



PRESERVE!

Volume 10, Number 3, Fall 2011

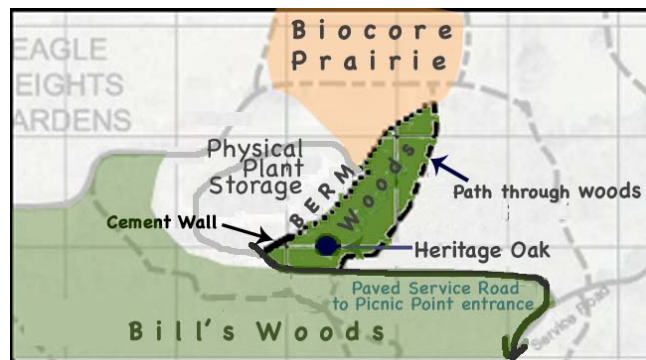
Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve Newsletter

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

Heritage Oak Project: Connecting the Woodland to the Prairie

by Gisela Kutzbach

Expanses of woods, prairie, and savanna once graced this land. For ten years the Friends of the Preserve have worked hard to restore much of Bill's Woods to a diverse native woodland. During the same period, the students and staff of the Biology Core Curriculum established and maintained the Biocore Prairie. Missing is the savanna landscape with its scattered open-grown trees, the natural CONNECTION between woodland and prairie.



The new 2011 Friends project aims to CONNECT the woodland and prairie by restoring the Bill's Woods Heritage Oak area to savanna, as specified in the Preserve Master Plan. This will allow generations of students to study and the public to experience all three communities. You can help complete this project by contributing money or labor (by attending a work party, listed on page 9).

The Project: Let the Sun Shine In

The magnificent Bur Oak southeast of the Physical Plant Storage area is the centerpiece of the Heritage Oak Project. This oak once grew in the open, slowly stretching its big branches, but in recent years it has been choked and shaded by fast growing trees and non-native shrubs.

Friends and other volunteers led by Preserve staff have begun to enhance the health of this beautiful tree and to improve the surrounding area. The first step was to reopen the understory by removing undesirable vegetation including piles and piles of buckthorn. Now the large open-grown oak and scattered young oaks of the next generation can thrive again. This May volunteers planted scores of native savanna plants under the drip line of the Heritage Oak, and seeds will be distributed in fall.

Our Challenge

This restoration will cost \$13,000. Most of the money will go to professional contractors with specialized equipment who will remove larger undesirable trees around the oak and throughout the woods. Other money will be spent on savanna plants and seeds. Countless volunteer hours along with professional work by Preserve staff will be required to plant and maintain this area.

Ten Years of Partnership

The ongoing partnership of Friends and Preserve staff over the last ten years has helped both groups to:

- Fulfill goals set forth in the Preserve Master Plan.
- Focus volunteer and staff work.
- Foster learning and appreciation of restoration and help all users of the Preserve enjoy our shared successes.

Help us to conduct this exciting project. With your aid the Heritage Oak and its offspring will flourish again and the understory will support diverse savanna vegetation, now a rare community in Wisconsin. Please help us with this project - donate to this special fund drive.

**Send your contribution today –
complete and mail the form on page nine!**

LET THE SUN SHINE IN – 2011

First things first: open up the understory

- Cut brush, small competitive trees, and stumps
- Remove invasive groundcover from the Heritage Oak area and the earth berm
- Remove trash and debris along the cement wall

A taste of savanna

- Plant woodland savanna flowers and grasses within the drip line of the Heritage Oak
Blue smooth aster, wild columbine, culvers root
Bottle brush grass, Sprengler's sedge

The next step: more light and air circulation

- Take down selected, large and undesirable trees
- Cut more brush and stumps; remove invasives
- Seed Oaks' drip line area with woodland savanna species and the berm with grasses

2012-2014: repeat the cycle, maintain and gain

- Expand the area of woodland savanna
- Plant shrubs to hide the cement wall from view

**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 Website

The Friends welcomes the submission of articles and announcements for our newsletter. We encourage people to share their checklists and other relevant 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 rlenehan@charter.net. To reserve space in our next newsletter, please tell us about your material by Sept. 9, 2011. The submission deadline is September 30, 2011.

