



# RIDGES LITES

*News from the trailhead*

Winter 2014, Vol. 7 Issue 1

*An Update of Ridges Activities*

## We're Breaking New Ground!

It is with great pleasure and sincere gratitude that we announce the success of our capital campaign. Thanks to overwhelming support for this project from members, donors and community partners, we exceeded our goal in November of 2013, raising just over \$3.5 million for our new interpretive center.

This was accomplished only six months after going public with the campaign and our lead gift of \$1 million from Lifetime member, the late Chester Cook. In September, the announcement of an anonymous \$350,000 matching gift resulted in a flood of donations and pledges that pushed our campaign over its goal.

The campaign's primary purpose is to support the construction of a new visitor center in a prominent location on Hwy 57 in Baileys Harbor. In addition to providing a visible entrance to the Sanctuary, the facility will also serve as a focal point for environmental education on Door County's unique natural heritage. Funds will also be allocated to various site improvements including the restoration of the ridges and swales directly adjacent to the building site, the development of a handicapped accessible boardwalk and Family Discovery Trail and general long-term sustainability of the organization. The facility will be the first LEED-certified commercial building in Door County. (LEED stands for Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design.)

As we have known from the beginning, this campaign was never about a building, but rather about the dedication and commitment of the members, donors and volunteers who have connected with this special wild place.

Groundbreaking for the new facility is scheduled for spring of 2014. Watch [www.RidgesSanctuary.org](http://www.RidgesSanctuary.org) and future issues of the *Lites* for project updates.

We have a bold vision and high aspirations for The Ridges. The Cook-Albert Fuller Center is the foundation of that vision. With your help, we will build on that foundation to ensure that The Ridges is sustainable for generations to come.



# RIDGES LITES

## An Update of Ridges Activities

### New Format for the Lites

This year, we're switching to a quarterly publication schedule for the Lites with issues coming out in January, April, July and October. Although you'll be receiving the Lites a bit less frequently, the redesign will feature an increase in page count and a higher production value. Going quarterly gives us the opportunity to provide you with information about an entire season's worth of programming at a time – and give you a sneak peek at the next season. We've also added a New Member listing and a convenient Season Schedule at a Glance page.

As always, we encourage you to subscribe to the Lites by email. Sign up online at [www.RidgesSanctuary.org/Publications/Ridges-Lites/](http://www.RidgesSanctuary.org/Publications/Ridges-Lites/) or send an email to [info@RidgesSanctuary.org](mailto:info@RidgesSanctuary.org). You'll be reducing our carbon footprint and your own while helping us save on printing and postage.

## OPEN FOR BUSINESS

Although our Nature Center is closed for the season, you can now pay your trail fees and/or arrange for snowshoe rental at our Business Office located in the Upper Range Light. Our office is open Monday – Friday, 9 AM – 5 PM.

On Saturday & Sunday, please deposit trail fees in the receptacle provided at the trail kiosk.

And remember to join us for guided snowshoe hikes Fridays & Saturdays at 1 PM. (If there's no snow, we'll hike without snowshoes.)



### Coming Soon: Online Registration!

In April of 2013, we launched our new easy-to-navigate website and introduced a number of features including an integrated blog and both photo and video galleries. This year, we are again working with Boettcher Communications to add an online registration capability for our programs and special events.

Online registration is quick and easy, and your online data submission will be secure. This exciting new feature will be available March 1st.





Experience, Explore... *Exhale.*

## WINTER

January thru March

SCHEDULE OF PROGRAMS & EVENTS

### Hikes

#### **Guided Snowshoe Hikes** **January 3 thru February 28**

**Fridays & Saturdays from 1 - 2:30 PM**

Experience The Ridges in a whole new way and a whole new season! These hikes with a Ridges naturalist cover the cultural and natural history of the ridges and swales in their "off season." Enjoy a leisurely hike on level terrain. If snow cover is insufficient, the hike will be done without snowshoes. Meet at The Ridges Nature Center.

\$5/Person - Members • \$8/Person - General Public  
Children Under 18 Hike Free

\$5 additional for snowshoe rental (call ahead to reserve)

### Natural Connections

*Nature Programs for Adults & Families*

#### **Owl Prowl**

**Friday, January 17, 6:30 - 8 PM**

Mating season begins early for owls, and it's not unusual to hear them start their romantic hooting shortly after New Year's Day. Join The Ridges naturalists to learn more about the owls of Door County and their amazing adaptations as nighttime hunters. Learn how to recognize a few of the more common owls by their calls, then take a hike to listen for them.

