

Lac Lawrann Fall 2010 CONSERVANCY

• NEWS AMONG FRIENDS •

Notes from the President *by Gary Britton*

Those of you who are long-time readers of our quarterly newsletter News Among Friends, probably noticed that my usual "Notes from the President" column was missing from the last two issues. This was part of the internal restructuring of the Board of Directors that we undertook at the end of last year. In order to focus areas of responsibility on selected activities and to spread the workload, the board decided to have three vice-presidents, each in charge of a specific area, rather than one general vice-president. When Friends of Lac Lawrann Conservancy was incorporated in 1994, the founders had the foresight to realize that at some time, having multiple vice-presidents might be desirable. Consequently, the by-laws were structured to allow for that possibility and the current board implemented the change.

Board members decided that Vice Presidents for Buildings and Grounds, Education and Programs, and Marketing and Membership would be the three areas. One of the responsibilities assigned to each of them was writing the lead newsletter article once a year. So you have seen excellent articles by Paul De Chant, Vice President for Education and Programs, and by Dan Wilson, Vice President for Buildings and Grounds, addressing their respective areas of focus as related to activities at the Conservancy. The Vice President for Marketing and Membership remained vacant for a few months. Sue Millin, our newest member of the Board, was subsequently elected to that position and will be writing about those activities later. The Executive Committee and other board members believe that this new structure has already



The walk back from checking out our newly recorded lily leaved twayblade

strengthened the focus in each of these respective areas of interest. From my perspective as president, it has helped spread the leadership workload, as well as form a broader base for leadership within Friends of Lac Lawrann.

Like most non-profit organizations, raising funds to support the organizations' programs and facilities is an important aspect of the Board of Directors responsibilities. Lac Lawrann is no different. For example, with the Buildings and Grounds Committee, under the leadership of the VP for B & G, focusing on trail building projects, building maintenance and other projects, it gave me time to pursue a grant to provide financial support for one of those projects. Nationwide competition for foundation funding such as this is very challenging and funding is definitely not assured; but we received word earlier this summer that the proposal cleared the first phase of review and will be considered by the foundation's full

board when they meet late this fall. Our Grants Committee and I hope to have time to pursue additional requests of this type in the future.

In addition to the important and generous donations of our members, our local fund-raising includes the spring Flower Sale and the fall Bluegrass Music Concert in "This Old Barn". That event is coming up soon. I hope that each of you will be able to attend to enjoy the food and fellowship prior to the music and then sit back and relax to the wonderful music of the Big Cedar Bluegrass Band which has been very supportive of Lac Lawrann activities for several years. I look forward to seeing you in the barn on September 17 and on the LLC trails this fall! Enjoy! 🍄

This Old Barn Is Back for the 10th Year!

Remember all that great music, fun and food – not to mention a beautiful fall evening at the Farmstead? That was just one year ago! We invite you all to return to listen to Big Cedar Bluegrass Band and enjoy food and refreshment Friday, September 17. We will begin serving at 5:30PM so please bring those wonderful homemade desserts by then so that we can prepare them for individual servings. VOLUNTEERS WE SURE

NEED YOUR HELP to make the fall Fundraiser a success.

Please contact **Delores Kenny** to offer your talents! 262-338-2719

REMINDER: Don't forget to return your raffle tickets and ask for more to sell. Thank you! 🍄



Donations in Recognition of LLC Programs

- * Menomonee River Chapter of Wild ones Natural Landscapers
- * Fair Park PTO
- * Roundy's Supermarkets
- * Memorial Donations in memory of **John Schuppel:** Kristin Beatty

In Memory of

In Memory of Mary Lou (Joan Rosenberger's sister who died on August 4) by **Herb and Maxine Ellis.**

New Members

Regina Kaney
Diane Soderbeck
Lana Voigt
Kathleen Walters

Door County Get Away Raffle Winner

Betty Novak, her husband, Mike and son, Tony enjoyed their weekend in Door County! "It was nice for the three of us to get away from the city and just kick back for a few days" said Betty.

They took a tour of a winery and enjoyed one of the famous fish boils in Fish Creek. They went to Sturgeon Bay one day but spent time just taking in the sun and beach in front of their cottage with the gorgeous view of Green Bay!

You too could be a 2010 Raffle Winner at This Old Barn.

Buy your tickets now!

"Ready-Set-Go" *It's our tenth year visiting classrooms*



Pat Carrier dissects an owl pellet with a Story Time class

School is in session and our story reader naturalists are picking up materials to visit classrooms in twelve neighboring schools including Washington, Fond du Lac and Ozaukee County. September's introduction to story time is CONSERVANCY. Children hear the story of how Lac Lawrann came to be as told by SHYBER (Small Headed Yellow Blotched Endangered Reptile), Lac Lawrann's mascot. "They Call My Pond Lac Lawrann" is his story and he saw it all!

