



The Dunesletter

A Publication of Woodland Dunes Nature Center and Preserve



Horicon Marsh Trip

Thursday, June 10

Join us for a one-day bus trip to Horicon Marsh, the largest freshwater cattail marsh in North America, a Wetland of International Importance.

We'll take a two-hour pontoon boat tour through critical habitat for endangered species, and a rest stop for thousands of migrating waterfowl. More than 290 species of birds have been sighted there. Following lunch (not included), we'll have an introduction to the Horicon Marsh ecosystem and an opportunity to explore the trails and boardwalks.

The fee for the day-long trip is \$45; registration is required by June 1st. The bus will leave the Hwy 310 Park and Ride at 7:00 a.m and return by 5:00 p.m. To register, please contact Jessica at jessicaj@woodland-dunes.org or (920) 793-4007.

Summer 2010

Volume 140

Coming Events	2
At the Dunes	3
Willow Trail, Field Notes	4
Poetry, Feathered Jewels	5
So Rare	6
Archeology	8
Kidland Dunes	9
Living Classroom	10
Phenology	11
Water on the Land	12
Birds	13
Thank You	14
Library, Fund Drive	15

From the Director

How fortunate we are to be able to enjoy the seasonal re-growth in our preserve. The benefits of spending time outside studying the remarkable life around us are many, and we owe it to ourselves to do so. A number of people have been visiting to spend time on the Ice Age Trail segment since it opened—it is very good to see people enjoying that part of the preserve. I recently walked part of it with a gentleman who grew up in the neighborhood, and who shared some interesting stories from the 1930s, '40s, and '50s about previous uses for the land we now protect. He was happy that it is now being preserved, and providing habitat for so much wildlife.

The Ice Age Trail can be accessed from either Columbus Street at 12th Street, the end of 10th Street, or from Woodland Drive, but there is no parking at that location. The Ice Age Trail Alliance is negotiating the crossing of the railroad track that separates our property from that of the Aurora Medical Center to the south, and we hope Mariners Trail and the Ice Age Trail can soon be linked.

Our Butterfly Garden is being planted and weeded by our amazing volunteer gardeners. It is not unusual to see visitors photographing flowers and more in the garden. There are some new faces among the gardeners this year who are joining in to beautify every corner. Please let them know how much we all appreciate their work.

Our Little Wings area is really coming along—last fall's water feature is up and running, and the new berms and sand play area are in place. A sunflower house has been planted by Kelly and Carol Westphal, and in early June a raised deck for climbing will be built around the mulberry tree. Little Wings will be the site of some of the activities for our summer education program for visiting children's groups.

A new viewing scope, donated in memory of Ed Krivacek, is being installed on Cattail Trail to make viewing the ospreys and other marsh birds easier.

If you have walked along Cattail Trail, you may have noticed the sign at the end that refers to the Walter Vogl wetland to the east, marshland that Walter, along with the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Fund, helped Woodland Dunes purchase. That purchase helped complete the protection of nearly all of the marsh and other wetland habitat on the south side of the West Twin, habitat that is heavily populated by diverse species of plants and animals. Walter passed away recently, and Woodland Dunes has lost a good friend. He championed conservation efforts both here in his native Two Creeks-Two Rivers area, and also near his adopted home in Illinois, where he served as a director to many organizations and received many awards. He interviewed Adlai Stevenson, and worked with Orion Samuelson at WGN in Chicago. Upon his return, he worked tirelessly to promote the remembrance of our area's history, and *cont. page 3*



Walter Vogl

Coming Events

To confirm events and register for classes, please call Woodland Dunes, (920) 793-4007 or email kellye@woodlanddunes.org

Frog Hike!

Friday, June 4 • 8:00 to 9:30 p.m.

Fee: \$2 per person

Start by learning about the frogs that live in our Wisconsin ponds, then join our naturalist for a hike to the frog pond. Bring a blanket to enjoy the stars and the songs of the frogs.

West Twin River Marsh Tour

Saturday, June 12 • 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Fee: \$15 per person

A naturalist-guided boat tour of our marsh along the West Twin River. Learn about the birds, wildlife of our wetlands. Pre-registration required.

