

HOOT



OWL

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Membership form

KIAC Exciting Events for 2020!!

Barb Zeller

The events listed and highlighted in this year's Hoot Owl include exciting new opportunities as the Kelleys Island Audubon Club happily supports the **Kelleys Island Field Station** in offering expanded **Junior Nature Camps for kids ages 4-10 in July**. The specific camps and age groups are described in detail with the attached Camp Registration Form. Also new this year will be **Adult Nature Camps**, to be held **Aug 3-7**. Details of this exciting offering, which include geology, kayaking, and an Eco Trip to South Bass Island can be found on our website at <https://www.kelleysislandnature.com/> or at the Kelleys Island School and KI State Park.

Of course, a summer or fall on KI would not be complete without bird and owl banding with Tom and Paula Bartlett. The Bartletts will continue their tireless efforts to support the study of migratory and resident birds on the Lake Erie Islands in 2020. To support their efforts, consider contributing to **"The Bird Bander's Wish List."** Donations can be made through the KI Audubon Club. Please designate where you would like your donation directed.

Bird Banders "Wish List"

12 pole sets for nets (12- 1/2" X 10" conduit, 6 - 3/4" X 10' conduit, and 12 metal shower hooks) - \$75; 6 metal stands (12 - 3/4" X 4' rebar and 6 - 3/8" X 2' rebar) - \$70; 24 metal tent stakes - \$30; 300' rope - (3/8" X 100') - \$30; Cleaning Supplies (hand cleaner/ GermX, Clorox disinfecting wipes, and garbage bags) - \$75; Outhouse tent - \$75; Batteries (AAA, AA, C, D) - \$100; Straw bales (6-9) - \$60

Lake Erie Islands to Host Great Lakes Island Summit in October

Jackie Taylor

The Great Lakes Island Alliance (GLIA), established in 2017, is a voluntary, collaborative network that brings together island leaders, residents, and advocates from across the region. The mission of the GLIA is to encourage relationship building, foster information exchange, and leverage resources to address shared challenges and embrace opportunities to benefit islands. The GLIA has connected remote, distant communities by increasing the membership to over **125 people from 14 island communities**.

The members facilitate monthly conference calls to share information between communities, along with the annual summits. The first summit was held in 2017 on Beaver Island, Michigan, followed by Madeline Island, Wisconsin in 2018, then on Mackinac Island, Michigan in 2019. This year the summit is going to be hosted on the Lake Erie Islands (South Bass Island, Middle Bass Island, Kelleys Island, and Pelee Island) October 4-7. The summit will bring together island leaders including government officials, business, education, and conservation leaders, along with other island advocates to discuss the challenges and opportunities associated with island living. This network has advanced opportunities by partnering with universities, state and federal entities, nonprofits, and other organizations to receive funding to support start-up island-initiated projects including: Monitoring Monarch on the islands of the Great Lakes, The Island Passport, Great Lakes Islands Educators Network, Great Lakes Islands Media Network, and others.

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President's Message

As the world has gone topsy-turvy the wonders of Kelleys Island's nature has not changed. A walk in the woods at our numerous nature preserves may be just the thing we need in these turbulent times. Our club has been influential in creating these areas.

It is with great remorse that our monthly indoor meetings will be postponed. Everyone's health and well being is our greatest concern. We all can understand this. Outdoor hikes may allow us to continue our camaraderie and shared love of nature. These changes that have to be made are only a few of many that we will be faced with on Kelleys Island.

Our outdoor activities will still be held. For now.

In place of meetings we will have a hike starting at the school. After you supper at home, meet at the school Parking lot at 7 pm. And we will car pool and proceed from there. Generally we are not a quiet group so keeping some distance between us should be easy.

This spring our Pollinator Project will begin planting. Three years of preparation and many thousands of dollars raised will soon blossom. **Chris Ashley** manager of the Kelleys Island State Park and **Jackie Taylor** head of the Kelleys Island Field Station, spearheaded this project and are tirelessly working to its fruition. I am so proud of the Kelleys Island community.

We started tagging Monarch butterflies almost 40 years ago. The **Cleveland Museum of Natural History** introduced us and nurtured us. Supplying nets and tags and encouragement. The **Kelleys Island Historical Society** brought **Director Hal Mahan** to do a Monarch program and tagging demonstration. A huge turnout discovered something special that day. Thank you KI Historical Society.

