



PRESERVE!

Volume 8, Number 2, Spring 2009

Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve Newsletter

Dedicated to the Preservation and Stewardship of our Woodlands, Wetlands, Prairies and Shorelines

James Kitchell to Speak at April 7 Annual Meeting

James F. Kitchell, the Arthur Hasler Professor of Zoology at University of Wisconsin-Madison and Director of the Center for Limnology, will make a presentation, "Underwater Treasures of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve: Potential for Management Actions," to the Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve Annual Meeting on April 7th, 2009. This free program begins at 7:00 PM at the Visitors Center of the University of Wisconsin Arboretum in Madison.

The theme of Professor Kitchell's presentation will be research on Lake Mendota, including the waters of the Preserve's shoreline, which constitutes twenty percent of the shoreline of Lake Mendota. His investigative efforts on Lake Mendota concern fishes and other fauna. He will discuss aspects of Lake Mendota itself, including its surprising biodiversity. Professor Kitchell will challenge the audience to learn about and support programs that will improve the ecological state of the waters and shoreline of Lake Mendota and the Lakeshore Nature Preserve.

Professor Kitchell is widely recognized for his informative and thought-provoking presentations, always delivered with good humor. Members of the Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve, the University's Preserve Committee, and the public are invited and encouraged to attend and to bring guests.

James Kitchell

Professor Kitchell is a world renowned expert on the ecology of fishes and fisheries. His extensive research efforts have led directly to successful programs of sustainable aquaculture, particularly those located in the Pacific Ocean. His research has included food-web models concerning a target commercial fish species, its competitors, and its prey. His studies have incorporated implications of undesirable actions, such as effects of by-catch and poaching, on sustainable fisheries and also on the recreational fishing industry. His research has provided data relevant to the debate between those seeking a mandate for maximal jobs and profits versus a conservation consensus as the right thing to do. His research has stimulated fishing industry interests to

consider solutions like effective fish hooks instead of lengthy drag lines and zoning programs for conservation of specific fish and other marine species.

Professor Kitchell's office in the Center for Limnology is located at the eastern end of the Preserve. From his office, he can look out directly onto Lake



Mendota, admiring its characteristics and creatures on its surface, such as swans. Literally from the Center's doorstep he can, and has, investigated aspects of the lake's ecology. At the back door of the Center is Muir Woods, which he visits frequently, particularly in the spring when he can

enjoy its display of wild flowers. Professor Kitchell is also a great admirer of cranes.

Elections and Annual Meeting

A brief Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve business meeting will be held. Members will elect seven Board members. Please see page 6 for nominees.

Join us after Professor Kitchell's talk for refreshments and to meet the new Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve Board members.

Friends Annual Meeting

What: Professor James Kitchell
"Underwater Treasures of the Preserve"

When: Tuesday, April 7, 2009, at 7 PM

Where: UW Arboretum Visitor Center

**Friends of the
Lakeshore Nature Preserve**
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Friends of the Preserve

is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization

We Welcome Submissions to the Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve Newsletter and Web Site

The Friends welcomes the submission of articles and announcements for our newsletter. We encourage people to share their checklists and other relevant Lakeshore Nature Preserve materials on the Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve Website. For information on submitting material, call Roma Lenehan at 238-5406 or send your articles or checklists to rleohan@charter.net. To reserve space in our next newsletter, please tell us about your material by June 18, 2009. The submission deadline is July 17.

Spring Field Trips

Additional Field Trips will be posted on the
Friends of the Preserve Website: waa.uwalumni.com/lakeshorepreserve

Beginning Birding at Picnic Point

March 21 (Saturday) 7:30-10:00 AM

Come on a leisurely walk to learn techniques to help you enjoy identifying and observing birds in their preferred habitats. Co-sponsored by the Madison Audubon Society. Meet near the bus shelter at the Class of 1918 Marsh Parking Lot. Leader Al Holzhueter (238-0546)

Beginning Birding at Picnic Point

April 11 (Saturday) 7:30-10:00 AM Please see details in March 21 field trip.

Geology of the Lakeshore Preserve

April 19 (Sunday) 2:00-3:30 PM

Learn about the geologic history of the Preserve as revealed in the landscape of the Muir Woods area and in the grand stone buildings located on adjacent Bascom Hill. Meet at the north (Observatory Drive) side of North Hall, where John Muir once lived. Parking is available in Lot 34.

Leader: Bill Barker (263-0540)

Class of 1918 Marsh: Four Decades Later

April 22 (Wednesday) 4:00-5:30 PM

Develop an appreciation of the freshwater communities centered on the Class of 1918 Marsh – birds, insects, plants, plankton. We will also consider effects of watershed land use on the marsh.

Meet at the Class of 1918 Marsh Parking Lot.