Little Wings Play Time

Thursdays, June 17 through August 26

Nature activity: 10:00 a.m., playtime to follow

Fee: a \$2 donation per child is appreciated

Calling all parents with little ones! Spend some quality time with your kids this summer at Woodland Dunes natural play area. Nature activities will be best suited for ages 3 to 7, but all ages are welcome. Following the activity, enjoy watching your "little wings" as they play. Call or email Kelly at kellye@woodlanddunes.org or (920) 793-4007 with questions and to register.

Maritime Rendezvous

Saturday, June 26 • 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Paddle your own canoe or kayak, or reserve a spot in a 20 foot voyageur canoe. You'll travel past natural and historical points along the Manitowoc River. Reservations: Wendy at (920) 684-0218 or wlutzke@wisconsinmaritime.org

West Twin River Paddle

Saturday, July 10 • 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Paddle the Lower West Twin River through scenic country into the heart of Two Rivers. Stop for lunch at Woodland Dunes and explore the surrounding wetlands. Reservations: Kelly at (920) 793-4007 or kellye@woodlanddunes.org



Marsh tour at Bird Breakfast.

Environmental Education Workshop

Monday, July 19 • 8:00 a.m. and

Wednesday, July 21 • 6:00 p.m.

This three-day environmental education class can be taken for credit. It is made possible by Conservation Education Inc. Contact Woodland Dunes or Silver Lake College. Held at Silver Lake College.

Fern Hike

Wednesday, July 21 • 10:00 a.m. to noon

Woodland Dunes has 12 distinctive species of ferns. Learn about these ancient plants and how to identify them on this guided hike.

Wildflower Identification Class

Thursday, August 12 • 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.

Fee: \$20 (includes a Newcomb wildflower field guide)

Fee without book: \$5

Learn how to use Newcomb's wildflower guide and practice identification at Woodland Dunes. Basic botany and field identification are the core of this class; learn the tools to identify every wild flower you find. Please call the nature center to register.

Butterfly Garden Festival

Saturday, August 21 • 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Members \$3; Family \$5; Non-members, \$4; Family \$6

Learn about butterflies and the plants that attract them at this family event. Butterfly and caterpillar demonstrations, butterfly art projects, garden talks and wildflower and butterfly hikes. Refreshments will be sold.

Picnic on the Prairie

Friday, September 3, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Enjoy an evening on the prairie. Hike the trail and stop at stations along the way to learn about the plants and wildlife that use the prairie. Bring a blanket and picnic, and enjoy the sounds of the prairie as the sun begins to set. Call the nature center for directions. (920) 793-4007

Five Buck Hootenanny

Saturday, September 25 • 7:00 p.m.

\$5.00 (\$2.00 under 12)

Featuring Pete Jonsson and Fritz Schuler. (Doors open at 6:30 p.m.)

Owlfest

Saturday, October 16 • 8:00 a.m. to noon

Five Buck Hootenanny

Saturday, October 23 • 7:00 p.m.

Harvest Dinner

Saturday, November 13 • 6:00 p.m.

A chance to win great prizes!

Watch our website, the next issue of the Dunesletter, and your mail for information about how to buy tickets for a chance to win exciting prizes like a kayak or spotting scope and other nature-related items while supporting Woodland Dunes.

Help in the Butterfly Garden

Meet new friends while helping to keep the butterfly garden weed-free and beautiful. Most volunteers work Thursday or Saturday mornings, but once you are familiar with the garden, come any time. To learn more, contact Kelly at 793-4007 or kellye@woodlanddunes.org.

Injured Birds and Animals

If you find an injured or abandoned animal, please DO NOT bring it to Woodland Dunes. Instead, call WOW's pager number, 323-5609, and leave your name, telephone number and address. They will return your call, most likely within 15 minutes, and tell you what to do.

For information, call (920) 793-4007 or check our website at www.woodlanddunes.org.

Unless noted, all events are held at the Nature Center.

Volunteers Picnic

Wednesday, June 16 • noon
In the Pavilion or the Edna Smith room

Volunteers wanted—not to work, to be appreciated! Join us for our first Volunteer Appreciation Picnic on Wednesday, June 16 at noon. Woodland Dunes' staff will provide a cook-out lunch with music and fun, and this year's Volunteer of the Year will be announced. Please call (920) 793-4007 or email nature@woodlanddunes.org to let us know if you will attend so we know how much food to prepare. All volunteers are welcome.



The critters say "Thank you."

