

# **FCNA News**

Volume 2, Number 2, Spring 2003

### Friends of the Campus Natural Areas

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

### Join the FCNA for the Marsh Celebration April 22 and 23

In July over a dozen baby rails, ranging from tiny black fuzz balls to robin-sized birds, ran on the almost dry mud in the Class of 1918 Marsh. The young Sora and Virginia Rails shared the drying puddles with several species of migrating shorebirds ranging from striding Yellowlegs to tiny hyperactive Least Sandpipers.

We can see these marsh birds due to the actions and foresight of a group of students and faculty. They convinced the University of Wisconsin to restore flooded fields to a marsh rather than converting it into parking lots and a lagoon. The Marsh was restored with funds from the Class of 1918 and dedicated in 1972 (for more information, see "Saving a Marsh" in the Fall 2002 FCNA News and www.uwalumni.com/fcna/areahistory).

On April 22 and 23 the Friends of the Campus Natural Areas (FCNA) will celebrate the work of these environmentalists at our Marsh Celebration. At the FCNA Annual Meeting on April 22 at 7 P.M. at the UW Arboretum's McKay Center, Thomas Brock and Kenneth Potter will discuss the history, hydrology, and future of the Class of 1918 Marsh. Tom Sinclair's beautiful video, University Wild, will be shown. John Harrington, the Chairman of the Campus Natural Areas Committee, will present an overview of the Campus Natural Areas. Elections of FCNA directors (see page 5) will be held. The following day, April 23, Quentin Carpenter will lead a field trip to the 1918 Marsh.

Thomas Brock will give a presentation entitled "Class of 1918 Marsh: Past, Present, and Future." Dr. Brock is E. B. Fred Professor of Natural Sciences Emeritus in the College of Agriculture. He worked on Lake Mendota for ten years, publishing A Eutrophic Lake: Lake Mendota, Wisconsin. Dr. Brock has published articles and a book, Shorewood Hills, An Illustrated History, on local history. He and his wife, Kathie Brock, are very familiar with the CNA because they organized and led many of the CNA work parties in the 1990s.

Kenneth Potter, Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering, will speak on "The Future Lies in the Watershed." He studies storm water management. He will explain how human development of the watershed

has affected the water quality and plant and animal diversity of the Class of 1918 Marsh, University Bay, and Lake Mendota. In addition, he will identify strategies to remedy problems inherited from the past as well as prevent future problems.

On April 23 at 4 P.M., Quentin Carpenter will lead a field trip to the Class of 1918 Marsh. Dr. Carpenter teaches Wetlands Ecology for the Gaylord Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies and conducts research on wetland vegetation, soils, and hydrology. He will discuss the Marsh's history and ecology. He will point out local plants and animals and teach us about them. He will also tell us about some of the problems at the 1918 Marsh and suggest possible solutions.

Donations to enhance the habitat within the Class of 1918 Marsh can be sent to the UW Foundation (P.O. Box 8860, Madison, WI 53708-8860). Checks should be made out to the UW Foundation, have Campus Natural Areas on the memo line, and indicate the money is for the Class of 1918 Marsh.

Come learn about and celebrate the Class of 1918 Marsh. There will be refreshments and an opportunity to meet FCNA Board members after the talks on April 22.

#### Marsh Celebration Schedule

### FCNA Annual Meeting, Tuesday, April 22

7 P.M. at the McKay Center in the Arboretum

- University Wild Tom Sinclair's CNA video
- Friends of the CNA Elections
- Campus Natural Areas Overview John Harrington
- Class of 1918 Marsh: Past, Present and Future -Thomas Brock
- The Future Lies in the Watershed Kenneth Potter
- Refreshments

