Friends of Plum and Pilot Islands, Inc.

Where History and Nature Meet at the Door!

Founded in 2007

Forum: Fall 2026

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FOPPI *Forum* back issues can be found at the Washington Island Archives, WI Marine Historical Society, Wisconsin Maritime Museum, Egg Harbor Public Library, Sturgeon Bay Public Library, and the Wisconsin Historical Society Archives.

Hello, Friends,

Recently, our board members and volunteer leaders met to assess and celebrate the previous season. We talked about all that went well, what didn't go exactly as we would have liked, and plans for the next season. One point that was repeated was the unanticipated change in the weather, which of course requires us to call folks to tell them that their highly anticipated trip to Plum Island is cancelled. So, we're considering some different options to lessen their feeling of disappointment, and we welcome your ideas.

The interpretive panels have been modified to fit into our environment and are planned to be installed within the next couple of weeks. We hope that you'll make plans to visit next season and see the work that our team, and primarily our Secretary Karen Ellery, has done to bring the Plum (and Pilot) Island story to you.

Next year marks the 20th anniversary of the transfer of Plum and Pilot Islands to the Green Bay National Wildlife Refuge. We've worked to keep you in the know of our progress through our newsletter and mailings. We recently completed a project to catalog the many newsletters in a spreadsheet, allowing you to sort and filter by the description or the tag column. We post the last five years on the website and will send you any others that you're interested in.

Even though *The Shoreline* has been put away and Plum Island has been closed for the season, the work we do for FOPPI continues. We are $8,642 away from getting a new roof on the boathouse. Together we have raised $125K—thank you! Donors have promised $259K; however, two have a contingency in which their promise will expire if we don't raise the full amount by a set date. The new roof is a necessity to maintain the historic structure. Imagine your child or grandchild studying fossils in a rock they found along the shore or the wings of a Monarch butterfly through a microscope in the boathouse "classroom." Wouldn't it be wonderful to hear a musician playing in the boathouse while you watch the sun set on Lake Michigan? Let's make it happen! Please visit www.plumandpilot.org/donate to learn more.

Thank you once again for continuing to support the work we do to preserve and restore the historic maritime structures on the islands for contemporary use.

—Mary Beth

St. Martin Forestry Trip by Stiles Meredith

Earlier this summer, Pat Nelson, an Inventory Forester contracted by the Department of Nature Resources (DNR), reached out to FOPPI to ask if we could transport him to St. Martin Island to inventory a 1/6-acre plot.



L-R: Tim Feist, Pat Nelson, and Jon Wall.

The primary challenge was determining how to access the island safely. We considered several options, including towing a boat or Zodiac, launching canoes or kayaks off *The Shoreline*, and navigating into the tricky harbor on the southwest side. After extensive discussions with Frank Gercz (USFWS, retired), Scotty Nelson, and others, we decided that the safest approach was the dock on the southwest side of the island. Although Frank was the only one who had been to the dock recently and couldn't join us, he assured us there was a good, if somewhat zig-zaggy-channel leading into it. He drew a map for Scotty to help us navigate.



St. Martin Island.

With our route set, Pat Nelson, Jon Wall, Tim Feist, Doug Smith, Scotty Nelson, and I departed Gills Rock at 8:00 AM on September 2 (2026). The weather was ideal—70 degrees with ENE winds at 5-8 mph—for our 18-mile journey. We traveled up the west side of Washington Island, past Boyer's Bluff, and then took an 80-degree heading toward St. Martin.



The Shoreline docked at St. Martin Island.

About half a mile from the dock, we spotted the flagpole and the ferry ramp, which had been built by previous owners to haul supplies, vehicles, and a large Kohler generator (which is still there). We approached parallel to the dock wall heading east for about 100 yards before making a 90-degree turn to port (north) toward the flagpole on the west edge. When the depth finder briefly dropped to 4-5 feet, we turned to port and safely found 9-10 feet of water. We tied up on the outside wall of the massive L-shaped dock, which was in great shape and easily 150-175 feet long. Once docked, Pat geared up with an impressive array of equipment, including a satellite radio configured to signal the DNR immediately in case of an emergency. While Jon and Tim were fully prepared to hike with him, Pat explained that he had done this many times and preferred to go solo to move more efficiently. We stayed in touch with him via text as he set off using GPS toward the southeast portion of the island.



