



2020 ANNUAL REPORT

Building a water-
friendly
community

BUILDING A WATER- FRIENDLY COMMUNITY

Care for Torch.

MISSION

Torch Conservation Center, Inc. is a local nonprofit organization promoting stewardship in the Torch Lake Watershed through Freshwater Education and Land Conservation to ensure a sustainable future for Torch Lake.

VISION

We envision a well-informed community in the Torch Lake Watershed working together to ensure safe drinking water, safe local fish to eat and clean water for swimming and boating in Torch Lake.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thanks to our TRUE BLUE Gallery volunteers and contractors, who worked tirelessly to operate safely during the Pandemic.

Kathy Amerman
Connie Brigham
Stewart Campbell
Marty Cash
Steve Cash
Peg Comfort
Tom Comfort
Linda Fox

Mary Haley
Barb Lockrey
Andrew Narwold
Drew Narwold
Meg Narwold
Trish Narwold
Lyn Petty
Christina Piecuch

Karina Pone
Debbie Ross
Keith Ross
Maelyn Thayer
Cottie Volle
Val West

THANK YOU BUSINESS PARTNERS!

Antrim Conservation District - Bailey Designs - Barker Creek Nursery - Brownwood Acres - Butch's Tackle & Marine - Claige Properties - Copy Queenz - Downtown Alden Business Association - Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy - Helena Township Historical Society - Juniper Garden Club - King Orchard - Land Information Access Association - Mezinets Designs - Michigan Garden Club Association - Michigan Maps Online - Muffin Tin - Naturescape Nursery - Paradise Properties - Pine Hill Nursery - ProImage Design - Proof Positive Design - Rocky Top Farms - Rodger's Grass Fed Beef - Sleepytime Press - Tailgate Joinery - Three Lakes Association - Torch Lake Protection Alliance - Village Market - Water Fire Vineyards - The Watershed Center - Widow's Peak Design

BOARD MEMBERS

Thanks to our volunteer Board of Directors for their leadership and commitment to the principles and practices recommended by the Michigan Nonprofit Association.

Paul Beaupre
Margaret Comfort
Barb Lockrey
Patricia Narwold
Rob Nissly
Keith Ross
Emilee Syrewicze

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

We would like to express our gratitude to Trish Narwold, who has served as our Board Vice- Chair since 2014 and Gallery Manager during 2020. Her dedication to the TRUE BLUE Gallery and commitment to Torch Conservation Center has enabled us to engage more people in stewardship of Torch Lake.

Thank you, Trish!

Programs

CONSERVATION FOR FUTURE
GENERATIONS

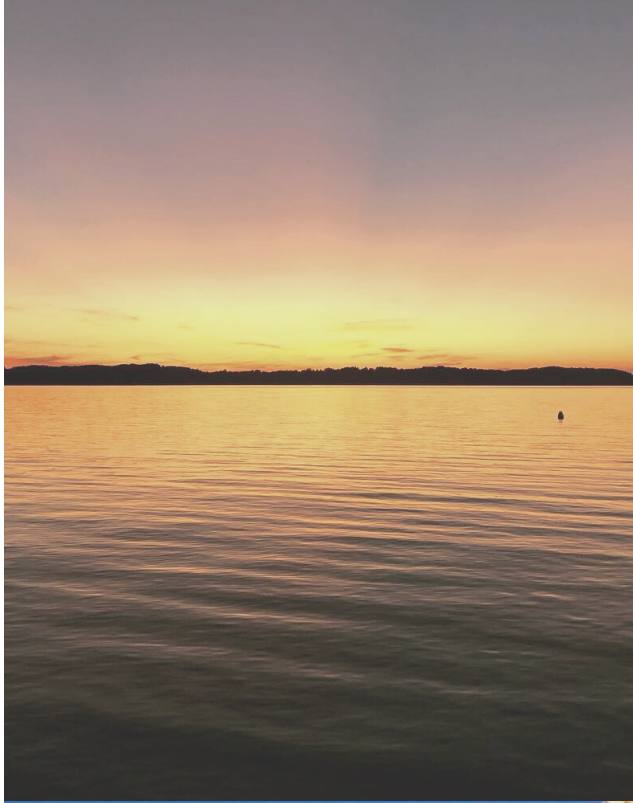
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OUTREACH

STEWARDSHIP

CONSERVATION



PROGRAMS 2020

Torch Conservation Center promotes stewardship in the Torch Lake Watershed through freshwater education and land conservation.

