



**Crossroads at Big Creek**





# CROSSROADS

A NEWSLETTER FOR CROSSROADS AT BIG CREEK

Crossroads at Big Creek, Inc. - Scientific, Historical & Environmental Learning Preserve

Vol. 11 Issue 2 - Fall 2013



**Crossroads  
at Big Creek**  
*is a preserve for  
experiential  
lifelong learning  
focused on  
science, history, and  
the environment.*

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2041 Michigan St.  
Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235  
920-746-5895  
CrossroadsAtBigCreek.org

## Message from the President

### Engagement Announcement

Engagements are always monumental times in our lives. Usually, two people of similar interests and thought, announce their intentions to commit themselves to a long lasting relationship. Here at Crossroads we constantly celebrate engagements.

People becoming engaged to projects and events at Crossroads have led to many long lasting and productive marriages. Some of our engagements this summer included:

- Researchers from UW-Oshkosh were engaged in water quality and beach testing.
- Master Gardeners and the Sturgeon Bay Home and Garden Club have loved and cherished our Heritage Garden.
- Door Peninsula Astronomical Society landscaped the Utah Street Entrance, plan to add a parking lot to the Astronomy Campus and will partner with Crossroads to present Astronomy Day 2013 on October 12.
- Collin Mirkis, Mike Everett and Scott Mathison have made a commitment to become Eagle Scouts by doing projects at Crossroads.
- Friends of Crossroads and an array of sponsors (see page 5) presented another successful Running Green Event and ...

Watch our web site for an upcoming very important engagement announcement which, if all goes as planned, will lead to a very long lasting marriage of Crossroads and a close neighbor.

Being engaged is a great feeling, especially to such a wonderful partner as Crossroads. We at Crossroads are ready and able to help you with your engagement announcement which we hope will lead to long and fulfilling marriage to our mission of Learning and Living.

Enjoy the coming Fall Season.

Dick Weidman,  
*President, Crossroads Board of Directors*



# More Space for Learning

Constructing our Maintenance Building was only half of the project! By emptying the lower level of the Collins Learning Center of vehicles and shop equipment, Crossroads can focus on the second objective of creating an additional and much needed education space.

The inclination is to call in the volunteers and start slapping paint on the walls and throwing up temporary dividers, but we want to do it right. Thanks to grants and designated gifts, we were able to engage Marc Isaksen Design, LLC to create a schematic design for our proposed education space.

Before we begin preliminary talks with the architect, we come to you for opinions and ideas. Friends of Crossroads and Crossroads Board members have contributed the ideas below. But we want input from a variety of people who believe in our mission and who use our facilities. We invite you to participate in our planning by filling out the questionnaire below. (Please return it in the envelope provide or if you prefer, call 920-746-5895 to discuss your ideas.)



## What Would You Value in the Lower Level Education Space?

Check any (or all) ideas you think are of value and please add your own:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> LEED certified lighting and heating              | <input type="checkbox"/> Smart Board                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Daylight - replace the garage door with windows  | <input type="checkbox"/> Kitchenette                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Closets for storing ski and snowshoe equipment   | <input type="checkbox"/> Work tables                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Room dividers to define spaces for small classes | <input type="checkbox"/> Conference tables             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wall murals                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Handicap Entrance             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> White Boards                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Educational Equipment Storage |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Projection system and screen                     |  |



Room for improvement

Please add your ideas below:

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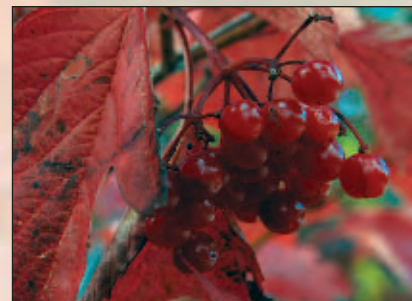
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# A Half Year of Generosity



**Gifts from January 1 - June 30, 2013**  
(Gifts from the second half of the year will be listed in our holiday issue)

## **\$10,000 and above**

Paul and Fran Burton  
Don and Coggin Heeringa

## **\$5,000 to \$9,999**

Anonymous

## **\$2,500 to 4,999**

Ministry Door County Medical Center

## **\$1,000 to 2,499**

Father Anthony Birdsall  
Meissner Family Foundation  
MMG Foundation

## **\$500 to 999**

Lee and Susan Basten  
Door County Master Gardeners  
Grace and Bruce Frudden  
Fran and Arliss Everson  
Diane Jome  
Bob and Carol Moellenberndt