The old Kohler generator on St. Martin Island.

St. Martin Forestry Trip by Stiles Meredith

While Pat worked, the rest of us explored the shoreline around the dock and the old fishing camp. The site was quite remarkable, featuring several cabins, a kitchen and dining cabin, a large outhouse, and rusting wagons once used to transport fuel and supplies up from the water. One cabin even had paper plates nailed to the walls with the names and dates of past visitors. We also spotted several eagles, a variety of birds, and numerous monarch butterflies resting on the dock during their south-bound migration. Almost exactly three hours later, Pat texted to let us know he was on his way back. He returned at 1:30 PM and shared details of his survey. His route followed part of an old two-track trail for about 3/4 of a mile, requiring him to navigate through storm-downed trees and overgrown brush. The plot itself was in relatively good condition, and he measured and recorded the health of all trees (mostly silver maples) over 6 inches in circumference.



An old trailer of sorts on the island.



Signed paper plates on the wall of the old cabin on St. Martin.

With rumbles of thunder echoing to the south, we were glad to get underway. Winds picked up on the return leg, creating some following seas, but *The Shoreline* handled the chop well.



Capt. Stiles Meredith, Tim Feist, Capt. Scott Nelson, Jon Wall, and Doug Smith.

We made it back to Gills Rock in about 1.5 hours, safely ahead of the storm. Pat mentioned that the next inventory for this plot won't take place for another seven years—a bit of a disappointment since we would all jump at the chance to make this an annual trip!

It was a great opportunity for FOPPI to support the study of forest health on St. Martin Island. If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to any of us who made the trip.

Note: St. Martin Island is part of the Green Bay National Wildlife Refuge and, at this time, is not open to the public.

The Shoreline is available to book for out-island trips such as this. View our charter options here.

Photos by Stiles Meredith and Jon Wall.

> *We travel not to escape life, but for life not to escape us.*
> *—Anonymous*



St. Martin Island Lighthouse, built in 1905. Photo courtesy of the U.S. Coast Guard.

Plum Island Work Day: Deck Repair by Jude Kuenn

Our second workday on the Plum Island deck was Thursday, August 13. A team of eight generously provided their time and talent, plus brought their tools, to continue replacing the older, soft, or worn boards of the deck adjacent to the south garage door of the boathouse.



L to R: Luke Traver, Doug Smith and Steve Draws took on the task of moving all the lumber on the dock into the boathouse for safe storage.

It was a calm, beautiful summer morning as Captain Doug Smith took us to Plum over smooth, glassy water. Paul Schumacher worked with Henschel Sawmill to procure the wood FOPPI purchased earlier this season for the project. Cedar's natural organic compounds act as built-in preservatives, which prevents fungi, decay-causing rot and wood-boring insects. Its porous, cellular structure has tiny air pockets that resist absorbing and holding excessive moisture. Finally, cedar has a low shrinking factor, making it resistant to warping, swelling or cracking as temperatures and humidity fluctuate over a year. FWS's long-term goal is to replace the entire dock.



L to R: Paul Schumacher and PK Kuenn took a moment to measure and remeasure the amount to be removed from each board.

With current federal administration restraints, the original timeline has been moved out.

Paul Kuenn brought his portable table saw to rip the excess cedar width from the new lumber. The team set themselves up and got to work. A total of 64 boards of various lengths (8-, 10- and 12-foot) were ripped using PK's new saw blade. Forty-five were cut and placed next to the work the July 23 crew started. (See Tim Sweet's article in the Summer *Forum*.)

With the season winding down, the extra cedar inventory was placed in the boathouse for safe storage and close proximity of the final September workday.



Jude and PK ripped the cedar to the appropriate width for deck placement. Each length was taken through the portable table saw twice due to the blade size limitation. The sawdust sure smelled wonderful!

To repair is to honor the history of some thing or some place, to acknowledge its value, and to extend its soul into the future. —Unknown



From L to R: Steve Draws, Dallas Greetham, and Jack Miron pulled up old boards. For best practice safety, new cedar lengths were placed in the deck void as soon as old wood was taken out.

Plum Island Work Day: Deck Repair by Jude Kuenn



Dallas Greetham secured the board in place after Jeff Van de Vaarst pre-drilled a hole for the long 6" nails.



