

2022

ANNUAL REPORT





NAHANT MARSH
EDUCATION CENTER


ABOUT NAHANT MARSH


Nahant Marsh preserve is one of the largest urban wetlands on the Upper Mississippi River. It is comprised of marshy areas, mesic, wet, and sand prairie, and bottomland forest.

The 382-acre preserve is owned by the City of Davenport and the Nahant Marsh Board, a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization. Conservation and restoration efforts on the preserve are directed by the Nahant Board, while the educational programming is overseen by Eastern Iowa Community Colleges (EICC).

 563-336-3370

 nahantmarsh@eicc.edu

 www.nahantmarsh.org

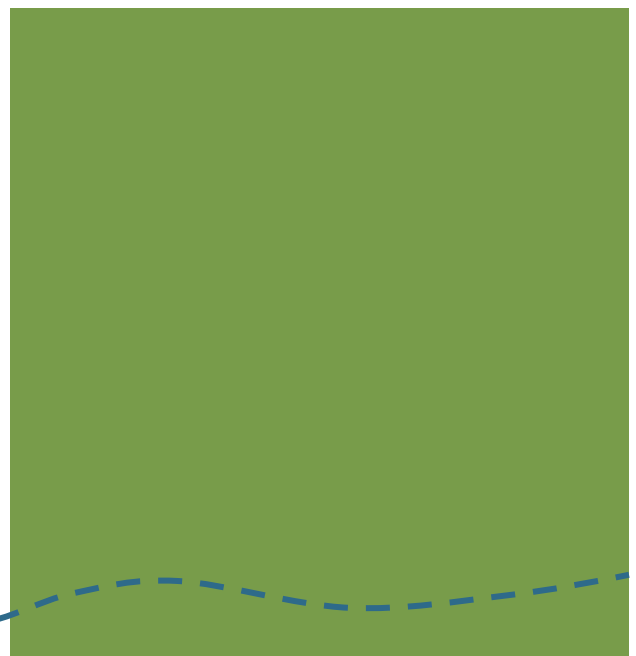
 4220 Wapello Ave. | Davenport, IA 52804

MISSION

To protect, enhance, and restore the Marsh through education, research, and conservation.

VISION

To foster wonder, appreciation, and stewardship of the natural world.





FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, BRIAN RITTER

Through years of planning, lots of hard-work, and the generosity of the community, Nahant Marsh experienced incredible growth in 2022. We added more land, began work on new trails, had the highest-ever attendance, continued the restoration of our prairies, woodlands, and wetlands, and added another permanent staff member to help keep pace.

Here are just a few highlights:

Nahant Marsh is now 382 acres of protected land! In September, we took over management of around 20 acres from the City of Davenport. And in December, our partners at the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation helped us purchase an additional 60 acres. These parcels are the critical missing pieces of both the upper and lower marsh complex. Restoration of these parcels will not only allow us to create a larger natural buffer around the marsh, but will also help to better protect water quality in both the marsh and the river.

We are creating more accessible trails! During the year, Nahant Marsh constructed a new parking lot/trail head that will serve as a connection between the main marsh and the Mississippi River Trail. Aside from trails, a viewing platform and picnic shelter are being developed on the same property and will be open to the public by this coming summer.

We had record attendance! After two years of pandemic-related restrictions, Nahant Marsh provided programming for a record number of people. Nahant's team reached almost 23,000 people, including over 10,000 kids. Additionally, nearly 200 volunteers helped Nahant staff plant over 1,500 trees, harvest and replant nearly 100 different native wildflower species, remove acres of invasive species and several loads of trash.

I'm looking forward to what we will accomplish in 2023. Nahant Marsh continues to be a better place because the community cares.

