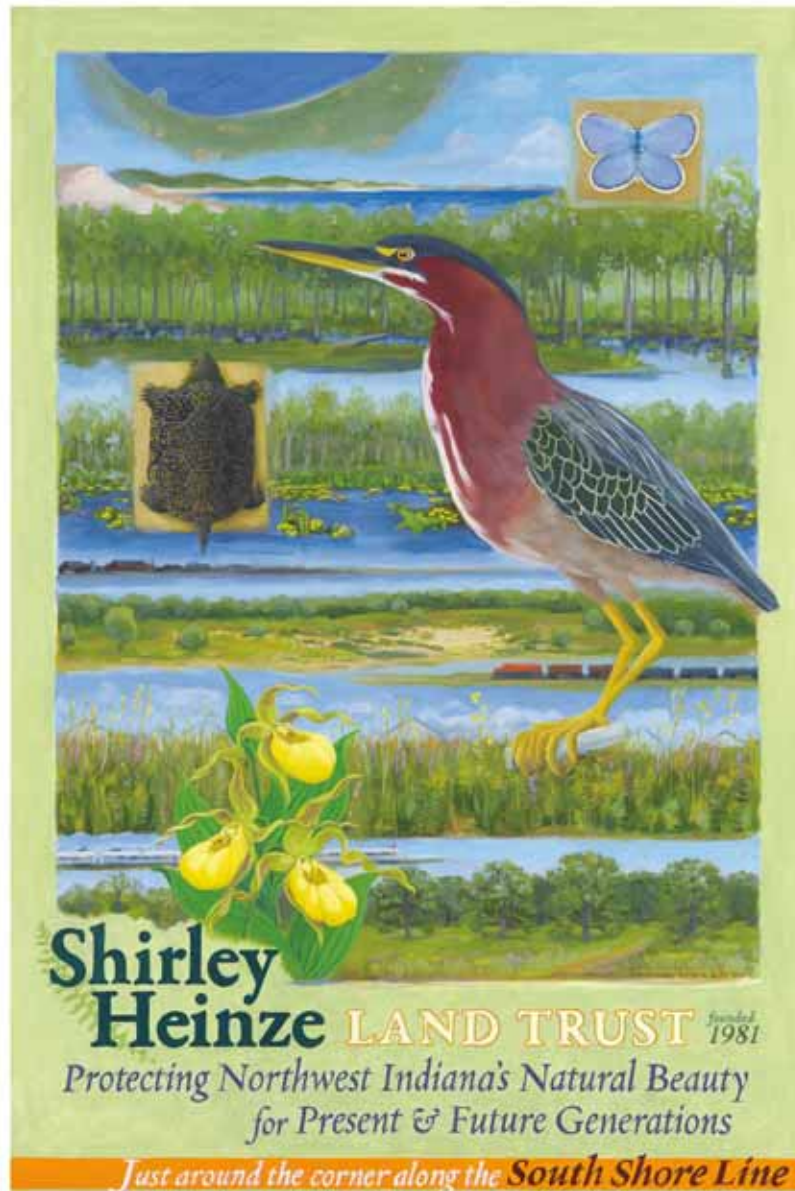


# Shirley Heinze Land Trust



**30<sup>th</sup>** Anniversary  
1981 - 2011

*Protecting Northwest Indiana's  
Natural Beauty for 30 years*

## Board of Directors

Dale Engquist, *President*  
Margaret Williford, *Vice President*  
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Myrna Newgent  
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## Staff

Kristopher Krouse  
*Executive Director*  
Paul Quinlan  
*Stewardship Director*  
Jim Erdelac  
*Education & Volunteer Manager*  
Chanaya Sadler  
*Development Manager*  
Danny Robertson  
*Stewardship Assistant*  
Janet Kaminski  
*Administrative Assistant*  
Peg Mohar  
*Property Assistant*



Dear Friends,

Shirley Heinze Land Trust celebrates this year the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its founding. During the past three decades we have acquired for preservation more than 1,200 acres of precious natural land in Northwest Indiana, and we have contributed to the protection of hundreds more acres managed by our public and private partners.

