

News & Views

October 2016

Mississippi Madawaska Land Trust
Preserving the land  Protecting the future



GO WILD GALA, NOV. 5th

Our annual fundraiser will be held this year at Temple's Sugar Bush, an amazing venue in a lovely natural setting between Carleton Place and Perth. We're delighted to have Michael Runtz as our speaker and anyone who has heard him before will tell you he's a most knowledgeable and engaging presenter. He'll be talking to us about *The Bold, the Beautiful, and the Unusual: the Different Faces of Nature*.

MMLT silent auctions are legendary, with a wonderful assortment of artwork, gift certificates and services offered by our local community. A 12 ft. Delta kayak, almost new, has already been donated. Let us know if you have a hidden gem to donate.

The Gala is focused on friends mingling and sharing, so we have changed the format to serve appetizers and dessert throughout the evening, culminating in a sit-down Runtz presentation.

The Go Wild Gala begins at 6:30 p.m. on November 5th and will wrap up around 9:00. Tickets are \$40 and may be purchased at Gillagallou in Almonte, The Granary in Carleton Place, Shadowfax in Perth, and Pakenham General Store (cash or cheque only) or call 613-264-8856 to reserve tickets for pick-up at the door. Tickets are limited so pick up yours soon and no later than Oct. 28th. Temple's Sugar Bush is located at 1700 Ferguson's Falls Rd and you can find directions at mmlt.ca/events.



Michael Runtz will keep you riveted with a slideshow of outstanding photographs of his nature adventures. Photo: Sally Hansen



GO WILD RAFFLE

You could be the winner of a week's holiday at a private cottage at Palmerston Highlands, an island in the middle of the Mississippi River surrounded by rapids and waterfalls. That's the first prize in our Go Wild Raffle. This cozy cottage has a deck where you can barbecue and relax overlooking the rapids, swimming off the dock, and all the conveniences of home. It's a natural paradise!

Thanks to our generous supporters, MMLT is raffling off three great vacation packages in the Wild. The proceeds from this raffle and from our Go Wild Gala will help MMLT fulfill its responsibilities for stewarding the properties under its care.

Our second prize is 2 nights for 2 people at the [Calabogie Peaks Hotel](#) with breakfast, 9 holes of golf and a nature walk on the Calabogie Mountain trails. It's a terrific place to enjoy both mountain and lake views.

Third prize is 1 night for 2 people at [Fairwinds B&B](#) in Pakenham with breakfast, pack lunch, beer tasting at [Cartwright Springs Brewery](#), plus a guided hike at High Lonesome Nature Reserve. This charming spot gets excellent reviews and we're sure you'll enjoy your day in Pakenham.

Tickets are \$20 or 3 tickets for \$50 and may be purchased from any MMLT board member or staff. They will also be available at our Go Wild Gala. The draw will be held that evening around 9 p.m.

If you're like us, any opportunity to get out in nature is appealing and these three beautiful locations in the Wild can't be beat.

A TRIBUTE TO KEN SPICER

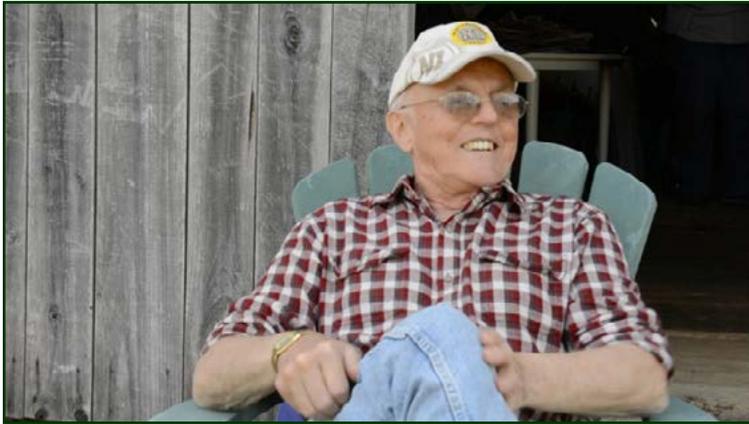


Photo by Shelley Ball/Photo44.net

MMLT holds the 200-acre High Lonesome Nature Reserve in trust for the community. There is one very special individual to whom we all owe our gratitude for this gift.

In 2012 the property owner, Barry/Sam Spicer passed away, without a will, and his brother Ken took the onerous responsibility of ensuring his wishes to have this land he loved conserved forever, convincing the other family members of the importance of this.

Ken not only ensured that the property was donated to MMLT, but he joyfully took responsibility for continuing as the steward of the land. He documented meticulously the flora and fauna in impressive binders which he proudly showed to visitors to enhance their appreciation of the many values of this nature reserve. He personally developed all those 8 km of trails and until last year maintained them. He loved High Lonesome.

In August, Ken passed away after a challenging bout with cancer. We celebrate this gentle, generous man who has shared with all of us his knowledge, passion and dedication to the natural world of High Lonesome. He gave us, and future generations this wonderful gift.

In memory of Ken, we have purchased an Adirondack chair which we invite you to sign along with a message. It will be placed alongside that of his best buddy Joel in a spot where they would savour the natural world around them while solving the world's problems.

If you wish to acknowledge Ken's huge contribution and help MMLT with its conservation efforts at his beloved High Lonesome, donations in his memory can be made by cheque, PayPal or at the Go Wild Gala in November where you will have the opportunity to sign the chair.

"Sitting near beautiful asters beginning to close for the day, idly watching bumblebees selecting the right flower in which to spend the night, the lengthening shadows began stretching up the rusty oaks and golden maples near the gate. The polished apples lost their lustre and a cool breeze suggested that we move in doors."

Excerpt from an e-mail from Ken describing a fall evening at High Lonesome with his buddy Joel (2013)

VIEWS FROM OUR FALL EVENTS



Michael Runtz describes an interesting fungus to several of the 90 nature lovers who showed up for our Walk in the Wild event at High Lonesome Nature Reserve on September 18th.



Even in the mist, over 70 hikers flocked to Blueberry Mountain on October 2nd, including 7 children who joined our Kids' Club.

If you have questions or would like to be added to our mailing list, please contact Susan Sentesy, Program Manager, at ssentesy@mmlt.ca or 613-253-2722.

*Office Hours: 8:30 - 4:30
Monday to Friday*