Tom and Betsy Kocourek beautified our animal room and donated a stand for one of our aquariums, a new snake terrarium and a new tank for the spring peepers.

cont. from page 1

also to preserve its natural history. Walter served on the Board of Directors of Woodland Dunes, and generously donated toward the purchase of several important parcels of land that were included in our preserve.

Walter's passion for conservation was matched by his practice of it, and he understood the importance of emotional ties between people and the environment. His home farm became a nature preserve, with numerous ponds and wildlife plantings. He constantly questioned the waste of our natural resources, and, in a letter he wrote in 2003, he said "... we have, at Woodland Dunes, spent time and money to educate our children in the view of love and understanding of nature. Where are those voices when a conservation issue arises? Have they forgotten all they learned?"

I know few people around here will forget Walter. I surely won't. Perhaps his memory will prompt us to promote the "love and understanding" he so highly valued even more.

Jim Knickelbine, Director



Jessica Johnsrud tries out the new tunnel in the natural play area.

New Staff

Jessica Johnsrud has been appointed to the new position of Development and Marketing Coordinator for Woodland Dunes. A graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, Jessica worked at several other nature centers previously. Highlights of her career include

teaching at a residential environmental education camp in California, working at a school in Monteverde, Costa Rica, and at the Urban Ecology Center in Milwaukee.

Jessica has been volunteering as a Teacher Naturalist at Woodland Dunes since the spring of 2009. She says she immediately fell in love with what she describes as "an amazing place" and knew she wanted to spend more time here supporting Woodland Dunes' mission.

Jessica started in mid-March and has been busy ever since, learning what had been done in the past, and developing new programs. Her main focus is to develop fundraising projects and facilitate community relations. She says, "I look forward to the challenges of fundraising and am excited about building partnerships with local businesses."

Jessica moved to Manitowoc in the fall of 2008, where she lives with her husband Jacob and an adorable (and sometimes sassy) dog, Oliver. They enjoy hiking, camping and drinking a good microbrew at the end of a long day of gardening. In her spare time, she loves to cook, especially with local and organic foods. Her goal for this summer is to master the art of making feta cheese and yogurt.

Jessica asks Woodland Dunes' members and friends to stop by the Nature Center. She'd be delighted to meet you.

Woodland Dunes Gift Shop ~ Shop Local!

When you shop at a locally owned business, sixty-eight cents of every dollar stays within the community, as opposed to twenty cents of every dollar spent at a national chain store. Support Woodland Dunes Nature Center by shopping in our nature shop. We have a fabulous selection of Wisconsin nature guides and unique gifts.

Summer Sale: All you bargain shoppers out there—come and check out the sale table and rack. You'll be surprised at the good deals you find.

Tree Sale: Thank you to everyone who purchased trees or shrubs at our annual sale. Your purchases help make our land preservation program possible.

Notes from Nature

Willow Trail



Take time to observe your surroundings as you follow Willow Trail from the Nature Center to the West Twin River, and you will see how nature slowly removes the signs of man's presence. For many years, Native

Americans used this land, setting up camp near the river to take advantage of the plentiful fish and shellfish. A recent visitor to the Nature Center recalled the abundance of arrowheads that turned up when the ground was plowed. When European settlers populated this area, they used the land for timber, wildlife harvest, and agriculture. They too left signs of their occupation. Now farming has ceased, the land is preserved, and natural succession is taking place. You'll see various stages along the trail, from seedling shrubs to a young forest. Corresponding changes are found in the bird species who make their homes there.

As you leave the parking lot, you'll pass through the garnet-red stems of dogwood reaching high overhead. Regular pruning discourages them from overtaking the trail itself, but away from the trail they grow unhampered. You'll see an old shed, left from the Rahmlow farm, and now used for our education programs.

Soon after, turn right on the Goldenrod Loop, which takes you through a mixed growth swamp. (The twig and brush construction you see along the way is a recent addition, used to represent an animal home during the Enchanted Forest event in autumn.) Now you will wander through a slightly older section of wooded swamp, dominated by speckled alder and black cherry. Beyond that, watch for the tropical-looking foliage of skunk cabbage, one of our few native aroids. Next you may see horsetail, or scouring rush lining the trail.

Just as you begin to think you are heading off to parts unknown, the trail opens to a grassland and crosses Willow Trail. Continue north (right) on Willow Trail, saving the other half of the Goldenrod Loop for the return trip.