\$10/Adult - Ridges Member • \$13/Adult - General Public  
Children Under 18 - \$5

#### **Geocaching**

**Saturday, February 8, 10 AM - Noon**

Modern technology combined with an old-fashioned walk in the woods! We'll learn what geocaching is and how it got started, then seek out several caches hidden along the Sanctuary trails. Bring your own GPS if possible. Limited number of loaner units available.

\$10/Adult - Ridges Member • \$13/Adult - General Public  
Children Under 18 - \$5

### Special Events

#### **6th Annual**

#### **Great Waffle Breakfast**

**Saturday, February 1, 9:00 - 11:00 AM**

Start your busy weekend with a hearty breakfast! Join the staff and volunteers of The Ridges Sanctuary for the *Great Waffle Breakfast* at the Baileys Harbor Town Hall and enjoy waffles of all shapes and sizes, topped with Door County maple syrup, homemade cherry topping and whipped cream.

Donations of \$6 for adults and \$3 for children under 12 will be accepted at the door.

#### **Valentine's Day Moonlight Walk**

**Friday, February 14,**

**6:30 - 8 PM**

Stroll beneath the light of the silvery moon and experience The Ridges in a whole new way. This hike is designed for all ages, but couples may find it an especially romantic way to celebrate Valentine's Day!

Night animals, stars and stories await! If skies are cloudy, the Moonlight Walk will be held on Saturday, February 15.

\$10/Adult - Ridges Member • \$13/Adult - General Public  
Children Under 18 - \$5

#### **Bluebird Workshops**

**Saturday, March 8, 10 - 11:30 AM & 2 - 3:30 PM**

Bluebirds are an iconic symbol of spring, but due to competition for nesting spots and other issues, their populations had dropped dramatically by the 1970s. Since then, their numbers have been rising, thanks in part to nesting boxes. Learn what bluebirds need to survive, how we can help and make your own bluebird nest box. Choose from one of two sessions. Fee includes materials for one nesting box per party (adult, couple or family). Tools provided, but extra hammers are welcome!

\$10/Adult - Ridges Member • \$13/Adult - General Public  
Children Under 18 - \$5

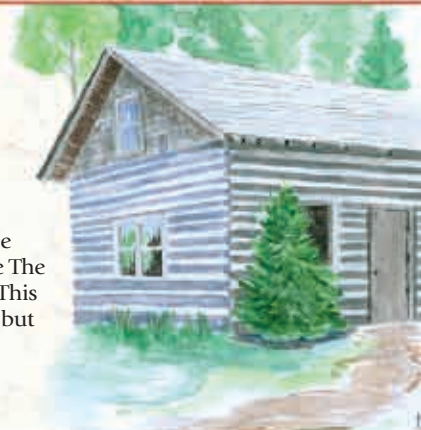
Additional nesting boxes - \$5 each

#### **Full Moon Walk**

**Friday, March 14, 7 - 8:30 PM**

What goes bump in the dark? Night hikers at The Ridges! This hike is designed for all ages and will be non-scary in nature. Test your night vision and take a guided hike through one of our woodland trails by the light of the moon. If skies are overcast, the moon walk will be held on Saturday, March 15.

\$10/Adult - Ridges Member • \$13/Adult - General Public  
Children Under 18 - \$5



#### **The 12th Annual Door County Festival of Nature**

**Thursday thru Saturday, May 22 - 24**

A Memorial Day weekend tradition continues with the return of the Door County Festival of Nature on May 22 - 24, 2014. We're gearing up for a spectacular event featuring over 40 guided hikes, workshops and presentations that highlight the incredible natural beauty and diversity of Door County. **Registration opens April 1.** Watch our website for details as they develop!

For more information on any programs, call 920-839-2802 or visit [RidgesSanctuary.org](http://RidgesSanctuary.org).