What a crew! L to R back row: Steve, Jeff, Paul, Dallas. Front row: Jack, Doug, Jude, Luke, and PK.

A huge thank you to the August 13 crew of Steve Draws, Dallas Greetham, PK and Jude Kuenn, Jack Miron, Paul Schumacher (head cat-herder), Luke Traver, and Jeff Van de Vaarst (who drove the furthest) and to *The Shoreline* captain of the day Doug Smith!

Find a group of people who challenge and inspire you, spend a lot of time with them, and it will change your life forever.
–Amy Poehler

Plum Island Work Day Continued: August 15

Photos by Amy Lesnjak



Mary Beth Savino painted the lattice.



Jim Schwartz and Lori VanBellinger painted benches.



Rich, Emily, and Diane Nielsen at the range light.

On August 15, the weather was ideal for sprucing up the storage shed, the lattice on the porch of the crew's quarters, and some benches with a fresh coat of paint.

Bonus: A visit to the top of the rear range light… with some cleaning along the climb!





Above: Volunteers give the outbuilding a touchup.

Plum Island Deck Repair: Day 2 by Tim Sweet

Seven volunteers with the Friends of Plum and Pilot Islands (FOPPI) departed from Gills Rock aboard *The Shoreline* on September 18, to work on the deck of the Plum Island dock. The boat was piloted by Captain Scott Nelson with assistance from his crew member Doug Smith. Both Nelson and Smith were stationed on Plum Island while serving in the Coast Guard. The Plum Island station was manned until 1990, at which time seasonal operations shifted to the station on Washington Island.

A large flock of double-breasted cormorants was seen roosting on the dock as the boat approached. They left their scented calling cards before departing in the direction of Pilot Island.



Double-breasted cormorants greet the crew.

Longtime FOPPI member Paul Schumacher ordered a significant quantity of white cedar boards last June from Henschel's Sawmill located south of Carlsville in Door County. Hoyt Purinton and his sons delivered the lumber to Plum Island earlier this year.

The historic dock is made of timber frame cribs filled with large lake rocks. The heavy timbers support the plank walkway. Because the dock is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, similar materials must be used to replace rotting wood. Regular maintenance of the 1939 structure is required to keep it safe for visitors.



Scott Nelson, Dallas Greetham, Paul Schumacher, Luke Traver, Steve Draws, and Doug Smith.

The seven-man crew, ranging in age from 43 to 74, made significant progress on installing new cedar decking.

Plum Island is open daily to the public from Memorial Day weekend to Labor Day. It is part of the Green Bay National Wildlife Refuge. For more information on FOPPI, visit www.plumandpilot.org.

Photos by Tim Sweet.



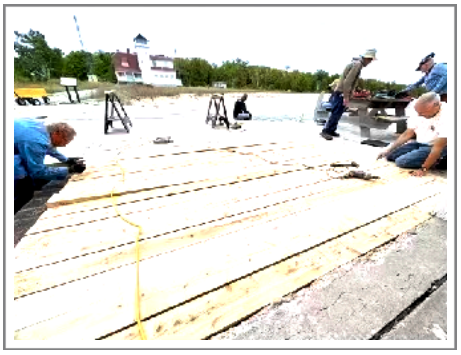
Dallas removes old deck boards.



A few of the crew.



Doug nails down the new boards.



Scott and Dallas secure the new boards.

The Shoreline's 2026 season is in the books, and what a season it was. Planning started back in late 2025, with plenty of calls, texts, and emails to line up trips to Plum and Pilot Islands; a visit to Fayette, Michigan; and a search for the wreck of the *Plymouth*.

Getting Ready

Before the early-May launch, I worked with Shipyard Marina on Washington Island to install a new battery charger and blower relay switch, with fresh wiring for both. Those two troublemakers cancelled several trips last year. This year? Flawless.

We also passed the U.S. Coast Guard inspection with no exceptions. The two-hour visit on May 15 covered everything from our EPIRB (Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon) and life raft strobes to flares, steering, the man-overboard drill log, and crew drug-testing paperwork. A good start to the year.

