Autumn is a complicated season. On one hand, we love the colors and the cool crisp days. Everything is pumpkin spice something-or-other and hunters are gearing up for their nirvana. But we know this is fleeting, soon to be replaced with something much colder and darker and downright miserable at times. Each fall hits me a little differently but I have to admit the anticipation of the challenges winter brings is always in the back of my mind.

So this year I am trying to dispense with that feeling of unease and stay in each moment instead. I think this is especially important as we get older.

I want to be the kind of person who focuses on gratitude rather than all the things that could go wrong along the journey. Most of us have an awful lot to be thankful for, not only on November 24th but the whole year through. And if we embody this spirit, it inevitably inspires those around us to do the same.

The work of HeadWaters Land Conservancy lends itself to gratitude. We spend our days conserving the most beautiful, wild, and diverse landscapes in northeast Michigan. That land in turn supports us, and all of the animals and plants we enjoy and utilize. You make this process possible with your generosity and support.

“Life is fleeting, and permanence in this world is something we all strive for. The best way to achieve permanence is through philanthropy.”

HeadWaters achieves permanence through YOUR philanthropy and we are so very grateful for each and every one of you.
Thank You to all of our Sponsors!

HOTSHOTS for HEADWATERS
Sporting Clays FUNDRAISER

The day started dreary as the clouds rolled in but that didn’t stop the 55 shooters who were excited to hit the Lewiston Sportsmen’s League course for the annual Hotshots for Headwaters.

The steak lunch served hot off the grill helped everyone warm up after the shoot. There were many great silent auction items to bid on. The drawings also included a 50/50 and a rifle.

Even though it rained for much of the day, spirits were not dampened as we raised over $10,000 to “preserve land and water in northeast Michigan”.

We are already planning for 2017 which will include more prizes and surprises.

Stay up to date on our events by following HeadWaters Land Conservancy on Facebook or our website.

Thank you
to our great sponsors…

- Lewiston Sportsmen’s League
- Jeffress-Dyer, Inc.
- Chemical Bank
- Gobbler’s of Waters
- Deep Woods Lodge
- Nolan’s Tobacco
- Jay’s Sporting Goods
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of our Sponsors!
Jeff Twyman joined the Board of HeadWaters Land Conservancy in July of this year. He brings years of experience to the organization in many areas, including agriculture, corporate management, legal expertise and philanthropic endeavors. Jeff received his law degree in 1978 and practiced law until 1998. During much of that time he also ran GreenLine Foods in Bowling Green, Ohio, his hometown. Currently he is Chairman of the Board of BlueWater Satellite Company which focuses on using satellite imagery to remediate environmental issues. In 2013, he joined the Board of the Indian River Land Trust in Florida.

In 2015, Jeff and his wife Carol built a home on the Au Sable, and their keen interest in land conservation and preservation of natural resources in northeast Michigan continued to grow. Last year, he formed the Au Sable Clean Foundation, a nonprofit which will focus on septic issues along the Au Sable River.

Jeff’s conservation ethic is both global and regional in scope. “Land conservation worldwide is critical to the survival of our species. O2 production and CO2 reduction are just a couple of the immediate benefits of conserving lands around the world. Within the Au Sable river drainage, the broad corridors, and prominent ridges constitute a unique and important environmental, cultural, scientific, agricultural, educational, recreational, scenic, flood water, and wildlife resource that should be preserved for the enjoyment of, and appreciation by, present and future generations.”

Jeff and Carol have two children, Ted and Katie, and will soon be expecting their first grandchild.

Judy Koronka joined the staff at HeadWaters in July 2016 as the outreach and development coordinator. She brings years of experience in the non-profit world. She has lived in Otsego County for over 40 years which gives her an insight for the local issues. Judy is really excited to be at HWLC as preserving land and water are very important to her. Her family includes: husband Gary, two grown children, five grandchildren and her special four-legged companion, Jake. Judy is also a member of the Gaylord Chamber Ambassadors and a member of the Otsego County Community Foundation grant committee. In her free time she loves visiting and swimming in Lake Michigan, camping, gardening, reading a great book, repurposing furniture, and going on drives to different areas in Michigan.
HeadWaters Land Conservancy recently recorded our 83rd Conservation Easement (CE). The protected property consists of just under 100 acres and three quarters of a mile of frontage on the Au Sable River.

At the river’s edge, the property transitions from high bank to floodplain, as dictated by the Au Sable’s meandering course. Natural shoreline helps mitigate flooding, filter pollutants, and prevent excess erosion, which helps keep the river cold and clear, providing suitable habitat for brown and brook trout.