Leader: Quentin Carpenter (email: qcarpent@wisc.edu, 263-7771)

Beginning Birding at Picnic Point

April 25 (Saturday) 7:30-10:00 AM Please see details in March 21 field trip.

Lake Mendota and the Lakeshore Nature Preserve

May 6 (Wednesday) 1:00-3:00 PM (Weather date on Wednesday, May 27)

Come learn about the ecotone (transition) and the interactions between the lake and the Preserve. Find out about the changes in Lake Mendota over the years. The boat we will use is the LIMNOS, operated by the Center for Limnology for teaching and research. Group size limited to 12 participants. Please reserve your place by emailing the trip leader. Meet at the Limnology Parking Lot 8 (no parking available) at the eastern end of the Lakeshore Path. Leader: John Magnuson (email: jjmagnus@wisc.edu, 238-4342)

Warblers of Frautschi Point

May 13 (Wednesday) 7:30-9:30 AM

While we will focus on seeing warblers through the leafy foliage, we will also look for any other spring migrants. Meet at the Frautschi Point Parking Lot on Lake Mendota Drive. Leader: Roma Lenehan (238-5406)

Birding Picnic Point

May 17 (Sunday) 7:30-10:30 AM

Join us to look for migrant and resident birds. Picnic Point is a migrant trap in bad weather and can produce spectacular collections of migrants. Co-sponsored by the Madison Audubon Society.

Meet at the Class of 1918 Marsh Parking Lot.

Leaders: Peter Fissel and Dan Doeppers (255-3013) *(continued on page 7)*

Woodland Rejuvenation

by Glenda Denniston

Spring Woodland Wildflowers

Spring is a time of rebirth. Green shoots push up through the thawing earth, birds return to raise new families, hibernating mammals awaken to greet the warming days. One of the pleasures of spring is to follow the course of the season by watching the procession of wildflower bloom.

Spring ephemerals are native flowers especially adapted to life in forests. They are “short-lived,” or at least appear to be, for they put all their energy into growing, leafing-out, reproducing, and storing food supplies in their root systems before the forest canopy trees leaf out. Then true ephemerals lose their leaves and go into a long rest phase that lasts until the following spring. These flowering plants are able to receive the combination of sunlight and warmth they need for optimal energy production only during a very short period - about two months - after temperatures warm and before dense shade blocks sunlight from reaching the forest floor.



Spring Beauty Blooms in Bill's Woods (G. Denniston)

Other spring flowers, which are not true “spring ephemerals,” survive by other stratagems, spreading by cloning rather than seeding or developing leaves that can produce food in dim light. The short period of optimum sunlight in the spring drives the evolution of flowers in this environment. Only a small proportion of woodland flowers bloom after early spring.

The Benefits of Woodland Restoration

In recent years, many native woodland wildflowers in our area have become scarce or, in some cases, even died out. One cause is the invasion of non-native shrubs and other plants, especially Eurasian Buckthorn and shrub Honeysuckle. Their branches as well as their leaves are more numerous than those of the native shrubs they replace, so they produce deeper shade on

the forest floor throughout the growing season. Also, they develop leaves earlier and drop them later in the fall, thus shortening the crucial spring growing season for groundcover plants.

Recent woodland restoration projects in the Preserve began by decreasing or even eliminating these invasive shrubs. In some projects, no new plants or seeds have been added, while in others thousands have been planted. In all projects, both the diversity of species and the number of blooming plants have improved. The main difference, not surprisingly, is that there is more diversity where planting has been part of the protocol.

The positive effect of woodland restoration can be seen in eastern Bill's Woods, Muir Woods, and parts of Frautschi Point and the Lakeshore Path. Ongoing projects in Tent Colony Woods and parts of Picnic Point promise to improve the spring flower display in the near future.

Wildflower Phenology

The flowering dates of various species change from year to year, but the order remains predictable. First, in mid to late April, Wood violet and Hepatica together with Spring beauty and Dutchman's breeches bloom. Next come Troutlily, Cut-leaf toothwort, Bloodroot, Columbine, and Jacob's ladder. In late May and early June, White trillium, Wood geranium, Bellwort, Jack-in-the-pulpit and Virginia waterleaf round out the show.

This order is difficult to see without keeping records, because the bloom times of many species overlap. Phenology, the study of the seasonal timing of natural events, is an enjoyable hobby. Keeping a year-to-year calendar of first bloom, peak bloom, and last bloom of native wildflowers provides knowledge that leads to a deeper understanding of the natural world.

When and Where to Look for Woodland Flowers

At present, the best places to observe spring flowers in the Preserve are Eagle Heights Woods, the Friends of the Preserve's “Eastern Bill's Woods Project,” the Muir Woods restoration, and Frautschi Point along the Big Oak Trail and the Lakeshore Path. The area between Lot 34 and the lake, recently cleared of invasive shrubs and planted with many native plants, is another good spot.