You will notice the habitat changes as you turn onto an old, grass-covered farm road, and walk between a wet swamp, almost a lake, and an old field, now spotted with handsome white spruce trees. After you leave this open environment, you come to the sign for the Horsetail Loop, which leads you through tamarack, white birch and poplar. The enormous cottonwood at the farthest point of the loop honors Helen Dicke Krivacek, an originator of the environmental education program. I seem to scare up a few deer every time I'm in this area; their presence is evidenced by the cropped arbor vitae.

The Horsetail Loop soon rejoins Willow Trail and takes you along the road past several old quarry pits, now filled with water and an attractive habitat for waterbirds. Another abandoned farm shed is maintained here as a shelter. The viewing deck at the edge of the West Twin River, a recent addition, is a good place to relax and watch the activity on the river. Water birds, small mammals, and boaters all use the river.

When it's time to leave the peace of the river, stay on Willow Trail until you reach the open meadow again, and the second half of the Goldenrod Loop, which will take you around Todd's pond, through older woods, and out onto an open grassland with prairie plantings. An oak tree, reminding us of those found on oak savannahs, was recently planted there in honor of Walter Vogl, a long-time friend to Woodland Dunes. Then it's back through the red osier dogwood to the Nature Center, formerly the Rahmlow family farmhouse and another reminder of the human history of the Preserve.

Susan Knorr, Editor

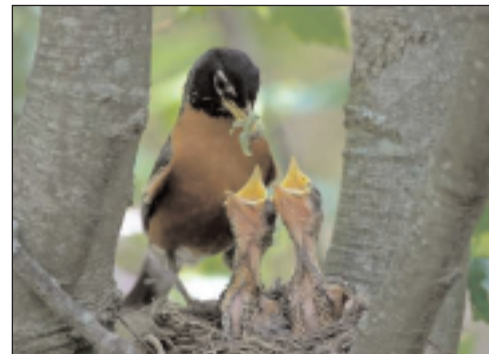
Field Notes: Summer 2010

Interesting things happen when one is not paying attention. At home, our old barn became a haven to some stray cats, and, of course, kittens followed. I am not a fan of outdoor cats, and it took some doing to find homes for everyone, but that has been done. What most interested me was the plight of the mothers—perhaps no surprise to female readers—the tom came and went and the females were left to fend for themselves and their offspring. Sometimes the moms would just walk around mewing as if distressed. It must be overwhelming to be the sole provider and protector in a very hostile world, where each day may be the last for yourself or your offspring. I may not like stray cats, but my heart went out to them.

As spring and summer draws on, there are families all around us, each trying to produce as many offspring as can be raised. In some the effort is more cooperative than in others. As newly fledged robins beg for food below my office window, I wondered about some of our familiar animals, and how they cope with parenthood.

Some are upright in the performance of their parental duties. Downy woodpeckers seem to be well versed in modern mores—they have an elaborate courtship involving flying, dancing, drumming, and other behaviors, after which they excavate a new nest hole. The female selects the site. The entrance to the hole is tastefully camouflaged with fungus, lichen, and moss. The woodpeckers at first defend a large territory, but once a nest site is chosen, the territory size is reduced. Once eggs are laid, they are brooded, mostly by the male. The parents help feed the young for about three weeks; after that they are on their own. As if too much familiarity might breed contempt, the adults later excavate separate roost holes for the winter. Males appear to prefer to forage on different branches in terms of size, location, and orientation, than females, which forage separately. Ospreys are even more democratic, with males helping females to build the nest, incubate eggs, and feed the young.

American robins, like the pair that has chosen to nest on the roof rake leaning against the wall on my porch, also share parental chores. Males help with nest building, although the female does the finishing work, and also care for the first brood of young while mom is incubating the second batch of eggs. Blackbird males—both red-winged and yellow-headed—are not quite as helpful, although they do arrive first and put



Both male and female robins feed the youngsters.

cont. on page 5



Gulls in Wind

I watched eleven gulls
face a hard wind.

All stood on the sand
at sober, crisp attention.
Some would quickstep
right or left but then as quickly
realign to the keen wind.
Others preened the sand
out of their feathers
when the gusts blew less.
In rough bursts, I saw
every bird hunker Sphinx-like
facing that fierce wind.
They seemed to know readily
what to do in the difficult
moments.