Much of the property’s acreage is forested wetland with black spruce, balsam fir, and aspen. Together with the floodplain wetlands, this property provides essential habitat for reptiles, amphibians, and aquatic invertebrates.

Permanently protecting land on the Au Sable benefits all of us that live, work, and play in this region. HeadWaters would like to thank the landowners for their generous donation and our supporters for making our work possible.

**HWLC Protected Lands as of October 2016**

- **3** Nature Preserves (Dault, Lake Avalon, Sturgeon River)
- **83** Conservation Easements
- **9,980 acres** of land
- **31.75 miles** of waterfront

**HWLC Protected Lands on the Au Sable River**

- **20** Conservation Easements
- **Over 1,450 acres** of land
- **Over 7 miles** of waterfront
Michi-Lu-Ca has been a busy place this summer! Buildings and equipment were put up for auction in May and removal and demolition began in earnest shortly thereafter. During a recent visit, HWLC staff estimated that over 60% of the buildings had been removed, and we are optimistic that the remainder of the buildings will be removed in 2017. The J.A. Woollam Foundation made every effort to ensure as much material as possible was recycled or repurposed. HWLC is looking forward to accepting ownership of the property from the J.A. Woollam Foundation so we can continue restoration efforts, participate in citizen science programs, and invite HWLC supporters and the general public to experience Michi-Lu-Ca’s biodiversity and natural beauty.
KIDS BIRD WALK
at Sturgeon River Preserve
on Saturday, September 24th

Over 50 adults and children met HWLC staff at the Sturgeon River Preserve at 9 in the morning for the Bird Walk. We walked the trail and saw black-capped chickadees, a blue jay nest, and lots of evidence of woodpecker activity. After the hike, each child made at least two bird feeders: one with fruit loops and pipe cleaners and another with pinecones, lard, and bird seed. The children were also given handmade bird books to take home and record the birds that visited their new feeders.
On Saturday, October 15, 2016 over 120 people of all ages came to the Louis Groen Preserve in Johannesburg to enjoy the beautiful fall colors. Participants could choose a one mile or two mile hike. The walks were both educational and fun as HeadWaters Land Conservancy staff pointed out different tree species, evidence of wildlife, and answered questions. Back at the trailhead, there was free cider and donuts courtesy of Cutting Edge Computers. After this fun fall treat, the children made wreaths from leaves they collected on their hike. Also, the children could do a second craft of dipping the leaves in paint to make a painted leaf print. HWLC would like to thank Cutting Edge Computers for sponsoring the Fall Color Walk and Otsego County Parks and Recreation for letting us use the Groen Preserve.

Fall Color Walk – A HUGE SUCCESS!

Great group for the 2 mile walk

Making wreaths from fallen leaves
HeadWaters had the pleasure of introducing our mission of land conservation to our new friends at the Northland Sportsman’s Club in Gaylord on Saturday, October 22. Members Brenda and Russ Minnerick invited us to speak at the annual Sportswoman of the Year banquet and we had a great time sharing our work with the group. Sportspeople are great supporters of conservation efforts because they see the results of limiting fragmentation of property when they are enjoying the land and all it offers. Thank you for the opportunity to share our passion of land conservation!

Laura Justin and Brenda Minnerick

Stumped on what to get for that person who has everything... consider a donation to HeadWaters Land Conservancy in their honor! A great gift for Christmas, birthday, anniversary, or “Just Because!”

Upcoming Events

Christmas is for the Birds
DESCRIPTION: We will make bird friendly ornaments and decorate a tree that will be placed outside for the birds.
DATE: Saturday, December 3rd, 2016
TIME: 10:00am - Noon
LOCATION: Otsego County Library

Snowshoe Hike
DATE: Saturday, February 25, 2017
TIME: 10:00am
LOCATION: Louis M. Groen Nature Preserve in Johannesburg

Snowshoe Hike
DATE: March, 2017
TIME: 10:00am
LOCATION: Sturgeon River Preserve in Vanderbilt

Details and specific dates will be posted on our website, www.headwatersconservancy.org, and Facebook page as they are available. Also, listen to the Eagle 101.5 FM in the mornings (around 8:35am) on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month for updates.

Questions? Event ideas? Call the HWLC office at 989-731-0573.
Thank you!

Volunteers don’t get paid - not because they’re worthless, but because they’re priceless.
Sherry Anderson

You make a living by what you get. You make a life by what you give.
Winston Churchill

Appreciation Picnic

For the second time in five years, we had the great pleasure of spending a sunny, summery Saturday afternoon at the Neumann Conservation Easement in Lovells. We had a record number of supporters, volunteers and conservation easement donors come out to celebrate HeadWaters and share a love for the land and water of northeast Michigan. This special day is our way of saying “thank you” for all that you do for Headwaters, the staff and Board. Gary Neumann is an amazing host in addition to being a generous supporter and conservation easement donor. We appreciate all of you so much!