Stewardship is the best way to protect water quality in Torch Lake.

OUR GOALS:

1. Engage everyone in actively caring for water
2. Conserve land to protect water quality in Torch Lake

FRESHWATER EDUCATION PROGRAM

Our Freshwater Education Program provides science-based information to help people care for water, so they can actively protect the high- water quality in Torch Lake.

STEWARDSHIP INITIATIVE

We provide simple steps on how to care for water- the water we drink and the water in Torch Lake and its tributaries.

Our Services

Online: More than 560 people subscribed to TRUE BLUE News in 2020.

1. Our website is the Go-To Place for information on caring for water.
2. FREE subscriptions to TRUE BLUE News offer monthly tips on caring for water.
3. Waterpedia is a special feature of our website that explains the science of water and our watershed.

VISIT US: www.conservetorch.org

In Person: More than 1200 people picked up information cards in 2020.

1. Special Displays. We provide information on water-friendly Household Cleaners, Septic Systems, Up North Landscaping and Lawn Care
2. Free Materials make it easy for you to care for water:
 - a.TRUE BLUE Living. Easy changes you can make around your home. Recipes for water-friendly cleaners.
 - b.TRUE BLUE Landscaping. Tips for water-friendly landscaping and gardening, plus native plant lists.
 - c.TRUE BLUE Lawns- Designs for buffer gardens along Torch Lake and tributary streams. Recipes for water-friendly pesticides, fertilizers and compost and a new and a TRUE BLUE Lawns rack card.

VISIT US:

TRUE BLUE Gallery
9046B Helena Road
Alden, MI 49612

COMMUNITY OUTREACH INITIATIVE

Our Collaborations

We engaged with more than 50 nonprofit organizations and businesses in 2020. We're building a water-friendly community of residents, businesses and visitors who actively care for Torch Lake.

In the Torch Lake Watershed

We worked closely with the Three Lakes Association and Torch Lake Protection Alliance on three projects: Living with Swimmer's Itch card, Don't Fertilize signs and Stewardship postcards sent to riparian landowners around Torch Lake.

In the Elk River Chain of Lakes Watershed

1. Water First Team. We're serving on the Shoreline Stewardship Group to develop ways to reduce nutrients flowing into Torch Lake.
2. Watershed Protection Plan Implementation Team. We attend quarterly meetings of this group and share information with 20+ organizations working throughout the Chain of Lakes.
3. Watershed Management Plan. We organize our work to support the goals and priorities of this plan.

With Local Businesses

1. Downtown Alden Business Association. We're an active member of DABA and support their efforts to provide a positive experience for visitors to Alden, the only village on Torch Lake.
2. Watershed Businesses. We've established working relationships with more than 30 of the 100 businesses in the Torch Lake Watershed.
3. Paradise Properties. We share information on TRUE BLUE Renting with more than 250 rental properties on Torch Lake.
4. Watershed Signs. Look for the nine signs marking the boundaries of the Torch Lake Watershed. Thanks to these businesses for giving permission to install the signs: Brownwood Acres, Water Fire Vineyards, King Orchards, Rodger's Grass Fed Beef, Gurr Farm, Village Market, Pro Image Design, Naturescape Nursery and Rocky Top Farms.

With Local Organizations

1. Helena Township Historical Society. We donated FREE Swimming Beaches maps to the Alden Depot Museum and shared stewardship messages on their mobile sign.
2. Juniper Garden Club and Elk Rapids Garden Club. We share stewardship information with both clubs.

Our Services

Online: New- Having Fun!