Our properties encompass a wide range of landscapes and natural communities, many of them unique to our area. We pride ourselves on the wise management principles that govern our stewardship of the lands we hold. We are committed to their restoration to the natural values they once held and to their maintenance as healthy ecosystems.

We have produced this 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemorative Magazine as a special gift to the friends and supporters whose generosity makes our work possible. Its pages are filled with photographs of the stunning natural beauty that exists on Shirley Heinze Land Trust preserves and the flora and fauna they harbor.

If you've ever wondered why we do what we do and exactly what we are preserving, these images will help you understand. Perhaps they will encourage you to venture out and see for yourself the wonders of nature you are helping to protect.

Many thanks for your loyalty and support!

Dale Engquist  
President

Kristopher Krouse  
Executive Director

This special 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemorative Magazine was published by  
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2011  
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Photography by Ron Trigg except where otherwise noted  
Poster on front cover created by Barbara Spies Labus

# *A Variety of Natural Landscapes*

makes Northwest Indiana a special place. This diversity typifies Shirley Heinze Land Trust's nature preserves.



Cressmoor Prairie in Lake County is a spectacular example of black-soil prairie. After careful restoration, this tallgrass prairie preserve is a good approximation of the scene that greeted native Americans and early European settlers. The landscape is at its most impressive in late summer and early fall when the grasses are high and tall spikes of wildflowers abound. Cressmoor Prairie is a dedicated state nature preserve located in the City of Hobart.

The Great Marsh is a historic wetland that once paralleled the Lake Michigan shoreline from Gary in Lake County to Michigan City in LaPorte County. It is a local hotspot for birding enthusiasts and provides habitat for numerous aquatic animals and plants. The Great Marsh was an early project for Shirley Heinze Land Trust, which now owns about 70 acres around the Town of Beverly Shores in Porter County.



Hildebrand Lake Nature Preserve features rich wet woodlands, marshy wetlands and swamp, and portions of its namesake lake. Located on the Valparaiso Moraine in LaPorte County, the property is notable for its outstanding display of woodland wildflowers in the spring. It is a haven for amphibians, birdlife, and other fauna.

# *Spring in the Wetlands*

comes early, as skunk cabbage pushes it way up through the mud, frogs begin calling, and birds arrive from their winter homes.



The lush growth of April at Yellow Birch Fen in Porter County



Marsh marigolds



Wood frog



Skunk cabbage revealing its tiny yellow flowers



Fern fiddleheads about to unfold their fronds

# *Spring Woodland Wildflowers*

burst into bloom on the forest floor each April and May.



A blanket of toothwort borders the trail at Hildebrand Lake.



Yellow trout lily



Spring beauty



Large-flowered trillium



Wild columbine

# *Dune and Swale*

is a globally rare landscape typified by a series of sandy ridges (dunes) alternating with long narrow wetlands (swales), all running parallel to the Lake Michigan shoreline. This rich habitat is preserved at Ivanhoe South in Gary and Seidner Dune & Swale in Hammond.



Spring at Ivanhoe South



Fringed gentians



Blanding's turtle



Yellow lady's slipper

# *A Diversity of Species*

exists on the dune-and-swale landscape, where wetland, savanna, and prairie communities meet.



Blue flag iris



Northern water snake



Great egret



Monarch caterpillar



Cottontail rabbit



Turk's cap lily

# *A Great Sea of Grasslands*

once stretched from Indiana to the foothills of the Rockies. After a decade of restoration, Cressmoor Prairie is beginning to look as it might have two centuries ago.



Late summer in the tallgrass prairie



New England asters



Compass plant



Butterfly weed



Black-eyed Susans

# *The Tallgrass Prairie*

in summer and early fall presents a spectacular vision of natural beauty: tall grasses swaying in the wind and a diverse collection of colorful wildflowers and butterflies.