## **\$250 to 499**

Anonymous  
Bonnie and Daniel Balch  
Herb Kohl Charities  
Katie (Claire) Malvetz  
Ray Stonecipher  
Norman and Mabel Watkins

## **\$100 to 249**

Birmingham Builders  
Mary Ann Blahnik  
Bob and Nancy Davis  
Anonymous  
Eagle Mechanical  
Edith Fulkerson  
Bill and Cleida Galligan  
John and Chris Guenther  
Jane Guthrie

Dave Jordal and Linda Hinkston

Howard Hintze  
Robert and Rebecca Hoover  
Huehns Funeral Home  
James and Elsbeth Knutson

Norb and Pat Lenius  
Nancy Mattke

Jan Olson  
Madelyn Ostrand

Eric and Dee Paulsen  
Bill and Barb Perloff  
Kathy Rowe

Anonymous  
Gordon and Diane Saron

Gretchen Schmelzer  
Daniel Tomaszewski  
James and Donna Urban  
Terry Ulman/Door County Candy

Rob and Cathy Vuksanovic  
Joan and Brian Wake

David and Judith Ward  
Mari and Dick Weidman

John and Carol Zago  
Dwight and Pam Zeller



## **\$50 - 99**

Jeanne Barnard

Pat Blizel

Randy Bumgardner  
Barb Chisholm  
Margaret and George Collier  
Mike and Sue Eliason  
Harold and Catherine Gerdmann

John M. Glessner  
Earl and Ruth Hellamnn  
Mel and Ruth Henrichs

Nicole Herbst  
Carol Hobson  
Brian and Lori Holtz

Dave Holzinger  
Karen Johnson

Paul and Kanani King  
Cathy Laba

Arlene Lenius  
Ellen Looker

Roy and Charlotte Lukes  
Marion Mailand

Joyce Miller  
Gretchen Montee

Matthew Propsom  
Anna Quale

John Rosenthal  
Jeanne Schopf  
Edward Schriener-Schmitt

Thomas and Margaret Schueppert  
Carol and Pete Schuster

Bernice Shumway  
Brent Sieling and Megan Schleisman

Kay Stack  
Scott Steebes

Trish Stocking  
Scott Wake

Randy Watermolen  
Carmen Youra

John and Carol Zago



## **\$1 to 49**

Heidi Bader  
Cheryl Choronyz  
Rose Coisman  
Cathy Eckers  
Travis Grooters  
Dori and David Holzinger  
Deborah Jeanquart  
Tammy Kroll  
Thomas and Suzanne Kuffel  
Connie and Chris Larsen  
Roger and Sara Pinkert  
Bill and Sonja Polster  
Rachel Pratt  
Belinda Richard  
Debra Swanson  
Jim Telstrom  
Jolene Wilson  
Cliff Wind



## IN MEMORY OF

**Tom Austad**  
Anonymous

**John Collins**  
Catherine Tilden

**Mary Dorchester**  
Philip Dorchester

**Ruth G. Edwards**  
Lee and Susan Basten  
Coggin Edwards Heeringa  
Jane Guthrie  
Howard H. Hintze  
Lori and Brian Holtz  
Curt and Evelyn Mingle  
Eric and Dee Paulsen  
Jan Olson  
Carmen Youra