Highlights

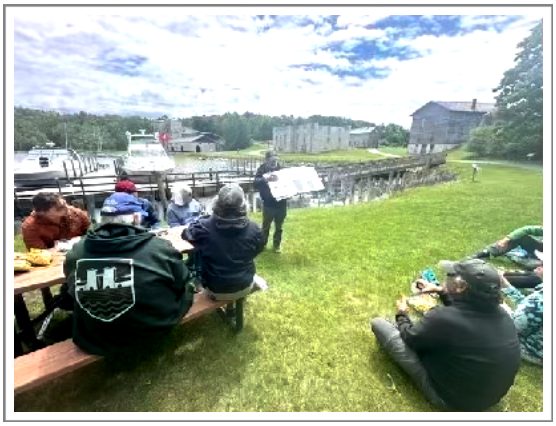
Festival of Nature (May 22-24): Our first charters of the season took 67 guests to Plum Island for The Ridges Sanctuary program on bats, butterflies, pollinators, and the Green Bay National Wildlife Refuge. It was a new offering and a hit. Plum Island in late spring, with the trees, plants, and birds waking up, is hard to beat.



Trilium on Plum Island in spring.

Lighthouse Passport Days (June 5-6 and October 2-3): The spring trips were beautiful! But the fall trips got blown out by the wind. Sixty-five people joined docent-led hikes to the lighthouses and range lights on Plum and Rock Islands, soaking up views and stories of the people who once lived there.

Fayette, Michigan (June 20): Twelve guests from The Clearing and the Niagara Escarpment Resource Network wanted to see the escarpment from the water and explore the old mining town. Fayette produced 230,000 tons of charcoal pig iron between 1867 and 1891, and many of its buildings still stand. While everyone picnicked, a geologist on board explained the escarpment with diagrams and charts. The 80-mile round trip took us past 14 islands and six navigation lights in perfect weather. We can't wait to go back next season.



A geologist explains the Niagara Escarpment to guests at Fayette Historic Townsite.

WUAA Search for the Plymouth (June 26-27): We joined the Wisconsin Underwater Archeology Association (WUAA) to hunt for the schooner barge *Plymouth*. There's so much to share about this--look for a full article in the next newsletter.



St. Martin Island in the Green Bay National Wildlife Refuge.

St. Martin Island (September 3): A DNR-contracted forester needed a ride to inventory trees on a monitored plot on St. Martin Island, Michigan. It turned into quite an adventure, and the island's old fishing village and dock area are fascinating. I wrote about that trip for the FOPPI website, and the article, with additional photos, is printed in this issue of the *Forum* as well.

We also ran private charters for anniversaries, birthdays, reunions, and sunset cruises, plus educational trips for bat counts, butterfly tagging, photography, and more. We booked a total of 40 trips and carried 381 passengers this season. This included guests, crew, and volunteers who enjoyed the beauty of Plum Island as well as the other islands and scenery in northern Green Bay and Lake Michigan. Busy summer!

About the Weather

We lost too many days to rain, thunderstorms, and high winds. I know that disappoints guests and crew, especially those who travel a long way to join us. And, because we're a 501(c)(3), cancellations hurt the fundraising that supports our mission of preserving the buildings on Plum and Pilot Islands. We study forecasts for days ahead and give as much notice as we can, but sometimes Mother Nature changes her mind that morning. Our captains have spent hundreds of hours on Death's Door waters, and safety always comes first. I'd rather be at the dock wishing I was on the water than on the water wishing I was at the dock. Thanks for understanding.

Looking Ahead to 2027

Programs: We're offering photo workshops and Native American presence, Niagara Escarpment, Monarch butterfly, and pollinator field days again. We're also considering a shipwreck tour around Plum and Pilot Islands, possibly including Hedgehog Harbor near Gills Rock.

Spring Workdays: In early May, we'll need volunteers to help get the boat ready, either on jacks at Shipyard Marina or at the dock in Gills Rock. The to-do list includes painting railings and life rafts, repairing cleats and cabin trim, scraping and painting the radar mast and cracked deck areas, and a top-to-bottom cleaning. We're also looking at a new portable toilet and new life rings. Hull painting depends on what the inspection finds once the boat is out of the water. We hope you'll lend a hand!

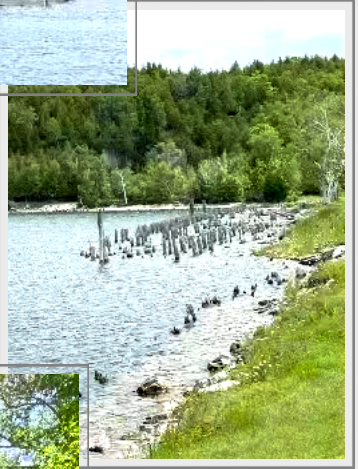
Thank You

To all our guests, volunteers, crew, and captains: You made this season possible, and we're grateful for every hour you donated. Have ideas or questions on making the experience even better? Email me at ws.meredith@att.net.