Fall Field Trips

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

Fall Birding at Lakeshore Nature Preserve

August 28 (Sunday) 8:00 – 10:00 AM

Come search for fall migrants, including confusing fall warblers, flycatchers and sparrows while hiking through woods, prairies and gardens. Co-sponsored by Madison Audubon Society. Meet at the Class of 1918 Marsh parking lot. Leaders: Marty Evanson (271-6846) and Roma Lenehan

Stargazing in the Lakeshore Nature Preserve

September 9 (Friday) 8:00 – 9:30 PM

Dr. Jim Lattis and staff at UW Space Place will present a brief program about the current night sky followed by star gazing with telescopes, weather permitting. Meet at UW Parking Lot #131 (where Lake Mendota Drive meets University Bay Drive).
Leader: Jim Lattis (262-4779)

Bird Banding at Biocore Prairie Bird Observatory

September 10 (Saturday) 8:00 AM – 12:00 Noon

Join us for our 10th anniversary celebration banding birds at Biocore Prairie. 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 Frautschi Point or Picnic Point Parking Lot and walk to the Biocore Prairie. Leader: Mara McDonald (274-2534)

Edible and Useful Plants of Autumn

September 10 (Saturday) 3:00 – 4:30 PM

If you know where to look, nature is a combination grocery, hardware and variety store all under one big sky. Explore the Preserve to learn how local plants can be used for food, fiber, medicine, crafts and more. Meet at Picnic Point Parking Lot. Leader: David Eagan (249-0409)

Evening Hike on Biocore Prairie

September 16 (Friday) 6:00 – 7:30 PM

Join us for a walk through the Biocore Prairie. The Prairie will be at the peak of its late summer/early fall beauty. We'll learn about the life of the prairie and about the ways this prairie restoration is used for undergraduate teaching and research. Meet at Picnic Point Parking Lot. Leader: Janet Batzli (263-1594).

Archaeology of Picnic Point Area

September 25 (Sunday) 12:00 Noon – 1:30 PM

Join Wisconsin State Historical Society Archaeologist, Amy Rosebrough, for a tour of effigy mounds of the Picnic Point area. Learn about the lives of the ancestors of several present-day Native American tribes. Meet at Picnic Point Parking Lot.
Leader: Amy Rosebrough (264-6494)

Late Fall Birding at the Lakeshore Preserve

October 2 (Sunday) 8:00 – 10:00 AM

In contrast to the rush of the spring migration, fall migrants linger in the Preserve. Join us for the challenge of sparrows and late fall warblers in the gardens, prairies, and woodland edges. Co-sponsored by Madison Audubon Society. Meet at the Class of 1918 Marsh parking lot.
Leaders: Eric Wood and Roma Lenehan (238-5406) *(continued on page 6)*

From the Director....

by Gary Brown, Director, Lakeshore Nature Preserve

Summer is in full swing now with temperatures peaking in the 90's and humidity as thick as the mosquitoes in the Picnic Point marsh. Volunteers are buzzing about the Preserve in a myriad of activities, and plans for work parties, interpretative tours and outreach abound. Construction activities are soon to begin as well on the eastern tip of Picnic Point. Terra Construction is the general contractor with The Bruce Company doing the landscape restoration and site work. Be mindful of the construction traffic in and around the area from late July through October. They will be using a lot of small vehicles to access the site and will be staging out of the circle parking lot near the main entry to Picnic Point across University Bay Drive. Before the snow flies, we should see a majority of the work complete and a wonderful new view opened up to the campus and downtown Madison.

I am happy to report that we have a full complement of staff working full time now for the Preserve. Both Bryn Scriver and Adam Gundlach have been moved from 50% to 100% positions as they continue to provide

outstanding leadership in our volunteer coordination and field management activities. Cathie Bruner, as always, is keeping everyone apprised and guided in their duties and continues to be an inspiration to us all. As the lead worker among our field staff, she provides the day-to-day operational oversight of everything happening in the Preserve.