The spring wildflower show starts in mid to late April and continues into early June. Enjoy the display, note the increase in wildflowers year to year, and thank the many volunteers and other workers who are bringing health back to the woodlands.

Garlic Mustard Again?

Despite previous Garlic Mustard control efforts, additional work must be done to keep Garlic Mustard under control. Volunteers will be essential for the following reasons: Garlic Mustard will be more abundant this year, restoration initially promotes invasive species, and as areas improve, additional work is required to get continued improvement. So join a work party, help with the Pull-A-Thon by volunteering or pledging money, and help keep Garlic Mustard from spreading.

Why Do We Need Volunteers?

In areas that Garlic Mustard has been established for a long time, this biennial plant tends to alternate between low and high annual populations. Unfortunately, 2009, like 2005 and 2007, will be a high year in the Preserve.

Initially restoration makes Garlic Mustard worse. When Buckthorn and Honeysuckle, which hide Garlic Mustard, are removed, the disturbance causes more seeds to sprout (seeds can be dormant up to seven years). These seeds survive better and produce bigger plants because they have more sun and fewer competitors. Therefore, restoration, like that occurring in many areas of the Preserve, initially increases the amount of Garlic Mustard.

In areas that have improved, to get continued improvement requires additional time spent carefully checking for Garlic Mustard. Large patches of Garlic Mustard are easy to see and remove. Several years of intense pulling of the largest plants in the densest areas causes selection pressure, changing the population. Instead of large patches, only isolated, smaller plants remain, often hidden under brush piles, downed trees, or dense shrubs. New seeds also are moved or brought in by vehicle tires, human shoes, and mammalian feet. A single missed plant can produce hundreds of new seeds, creating a new circle that has to be controlled for eight years!

Finally, in a few areas of the Preserve where Garlic Mustard has never been effectively controlled, we hope to prevent seeding and bring it under control for the first time.

Therefore, in 2009 we need every volunteer we can get.

What can you do?

Everyone can help to get Garlic Mustard under control.

- Join one of the work parties listed below. The Preserve staff cannot do it all, so we need you! Both the Friends volunteers and the Preserve staff will be leading work parties, cooperating in an effort to get all of the Garlic Mustard out by May 17! Check the Preserve Website (see below) for additional work parties. If you want to come at another time, contact Roma Lenehan or Amy Jo Dusick for additional times (see below).
- Participate in the two hour Pull-A-Thon on Saturday, May 16, from 1:45 to 4 PM to control Garlic Mustard and raise money for invasive species control. Groups and people without prior Garlic Mustard experience are welcome! We encourage people, especially groups, to contact Roma before the Pull-A-Thon, so that we can send additional information and estimate numbers.
- Pledge money per bag that volunteers pull at the Pull-A-Thon. If you want to limit your pledge, indicate that on your pledge form. Last year \$2260 was raised for the 40 bags pulled. Donated money is used to control Preserve invasive species. Mail in your pledge on the page 9 form or email Roma (rlenehan@charter.net) with your pledge. In May a letter will let Pull-A-Thon supporters know how many bags the energetic workers pulled so that they can send their money.
- If you pull Garlic Mustard, please bag it rather than leaving it on the paths. (Bags are available).
- Control Garlic Mustard in your neighborhood. Know what first and second year plants look like (www.ipaw.org/invasers/garlic_mustard/gm.htm) and remove them from your yard BEFORE second year plants go to seed. Bag all bolted (taller plants with elongated stems) second year Garlic Mustard and put the bags in the trash to prevent seed formation.
- Clean your shoes BEFORE entering the Preserve, other parks, or your yard if you may have been in an area with Garlic Mustard (most of the state, city and county parks have it). By doing this, you will prevent new Garlic Mustard invasions, saving years of work.

Only with your help can Garlic Mustard be controlled so that Preserve wildflowers and restorations will thrive!

Spring 2009 Garlic Mustard Work Parties Schedule

Date	Day	Time	Meeting Place	Date	Day	Time	Meeting Place
April 4	Sat	1:30-3:30	Picnic Point	May 2	Sat	1:30-3:30	Picnic Point
* April 9	Thu	1:30-3:30	Picnic Point	* May 6	Wed	1:30-3:30	Frautschi Point
April 11	Sat	1:30-3:30	Picnic Point	May 8	Fri	10:00-12:00	Picnic Point
* April 15	Wed	1:30-3:30	Picnic Point	* May 11	Mon	1:30-3:30	Frautschi Point
April 18	Sat	1:30-3:30	Picnic Point	May 13	Wed	10:00-12:00	Picnic Point
* April 21	Tue	10:00-12:00	Frautschi Point	* May 16 Sat		1:45-4:00	Pull-A-Thon (P PT)
April 27	Mon	3:00-5:00	Picnic Point	* May 21	Thur	1:30-3:30	Picnic Point