FROM THE BOARD CHAIR, CURTIS LUNDY



I became 20 this year. Some may doubt the veracity of this statement, but my 20th anniversary as a Nahant board member occurred this year. In this period, Nahant Marsh has experienced EXPLOSIVE growth. Its size increased from 78 acres to 382 acres. The number of annual visitors surged from 2,000 to 22,000. And the number of creatures (land and water plants and animals) were protected and multiplied. I am in awe of what is happening in this corner of Davenport. Acknowledgement and thanks must be given to those responsible for the resurrection of this EPA pollution site. So who dun it? An incredible/tenacious staff, a wise/involved board, concerned/critical partners, generous/caring donors (organizations and individuals), and determined/selfless volunteers. Please view the list and pictures of some of those involved shown in this report.

I am like many of you. I came to the board not terribly knowledgeable about nature's processes. But like many, I had a yearning to protect, enhance, and restore natural things buried somewhere in my heart. I was lucky enough to get tangled up with this enterprise called Nahant 20 years ago. And like the poet Robert Frost said, "It has made all the difference." And like the same poet said 100 years ago, we have miles to go before we sleep.

I invite you to become entangled in Nahant Marsh through volunteering, visiting, and donating. I bet it will make all the difference for you.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Curtis Lundy". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

THE BOARD

Chair
Curtis Lundy

Vice-Chair
Ellen Bluth

Treasurer
Jonathan Wilmshurst

Secretary
Kathy Wine

Denise Bulat
Nicole Cline
Brock Earnhardt
Steve Gustafson
Josh Hoffman
Amy Kay
Kathy Morris
Tim Murphy
Michael Ryan
Cal Werner

2022 BY THE NUMBERS

EDUCATION

2,149

EDUCATION
CENTER
VISITORS

2,062

STUDENTS
ATTENDED
FIELD TRIPS

5,937

ADULT
PROGRAM
ATTENDEES

CONSERVATION

66

ORGANIZED
VOLUNTEER
EVENTS

138

BAGS OF
TRASH
REMOVED

10.5

ACRES OF
PRAIRIE
BURNED

RESEARCH

7

LSAMP
RESEARCH
STUDENTS

1,548

HOURS OF
STUDENT
RESEARCH

15

RESEARCH
PROJECTS
CONDUCTED

This year, we also installed **14** new interpretive signs around the Marsh trails!

EDUCATION IN 2022 A YEAR OF RECORD-BREAKING GROWTH



Armed with a full team of naturalists and volunteers, our education program expanded its reach by offering creative programs to nature enthusiasts of all ages.

22,858 PEOPLE REACHED IN 2022!



15 SUMMER CAMPS - WITH 262 CAMPERS

9,968 PEOPLE CONNECTED TO NATURE THROUGH OUTREACH PROGRAMS

806 PROGRAMS DELIVERED

IN TOTAL, **20,142** IMPACT HOURS WERE PROVIDED BY NAHANT'S EDUCATION TEAM

That's the same as 839 days, 119 weeks, or 2.25 years of teaching non-stop!

2022 EVENTS



Valentine's Day Lantern Hike | February 11

24 couples enjoyed the luminary-lit trails for a romantic hike at the Marsh!

Oberholtzer Awards | March 26

Over 100 people joined us to honor past, present, and future conservation leaders.

6th Annual Monarch Release Party | September 10

100 kids and 168 adults came to the Marsh to celebrate, learn about, and release monarch butterflies for their fall migration.

Movies at the Marsh | October 14 & 27

Nearly 90 people enjoyed educational shorts and classic Halloween movies out on the Nahant lawn!

Gift Wrap to Give Back | December 10

The FNM raised over \$500 with their 2nd annual holiday fundraiser.

A YEAR OF CONSERVATION PROTECTING AND RESTORING THE MARSH

2022 proved to be a year of great progress for prairie and woodland restoration and invasive species removal. The efforts of staff and volunteers will be seen for years to come!

44 TIRES COLLECTED
FROM NAHANT

138 TRAILER LOADS OF
BRUSH REMOVED

91 PRAIRIE PLANTS SEEDED
THROUGHOUT 13 ACRES

1,550 NATIVE TREES
PLANTED

1,620 VOLUNTEER HOURS CONTRIBUTED
TO NATURAL RESOURCE PROJECTS

That's equivalent to 3 summer intern positions!