Of course, we wouldn't be where we are today without the help of our many community volunteers and our colleagues from the Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve. We depend on your continued support and enthusiasm for preserving this precious resource for the hundreds of students, faculty, staff and visitors that use the Preserve every day. As staff here in Facilities Planning & Management continue to build on our leadership managing the Preserve, we need friends like you to assist in our mission of teaching, learning, research and outreach. You are our best advocates, and the partnership we have forged must continue to actively steward these lands and amazing cultural resources for all to enjoy. Have a great summer!

“Like” the Lakeshore Nature Preserve? Follow Us on Facebook!

by Jenna Mertz, E. David Cronon Fellow

In order to better connect with Lakeshore Nature Preserve enthusiasts and the UW-Madison community, the Lakeshore Nature Preserve has recently launched its very own Facebook fan page. The page is a quick, easy, and informal way to stay up to date with current and upcoming Preserve events.

The page boasts vibrant photography, and fans can share wildlife sightings and pictures, talk about what's currently blooming, and post comments on the page's "wall." "Status updates" inform fans about upcoming field trips, volunteer work parties, and educational presentations on the Preserve's flora and fauna. General information, like the Preserve's hours, rules, and policies, as well as links to related fan pages, are also listed.

Just like the changing landscape of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve, the Facebook page is under constant revision to brief followers about current happenings. Watch for new posts, pictures, and informational tidbits to pop up in the coming months.

To join the conversation, search for "UW-Madison Lakeshore Nature Preserve" on Facebook and click "like" at the top of the page. Don't forget to share the fan page with fellow Lakeshore Nature Preserve enthusiasts!

Announcements

No Bicycles in the Preserve

Reminder...Bicycles are no longer allowed on the main Picnic Point path or anywhere in the Preserve except on the Howard Temin Lakeshore Path and the connector path from Eagle Heights Drive/Lake Mendota Drive to University Bay Drive. Thanks to all who are working to promote this new policy and keeping the Preserve safe for all users.

Parking Enforcement Changes at Picnic Point Lots

In August, UW Transportation Services will begin a new way of enforcing the parking in the gravel lots at the base of Picnic Point Monday through Fridays. New multi-space pay stations will soon be installed at each lot. All users will need to pay in advance for parking and display their receipt on their dash. Short term users will pay a minimal amount for parking. The longer you stay, the more expensive parking will be in an effort to reduce student and staff parking in these lots and commuting to the campus via the local bus. Unfortunately, many students, faculty and staff are currently abusing the 3-hour free parking system that was to be reserved for Preserve users. Parking will remain free on Saturdays and Sundays. Parking at Frautschi Point and Raymer's Cove will currently remain free at all times.

Picnic Point Improvements Project to Begin Construction – July 2011

A naturally active place will soon be bustling with materials and workers getting the renovation of the end of Picnic Point underway.

Beginning at the end of July the project to renovate the end of Picnic Point will begin. Visitors can expect to see construction traffic on the service road that enters the area through the stone wall with the gate. Please note that vehicle traffic for the project will not be using the first section of the main spine path nor the path to the old beach house and along the north side of the Picnic Point Marsh. The main spine path will be used from fire circle site 2 out to the point.

Construction is expected to begin at the end of July and continue through October 2011 with possible planting and restoration work occurring in Spring 2012. Due to the sensitive cultural and vegetative resources, the contractor will only be allowed to drive smaller, lighter weight vehicles into the site. The contractors have also been directed to not drive off the edge of the path to pass pedestrians but rather to stop and allow the pedestrian to move past. This will make for more trips with smaller vehicles, so please be aware of their presence and try to be cooperative so the work can move along as quickly as possible.