Tom and Paula Bartlett will continue banding but may have to limit participants.

Continued, Page 2

Join the KI Audubon Club Now! 2020 membership will run to May 2021!

Snowbirds and Lovebirds Make Phoenix Their Home

Barb Zeller

It is a common phrase to refer to seasonal (winter) residents of warmer climates such as Arizona, Florida, or other places south as “Snowbirds” – those who fly south (or southwest) for the winter to avoid the cold and snow. Since 2010, **Jim** and I have called Phoenix our home from October to May and have found it easy to adapt to the warm sun, blue skies, and easy living in Arizona for the winter.

Since living there, I have encountered another species that has been even more successful at adapting to the “Valley of the Sun” and that is the “*Rosy-faced lovebird*”, aka the “*Peach-faced lovebird*” or “*Rosy-collared lovebird*.” I first became aware of this bird while **Tom and Paula Bartlett** visited us in 2014 and we spent a fair amount of time unsuccessfully trying to find the lovebirds, only to have Tom and Paula find them as they drove out of town to continue on their road trip. Imagine my surprise when just 2 days later, I saw an entire flock only a mile away from my house. This area has become one of my most regular walking routes during the winter, and I encounter love birds, sometimes dozens at a time, at least 70% of the time I walk by. Being loud and constant chirpers, the birds announce their presence long before I spot them, so I always know where and when to look.

Native to arid regions in Southwestern Africa, such as Namibia, Angola, and South Africa, the rosy faced lovebird saw its



Lovebirds. Photo by Barb Zeller.

population reduced due to trapping and poaching for the pet trade. Populations have rebounded more recently due to reduction in that trade and human intervention in providing alternative water sources and nesting habitat. In the mid-1980's, a substantial population was intentionally released in North Phoenix, with a large enough flock of birds to, hopefully, establish a breeding population. By the mid-1990's, the birds had taken root and begun to thrive, successfully populating the entirety of the Phoenix valley and being joined by pets who were released by

their owners as word got around. Today, the Phoenix population in the only known self-sustaining population of love birds in the United States and, as year-round residents, are truly an example of a very successful transplant to AZ.

Fun Facts About the Rosy-Faced Lovebird: Mostly green with a blue rump and pink on face and throat; 6-8” long, with a 4” wing length and 2” tail. Monomorphic, meaning the male and female appear the same. In AZ, will nest in cavities in Saguaro Cacti or in the fronds of palm trees. They are very social and live in larger communities, though they can be aggressive to those birds they do not like. Pairs have been known to sleep facing each other and are often seen putting their heads close to each other.

Lake Erie Islands to Host Great Lakes

The **Lake Erie Islands** committee has been meeting monthly since December planning and discussing the funding needs and logistics to host the GLIA this fall. There is a need for representatives from each of the islands to seek sponsors and donors to support the 4th Annual Summit. **Jordan Killam** from the **Kelleys Island Chamber of Commerce** and **Jackie Taylor** from the **Kelleys Island Field Station** have been members of the GLIA, participating in the summits and monthly conference calls. Tuesday, October 6th will be the Kelleys Island day where we will be hosting over 100 people from the Great Lakes to highlight our gem. The planning committee is working on local and state funding grants to support this import event, but more is needed. If you are interested in helping with this event contact Jordan or Jackie. We are excited and looking forward to this opportunity. For more information visit <https://glialliance.org/>

Membership Dues are Due!

Judy DuShane

KIAC membership year runs from May 1 2020 until April 1, 2021. This is the only reminder you will get this year. Please use the form on the back page of this newsletter to send in your annual payment. Our dues have not increased. They are \$15 for individuals and \$25 for families.

Your dues and contributions support all our programs, such as bird banding, KIAC meeting presentations, brochure printing, and other nature events. We partner with other organizations and coalitions to promote conservation and nature education. See our full schedule of events on Page 6. **Dues, cont. next col►**

Nest With the Birds Sunday, May 17

Jones Preserve—Long Point

Come join us on Sunday, May 17 for the annual NEST WITH THE BIRDS.