Volunteer Land Stewards
Bill Anderson
Elaine Carlson
John Dallas
Glen Eberly
Steve Gardner
Jessie Geiger
Joe Jarecki
Jim and Barbara Kurbel
Mike Mang
Dave Nadolsky
Gary Neumann
Jerry Smith
Jim Supina

Land and Stewardship Committee
John Arevalo
Elaine Carlson
Joe Jarecki
Mike Mang
Jerry Smith
Jim Supina

Trail Maintenance at Sturgeon River Preserve
Jessie Geiger
Jim Kurbel
Mike Mang
Joe and Judy Jarecki

Gary Neumann for hosting the annual Appreciation Gathering
Jo Gallico and Martha Eberly for hand-painting wine glasses for the Appreciation Gathering
Lewiston Sportsmen’s League for hosting the 4th Annual Hotshots for HeadWaters Sporting Clays Fundraiser
Curtis Justin, Dallas Culvahouse and Gary Koronka for their help at the 4th Annual Hotshots for HeadWaters Sporting Clays Fundraiser
Sam Cornelius for his help with outreach events
Jim Kurbel for his help with Otsego County priority parcels and mailings
Kathy Partin from Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy for her help with HeadWaters new software, Salesforce.

Alan McTaggart, our summer intern, for all of his help with events, CE monitoring, and preserve stewardship.

HWLC will need an intern for summer 2017, please help spread the word! Check our website this winter for a complete position description.
HeadWaters Land Conservancy depends solely on donor support for its entire budget. A big thank you to the November 2015 - October 2016 supporters. We could not succeed without you!

Watershed Guardians ($10,000 and up)
- J.A. Woollam Foundation
- Roger Rasmussen

River Guardians ($5,000 - $9,999)
- John and Jane Dallas
- James and Carolyn Schenden

Stream Guardians ($1,000 - $3,999)
- Barbara Armento
- AuSable North Branch Area Association
- David and Mary Elaine Bilmer
- Doug and Sandra Elser
- Great Lakes Energy
- James and Linda Gregart
- Dr. George and Ursula Hess
- Don Inman and Virginia Pierce
- Keith Krause
- Mary Oakley
- Nancy Parmenter
- Stephen and Charlotte Qua
- David Reploge
- Paul and Carol Rose
- Robb and Chrissy Smith
- David Starkey
- James and Christine Supina
- Jeff and Carol Twyman
- Weyerhaeuser
- Rich and Cookie Wimmer

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- Dicran Haidostian
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- Montmorency Conservation Club
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- Raitta Ott
- James Peterson
- David Pottinger and Faye Peterson
- Desiree Worthington
- Simon Yoder
- Moritz and Barbara Ziegler

Guardians ($500 - $999)
- Glen and Martha Eberly
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- Beach and Marianne Hall
- James and Barbara Kurbel
- Carol Latsch
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- Rob DePierre
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- Mary Dugas
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- Neil Wilkinson
- George Wilson
- Richard Wooden

The following individuals chose to support HeadWaters to honor or remember a loved one:
- William Adams In Memory of Charlotte D. Adams
- Loann Crane, James and Joann Donham, Linda Filer, Catherine Graf, Melinda Griffin, Dorothy Kreinhilf, James and Rose Lichtenberg, Shelley Low, Jim and Betsy Mason, Carolyn May, Laura Postlewaite, Wade and Rondi Purcell, Sarah Purdy, Cordelia Robinson, Kimberly Roehm, John Walker, Mary Wellman, Natalie Wellman, Julie Willis, and Sarah Yoder In memory of Bobbie Gardiner
- David and Jacquelyn Church, and Roxie Fennelus In Memory of Jeremy Jones
- Kevin and Teresa Grunzweg In Honor of John Dallas

We try hard to thank everyone, if we missed you please tell us and know that we appreciate you.
Keep up to date on HeadWaters Land Conservancy by going to www.headwatersconservancy.org, our Facebook page, or tune in to Gaylord's local radio station, the Eagle 101.5 FM at 8:35am on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month.

Wish List

- Loppers
- GPS unit
- Point-and-shoot digital camera
- AA batteries
- Game camera
- Metal U-Posts (5’ to 7’)
- T-Post and U-Post puller
- Plastic cups
- Craft supplies: finger paint, children’s scissors, markers, card stock, yarn, crayons

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