### Marsh Celebration: Wednesday, April 23

4 - 5:30 P.M. Class of 1918 Marsh Parking Lot

Class of 1918 Marsh Field Trip - Quentin Carpenter

## Friends of the Campus Natural Areas

P.O. Box 55056 Madison, WI 53705

e-mail: rlenehan@chorus.net

www.uwalumni.com/fcna

#### **Officers**

#### President:

Jane Camerini 608-233-1802 jrcameri@facstaff.wisc.edu

#### **Vice President:**

Richard McCoy 608-233-5706 rmccoy@facstaff.wisc.edu

#### **Committee Contacts**

#### Newsletter

Roma Lenehan 608-238-5406 rlenehan@chorus.net

#### Volunteer

Glenda Denniston 608-231-1530 cdennist@facstaff.wisc.edu

#### Friends of the CNA

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

#### We Welcome Submissions to the FCNA Newsletter and Web Site

The FCNA welcomes the submission of articles and announcements for FCNA News. We encourage people to share their checklists and other relevant CNA materials on the FCNA Web Site. For information on submitting material, call Roma Lenehan at 238-5406 or send your articles or checklists to rlenehan@chorus.net. July 1 is the deadline for submissions to the next FCNA News.

### Spring and Summer Field Trips

Additional Field Trips may be posted on the FCNA Web Site: <a href="www.uwalumni.com/fcna">www.uwalumni.com/fcna</a>

#### Geologic History of University Bay, Picnic Point, and Surrounding Areas

April 19 (Saturday) 10:00-12:00

We will look at distant drumlins and walk out Picnic Point discussing the preglacial Yahara River, what it was like here 18,000 years ago at the peak of the Ice Age, the shorelines of glacial Lake Yahara, the origin of the Madison lakes, and especially the geology and origin of University Bay.

Leader: Dave Mickelson (262-7863) Meet at the Picnic Point parking lot.

#### **Class of 1918 Marsh Ecology**

April 23 (Wednesday) 4:00-5:30 PM

We will discuss the history of the Marsh, both geologic and human, and then make a circuit of the pond to learn more about its denizens. We will conclude with a discussion of different future scenarios for the Marsh.

Leader: Quentin Carpenter (263-7771)

Meet at the 1918 Marsh Parking Lot, the circular parking just north of the Marsh.

#### **Native American Mounds on Picnic Point**

April 26 (Saturday) 10:00-12:00

We will visit the six extant Indian mounds on Picnic Point. We'll also view several habitation/workshop sites (re-confirmed by an archaeological survey conducted in 2001) as we try to envision how these ancient peoples used this wetland/lakeshore landscape. I'll bring along some of the artifacts found at the habitation sites. Please note: Artifact collection on state property requires a research permit. Burial/mound sites must never be disturbed.

Leader: Daniel Einstein (265-3417) Meet at the Picnic Point parking lot.

#### **Birding Picnic Point**

May 3 (Saturday) 7:30-10:30 A.M.

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 including warblers, grosbeaks, orioles, and thrushes. Over 70 species of birds nest in Picnic Point and the surrounding Campus Natural Areas. Co-sponsored by the Madison Audubon Society.

Leaders: Richard Clark and Roma Lenehan (238-5406)

Meet at the 1918 Marsh Parking Lot.

#### Warbler and Spring Migrant Bird Walk

May 14 (Wednesday) 7-9:30 A.M. (with the possibility of extending) While we will concentrate on seeing warblers through the leaves, we will look for any spring migrants.

Leader: Roma Lenehan (238-5406). Meet at the Frautschi Point Entrance.

#### **Madison Audubon Field Trips to the CNA**

(For specifics (time and place) about Audubon Trips, call 255-2476 or check *The Audubon Caws* or their Web Site: www.madisonaudubon.org)

#### Picnic Point Warbler Walk

May 1 (Thursday) Leader: Al Schirmacher

### Friends of the CNA - Goals and Progress

by Richard McCov

#### **FCNA Goals Established**

In 2002 the FCNA Board undertook to deepen its understanding of the special character of the Campus Natural Areas as a key University resource. We explored the challenges that face the CNA as an *urban natural area* - nature, continuously challenged, partially restored, surrounded by campus and city, and in need of thoughtful stewardship.

In partnership with the UW Campus Natural Areas Committee and the staff of Facilities, Planning and Management we share a common sense of responsibility for these lands. In relationships with the UW Foundation, the UW Alumni Association, the campus community, and the community at large we seek to contribute to planning, to management, to the building of support, and to fund-raising.

During much of 2002, we worked to distill many hours of thoughtful discussion into this statement of goals. Please consider it carefully and join us in its support.