If you wish to be away from the bustle of construction there are many wonderful trails in the Lakeshore Nature Preserve to the west of the Picnic Point Entrance. Try exploring Frautschi Point or strolling through Tent Colony Woods to another lake

view from Raymer's Cove. For those looking for some slope on their hike, the trails in Eagle Heights Woods rise over 100 feet before reaching the top of that area. To see much more detail on these areas please visit www.lakeshorepreserve.wisc.edu and explore the interactive map.

The renovation of Picnic Point will target improving the site ecology while providing for the many visitors enjoying the space each day. By reducing the soil compaction, erosion and invasive vegetation and by planting native shrubs and restoring a native groundcover to hold the soil in place, the site will become far more beautiful and healthy than it is today. This vegetation management will also re-open the views of downtown and campus. Providing stone steps and a landing at the lake level as well as repairing ad hoc paths leading down dangerously steep slopes will protect the shorelines from additional erosion. The fire circle will be made to accommodate the variety of groups that often visit the area. A key visual improvement will be the relocation of the lake safety light, which will remain on the Point to warn boaters of storms, but will no longer be at the end of the path.

We hope everyone will enjoy the finished area in 2012.

If you have observations or concerns please contact Rhonda James at rjames@fpm.wisc.edu

Sandhill Crane Feeds Vole to Colt



The local Sandhill Cranes eat a wide variety of things, including raspberries and other items from the gardens. Jackie Hank photographed this adult Sandhill Crane catching a Meadow Vole and feeding it to its colt in the Eagle Heights Community Gardens in August of 2010.

Successful Bus Trip

Forty-two people attended the Friends of the Preserve sponsored Geology/Landscape of Dane County bus tour led by Dave Mickelson and John Harrington, visiting several glacial geology and plant community sites. During this Friends first ever 'off Preserve' bus tour, attendees learned about the natural processes that formed the present day landscape. Look for other bus tours in future newsletters and on our website (www.lakeshorepreserve.org).

Thank You, Donors and Volunteers

Thank you all for helping care for the Preserve.

Major Donors

Major donors donated more than \$100 since July 2010. See also starred listings.

Peter and Eleanor Blitzer
Zelda Davis
Diane and Robert Dempsey
Susan and Todd Denholm
Nancy and Jack Heiden
Peter and Mary McCanna
Richard McCoy
Jean and Walter Meanwell
Dolly Schoenberg
Margaret Van Alstyne
Diana Webb
Pat Powers and Tom Wolfe

Heritage Oak Project

Ann Burgess*
Dennis and Janis Cooper*
Elizabeth Evanson
Kennedy Gilchrist and Heidi Wilde*
John and Gisela Kutzbach*
Roma Lenehan*
John and Norma Magnuson*
Harriet Riley*
David Robb
Peter and Colleen Schmitz
Susan Slapnick
Ralph Stockhausen

Memorials and Gifts

In memory of Irene and Russell Mosely
John and Karen Icke*

Plants and Seeds

Kathie and Tom Brock
Dick and Kathi Dwelli

* Major Donor

New Members

Patron

Liz and John Heiner

Steward

Robert and Nancy Dott
Charles and Patricia Henrikson
Jeff and Arlene Koziol
Peter and Cheryl Olson
Glenn Teschendorf

Household

Dawn Ballweg
Pat Behling

Martha Christensen
Jonathon Cooper and Jane Richard
Amanda Harrington and Brian Christens
Becky Herb and Henry King
Sue and Steve Hughes
Rich Kahl and Laurie Yahr
Peter McIntyre and Heather Beasley
Michael Parsen and Dominique Haller
Margaret and Robert Pearce
Allan Shands
Susan Toth and Mary Jane Pierce

Individual

Peggy A. Lemahieu
Jeff Lorch
Janet Peterson
Paul Rowe
Jerry Simmons
Maryann Stephenson

Volunteers

Field Volunteers – Groups

Army ROTC
Biocore
CAM (College Age Ministry of Blackhawk Church)
Dane County Neighborhood Intervention Program
UW Furlough Service Day