* Friends sponsored work parties

Amy Jo Dusick

Roma Lenehan

238-5406

dusick@wisc.edu

rlenehan@charter.net

For additional Work Party dates, see:

www.lakeshorepreserve.wisc.edu

Friends Accomplishments in 2008

Education and Outreach

The Friends continued to expand our educational outreach. In 2008 more than 190 people attended seventeen Friends organized field trips. Trips spotlighted a variety of subjects, including wildflowers, geology, and ecological restoration. The Friends also co-sponsored six additional Preserve bird field trips with Madison Audubon Society. Over 100 people attended the Friends Annual Meeting featuring David Mollenhoff, who spoke on the "Remarkable Power of Great Civic Vision." He challenged us to get more involved in improving the Madison Lakes, very appropriately since the Preserve occupies twenty percent of the Lake Mendota shoreline. The Friends joined the Yahara Lakes Legacy Partnership, a coalition of groups working to reduce nutrients, sediment, and beach bacteria in the Yahara Lakes (see *PRESERVE!*, Winter 2008, page 1). At the Yahara Lakes Conference the Friends made contact with other organizations and government officials and shared information on our organization. *PRESERVE!* continued to provide timely news and information on educational and volunteer opportunities. The Friends Website (waa.uwalumni.com/lakeshorepreserve) continued to expand and attract new interest.

Deepening Our Partnership with the University

Preserve staff (especially Field Manager Cathie Bruner) and the Preserve Committee (chaired by Ray Guries) have often sought and appreciated the Friends' input into on-going projects. This process has been enhanced during the past year as the Friends have been more fully integrated into the University's planning process. The Friends Board President (currently Ann Burgess) serves as an ex-officio member of the Preserve Committee. Gary Brown, Director of Planning and Landscape Architecture, has invited the Friends Board to name representatives to serve on a variety of on-going Preserve work groups. Dick McCoy has been very active on the signage work group and now has joined the work group planning improvements to the tip of Picnic Point. Board members John Magnuson and Blair Mathews serve on the Muir Knoll work group. In addition, Friends Board members were invited to participate in two Stakeholders' Meetings leading up to the preparation of the Preserve's 2009 budget. We had several concerns, including the need for longer term planning, for a volunteer program with supervision and training, for more integration of development planning, and for improved communication. Our concerns were heard and acted upon. A volunteer coordinator will be hired soon, and a new web-based discussion group has been launched. Email Preserve Program Manager Daniel Einstein [deinstein@fpm.wisc.edu] if you wish to join the discussion list.

Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve 2008 Financial Report

Balance of as 1/1/08	\$54,732
Income	
Membership	\$13,072
Gifts and Memorials	6,515
Planting Projects	100
Garlic Mustard Pledges	2,260
Note Cards	110
Interest	1,243
Total Income	\$23,300
Expenses	
Planting Projects	\$1,189
Gift to Preserve Stewardship Fund	8,900
Interns (Audubon)	4,865
Invasive Plant Control	2,540
Gift to Students of the Preserve	600
Membership Expenses	323
Newsletter	1,376
Annual Meeting	852
Fundraising	360
General Expenses	171
Total Expenses	\$21,176
Balance as of 12/31/08	\$56,855

Stewardship: Providing Volunteers and Funds

In 2008 the Friends of the Preserve gave over \$16,000 to support the Preserve and its maintenance, mostly through the Stewardship Fund, and more than 1300 hours of volunteer service in the Preserve. The Friends again sponsored the Audubon Interns, a team of five hard-working undergraduates eager to be involved in restoration who worked at the Preserve one day per week all summer (and at other natural areas the other four days). Other donated money went for tools, hourly employees, and controlling invasive species. In addition to paying for plants for restorations such as Bill's Woods and Frautschi Point, the Friends volunteers spent hundreds of hours planting and caring for these plants. The Friends organized the Garlic Mustard Pull-A-Thon, pulling 40 bags of Garlic Mustard and raising \$2260 for invasive species control. Friends of the Preserve volunteers also organized Garlic Mustard work parties and volunteers to control invasive brush.

Thank you to all who helped make this year such a success with your hard work and financial support!

Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve Annual Meeting

April 7, 2009, 7:00 PM, Visitors Center, UW Arboretum

The Annual Meeting will include the election of six Board members, each to serve a term of three years, and one Board member to serve a one-year term on the Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve Board of Directors. The Friends Nominating Committee, William W. Barker, John Magnuson (Chair), and Blair Mathews, recommends the candidates described below. Others may be nominated by the membership at the meeting. All current members of the Friends of the Preserve present at the Annual Meeting are eligible to vote.