The fun begins at 7 am and goes until 2 pm. Master Bird Bander, **Tom Bartlett**, and his wife, **Paula**, will be bird banding neo tropical migrating birds and want you to join in on the action!

These colorful and amazing birds can be seen up close and personal while they are studied and banded. You might even be invited to release a bird back into the wild! Adoptions suitable for framing will be available for \$5.

At 10 am there will be a guided bird walk led by **Pat Hayes**. So grab your binoculars and head out to the **Jones Preserve** on May 17. This event is free and open to the public. For more info call 419-746-2258

You may also use Pay Pal to support us by going to the website : www.kelleysislandnature.com. Updated information on programs can also be found there. We appreciate your support and hope to see you on the island at Kelleys Island Audubon meetings and events.

President's Message, Cont. from Pg. 1

Birds, botany and bugs. Kelleys island still offers an opportunity of adventure for

Alvars, lakeside daisies and birding and boardwalks. Nature camps and field school too. None possible without Island community support. Thank you all.

So stay healthy. Enjoy your island and take a hike, find some daisies and look up for eagles. You deserve it!

Pat Hayes

Nature Camp Crew—Kelleys Island Pollinator Program

Jackie Taylor

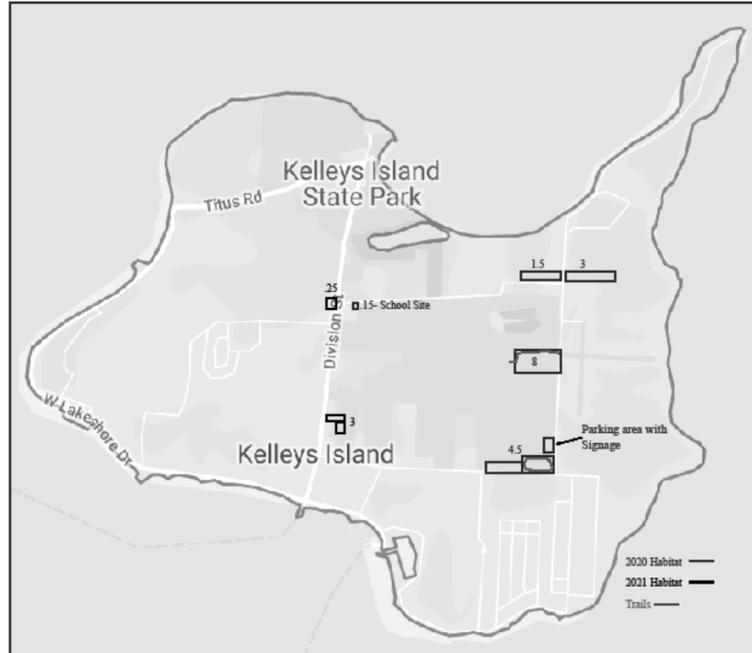
In the summer of 2018, the Kelleys Island Pollinators & Partnerships was started as a “grass roots” network between the Kelleys Island State Park and the Kelleys Island School and Field Station. We knew what we were trying to accomplish in enhancing habitat for pollinators, but weren’t sure how to get there. We reached out to several experts for advice on the proper methods for preparing the soil and planting the seed. After much research, we nailed down a plant list of native plants to Kelleys Island, and had a plan that would take three years to complete.

The plan kicked off in October 2018, when mowing began on State Park properties totaling around 17 acres of their several hundred acres, and a demonstration plot of around .15 acres was planted at the Kelleys Island School. This plot was developed at an accelerated rate with the same plant species used in the larger areas and managed in the same fashion as the other acreage within the park. In June 2019, non-native plant species were removed by the use of appropriate methods; this was repeated in July and August as needed. Doing this greatly increases the survival of native species by removing the competition. This spring (2020) specific grasses and wildflowers will be planted for germination, with the assistance from Pheasants Forever and the Division of Wildlife. If all goes as planned, we will have nearly 17 acres of pollinator habitat established by the summer, and in 2021 three more acres will get planted (see map for detailed areas).

We have had donations, advice, and a great amount of motivation which has allowed this project to be a success. The seed that will get planted this spring came from a variety of funding sources, but mostly from the local community on Kelleys Island; \$17,000 came from local donations, \$3,000 from Ohio Ornithological Society, and \$1,200 from Pollinator Partnerships. The support has exceeded our expectations, and we are excited to be able to successfully move forward with this project! Our future plan is to incorporate interpretative trails into two of the properties that will connect with already existing State Park trails. One of the habitats will have an area to park with signage explaining the project and partners (see map for detailed areas).

