



Spring 2018

Scenic Views

A newsletter from the Milwaukee Area Land Conservancy

For the Love of the Land

Our Mission

To preserve and protect valuable land and water resources for the benefit of the public, as well as for the wildlife dependent on these resources, in order to maintain quality of life, biological diversity, and natural scenic beauty for future generations.

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With so many of us shopping online, there's a new way to give to MALC by using Smile Amazon! Just go to smile.amazon.com, search for Milwaukee Area Land Conservancy and set it as your organization of choice when shopping at Smile Amazon. For every purchase you make, Amazon will donate a percentage of their receipts to MALC, without any cost to you! Deposits are made monthly to the MALC bank account and are used to help maintain the places we save.

How to Preserve Your Land, Provide for the Future, and Save Taxes



Preserved Landscape in S.E. Wisconsin; Photo by Larry Leitner

Did you know that extinctions of plant and animal species are occurring so rapidly that by 2100 only 50% or fewer are expected to survive? Two of the leading culprits in these mass extinctions are habitat destruction and the spread of invasive species.

Since the 1950s, urban sprawl has crept across the nation and obliterated the rural character of large swaths of our landscape, contributing to habitat destruction. Here in Southeastern Wisconsin, this type of development has wrought destruction of the native prairies and oak savannas that predominated in the area, as well as created significant loss of wetlands. As a result, the region has also suffered dramatic declines in soil health and water quality, increased flooding, and loss of carbon sequestration.

May 22nd
7:00 pm

According to board member Linda Frank, attorney and principal of Linda M. Frank Environmental, LLC, important strides have been made through conservation efforts since the 1970s, but these efforts must be ramped up in order to salvage the biodiversity and resiliency required for a healthy planet. Many good stewards of the land have stepped up to the challenge.

The latest comprehensive census shows that private landowners have protected 56 million acres across the United States through conservation easements and title transfers to land

Dear MALC Supporters,

The past year has continued MALC's story of success and evolution, with ongoing restoration and enhancement projects at Carity Prairie, Fitzsimmon's Woods and Sidney Woods, and the addition of a skilled and dedicated professional, Linda Frank, to our Board of Directors (see pg 4).

Linda is a practicing attorney in environmental law and has deep experience with trusts and estates, with a focus on land preservation. She is action-oriented with high accountability and a leader in motivating effective team behaviors. Linda is also an active volunteer with the Milwaukee Justice Center for facilitating parenting agreements and is the liaison with the Public Works Department on the Village of Shorewood Conservation Committee.

I encourage you to attend Linda's workshop *For the Love*

of the Land on May 22 at Wehr Nature Center to meet her and learn how she can help you conserve your lands with estate planning.

The MALC will also be taking up a new focus on fundraising this year, with sponsored events that will be fun for you and your family. Look for more information on our Facebook page and via email alerts. To help us maintain our database of members and contributors, please reply to this newsletter at mkeconservancy@gmail.com with your full name and address, and any special interests you have in land conservation.

Sincerely,



Perry Rossa
MALC Secretary

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Officers

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Donald Dorsan
Perry Rossa

Board Members

Linda Frank
Larry Leitner Ph.D
Kristin Schultheis
Paul Ryan
John Sanborn

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Kristin Schultheis
Mike Marek
Perry Rossa

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Arthur Harrington
Fred Klimetz
Peter McKeever
Steven Schmucki
Monica McKee

Land Use and Planning Advisors

Neil Luebke
John Siepmann

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trusts.

These lands are being protected from unwanted development and restored as natural habitats. Farmlands are being preserved and managed with conservation or regenerative agricultural techniques that promote soil health, reduce toxic runoff, save costs, and produce resilient crops.

Chances are you have already been working hard as a good steward of the land. Do you have questions about insuring that your good stewardship will be continued into the future? Or, do you have your own story to share?

Learn more about how you can preserve your land for future generations, plan for your retirement and your beneficiaries, and potentially save taxes in the process.

We'd love to have you join Linda Frank for the spring informational session *For the Love of the Land – How to Preserve Your Land, Provide for the Future, and Save Taxes*, on Tuesday, May 22, from 7-8:30 pm at Wehr Nature Center.

You will hear also from a MALC land trust professional on the subject of prime lands for conservation, and from an estate planning lawyer on strategies for smooth transitions during your retirement and carrying out your wishes for your beneficiaries.

Admission is free, but reservations are required. To register, send an email to mkeconservancy@gmail.com with the Subject: RSVP for May 22. In your message, please provide the names of those who will be attending. Light refreshments will be served.

MALC Thanks Our Supporters and Contributors

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Don & Pauline Dorsan

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Prairie Grass Preserve
Homeowners Assoc

Robert Wilson

John Sanborn

Kristin Schultheis

Southeastern Wisconsin
Invasive Species
Consortium

Tim & Lauren Burch

Wild Ones

Milwaukee Area Land Conservancy 2017 Consolidated Financial Report

The Milwaukee Area Land Conservancy (MALC) continues to pride itself on a low operating cost-to-mission expenditure ratio with 94% of every dollar contributed to MALC going to our land conservancy and restoration mission. We are able to achieve this by utilizing our strong volunteer base, which provides us with the knowledge and labor required to maintain our valuable lands for future generations.

