

# *The White Pine Gazette*

Volume 35

Summer 2014

Dear Friends,

Our mission statement for the Friends of Toft Point, Inc. is to support the Management Plan of the Cofrin Center for Biodiversity at the University of Wisconsin, Green Bay, to help preserve the flora and fauna of Toft Point and to help educate visitors about the natural history and the Toft family history of this State Natural Area and National Natural Landmark.

I thought you might be interested in some of the projects currently going on at Toft Point aimed at fulfilling our stewardship mission. In late winter it was discovered that a Pileated Woodpecker was drilling large holes in the lower logs of cabin Juleyanne. Screen wire patches were secured over the holes to deter further damage. Log chinking compound will be used to fill the holes when conditions are drier.

Our concerns for the historical cabins began a year ago when Roy discovered powder post beetles were active inside cabin Thor and cabin Juleyanne. It was recommended that we contact a local pest control company. While treating for the beetles the technician noticed that Carpenter Ants were present in the base logs of cabin Juleyanne – just what the Pileated had been seeking! To curtail inevitable structural damage to the inner and outer walls and the wood floors of both cabins, they were treated with a chemical that is certified for use in hotels and restaurants. We'll monitor the cabins to see if future treatment is necessary.

We thought we had avoided finding Garlic Mustard on the Toft Point property until last summer when Josh Martinez, our UWGB land steward at the time, discovered four patches of this dreaded invasive plant. He had been inspecting a remote area of the Toft land near the cul-de-sac at the end of the gravel road. Josh pulled and bagged all that was visible and used GPS to mark the locations for future inspections.

I am happy to report that Mitch Leavitt and I returned to the sites in early June and found the patches to be greatly diminished. The few new plants were easily pulled and bagged. We will see next year if we have halted the Garlic Mustard invasion. Thanks, Josh, for your keen eyes at finding this.

Mitch also treated three small patches of Poison Ivy that had come back along the main road out to Mud Bay. He used an environmentally safe vinegar solution which was dyed blue to help mark the areas sprayed. He staked the sites for follow-up to see if more treatment is needed.

We now look forward to our next invasive plant control campaign starting in mid-August. We will be focusing on the Phragmites along the shoreline and the Japanese Knotweed near the site of the old homestead at Mud Bay. If you would like to help give me a call at 920-868-3499 or you can sign up at the annual meeting on Sunday, August 10<sup>th</sup> in Baileys Harbor. I hope to see you there!

Our stewardship work continues with the help of many volunteers!

Nick Anderson, President



Poison Ivy leaves have a reddish color in spring.  
Roy Lukes photo

## Board of Directors and Terms

Nick Anderson,	President	2016
Joe Wallner	Vice-president	2014
Liz Wallner	Secretary	2014
Nancy Rafal	Treasurer	2015

Bill Johnson		2015
Mitch Leavitt		2016
Charlotte Lukes		2015
Ray Stonecipher		2016
Marsha Wilson		2014

UWGB Advisor	Dr. Robert Howe
UWGB Assistant	Vicki Medland
Newsletter Editor	Charlotte Lukes

## Membership Report

Annual Members . . . . .	199
<u>Life Members . . . . .</u>	<u>103</u>
Total	302

### New Annual Members:

Jill & Bob Dove	Neenah, WI
Dale & Mary Goodner	Algoma, WI

### New Life Members:

Dick & Mary Smythe	Sister Bay, WI
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**Check your address label** – For annual members, the month and year that your membership expires is on the label after your name. You can use the membership form near the end of the newsletter to send in your renewal.

**Your newsletter can be sent to you via E-mail** and you will receive it earlier than via the U.S. Postal Service. The newsletters are in a Pdf format which most computers will accept with the free download of the Pdf Reader program. If you wish to get the E edition please send your request with your name and E-mail address to the editor, Charlotte Lukes, at: [Rnclukes@mwwb.net](mailto:Rnclukes@mwwb.net).

## The Great Egret

I was fortunate to see my first Great Egrets on the Kewaunee River marsh during the summer in 1959. My guess is that they were fully grown young of the year that had been born perhaps to the south of Wisconsin and then headed north even into southern Canada. Studies

indicate that just as the Cardinals' breeding in our state began in the early 1900's in the extreme southern counties and slowly spread northward, likewise the Great Egrets are common breeders in the southern half of the state today.

Every time we check out the Point I like to head to Mud Bay and scope the west shore. Invariably we will see at least one or more Great Egrets patiently fishing there.

It was during our first visit to the Everglades National Park and to the famous Anhinga Trail that I was able to photograph these exciting creatures. At least a dozen photographers were lined up snapping one picture after another. The tall wading bird was showing us practically every pose in its repertoire including the favorite, neck in an S-curve, with bill pointed down ready to strike.

Suddenly along came a young couple with their small boy of about three or four years of age. One look at the Great Egret and the little tot shouted, "Mom, look at the funny duck with the crooked neck!" Perhaps the best picture of the day was the line of photographers holding their sides in laughter at the lad's observation. That little guy really cracked us up!

Here's wishing you good luck in finding one of the "funny white ducks with the crooked neck" during your next visit to the Point.

Roy Lukes



A Great Egret waits patiently for its next meal.

Roy Lukes photo

**Friends of Toft Point, Inc.      Membership Form      New \_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_**

Single Annual \_\_\_ @ \$10.00      -      Individual Life Membership \_\_\_ @ \$250 (Payable in 2 annual gifts)

Family Annual \_\_\_ @ \$20.00      -      Couple Life Membership \_\_\_ @ \$400 (Payable in 2 annual gifts)

Donation to General Expenses \$ \_\_\_\_\_      Operating Endowment Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Invasives Endowment Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please print-

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Local phone \_\_\_\_\_

Summer address \_\_\_\_\_

Winter address \_\_\_\_\_

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

The Friends of Toft Point, Inc.  
is a 501 ( c ) ( 3 ) non-profit organization.  
All dues and donations are tax deductible to the full extent of the law.

Make Check payable to: **Friends of Toft Point, Inc.**  
MAIL TO: Charlotte Lukes  
3962 Hillside Rd  
Egg Harbor, WI 54209

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**15<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Friends of Toft Point, Inc.**

WHEN – Sunday, August 10, 2014 – Potluck at 1:00 PM

WHERE – Baileys Harbor Town Hall, corner of Highway 57 and Co. EE & F

Bring your own plates, knives and forks and a dish to share with a serving spoon.

Coffee and lemonade will be provided but you may bring a beverage of your choice.

We will start setting up the hall at noon and begin eating at 1:00 with the annual meeting next. Roy Lukes will present a slide program featuring many of the BIG TREES OF DOOR COUNTY following the meeting.

If you plan to attend please call Roy or Charlotte Lukes at 920-823-2478  
or E-mail them at [Rnclukes@mwwb.net](mailto:Rnclukes@mwwb.net) to let them know you will be there.

Friends of Toft Point, Inc.  
% C. Lukes  
3962 Hillside Rd.  
Egg Harbor, WI 54209



Mud Bay is the large bay in the foreground and North Bay is the narrow bay at the upper left. Roy Lukes photo