2022 RESEARCH EXAMINING THE ECOSYSTEM

Students from local colleges, Nahant staff, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers conducted **fifteen research projects** in 2022 to better understand the Marsh.

This year, seven college students participated in the Iowa, Illinois, Nebraska Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (LSAMP IINSPIRE) summer program at Nahant Marsh, resulting in...

7 LSAMP RESEARCH PROJECTS ON...

- Aquatic plants in the marsh seed bank
- Movement and patterns of Blanding's turtles
- Vocal presence of bat species
- Thermal imaging and analysis of the marsh
- Zooplankton biodiversity as it relates to water quality
- Insect population diversity and abundance
- Turtle population trends

REPRESENTING **3** LOCAL SCHOOLS

TO CONDUCT
963.5 HOURS OF RESEARCH



2022 HIGHLIGHTS CELEBRATING SUCCESS



In addition to growing the Marsh by 77 acres, creating more accessible trails, and reaching record-number attendance, we celebrated a number of other successes. Just some of 2022's excitement is highlighted below:

- Received \$323,950 in grants
- Hired a full-time naturalist to grow our education program
- Observed successful nesting of both Purple Martins and Sandhill Cranes
- Received a donation from Nicolina Turtle Co. to provide environmental education to all Rock Island 6th graders
- Hosted our first Movies at the Marsh series
- Completed the Reptile Room Remodel, which included a new tank and basking platform for Pancake the Spiny Softshell Turtle, a fresh coat of paint, and an update to the storage and educational displays in the reptile room
- Documented two new plant species and one new bird species: Pickerelweed (pictured top left), Sessile-fruited Arrowhead, and Bobolink
- Created four new geocaches for a unique way to explore the Marsh



VOLUNTEERS AT THE MARSH

This year, **186** VOLUNTEERS donated their time, energy, and talents towards achieving the mission of Nahant Marsh. With their help, we were able to complete numerous projects and tasks! Highlights included...



2022 FRIENDS

797 HOURS OF INVASIVE SPECIES REMOVAL

82 HOURS OF TRASH CLEANUP

99 HOURS OF ANIMAL AMBASSADOR CARE ASSISTANCE

Volunteers also...

- Contributed to the Reptile Room Remodel
- Staffed the education center every Saturday
- Helped plan and staff special events
- Organized a fundraiser at Stompbox Brewing
- Hosted the second annual Gift Wrap to Give Back



FOR A TOTAL OF
3,623 VOLUNTEER HOURS

That's more than one full-time and one half-time position combined!