More gulls joined the group
to total twenty-three,
but they scattered when a lone man
on lunch break strolled near.
He moved past, and four
returned to alert position
forward to the wind.
Others landed to join them.
I could tell they knew
what to do with difficult moments,
so I stayed in my car
in the lot at the beach
to watch them and to learn.

Jean Biegun

(*VERSE WISCONSIN (summer)*
includes another of Jean's poems.)

cont. from page 4

forth a lot of effort establishing territories and displaying their handsomeness. The females build the nest and incubate the eggs, but have some help from the male in tending the brood once hatched.

Perhaps the most developed parental behavior (other than our own) is found in the coyote; there is evidence that they are monogamous, and the males also help feed the young after they leave the den. One wonders if that contributes to their prosperity as a species in recent years. Whatever the case, I wish all parents well. Have a great time with your family this summer!

Jim Knickelbine, Director

Feathered Jewels

The hummingbirds are unlike any other birds in the world. They are fascinating because of their tiny size and their iridescent feathers that make them glitter in the sun like feathered jewels.

Hummingbirds are found only in the Western Hemisphere. Most of the 319 species live in tropical South America, but fourteen species regularly reside in the United States and Canada. Only the ruby-throated hummingbird breeds east of the Great Plains. Hummingbirds range from just over two inches to over eight inches in length.

Nectar is the primary food of hummingbirds, though they also eat small insects and spiders. Their proportionately long thin bills are adaptations for probing into flowers. Brush-tipped, tubular tongues help draw the nectar into their mouths. In their feeding activities, hummingbirds may transfer pollen from one flower to another and fertilize them as insects do.

The anatomy of hummingbirds is specialized for their feeding habits. Their shoulder joints allow their wings to rotate, so they can propel themselves forward on the down-stroke and backward on the up-stroke, thus hovering in one place. They can fly forward, backward, from side-to-side, straight up, or straight down. This enables them to hover in front of a flower while feeding, then back away, and speed off in any direction. They can reach speeds of over twenty-seven miles per hour and their wings may beat up to eighty times per second. The rapid beats produce a whirring sound, from which they were named hummingbirds. Flight muscles make up about one-fourth of a hummingbird's weight.

Most of the hummingbirds of the United States migrate southward for the winter. Some Rufous Hummingbirds travel nearly 4,000 miles from their summer homes in Alaska to their wintering area in Mexico. Ruby-Throated Hummingbirds make a non-stop flight of 500 miles across the Gulf of Mexico. Hummingbirds can withstand short-term spells of cold weather by going into a state of torpidity, in which their heart rates and body temperatures drop to lower than normal. To remain active, hummingbirds must consume their own body weight in nectar each day.

In the United States, hummingbirds nest in the eastern and western forests and in desert scrublands, but not on the treeless plains. On arriving in their breeding area in spring, male hummingbirds set up mating territories. They make elaborate display flights, involving steep swoops and dives. The displays attract females and also warn other males to stay out of the territory. Female hummingbirds establish nesting territories. Within her territory a female builds a nest on a branch of a tree or other tall plant. The nest is made of mosses, plant fibers, and plant down, held together with spider silk, and usually camouflaged with lichens. Two eggs are usually laid. Ruby-Throated Hummingbird eggs hatch in about fourteen days, and the young fledge about twenty-two days later. Females alone do all the nest-building, incubation, and rearing of the young.

Hummingbirds will come to feeders to consume sugar-water. Many people put out feeders to enable themselves to see these beautiful and interesting birds.

John Woodcock

So Rare: Who speaks for the Trees?



Kirtland's warbler

So Rare, Jimmy Dorsey's 1956 hit, was a musical celebration of beauty and newly found love. This article addresses rarity of another kind: the fleeting moments in the life of a species. Many of our plant and animal species are "so rare" as to be on the verge of extinction. Some birds have already been lost to extinction, including the Carolina parakeet, Labrador duck, ivory-billed woodpecker and the passenger pigeon from North America. Others have been saved by enlightened conservation efforts such as those Wisconsin biologists are making to save the Kirtland's warbler.

In recent times, the loss of a plant or animal species has often been the result of human activity, either directly, because the species is hunted or harvested for its beauty—like the trumpeter swan—or food value, or indirectly, through habitat destruction—like the Kirtland's warbler—or poisoning the land, air or water. The Kirtland's warblers' habitat had been greatly disturbed by the logging industry. Although this could be a story with a sad ending, it is not, and Wisconsin's connection in the recovery effort is one we can be proud of.