Ken Albrecht – Ken bikes or walks the Lakeshore Path to work every day and walks the Lake Mendota Footpath from Picnic Point through Eagle Heights Woods nearly every weekend. He has a keen eye for opportunities to improve infrastructure of the Lakeshore Preserve. His central Wisconsin farm background and current position as Professor of Agronomy provide him with tools to understand and solve problems in managed ecosystems. He is handy with equipment and has extensive knowledge about plant growth and development. Ken has worked in Ecuador, Mexico, and Bolivia on systems to reduce impact of agriculture on nearby nature preserves. His Wisconsin research is aimed at developing profitable farming practices that minimize the environmental impacts of agriculture on the environment.

Phil Certain – Phil retired in 2004 after 34 years on the chemistry faculty at UW-Madison, including eleven years as Dean of the College of Letters and Science. As graduate students living in Eagle Heights Apartments in the 1960s, he and his wife Melinda spent many hours in the land now protected as the Lakeshore Nature Preserve. More recently, he has been a regular walker in the Arboretum. He is on the board of the Madison Opera and chairs the board of trustees of Edgewood College. His expertise lies in understanding how higher educational institutions work (or don't).

Stanley Dodson – Stanley retired in 2008 after 37 years as a faculty member with the UW-Madison Zoology Department. He taught several ecology courses and wrote a popular text book, "Introduction to Limnology." His recent research links watershed land use and freshwater biodiversity. He has published on aquatic ecology, toxicology, and taxonomy. He is a jack-of-all-trades naturalist, as at home in a forest or prairie (or on a lawn) as standing in a pond. Stanley and his wife Ginny have led spring field trips to the Class of 1918 Marsh for the Friends. Stanley has been consistently committed to getting students outside, in field courses for limnologists, ecologists, and beginning biologists. He will bring knowledge of aquatic ecology and the ecological importance of entire watersheds.

Amy Jo Dusick – Amy Jo has been a UW-Madison Natural Resources program student since 2005. In 2006 she became a team leader for the UW-Arboretum ecological restoration work parties and shortly afterwards she was hired there as part of the summer Arboretum restoration field staff. This position included work as a part-time propagation assistant in 2007 and 2008. After volunteering at the Preserve, beginning in the summer of 2007 she worked part-time as field staff for the Lakeshore Nature Preserve. She continues to be a lead steward at the Preserve and has been a facilitator for the Students of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve group since 2007. After graduation, she hopes to work with restoration organizations to promote native and sustainable landscapes in an urban environment. Amy Jo will be elected for a one year term.

Evelyn Howell – Evelyn is a professor in the Department of Landscape Architecture at UW-Madison specializing in the restoration of Midwestern forests and grasslands. She has worked on plant community restoration, management, and conservation projects for numerous environmental organizations. As a first-year graduate student, she visited the Preserve woods across from Birge Hall to think. Somehow the sounds, colors, and textures of the plants and animals suddenly made things clear! Evelyn, together with her graduate students and classes, has been actively involved in efforts to preserve, restore and manage the Preserve since the 1980s, particularly the Biocore Prairie, the Class of 1918 Marsh, Picnic Point, and Muir Woods. Recently, she helped supervise Graduate Project Assistants Rebecca Kagle and Lars Higdon.

Roma Lenahan – Roma served on the Friends Board from 2001 to 2008 and as Secretary from 2001 to 2007. She has chaired the Communications Committee and served as newsletter editor since 2001. Roma has raised awareness about birds in the Preserve, by producing the Preserve Bird Checklist, conducting the Preserve Breeding Bird Study, obtaining Wisconsin Important Bird Area status, and leading bird walks. She has worked persistently to control Garlic Mustard in the Preserve, organizing the Pull-A-Thon and work parties as well as regularly pulling Garlic Mustard throughout the Preserve.

David Mickelson – Since 1973 Dave has experienced a spectrum of spectacular sunrises and pounding winter storms during his three times a week jogs on the Lakeshore Path. On these runs he enjoys the sights and sounds of the fall migration of Coots and Loons, the early morning hoots of Great Horned Owls, and the spring return of the Red-winged Blackbirds. Dave also led geology field trips in the Preserve many times before retiring from the Department of Geology and Geophysics in 2005. He taught Glacial Geology, Geomorphology, and Geology of the National Parks. As an Emeritus Professor he occupies himself with consulting, studying shoreline processes, and writing a book on the Geology of the Ice Age Trail.