# RIDGES LITES

An Update of Ridges Activities



## DOOR COUNTY *FESTIVAL of NATURE*

MAY 22 - 24, 2014

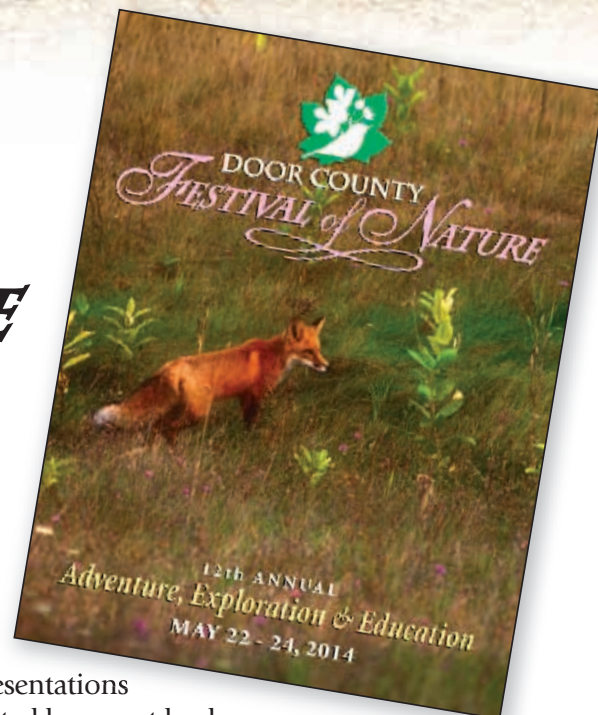
### 2014 Door County Festival of Nature Celebrates Stewardship

With the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program observing its 25th anniversary in July 2014, it was only fitting for the organizations collaborating on this year's Festival of Nature to choose stewardship as its unifying theme.

Now in its 12th year, the Festival is conducted by the Ridges Sanctuary in cooperation with Crossroads at Big Creek, the Door County Land Trust, The Nature Conservancy and the Wisconsin DNR – all organizations that powerfully illustrate the Stewardship Program's impact in our communities and its significance to the preservation of the health and beauty of Wisconsin.

The Stewardship program funds state purchases of land for outdoor recreation and resource protection. Additionally, a portion of the program provides grants to local governments and land trusts to help purchase lands and conservation easements. Since it was created in 1989, the program has helped protect more than 500,000 acres. Many of the properties that will be visited during the Festival of Nature were purchased with Stewardship grant funds.

Plans are currently underway for another spectacular event featuring over 40 hikes, workshops



and presentations

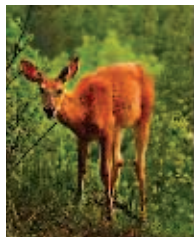
conducted by expert leaders.

Although details are not yet available, programs will focus on the unique biodiversity and natural beauty of the Peninsula and include wildflower and birding hikes, as well as adventures on the water.

Two popular newcomers to last year's event will be returning this year. The Nature Trivia Challenge will be back on Thursday, May 22, so assemble your teams and get ready to test your nature knowledge! On the evening of Friday, May 23, Guy Fortin and Judy Samida will prepare a delicious dinner for you to savor before the Keynote Presentation gets underway.

Mark your calendars now for a Memorial Day Weekend filled with adventure, exploration and education. Watch [www.RidgesSanctuary.org](http://www.RidgesSanctuary.org) for details as they develop. **Registrations opens April 1.**

Supporting Organizations:





# Ridges Sanctuary NATURAL CHRISTMAS

*"Christmas the Way it Was Meant to Be"*

## Natural Christmas in Photos Saturday, December 7, 2013



Join us on  
Saturday, December 13, 2014  
for the  
7th Annual Natural Christmas.

*Happy New Year  
from the Staff & Board  
of The Ridges Sanctuary!*

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## Citizen Science – Long Walks on the Beach: An Act of Stewardship

The Great Lakes are constantly undergoing drastic ecosystem changes, including invasion by non-native mussels and fish, warmer water temperatures, and the growth of nuisance algae. Each of these is bad enough by itself but together, these unpredicted changes may be causing more frequent outbreaks of type E botulism among wildlife that depend upon the lakes.

In recent years, over one hundred thousand birds and fish in the Great Lakes—including the federally endangered piping plover, common loons, and lake sturgeon—have died from this form of “food poisoning” caused by toxins produced by the naturally occurring bacterium, *Clostridium botulinum*. The anaerobic bacteria that produce the toxin live in aquatic environments, and current environmental conditions within the Great Lakes basin may be contributing to enhanced production of the toxin.

When a research team was formed to study botulism outbreaks in the Great Lakes, The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) approached The Ridges for assistance in setting up a program to gather data from the shorelines of the Door Peninsula. Supported by the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI), the AMBLE (Avian Monitoring for Botulism Lakeshore Events) monitoring program kicked off in 2011. Now after three years of data collected by citizen scientists from around the thumb, the AMBLE volunteers can be proud that they have helped to develop a model to monitor further changes through partnerships. Taking a stroll down the beach once a week has contributed to a better understanding of botulism outbreaks and how to mitigate them.