Roger that, over and out, my friends.

More scenes from Fayette, Michigan









For more information on Fayette Historic State Park and Townsite, check out these websites:

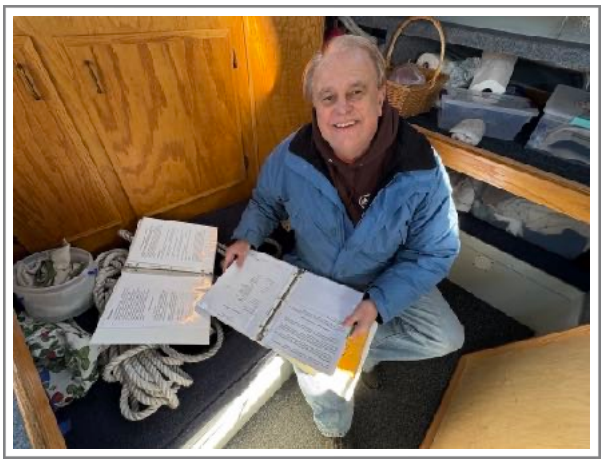
www.michigan.gov/recsearch/parks/fayette

www.michigan.gov/mhc/museums/fayette

Volunteer Spotlight: Volunteer of the Year, Jim Schwartz

Each year, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, in partnership with Friends of Plum and Pilot Islands, recognizes a volunteer of the year. In 2026, that honor was awarded to Jim Schwartz. Although Jim's title is "Volunteer Coordinator," he does so much more for FOPPI than coordinate its many volunteers and volunteer opportunities. Jim lends a hand, his time, and his energy wherever he can whenever he is needed—from tending a FOPPI table at a Door County festival to wielding a paintbrush on a Plum Island work day to preparing *The Shoreline* for a busy season (and many tasks in between).

Congratulations, Jim! You are so deserving of this recognition! The Friends of Plum and Pilot Islands and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are grateful for your service and your longtime commitment to our mission.



Jim readying *The Shoreline* binders for the upcoming season.



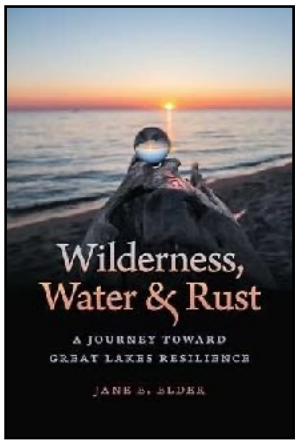
Jim, holding his Volunteer of the Year plaque, surrounded by U.S. Fish and Wildlife staff and fellow FOPPI volunteers.



Jim on Plum Island at the annual meeting and picnic.

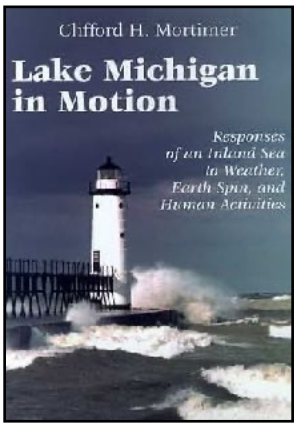
Without volunteers, we'd be a nation without a soul.
—Former First Lady Rosalynn Carter

Would you like to make friends while having a meaningful (and fun!) volunteer experience? No matter your background or experience, there is something to do for everyone with FOPPI! Visit www.plumandpilot.org/volunteer to learn more.