Website. We added a new tab called Having Fun, so you have a Go-To-Place for information on Having Fun in the Torch Lake Watershed

VISIT US: www.conservetorch.org

In Person: More than 1200 people visited the TRUE BLUE Gallery in 2020.

1. The TRUE BLUE Gallery in downtown Alden, MI features art for the lake. More than 24 artists donate a portion of their sales to conservation. The Gallery also sells books by local authors and water-friendly gifts for your home. We're open five days a week from Memorial Day in late May until early October. Our docents are happy to answer your questions.
2. Special Displays. We provide information on Swimmer's Itch, as well as maps of Torch Lake and the Torch Lake Watershed.
3. Free Materials and maps make it easy for you to have fun on Torch Lake:
 - a. TRUE BLUE Swimming- Enjoy swimming at public beaches on Torch Lake.
 - b. TRUE BLUE Boating- Have a blast boating safely on Torch Lake.
 - c. TRUE BLUE Hiking- Explore the many natural areas around the Torch Lake Watershed.

VISIT US:

TRUE BLUE Gallery
9046B Helena Road
ALDEN, MI 49612

LAND CONSERVATION PROGRAM

Our Goals

1. Engage all landowners in conserving land in the Torch Lake Watershed
2. Working with local governments, conservancies, state and federal agencies to conserve land in the Torch Lake Watershed and protect water quality
3. Support land conservation projects

Ensuring high water quality requires that 50% of watershed land be conserved in its natural state, according to the National Geographic Society.

Currently, about 10% of the land has been conserved in the Torch Lake Watershed.

Torch Conservation Center restricts 10% of annual donations in the Land Conservation Fund. The Board of Directors donated \$2,000 to the Coy Mountain Preserve and Torch River Ridge Natural Area in 2020. We provide information in the TRUE BLUE Gallery on other projects of the Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy.

Conserved land protects water quality and also provides outdoor recreational opportunities for all.

We hope you enjoy the growing number of hiking trails in the public preserves located around the Torch Lake Watershed. These trails are open dawn to dusk.

On the next page, see a portion of the information card developed in 2020-TRUE BLUE Hiking.