Check out the full project story at:

<http://pubs.er.usgs.gov/publication/70048731>

And investigate further through the AMBLE website:

[http://www.nwhc.usgs.gov/mortality\\_events/amble/](http://www.nwhc.usgs.gov/mortality_events/amble/)

## Ridges Business Members

Please patronize our business members.

### Associated Bank

[www.AssociatedBank.com](http://www.AssociatedBank.com)

### Baileys Harbor Yacht Club Resort

[www.BHYCR.com](http://www.BHYCR.com)

### Baylake Bank

[www.Baylake.com](http://www.Baylake.com)

### The Blacksmith Inn

[www.TheBlacksmithInn.com](http://www.TheBlacksmithInn.com)

### Bob The Painter\*

920-746-0549

### Cedar Beach House

<http://cedarbeachhouse.biz>

### Cornerstone Pub

[www.BaileysHarborCornerstonePub.com](http://www.BaileysHarborCornerstonePub.com)

### Door County Cottages\*

[www.DoorCountyCottages.com](http://www.DoorCountyCottages.com)

### Door County Distillery\*

[www.DoorCountyDistillery.com](http://www.DoorCountyDistillery.com)

### Door County Ice Cream

[www.DoorCountyIceCream.com](http://www.DoorCountyIceCream.com)

### Door County Trolley

[www.DoorCountyTrolley.com](http://www.DoorCountyTrolley.com)

### Door Landscape & Nursery

[www.DoorLandscape.com](http://www.DoorLandscape.com)

### Door Property Owners

[www.DoorPropertyOwners.net](http://www.DoorPropertyOwners.net)

### EcoDoor

[www.EcoDoorLiving.com](http://www.EcoDoorLiving.com)

### Ecology Sports

[www.EcologySports.com](http://www.EcologySports.com)

### Farmers & Merchants Bank

[www.fmberlin.com](http://www.fmberlin.com)

### Fish Creek Kite Company

[www.FishCreekKites.com](http://www.FishCreekKites.com)

### Fish Creek Moccasin Works

[www.FCMoccasin.com](http://www.FCMoccasin.com)

### Flanigan Distributing

920.743.2036

### Glidden Lodge Beach Resort

[www.GliddenLodge.com](http://www.GliddenLodge.com)

### The Harbor Inn

[www.StayAtTheHarborInn.com](http://www.StayAtTheHarborInn.com)

### The Harbor Loft

[www.harborloft.net](http://www.harborloft.net)

### Homestead Suites

[www.HomesteadSuites.com](http://www.HomesteadSuites.com)

### Inn On Maple

[www.InnOnMaple.com](http://www.InnOnMaple.com)

### Innovative Printing, LLC

[www.innovativeprintingllc.com](http://www.innovativeprintingllc.com)

### Inge Alverson Bacon

[www.ibaconcpa.com](http://www.ibaconcpa.com)

### Journey's End Motel & Cabins

[www.JourneysEndMotel.com](http://www.JourneysEndMotel.com)

### LfpDesign! LLC

[www.LfpDesign.com](http://www.LfpDesign.com)

### Liberty Square

[www.libertysquashops.com](http://www.libertysquashops.com)

### Ludwigsen & Tishler, DDS

920-854.6556

### Main Street Market

[www.doorcountygrocery.com](http://www.doorcountygrocery.com)

### Meissner Landscape

<http://meissnerlandscape.com>

### Pinkert Law Firm

[www.pinkertlawfirm.com](http://www.pinkertlawfirm.com)

### Sister Bay Bowl

[www.SisterBayBowl.com](http://www.SisterBayBowl.com)

### Thomas/Pfeifer Insurance

[www.DoorCountyInsurance.com](http://www.DoorCountyInsurance.com)

### Townline Timber Services

[www.townlinetimber.com](http://www.townlinetimber.com)

### TR Pottery LLC

[www.TRPottery.com](http://www.TRPottery.com)

### Staudemaier Chiropractic

**Wellness Center SC**

[www.BacktoWellness.org](http://www.BacktoWellness.org)

\*New in 2013



# RIDGES LITES

## New Members / Membership Form / Donation

### Welcome New 2013 Members!

January 1, 2013 to December 31, 2013

Karen Allen  
Martha Anderson  
Judy Bartels  
Mary Kay Baum  
Pamela Beam  
Carole Becker-Schmidt  
Melissa Blood  
Kendra Bonderud  
Roger Brooks  
Barbara Bullock  
Linda Busha  
Cristy Christensen  
Timothy Chybowski  
Andrea Connelly  
Cheryl Culver  
Alice D'Alessio  
Pete Daubner  
Robert Dean  
Andrea Degner  
Mary Denig  
Julie Djuplin  
Judy Ela  
Michael Elkow  
John English

