



# Madeline Island

## Wilderness Preserve News

Summer 2008

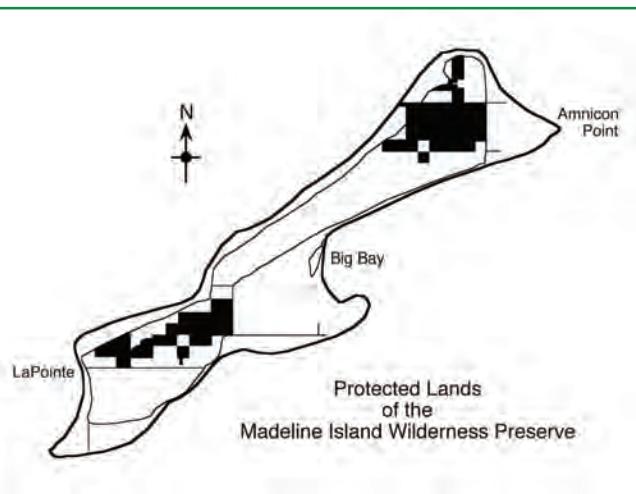
### The Madeline Island Wilderness Preserve Is Now 20 Something! What's Next?

By Tom Kromroy, President

Last year the Madeline Island Wilderness Preserve (MIWP) celebrated its twentieth year as a not-for-profit land trust dedicated to protecting and preserving the natural areas on Madeline Island. We continue to hold clear title to over 2,500 acres of forests and wetlands that preserve habitat for wildlife as well as for enjoyment of Island residents and visitors. Our trails and lands are open to the public free of charge for hiking in the summer, hunting in the fall and skiing in the winter. All this is possible through donations from our generous membership.

We just updated our membership list and are amazed at its geographic diversity - this newsletter will be distributed to over 300 members who hail from 34 states and three countries. And we thought our forest was diverse! Member contributions support our annual program's \$15,000 budget. Since the MIWP is not-for-profit all member donations are 100% tax deductible.

The MIWP continues to contribute to the betterment of the Island:



#### Capsar Trail Completion

MIWP in collaboration with the Town of La Pointe completed reconstruction of the Capsar Trail. The trail bed is now eight feet wide and made of gravel, so mud is a thing of the past. There is a trail head on Airport Road across from the Fire Hall and one on Middle Road. The trail is now handicap accessible. MIWP contributed an easement across its lands and shared in the cost of the work with the Town. With the easement in place the Town was able to secure state funding for the construction of the entire trail.

#### Buckthorn Task Force

Last July the Board moved to help manage buckthorn on the Island. This seems like a daunting proposition – and it is. A *Buckthorn Task Force* was started last fall with the goal of reducing the spread of this invasive plant species. Members of the Task Force can assist land owners in becoming aware of the presence of buckthorn on their property as well as provide education of and assistance for its management. To date we have surveyed the Island and mapped locations of the infestations. Most of the buckthorn is within the Town limits and we are optimistic about being able to prevent its spread to elsewhere on the Island. We will sponsor annual buckthorn removal work weekends. Stay tuned for more!

#### North Shore Lot

In November, it came to our attention that a developer was planning to build a modular home on a lot on the inland side of the North Shore road adjacent to MIWP property. The Board moved quickly to purchase the land from the developer, preventing fragmentation of the North Shore holdings. Through numerous generous donations we have been able to pay cash for this lot and now own it free and clear.

(MIWP: *What's Next, continued on page 4*)

## 21<sup>ST</sup> SPRING LUNCHEON AND ANNUAL MEETING

The Wilderness Preserve will be hosting its 21<sup>st</sup> Spring Luncheon and Annual Meeting this coming Memorial Day weekend, Sunday May 25<sup>th</sup>, at The Clubhouse on Madeline Island. As with past luncheon events, we invite our members and friends to rekindle their ties to the Island, share in a gourmet meal, and hear a fascinating presentation on the natural history of the Lake Superior region by a guest speaker. Many thanks to the Madeline Island Music Camp for providing The Clubhouse for this event. This year's luncheon buffet, featuring a salmon or vegetarian main-course option, will be provided by the Ashland Baking Company. A social gathering begins at 11:30 a.m., with seating at noon.

Our program this year features nationally-recognized nature photographer and conservationist,

**CRAIG BLACKLOCK**

### **“PRESERVING LAKE SUPERIOR’S WILD CHARACTER”**

Craig has made a career of photographing Lake Superior, and uses those images to inspire, inform, and lobby for protection of the lake’s landscape. He has worked with several organization on Minnesota’s North Shore to help expand the state’s park system and create the Lake Superior Water Trail. He is now working with the Minnesota Land Trust on the Lake Superior Protection Initiative, a comprehensive approach to landscape protection. Craig will discuss these efforts and share a bit of his movie on Minnesota’s North Shore that accompanies his most recent book.