President
Britt Vickstrom

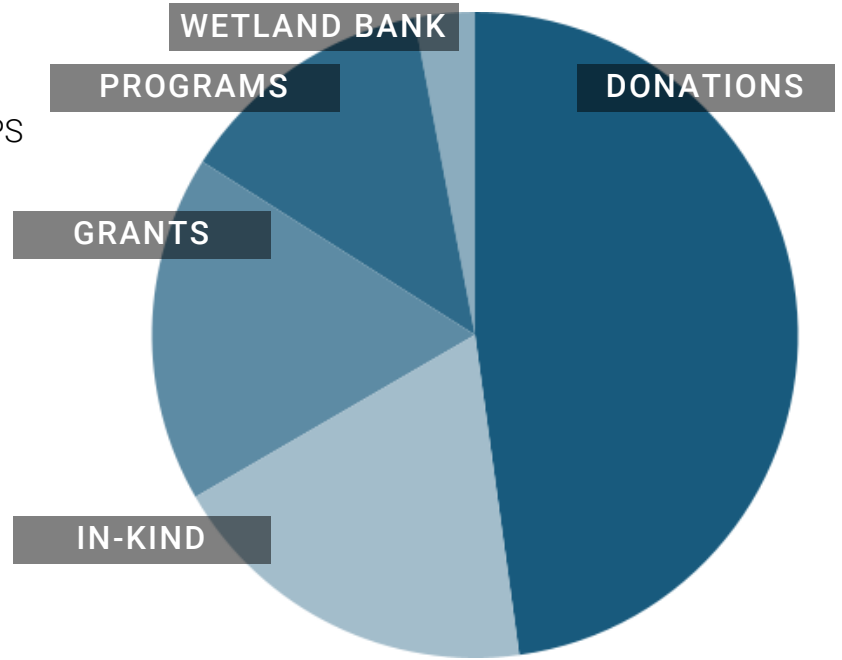
Treasurer
Curtis Lundy

Secretary
Julie Malake

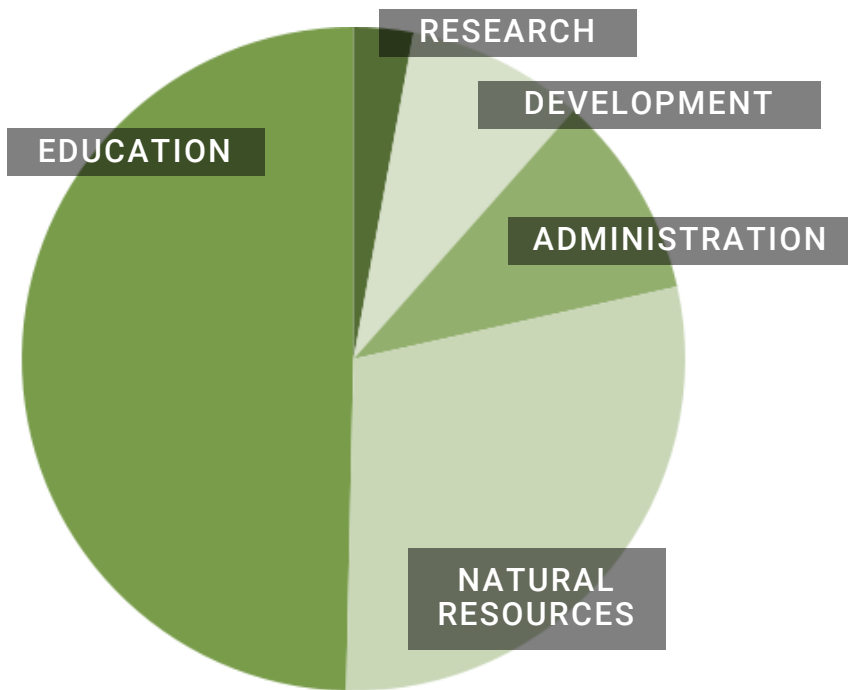
Lynn Abel
Jane Broughton
Bob Bryant
Terry Collins
Sheri Colman
Jolinda Eggers
Amy Groskopf
Becky Hartmann
Hank Hartmann
Andy Lenaghan
Kathy Lenaghan
Tim Murphy
Darren Speth
Kent Turner

REVENUE

- DONATIONS, PARTNERSHIPS, MEMBERSHIPS
48% | \$486,123
- IN-KIND DONATIONS
19% | \$192,603
- GRANTS
17% | \$177,750
- PROGRAMS & MERCHANDISE
13% | \$132,709
- WETLAND BANK CREDITS & CRP
3% | \$30,859



This year, Nahant Marsh Education Center's total revenue was \$1,020,044. Out of this, \$419,956 were restricted donations for the Capital Campaign. In-kind donations included support from our partners at Eastern Iowa Community Colleges, the City of Davenport, AmeriCorps, and other individual donors.



EXPENDITURES

- EDUCATION
50% | \$456,252
- NATURAL RESOURCES
29% | \$265,097
- ADMINISTRATION
10% | \$91,518
- DONOR DEVELOPMENT & MARKETING
9% | \$79,457
- RESEARCH
3% | \$26,634

2022's expenditures totaled \$918,958, with 81% of all expenses used to directly support our core mission of supporting education, research, and conservation of natural resources at the marsh.