Spring Field Trips (continued from page 2)

Bird Banding at Biocore Prairie Bird Observatory

May 23 (Saturday) 8:00 AM-12:00 Noon

Learn about bird banding (possibly with a bird in hand) and appreciate the importance of bird banding to conservation. Co-sponsored by the Madison Audubon Society. Park at the Frautschi Point or Picnic Point Parking Lot and walk to the Biocore Prairie. Leader: Mara McDonald (274-2534)

The Bats of Picnic Point

June 12 (Friday) Sunset - Nightfall

Join Dave Redell and Paul White, DNR bat biologists, for a hike on Picnic Point to 'eavesdrop' on the echolocation calls of the eight possible bat species we might encounter. Meet at the Picnic Point Parking Lot. Leader: Paul White (238-4342)

Pretty Things with Wings

July 11 (Saturday) 10:00 AM-12:00 Noon

Join us in a search for butterflies, dragonflies, and an occasional bird. Bring your binoculars. Co-sponsored by the Madison Audubon Society and the Southern Wisconsin Butterfly Association. Meet at the Picnic Point Parking Lot. Leader: Edgar Spalding (265-5294)

Storytelling on Picnic Point

August 11 (Tuesday) 6:00-7:30 PM

Join us for an evening hike of Picnic Point with Madison storyteller Melinda Bailey. Meet at the Picnic Point Parking Lot. Leader: Melinda Bailey (238-4342)

Events

Celebrate Earth Day at the Preserve

Join the Preserve staff and volunteers for planting work parties celebrating Earth Day. Work times will be planned for different areas of the Preserve on April 21, 22, and 23. Check the Preserve Website (www.lakeshorepreserve.wisc.edu) for specifics.

Garlic Mustard Pull-A-Thon

May 16 (Saturday) 1:45-4 PM Picnic Point
Rain date: May 17 (Sunday) 1:45-4 PM Picnic Point

Pledge money to control invasive species on page 9

Garlic Mustard Work Parties

See Work Party Schedule on page 4
See Preserve Website for additional work parties:
www.lakeshorepreserve.wisc.edu

Announcements

Preserve Appears in New Birding Publications

The Preserve appears in two new birding publications. The Preserve is one of 71 hotspots (9 from Dane County) highlighted in the new *Great Wisconsin Birding & Nature Trail: Southern Savanna Region*, the fifth and last of a series of guides which highlights "a set of waypoints, refuges, and wild places that offer the best birding and wildlife watching opportunities in the state." The new fifth edition of *Wisconsin's Favorite Bird Haunts*, published by the Wisconsin Society for Ornithology and compiled by Daryl D. Tessen, has expanded its section describing birding in the Preserve. Both publications increase awareness of the Preserve and encourage out of town birders to visit.

Bird Sightings Board

The bird watching community has a new, improved, Bird Sightings Board. This is located behind the historic iron gate on the service drive into Picnic Point, left of the main entrance, close to its previous location on the edge of Bill's Woods. The new Board includes the Lakeshore Nature Preserve Bird Checklist as well as general information on Preserve birding. Everyone is encouraged to record birds, wildlife, and bird behavior on the sheet in the water resistant box. Entries allow students or visitors, attracted by the bird finding publications, to locate birds in the Preserve. Entries for rare or out of season birds and nesting birds are used to improve the Checklist. The Bird Sightings Board belongs to the entire birding community, so report problems or suggest improvements to Roma Lenehan (rlenehan@charter.net or 238-5406).

Snowy Owl Appears by Bay

Pete Nichols found a Snowy Owl at the boat landing on University Bay on November 23. The bird flew along the Lakeshore Path and later was found on the roof of the Natatorium being harassed by Crows. This infrequent Arctic visitor, probably attracted by the waterfowl on University Bay, apparently did not stay long. Please report any other sightings of this Owl to Roma Lenehan (rlenehan@charter.net).

Audubon Christmas Bird Count in the Preserve

Due to a cold fall, by the December 20 Madison Bird Count, Lake Mendota was frozen, decreasing Preserve bird species diversity. Even so, 3 Bald Eagles, 2 Ring-billed and 3 Herring Gulls were seen. Counters located a late Catbird at the University Bay Marsh. Other late migrants possibly wintering included a Winter Wren, 2 Flickers, and 3 Swamp Sparrows. Red-breasted Nuthatches and multiple Brown Creepers were seen. Three resident Great Horned Owls and a Cooper's Hawk were also found.

Thank you, Retiring Board Members

Six Board members, including four founding members and two officers, will be leaving the Board:

Ann Burgess joined the Board in 2006 and served as Treasurer (1 year) and then as President (2 years). She helped organize the Garlic Mustard Pull-A-Thons and served on the Financial, Nominating, and Yahara Lakes Legacy Partnership Committees. Her priorities as President have been to enhance our partnership with the Preserve Committee and Preserve staff (see article on page 5), to formalize our committee structure as founding Board members were replaced by new Board members, and to deepen Board members' understanding of issues facing the Preserve by having invited presentations on topics such as stormwater management at Board meetings. **Blair Mathews**, a founding Board member, has long worked in fundraising with Dick McCoy (see below). Together, the two raised money for Tent Colony Woods, Muir Woods, and the Lakeshore Path. In honor of Bill Cronon, Dick and Blair raised more than \$100,000 for the Preserve Stewardship Fund. Both serve on the Preserve Development Group along with others from Preserve Committee, the Foundation, and UW Administration, and Preserve staff. For eight years they have worked to develop gift opportunities and to present well thought out ideas to class gift committees and others. They were unusually successful in gaining the support for class reunion gifts for Preserve projects.

