

# President's Message

By Chuck Haubrich

As another year draws to a close, I am pleased to report K/RLT continues to make progress in our land protection mission. Perhaps most encouraging is that we are now top of mind on land preservation issues and opportunities with virtually every conservation organization and most municipalities in the area. Following are highlights for the year.

## **Partnering on Workshops and Children Education**

We partnered with a host of other private and government organizations on two workshops covering invasive species control and reestablishing ponds and wetlands. Based on a strong turnout of about 80 people, many people are interested in being good stewards of their land. Personal experience in trying to control buckthorn, garlic mustard, multi-flora rose, black locust, and a new arrival, oriental bittersweet, has been daunting and workshops like these provide helpful advice in tackling the problems.

Perhaps our most successful partnership yet is the phytoremediation project on the Mary Ellen Helgren Johnson site. Dr. Chris Evans and Nancy Pierce have put together a wonderful collaboration with edu-

cational and environmental benefits. Read more about this elsewhere in the newsletter.

## **Assisting with Smart Growth Plans**

K/RLT has been invited to participate in Kenosha County, Racine County and Town of Waterford Smart Growth Plan committees. We will be advising of the many economic and quality of life benefits which will result from preserving environmental corridors, like the Des Plaines in Pleasant Prairie, where we are already actively involved (read more about the Des Plains Project elsewhere in this newsletter), and from preserving open space in general as a requirement of development.

## **Conservation Subdivisions**

K/RLT continues to accept conservation subdivision easements, adding Woodland Waters, our first in Yorkville, and Wooded Valley South in Caledonia. Altogether we have taken ten such easements, permanently protecting 308 acres.

A key obligation of taking these easements is to annually monitor them for compliance and educate home owners on how to take care of their natural lands. Starting this

year, Wally Ott, our easement coordinator, has implemented an audit and education program, completing it for all easements one year old or greater.

## **Welcome Nick Spittlemeister**

Joining the Board of K/RLT in September was Nick Spittlemeister. Nick graduated about a year ago from Northern Michigan University with a degree in geography. Coincidentally, he was raised close to the Des Plaines River in Pleasant Prairie which is one of our major project areas. Nick is passionate about the environment and with his Geographical Information Systems skills helps greatly in analyzing and selecting land to protect. See his article elsewhere in the newsletter.

## **Membership Renewal**

Beginning in 2005, K/RLT changed from monthly renewals to an end of year one for everyone. Consequently, many members have not received a renewal notice for well over a year. I urge you to renew now. As an added incentive, I will be matching total contributions up to \$5000. My mother passed away recently and left a small inheritance which I am donating to conservation organizations in her memory.

## **Pringle Nature Center 5K Trail Run/Hike**

The Pringle Nature Center 5K Trail Run/Hike took place on Saturday, October 14. The first annual event was very successful. The run/hike had 53 registrants and 47 participants on a cool October morning. The event was co-sponsored by the Kenosha/Racine Land Trust. K/RLT volunteers helped organize and promote the event, which took place at the Pringle Nature Center in beautiful Bristol Woods County Park. The park contains four miles of hiking trails, a wildlife viewing pond, and a pavilion.

The coordinators of the race would like to thank all of the volunteers and participants that helped make the first annual event successful. We hope to make this an annual event where people can exercise and view the beauty of one of the largest wooded areas in Kenosha County. We hope to see you all again next year!

***Board President, Chuck Haubrich, is matching all donations through 2007 up to \$5,000. Please support K/RLT with this generous doubling opportunity.***

**Your generous support allows us to do the work you find important.  
Thank you. It is our pleasure to work and volunteer for the Land Trust.**

<p><b>Prairie Protector \$1,000</b> Racine County Conservation League</p> <p><b>Wetland Watcher \$500</b> Barbara and Royse Myers Charles and Jill Haubrich SC Johnson- Dollars for Doers Tim and MaryJo Sullivan Mike and Carol McConnell</p> <p><b>Forest Friend \$100</b> Sonja Becvar Eugene and Sharon Dodd Chris Evans Financial Services Group Dan Grosse Jerold R. Hershberger James G. Holland Imogene Powers Johnson Phyllis and Mike Kelly Elizabeth Koenings-Heigl Donald &amp; Patricia Kummings Faye Miller George Roders Mrs. Rhonda Runzheimer Steve and Kathy Samuelson Sustainable Racine Barbara Tiggs Barb and Joe Vass James and Cherry Wardrip Katrina and Peter Wardrip Bob and Jane Willard</p> <p><b>Family \$50</b> Rene Beland Colin Carter</p>	<p><b>Family \$50 (continued)</b> Andrew and Erica Cawley Rose Christiansen James and Susan Deurrwaechter Edward C. Furey Nancy and Warren Furey Carol Hansen Calvin and Marjorie Hewitt Michael and Reva Holmes Cliff and Mildred Huck Ruth Ann Jones Keith and Jeanette Klappauf Geri C. Lee-Petersen Raymond Leffler Donald Lintner Wendy McCalvy CJ McGilsky Barbara Meyocks Clarence and Donna Peterson Ebbe and Kay Rostgaard Arthur Rothschild Lois Solberg Anne and Jim Straube Charles and Nancy Usher Sandra Usher Therese Usher Jay and Melissa Warner Nancy Warnock Cary and Linda Zimmerman Robin &amp; Rick Zimmerman</p> <p><b>Individual \$30</b> Richard Adamowicz John and Jane Babik Julie &amp; Warren Bittner Dave and Sue Cawley</p>	<p><b>Individual \$30 (continued)</b> Frank Chud Kenneth Dahlstrom Raymond DeHahn Betsy Georg Bernice Haubrich Jerold R. Hershberger Eric Howe John Raymond Christine Rener Darwin and Linda Steffensen Barry Thomas Mary Urhausen David Westman Francie Winkler</p> <p><b>Student/Senior \$15</b> Joan Bennett Joyce Gerard Blanche and Bill Gunderson Peter and Helen Muto Vernon Peterson Joan Rohan Gwen Henningsen Betty Herman Barbara Jensen Loraine Miller June Vlasak</p> <p><b>Grants</b> Gaylord and Dorothy Donnelley Foundation: \$15,000 Milwaukee Community Service Corps: \$14,000 Land Trust Alliance Midwest: \$2,500 Root-Pike WIN: \$4,900</p>
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