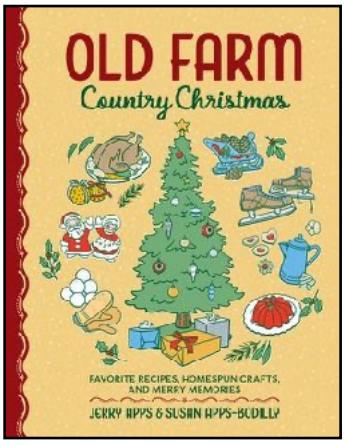
Wilderness, Water and Rust: A Journey Toward Great Lakes Resilience
by Jane E. Elder

This compelling work asks us to consider what we value about life in the Great Lakes region and how caring for its remarkable ecosystems might help us imagine new, whole futures. Weaving together memories from her life in the upper Midwest with nearly fifty years of environmental policy advocacy work, Jane Elder provides a uniquely moving insider's perspective into the quest to protect the Great Lakes and surrounding public lands, from past battles to protect Michigan wilderness and shape early management strategies for the national lakeshores to present fights against toxic pollution and climate change. She argues that endless cycles of resource exploitation and boom and bust created a "rust belt" legacy that still threatens our capacity for resilience. The author lays out the challenges that lie ahead and invites us to imagine bold new strategies through which we might thrive. *—Review idea submitted by Jude Kuenn and courtesy of amazon.com*



Lake Michigan in Motion:
Responses of an Inland Sea to Weather, Earth-Spin, and Human Activities
by Clifford H. Mortimer

Written in a clear, readable style by an acknowledged expert in limnology and biology, *Lake Michigan in Motion* has become a classic reference book on the subject of the Great Lakes. Its blend of history, science, and public policy will give it broad appeal to limnologists, graduate students, researchers, public officials, elementary and high school teachers, those who live near the Lake, and those who use it for their livelihood and recreation.
—Review idea submitted by Jude Kuenn and courtesy of amazon.com



Old Farm Country Christmas
by Jerry Apps and Susan Apps Bodilly

From the beloved father-daughter team behind the bestseller *Old Farm Country Cookbook* comes a heartwarming celebration of Christmases past—when the first snowfall signaled the start of the season, neighbors gathered close, and simple joys lit up the long Midwestern winter. In *Old Farm Country Christmas*, Jerry Apps and Susan Apps-Bodilly invite readers inside farmhouse kitchens, one-room schoolhouses, rural churches, and snow-packed fields, sharing Christmas stories from the mid-twentieth century. Drawing on vivid family memories, interviews, and historical research, the authors re-create a time when holiday magic was handmade, heartfelt, and shared generously.

Readers will savor more than 80 cherished Apps family recipes, from First Snow Peppermint Butter Cookies and Lucia Buns to Spiced Cider, Krumkake, Seven Layer Bars, Cheesy Potatoes and Ham, and other festive favorites for every gathering. Paired with these culinary classics are twelve simple, old-fashioned craft projects… along with seven timeless activities perfect for wintry afternoons with friends and family.

With 50 vintage photographs and illustrations, this heartfelt collection captures… the deep meaning of the traditions that knit rural communities together. More than a book, *Old Farm Country Christmas* is an invitation to slow down and rediscover the warmth, wonder, and shared traditions that make the season shine.*—Review courtesy of Wisconsin Historical Society Press*

Native Plant Sale by Jude Kuenn



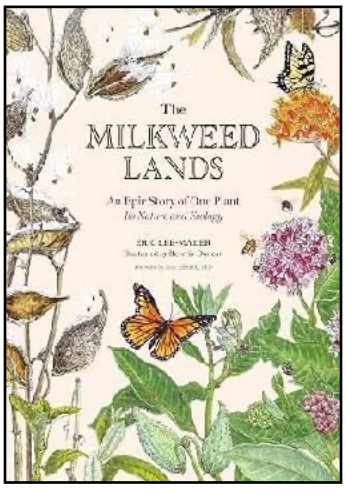
Plant sale volunteers, L-R: Jude, Jack, owner Justin, Sally, and Roxy.

Saturday, August 22 was a bluebird day and perfect weather for FOPPI's annual plant sale in De Pere. Our host and partner, Stone Silo Prairie Gardens, looked wonderfully colorful and rich with Wisconsin-native plants any homeowner can use in their own landscape. Plants offered are disease- and drought-resistant, requiring no fertilizer or pesticides. These are ideal choices for anyone interested in protecting our environment.

Volunteers Sally Dery, Jack Grundmeier, Roxy Jungwirth and Jude Kuenn helped plant aficionados find what they were looking for. Jack, a master gardener, assisted folks in determining what might work well with their yard characteristics (sun, shade, dry, clay, etc.), and offered recommendations to encourage more pollinators. Stone Silo staff Jennie, Olivera, Sarah and owner Justin, were extremely helpful in supporting shoppers with their choices as well. All gardeners-at-heart left with smiles, excited at the prospects of providing a happier green space for flying creatures, from birds to butterflies.