#### Friends of the Campus Natural Areas Statement of Goals

The Friends of the Campus Natural Areas support the evolution of the CNA as an exemplary urban natural area. To this end, the FCNA adopts goals in each of four areas. We intend to support, encourage and contribute to the University's efforts for:

#### **Biodiversity**

The preservation, restoration and establishment of native biological communities in the CNA with the aim of achieving and sustaining appropriate plant and animal diversity.

#### **Education**

Teaching, learning, and research in and about the CNA for students and the interested community to increase awareness of the diversity of life in the CNA, build understanding of the opportunities and requirements of urban natural areas, and allow the experience of nature in an urban environment.

#### **Appropriate Use**

The continued existence of the CNA as a place of multiple environmentally sensitive uses, a place of active use where humans tread lightly.

#### **Support**

Finally, the FCNA seeks to build a strong community in support of CNA stewardship in order to support the preceding goals, protect the integrity of CNA lands, mobilize volunteers and raise funds.

### Fund Raising, Projects, Events

During the FCNA's first year, membership grew, funds were raised, newsletters and a Web Site were produced, projects were undertaken, volunteers worked in the field, and tours and events were sponsored. The FCNA has made progress toward its goals:

#### **Biodiversity**

The FCNA is active in a variety of volunteer projects that promote biodiversity; these include restoration, removal of invasive species, and biological inventories.

In cooperation with the CNA Committee we worked with volunteers to restore and enhance the woodland understory near the entrance to Picnic Point, concentrating on the southeast corner of Bill's Woods. Maintaining the new plantings became a significant challenge during the extended drought of 2002, but good progress was made and work will continue during 2003.

FCNA volunteers worked on another project in the northeast corner of Bill's Woods. Started in 1999 by

#### FCNA Goals and Progress (continued)

individual volunteers, this ambitious project was adopted by the FCNA Board in 2002. Volunteers are reclaiming this degraded area by planting native vegetation.

In addition, FCNA volunteers spent substantial amounts of time removing invasive species such as Garlic Mustard and clearing the Indian Mounds in Eagle Heights Woods of unwanted growth.

Biological assessment efforts continued. FCNA volunteers identified breeding, migrant, and winter birds, completing a three year CNA Breeding Bird Study and a CNA bird checklist. Butterfly, dragonfly, and mammal checklists were begun.

#### **Education and Appropriate Use**

The FCNA worked to inform the community about the CNA. Volunteers created a new FCNA Web Site and published four editions of our newsletter, *FCNA News*. Professor Stan Temple's presentation, "Urban Natural Areas: Balancing Ecological and Social Needs," at the 2002 FCNA Annual Meeting provided an inspiration to those attending and significantly influenced the FCNA Board's planning activity.

Seven field trips and a beginning bird workshop were sponsored or co-sponsored by the FCNA providing participants with a special opportunity to view the life, the landscape, and the scientific work of the CNA in the company of experts.

#### **Support**

The FCNA has begun to build a base of community support. The FCNA recruited 179 members and raised nearly \$15,000 in membership contributions during the FCNA's first 15 months. An anonymous donor generously matched member contributions, significantly increasing the funds available for CNA projects.

In other fundraising efforts, FCNA presentations to the classes of 1953 and 1963 helped bring major financial commitments to enable necessary Lakeshore Path restoration. The Path, like much of the CNA, featured prominently in class members' "fond memories" of campus life. The Friends also contributed \$10,000 in matching funds for the restoration of the shoreline at Anglers Cove. These funds helped the UW acquire a large grant to correct the worst example of erosion on the Lake Mendota shoreline.

For more detail on the above, see our Web Site at:

http://www.uwalumni.com/fcna/

Heartfelt thanks to our volunteers and contributors for making 2002 a year of growth, new relationships and important progress.

### Friends of the CNA Financial Report

This report covers the first fifteen months of Friends of the CNA's existence, from October, 2001, through December 31, 2002. In 2001, 124 members joined the FCNA. Fifty-five additional members joined in 2002. An anonymous donor matched all initial membership and increases in membership contributions up to \$100 per person. In addition, several other large contributions were received.