Individuals

Rao Adighatla
Kathy Anderson
Bill Barker
Evan Bauch
Jeff Boblick
Lucas Boyle
Carol Buelow
Ann Burgess
Darin Burleigh
Cathy Conrad
Janice Cooper
Bill Damdinsuren
Nicole M. Davis
Diane Dempsey
Sue Denholm
Glenda Denniston
Debra Deppeler
Bess Donoghue

Amy Jo Dusick
Dick Dwelle
Kathi Dwelle
Sam Eaton
Sue Gardner
Kennedy Gilchrist
Galen Hasler
Nancy Holyoke
Jan Hornback
Evelyn Howell
Noriko Jackson
Gisela Kutzbach
John Kutzbach
Tomer Langberg
Thomas Larsson
Roma Lenehan
Nic Litza
Pat Litza
Michelle Louis
John Magnuson
Max Melberg
Gary Mitchum
Lisa Munro
Karen Nakasone
Stephen Nelson
Carissa Nichols
Biss Nitschke
Ethan Parker
Drew Paxton
John Pfender
Sylvia Pfender
Laura Phelan
Alex Rezazadeh
Harriet Riley
Katherine Roehl
Marcia Schmidt
Rebecca Schwenzfier
Shirley Scriver
Josh Seibel
Laura Selig
Laura Shere
Jerry Simmons
Susan Slapnick
Balazs Strenner
Elise Swanson
Glenn Teschendorf
Mary Trewartha
Jane Villa
Rachel Vorlander
Will Waller
Amy Whillock

Sarah Witman
Abi Wolff
Haolin Xu
Connor Zarecki
Mei Zhang
Chunhui Zhang

Organizational

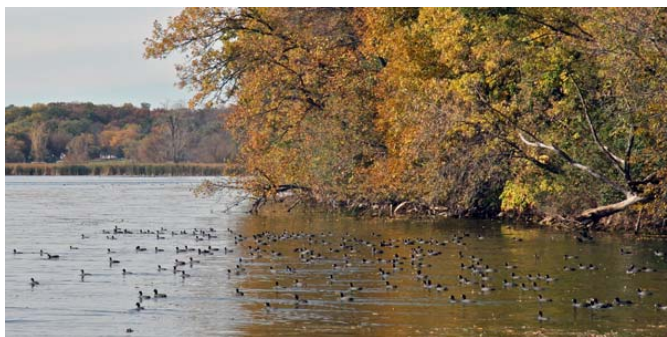
Pat Becker
Paul Borowsky
Susan Carpenter
Phillip Certain
Diane Dempsey
Susan Denholm
Glenda Denniston
Peter Ganzlin
Kennedy Gilchrist
Brent Haglund
Evelyn Howell
Karen Icke
Gisela Kutzbach
Roma Lenehan
David Liebl
Jeff Lorch
Michelle Louis
John Magnuson
Sylvia Marek
Mara McDonald
Jean Meanwell
David Mickelson
Harriet Riley
Marcia Schmidt
Susan Slapnick
Will Waller

Field Trip Leaders

Bill Barker
Kathie Brock
Tom Brock
Diane Dempsey
Glenda Denniston
Dan Doeppers
Marty Evanson
Peter Fissel
John Harrington
Al Holzheuter
David Liebl
John Magnuson
Sylvia Marek
Mara McDonald
Kevin McSweeney
David Mickelson
Kathy Miner
Robin Mittenthal
Emma Sessa
Edgar Spalding
Will Waller
Susan Will-Wolf
Eric Wood

Thoughts from John Magnuson – Friends of the Preserve Board President

I have been a Friend for some time. I walked through Muir Woods every day or two from Limnology, just west of Memorial Union, to Birge or Noland Halls for classroom teaching. My initial attachment was to Muir Woods for its ethical and historical relation to John Muir. I loved the forest itself, the spring ephemerals, and the overlook. I appreciated the exclusion of off-road bicycles through creative design of bridges and barriers.