Yellow coneflowers



Hummingbird moth on  
swamp milkweed



Obedient plant

# *Sandy Savanna Landscapes*

are found at several Heinze Trust properties, notably John Merle Coulter Preserve in Porter County and Seidner Dune & Swale in Lake County. Late spring and early summer offer many natural pleasures to enjoy.



Wild lupines line the top of a ridge at Seidner Dune & Swale in Hammond. Lupine foliage is the sole food source for larvae of the Karner blue butterfly. Shirley Heinze Land Trust works with its partners to establish and protect habitat for this endangered insect.



Wild lupine



Prickly pear cactus



Karner blue butterfly



Six-lined racerunner



Goat's rue

# *The Deep Woods*

provide habitat for a wealth of wildlife.



Barker Woods in winter



Box turtle



Wild turkey



Redback salamanders



Whitetail deer



Robin's eggs

# *Ambler Flatwoods*

is a special kind of woods found in Indiana only in LaPorte County. Featuring many rare species and plants typical of a more northern climate, this 350-acre property is a dedicated state nature preserve.



Wetland in spring



Low afternoon sun in winter



Starflower



Cardinal flower



Club moss



Squaw root

# *Little Calumet Wetlands*

near Chesterton in Porter County is our newest project area. The Little Calumet River bisects the property, making it a great spot for outdoor activities like paddling, fishing, and hiking.



Midsummer greenery at Little Calumet Wetlands



Building a bridge to improve public access



Marsh marigolds



Sulphur shelf fungus

# SHIRLEY HEINZE LAND TRUST

## 1981-1985 The Early Years

Shirley Heinze Environmental Fund is established in November 1981 with an endowment gift from Robert and Bette Lou Seidner in memory of Dr. Shirley Heinze, who was a strong advocate for the preservation of the Indiana Dunes.

The initial three-person Board of Trustees is organized in 1982 with Ed Osann as the first president.

Early land acquisitions are dune lots in Miller and wetland lots in the Great Marsh in Beverly Shores.

"The Indiana Dunes Story," edited by Glenda Daniel, is published in 1984.

Naturalist Emma Pitcher inaugurates the first "Spring Fling" in 1985. It evolves into an annual program of guided nature hikes.



Shirley Heinze



Bette Lou Seidner



Ed Osann



Emma Pitcher

## 1986-1995 Laying the Groundwork for the Future



Barbara Plampin



Myrna Newgent



Irene Herlocker-Meyer

Headquarters office is moved to Barker House in Michigan City in 1986.

Board expansion brings many stalwarts into the organization. Barbara Plampin begins her 18-year tenure on the board in 1986. Bringing impressive botanical expertise, she heads the hike program, offers public lectures, and promotes scientific investigation. Irene Herlocker-Meyer, a local land conservation legend, joins the board in 1986; she will serve until 2002. Myrna Newgent joins in 1988 and serves until 2008. She will be board president for 13 years. Judy Gaskell begins a 14-year stay on the board in 1991. All four women remain active as life board members.

"Up and Down the Dunes," a collection of nature essays by Emma Pitcher, is published in 1987.

The Advisory Council is established in 1992.

Land acquisition efforts focus on wetlands in the Great Marsh, dunes in Miller, and dune and swale in Gary. The first transfers of land to Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore are made in 1993.

Peg Mohar becomes executive director in 1994.

The first conservation easements are accepted in 1995.

A generous bequest from Gordon and Faith Greiner in 1995 opens new opportunities for land protection.

# HISTORICAL TIME LINE

## 1996-1999 A Time of Unprecedented Growth

Cressmoor Prairie is acquired in 1996; it becomes the first Shirley Heinze property to be dedicated as a state nature preserve.

A nine-acre wetland/woods complex donated by Ralph & Carol Lerner is the first acquisition in LaPorte County. John Merle Coulter Preserve and Seidner Dune & Swale are acquired in 1997; both become dedicated state nature preserves.