Jack helping customers choose the right plants.



One gardener at the sale recommended *The Milkweed Lands* by Eric Lee-Mader, a book about the remarkable milkweed.

The event was part of Stone Silo's Saturday's hours and ran from 9:00am until 2:00pm. Sally set up an interesting table with FOPPI pictures highlighting Plum's attributes along with our goals, like replacing the Roosevelt-style boathouse roof. This fundraising effort brought in $757—income that will support FOPPI's mission. Thanks to everyone who made the plant sale another success! Pencil your 2027 calendar for August 21 and plan to grow something beautiful in your yard.

The garden suggests there might be a place where we can meet nature halfway.
—Michael Pollan

Door County Heritage Trail Pass

The Friends of Plum and Pilot Islands are proud to be a part of the Heritage Trail Pass, sponsored by Destination Door County.

Whether you explore over a weekend or throughout the year, the Heritage Trail Pass is a meaningful way to connect with the people, places, and moments that shaped this beloved destination.

Start your journey today and discover the heritage behind the scenery! Just scan the QR code to download your pass.

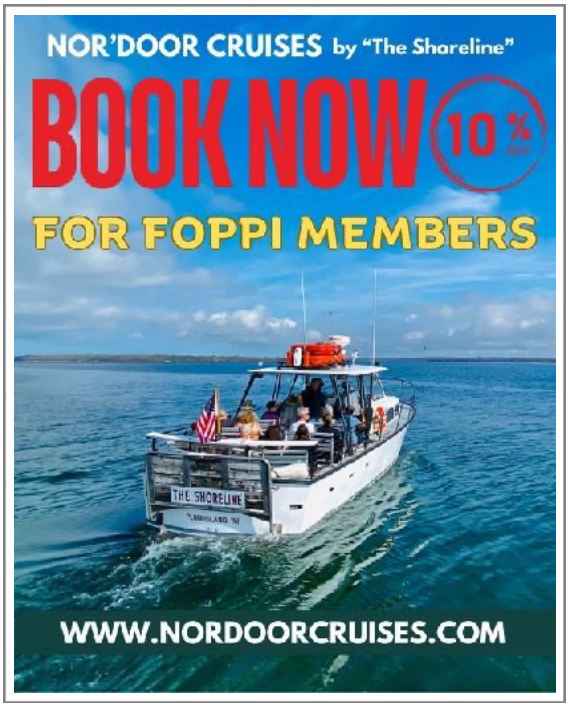


Cruise through your holiday shopping!

An outing on *The Shoreline* is a gift that creates memories in the moment while preserving history for future generations. Your outing dollars directly support our mission of restoration, maintenance, and contemporary use of the resources on Plum and Pilot Islands.

Book your cruise on *The Shoreline* today! FOPPI members save 10% year-round!

> *So throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover.*
> *—Mark Twain*



Don't forget the stocking stuffers…



Plum Island and Pilot Island pins.



Washington Island Lions Plum Island magnet.



Bucket hat.



Cool Plum Island patch.

Wait! There's more!
Visit foppistore.square.site/s/shop to view our selection of tee shirts, wine and pint glasses, hats, books, and more! Treat yourself to something special, too!

Friends of Plum and Pilot Islands welcomes these new members:

- Gilbert Ankenbauer, Sister Bay, WI
- Thomas Cornell, Ballwin, MO
- Steve & Jackie Draws, Egg Harbor, WI
- Joan Olson Hushahn, Los Angeles, CA
- Chris Jones, Franklin, WI
- Kathleen Schultz, Green Bay, WI
- Robert Schwartz, Boonsboro, MD

Thank you for your membership!

Editor's note: In our last issue, we recognized friends who had been members of FOPPI for 10 years or more. This recognition should have clarified that the members who were mentioned were in attendance at the Annual Meeting and Picnic in July.

*FOPPI is so fortunate to have **many** longtime members for whom we are very grateful. We regret the oversight of this omission.*

Friends of Plum and Pilot Islands, Inc. (FOPPI) was established in 2007 to preserve the unique island ecosystems and foster partnerships to preserve their heritage for future generations.

Your membership dues and charitable gifts help to restore and preserve the historical maritime structures on these islands and support education in the areas of conservation, natural history, and environmental protection.