Coots and Trees on University Bay (J Magnuson)

But mostly I saw the Preserve from the lake through teaching Limnology or mentoring student research (see “More Than Just a View of the Lake” in *PRESERVE!* Winter 2006). One student project was about fallen trees extending into the water from shore. We counted such trees around the entire shoreline. A total of only two trees were found in the developed areas while along the Lakeshore Preserve, Governor’s Island, and Governor Nelson State Park fallen trees in the water were common. Shoreline residents and city parks had “cleaned” their shoreline. Yet, the trees in the lake are “coarse woody habitat” where fishes and water life

thrive. Another student sampled the fishes along the University’s shoreline. Few fishes were near the cement piers and the neat, quarried rocks along the Union Terrace; a few more were along the human-built, boulder riprap extending westward past the Limnology Laboratory. Most fishes were along the natural shorelines of the Preserve with coarse woody habitat and submerged water plants. Here small fishes sought shelter from predators; the predators tried to capture these small fish, occasionally with success. Even for our studies in the open waters, the shoreline of the Preserve was always in sight providing a welcome contrast to the built up environment.

Later, on the Friends’ Board, I learned of many more special places in the Preserve. I learned the most, not from personal hikes or walks, but from volunteering to remove buckthorn or garlic mustard and planting more lovable plants. I also learned from the many field trips that the Friends organize. Both the field trips and volunteer activities provide intimate and informed ways to learn about this wonderful and diverse place.

For me, the Preserve is a reminder of my younger years when such places were more common or at least less influenced by human activities. Today, the new generations of students can come to the Preserve for recreation, study, hikes, restoration, and for that all important peace and solitude. Students of today can help insure that this wonderful place will be here for their children and grandchildren who will, of course, all attend the University of Wisconsin-Madison and appreciate the Lakeshore Nature Preserve as you and I do.

Fall Field Trips *(continued from page 2)*

Lake Mendota and the Lakeshore Nature Preserve

October 12 (Wednesday) 10:00 – 11:45 AM

(Weather date, Friday, October 14)

Come learn about the ecotone (transition) and the interactions between the lake and the Preserve. We will examine the changes in Lake Mendota and the Preserve shoreline over the years. The boat we will use is the LIMNOS, operated by the Center for Limnology for teaching and research. Group size will be limited to 12 participants. Please reserve your place by an e-mail to the trip leader. Meet at the Limnology Parking Lot 8 at the Limnology Pier ten minutes before departure. Leader: John Magnuson (233-2036) (e-mail:jjmagnus@wisc.edu)

Ever-changing Cultural Landscape of Picnic Point

October 23 (Sunday), 1:00 – 3:00 PM

People have been visiting Picnic Point for at least 12,000 years. Enjoying a beautiful sunset lake view or a

campfire and a picnic is nothing new. Join historic and cultural resources manager, Daniel Einstein, for a guided stroll to explore how people have used Picnic Point – from Native American ancient burial rituals, to Euro-American recreational pursuits such as golf and wine-tasting. The latest projects for the end of the Point will also be discussed. Meet at the Picnic Point Parking Lot. Leader: Daniel Einstein (265-3417)

New Friends Officers

In May Friends of the Preserve officers were elected for the 2011-2012 year:

President – John Magnuson

Vice-President – Gisela Kutzbach

Treasurer – Marcia Schmidt

Secretary – Roma Lenehan

The Preserve: A Decade of Help by the Friends

Volunteers from the Friends have been helping in the Preserve (formerly the “Campus Natural Areas”) since the formation of the organization in 2001. At that time there was no paid staff and no volunteer coordinator, so members, under the supervision of the Field Manager, put in many hours of labor and sometimes supervised student volunteers. Together they built trails, wrenched out invasive shrubs, bagged piles of Garlic Mustard, thistles and burdock, seeded areas with donated native seeds and bought, planted and cared for thousands of native plants. The Preserve would not look like it does today without the help of the Friends. (Photos by Glenda Denniston)



Upper Bill's Woods: Beginning, April 2002 ... One Year Later, August 2003

Garlic Mustard Pull-A-Thon, 2005



Bill's Woods: Friends Add Native Plants May 2003...Carpeted with Wildflowers May 2011

