husband Jim are both avid runners. She also enjoys hiking, fishing, cooking, baking, reading, gardening, and just being outdoors as much as possible.



Funding provided by USDA's Office of Partnerships and Public Engagement

USDA Grant Award

Groundswell is proud to announce that we have been awarded the USDA Socially Disadvantaged and Veteran Farmers and Rancher Program multiyear grant in the amount of \$750,000. We are thrilled to partner with UW-Madison Division of Extension, Fairshare CSA Coalition, and Black and Brown Womyn Power Coalition to provide technical assistance and training to underserved HMoob farmers in our communities. For details, please read the press release at groundswellconservancy.org/2501-USDA-grant.



Ben Jones

Your Legacy, Next Generation's Future

Include Groundswell Conservancy in your will or estate plans, and a donation of \$1,000 will be made to Groundswell in your honor — right now. You will be joining Jim Welsh, Groundswell's former executive director, and the others listed to the right, leaving a legacy of land protected forever for future generations. An example is Marie Fraser. Her bequest helped Groundswell purchase an addition to Ferry Bluff State Natural Area, wetlands along Six Mile Creek, and a piece of the conservation puzzle in Black Earth Creek valley.

To learn about your options for supporting Groundswell through your will or estate plan or about the Legacy Circle Campaign, visit groundswellconservancy.org/legacycirclecampaign or contact Heidi Habeger at (608) 258-9797 or heidi@groundswellconservancy.org.



Legacy Circle members

Anonymous (9)
 Johanna Alex
 Peggy Anderson
 Peter and Kristin Antonie
 Patricia Arndorfer
 Norm & Carol Aulabaugh
 Joan & Darren Blankenship
 David Boutwell
 Jodi Bruss-Sherman & Jack Sherman
 Dana & Pat Chabot
 Tom Cottington
 Phyllis Davis
 Mike Denruiter
 Lloyd Eagan
 Daniel Eckberg
 Joanna Fanney
 Daniel Fields
 Mike Foy & Carrie Morgan
 Maggie Freespirit
 Warren Gaskill
 Frank Grenzow
 Karl Gutknecht and Susan Hunt
 Don Hammes
 Larry Hartzke
 Julie Hayward
 Pam & Craig Heilman
 Greg & Jane Hyer

Sue Jones
 Douglas & Marjorie King
 Elizabeth & David Koehler
 Thomas & Margie Krauskopf
 Beth Kubly
 Bill Lunney & Judie Pfeifer
 Nancy McGill
 Stefanie Moritz & Vince Jenkins
 Janet Neurauder
 Jim & Rumi O'Brien
 Evan & Jane Pizer
 John & Dorothy Priske
 Cary & Scott Reich
 Glenn Reinl & Sara Krebsbach
 Robert & Nancy Rudd
 Pat & Pete Sammataro
 Kim Schappe McBride
 Mary & Jerry Schwoch
 Nicole & Paul Staskowski
 Dennis Tande & Mary Manering
 Anita Temple
 Mary Trewartha
 Pat Watson
 Jim Welsh
 Pat Wende
 Carla Wright
 Susan Young Hoffman & Les Hoffman

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COMMUNITY DIRECTOR

Yimmuj Yang

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Jennifer Krzak

DEVELOPMENT & OUTREACH COORDINATOR

Liz Pelton

DIRECTOR OF MAJOR & PLANNED GIFTS

Heidi Habeger

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Angela West Blank

BY THE NUMBERS

July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022

Your individual gift makes a big difference!

1014 Supporters

279 Acres Protected Forever This Year

Between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022 Groundswell Conservancy received \$1,683,120 for programs and operations and spent \$810,042 for programs and operations. In addition, Groundswell received \$1,130,653 in private gifts and public funds to permanently protect 279 acres of land.