The research and education opportunities are ongoing and exciting. We will start implementing our own research needs by partnering with schools, universities, state, and federal organizations to better understand the conservation status and the

wildlife diversity of these habitats. We have partnered with citizen science organizations to help monitor these habitats. This is an efficient way of collecting and comparing data. These projects will let all of us contribute directly to the science of animal conservation on Kelleys Island.



This project has already been nationally recognized by Pollinator and Partnerships for the valuable contributions made to the Monarch Wings Across the Eastern Broadleaf Forest Program. With our participation, over 20 acres on Kelleys Island were registered as long-term secured habitat to support the conservation of the Eastern migratory monarch population. Pollinator Partnership’s is a non-profit organization that promotes the health of pollinators critical to food and ecosystems, through conservation, education, and research.

In December 2019, the Kelleys Island Village Council approved Kelleys Island as a Monarch City USA. Monarch City USA is a national organization that recognized our efforts and commitment to the environment through promoting civic pride and improvement by directly helping the monarch butterfly population recover by encouraging and planting milkweed and nectar plants within our boundaries. Both the Village of Kelleys Island and the Kelleys Island School purchased signs that will get posted in the village and at the school recognizing these efforts!

We have created lessons based on the Ohio Department of Education, STEM, and NEXT Generation learning standards for our local school kids, residents, our Nature Camps, and other educational programs for more hands-on learning. The Kelleys Island Field Station and School is working with the Ohio Division of Wildlife to be a State Certified WILD School Site. Wild School Sites are considered an action extension of Project WILD and can involve any school property used by students, teachers, and the community as a place to learn about and benefit from wildlife and the environment. These sites function within the premise that every school, regardless of size and location, can provide outdoor educational opportunities that can and should be part of any integrated education program.

We cannot thank all of our partners, sponsors, and donors enough for the amount of support this project has received. At this crucial point in our island’s natural history, your participation in this revolutionary program will help our pollinator habitats flourish on Kelleys Island. We will continue to keep updating you on the progress we make!

2020 Nature Camp goes Buggy!

Jackie Taylor & Nature Camp Crew

The 2020 Nature Camp Theme is "Bugs!" The world of insects is a fascinating one, and insects impact our lives every day. How does a bee make honey? Where do monarchs go in the winter? Campers will explore different ecosystems to uncover these secrets through observation and experiments. Nature Camp goes far beyond the traditional classroom experience by stepping outside and getting up close and personal with the insects that surround us. We will look for different types of insects, insect identification, habitats and human-insect interactions. Campers also will be led on daily field trips to enjoy hands-on activities.

See the attached Registration Form for proposed times and age groups.

For all campers we will provide neck wallets/nametags, 2020 camp themed t-shirts, ODNR Field Guides, and other crafts and projects. The older campers (9-11) will go kayaking and go on an overnight campout.

We are trying to keep the registration cost reasonable so that the camps stay affordable for everyone here on the island.

See the attached Registration Form. We look forward to working with the kids again! Please contact us with any questions or

Kelleys Island Nature Camp Registration Form 2020

PLEASE PRINT

Child's Name _____ Parents Name _____

Birth Date _____ (Month/Day/Year-Check Age Requirements-Must be of Age by Camp Date)

Island Address-Include Dates This Address Should Be Used

Home or Mailing Address-Include Dates This Address Should Be Used

Island Phone _____ Emergency Contact _____

E-Mail Address _____

(X) Preferred Camp Session(s)	Dates:	Times:	Prices:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Intro to Nature Camp (4yrs.)	July 6-10	9-10AM	\$35.00
<input type="checkbox"/> My 1 st Nature Camp(5-6yrs.)	July 6-10	10:30-11:30AM	\$35.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Nature Camp (7-8yrs.)	July 6-10	12:30-2PM	\$35.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Adventure Camp I (9-10yrs.)	July 6-10	2:30-4:30PM	\$70.00