**Bud Evenson**  
Carol and Barry Hobson Family  
Jim and Valerie Maki

**Leif Everson**  
Bill and Sonja Polster

**George Gay**  
Jim and Valerie Maki

**Hervey and Anne Hauser**  
Gerry and Denice Bernstein

**Claire Hogan**  
Eric and Dee Paulsen

**Elymira "Elly" LeRoy**  
The Hobson Family

**Omer Mickelson**  
Anonymous

**Leroy and Claire Olsen**  
Susan Nelson

**Herb Peterson**  
John and Janis Anderson  
Suzanne and Tom Kuffle

**George Pinney**  
Jim and Valerie Maki

**Frances Ranson**  
Chris and Connie Larsen

**Matt Scheinder**  
Dee and Eric Paulsen

**Marion Schuster**  
Don and Coggin Heeringa  
Jan Olson  
Pete and Carol Schuster

**Mary Walter**  
Eric and Dee Paulsen  
Brian and Joan Wake

## IN HONOR OF

**Luke's Outdoor Classroom**  
Tim and Barb Graul

**Sunset School Staff**  
Jeanne Barnard  
In honor of Rebecca and Josh Kerwin

**Brian Wake**  
Scott Wake  
John and Carol Zago

**Joan Wake**  
Scott Wake  
John and Carol Zago



## THANK YOU TO:

### **Funding for Phase I Archaeological Survey**

Fran and Paul Burton  
The Raibrook Foundation  
Don and Coggin Heeringa  
MMG Foundation

### **Funding for the Education Space Project**

Peter G. Horton Charitable Remainder Annuity Trust  
Meissner Family Foundation  
Friends of Crossroads  
Herb Kohl Charities

### **Very Special Thanks to:**

Little Hoppers  
Ministry Door County Medical Center  
Master Gardeners of Door County  
Door County Advocate  
Door County Daily News.com  
Door Peninsula Astronomical Society  
Peninsula Pulse  
WDOR  
UW-Oshkosh Microbiology Department

## Yes! I (we) want to be a part of Crossroads at Big Creek.

*Crossroads at Big Creek is a preserve for experiential lifelong learning  
focused on science, history, and the environment.*

**Enclosed is a check to help meet the program and operation expenses at Crossroads.**

\$50 Prairie Club  
 \$100 Forest Club

\$250 Wetland Club  
 \$500 Big Creek Club

\$1,000 Hillcrest Club  
 \$5,000 Preservation Club

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

(if you would like to receive notes on upcoming events)

- Yes, you may list my name for donor recognition  
 Please do not list my name  
 Please do not send fund-raising materials in the future.

**Please make checks payable to:**  
Crossroads at Big Creek, Inc. PO Box 608, Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235  
Crossroads at Big Creek is a private 501(c)(3) organization.





# Running Green/Walking White

Running Green for Crossroads 2013 was, in all ways, a success. The run was conceived as a way to introduce the concepts of sustainability to the community. But we are becoming increasingly aware that exercise in nature has significant mental health benefits. But what about exercise in winter?

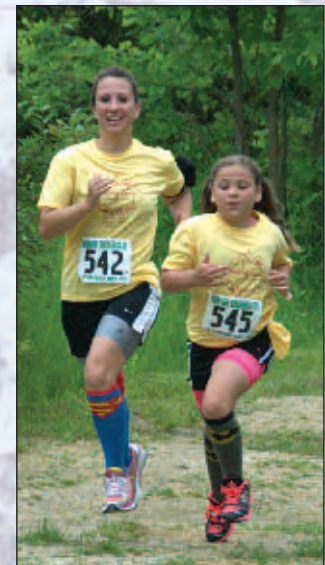
For years, as a part of their wellness initiative, Ministry Door County has underwritten year-round trail maintenance at Crossroads. Friends of Crossroads promoted winter exercise by loaning skis and snowshoes to the community – free of charge – on Sunday afternoons.

Obviously, we don't want people to walk on ski trails, so we also have groomed a designated hiking trail. But that trail was long and for the most part, traversed upland fields and meadows. In fall these areas are stunningly beautiful, but on blustery winter days, we have our own frozen tundra.

To make winter walking more accessible, we have now re-designated Ole's Trail (between the parking lot and the Astronomy Campus) as a year-round walking trail. And with funding from Ministry and labor provided by Boy Scout Troop 222, we have created a trail through the woods, just east of our new maintenance building. This year, Walking in a Winter Wonderland may be your path to wellness.



Photo by David Harsh



## Thank you to our Running Green sponsors!

**Presenting Sponsor**  
Ministry Door County  
Medical Center

**Major Sponsors**  
Evergreen Nursery  
Sturgeon Bay Utilities  
Friends of Crossroads  
LAKESHORES  
Landscape and Design

**Red-Osier Dogwood Sponsor**  
Animal Clinic of Sturgeon Bay, LLC  
Northern Door Pet Clinic  
Whitetails Unlimited, Inc.  
Cellcom  
Rural Mutual Insurance,  
Del Herrbold  
Anytime Fitness  
DBA Tadych's Econofoods  
Pinkert Law Firm LLP