Income for Programs and Operations

Contributions from individuals, businesses, foundations	\$1,516,781*	90%
Restricted gifts	\$58,781	3%
Consulting fees, rental income, and other	\$78,877	5%

*Includes value of donated land

Endowment distributions from Madison Community Foundation

Easement Enforcement Endowment	\$16,673	2%
Operations Endowment	\$4,354	
Bob and Anne Bolz Gift Endowment	\$7,654	

Total Program and Operating income	\$1,683,120	100%
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Total Income for Land Acquisition	\$1,130,653
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Expenses for Programs and Operations

Conservation, Education, and Outreach	\$562,396	70%
Fundraising	\$180,313	22%
Management and General	\$67,333	8%

Total Program and Operating Expenses	\$810,042	100%
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As of June 30, 2022 Groundswell Conservancy had total assets of \$10,038,713 and liabilities of \$99,723. Most of our assets are our nature preserves.

The above financial information is unaudited. To view the details of our financial health, please see our financial reports posted at www.guidestar.org. The 2021-2022 report should be posted by February 2023. You can also view our federal tax returns at our website under the tab "ways to give"/ "donate with confidence."



MISSION

We protect special places forever. We want everyone to live in a world filled with green places where communities thrive. We believe that land is essential for people's physical, emotional, and spiritual wellness. If we don't protect undeveloped land now, it may be lost forever.



Roberta Herschleb



Ben Jones

THANK YOU for your investment in conservation *where you live*

Each and every gift, no matter the size, helps protect the land we love, forever. These generous supporters gave gifts to Groundswell Conservancy between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022. Thank you for protecting special places, forever.

\$100,000+

Anonymous

\$30,000 - \$39,000

Sean McBride⁵

Schlecht Family Foundation

\$20,000 - \$29,999

Nimick Forbesway Foundation

\$10,000 - \$19,999

Black Hawk Ridge Trail Run

Dave Jenkins & Mary Pertzborn

Phoebe R. & John D. Lewis
Foundation

Madison Community Foundation

Jean & Walter Meanwell⁵

Oberweiler Foundation

Jim & Rumi O'Brien²

William Van Haren

Pat Wende

Susan Young Hoffman &

Les Hoffman²

\$5,000 - \$9,999

Anonymous⁴

Mary Binkley & Dennis

Petzke^{1,2}

Doug & Sherry Caves²

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Roma Lenahan

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Pure Sweet Honey Farm

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Southern WI

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Martha & Chuck Casey

Kevin Dewan³

Dan & Natalie Erdman

Martin & Terry Evanson

Herman Felstehausen &

Geke de Vries

Katrina & Cary Forest

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Julie Hayward

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Stefanie Moritz & Vince Jenkins

Natural Resources Foundation
of WI, Inc

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Gary Schwager & Gabrielle Banik

Lorette Wambach²

Mariana & Frank Weinhold

Jim Welsh

Gary Werner & Melanie Lord

Willy Street Co-op Community

Reinvestment Fund

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\$1,000 - \$1,999

Anonymous (2)

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Kathryn & Paul Anderson

Peggy Anderson⁵

Patricia Arndorfer

Mark & Jennell Ballering

Jim Berbee & Karen Walsh¹

Curt Bjurlin & Alexandra Wells

Judy & Ed Borke

Joan Braune & Tod Highsmith

Dana & Pat Chabot

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TASC¹

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Faith Thomas

Thrivent Financial

Don & Joanne Tierney²

Vern & Vicki Treinen

Mary Trewartha



Ben Jones



Ben Jones



\$1,000 - \$1,999 continued

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Maura Whitmore
Rolf & Susan Wulfsberg
James & Susan Zerwick³

\$500 - \$999

Anonymous (4)
Bryn Adams
Karen Agee & Scott Fulton
Johanna & Mike Alex³
Jean Bahr
Emily Bair & Bruce Bauman
Aleta & Duane Barmore
Kathleen Curran
Howard Czoschke
Diane Derouen & Glenn Chambliss
Terrence & Jacqueline Doeler
Ron & Sheila Endres
First Business Bank¹
Scott Froehle & Traci Peloquin
Karen Goebel
Gottlob Armbrust Family Fund
via Liese Pfeifer
Joy & Rob Gottschalk
Susan Gruber
Terry & Nancy Habeger
Tom Heaney
Laura Hicklin
Nancy Hutson
Barbara Irvin & Bruce Mayer
Kira Jepsen
Mark Jung
Peter & Beth Kaseman-Wold
Sonja Keesey-Berg
Sandy & Meme Kintner³
Dorothy Klinefelter
Mary Knapp & James Klein
Passthrough Fund as a
component fund at Madison
Community Foundation
Mary & Scott Kolar³
Mary Anne Koos & Will
Abberger
Cynthia & Scott Kuenzi
Jim & Becki Kurtz