First Annual Meeting, April 2001



Students and Friends Plant Together, 2006

Old Field: Students Planting Bur Oaks, 2006...Bur Oaks in Same Spot Today, July 2011



“Second” Oak: Crowded by Invasive Shrubs, 2004...Planting after Clearing, May 2006 ... Surrounded by Savanna Plants Today, 2011

A Drumming Fish in Lake Mendota, the Freshwater Drum

by John Magnuson

Not only birds, frogs, and cicadas make sounds. The name, freshwater drum, gives away the fact that this fish produces sounds like the rapid tapping of a drum (ta,ta,ta,ta). Some are a lower pitch than others and they occur in bursts about five seconds long. To hear the sounds, see a picture of the drum, and find a sonogram of the sounds, go to www.lakeshorepreserve.org and click on the link. While studying at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Hans Schneider made this recording from Lake Winnebago with an underwater microphone in May 1959.

Freshwater drum are one of about 38 fish species living in Lake Mendota. They are moderately abundant as are the white sucker, Eurasian carp, rockbass, and catfishes. While common around the state, especially in large rivers, freshwater drum were not found in Lake Mendota until after 1930 when they were stocked during fish rescue operations from the shrinking backwaters of the Mississippi during the droughts of the dust bowl. The freshwater drum is the only strictly freshwater species in a diverse family of 160 species of marine fishes called the drum or Sciaenidae.

The drumming occurs in the spring and early summer starting at ten or so in the morning. This musical fish occurs in Lake Mendota off the Preserve shoreline. Only the males drum, and the sounds are thought to be a part of courtship behavior. The males have a unique set of muscles and tendons attached to

the inner walls of the body cavity. They extend over the top of the gas bladder. The rapid contraction of these causes a drumming sound to come from the bladder. The gas bladder typically serves as an organ to help fishes achieve weightlessness in water, but in drums it also serves as a gas filled drum.

Perhaps going along with its sound production, the freshwater drum has a uniquely large “otolith” located in the inner ear used in hearing. A large drum has an ivory-colored otolith as large as a quarter or so in diameter and up to about a quarter inch thick. As a boy I would occasionally carry one of these around in my pocket. They also have growth rings that can be used to determine how old the drum is and how fast it has grown. Otoliths from large drum have been found in Indian middens in the floors of caves along the Mississippi indicating that the freshwater drum was in the diet of early Native Americans. They also used drum otoliths for trading and adornment. Another unique feature of the freshwater drum is that its lateral line along the side of the body extends all the way to the very tip of its tail. The lateral line, a distance touch receptor, also may be related to perception of low frequency drumming.

There are drummers in Lake Mendota, not only on Union Terrace. These piscine drummers are a part of the diversity of life in the waters along the Preserve.

Around the Preserve

Prothonotary Warbler Nest Box Project a Success!

Prothonotary Warblers successfully nested in the marsh on Picnic Point this summer. Mark Trewartha and Bill Barker borrowed three PVC nest boxes from Andy Paulios at Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and installed them on Easter Sunday. By May 17, Daniel Marschalek reported a male entering one of the boxes, and monitoring revealed four eggs on June 1. By mid-June, adult birds were busy carrying food to the nestlings. Mike McDowell reported adults busily feeding hungry fledglings on June 26, almost two months to the day after nest box installation. Prothonotary Warblers ordinarily nest in tree cavities along the Lower Rock and Mississippi Rivers, and this is the first successful nest reported to the Wisconsin Breeding Bird Atlas for Dane County. (See Fall 2011 *PRESERVE!* page 7 for information and photograph of last year's nest).

2011 Prairie Partners Interns



Interns Funded by the Friends of the Preserve (K Brock)

Volunteering for Restoration

Join the Friends for one of our monthly volunteer days. During these two mornings each month, volunteers have been weeding, removing invasive plants and shrubs, planting forbs and grasses, and maintaining trails. Last year we focused on Eastern Bill's Woods. This year activities focus on the Heritage Oak Project (see page 1). Even before the snows stopped, we had removed many of the invasive species from under the drip line of the oak and we have kept up the pressure.