Story Time visits to the classrooms continue September through May, a different topic each month. October through December, Kindergarten and First Graders will learn about SEEDS, DEER and SPIDERS. Second and Third Graders will learn about URBAN SPACES, PREPARING FOR WINTER and WEATHER. We especially thank volunteers **Linda**

Juech, Beverly Hanson and Wendy Wosoba for developing all these lesson plans. We're so organized that volunteers can be in and out of the classroom in 45 minutes. The kids would like us to stay longer, but teachers have time limits. Reservations are set for this fall and once again we have a school waiting list – dependant on our number of volunteers.

Special thanks to all the volunteers involved with this program: **Sue Awve, Jan Bicknell, Karen Bowes, Pat Carrier, Ellen Conley, Phil Crass, Nancy Curtes, Judy Busack, Lynne Ferge, Beverly Hanson, Mickey Kazmierski, Lee and Mary Krueger, Kathy Marth, Kate Peterman, Sarah Placzek, Julie Romagnoli, Sue Schemelin, Sue Schmidt, Ron and Wendy Wosoba.**

We're a bunch of retired people who are willing to give time to one class a month or fill in where needed. If you'd like to learn more about story time visits, assist or observe, please note the following and contact **Sherry Ullius: 262-644-6178, setlrsmil@charter.net.** Until next time "Enjoy Nature's Beauty".



Mickey Kazmierski loves introducing students to Shyber

Story Time Naturalists Wanted

Share your love and enthusiasm for caring and protecting our outdoor world with young children!

- Bring outdoor experience into the classroom sharing appreciation and respect for our natural environment
- Classroom visits include reading a story relating to our natural world along with hands-on activities using hides, skulls, plants, etc.
- Teaching background and/or experience with the outdoors is an option
- Visits are made to Kindergarten through Third Grade
- Time involved: one school, one class—three hours per month
- Training: observing and team teaching (lesson plans provided)
- Sponsored by Friends of Lac Lawrann Conservancy 🌿



Interpark Restoration Project *by Dan Wilson VP of Building & Grounds*

Interpark or “Buckthorn Woods”, as we not so affectionately call it, is about 5 acres of City of West Bend park land nestled between the Stodola Prairie and Royal Oaks Park prairie. As part of long term master planning at Lac Lawrann, these 5 acres have been identified as the number one priority for restoration. By establishing 4.5 acres of prairie in Interpark, a contiguous prairie plant community will cover about 20 acres. The remaining 0.5 acres of Interpark will be restored to a native woodland community.

Management of Interpark by the City and Friends has been pretty much “hands off” for a number of years. American Transmission Company’s (ATC) high tension power lines are over part of the property, so periodic cutting by ATC has been done. Invasive species, primarily autumn olive, common buckthorn, and multiflora rose have taken over the property. They are a primary seed source for many of the invasives we are trying to combat each year in Lac Lawrann Conservancy. This three-year restoration project starts this fall with the eradication of all invasive plants in the whole 5 acre parcel through disc and hand cutting.

That will be followed by four herbicide applications over the next year, prior to prairie replanting in 2012. After that we anticipate additional overseeding and planting for diversification, prairie burns, invasive plant removal, and broadleaf spraying until the invasive species are under control.

The Interpark restoration work group will be composed of those who were involved in establishing both the Stodola Prairie (beginning in 1986) and those involved in Royal Oaks Park prairie.

The Policy Committee supported this proposal at its meeting in April. Because of the priority of this restoration, the Building and Grounds Committee recommended that the Friends Board take action to financially support this restoration project, not to exceed \$5000 spread out over the three years. (The Friends has applied for a Norcross grant to cover the expense of this project, so we’ll wait to see if anything happens with that!)

Restoring Interpark will create a contiguous prairie plant community to be enjoyed by all for years to come. 🌿

Boy Scouts Improve Trail to Rainbow Lake *By Bob Broman*

Two Eagle Scout candidates from West Bend’s Troop 780 chose to make lasting improvements to the Northern Wetland-Rainbow Lake Trail this summer. **Gary Thames III** directed his fellow scouts to construct ramps on a boardwalk built a few years ago in another scout project. In addition, rocks and soil fill were used to relocate a low spot in the Northern Wetland trail, creating a dry footpath around a spot often filled with water or mud. **Brad Wagner** and his scout crew built a boardwalk across a gully extending from a retention pond



The “bridge” built by Brad Wagner as part of his Eagle Leadership Project

outside of the Conservancy. This new structure makes for a safe crossing on the path to Rainbow Lake.

