

# RIDGES LITES

A monthly update of Ridges' Activities • January 2012

## The SIGN is Down—A New Era for The Ridges!

*You may have noticed that we wasted no time resting on our laurels since acquiring the Sandpiper property last October. Our Wednesday Crew set to work immediately to take down the old signs and post a banner announcing our Natural Christmas event. We also have our Wednesday Crew to thank for the whimsical Charlie Brown Christmas tree and its holiday message of simplicity and love.*

On December 2, we held a sale to liquidate used items from the former restaurant. Almost \$15,000 was generated from the sale of commercial items such as a steam table, broiler, stainless steel worktables and refrigerators and other commercial kitchen equipment, as well as good quality oak chairs and highchairs, dining tables, gently used glasses, dishes, silverware and cookware.

With the acquisition of the Sandpiper property behind us, we're ready to move on to the next phase of the campaign. In the coming year, we'll be focusing on detailed designs for the new building, site preparation, the trail systems and the restoration of the Lower Range Light.



*Wednesday Crew member Peter Classen takes the Sandpiper sign down from the Ridges latest property acquisition that will safeguard the watershed and be a site for the new information center*

## Let the WINTER GAMES begin! • Saturday, January 21 • 2 PM

Play games for the outdoors. All ages are welcome! Snowshoe (depending on snow) races, tug-of-war, snow painting, snowflake art, animal tracking, and lots of "cool" activities. Then warm up around the campfire with hot chocolate and marshmallows! \$15 per family. **Pre-registration is REQUIRED.** Call The Ridges at (920) 839-2802 or the Y at 920-868-3660 to register. Cellcom's "Green Gifts" program provided partial funding for the No Family Left Inside program



## A GREAT WAFFLE BREAKFAST

February 4 • 9 AM—11 AM

Before you head out for a busy weekend in Door County, you need a great breakfast. Join the staff and volunteers of The Ridges Sanctuary for the third annual "Great Waffle Breakfast" at the Baileys Harbor Town Hall. Enjoy waffles of all shapes and sizes, topped with Door County maple syrup, homemade cherry topping and whipped cream.

The Waffle Breakfast is a community- and family-oriented event, and people are encouraged to sit and visit with neighbors, or play one of our family-oriented board games. Walk off those waffles and cherry sauce with a walk on The Ridges' trails and bridges. **Donation: \$6/adult \$3/children under 13.**



# Bruce Peninsula Trip

Visit the other side of the Niagara Escarpment and Door County's sister peninsula

June 11—18, 2012

Transportation, meals, lodging, and naturalist-guided hikes. A week of exploration of the geology and flora of this unique place.

**HOSTS:** Ridges' Naturalist Karen Newbern, Geologist Dr. Roger Kuhns, Naturalist and Tour planner Paul Regnier

**Cost:** \$1999 for Ridges' members based on double occupancy \$50 discount if you register (with \$450 deposit) by February 15

For a hint of what's in store:

[www.flickr.com/photos/explorethebruce/sets/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/explorethebruce/sets/)

Trip is sponsored by The Ridges Sanctuary in celebration of its 75th Anniversary. Call Karen at (920) 839-2802 or email [doorcountypaul@gmail.com](mailto:doorcountypaul@gmail.com)

## Snowshoe Hikes

Fridays AND Saturdays at 1 PM  
January & February

If there is no snow—it will be a naturalist led hike to explore the ecology of The Ridges in Winter. \$5/adult (\$5 extra if you use our snowshoes—call for availability)

## KATIE DAHL

in concert to benefit The Ridges Sanctuary at Third Avenue Playhouse in Sturgeon Bay.