Income		Expenses		
Memberships	\$14,745.00	Membership	\$1,020.48	
Extraordinary contributions	16,980.00	Web Site <sup>1</sup>	1,013.10	
Interest	<u>182.61</u>	Outreach (Newsletter)	1,416.36	
Total	\$31,907.61	Program (Planting Projects) <sup>2</sup>	1,208.27	
		Legal <sup>1</sup>	554.71	
		Match for Angler's Cove grant	10,000.00	
		Total	\$15,212.92	
		Assets	\$16,694.69	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Non-recurring costs associated with establishing the organization.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Additional bills totaling \$699 were reimbursed in 2003.

### Friends of the CNA Board Elections – April 22, 2003

The FCNA Nominating Committee recommends the following slate for election to the FCNA Board on April 22. Each newly elected Board member will serve three years on the FCNA Board. All FCNA members will be able to vote at the Annual Meeting at 7 P.M. at the McKay Center of the University of Wisconsin Arboretum.

#### Richard McCoy

Dick spent thirty years with the University, arriving as a freshman fifty years ago and walking the Lakeshore Path to class every day. Dick has four UW degrees and years of teaching and administrative experience. When he retired, he returned to Madison. He continued his enthusiasm for the CNA as a volunteer and as a founding member of the Friends, presently serving as Vice President. Dick values the CNA as a vital part of the campus and the community, as an environment for research, study, and the enjoyment of nature, as a place to find solitude though surrounded by campus and city, and as a key element in the fond memories of UW Alums.

#### William Muehl

Bill currently serves as Co-Chair of the Volunteer Committee. He is "interested in maintaining and protecting the diverse ecosystem of the CNA as an environment that provides stimulation to the mind and soul of University and area residents." He has been a volunteer in conservation projects since high school as both worker and leader. He has worked on natural area restoration with Dane County Parks as a volunteer and employee leading volunteer fieldwork. Bill also serves on the Board of the Friends of the Arboretum.

#### Gail Shea

Gail came to Madison in the 1960's and completed Masters degrees in Geography and Public Policy and Administration at the University of Wisconsin. Her environmental interests are longstanding and include a year and a half stint as a program and planning analyst at the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. Gail served on the Board of the Dane County Natural Heritage Foundation from 1990 to 1996. She is a member of many environmental organizations. Gail's professional career was involved primarily with state government and government accountability. It included working as Campaign Finance and Elections Administrator with the State Elections Board. Most recently she organized and served as Executive Director of the Wisconsin Democracy Campaign.

#### Susan Slapnick

Susan has been on the FCNA Board since its inception and is responsible for maintaining the FCNA Web Site. She is concerned with the integrity of the wild places on campus and says, "These lands need a voice!" Susan has extensive experience in the restoration of Wisconsin native landscapes (prairie, forest and wetlands) with Madison Audubon, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, the Prairie Enthusiasts, the Nature Conservancy, the CNA, and private landowners.

#### **Around the Campus Natural Areas**

#### FCNA Supports Biocore Bird Banding

The FNCA gave the UW-Madison Biocore Prairie Bird Banding Station money for a new net. The Station banded 269 birds of 51 species in 2002. The Banding Station is open almost every Saturday morning, 7 A.M.-12 noon, weather permitting, from early April through mid-November. Volunteers and visitors are welcome. For more information, contact Mara McDonald at 263-8941 or mamcdona@facstaff.wisc.edu.

#### **CNA Christmas Bird Count Results**

Counters observed forty bird species in the Campus Natural Areas on the Madison Audubon Christmas Bird Count December 14, 2002. Nine duck species and 96 Tundra Swans were found on the lake. An immature Harris's Sparrow was spotted in the gardens and a Carolina Wren was observed along the Lakeshore Path. Other interesting birds included two Bald Eagles and a late Belted Kingfisher.

#### **Chickadee Project Needs Volunteers**

Dr. Janine Clemmons is banding Black-capped Chickadees in the Campus Natural Areas to study population characteristics, vocalization, and territorial behavior. She is continuing the long-term behavioral study of retired professor Jack Hailman. She conducts chickadee censuses the first Saturday of each month. Volunteers are welcome. Meet at 7:30 at the Picnic Point Parking Lot and bring binoculars. If banded chickadees come to your feeder, please contact Janine at jrclemmo@facstaff.wisc.edu or 219-9158.