Robert Evensen  
Millicent Ficken  
Mary Fragassi  
Rich Fredrick  
Anthony Furlick  
Steve Gillis  
Laurie Haig  
Cass Hale  
Nancy Hammen  
Paige Hawkins  
Paul Heim  
Kelly Hendee  
Jon Henry  
Sharon Hohl  
Dawn Holsen  
Nancy Hume  
Roberta Johanson  
Richard Johnson  
James Justen  
Thomas Kapellen  
James Kelly  
Philip Kohler, M.D.  
Dennis Kois  
Connie Kreif

Lori Kroening  
Joan Laux  
Carl Lenz  
Mari LeRoy  
Barbara Lundquist  
Janice Marlett  
Robert McCoy  
Barry McLeish  
Joseph Melendes  
Robert Merline  
Julia Messitte  
Jim Middenoof  
Jennifer Moeller  
Ronald B. Nelson  
John Newton  
Carol Notermann  
Tony Nowak  
Larry Ohnesorge  
Kathryn Padorr  
Harry Peterson  
Kathleen Poi  
Sharon Rasmusson  
Ralph Redlin  
Dan Reshel

Mary Reynolds  
Pat Richardson  
Steven G. Robillard  
Ruth Rohlich  
Rita Russ  
Rose Sage  
David Schuda  
Anne Schuette  
Andrew Schwalbe  
Mary Lou Serchen  
Elizabeth Skinner  
Marty Solhaug  
Joan Sommer  
Renee Soto  
Susan Steinbrueck  
Thomas Stram  
Charles Streich  
Doris Thompson  
Linda Thompson  
Dennis Tienor  
Bob Wahlgren  
Carol Wahlstrom  
Al Wittkowski  
David Woelfel  
Jeff Wood  
Barbara Zellmer

**Become a member today** 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

☐ New    ☐ Renew    ☐ Change of Address    ☐ Donation    ☐ Memory/Honor    ☐ Anonymous

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (       ) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

#### Charge my:

☐ Visa    ☐ MasterCard    ☐ Discover # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp date \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

**Second Address** From \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ Phone (       ) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

#### Membership Levels

☐ Individual       \$40  
☐ Family            \$65  
☐ Family Plus       \$95  
☐ Business           \$150

#### Additional Donations

☐ Operating       \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Endowment     \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Land             \_\_\_\_\_

**Total** \_\_\_\_\_

**Make checks payable to:**  
**The Ridges Sanctuary**

**Check your mailing label** for the expiration date of your membership and consider renewing before its too late!



PO Box 152 • Baileys Harbor, WI 54202

*Address Service Requested*

## ***Coming This Spring!***

**APRIL 12**

Midwest Crane Count

**APRIL 25**

Woodcock Watch

**MAY 2**

Who Croaks There?

**MAY 9 & 10**

Wildflower Walk  
at Logan Creek

**JUNE 14**

26th Annual Ride for Nature

For information, call 920.839.2802  
or visit [www.RidgesSanctuary.org](http://www.RidgesSanctuary.org)

**RIDGES LITES**

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U.S. POSTAGE

**PAID**

BAILEYS HARBOR, WI

PERMIT NO. 1

**RIDGES SANCTUARY**

**THE GREAT**



**WAFFLE  
Breakfast**

**6th Annual**

**RIDGES SANCTUARY**

***Great Waffle Breakfast***

**Saturday, February 1, 9 - 11 AM**

What better way to start a busy weekend than with a hearty breakfast? These days, many of us either skip breakfast or we grab 'n' go – a bagel, donut or a muffin washed down with a hit of caffeine. Or if we have the time, we may swing through a fast food restaurant.

If you're long overdue for a really great breakfast, join the staff and volunteers of The Ridges Sanctuary for the Great Waffle Breakfast at the Baileys Harbor Town Hall on Saturday, February 2, 9:00 to 11:00 AM. Enjoy waffles of all shapes and sizes, topped with Door County maple syrup, homemade cherry topping and whipped cream. Donations of \$6 for adults and \$3 for children under 12 will be accepted at the door.

The Ridges Sanctuary was founded by a group of visionaries who recognized the extraordinary biodiversity of the Baileys Harbor bog. Emma Toft was one of the most vocal and persistent of those visionaries, and the Great Waffle Breakfast celebrates the 123rd anniversary of her birth.