Joseph & Maggie Lasee
Pat & Phil Leavenworth
Dave Lucey³
James McCarthy
Carson & Lisa Mettel
MGE Foundation¹
Ursula Muehllehner
Jefren Olsen
Harry & Sylvia Peterson
Evan & Jane Pizer
Stacy Rhone
Nancy & Fred A. Risser
Michael & Trina Schuler
Mary & Jerry Schwoch
Paul & Suzanne Shain
Julie Shiner-Bazan & Bernard
Bazan
Brent Sieling & Megan
Schliesman
Steve Silverberg & Lisa Gaumnitz
Stark Company Realtors¹
State of Wisconsin
Kenneth Swift
Justin & Grace Trewartha
Deborah & Patrick Turski Family
Fund
United Way
Ross & Rosalie Volkert
Topf Wells & Sally Probasco
David Wernecke⁵
Fred Wolf
Fred & Karen Wollenburg
Geoff & Josie Young
Jan Zimmermann

\$250 - \$499

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Jim Arts & Helene Nelson
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Jan Behn & David Henige
Benevity
Dale Beske & Dorothy Gertsch
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Terry Haller
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Joe Klimczak & Ann Wescott
Christine Klotz
Joyce Knutson
Elizabeth & David Koehler
Robert Koehler
Ed Krois & Joan Hayden
Kurt & Ann Krumholz

¹Event Sponsor ²Prairie Partners Sponsor ³Monthly Sustainer ⁴Part or all of gift is to help uphold our conservation easements ⁵Part or all of gift for land acquisitions

“We have found that a great tool in our philanthropic program is the use of the IRA dollars you may have already set aside without realizing it. Congress has approved this effective donor program, but it is often skipped when considering great options such as Groundswell.”

– Ann and Ron Semmann, Supporters

If you are over 70.5 years of age, you can avoid taxes on transfers from your IRA with a Qualified Charitable Distribution to Groundswell. It's another way to support conservation where you live.



“With the political climate so volatile I felt the need to be a small part of protecting this amazing earth we have inherited and became a Sustainer and Legacy Circle member. Whether I am traveling or at home in my Wisconsin backyard being in nature has always given me joy. I love Groundswell’s goal of securing and protecting sensitive parcels of land as-well-as maintaining them to be healthy ecosystems. Protecting our land for my children and grandchildren is extremely important to me. My grown son is now a generous member of Groundswell and I could not be more proud!”

— Kim Schappe McBride, Sustainer and Legacy Circle member

\$250 - \$499 continued

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 Renee Lauber & Graham Cody
 Saverio & Lori Maglio
 John & Sally McGwin
 Kate & Tom McMahan
 Jeanne & Michael Mraz³
 Alton & Meghan Multhaupt³
 Murphy Desmond S.C.¹
 Eric Myers
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 William & Roberta Sonzogini
 Lon & Susan Sprecher
 Stinson Stroup
 Summers Christmas Tree Farm LLC
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 Wegner CPAs¹
 Alex Wenthe
 Jed & Sharon White
 Kate & Matt Wiperman
 Levi & Janet Wood
 YourCause
 Patricia Zastrow

\$100 - \$249

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 Terri Beck-Engel
 Michael Benish
 Jeff & Lynn Berg³
 Oliver Berge
 Gregory Berkseth
 Bob Birmingham
 Philip & Katherine Blake
 Brenda Bland
 Darren & Joan Blankenship
 David Blume