A second edition of Ken Brock's "Birds of the Indiana Dunes" and a second edition of "The Indiana Dunes Story," edited by Joan Engel, are published.

Paul Kohlhoff is hired as first full-time Executive Director.

Heinze Fund becomes administrator of the multi-partner Southern Lake Michigan Coastal Wetlands Project, which brings more than \$1 million in federal funds for land conservation in Northwest Indiana.

First issue of "Heinze Sights" newsletter is published in 1998, and a website is launched.

Land holdings nearly double in 1999, as more than 300 acres are acquired. Nearly 150 acres of forested wetlands near Michigan City become Ambler Flatwoods Nature Preserve. Yellow Birch Fen is added to Coulter Preserve. Hobart Marsh properties, including Bur Oak Woods and Greiner Preserve, are acquired.

Camp Red Mill, now a LaPorte County Park and dedicated state nature preserve, is saved with Heinze Fund support.



Carol & Ralph Lerner



Peg Mohar



Paul Kohlhoff

## 2000-2004 Consolidating Gains

Ron Trigg hired as second full-time executive director in 2000. "A Congenial Fellowship," edited by Peg Mohar, is published.

A new phase of Southern Lake Michigan Coastal Wetlands partnership brings another \$1 million for acquisition and restoration to the region.

Land Trust Alliance funds preparation of first organizational Strategic Plan.

Renewed emphasis on stewardship as land holdings increase. Jan Hunter is hired as first full-time Stewardship Manager in 2001; Paul Quinlan replaces her in 2002. Major restoration work begun at Ivanhoe South.

Maureen Swed becomes executive director in 2002. Generous bequest by legendary botanist Ray Schulenberg is received.

Reorganization in 2003 brings new name: Shirley Heinze Land Trust, Inc.

More than 50 acres added to Ambler Flatwoods in 2003. Walnut Woods, south of Valparaiso, is accepted as donation from Ralph Siemion in 2004.

First summer benefit in 2004 launches new emphasis on fundraising and community outreach.



Ron Trigg



Maureen Swed

# SHIRLEY HEINZE LAND TRUST HISTORICAL TIME LINE

## 2005-2011 Reaching for New Horizons

Kris Krouse is hired as executive director in 2005.

Land holdings top 1,000 acres with 2006 donation of Barker Woods (a state-dedicated nature preserve), Hildebrand Lake, and Gary Dune Forest from The Nature Conservancy. A 30-acre conservation easement near Valparaiso is donated by Walter Rudzinski.

The Gaylord & Dorothy Donnelley Foundation provides biggest foundation grant ever in 2007 to fund hiring of development manager. Subsequent Donnelley grants offer critical support for general operations.

The Boreal Flatwoods Conservation Planning Project in 2008 opens new era of strategic planning. The Moraine Forest Planning Project, initiated in 2009, engages land trust partners in cooperative effort.

Ambler Flatwoods grows in size to 350 acres with 2007 donation of 10 acres by Dennis Osysko, 2009 addition of 90-acre Indiana Heritage Trust project, 2009 donation of 13 acres by Ted Werre, and 2010 purchase of 40 acres with help from The Nature Conservancy.

The Little Calumet Wetlands project area, purchased with major support from NiSource, promises to be a haven for paddlers, hikers, and anglers.

New funding sources and partnerships fuel major savanna restoration project at Bur Oak Woods. Volunteer program experiences major growth.

Mighty Acorns education program, in partnership with the Field Museum and Dunes Learning Center, is introduced to Hobart elementary students.

Innovative Green Jobs Program, a partnership with Wildlife Habitat Council and U.S. Forest Service, provides training for laid-off workers in nature preserves.

30th Anniversary Celebration in 2011 features many gala events.