## Help Us Develop a Phenological Calendar!

Would you like to know when to look for early Tiger Swallowtail or blooming Trillium? You are invited to submit the dates you first observed wild plants, fungi, butterflies, dragonflies, amphibians and reptiles in the CNA. All available CNA records will be combined into a database for public use. Please send your data to Glenda at cdennist facstaff.wisc.edu or 231-1530. Volunteers are also needed to organize this project. Even a few bits of information from you will help!

#### **Announcements**

#### **Picnic Point Featured in Audubon Essay**

William Cronon, the newest faculty member on the CNA Committee, wrote the keynote essay in the January 2002 *Audubon* article "This Land Is Your Land: Turning to Nature in a Time of Crisis," a commemoration of the September 11 tragedy. The essay, a reflection from Picnic Point, discusses the relationship between man and nature and expresses his affection for the area

#### **UW Foundation Director of Development Hired**

Bruce Moffat has been hired by the UW Foundation to help the CNA, the UW Arboretum, and the Gaylord Nelson Institute of Environmental Studies, raise money. The presence of a proponent of these organizations at the Foundation should enable major donors to become more informed about them and eventually lead to increased donations.

#### **Campus Natural Areas Brochure Completed**

A beautiful new CNA Brochure has been produced by the UW Foundation. The brochure, paid for by a generous gift from Drs. Eleanor Crawford and Peter H. Blitzer, will be used to educate major donors about the CNA.

#### New CNA Video, University Wild, Available

University Wild takes viewers on a memorable tour of the CNA. Interviews illuminate CNA history and current activities. The 18 minute video, written by Tom Sinclair, was produced by the Gaylord Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies with financial support from the Brittingham Trust and the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences. This video will be shown at the April 22, 2003, FCNA Marsh Celebration. To borrow or purchase a copy of University Wild, contact Tom Sinclair at 263-5599 or tksincla@facstaff.wisc.edu.

#### **Information Available on Campus Power Project**

Many citizens are concerned about possible environmental impacts of the proposed power and steam co-generation facility to be located on Walnut Street. The Board of Directors of the Friends of the CNA shares this concern because of possible water, air, and noise pollution that could impact the Lakeshore Path and University Bay. Please consult our Web Site (<a href="www.uwalumni.com/fcna/links">www.uwalumni.com/fcna/links</a>) for informative links to the Regent Neighborhood Association, Madison Gas and Electric, and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

#### **Lakeshore Path Construction to Begin**

In 2003 several sections of the Lakeshore Path will be rebuilt to replace degrading surfaces and underground utilities and as part of a larger flood control project for west campus (see article on page 6 of the Winter 2002 FCNA News). There will be detours around the construction. Construction details will appear in Wisconsin Week.

### Ancient Earthworks in Eagle Heights Woods

by Glenda Denniston

#### The Eagle Heights Mound Group

One day last spring, a small cloth bundle was found attached to a tree near the conical earth mound (40 feet in diameter) visible from the trail at the top of Eagle Heights Woods. The cloth bundle probably was left as an offering by a modern member of the Ho Chunk Nation, Native Americans who believe themselves to be the direct descendants of the ancient builders of these mounds. The pouch was filled with tobacco, a traditional offering to the spirit world, for this place and others like it are thought to be alive with spiritual power.

Standing on the path near this mound, a person can look out over Lake Mendota to the north. The mound is one of a group of three large earthworks. The other two are long (208 and 100 feet) linear mounds. The larger one has a 32-foot "tail" set at an angle. Its "head" end is oriented toward the conical mound.

#### When and Why Were the Mounds Built?

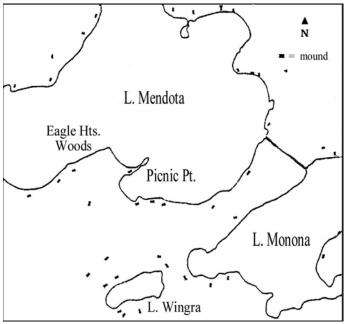
Madison is in the center of the archeological Effigy Mound area, so named because many mounds were made in the shape of animals. Mounds of more simple kinds were built starting around 500 BC and continuing throughout the Early and Middle Woodland Stages. The Effigy Mounds, including all mounds in the Campus Natural Areas, were Late Woodland Stage earthworks constructed sometime between 700 and 1200 AD.