www.conservetorch.org

TORCH LAKE WATERSHED TRUE BLUE Hiking Trails

Public Hiking Trails
Open Dawn to Dusk
* Areas with toilet facilities

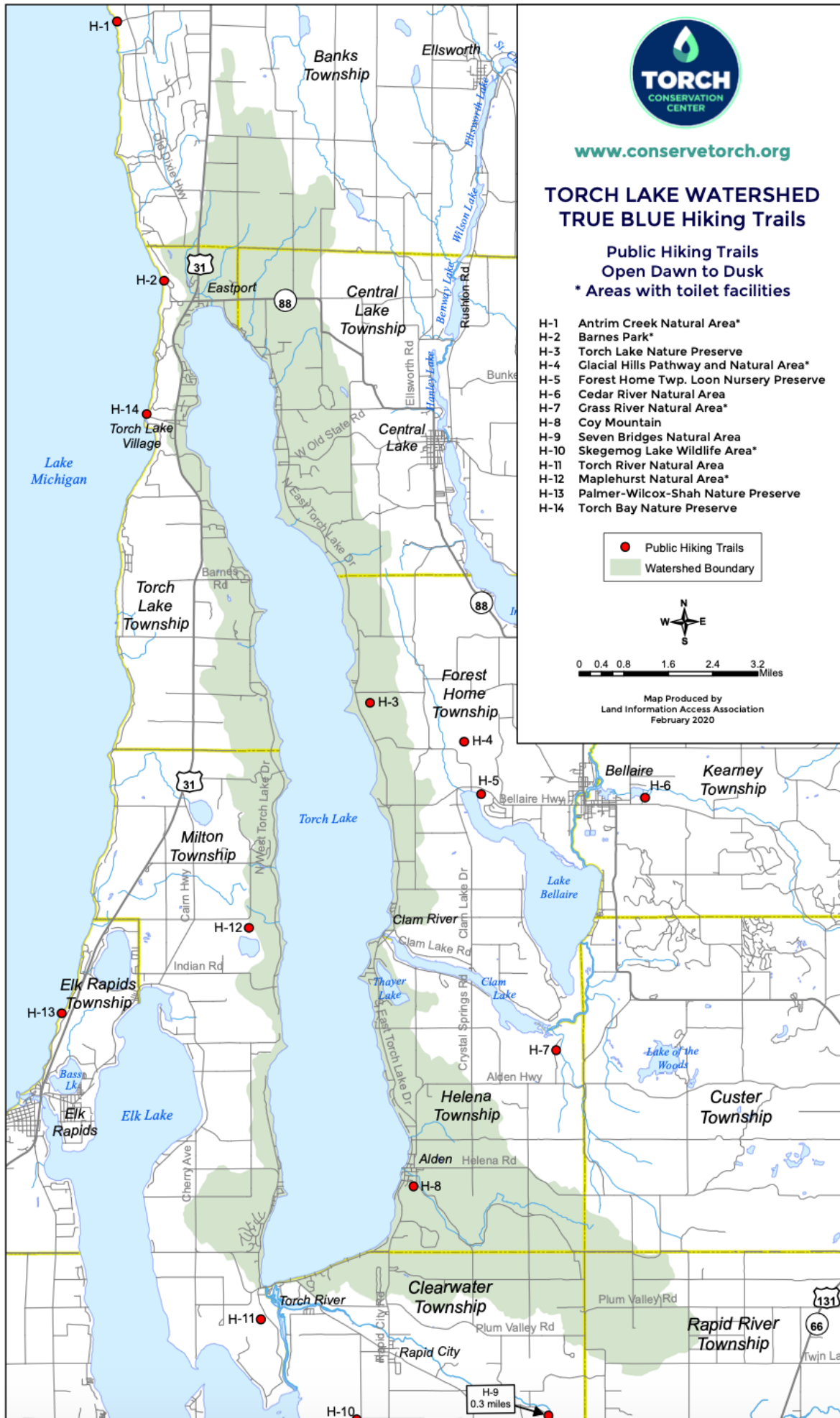
- H-1 Antrim Creek Natural Area*
- H-2 Barnes Park*
- H-3 Torch Lake Nature Preserve
- H-4 Glacial Hills Pathway and Natural Area*
- H-5 Forest Home Twp. Loon Nursery Preserve
- H-6 Cedar River Natural Area
- H-7 Grass River Natural Area*
- H-8 Coy Mountain
- H-9 Seven Bridges Natural Area
- H-10 Skegemog Lake Wildlife Area*
- H-11 Torch River Natural Area
- H-12 Maplehurst Natural Area*
- H-13 Palmer-Wilcox-Shah Nature Preserve
- H-14 Torch Bay Nature Preserve

- Public Hiking Trails
- Watershed Boundary



0 0.4 0.8 1.6 2.4 3.2 Miles

Map Produced by
Land Information Access Association
February 2020



TRUE BLUE GALLERY



Thank you 2020 Docents

Kathy Amerman
Connie Brigham
Stewart Campbell
Trish Narwold
Lyn Petty
Cristina Piecuch
Debbie Ross
Keith Ross
Jenna Spray
Maelyn Thayer

THANK YOU 2020 ARTISTS



Shawn Allen
Don Alsbaugh
Kathy Amerman
Sandy Barnes
Ruth Bloomer
Patty Clark
Pam Fellerhoff
Lynn Fisher
Rosemarie "Mimi" Franco-Bell
Mary Haley
Susan Howard
Kathleen "Kay" Lang
Pam Linderleaf
Lisa Lirones
Barbara Lockrey
Beth Ann Manning
James Manning
Kim Messerly
Diane Mortensen
Annette Notman
Diane Roketenetz
Lara Roketenetz
Rosalyn Tyge
Suzanne Straebel
Sandra Van Ormer
Barb Van Pelt
Diane Verploegh
Bev Wehr

