



MISSISSIPPI MADAWASKA LAND TRUST CONSERVANCY

Official Newsletter

March 2013

Presentation of OTF Grant at AGM

The Mississippi Madawaska Land Trust hosted their annual general meeting on March 2nd and celebrated news of a two-year, \$74,800 grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF). Guest speaker Brian Osborne, Professor Emeritus of Geography at Queen's University delighted the audience, while OTF volunteer



OTF volunteer Gordon Munroe presents plaque to MMLTC president, Howard Clifford. Photo: Gena Gibson

Gordon Munroe congratulated members of MMLTC on their success and presented a plaque from the Foundation in honour of the new grant.

Over the next two years, the OTF investment will support capacity building in four key areas: long term financial stability through enhanced fundraising; partnership development related to use of the lands under MMLTC protection; improved communications and outreach; and the establishment of a volunteer management program. Experts will be contracted to provide skilled staff resources and to work with the MMLTC Board members, other volunteers and part-time staff, not only to achieve the project goals, but more importantly to transfer critical skills to the organization.

"As a professional social worker, I have for decades been cognizant of the outstanding contribution the Foundation has and is making to the well-being of our communities," said MMLTC President, Howard Clifford. "However this contribution really hits home in a personal way as I contemplate the tremendous impact this grant will have on MMLTC. It will hasten and quicken our ability to leave a legacy to future generations for which both the Ontario Trillium Foundation and MMLTC can be and will be rightfully proud."

A leading grant-maker in Canada, the Ontario Trillium Foundation strengthens the capacity of the voluntary sector through investments in community-based initiatives. An agency of the Government of Ontario, OTF builds healthy and vibrant communities. For more information visit www.otf.ca.

MMLTC urges all those interested in the natural world to become involved in this important phase of its development.

Call for Volunteers

This year, the 10th anniversary of the Land Trust, MMLTC will embark on an ambitious project to build its capacity with a grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation. One very important component of the program is to recruit and train volunteers.

If you have some time to spare and you have any interest and experience in any of the following areas, you could make an important contribution to the future of the Land Trust by volunteering to help out with this project.

- **Fundraising – targeting individual and corporate donors and planned giving**
- **Internet – website development and design, social networking**
- **Publicity and public relations including making public presentations**
- **Media relations**
- **Volunteer development including volunteer recognition and training**

Volunteers will help to develop policies, procedures and practises critical to MMLTC's success in the years to come.

In addition, MMLTC needs volunteers on an ongoing basis who are knowledgeable about land use planning for nature conservation areas, ecology, plant or animal biology, ecosystem restoration and conservation, natural history, real estate law, accounting, financial and investment planning, public and media relations and social networking.

Please send us an email indicating your area of interest and experience to ssentesy@mmltc.ca. And meantime if you have any questions, please email vandenhoff@bell.net or call 613-278-2939.

GLENN DROVER RECEIVES CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

Glenn is a founding member of the Lanark Wild Food Club and a member of the Executive Committee. Like the rest of the committee his involvement in the club was due to the invitation of his friend, Peter Fischl. He first met Peter through attendance at St. James Church in Perth and soon discovered they shared a common interest in science, environment and nature.



Although Glenn rightly credits Peter for being the inspirational force and primary explanation for the outstanding success of the club, he agrees with Peter's assessment that it has been a team effort. In my mind, the team has been made stronger by the often understated influence of Glenn. Soft-spoken, always willing to take on tasks, and responsible for the operation of the website, Glenn's wise counsel and his perspective have been a steadying influence on the rest of us. Evidence of his broad and visionary sense of inclusion was the beautiful native reading he did as a blessing preceding the wild food dinner.

Glenn's closeness to the land and his love of nature is due in large measure to the influence of his family. His childhood was spent in Newfoundland where his parents depended on their garden, a flock of chickens, and fish, fish and more fish. Even when the family moved to Toronto, the simple basic pleasures of life were paramount. Their cottage, north of Toronto, had no electricity or other conveniences - just the way the parents wanted it.

His formal education is impressive, including attendance at the University of Toronto and the London School of Economics to just name a couple. He taught at Dalhousie, McGill, UBC, Hong Kong, and Carleton Universities. It was at the School of Social Work at Carleton that he met another good friend of MMLTC, Jim Albert. His work on the environment and economic development in third world countries took him to Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, Cypress, and Trinidad.

I am not sure if our paths had previously crossed but Glenn worked with a number of my professional colleagues and also worked for a time for both the province, when Bill Davis was premier, and for the Federal Government on child care policy with Minister Jake Epp. Although offered continuing employment with the Federal Government he opted for the greater freedom afforded him at universities.

In recent years, although having good friends in different political parties, his love of nature and the importance of the environment led him to be active in the Green Party. It was here that he met and became good friends with MMLTC's Ted and Linda Mosquin.

He recalls with fondness earlier years when he ran a camp for handicapped children and also YMCA camps where he taught children the art of canoeing and appreciation of the outdoors. In fact he believes that being out in nature has a calming effect and is good for both body and soul. He is especially pleased with the relationship between LWFC and MMLTC and felt that raising funds for MMLTC provided a seal of credibility for the whole exercise.

Glenn was presented with our Certificate of Appreciation award at the Wild Food Dinner on November 24th.

Great Excitement at High Lonesome Nature Reserve: We Found Flooded Jellyskin!!!

What? That sounds like some loathsome slimy science fiction creature from outer space.

No, Flooded Jellyskin (*Leptogium rivulare*) is a discriminating lichen that grows at the base of trees around vernal ponds that fill with meltwater in spring, then dry up in summer. We are excited because this species is rare and listed as Threatened both nationally and provincially. The seasonal flooding is critical to its survival. Bluish-grey when dry, it swells up and becomes translucent when submerged (hence the name "jellyskin"). It prefers calcium-rich substrates (dolomite, marble, limestone), not granite. Individual lichens grow to about 6 cm, but cluster to form larger encrustations half a metre across.

This species is of scientific interest not only because of its rarity but also because of its requirement for and ability to thrive in a very unusual habitat. Late last summer Biologist Eleanor Thomson found the first colony at High Lonesome, luring Jellyskin expert Shaun Thompson, MNR District Ecologist, to verify the finding. Shaun excitedly identified four additional sites on the property. These will be added to the meagre catalogue of occupied sites in Ontario and increase our knowledge of this rare species.

Imagine, High Lonesome, a hot spot for Flooded Jellyskin.