Known for easy humor, a golden alto voice and poignant original music. See and hear her on

March 6th, 2012

## Coming Up!

Jan 6, 7, 13, 14, 20, 21, 27, 28 •

Feb 3, 4, 10, 11, 17, 18, 24, 25 •

**Snowshoe Hikes** See the sights and hear the sounds of a Ridges' winter! Fridays & Saturdays in January and February. 1 PM

**Jan 14 • Early Birders** Learn about Lake birds at the Door County Maritime Museum in Sturgeon Bay. 10 AM

**Jan 21 • Winter Games** Games for the outdoors for all ages. 2 PM

**Feb 11 • Early Birders** Learn about taxidermy at the Wildlife Wizardry Gallery. 10 AM

**Feb 18 • Geocaching • Outdoor Tech Fun** Learn about this innovation in scavenger hunts—2 PM

**Mar 10 • Build a Bluebird House** Everything you need to build and maintain a bluebird house. 10 AM & 2 PM

**May 5 • Spring Volunteer Day** at The Ridges. Time for fresh air and sprucing up! 8:30 AM

**May 18 & 19 • Festival of Nature Hike** to special spots with special guides!

**June 11-18 • Bruce Peninsula trip** Join naturalists Paul Regnier & Karen Newbern to visit the special spots on our sister peninsula.

**June 16 • Ride for The Ridges** Bicycle the backroads of Door County. A fundraiser for The Ridges.

**July 8 • a'Round for The Ridges & a 2nd Round** at The Alpine Golf Course & Resort in Egg Harbor Time. A big fundraiser for The Ridges' education programs.

**July 28 • Celebrating 75 Years!** Special events to celebrate The Ridges' mission and direction!

For more information call The Ridges or visit our website

<http://RidgesSanctuary.org>

# Looking

For our 75th Anniversary, we are looking for:

- The Baileys Harbor Range Light Keeper's log—last seen at the 50th Anniversary celebration. We would like to copy it. If you have any information on its whereabouts, please let us know.
- Names and addresses of relatives of the Founders of The Ridges back in 1937. Also pictures of any of them. Please let us know if you have contact information. Also former board members.

Founders: Frank Oldenburg, Mrs James J McArdle, Olivia Traven, Emma Toft, Jens Jensen, Albert Fuller, George Sieker, John Matter, William E Sieker, Mrs W C Sieker (Emma), Mertha Fulkerson, A.B. Gochenour

## Door County Invasive Species Team (DCIST) Awards!

At the December DCIST meeting, nine volunteers were awarded for their efforts in stewardship activities:

**Bob Judd**-IS volunteer efforts and leadership at Newport and Oak Road Preserve

**Mary Thilly**-Eurasian Marsh Thistle control at Bedrock Beach

**Pam Duszynski**-Phragmites outreach to shoreline owners, Clay Banks

**Joe Otto**-Phragmites control and boat landing outreach on Clark Lake

**Mitch Leavitt**-Phragmites inventory Baileys Harbor and Toft Point

**Patsy Stierna**-Education and continued garlic mustard efforts at Woodside Park

**Debbie Feirer**-Mapping phragmites island-wide, Chambers Island

**Melody Walsh**-Mapping phragmites and outreach to citizens, Washington Island

**Angela Foster**-Early detection and rapid response on garlic mustard, Newport

Thank you to all who increased their knowledge of invasive species and gave their time in control projects this year!



**Check your mailing label** for an expiration date for your membership and support the oldest member-based nature preserve in Wisconsin. Or consider a donation to support The Ridges. *Please let us know if you wish to remain anonymous.*

## Ridges Sanctuary Membership / Donation Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Send a gift card?  Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Second Address** from \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Membership: Individual \_\_\$40 Family \_\_\$65 Family Plus \_\_\$95 Business \_\_\$150 New?  or Renewal?

Additional Donation: \_\_\$25 \_\_\$50 \_\_\$100 \_\_\$150 Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Check enclosed  Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to and make checks payable to: The Ridges Sanctuary • PO Box 152 • Baileys Harbor • WI • 54202 (or signup/donate online: <http://RidgesSanctuary.org>)

## Trail Talk at The Ridges

• **2012 has just started and it is going to be an exciting year for The Ridges!** We have lots of things planned for this our 75th year of preserving the Sanctuary and offering education programs and research opportunities. We will be celebrating the vision of our founders, the milestones we've passed, and the direction we're going! Keep July 28 open for the **Celebrate75!** event

• **Repetition is good!** If you missed the Moon Walk or the Survival program from last Fall or if you'd like to do it again—you're in luck. They were so popular that we are planning to do them again this summer (*can't do a summer Snowshoe Hike! But we CAN do a Geocaching workshop!*)

• **Volunteer at The Ridges!** We are looking for volunteers in our Nature Center this summer and for various other activities essential to the smooth running of the Sanctuary. Call us to talk about how YOU might help. Training will be provided and we would love to have you volunteer for a few hours, days, weeks or whatever!