A brief history of Kirtland's warbler

Kirtland's warbler (*Dendroica kirtlandii*) probably never was common in North America. First described in 1851 when a bird was collected near Cleveland, Ohio, it was named in honor of Dr. Jared Kirtland, a physician active in his state's natural history efforts. Little was known about the warbler for a long time, since it did not attract much attention from other naturalists. It wasn't until 1879, when a Kirtland's warbler was found on Andros Island, a part of the Bahamas Islands, that its wintering grounds

were recognized. The first nest wasn't found until 1903, when one was located in the northern part of Lower Michigan in Oscoda County. Lower Michigan was its only known nesting area until recently when it was discovered to have nested in Wisconsin and Ontario, Canada.

Kirtland's warbler was only one of a few species named under the original Endangered Preservation Act in 1966, the precursor to the Endangered Species Act of 1973. Today it is described as North America's rarest warbler. It is at the center of an enormous effort to protect not only the bird, but also its nesting habitat.

The population crisis began with the aggressive pine lumbering practices in the 1800s and early 1900s. Kirtland's warbler requires five to twenty-year-old jack pine (*Pinus banksiana*) forests for nesting. Logging activity reduced the nesting habitat, and the forests that remained after the logging efforts ended were fragmented. This fragmentation opened these forest habitats to brown-headed cowbird (*Molothrus ater*) predation.

The jack pine forest and the ecology of fire

Jack pine forest is absolutely essential to the survival and reproductive success of Kirtland's warbler. Jack pine forests appeared after the retreat of the last Ice Age around 10,000 years ago, and are presently found in a narrow band across the north central part of the U.S. and Ontario, Canada. Jack pine was of little value to the lumber industry because the trees are

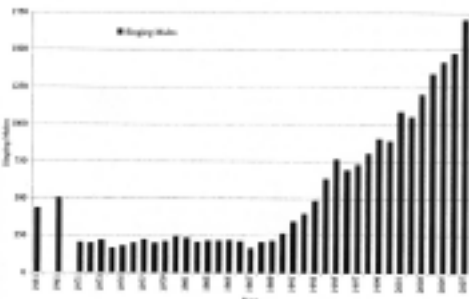
usually crooked and thus undesirable for lumber. But the white pine (*Pinus strobes*) that grows intermixed with jack pine, is very desirable for lumber. Jack pines were destroyed to make it easier to harvest the white pine trees. The plant and animal species associated with these fragile ecosystems require more than just time to recover. For many of them, especially Kirtland's warbler, the recovery of the Jack pine forest is essential.

The sandy and nutrient-poor soil where Jack pine forests typically grow makes them prone to drought and vulnerable to fire. Interestingly, fire is an important part of the Jack pine forest ecology; the soil is enriched by nutrients released by fire. In addition, fire causes the pine cones to open, which releases the seeds for the next generation. This mechanism is of enormous importance to the Kirtland's warblers, because they conceal their nests in the vegetation associated with these new growth Jack pine forests. The reproductive success of the warbler is dependent on tracts of these young pine barrens that are at least six to ten acres in size. (Some birds have successfully nested in tracts of around 1.5 acres, but only if the cowbirds have been well-managed in that area.)

To the credit of the Michigan DNR and conservation groups, Jack pine forests were preserved in the prime Kirtland's warbler nesting areas of Lower Michigan. During the 1970s, more than 134,000 acres of Jack pine forest were set aside and managed exclusively for nesting habitat for the Kirtland's warbler. In the 1990s, additional forestlands were added, increasing the management area to 150,000 acres, or a total of about 235 square miles. Much to the delight of those involved in the project, the number of singing males began to increase at about this time. (See diagram left)

The brown-headed cowbird connection

The brown-headed cowbird was once called the buffalo bird, as it was found mainly in the Great Plains where it



Kirtland's Warbler singing males census 1951, 1961 1971-2007

followed roaming herds of bison (*Bison bison*). The roaming behavior led to the interesting reproductive strategy of the cowbird; they lay their eggs in other birds' nests (often warblers and sparrows). Because the cowbird chick is larger than its nestmates, it out-competes for food and space. The cowbird chick not only grows faster than its nestmates, but also will crowd out the smaller chicks by flipping the hatchling sparrow or warbler from the nest using its back and wings. This highly successful parasitic existence is usually of little consequence to well-established populations of birds, but it is a threat to small and vulnerable populations of birds such as the Kirtland's warbler.