Linda Bochert
 James & Betty Ann Bolitho
 Kathleen Bollenbach
 Shaun & Melissa Bollenbach
 Anne Bolz
 Steve Born
 Barbara Borns
 Jeff & Freya Bowen
 Vince Brandl
 Scott Brandt
 Don Breckbill
 Joyce Brehm
 Carrie Breunig
 Michael Bridgeman & Jack Holzhueter
 Joan & William Brock
 Kathie Brock
 Jodi Bruss-Sherman & Jack Sherman
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 Ann Carley & Josie Dersien
 Steve & Susan Carpenter
 Curt & Arlys Caslavka
 Robin Chapman & Will Zarwell
 Audrey Chowdhury
 Melissa & Robert Clements
 Michael & Kathryn Cobb
 Barbara & Ted Cochrane
 Gary Coenen
 Mary Collet
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 Tom & Carla Crabb
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 Nicholas Davies
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 Jerry Derr
 Mary Detra
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 Chris Elholm
 Jim Ely
 Kathleen Engel-Hunt
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 Mike & Doreen Festge
 Jon & Tracy Filter³
 Andrew Fitzpatrick
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 Roger Garms
 Rosalind & Bill Gausman
 Gentle Breeze Honey, Inc.
 Sara & Jonathan Giacalone³
 Keith Gilkey
 David Gilles & Jane Jung
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 Robert Gooze
 Robert & Linda Graebner
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 Lee Grubb
 Jeff Gunderson
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Up to \$99

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 Alice Anderson
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 Alexandria Baker
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 Best Buy - Employee Matching
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 Stefanie Brouwer
 Laura Brown & Mark Shahan
 Larry Bruss
 William & Lynne Buckingham
 Trevor Bynoe



“Conservation is part of who we are as a family and the legacy we hope to leave. Natural places focus our efforts, inspire our adventures and keep us whole. We support Groundswell Conservancy today and through our estate to care for our community and the lands and waters that sustain us.”

– David and Elizabeth Koehler, Legacy Circle members

¹Event Sponsor ²Prairie Partners Sponsor ³Monthly Sustainer ⁴Part or all of gift is to help uphold our conservation easements ⁵Part or all of gift for land acquisitions

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We are deeply grateful to the dedicated volunteers who devote many hours to serve on our board and committees, help with field trips, assist in the office, manage the lands, and more.

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 Katrina & Cary Forest

In memory of Lyman Anderson
 Jerry Derr

In memory of Norman Anderson
 Anonymous
 Peggy Anderson
 Christine Thomas

In memory of Roger Bannerman
 Jane Bannerman

In memory of Kathy Berkseth
 Gregory Berkseth

In honor of Mary Binkley
 Laurie & Paul Lata
 Toby & Nancy Vidlak

In memory of David H Brunt
 Jonathan Thom

In honor of BJ Byers
 Alice & Rick Godfrey

In memory of Jack Chvala
 Daniel Fields & Jeanne Behrend

In memory of Zachary Clark
 Jane Clark & Trace Soper

In memory of June Denruiter
 Emily Bair & Bruce Bauman
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 Shaun & Melissa Bollenbach
 Mike Denruiter
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 Jennifer Kraemer
 Linda Lott
 Elizabeth & Timothy Melin
 Jane Morrison
 Michael G. Nonn
 Cynthia Semmann

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 Bill & Amy Dunlop

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 Jan Dorner

In honor of Ron Endres
 Lee Grubb
 William & Virginia Nelson

In memory of Arlan A. Ferch
 Sue Deakman

In memory of Frederick Fiers
 Julie & Doug Fiers

In honor of Randy Forrand
 Steven Brezinski

In honor of Mike Foy
 William Morgan

In honor of Rosemary Foy
 Anonymous

In honor of Lee Grubb
 Ron & Sheila Endres

In honor of Heidi Habeger
 Sam & Betsy Parker
 Mark & Holly Schleicher

In memory of Corin Humphrey
 Patricia Arndorfer

In memory of Ed Jepsen
 Larry Bruss
 Kristin Groth
 Kira Jepsen

In memory of Barb Jung
 Howard Fried
 Dianne Greenley
 John Haugh
 Beth Johnson
 Jeffrey Key
 Dennis Tande & Mary Manering
 Carol Wilson
 Judith Wohlleber
 Carol Ziesemer

