

Reminiscences and Reflections

**Friends of the Lakeshore
Nature Preserve**

... The First Ten Years



“Happy Tenth, Friends!

Working with the Friends in and for the Preserve has helped me connect, and re-connect, with textures of bark and leaves, smells of sap and seeds, sounds of birds and wind in trees, sweating in winter, great people working at my side, and the deliciousness of a store-bought cookie break. It has reinforced in me an awareness of the continuing cycles of care, of effort, the land requires, in every season. Many times I cannot find the words for how being outside and connected to earthy things makes me feel – and that is where, I suspect, the most meaning is.” – *Susan Slapnick*



“Congratulations to the Friends on our 10th anniversary! I particularly want to celebrate the superb three-way partnership we have established with the university's Preserve Committee and the staff of Facilities Planning and Management. Cheers for the remarkable improvements in the Preserve we have accomplished together.” – *Ann Burgess*

“Each season in the Preserve is special, but winter brings silence and solitude that are unique. I treasure the memory of the day I saw a red fox running along the eastern edge of Wally Bauman Woods, onto the lake ice, and into the rays of the setting sun. Its beautiful coat shimmered with unforgettable color and texture.” – *Harriet Riley*



“Beginning with informal volunteer activities and then participating in the founding of the Friends, taking care of the land, the plants, the animals, the views and the memories were all important motivators. But the best part has been the opportunity to work with some extraordinary people who made the Preserve a possibility, notably Henry Hart, Kathie and Tom Brock and Bill Cronon.”
– *Dick McCoy*

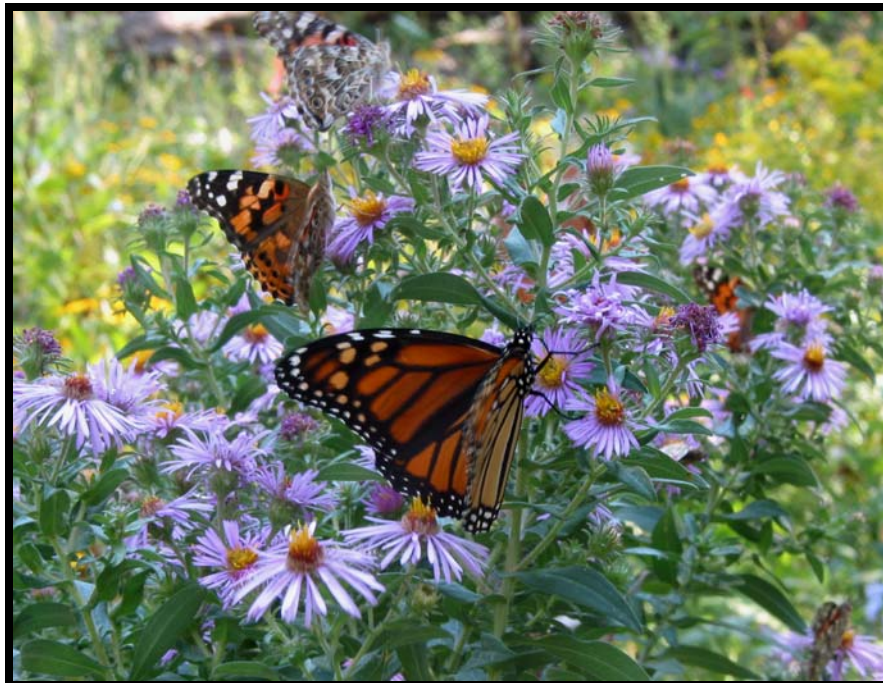
“I am grateful to the Garlic Mustard volunteers, who come to work in any weather and patiently pull stinky Garlic Mustard under obstacles like downed trees and honeysuckle. They come knowing that they may have removed Garlic Mustard from this area last year – and, if they come to the same work party, they may remove it again next year. Their efforts have controlled Garlic Mustard, allowing wildflowers and young trees to survive in the Preserve woodlands.”

– Roma Lenehan



Gray late winter scene . . .
Wait! Is that some green I see?
Damn! Garlic Mustard!

Haiku from the Blue Mounds listserv.
Submitted by Kathie Brock





“During the Tenth Anniversary of the Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve I am reflecting on how I have enjoyed being part of the Friends organization and getting to know and work with the individual members. I am also contemplating how the natural world helps nourish the mental health of the people of the University of Wisconsin community.”

– *Bill Muehl*

“I have enjoyed working with and being a part of the Friends - an organization that cares about the Preserve - a group committed to supporting the Preserve Committee's work of restoring and maintaining prairies, savannahs, woodlands and other native communities. I strongly support the Friend's commitment to engage volunteers, as volunteer input is vital in maintaining the Preserve. I greatly admire and respect the volunteers and Friends Board members who continue to give so generously of their time, expertise and creativity so that the Preserve can continue to be the wonderful and unique resource that it is for so many individuals.”