CAMPOUT AT THE KELLEYS ISLAND STATE PARK ~ DROP OFF- 4PM 7/9 ~ PICK UP 12PM 7/10

<input type="checkbox"/> Intro to Nature Camp (4yrs.)	July 27-31	9- 10AM	\$35.00
<input type="checkbox"/> My 1 st Nature Camp(5-6yrs.)	July 27-31	10:30-11:30AM	\$35.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Nature Camp (7-8yrs.)	July 27-31	12:30-2PM	\$35.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Adventure Camp I (9-10yrs.)	July 27- 31	2:30-4:30PM	\$70.00

CAMPOUT AT THE KELLEYS ISLAND STATE PARK ~ DROP OFF- 4PM 7/30 ~ PICK UP 12PM 7/31

Briefly describe any allergies, special medical condition, required medication or any other physical limitations your child has. A more detailed medical form will be sent with the confirmation letter

For 9 and 10 year old Environmental Adventure Camp-Please Describe Child's Swimming Ability

You have my permission to use photos of my child participating in Nature Camp. NO NAME will be used with online photos of Nature Camp.

Kelleys Island Life Kelleys Island School Website Facebook Kelleys School Newsletter

Make checks to Kelleys Island School. Mail to Nature Camp Program

PO Box 349 KELLEYS ISLAND, OHIO 43438

Permission Form

I fully understand that the nature of recreational and educational activities associated with Nature Camp includes an inherent risk of danger, which may result in personal injury or harm to my child. I grant permission for my child to participate in the program and activities of Nature Camp at the Bay, and I agree to indemnify and hold harmless the Kelleys Island School and Field Station, its staff, directors, employees, Agents and/or representatives from any claim for any injury or damage which may result from my child's attendance at and participation in the Nature Camp at the Bay. I authorize emergency medical treatment if none of the above-named emergency contact persons can be reached at the time of an emergency.

Signature of Parent/Guardian _____ Date _____

Kelleys Island Park Board

June Campbell

What is commonly called “The Park Board” is officially the Village of Kelleys Island Parks and Recreation Board. It is a committee under the Village Council Lands and Buildings Committee, as compared to City and/or County Park Boards which are free-standing organizations under the supervision of a County Judge, such as are Erie County Metro Parks, Cleveland Metro Parks, etc.

When the widow of former **Mayor Starkweather** donated \$50,000 to “Parks and Recreation Facilities,” the Village of Kelleys Island Parks and Recreation Board was established by Ordinance No. 96.3 on Feb. 18, 1988. That original donation became a line-item in the village budget which limited it to spending the money only on parks. As the original Starkweather donation set up the funds, it remains funded only by donations. Usually the donations are small and often for a specific project. No village funds are used for Park Board projects.

Membership on the Park Board consists of 5 village residents, appointed to serve for 5 year terms. Terms are staggered so one member goes off the board every year, and a new person is appointed. The Kelleys Island Mayor with Village Council approval appoints 3 members, and the KI School Board appoints two members. The staggered terms allow for continuity and institutional history while the one new member each year brings new ideas and energy. When the Park Board was established in 1988, village parks consisted of the downtown Memorial Park and the Pavilion Park.

The first Park Board in 1988 worked very hard, and during their years built the first small playground in the Memorial Park, the public restrooms and large playground at the Pavilion, and many other smaller projects. They were especially successful with getting grants to pay for the large projects. In the mid-90’s the Park Board was disbanded.

In the mid-2000’s, the **Western Reserve Land Conservancy** (WRLC) approached the Village about the importance of preserving two properties on the Kelleys Island, the Huntley-Beatty Quarry (old west side quarry— 52 acres) which contained many rare geological features and rare botanical species. The wooded area on the corner on the corner of Monaghan and Woodford Roads (approx. .25 acres) featured a diverse habitat and was physically connected to the State Park’s East Quarry and across the road from the **Cleveland Museum of Natural History’s** Woodford Woods. Those physical connections were important.

The WRLC is the largest Land Trust in Ohio and among the largest in the nation. The WRLC was prepared to purchase both properties as part of their mission to preserve natural properties in the northern and eastern portions of Ohio. They purchase property at market price, using an assortment of grants from federal and state sources and donations from generous benefactors, then they donate the properties to a local municipality for management. The Conservancy offered to donate the two areas to the Village, but there had to be an established Park Board to take ownership and management responsibilities. Hence, the

Park Board was revived, and the Huntley-Beatty Preserve and the Quinn Preserve were added to the Park Board’s responsibility.