In addition to earning merit badges, a candidate for the Eagle Scout rank must “plan, develop, and give leadership to others in a service project helpful to” a religious institution, a school, or their community. Both Gary and Brad chose to assist Lac Lawrann Conservancy as we continue to make progress on the Rainbow Lake access. The Friends provided funding

for the project materials. 🌿

Project Learning Tree: *Environmental Experiences for Early Childhood* *By Wendy Wosoba*

On Thursday, June 17, **Ellen Conley**, Ron and I spent two hours at Riveredge for a Project Learning Tree training session. We played with scissors and paper and string to create materials related to learning about nature. We went outside and pretended to be our “favorite tree”. It was fun and educational for adults who work with very young children encouraging them

to explore the senses, the seasons, and neighborhood trees. We received the curriculum guide and the accompanying CD which will be added to the LLC curriculum materials. The Department of Natural Resources provides the training and materials.

WE CARE!
Remember to designate LLC's number **442240** in Pick N Save We Care Program. Sign up at the service desk with your advantage card and every time you use it while shopping a percentage of the total spent will be given to Friends. So far this year we have added **\$108.83** to help with programs and expenses.
THANK YOU!!

55 Years of Land Preservation • 30 Years as a Conservancy • 15 Years Friends of LLC

Lac Lawrann Conservancy is part of the West Bend Parks System.

Craig Hoepfner,
Director

Kate Peterman,
Conservancy Naturalist

Friends of Lac Lawrann Conservancy, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation providing volunteer and financial support for the Conservancy and its programs.

Gary Britton, President

Paul De Chant, VP Education & Programs

Dan Wilson, VP Buildings & Grounds

Sue Millin, VP Marketing & Membership

John Rozek, Treasurer

Jill Badzinski, Secretary

Karen Christianson, Legal counsel

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PRESERVING AND ENHANCING LAC LAWRANN CONSERVANCY AS A NATURE SANCTUARY FOR ALL TO EXPERIENCE

All events are at Lac Lawrann Conservancy unless otherwise noted. **PAC** is the Washington County Public Agency Center at 333 E. Washington St. (enter off Indiana). **Cedarburg** is the Cedarburg Cultural Center at W62N546 Washington Ave in Cedarburg. **Niche** is on the First Floor of West Bend City Hall. **PRF Conference Room** is on the 2nd floor of West Bend City Hall.

❖ ❖ ❖ ❖ ❖ ❖ ❖ What's happening this Fall? ❖ ❖ ❖ ❖ ❖ ❖ ❖

Educational Programs

- **RSO: Controlled Burns, what happens before the match is lit?** Wednesday, 9/8, 7pm (PAC)
- **Preschool Adventures** – Thursdays, 9/9-30
- **Things that go Bump in the Night** – Friday, 9/10
- **RSO: Climate Change and Global Warming** – Tuesday, 9/21, 7pm (Cedarburg)
- **National Public Lands Day** – Saturday, 9/25, 9am-12pm
- **Scout Day** – Saturday, 10/2
- **Home School Days** – Monday, 10/5
- **Prairie Seed Harvest** – Saturday, 10/9, 1pm
- **RSO: Ghost Bird - the timely story of the Ivory Billed Woodpecker** – Wednesday, 10/13, 7pm (PAC)
- **RSO: Hill's oak and it's relatives: Where do they come from & why do they stick around?** – Tuesday, 10/19, 7pm (Cedarburg)
- **Luminary Walk** – Saturday, 10/23, 7pm
- **Nature Stories** – Thursdays, 11/4 – 12/16 (except 11/26), Niche
- **RSO: Proactive Strategies in the Management of Emerald Ash Borer and other invasive species** – Wednesday, 11/10, 7pm (PAC)

- **RSO: Nature's Second Chance: Restoring the Ecology of Stone Prairie Farm** – Tuesday, 11/16, 7pm (Cedarburg)

Volunteer Days of Interest

- **Conservancy Stewards (trails, grounds, invasive plants)** – Wednesdays 9am
- **Teacher Naturalist Training – Wisconsin Glacial Landscape** – Monday, August 30, 9am
- **This Old Barn preparation** – Tues, September 14, 9am & Thurs, September 16, 9am
- **This Old Barn Event** – Friday, September 17, 5:30pm
- **This Old Barn Clean up** – Monday, September 20, 9am
- **National Public Lands Day** – Saturday, September 25, 9am-12pm
- **Friends of LLC annual meeting** – Wednesday, September 29, 7pm, PRF Conference Room, All members are welcome
- **Policy Committee Meeting** – Wednesday, October 20, 3pm
- **Moving Day (from LLC to niche)** – Tuesday, October 26, 9am
- **Friends of LLC board meeting** – Wednesday, November 17, 7pm, PRF Conference Room