This will be the second year that Craig has been an instructor at the Madeline Island School for the Arts. He will have a few pieces created during last year’s class along with several of his books available for purchase. One half of the sales made during the luncheon will be donated to the Madeline Island Wilderness Preserve



### SPRING LUNCHEON MENU

#### *Antipasto Platter*

An assortment of marinated vegetables, olives, hummus, and herbed chevre  
Selection of Ashland Baking Co. artisan breads

#### *Salad*

Spring greens, fresh vegetables, and sourdough croutons in a red wine vinaigrette

#### *Choice of One Entrée:*

Baked Salmon with Lemon Dijon Tarragon Sauce

*Or*

Artichoke Spinach Feta Phyllo Triangles with Cucumber Yogurt Sauce

#### *Dessert*

Apricot and Cherry UpsideDown Cake  
with vanilla bean crème anglaise

#### *Coffee & Iced Tea*



**The price of the Spring Luncheon and Program is \$27 per person.**

Reservations can be made (through May 20<sup>th</sup>) by contacting MIWP Treasurer Russ Fridley,  
740 Amber Drive, Shoreview, MN 55126 ☎ (651-484-1542) ☎ Email at: [russellfridley@gmail.com](mailto:russellfridley@gmail.com)

## SUMMER 2008 PROGRAM

*Evening lectures are co-sponsored by the Madeline Island Historical Museum*

### **Saturday, May 24<sup>th</sup>, 9:00–11:00 a.m. “Spring Bird Migration on Madeline”**

Annual bird hike with Peter Hudleston & Victoria Erhart. Bring your binoculars, see warblers and other spring migrants. Meet at Big Bay Town Park

### **Sunday, May 30<sup>th</sup>, at 11:30 a.m. MIWP’s 21<sup>st</sup> Spring Luncheon and Annual Meeting**

#### **“Preserving Lake Superior’s Wild Character”**

Don’t miss this exceptional presentation by Lake Superior’s renowned photographer, Craig Blacklock.

(see detailed announcement, page 2). At The Clubhouse.

### **Thursday, July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 7:00 p.m. “The End of Winter as We’ve Known It ... Changes in Lake Superior Ice Cover at Bayfield, Wisconsin”**

With Forrest and Neil Howk, father & son lake-scientists extraordinaire. At the Madeline Island Historical Museum



*Rock ice: by Fred Koerschner*



*Common buckthorn*

### **Thursday, July 10<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 p.m. “The Buckthorn Battle: Why This Plant Means War and Why You Should Fight”**

With Dr. Carmen Chapin, Liaison, National Park Service, Great Lakes Exotic Plant Management Team. At the Madeline Island Historical Museum

### **Saturday, July 12<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 am – Noon “Get into The Thick of It! — an Outdoor Work Session”**

Learn about and participate in eradicating local Buckthorn with leader, Dr. Carmen Chapin, Liaison, National Park Service, Great Lakes Exotic Plant Management Team. Wear work clothes, gloves and boots. Meet at the Capser Trail, across from the Fire Station

### **Thursday, August 7<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 p.m. “Alternative Energy on Madeline Island: Looking at Using Solar and Wind Power on the Island”**

With local carbon busters, Burke Henry, Alan Fischlowitz, and Larry Bean. At the Madeline Island Historical Museum

*All events are free (except for the Spring Luncheon) and open to the public*

(MIWP: What's Next, Continued from page 1)

## 200 Acre Parcel on the North End

We have a signed purchase agreement for the purchase of a 200 acre parcel adjacent to the Bad River land. Our offer is based on current market value and we have requested two appraisals that will establish the actual sale price. This parcel is 160 acres of old growth forest and a 40 acre bog lake.

In closing, I extend my thanks to everyone who supports the goals of the MIWP to protect our Island's beauty and resources. Together we are making a difference!

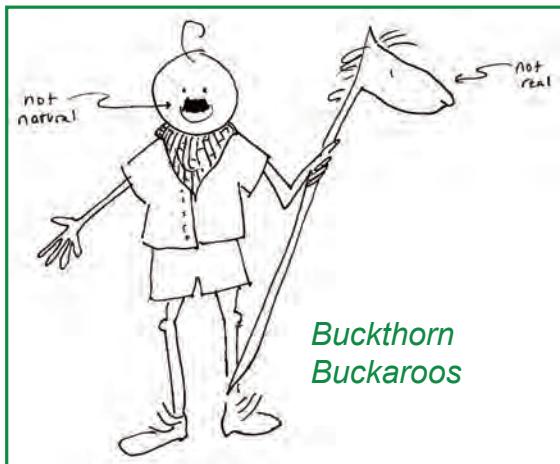
*Tom Kromroy, President*



## FOURTH OF JULY PARADE: COME JOIN THE FUN!



The multiple-award-winning (but not last year – I know. We should have, really) and always improving Madeline Island Wilderness Preserve marching non-band is delighted once again to invite you to walk with us in the 2008 Madeline Island Fourth of July parade. In honor of the phenomenal and timely work being done by the MIWP and the *Buckthorn Task Force*, this year we are marching as: Buckthorn Buckaroos! This will be a classic tale of good (us) vs. evil (Buckthorn, Scourge of the Understory), and will involve all the best elements of 1940's westerns, I think.



- ❖ Costumes are easy and western-themed: a horse or horse-substitute, a neck kerchief, and some facial hair.
- ❖ Children, four-legged animals, and loud musical instruments are always welcome.
- ❖ Plan to meet at the marina 30 minutes before parade time (the parade usually starts at 10:30 AM, but check with the Chamber of Commerce) under the MIWP banner.
- ❖ For questions or favorable comments, please call Victoria Erhart at 715-747-2277 in early July.



## MIWP VOLUNTEER BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### Officers

Thomas Kromroy, Pres.  
Laurel Lein, Vice Pres.  
Fred Koerschner, Sec.  
Russell Fridley, Treas.

### Directors

Robert Benjamin  
Elizabeth Ellis  
Daniel Engstrom  
Victoria Erhart

Margie Frederickson  
Phil Greenberg  
Leslie Livingston  
Steven Mueller

### Advisory Council

John Coffin  
Robert Coffin  
Kevin Dooley  
Sheldon Sturgis