Finances

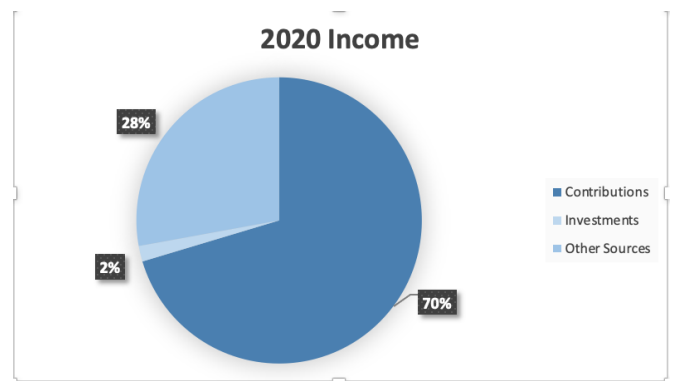
MEMBERS MATTER

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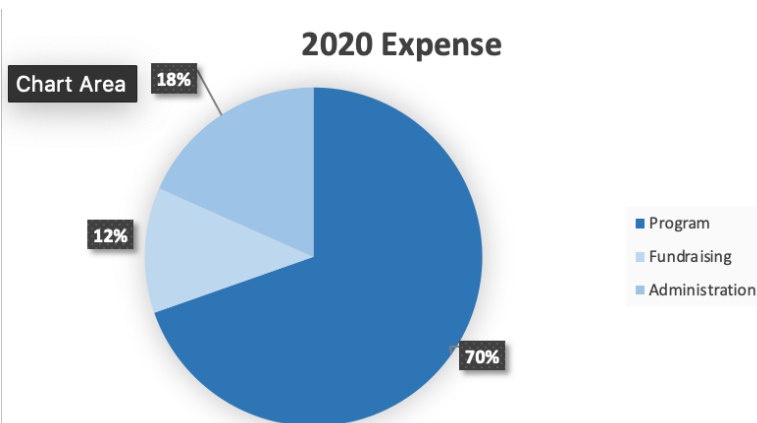
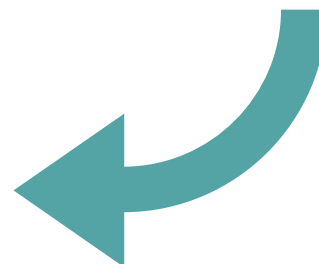


At a Glance

Type	Income	Percent
Contributions	39,638	70%
Investments	993	2%
Other Sources	15,697	28%
Total	56,328	100%



Type	Expense	Percent
Program	27,158	70%
Fundraising	4,679	12%
Administration	7,163	18%
Total	39,000	100%



Torch Conservation Center, Inc.

Statement of Financial Position

As of December 31, 2020

	TOTAL
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
1000 Cash	0.00
1010 Cash in Bank	42,117.10
Total 1000 Cash	42,117.10
Total Bank Accounts	\$42,117.10
Accounts Receivable	
1200 Contributions Receivable	0.00
Total Accounts Receivable	\$0.00
Other Current Assets	
1030 Donation in Transit	326.77
1040 Petty Cash	0.00
1402 Stocks	5,562.35
20201 Prior Year Carryover	0.00
22000 Land Conservation Fund Asset	0.00
Total Other Current Assets	\$5,889.12
Total Current Assets	\$48,006.22
TOTAL ASSETS	\$48,006.22
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
2000 Payables	
2010 Accounts Payable	0.00
Total 2000 Payables	0.00
Total Accounts Payable	\$0.00
Other Current Liabilities	
2110 Sales Tax Payable	898.41
2130 Payroll Tax Payable	0.00
Total Other Current Liabilities	\$898.41
Total Current Liabilities	\$898.41
Total Liabilities	\$898.41
Equity	
3010 Unrestricted Net Assets	0.00
3020 Temporary Restricted Net Assets	0.00
3100 General Fund	14,015.45
3104 Fish Project Fund	3,200.00
3105 Forest Project Fund	1,600.00
3106 Land Conservation Fund	10,964.00
Net Revenue	17,328.36
Total Equity	\$47,107.81
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$48,006.22