2022 PARTNERS & SPONSORS



Linwood Mining & Minerals Corp.



WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY Quad Cities



RIVERACTION



2022 GRANTS



Generosity lives here.®



ARCONIC FOUNDATION



The Wellmark Foundation



IOWA AMERICAN WATER

2022 NAHANT MEMBERS

Avise Family	Eileen Smith	John Walston	Remona Druhl
Bailey Nicole	Flathman Family	Jonathan Jeschke	Rich Craddick
Barbara Palen	Fuller Family	Joseph Ambrose	Rita Rawson
Bernadene Bowles	Gail Rinkenberger	Judy Guenther	Robert Loch
Betty Wood	Gary Ihlefeld	Judy Hartley	Roorda Family
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Bowman Family	Gayman Family	Leo Moench	Schiltz Family
Bracke Family	Godwin Family	Lorraine Seibert	Schwartz Family
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Brodersen Family	Haas Family	Lyndsey Haars	Slater Family
Brown Family	Haddock Family	Lynne Allison	Smith Family
Brus Family	Halverson Family	Lynne Groskurth	Steve Kull
Bulat Family	Haney Family	Marcia Walsh	Stewart Family
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Chris Barnard	Hervey Family	McAndrews Family	Thielmann Family
Christine McCarthy	Hessenkemper Family	Moore Family	Thomas Thompson
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Douglas Family	Jeff Shelley	Patricia Jean Johnson	
Earnhardt Family	Jo Ann Whitmore	Paul Crosser	



LIFETIME MEMBERS

Amy and Kevin Kay	Denise Bulat	John and Joan Maxwell	Randy and Carol Pribyl
Ann Werner	Dick Ryan	Jonathan and Sarah Wilmshurst	Robert Walsh
Anne Colville	Nathan and Elizabeth Schramm	Josh and Kate Hoffman	Shirley Johnson
Bob Bryant	Ellen Bluth	Kathleen Logan	Stan Reeg
Brian Ritter	Frank and Ann McCarthy	Kathy and Gary Morris	Sue and Bob Thoresen
Brian Tugana	Fred and Martha Burnham	Kathy Wine	Thomas Thoms
Brock and Carol Earnhardt	James and Cathy Van Fossen	Marion Lardner	Tim Murphy
Cal and Jill Werner	Jane and Les Cox	Mary and Greg Schermer	Todd and Amy Kersten
Chris and Mary Rayburn	John and Amy Telleen	Michael and Julia Angelos	Tony and Joyce Singh
Curtis Lundy	John and Liz Arter	Michael and Hedy Hustedde	
Darrell and Anne Thode		Mike Ryan	
Dave Linde			

2022 DONATIONS



Aaron Schulze
Allison Ambrose
Allison Nodurft
Allyson Smithson
Amy Groskopf and
Kent Turner
Amy Loving
Amy Watters-Moeller
Andrew Albrecht
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Ann Werner
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The Pribyl Group of Baird
Davenport Country Club
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IMEG CORP
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Iowa Natural Heritage
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Iowa PBS
Iowa State Extension
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Jacob Wilbourne
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James Schmedding
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Janice Welch
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Linda Goff
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Lisa Schlenker
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Living Lands & Waters
Lori McCollum
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Madeline Kull
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Mark and Cindy Slater
Mark and Kathy Kilmer
Mark and Rita Bawden
Martin Equipment Inc.
Mary and Jim Pelzer
Mary Jo and
Robert Godwin, M.D.
Matt Slavens