Our monthly volunteer days are done collaboratively with the Preserve Staff who help focus and facilitate our work. Bryn Scriver, the Preserve's volunteer coordinator, has made a huge difference in our effectiveness. On a usual morning, members of the University's Preserve Committee, Preserve staff members, University students, and the Friends work together. Experienced volunteers and staff teach about the site, what we are doing, and how to do it. This summer, in cooperation with the Arboretum, some of us are learning more about volunteer restoration and the use of herbicides to prevent resprouting of problem invasives like buckthorn. This should increase our effectiveness. Opportunities are also available to volunteer with Preserve staff on many other occasions.

We do need more volunteers. Volunteers control invasives, maintain trails, and plant. Many of you have jumped in. And the results are emerging from the underbrush. We wish to thank all the volunteers listed on page 5. You have made a difference to the Preserve.

Come work on the Heritage Oak project on volunteer days - August 20 and 22 and September 18 and 19 from 9 to 12. Future dates and times are listed on the Friends (www.lakeshorepreserve.org) and the Preserve websites.



Volunteer Day, Upper Bill's Woods, May 2011



Upper Bill's Woods Volunteer Day, October 2010

YES, I want to support the Heritage Oak Project

Fundraising Goal: \$13,000

Name _____ Oaks \$500

Address _____ Acorns \$250

City, State _____ Zip Code _____ Grasses \$100

Please make your check payable to "Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve" Seedlings \$50

I want to volunteer! Email _____ or Phone No. _____ Other _____

Mail this form with your check to:

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

(I understand my gift is not a membership renewal but an additional donation)

Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve is a tax exempt 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

Tenth Anniversary of the Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve

Do you remember the Preserve ten years ago? Eastern Bill's Woods was a thicket of invasive brush. There was no trail through eastern Frautschi Point and the "Second" Oak was invisible in the summer. Most of the field was old brome field dotted with thistles – Biocore Prairie was a small area adjacent to the lake. The Lakeshore Nature Preserve (with another name) had a new University of Wisconsin governing Committee. There was no Master Plan to guide restoration. Cathie Bruner was the only member of the Preserve staff. There was no Friends group to plant, weed, or provide money for the Prairie Partner Interns!

On September 19, 2001, at the first membership meeting, attendees approved the Charter and Bylaws and elected the first Board of Directors. Since then, the Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve volunteers have restored Eastern Bill's Woods, built the Frautschi Point Big Oak Trail and planted along it, and planted thousands of native plants. Volunteers have removed thousands of invasive shrubs and other invasive plants. The Friends has provided money to fund the Interns, control invasive species, and restore areas like Raymer's Cove. The Preserve now has two additional staff members, partially due to fund raising efforts of Friends members Richard McCoy and Blair Mathews.

Today, the Friends of the Preserve has over 300 members who "support, encourage and contribute to the University's efforts" to increase the biodiversity of the Preserve, educate people about the Preserve, encourage the appropriate use of the Preserve, and support it by supplying volunteers and money (Statement of Goals, 2002, published *FCNA News*, Spring 2003, page 3).

In honor of our Tenth Anniversary, we are launching the Heritage Oak Project (page 1). We invite members to support this savanna restoration project, which will fulfill part of the Preserve Master Plan. This work will save an open grown oak and its offspring and restore this area to a beautiful savanna, providing opportunities for students and the community to learn about this rare ecosystem. Please consider a donation or join our volunteer days (page 9) to help us restore this savanna connection between Bill's Woods and Biocore Prairie.

Our official anniversary celebration will be at our April 2012 Annual Meeting, at which Tom and Kathie Brock will tell us about the history of the Friends and the Preserve. This fall, please join us for a field trip (page 2). Go to the Friends website to see some of our projects and history (www.lakeshorepreserve.org). Visit the Preserve to see the changes and possibly meet a member of the Friends at work!

Friends of the Preserve
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