Members who receive our quarterly newsletter, FOPPI *Forum*, are invited to attend the annual meeting and to join us for our seasonal cleanup, trail maintenance, invasive species removal, and light repair work.

Whatever your interest, there are events and projects that will benefit from your talent and support! Visit www.plumandpilot.org/foppi-volunteer to learn more.

To view FOPPI's financial records, scan the QR code.

Follow FOPPI on social media! Download our audio tours at www.plumandpilot.org/audio-tour.

More Donors Get Tax Benefits Starting in 2026

Larger Universal Charitable Deduction
Charitable deductions are no longer restricted to those who itemize deductions. All filers can deduct up to $1,000 ($2,000 for married couples) for charitable gifts. This makes it easier for donors to realize tax benefits from supporting charities.

New Minimum for Itemized Charitable Deductions
If someone itemizes their deductions, starting in 2026, a "floor" applies to their deduction for charitable contributions. Specifically, the charitable contribution deduction is reduced by 0.5% of their adjusted gross income (AGI).

Estate and Gift Tax Exemption Increases
The federal estate and gift tax exemption rises to $15 million per person, meaning very few estates will owe federal estate tax. While Wisconsin does not have an estate tax, some states, including Illinois and Minnesota, have much lower thresholds. For donors with large estates, planned giving and legacy gifts may offer additional benefits.

What Does This Mean for Planned Giving?
With recent changes taking effect, giving through a will, trust, IRA, or making lifetime gifts of appreciated assets remain powerful ways to support causes you care about.

FOPPI is an affiliate of the Wisconsin State Historical Society (wisconsinhistory.org), Washington Island Chamber of Commerce (washingtonisland.com), Heritage Alliance of Door County, U.S. Life-Saving Service Heritage Association (uslife-savingservice.org), Wisconsin Underwater Archeology Association (wuaa.org), and United States Lighthouse Society (uslhs.org), and a partner with Wisconsin Marine Historical Society (wmhs.org).

FOPPI thanks its distinguished community and business associates!

WASHINGTON ISLAND FERRY LINE EST. 1940

The Shoreline RESORT

The Shoreline Friends of Plum & Pilot Islands

NorDoor Cruises

Docent-led Lighthouse and Death's Door Cruises and Private Charters

"To Death's Door and Back with FOPPI!"

www.NorDoorCruises.com

"Where History and Nature meet at The Door."

www.PlumandPilot.org

Thanks to Jeff Heal of Washington Island for assisting with FOPPI's mail pickup!



Ol' Willie and the piano truck under fall skies on Washington Island. Photo by Nancy Hoefs.

Thank you, Donors!

The work done on the Green Bay National Wildlife Refuge is funded in part by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Friends of Plum and Pilot Islands. The projects and programs we have worked on would not be possible without your financial support.

Your donations and inspiration help us to preserve and restore this important part of our heritage within the Green Bay and Gravel Island National Wildlife Refuge.
Our gratitude is great.

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Your support is critical to the Friends of Plum and Pilot Islands (FOPPI). Restoration and preservation of these beautiful Wisconsin islands and structures require a group like FOPPI to make it happen.

Your donations help restore and preserve the historic structures and natural resources of Plum and Pilot Islands, as well as the educational programs that keep these resources sustainable, beneficial, and accessible to the community.

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The Friends of Plum and Pilot Islands is a 501c(3) charitable organization. Your gift is tax deductible as allowed by law.

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Mailing label includes membership expiration date above your name. If membership has expired, please renew using the form on page 15. Mail it along with your payment to: FOPPI, P.O. Box 61, Washington Island, WI 54246. If you receive the *Forum* electronically, watch for an email that tells you it's time to renew. For membership questions call Mary Beth Volmer: (262) 613-4680.

Friends of Plum and Pilot Islands, Inc.
P.O. Box 61
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Help Us Be Green!
To help save paper, printing, and postage expenses, please consider receiving your newsletter via email. Just contact us at friendsofplumandpilot@gmail.com.

Previous issues of the *Forum* are available on our website to download or read.

The mission of Friends of Plum and Pilot Islands is to partner with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to support the preservation, restoration, maintenance, and contemporary use of the historic resources on Plum and Pilot Islands, and to conserve and protect wildlife resources while providing opportunities for quality wildlife-dependent recreation.

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