Richard McCoy, a founding Board member, served as Vice President from 2002 to 2004 and President from 2004 to 2007. He helped write the Friends founding documents, including the Bylaws, Charter, and Articles of Incorporation. As President, he worked with the Preserve Committee, enhancing the visibility of the Friends, and he was actively involved in Master Planning. During his terms, the Friends grew dramatically, expanding membership and outreach through our newsletter, website, and field trips. He and Blair (see above) have for several years worked as a team in fundraising in support of Preserve projects and the Preserve.

William Muehl, a founding Board member, served as the first Vice President and on the initial Volunteer Committee. More recently, he has served as the chair of the Financial Committee and provided help with procedures and audits. For two years he was the Pull-A-Thon judge. Bill also serves as the Preserve's burn boss.

Lisa Munro joined the Friends Board in 2006 and has served as Secretary for the last two years. She serves on the Yahara Lakes Legacy Partnership Committee and regularly helps with Garlic Mustard.

Susan Slapnick, a founding Board member, has done much of the computer work for our outstanding website. She helped design and then updated the website, completely reorganizing it. Susan is always willing to help, leading work parties and serving as a team leader for the Garlic Mustard Pull-A-Thon.

Each of these members has made crucial contributions to the Friends. We want to thank all of them for all their help. All have indicated that they will continue to be involved in the Friends and in stewardship of the Preserve.

Announcements

Willow Creek Woods

Restoration is continuing at Willow Creek Woods. Additional seeds and plants will be planted under the oaks near the Native American Mounds. Gradually the adjacent area will be opened up by removing all non-native shrubs and invasive trees like Box Elder, Norway Maple, and Locust. Over the next few years new trees and shrubs as well as seeds and savanna plants will be planted when there is enough sun for them to grow.

Controlling Brush

This winter contractors cut large amounts of Honeysuckle and Buckthorn in Tent Colony Woods to allow woodland wildflowers to thrive. Preserve staff and volunteers will collect the brush and chip it. Planting, begun in some areas, will continue this spring. This project is funded by the Class of 1955 gift. Along the Big Oak Trail in Frautschi Point between the first and second oak, volunteers cut most of adjacent Buckthorn and Honeysuckle. The Friends will plant seeds and plants this spring in this area. Visit the trail and watch as the diversity increases over the next few years.

Snow Storage Area Improvements

Beginning this past fall and continuing in the spring, the University of Wisconsin will improve the snow storage area behind the Class of 1918 Marsh. In order to improve water quality, portions of the area will be hardened, improving truck access and minimizing environmental impact. Between the storage area and the Marsh, berms will be built and seeded with native plants. These berms will filter the water that enters the 1918 Marsh and contain trash within the snow storage area so that it can be easily cleaned up. This project should improve water quality and increase accessibility of the Class of 1918 Marsh loop trail during the spring. A smaller berm may be built near the 1918 Marsh parking lot to filter water from the snow overflow area. For the plan, see www.ayresprojectinfo.com/uw-snowpile-eia.

Arboretum Native Plant Sale May 9, 2009

The Friends of the Arboretum Native Plant Sale will be Saturday, May 9, 2009, from 9 AM to 2 PM at the wildflower tent near the Arboretum Visitor Center. Over 100 varieties of woodland flowers, prairie plants, ferns and native shrubs will be for sale. Experts will be on hand to answer questions. Plants are native to the area and propagated (not collected from the wild). Native trees, shrubs, and mixes of plants for rain, butterfly/hummingbird, savanna, and prairie gardens may be pre-ordered through March 20 (available by calling 263-7760 or www.uwarboretum.org/foa).

Volunteer Opportunities Expand

The volunteer opportunities in the Preserve will be dramatically expanded this year. Due to the generosity of donors to the Preserve, the Preserve has additional staff to lead work parties. These work parties will continue throughout the field season, offering an opportunity to learn about restoration and the Preserve.

Work Parties

Volunteers will have an opportunity to participate in restoration and to maintain existing restorations. They will work with the Preserve team, which plans and carries out restoration throughout the Preserve. As a result, volunteers will be able to learn about the ongoing restorations, invasive species control, and the Preserve from members of this knowledgeable team.