The Late Woodland Stage was characterized by longer occupation of seasonal living sites than was the case in earlier times. Native Americans of the period exploited the rich resources of this area by engaging in hunting, fishing and food-gathering and by growing crops. In many, but not all, mounds of this time, a bundle or flexed burial was placed near the "head" or "heart" of the mound, sometimes with a few implements or other grave goods. Each mound is believed to represent a powerful spiritual force in the shape of an animal, each spririt belonging either to the cosmological upperworld, earth or underworld. Linear mounds are thought to represent the underworld water spirits, which also are portrayed as lizards, snakes and long-tailed "panthers" (Birmingham and Eisenberg, 2000, *Indian Mounds of Wisconsin*).

#### **Earthworks on the UW-Madison Campus**

The group of three mounds in Eagle Heights Woods is one of several groups of ancient earthworks on the Madison campus of the University of Wisconsin. The others are located near the middle and tip of Picnic Point; behind the Natatorium within sight of the Howard Temin Lakeshore Path; and on Observatory Hill. Formerly there were more, but some were destroyed by early University

building projects. In the early 1900s the existing mounds on campus were recorded and described by Charles E. Brown, a University of Wisconsin archeologist.



Map showing location of prehistoric mounds in the Madison area (Charles E. Brown, 1933)

#### A New Archeological Survey

In order to plan the relocation of the path farther from the mounds, Daniel Einstein, Environmental Management Coordinator for UW Facilities, Planning and Management, initiated a new archeological survey of the locality. The first document, "Eagle Heights Woods. . Archaeological Survey," by George W. Christiansen III, was issued in November of 2001. This spring, Daniel Einstein will lead an FCNA field trip to the six mounds and other archeological sites on Picnic Point (see Field Trips page 2).

#### Caring for the Earthworks

In the summer of 2002, a member of the FCNA removed brush, mostly buckthorn, which was obscuring the form of the Eagle Heights mounds. This was done respectfully, following instructions of CNA Field Manager Cathie Bruner and with the advice of Ho Chunk tribal members as conveyed by Daniel Einstein. Specifically, woody plants were cut at the ground – without the use of poisons or fire, or disturbance of the earth.

#### A Place of Power

Looking out over Lake Mendota from the heights where these mounds are located, especially in solitude, one can feel the spirit of the place. We are fortunate that they survive.

### The Gift of Frautschi Point

by Roma Lenehan

Frautschi Point, the final section of private Lake Mendota shoreline between Shorewood Hills and the UW Campus, was acquired through the generosity of the Frautschi family in 1988. Previously Frautschi Point had been used as a "fancy farm," a hunting refuge, a summer retreat, and a permanent residence. These human activities changed the area. As part of CNA master planning, the CNA Committee is currently developing a long-term plan for Frautschi Point and the CNA.

Frautschi Point, a wooded 16.6 acre point jutting north into Lake Mendota, has 1600 feet of shoreline. It is bordered on the north and east by the lake, on the west by North Shore Woods, and on the south by Second Point Woods, the old field, and Eagle Heights Apartments.

#### History

Frautschi Point, originally called Second Point, has a long history of human use. Arrowheads and other artifacts show that Native Americans regularly visited the Point. Early white owners were farmers. In the 1880s Breese Stevens and Morris Fuller purchased the farm and cleared part of the land to develop a "fancy farm," which probably had buildings.

No one lived on Second Point until the early 1920s when Breese Stevens' daughter, Elizabeth, and her husband, Dr. Reginald H. Jackson Sr., built a summer house. Eventually Breese Stevens' descendants built three summer cottages and a series of outbuildings. The main cottage was extended several times until it became a 4,450 foot rambling summer house. A portion of the land continued to be leased as farmland.

