



2014 interns \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ break to chat about the joys of buckthorn removal with Adam Gundlach. Photo: G. Kutzbach

**Outreach:** 2014 was an extraordinary year for the *Friends*. We opened the season with demonstrations of soil making and seed planting at the Eagle Heights Community Garden Seed Fair, an event attended by 500-600 gardeners, many with young children. We participated in two events with U.W. Hospital supporting their Wellness Program and Green Steps Challenge. We entertained young minds at the UW-Madison Science Expedition. We exhibited at the Nelson Institute Earth Day Conference, celebrated Earth Day with UW Housing, and welcomed students to campus in September with the “Party on the Path”.

**Support:** Field Trips and volunteer workdays are important aspects of our “Connect and Care” mission. The

*Friends* sponsored 19 field trips and 21 workdays. We shared field expertise in many areas: Effigy Mounds, Wildflowers, Bird Banding, Pollinators, Migrating Birds, Marsh Ecology, and Regional Geology. We toured the Community Gardens and sailed Mendota aboard the Limnos research vessel. On work days, we installed thousands of native plants, and as ever, removed loads of buckthorn and garlic mustard. We funded the Audubon intern program for its seventh season and established a bluebird trail with 14 stations. We think the birds are grateful.

**Finance:** The *Friends* finances are strong. The 2014 beginning balance below reflects our commitment to maintain a 2- year buffer for operating expenses. The ending balance includes strong support for the Eagle Heights Woods Project. Between those two numbers our main disbursements are funds for Interns and Preserve Stewardship. We are ever mindful that your money should be spent wisely.

**Membership:** Our membership is stable at approximately 300 members and is remarkably loyal. We retain over 90% of our members year-to-year. Our two biggest workdays were those that celebrated *Friends*-specific projects: the Heritage Oak restoration and the Harriet Riley Flower Installation Festival. We have a diverse and committed Board and continue to attract highly qualified individuals for Board service. This season brings the retirement of two 6-year veterans: Dave Mickelson and Evelyn Howell. We thank them for their service. We also thank Roma Lenehan and Glenda Denniston for their enormous contributions as Preserve Stewards. We thank new member Paul Noeldner for his popular monthly feathered friends excursions. And finally, a special callout to Gisela Kutzbach, who has not only given us an engaging and exciting website, but has quietly assembled a superb fund-raising team for the Eagle Heights Woods project.

<b>Annual Financial Report</b>		
<i>Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve</i>		
	Details	Totals
Starting balance		\$54,446.82
Income		\$59,298.16
Memberships	\$14,290.00	
Donations and memorials	\$14,615.00	
Garlic mustard Pledges	\$1,615.00	
Eagle Heights Woods funds	\$28,725.00	
Dividends and interest	\$53.16	
Expenses		\$(15,306.91)
Gifts to Preserve	-\$4,000.00	
Garlic Mustard Pledges	-\$1,615.00	
Summer Interns	-\$5,525.15	
Annual meeting	-\$565.09	
Plantings/seeds for Preserve	-\$1,506.40	
Postage, supplies and newsletter	-\$2,095.27	
Ending balance		\$98,438.07