Ambler Flatwoods



Green Jobs Work Crew  
at Cressmoor Prairie

### BOARD PRESIDENTS

Shirley Heinze Environmental Fund  
Ed Osann 1982-1990  
Myrna Newgent 1990-2003  
Shirley Heinze Land Trust  
Myrna Newgent 2003  
Warren Buckler 2004-2006  
Rachel Saxon 2007-2009  
Dale Engquist 2010-

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

Shirley Heinze Environmental Fund  
Charlotte Read 1984-1987  
Beverly Overmyer 1988-1989  
Tom Anderson 1989-1990  
Sandy Henderson 1990-1994  
Peg Mohar 1994-1997  
Paul Kohlhoff 1997-2000  
Ron Trigg 2000-2002  
Maureen Swed 2002-2003  
Shirley Heinze Land Trust  
Maureen Swed 2003-2004  
Ron Trigg (acting) 2004-2005  
Kristopher Krouse 2005-

# *Educating the Public*

about land conservation is a major part of Shirley Heinze Land Trust's mission. We accomplish this goal by sponsoring stewardship workdays, hikes, classes, and programs like the Mighty Acorns.



Photo by Paul Quinlan

**Mighty Acorns session at Bur Oak Woods**



**Guided nature walk at Ambler Flatwoods**



Photo Courtesy of The Field Museum

**Winter tree ID workshop at Barker Woods**



**Volunteer workday at J.M. Coulter Preserve**



**Outdoor learning laboratory  
at Ivanhoe South Nature Preserve**

**Shirley Heinze Land Trust**  
**PROPERTIES & CONSERVATION EASEMENTS**

September 2011

**Lake County**

Hobart Township	
CRESSMOOR PRAIRIE*	41 acres
BUR OAK WOODS	85 acres
GORDON & FAITH GREINER PRESERVE	74 acres
HIDDEN PRAIRIE/IVORY WETLANDS	61 acres
Miscellaneous Hobart Marsh Properties	53 acres
Small Hobart Township Holdings	4 acres
Calumet Township	
IVANHOE SOUTH PRESERVE	29 acres
Small Dune & Swale Holdings	3 acres
MILLER DUNES	16 acres
GREEN HERON POND	12 acres
Small Calumet Township Holdings	1 acre
North Township	
SEIDNER DUNE AND SWALE*	43 acres
McCloskey (Gibson Woods West) Conservation Easement	3 acres
Ross Township	
Small Ross Township Holdings	10 acres
Laura Lake Conservation Easements	102 acres

**Porter County**

Pine Township	
GREAT MARSH	70 acres
Small Pine Township Holdings	1 acre
Portage Township	
JOHN MERLE COULTER PRESERVE*	92 acres
Westchester Township	
LITTLE CALUMET WETLANDS	42 acres
Small Westchester Township Holdings	5 acres
Union Township	
WALNUT WOODS	10 acres
Rudzinski Woods Conservation Easement	33 acres
Liberty Township	
Small Liberty Township Holdings	8 acres

**LaPorte County**

Springfield Township/Michigan Township	
AMBLER FLATWOODS*	350 acres
Coolspring Township	
BARKER WOODS*	30 acres
New Durham Township	
HILDEBRAND LAKE NATURE PRESERVE	49 acres

Property Owned	1,089 acres
Conservation Easements	138 acres
<b>TOTAL LAND PRESERVED</b>	<b>1,227 acres</b>

\* Dedicated State Nature Preserve

# THANKS TO OUR PARTNERS AND FRIENDS

Shirley Heinze Land Trust's accomplishments over the past 30 years would not have been possible without the support of those organizations which have provided advice, expertise, and funding to help us fulfill our mission.

**Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Nature Preserves**

**The Nature Conservancy**

**United States Fish & Wildlife Service**

**Indiana Heritage Trust**

**Gaylord & Dorothy Donnelley Foundation**

**NiSource**

Chicago Wilderness – Land Trust Alliance – Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore – Natural Resources Damage Assessment Fund – Field Museum of Natural History – Save the Dunes – U.S. Environmental Protection Agency – Indiana Department of Environmental Management – Indiana Land Protection Alliance – Legacy Foundation of Lake County – Unity Foundation of LaPorte County – Porter County Community Foundation – Sustain Our Great Lakes Program – U.S. Forest Service – Great Lakes Restoration Initiative – Wildlife Habitat Council – U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – National Fish & Wildlife Foundation – Indiana DNR Lake Michigan Coastal Program – Hobart Fire Department – Great Lakes Innovative Stewardship Through Education Network – Calumet Stewardship Initiative – Michigan City Community Enrichment Corporation – Louise H. Landau Foundation – Ogden Dunes Volunteer Fire Department – Lake County Parks Department – LaPorte County Parks Department – Indiana Dunes Environmental Learning Center – LaPorte County Conservation Trust – Woodland Savanna Land Conservancy – Miller Community Fund – Efroymsen Foundation – Dean & Barbara White Foundation – John Anderson Foundation – Carlson Family Foundation – BP Fabric of America Fund – The Conservation Fund/Kodak Greenways Award – Norcross Wildlife Foundation – and others.

## Past Board Members

Terry Bonace	Sandy Henderson	Naida Lehmann	Edward Osann, Jr.	Peggy Ruckman
Florence Broady	Irene Herlocker-Meyer	Carol Lerner	Eleanor Petersen	Jean Rudd
Warren Buckler	Rory Holscher	Greg Lyman	Nancy Philippi	William Schaudt
Mark Chamberlain	Eva Hopkins	Elizabeth McCloskey	Barbara Plampin	Pat Tabor
Jack Dearhammer	John Hoppe	Terry McCloskey	Mike Polomchak	Ron Trigg
Joyce Drake	Larry Jensen	Craig Menne	Greg Quartucci	Sylvia Troy
Joan Engel	William Jewett	Peg Mohar	Charlotte Read	Courtney Van Lopik
Judy Gaskell	Henry Jones	Myrna Newgent	William Robinson	James Zervos
Gordon Greiner	Paul Kohlhoff	Ed Noonan	Karen Rodriguez	
Marjorie Lou Hammond	Brian Kortum	Sandy O'Brien	Tina Rongers	
Laura Henderson	Robert Lamprecht	Lorain Olsen	Bruce Rowe	

## 2011 Shirley Heinze Land Trust Staff

Shirley Heinze Land Trust  
Board of Directors  
2011 Executive Committee



*President Dale Engquist, Secretary Kathy Dennis,  
Treasurer Tim Griffin, Vice President Margaret  
Williford*



*Executive Director Kris Krouse*



*Paul Quinlan, Janet Kaminski, Danny Robertson,  
Peg Mohar, Jim Erdelac, Chanaya Sadler*



**WE'VE HAD 30 GREAT YEARS SO FAR.  
YOU CAN HELP MAKE SURE THE NEXT 30 YEARS  
ARE JUST AS SUCCESSFUL BY JOINING**

## *The Legacy Circle*

**There is no better or easier way to demonstrate your support for the work of Shirley Heinze Land Trust than by including us in your estate plan.**

- **Make a charitable bequest in your will. This can be a fixed dollar amount, a percentage of your estate, or specific designated property, such as real estate or securities.**
- **Designate SHLT as beneficiary of your IRA, 401(k), or other retirement plan.**
- **Name SHLT as beneficiary of your insurance policy.**
- **Contact your county's community foundation about other options.**

**Consult with your financial planner or attorney to see which plan works best for you. Your support will make a difference for Northwest Indiana and for future generations.**

Join these donors as Legacy Circle members.

Terry Bonace	Sara Leonard
Marshall Blankenship & Susan Perdomo	Peg Mohar
Robert Buell	Myrna Newgent
Linda Burton & Nancy Hoffa	Barbara Plampin
Steven Cohen & Michael Godnick	J. Timothy Ritchie
Jean Dalenberg	Jean Rudd
Heinz & Elizabeth Freese	Ron Trigg
Larry Jensen & Rosemary Gemperle	Robert & Charlotte Wolfe
	Anonymous (4)