**Black-eyed Susan Sponsor**  
Dr Shaun and Sue Melarvie  
Heidi and Dan Tomaszewski Family  
Ross Wealth Management  
Bluefront Café  
State Farm Insurance Companies  
Target  
Associated Bank  
Insurance Center of Sturgeon Bay  
Bay Pharmacy  
Wally and Kathy Laba  
Jim and Val Maki  
Deb Whitelaw-Gorski  
Gretchen Schmelzer  
Natural Creations  
Wal-Mart  
Tim Graul Marine Services

**Award Donations**  
Evergreen Nursery  
Keith Carter of Clay on Steele  
Henschel Farms  
Jim Maki and Deb Whitelaw-Gorski  
LAKESHORES landscape and design  
Wienkes Market

**Door Prizes**  
Door County Natural Creations  
Dan Swanson  
Keith Carter of Clay on Steele  
Sturgeon Bay Utilities

**Refreshments**  
Schopf's Dairy View Country Store  
Lautenbach Orchards  
The Black Walnut Guest House

**Medical Services**  
Ministry Door County Medical Center

**Radio**  
Thank you to WDOR and Eddie Allen for hosting us on his talk show.

Thank you to Bob and LuAnn Desotelle, Mike and Kim Herlache, and the Ostrand-Harding Families for sharing their land with us and making the 10K trail run possible.



# Archaeological Survey at Crossroads

We know that Native People have visited the land we now call Crossroads since the end of the last Ice Age, and we always have had the feeling that at some time, prehistoric peoples may have lived on the preserve. Multiple springs would have been an attractive feature.

So strong was our belief, that before we paved our parking lot and built the Collins Learning Center, we conducted an archaeological survey under the direction of Dr. Victoria Dirst. A shovel testing regimen was conducted between the parking lot and Big Creek, and it revealed some artifacts which indicated a Middle to Late Archaic Native American component.

As they looked forward to reforestation and trail building projects throughout the property, the Board of Directors of Crossroads agreed that it was appropriate to survey the rest of the land. We obtained a proposal from Midwest Archaeological Consultants of Sturgeon Bay for a Phase I Intensive Archaeological Survey of the Crossroads property.

Through grants and gifts, we obtained enough money to start the project...but not enough to survey the entire property. So, we had to ask ourselves, should we just grid the entire land and work until we run out of funds? Should we survey the areas where we suspect evidence of habitation is most likely? Or should we survey the specific areas that are slated for disturbance?

Last spring, as a part of their Earth Day Celebration, the students of Sunrise School planned to plant trees in the area east of the Astronomy Campus. For that reason, the Crossroads Board decided to have an archaeological survey conducted upon that parcel before we established a forest, and then to use the remainder of the funds to survey other areas around Big Creek.

The archeologists found small flakes of stone up on the high ground in the southeast corner of Crossroads that could be consistent with a very short-term occupation site, but they did not find evidence of a more permanent campsite/village. So the Sunrise students went ahead and planted 380 trees.

Early in September, archaeologists from Midwest Archaeological Consultants began the preliminary portion of their project by shooting a N/S line with a transit with which to form a grid along

both sides of the creek corridor.

This October, we plan to implement a shovel testing regimen along the grid in a systematic attempt to locate prehistoric sites. This is when our outreach/educational efforts will begin, and we want to include all interested learners. Specific dates will be weather-determined, but if you would like to participate, call 746-5895 to sign up for a time, or "Like us" on Facebook. We will post our schedules as soon as we know them.



Photo by Randy Dickson



Photo by Amy Dickson



Photo by Amy Dickson





Crossroads at Big Creek, Inc. does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, or marital or family status

## Astronomy Day 2013

# THE MOON

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12**

**2:00-4:00 PM**

**Family Activities** (includes daytime moon viewing)  
Collins Learning Center and the Astronomy Campus\*

**7:00 PM ~ Presentation**

**“New Theories on the Origin of the Moon”**

Collins Learning Center

Featuring Dr. Ray Stonecipher

**8:00-11:00 PM**

**Viewing of the Moon and Night Sky**

Leif Everson Observatory and StarGarden\*

**Free and Open to the Public.**

*Presented by*

**Crossroads at Big Creek and Door Peninsula Astronomical Society**



\* Please use the Utah Street Entrance to reach the Crossroads Astronomy Campus