In memory of Maria & Richard Koos
 Mary Anne Koos & Will Abberger

In honor of Tom and Margie Krauskopf
 Sara Krauskopf

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 Kathleen Curran

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In memory of George Lucey
 JoAnn & Steve Foote

In memory of Mike Mackler
 Anonymous
 Chad & Lisa Pierick

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 Chris Elholm

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 Kristine Merrill & Bill Hans

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Rex Owens

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Mary Lou Nord
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In honor of Liz Pelton
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Anonymous
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In honor of Eddie & Monika Shea
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Regina Reynolds

In honor of Stewart & Marilyn Stroup
Stinson Stroup

In memory of Tom Thurow
Amy Purvis Thurow

In memory of Bill Wambach
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Martha & John Fechner

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Kathryn & Paul Anderson
Ed Baker
Joan Braune & Tod Highsmith
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Oscar & Norma Bjugstad
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Dave Siebert & Sarah Dunning
Steve Silverberg & Lisa Gaumnitz
Mike & Linda Slavney
Nicole & Paul Staskowski
Paul Stone
Faith Thomas
Topf Wells & Sally Probasco
Alex Wenthe
Gary Werner
Fred & Karen Wollenburg

In honor of Jim Welsh & in memory of Kevin Kritz
Ron & Anna Albrecht

In honor of Jim Welsh & Darrell B. Morrison and in memory of the Prehn, Albright, & Cottingham Families
Tom Cottingham
In memory of Karl & Alberta Wild
Mardelle Wild

In memory of Thomas Zwettler
Jeanne & Michael Mraz

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Yee Vang
Cho Xiong
Kong Xiong
Zoua Xiong
Bai Her Yang

Gifts or Partial Gifts of Land or Easements

Anonymous
Nancy Heiden

Government Grants for Land or Easements

Dane County Conservation Fund
Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program
North American Wetlands Conservation Act
USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

In preparing this report, we tried to ensure that it is accurate and complete. If we made an omission or error, please accept our apologies and contact Liz Pelton at 608-258-9797 or liz@groundswellconservancy.org so we can correct our records.



Robert Herschle

Thank you trail runners and volunteers for joining us for the 2022 Black Hawk Ridge Trail Run! Visit wisconsintrailruns.com for more photos and results.

Front cover photo: Thanks to the Wisconsin Adventure Family for joining us out at Westport Prairie.



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Annual Report designed by Jeff Weyer

Places Worth Knowing

Don't let the cold weather keep you indoors. Join Groundswell Conservancy outside this winter on our free field trips. Space is limited, so be sure to register at groundswellconservancy.org/events.

Thank You Party

Thursday, January 26, 2023

(NEW date this year!)

5:00 – 7:00 pm

Lussier Family Heritage Center

3101 Lake Farm Road, Madison

Come celebrate all the special places you protected this year! We want to show our appreciation for your dedicated support of conservation where you live. Enjoy hors d'oeuvres and refreshments with a short program at 6:00 pm. RSVP online at groundswellconservancy.org/2023thankyouparty. Thank you to our sponsor:



Ben Jones



Mario Quintana

Patrick Marsh Bonfire & Candlelit Hike

Saturday, January 21, 2023

5:00 – 7:00 pm

Join your friends and neighbors for an easy 1.5-mile candlelight hike from Patrick Marsh Middle School into Patrick Marsh Wildlife Area. A warm bonfire and s'mores await you at the end of the trek. Check our website for more exciting details closer to the date.

Westport Prairie Bonfire & Hike

Saturday, February 25, 2023

5:00 – 7:00 pm

Explore the winter magic of Westport Prairie with a family-friendly hike and cozy bonfire. Check out the new trails and enjoy this special place with us. Check our website for more exciting details closer to the date.



Mario Quintana