Dr. Reginald Jackson Jr. remembers his father making improvements to the land. His father planted many trees in the 1930s, including the evergreens along the drive. In one of the earliest local pheasant releases, Ring-necked Pheasants were released at Second Point in the 1920s (R. H. Jackson Jr. interview, July 24, 1973). In 1937 Aldo Leopold recommended increasing pheasant hunting to decrease crop damage in the nearby University Experimental Fields (now the playing fields).

Dr. Jackson Jr. was the last resident of the house. He had a sea plane and several boats. He set up a shooting preserve on the property and continued to raise pheasants in a run in the triangle at the bottom of the drive. The rest of the triangle was a fenced vegetable garden. Later he moved to the house year around.

When Dr. Reginald Jackson Jr. died, he left Second Point to the Northwestern University Medical School and the State Medical Society of Wisconsin. Neither of these organizations wanted to keep this spectacular segment of lakeshore, so they searched for a buyer. Spring 2003 / FCNA News / Page 8

#### Frautschi Gift

John and Jerry Frautschi gave a \$1.5 million gift to the UW Foundation to purchase Second Point "to honor Walter A. Frautschi and his lifetime of devotion and service to the University and to the City of Madison and its people" (Frautschi Family Gift Memorandum of Agreement, 1988). The name of the area was changed to Frautschi Point. This gift was a surprise Christmas present to their father. Frautschi Point was to be:

- (a) An extension of Picnic Point, including hiking trails through wooded areas.
- (b) An outdoor nature observatory, affording intimate glimpses of plant and animal life in a natural setting. This resource shall be available to students, faculty and other members of the University and Madison communities, and to visitors from around the State and elsewhere.
- (c) University teaching and research programs involving long-term preservation of natural beauty, conservation biology, limnology and wildlife management (Frautschi Memorandum of Agreement, 1988).

Due to the generosity of the Frautschi family, the land was preserved as part of the Campus Natural Areas rather than being developed. Later, Mrs. Walter A. Frautschi gave the UW another generous gift to maintain and restore Frautschi Point.

#### Frautschi Point Today

By the time Dr. Jackson died in 1978, the property had fallen into disrepair. When the University acquired the land, all the buildings were removed because of their poor condition. Alien buckthorn and honeysuckle had invaded the gardens and grounds. Garlic Mustard was taking over the ground layer.

In 1998, under the supervision of the UW Arboretum, a savanna restoration of Frautschi Point was begun. In an attempt to eliminate "undesirable" and nonnative species and to restore views of the lake, conifers along the drive and most trees in the overgrown triangle were removed and replaced with prairie and savanna plants. Brush was removed near several large oaks.

Partly as a response to public outcry over the tree cutting, major restoration of Frautschi Point was halted until a new CNA master plan is approved. In 2000, management of the CNA was transferred from the UW Arboretum to the new UW CNA Committee.

In the meantime, Frautschi Point provides opportunities to observe birds and other wildlife. On fall mornings warblers fly over the lake and land on the Point. The triangle weeds provide food and cover.

Today everyone benefits from John and Jerry Frautschi's 1988 Christmas present to Walter Frautschi!

### Butterflies: Flying Jewels of Spring

by Glenda Denniston

On a warm afternoon in late February, I was checking for the first emergence of woodland wildflowers in Bill's Woods. Suddenly a beautiful velvety-purple butterfly with wings bordered by what looked like cream-colored lace flew by. It was my first butterfly of the year -- a Mourning Cloak. It landed on the trunk of a partially sunlit tree and drank sap for a minute or two at a small hole made by a woodpecker sometime earlier in the day.

#### **Adult Hibernators**

Where did these early butterflies come from, when they were absent the day before? What would they do when the weather again froze the tree sap? And why is the Mourning Cloak almost always one of the first butterflies to be seen each spring?