The WRLC and Cleveland Museum of Natural History both have “conservation easements” over the two Preserves. Their

staff inspects each park annually and reports to the Park Board any unauthorized changes which must be undone, and they help manage invasive species and overgrowth of adjacent properties. The Park Board, WRLC and Cleveland Museum of Natural History cooperate in keeping the preserves compliant with the terms of the deeds and developing them for the enjoyment of residents and visitors of the island’s beautiful natural areas.

The Western Reserve Land Conservancy’s generosity in 2018 again donated to the island the thickly wooded area at the end of the south section of Huntington Lane, 18 acres of woods and 3 acres of old quarry including a pond, called Curilla Preserve. So now the Park Board is responsible for FIVE properties totaling almost 100 acres. The Preserves are slowly being developed with trails, interpretive signs, parking lots, benches, etc.

Donations have provided the entrance signs for Huntley-Beatty and Curilla Preserve (donated by KI Audubon Club), and grants will be applied for as development progresses. Donations are always welcome and should be sent to the Village of Kelleys Island and designated “For Park Board.”

Why is the Park Board important to Kelleys Island Audubon Club? *The mission of the Kelleys Island Audubon Club is to bring into closer association those interested in the study of wild birds and in the conservation of natural resources of Kelleys Island; to further the knowledge, understanding, and appreciation of ecology; and to cooperate with other organizations having similar objectives.*

KIAC members have been leaders in identifying the natural areas around the island and the importance of preserving them to maintain the quality of life and the protection of property values that wooded areas bring to individual land owners and neighborhoods. KIAC members enjoy hiking and exploring the Preserves and introducing their visitors and grandchildren to the island’s natural areas and often the history of those spaces. We can all agree that the Island’s natural areas enrich our lives.

So that is the history of the Kelleys Island Parks and Recreation Board, and the next issue of “The Hoot Owl” will be about the many projects the current Park Board has completed (and still working on) in recent years and the new projects in the future.



East Quarry in the Fall. Photo by Barb Zeller.

You’re not too late to join—Kelleys Island Audubon Dues go from May 2020 to May of 2021!! Use form on back page to join—dues still only \$15/one-\$25/family.

Kelleys Island Audubon Club
P.O. Box 42
Kelleys Island, OH 43438
www.kelleysislandnature.com

Board Members

Pat Hayes
President
Barbara Zeller
Vice President
June Campbell
Secretary
Jean Kuyoth
Treasurer
Tom Pieratt
Webmaster
Chris Ashley
Virginia Coyne
Judy DuShane
Lori Hayes
Jackie Taylor
Julie Valentine
Jim Zeller

REMINDER:

*As a 501(C)(3), the
KIAC is a registered
charity, therefore, all
gifts and donations to it
are tax deductible.*

Kelleys Island Audubon Club Membership Form

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-Mail _____

Amount Enclosed:

_____ \$15 Annual Individual Membership
_____ \$25 Annual Family Membership
_____ \$500 Lifetime Membership
_____ Donation to Memorial Fund in memory of _____
_____ Donation to Pape Memorial Fund Donation (Natural Science Library)

KIAC is a registered 501 (C)3 organization, as such, all contributions are tax deductible. Pay via PayPal at kelleysisland-nature.com, or send check to:

**Kelleys Island Audubon Club
P.O. Box 42
Kelleys Island, OH 43438**

Annual membership runs from May 1, through April 30. A membership card will be sent to you when your dues are received.

KIAC 2020

Events

Nest With the Birds, May 17
Islandfest Booth, July 18
Kids Nature Camps July 6-10
and July 27-31
Adult Nature Camp Aug 3-7
Homecoming Booth, Aug 8
Glacial Glimpses, Sept 6
Feathers and Foliage, Sept 19
Owl Fest, Nov 6-8
End of Year Party, Nov 7



Monthly Meetings

May 21, June 18, July 16, Aug 20, Sept 17, & Oct 15
End of Year Party Nov 7



Bird banding on Long Point with Tom & Paula Bartlett. Photo by Barb Zeller.