– *Diane Dempsey*



Reflections after 10 Years

“It is impossible for us (me) to think of Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve without reflecting on the restoration leadership provided by Glenda Denniston and Roma Lenehan. The thousands of hours they have spent removing invasives and planting native plants and shrubs have inspired many others to join them in work parties or other volunteer efforts.

The Preserve is a different place today because of their untiring work. Though they received recognition for their continuing efforts with a Natural Heritage Land Trust Stewardship Award in 2004, this Ten Year Anniversary is an appropriate time for the members of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve Community to recognize them as well. When you next admire the rue anemone in Bill’s Woods, the pagoda dogwood on Frautschi Point or the New England asters in the Eagle Heights planting area, say a special thank you to Roma and Glenda for all they do to make the Preserve one of Madison’s most special places.”

– Jean Meanwell





“Kathie and I supervised volunteer work parties in Eagle Heights Woods for two years. One of my delights was discovering a long-lost hiking trail at the base of the north side of the Woods. That trail must have dated back to the 1920s, when the mounds were being "managed" by the Boy Scouts. We used one of the work parties to clear it out, the volunteers using chain saws and loppers (and herbicide). That trail now serves skiers and hikers as part of the outer loop at Eagle Heights.” – *Tom Brock*

“I think it is befitting to share how leadership arose out of concern and passion about the Lakeshore Nature Preserve. (Campus Natural Areas). Jane Camerini contacted me when we first started to control garlic mustard on Picnic Point in the spring of 1997 because she was concerned about using herbicide at the peak of the spring bird migration. This was the start of a long dialogue as we all struggled with the issues of implementing a management program. Then when someone had to take on the responsibility of President of the new Friends of the Campus Natural Areas, Jane accepted.”

– *Cathie Bruner*





“The Preserve’s shores provide beautiful views of Lake Mendota, but also cherished views from the lake of a shoreline that we share with the earliest paddlers of prehistory. The 4.3 miles of largely natural shoreline provide a legacy and treasure of the past preserved by the University’s Lakeshore Nature Preserve.”

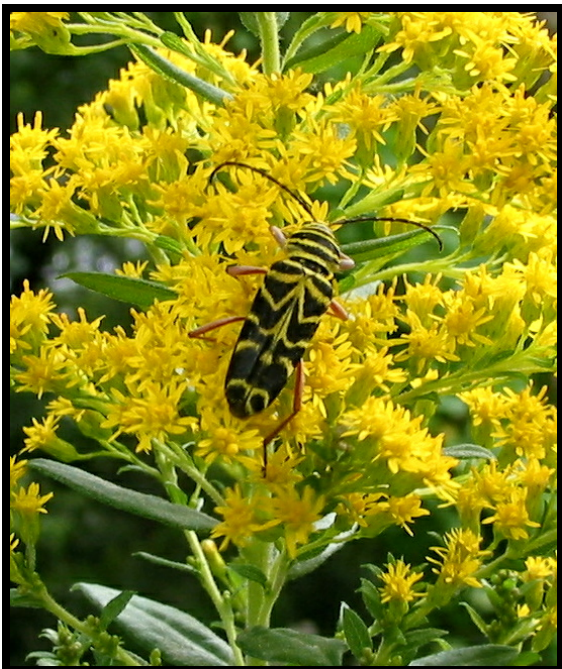
– John Magnuson

“In summer the University Drive enchants the visitor. He is charmed by the wonderful lake view visible from the various high points over which the winding road passes. 'The Willows' are lovely at all times- even in the winter they are full of charm. The visitor sees Picnic Point from Observatory Hill, and also passes the site of the 'Tent Colony'. The view from Eagle Heights, especially by moonlight, is exquisitely lovely, and the road leading to the view is interesting and mysterious.” – *From Madison, An Interpretation by the Youth of the City. Published by the Madison Junior Civic League, May 2, 1927. (Submitted by Tom Brock)*





“The Friends organization is the key link between greater-Madison neighbors and the University of Wisconsin-Madison’s extensive wild, undeveloped lands. The preservation of these places is vital to all.” — *Susan Slapnick*



“The Lakeshore Nature Preserve is a proud achievement by the many who participated in its establishment. It is prominent in the ‘fond memories’ of students, of professors, of all who pass this way. Most importantly perhaps, the Preserve assures in perpetuity the beauty and very character of the UW campus.”

– *Dick McCoy*



“Ten years old, and the Friends have much to celebrate with pride. The University and the Friends have evolved together to dramatically improve what is happening on what is now the Preserve. Looking back over our history provides a context to help us understand the present and gives us insights to help shape the future. The 10th anniversary is here and now. Where will we be at our 15th and beyond?”

– *John Magnuson*