The Mourning Cloak is one of the Anglewing-Tortoiseshell group of butterflies present in the Campus Natural Areas. Others include the Question Mark, Eastern Comma, Red Admiral, and Milbert's and Compton's Tortoiseshells. Butterflies of this group are among the first to be seen each year, in part because they overwinter as adults. They shelter in small cracks in trees and buildings, emerging on warm days to fly and to feed. Most are found in and at the edges of woodlands. They differ from many other butterflies by feeding on tree and shrub sap and fruit rather than flower nectar. Some eat mammal scat and carrion as well

Although Mourning Cloak adults drink sap, their larvae require leaves of black cherry and other trees and shrubs. Milbert's Tortoiseshell and Red Admiral larvae eat nettle. All these butterflies are able to begin breeding early, since they start the year as adults and do

not depend on nectar for their food. Some of them breed in early spring, aestivate (go through a period of dormancy in the summer) and reappear in fall.

#### **Larval Hibernators**

By late April, spectacular black-striped, bright yellow Eastern Tiger Swallowtails appear, often flying high in the tree canopy or along the edges of woodlands. These butterflies, like many others, hibernate in the larval stage. Their larvae feed on the leaves of black cherries, ash, basswood and other deciduous woodland trees.

#### **Long-distance Migrants**

The familiar black-striped orange Monarch butterflies usually do not appear in Madison until late May. Most of the Monarchs we see here, nectaring on flowers and laying eggs on milkweeds, are not the same individuals that wintered in the forests of Mexico. They are new adults that hatched and metamorphosed in the southern United States. Before we see large numbers of Monarchs in Madison, a whole generation must live to adulthood and migrate north.

#### Wintering in Egg Stage

Many, though not all, of the late spring and summer butterflies of gardens, prairies, and fields have overwintered in the egg stage. Most adults require nectar from flowers.

#### **Butterflies of the CNA**

Many different butterflies can be found in the CNA (see our website for a list and photos). Each species has its particular season of flight, habits and habitat needs. Watch to see where each feeds and lays eggs.

Join the Friends of the Campus Natural Areas						
Name		Student	\$10	Γ		
Address		Individual	\$20	Γ		
City, State	Zip Code	Household	\$35	Γ		
Phone (optional) Email (optional)		Steward	\$50	Γ		
$\Gamma$ Please send me information about how	Patron	\$100	Γ			
(Include your email address or telephone number if	Other		Γ			
Please write your check to the Friends of the CNA						
Mail this form with your check to: FCNA P.O. Box 55056 Madison, WI 53705						
The Friends of the CNA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.						

### Volunteers Needed for FCNA Work Parties

The Friends of the CNA, in cooperation with CNA management, will continue the restoration of Bill's Woods. Volunteers will gradually replace non-native, invasive species, like Garlic Mustard and Buckthorn, with a diverse set of native woodland understory plants that will support native birds and other wildlife. These plants will include wildflowers and shrubs that are usually part of the mixed oak woodland community.

The FCNA's goal in 2003, provided that the CNA Committee approves our new permit, will be to link the FCNA Entrance Project to the Upper Bill's Woods Planting Project. We will also add more plants to our established restorations. We will work in conjunction with students, faculty and other groups interested in restoring this woodland. Eventually, the FCNA hopes to help restore the native Bill's Woods understory from the edge of Picnic Point to the fire lane beside the Upper Bill's Woods Planting Project.

In order to accomplish this ambitious plan, we need volunteers and money. Volunteers will plant native plants and shrubs in April and May. These volunteers will have an opportunity to become familiar with native woodland plants as they care for them and observe them blooming in the restorations.

Volunteers will also pull Garlic Mustard and other noxious weeds throughout the CNA to prevent them from shading and crowding out native plants. Special work parties may be announced by email or on the FCNA Web Site.

Donated money will be used to purchase plants and other equipment. Please make your checks to the FCNA and indicate that the money is to go to the Bill's Woods Restoration. All donations are tax deductible.

Join us for an evening planting party or a Saturday morning work party and see our restorations!

#### Regular FCNA Work Parties Start April 5 at 9:00 A.M.

Volunteer Work Parties will occur Saturdays 9:00 - 11:30 A.M. beginning April 5

For weekday evening planting project times and dates call Mary Trewartha (238-8106)

For specific information, check our Web Site (<a href="www.uwalumni.com/fcna">www.uwalumni.com/fcna</a>) or contact Glenda at 231-1530 or cdennist@facstaff.wisc.edu

FCNA P.O. Box 55056 Madison, WI 53705