2020 Honorarium Gifts

In honor of Peg Comfort

Pamela Ford
John and Jean Hoffner

In honor of Keith Ross

Susan Thompson

In honor of Reiley and Alden Walker

Charles and Susan Judson

In honor of Matt and Megan Wesley

Mary Sarles

2020 Memorial Gifts

In memory of Sue Barsh

Thomas and Margaret Comfort

In memory of Lynn Collins

Kathleen Babb

In memory of David Comfort

Diane Comfort

In memory of Orecchio and Buddi Ferrara

Nello and Laura Ferrara

In memory of Robert and Beatrice Kahn

Erik and Marcia Wright

In memory of John Melfi

Mary Chenoweth

In memory of Peter O'Donnell

Roselyn Barstow
Art and Catherine Brereton
Maggie Brown
Heather Christmann
Thomas and Margaret Comfort
Karl Couyoumjian
Katherine Cragg
Steve and Sallie Foley
Al and Rita Heckmann
Steve Hill
Brad and Joannie Keller
Robert and Karen Lambert
Lawrence Latham
Rick and Nancy Lyons
Martin Mazzella
Stephen and Phyllis McElhaney
Robert Nissly
F. Verne Powell
George and Nancy Powell
Alistair Robinson
Jennifer Rodriguez, Marsh & Moore, Inc.
Don and Susan Sickler
Ryan Sutter and Hoder Family
Jeff Thomm and Evergreen Sales Team
Maryanne Warne
Kevin and Kathy Watrous
Deborah Weaver
Timothy Weaver

In memory of Ed Porter

David and Cythia Senatore

In memory of Hale Ross

Ryan Ferguson

In memory of Terry Rowe

Thomas and Margaret Comfort
Edward McDuffie
Gary and Lyn Petty

In memory of Don Smith

Thomas and Margaret Comfort
Robert and Jamie Davidson
Julie Graham
Curtis Keller
Kirby and Nancy Keller
Herbert and LaVerne Levy
Dean and Karen Mitchell
Patricia Pellett
Rick and Deborah Roberts
Joan Seay

In memory of Ruth Smythe

Rodman Smythe

In memory of Mary Zang

Sharon Volz

2020 Members

Robert and Shelley Allen
John Vogel and Kathy Amerman
Randy and Margaret Asmus
Kathleen Babb
Stephen and Lisa Bain
Roselyn Barstow
Butch and Liz Bartz, Sr.
William and Marti Beals
Paul and April Beaupre
Robert Beaupre
William Beaupre
Henry and Mary Berger
Jerry and Drieka Bloom
Richard and Judith Blum
Anne Brasie
Catherine Brereton
Bruce and Nancy Brown Family Foundation
Edward and Kathleen Brown
Maggie Brown
Gary and Linnea Brunk
Robert and Linda Bryson
Edward and Dana Bucknam
John Buell, Jr.
Kenneth Burger and Jean Ashby
Ryan Burke
Craig Burns
Peter Byron
Albert Cash
Mary Chenoweth
Heather Christmann
Richard and Kristin Claar, Jr.
Ernest Todd Collins
Diane Comfort
Thomas and Margaret Comfort
Christopher and Julie Coulter

Karl Couyoumjian
Katherine Cragg
James Cross
Robin Hawley Crumrine
Peter Daily
Robert and Jamie Davidson
Bud Dewey
Rodger Dewey
Elizabeth Dole
Rick and Sandy Doornbos
Downtown Alden Business Association
Phil and Bonnie Drick
Ralph and Frances Dunlop, Jr.
William Dvorak and Gela Boebel Cheny
Caryn Edwards
Ryan Ferguson
Nello and Laura Ferrara
Jack Findlay
Ivan and Irena Foerster
Steve and Sallie Foley
Pamela Ford
Tim and Linda Fox
Michael and Denen Franchi
David Frankel and Sharon Tyson
Laura Franseen and Norman Kjome
Leonard and Karen Franseen
Matthew and Terri Franzen
Joan Gehlert
David and Marian Geohegan
James Grady
Julie Graham
Meredith Grider
Sharon Gunn
Mike and Mary Haley
Jonathon Harbaugh
Jack and Bonnie Harrington
Al and Rita Heckmann
Heinz Family Foundation