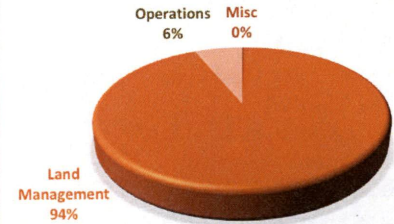
With over \$1.1 million in land under management, MALC has become a major land conservation organization in southeastern Wisconsin. MALC supports these lands through the prudent use of short term and long term restricted funds which are set aside for future needs of selected parcels. We continue to grow by selectively

acquiring lands through donations and leveraging grant funding.

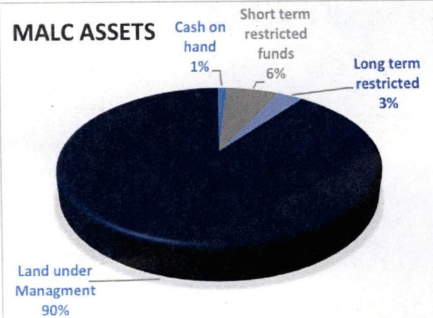
In 2017 we utilized mitigation funding received in prior years to begin a 5-year restoration project at the Carity Prairie, along with a grant from Southeastern Wisconsin Invasive Species Consortium received in late 2016 to begin a multi-year project at Sydney Woods in Greendale WI. While no new grant funding was received in 2017, grant funding remains a significant part of MALC's income plan in 2018 and beyond.

The Milwaukee Area Land Conservancy wishes to thank our donors, supporters and volunteers who help make MALC financially strong now and in the future.

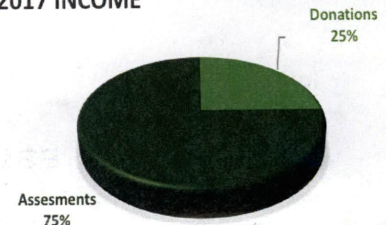
2017 EXPENSES



MALC ASSETS



2017 INCOME



CARITY PRAIRIE from page 4

Schlitz Audubon Nature Center and the Koenen Land Preserve. Paul is currently the owner of Northern Lights Natural Landscaping.

Paul was involved with the initial land management/restoration of the Carity

prairie/savanna for many years. Prior to joining MALC as a board member he worked with MALC co-founder Richard Barloga delineating wetlands, collaborating on inventory work on the site. Paul's unique knowledge of Carity Prairie will be sure to make this tour interesting.

YES! I would like to help the Milwaukee Area Land Conservancy preserve and restore beautiful places for the public's enjoyment. Enclosed is my tax deductible gift.

___ \$25 ___ \$50 ___ \$100 ___ \$200 ___ Other

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Print your name as you would like it to appear in our newsletter acknowledging our supporters. If you choose to be listed as anonymous, place the letter "A" after your name.

Contributions will be applied to land acquisition, stewardship, and operating expenses to help carry out our mission. MALC is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. Contributions are tax deductible as allowed by law.

Mail this form with your check to:

Milwaukee Area Land Conservancy
P.O. Box 320304
Franklin, Wisconsin 53132

For additional information:

email: MALC@mkeconservancy.org
www.mkeconservancy.org
Phone: 414-377-3851

MALC accepts donations online. See the donation page of our website at:
mkeconservancy.org





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Mr. George Lambe, Treasurer Prairie Grass Preserve HOA
P.O. Box 320051
Franklin WI 53132

53132-600051



New Board Member Profile

LINDA FRANK

Linda Frank is a lawyer and proprietor of Linda M. Frank Environmental, LLC. She provides legal services in the field of environmental law and sustainability. Linda partners with landowners and with land conservancies to explore options and to design and implement plans for preserving and restoring natural landscapes and farmlands on a long-term basis. Her legal work also involves private enforcement of Clean Water Act regulations.

Linda was inspired to devote herself



Linda Frank

to this work by a belief in the critical importance of environmental protection for the health and happiness of man and the future of the planet.

She worked for 20 years in trusts and estates and general law practice, which informs her work in assisting

individuals to carry out their wishes for their beneficiaries and express their own unique conservation ethic. Linda serves on the Conservation Committee of the Village of Shorewood and played a key role in bringing a curbside organics collection pilot program to that community. She credits scientists like Edward O. Wilson,



Scenic Views

A newsletter from the
Milwaukee Area Land Conservancy

author of *Half-Earth*, with inspiring and informing her work to save lands and natural lifeforms while we can.

Carity Prairie Spring Tour

Join us on May 12 at 9:00 am for a walking tour of one of MALC's properties, The Carity Prairie in Franklin. The 23 acre prairie and savanna complex is one of the last known examples of virgin (unplowed) prairie in Milwaukee County and is home to many rare plant, animal, and reptile species as well as a stop for migratory birds this time of year.

May 12th
9:00 am

Located adjacent to the Prairie Grass Preserve Subdivision in Franklin, the preserve was spared from development in 2004/5 by developer Bill Carity, who had the vision to create the first conservation subdivision in the area.

The Tour will be lead by Paul Ryan, MALC board member, former Land Manager at the Land Manager of the

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