• **Bring in a new Member—you'll both be rewarded.** It seems that everyone who enjoys The Ridges' trails, feels the need to protect this special spot. Invite your friends to hike the trails. If they want to become a member—stop at the Range Light and we'll give them AND you a free Celebrating Door County's Wild Places book.

• **Watch for the Discovery Bird hikes starting on May 12 at 6:30 AM.** We are adding a later start for those who don't want to greet the dawn but do want to discover some of the feathered visitors to Door County. There will be a 9 AM "Not So" Early Bird hike starting in May and continuing once each month through August.

• **Something for Everyone! a'Round for The Ridges** on Sunday, July 8th at the Alpine Golf Course and Resort. This big fundraiser is a 9-Hole Scramble overlooking Green bay.

• **Celebrate our 75 Years of History, Reflection & Discovery!** on Saturday, July 28th. Under the tent at the Baileys Harbor Town Hall! Our **Celebrate75!** event.

• **Restore the Range Lights!** We have raised over \$22,000 to restore the Lower Range Light. Work on the foundation will begin this spring. Any donation over \$50 receives a free Phil Austin Range Light poster.

• **Building Bridges at The Ridges** Watch for the volunteer days to help build the new boardwalk for The Ridges. Donations of cedar logs are 'piling' up and will be used to build the handicapped accessible walk between the new property at Ridges Road and the Highway and the Range Light boardwalk.

• **The Cockroach Monologues** - after reading this book of poetry you will have a new appreciation for the species that will inherit the earth. A portion of each book sale goes to The Ridges Sanctuary. [www.cockroachmonologues.com/merchandise/](http://www.cockroachmonologues.com/merchandise/)

• **Memories Are Made for Sharing!** Thanks to everyone who shared their memories of The Ridges Sanctuary and the special things that inspired them. The book will be published in late Spring 2012. **Reserve a copy for \$8 plus \$3 shipping.**

**Learn more on any of these items at <http://RidgesSanctuary.org>**



*The dwarf mistletoe is the first plant to flower each year—watch for it in late March*

## Ridges' Wish List

Cedar wood chips (always!)

Black sunflower seed for the birds

Copy paper/laser labels/office supplies

A plastic sled to haul stuff in the winter

Roofing fork (for digging invasive shrubs!)

1-gal shop vacuum for the Nature Center

Large plastic (covered) tubs/bins for storage

Someone to help with taxidermy costs for our frozen zoo!



AA batteries

Digital camcorder

Weather station (talk to Karen)

Small energy efficient refrigerator

Micro SD cards for 'Legend' GPS units (see Marne)

Copy of the log book for the Baileys Harbor Range Lights

Heavy duty rug for the Nature Center (approx 4 x 5 or larger)

Volunteers to staff Nature Center in Spring, Summer, & Fall

Call: (920) 839-2802 • or visit our website for more information: <http://RidgesSanctuary.org>



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## 1937

Jan 19—Millionaire Howard Hughes sets transcontinental air record *7h28m25s*

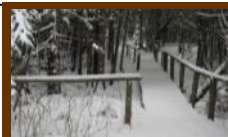
Jan 20—First Inauguration day on Jan 20th. *Previously Mar 4th — changed by the 23rd Amendment.*

Jan 25—First radio broadcast of “*A Guiding Light*”

Feb 3—First Charlie Chaplin talkie “*Modern Times*” released.

Feb 13—“*Prince Valiant*” comic strip first published.

*Albert Fuller begins campaign to preserve the Baileys Harbor bog*



## RIDGES' BUSINESS MEMBERS

*We thank them for their support*



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