Herrington-Fitch Family Foundation

Steve Hill

John and Jean Hoffner

Marne and Joann Homberg

Patrick and Stephanie Howell

David Hulefeld

Paul and Melissa Janes

Kathren Johanson

Griffith and Ivanka Jordan

Charles and Susan Judson

Joe Kaplan and Christine Williams

Brad and Joan Keller

Curtis Keller

Kirby and Nancy Keller

Patrick and Sue Kelly

Ron and Bonnie Kershner

Brett Kingswell

Lynne Kohr

David and Wendy Krohn

Douglas Kulwicki and Mary Elarton

John P. Lambert

Robert and Karen Lambert

Robert Lambert

Kathleen Lang

Lawrence Latham

Herbert and Laverne Levy

Michael and Sandra Lininger

Barbara Link

Barbara Lockrey

Robert Logee

Gretchen Loss

Janet Loveland

Michael Lucido and Melissa Makowski

Rebekah Lynch

Robert and Norma Lyon

Rick and Nancy Lyons

Terry Malone

Joe and Norma Mariage

David and Nicole Martin
Martin Mazzella
Lucy McArtor
Edward McDuffie
Stephen and Phyllis McElhaney
Lillian McLachlan
Robert and Karen Medsger
Connie Meinke
Nancy Meleski
Ann Melfi
Ronald and Patricia Miller
Robert Milliron
Dean and Karen Mitchell
William and Kathryn Moeller
Julia Moran
Roberta Mylan
Alicia Nance
Andrew and Patricia Narwold
Drew Narwold
Meg Narwold
David Nissly
Robert Nissly
Nottingham-North Family
Gregg and Carolyn Nowfel
John and Deborah Obrecht
William and Dorothy O'Donnell Family Fund
Patrick and Linda O'Leary
Kevin and Deb Osterfeld
Linda Oxford
George and Donna Parker
Patricia Pellett
Gary and Lyn Petty
Nancy Podurgiel
F. Verne Powell
George and Nancy Powell
Steven and Susan Rabinovitz
Frederick and Deanna Rasch

Mary Richards
Lawrence Richmond and Kathryn Ostien
Deborah Roberts
Alistair Robinson
David and MaryEllen Rodgers
Jennifer Rodriguez
Daniel and Martha Rogalny
Daniel and Diane Roketenetz
Michael and Sharon Root
Bruce and Susan Ross
Dexter and Kathleen Ross
John S. Ross, III
John S. Ross, Jr.
Judith Ross
Keith Ross and Louise Doud
William E. Ross
Terry Rowe
Harold and Susan Rummery
Mary Sarles
David Sawin
Cindy Schmitt
Max and Ann Schwandt
Joan Seay
David and Cynthia Senatore
Nancy Sheeber
Don and Susan Sickler
Rodman Smythe
Suzanne Straebel
Judith Strickland
Kim Stringer
Suszan Family Foundation
Ryan Sutter
Emilee Syrewicze
James Templin, Jr.
Jeff Thomm
Susan Thompson
Torch Lake Yacht and Country Club
Dave Varga and Barbara Van Pelt

Thomas N. and Kathleen Volle
Sharon Volz
Kent and Suzanne Walker
Maryanne Warne
Kevin and Kathy Watrous
Deborah Weaver
Timothy Weaver
William Weiss, Jr.
Whistling Frog Tile Company
Joanna Wisniecka
Erik and Marcia Wright
Barbara Young

Thank you members!



To become a member of Torch Conservation Center,
visit [conserve torch.org](https://conserve.torch.org)