The work party tasks will change through the season, ranging from Garlic Mustard control to weeding and other invasive species control to planting and plant care. The location of the work parties within the Preserve will vary, allowing volunteers to become familiar with the different areas. Two focus areas will be the Tent Colony Woods restoration and Frautschi Point. In Tent Colony Woods, where hundreds of plants have been planted and large amounts of Buckthorn and Honeysuckle were removed this winter, volunteers will help with planting, weed control, and ongoing plant care. In Frautschi Point, additional invasive brush, especially Honeysuckle and Buckthorn, will be removed and opportunistic weeds controlled.

For details about the April and May Garlic Mustard work parties, see the article and schedule on page 4.

How to Participate

Everyone is encouraged to participate in these work parties, some of which are listed below. Additional work parties will be listed on the Preserve Website, www.lakeshorepreserve.wisc.edu. If you sign up on the Preserve Website, you will be notified of additional work parties. If you have questions, contact Amy Jo Dusick, Tom Helgeson, or Cathie Bruner (see below).

The Preserve Needs Your Help

The Preserve needs ongoing care. Unless large amounts of money are raised to support the Preserve, much of this work will have to be done by volunteers. This new Preserve volunteer program leverages both money and staff time by completing more work than a single person could do in the same amount of time.

Please consider attending at least some of these work parties. Your participation will enable this important volunteer program to continue and to expand. Volunteer efforts will also allow the expansion of Preserve restoration. Since restoration area is limited by available labor for maintenance, volunteers, by providing additional labor, can increase the area that can be restored and maintained with a limited budget.

One of the purposes of the Friends group is to provide volunteer opportunities at the Preserve. Due to the generosity of many donors, many of them Friends members, the volunteer program has been greatly expanded. Please help the Preserve Management make this new volunteer program a success. Your participation does make a difference.

Spring and Summer 2009 Work Parties (Also see Garlic Mustard Work Parties on Page 4)							
Date	Day	Time	Meeting Place	Date	Day	Time	Meeting Place
May 27	Wed	10:00-12:00	Picnic Point	July 18	Sat	9:00-11:00	Picnic Point
June 6	Sat	9:00-11:00	Picnic Point	Aug 1	Sat	9:00-11:00	Picnic Point
June 20	Sat	9:00-11:00	Picnic Point	Aug 15	Sat	9:00-11:00	Picnic Point

Contacts: Cathie Bruner cbruner@fpm.wisc.edu or 265-9275
 Tom Helgeson tjhelge@sbcglobal.net Amy Jo Dusick dusick@wisc.edu

For additional Work Party dates, see: www.lakeshorepreserve.wisc.edu

Garlic Mustard Pull-A-Thon Pledge

I pledge 25¢ 50¢ \$1 \$2 \$_____ per bag of Garlic Mustard the group pulled at the Pull-A-Thon
 Limit my pledge to a maximum of \$_____.

Name _____
 Address _____
 City/State _____ Zip _____

Mail To:
 Friends of the Preserve
 P.O. Box 55056
 Madison, WI 53705

Robert E. Gard Storyteller's Circle on Muir Knoll

Muir Knoll, located at the top of Muir Woods along Observatory Drive across from Bascom Hall, has traditionally been a gathering place for classes and other group activities. Fifty years ago it was the location of the University of Wisconsin ski jump. In winter and early spring the Knoll provides spectacular views of Lake Mendota and the opposite skyline. It also provides easy access to Muir Woods, a site of ongoing restoration.

The Robert E. Gard Foundation has made a generous gift to improve this area so that classes and other groups can make better use of this beautiful spot. The gift will provide a new storyteller's circle, similar to the Jens Jensen circles in other areas of Madison, as well as other improvements to the site.

The Project

The new storyteller's circle will replace the Class of 1961 Plaza and Overlook. The low circular limestone wall will seat about 40 people, enough for small classes

or other groups. The overlook site will have easy access from Observatory Drive.

In addition, the cistern will be broken inward and covered with soil and plantings. The project includes erosion control measures and landscaping on the slope, mostly using native plants. Grading and drainage improvements to control erosion will be incorporated into the new construction.

Public Meeting

The project is currently in the design stages. A public meeting will be held, probably in March or April, to present the plans and receive feedback (check the Preserve Website [www.lakeshorepreserve.wisc.edu] for the date and time). The University plans to begin construction during the summer.

We are all grateful to the Robert E. Gard Foundation for their generous support for the addition of the Robert E. Gard Storyteller's Circle. This will be a great gathering place for groups and a natural respite from the hectic campus life.

Friends of the Preserve
P.O. Box 55056
Madison, WI 53705

Friends Annual Meeting

April 7, 2009 at 7 PM
UW Arboretum Visitor Center

**Mail in your Garlic Mustard
Pull-A-Thon Pledge Form**