2022 DONATIONS, CONT.

Matthew Lommen	Paul Mayes	Sheri Colman	Thomas Thoms
Michael & Hedy Hustedde	Paustian Enterprises	Sherry Staub	Tim Murphy
Michael and Mary Francis Stopulos	Perry Hansen	Shirley Johnson	Todd and Amy Kersten
Michael Thoms	Peter and Janet Peterson	Sierra Club Eagle View Group	Tom and Brooke Nagle
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Modern Woodmen of America	Quad City Audubon Society	Steve and Lora Kull	Tracey Kuehl
Moline Conservation Club	Ralph and Gail Heninger	Stompbox Brewing	Tracey McLoone
Mona Druhl	Randy and Carol Pribyl	Sue and Bob Thoresen	Trevor Ives
Mumford Family Foundation	Ray and Cindy Wolf	Susan and Bill Tate	Trish Fuess
Nancy Chapman	Raymond Crane	Susan and Paul Castro	Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the QC
Naomi Dewinter	Rescued	Susan Martin	United Way/ Harvester Works
Nathan and Elizabeth Schramm	Richard and Connie Horst	Susan Schmidt	Victor Evjen
Nathan Kraus	Richard and Judy Kreiter	Tegan & Gary Trees	Whitey's Ice Cream
Nicholas De La Cruz	Robert Loch	Terracon	Will Moon
Nicolina's Turtle Company	Robert Suthers	Terry Collins	William Howe
Norm and Janet Moline	Robert Walsh	The Joyce & Tony Singh Family Foundation	William McFarlin
Pat Halverson	Rock Island County Soil & Water Conservation District	The Printing Store	Wolfe Family Foundation
Pat Tandy	Roopa Goswami	Theodore Priester	WVIK Quad Cities NPR
Patricia Gillette	Sarah Moore	Thomas and Mary Ann Stoffel	Wynne and David Schafer
Patricia Jean Johnson	Schiller Family Foundation	Thomas Engelmann	
Paul and Kathy Brown	Scott and Beth Tinsman	Thomas J. Mohr Charitable Fund	
	Scott and Melita Tunnickliff		

TRIBUTES

Anonymous in memory of Diana

Bob Bryant in memory of Georg W. "Jun" Fortune

Elizabeth Hodges in memory of Jim & Beverly

Gail Rinkenberger in honor of Nahant Staff

Herb, Deborah, & Brian Ritter
in memory of Rosemary Romine

Hodges Mary & Jim Pelzer
in memory of Shirley Horstmann

Jane Cassidy in memory of Mary Cassidy

Jason Gordon in honor of Judith Lee

Jerry & Julie Skalak in memory of Caleb Neff

Jim Meehan in honor of Amy Kay

Mark & Deb Werning
in memory of Fern Werning & Dave Putz

Michael & Michelle Hahn in memory of Teresa A. Marxen

Tracey Connell in memory of Shaun Cesar

In memory of Richard A. Carstensen

Amy Waggoner

Dianna Brenny

Georgia Jecklin

Margaret Taylor

Anne Balzer Powers

Elizabeth Brooke

Geoff & Helen Macalister

William Burress

Anonymous

Ellen Urton

James & Kathryn Nagle

Brandon Patterson

Eric Loeb

Joel Elliott

Curtis Lundy

Donald Carlson

Ken & Sandra Brady

2022 ANIMAL ADOPTIONS

Bob • Three-Toed Box Turtle

Ambrose Kerr
Judith Lee
Nicolina Turtle Co.
Nicole Laurito

Buddy • Painted Turtle

Cassie Druhl
Nicolina Turtle Co.
The Rakus and Wille Families

Captain • Blanding's Turtle

Mark and Lisa Cleve
Nicolina Turtle Co.
Alicia Stowe

Ethel • Red-Eared Slider

Mark and Cindy Slater
Nicolina Turtle Co.

Micheline • Three-Toed Box Turtle

Nicolina Turtle Co.

Pancake • Spiny Softshell Turtle

Nicolina Turtle Co.
Joe and Sally Stewart

Pudge • Musk Turtle

Nicolina Turtle Co.

Rocky • Bull Snake

Elizabeth Schramm in memory of
Shirley Horstmann

Squirtle • Ornate Box Turtle

Nicolina Turtle Co.
Rescued
Cathy White

Sunny • Fox Snake

Kendall and Susan Schwartz Family
Cathy White



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