

Friends of the Preserve Continues to Support the Preserve in 2011

The Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve began the Heritage Oak Project, expanded our volunteer opportunities and educational program, and began celebrating our Tenth Anniversary in 2011.

Heritage Oak Project

The Heritage Oak Project was launched at the April Annual Meeting. The project will restore the area between the Friends Bill's Woods project and the Biocore Prairie. This area, with its large open grown oak, will be restored to savanna, a rare ecosystem. Members generously gave to this project, donating \$8,615 (now more than \$9,000) of the project's total cost of \$13,000. Begun this year, progress will continue (see page 8).

Support of the Preserve

With \$8,280 to the Heritage Oak Project, the Friends gave \$21,931 to (or for) the Preserve in 2011. For the fifth year, the Friends paid the summer salary of the Prairie Partners Interns. Another \$4,000 was spent for contractor removal of invasive shrubs and trees in Bill's Woods. Other money went to the Stewardship Fund to purchase plants and control invasive species.

Volunteering – Caring for the Preserve

In 2011 the Friends of the Preserve continued to expand its volunteer work, usually holding two

Volunteer Days per month. Volunteers continued to work on the Bill's Woods project, began the Heritage Oak Project, and worked in other areas of the Preserve including Farmhouse Hill and Picnic Point.

Activities changed throughout the year. In early spring efforts focused on Garlic Mustard control. In May volunteers planted \$1,479 of plants donated by the Friends and hundreds of greenhouse-grown plants in Bill's Woods, Frautschi Point, and other areas. Later they weeded and maintained areas. In fall and winter they controlled invasive brush like Buckthorn.

During the Volunteer Days, the Friends and the Preserve staff worked with student groups, the ROTC, and other volunteers, doing 739 hours of work. Other volunteers contributed more than 1000 additional hours of work. Due to this success, Volunteer Days will be increased from two to three per month (see pages 8-9).

Education

The Friends Education Committee organized 14 field trips which were attended by 166 people. The Friends also co-sponsored another seven field trips with Madison Audubon Society. In addition, our first off site bus tour, Geology and Landscape of Dane County, led by David Mickelson and John Harrington, had 42 participants. Other highlights included spear throwing with an atlatl, tasting plants, and stargazing.

David Mickelson and the Committee also organized a mini-course of 5 two-hour sessions for ten students in the GreenHouse Dorm, introducing Lake Mendota and the birds, plants, history, geology and volunteer opportunities of the Preserve to these new Freshmen.

Thank you

We want to thank our members for their phenomenal support. In addition to the \$8,615 for Heritage Oak, our 310 members donated \$17,800 through their membership and donations. They came and worked at Volunteer Days, volunteered on committees, or picked up trash and pulled Garlic Mustard as they walked regularly through the Preserve. More than a third of our members attended our Annual Meeting and many found time to attend a field trip too. They told people about the Friends and the Preserve and educated people about its ecology and importance to the University of Wisconsin Campus. We could not do it without you!

Join Us to Celebrate

Please come and join us Tuesday, April 3, 2012, to celebrate our Tenth Anniversary. The reception with appetizers begins at 6:15, at 7 the history program with Tom and Kathie Brock (page 1), and afterward we will have dessert. We look forward to seeing you!

Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve 2011 Financial Report

Balance of as 1/1/11	\$48,600
Income	
Membership	\$15,750
Gifts and Memorials	2,050
Heritage Oak Project	8,615
Field Trip (Dane County)	848
Note Cards	80
Interest	90
Total Income	\$27,433
Expenses	
Planting Projects	\$1,479
Heritage Oak Project	8,280
Gift to Preserve Stewardship Fund	8,000
Interns (Prairie Partners)	4,172
Gift to Students of the Preserve	150
Newsletter Printing and Mailing	1,500
Field Trip (Dane County)	815
Annual Meeting	270
Membership Expenses	203
Fund Raising	306
Volunteer Training	300
General Expenses	106
Total Expenses	\$25,581
Balance as of 12/31/11	\$50,452*

* May not add up due to rounding.