It was human activity that brought the cowbird and Kirtland's warbler together. Once land was opened to settlers for agriculture, and the forests were fragmented by logging, the stage was set. Initially, it was believed that the cowbird parasitized nesting birds only in open fields or on the periphery of the wooded areas. However, Stan Temple, UW-Madison Wildlife Ecologist, found that the cowbird was able to find and parasitize nests more than 200 feet in from a forest edge. In addition to creating open areas, fragmentation of the wooded areas created corridors that allowed the cowbird to greatly increase its range.

Because of this, the US Fish and Wildlife Service, in cooperation with the USDA, Michigan DNR and the Michigan Audubon Society, began a program in 1972 of controlling cowbird populations in the Kirtland's warbler management areas. Since the



Cowbird's egg in with those of the Eastern towhee.



Jack pine and scrub oak forests and barrens in Wisconsin and Kirtland's warblers observations 1988 - present.

program was initiated, an average of 4,000 cowbirds have been removed each year from the management areas, decreasing Kirtland's warbler nest parasitism from an average of 69% of the nests parasitized at the beginning of the program, to less than 5% presently. The average clutch size increased from 2.3 eggs/nest to more than four eggs/nest. This was matched with a concomitant increase in the number of nest fledglings. Although some observers have suggested that the cowbird control program was of little significance, the data referenced above contradicts this opinion.

One bird/two habitats

Kirtland's warbler is a traveler, migrating between its summer home in Michigan and winter home in the Caribbean. Understanding the importance of its two homes is absolutely essential to the success of this warbler, and to all other birds we now call the neotropical migrants.

Neotropical migrants are presently of great concern to biologists since managing the two homes and the corridors they use during migration is a daunting task of geopolitical dimensions.

Ancilleno (Leno) O. Davis, a conservancy scientist working on the Kirtland's warbler project in the Caribbean, suggests that the real beau-

ty of the Kirtland's warbler project is "the cooperation between the different countries, the government and non-governmental agencies and the young and experienced scientists to understand and protect a part of the natural world that without protection may be lost. Each component of its habitat—north, south, and the corridor in between—must be properly protected in order for the bird to survive. And, because change to the natural world is happening so rapidly, without enlightened protection, endangered species are certain to fail."

The Wisconsin connection

Although Michigan was known to be a home for the Kirtland's warbler, it has also been found in Wisconsin, albeit infrequently and only during migration, beginning as early as 1853. Other findings of the warbler were reported in 1911. However, in 1978 Nancy Tilghman found two singing males in Jackson County during the nesting season. By 2006, it had been found singing during the nesting season in Douglas, Marinette, Vilas and Washburn Counties. It wasn't until 2007, however, that nesting Kirtland's warblers were documented in Wisconsin. This finding was the result of enormous efforts on the part of the Wisconsin DNR, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and Dean DiTommaso, who found three nests in Adams County and at least eight singing males. Unfortunately, two of the nests were parasitized by cowbirds and the outcome of the third nest was not known. (The figure above, center, shows the Wisconsin



Brown-headed cowbird

Jack pine habitats in gray, and the locations of the singing males as black circles in the gray areas.)

Aggressive protection of Wisconsin's Kirtland's warbler nesting sites began in 2009. Cowbird traps, full time monitors to record observations, volunteers to conduct Kirtland's warbler surveys, and efforts to band all male Kirtland's warblers were instituted. Because of these efforts, the areas in the state of greatest importance are being identified, and protection of the Jack pine forests will follow

Unlike the nostalgic musical piece Jimmy Dorsey shared with us in 1956, the Kirtland's warbler needs our help to preserve more than just its memory. As Justice William O. Douglas wrote in his dissent of *The Sierra Club vs. Morton* lawsuit in 1971, when the Supreme Court decided *The Sierra Club* did not have standing to represent nature, Justice Douglas asked in his dissent response, "Who speaks for the trees?"

The Kirtland's warbler cannot wait for the political and economic systems to align themselves in better times. Those who have already spoken for the Kirtland's warbler have made an enormous difference and are saving a species from certain extinction.

Chuck Sontag, Professor Emeritus, UW-Manitowoc

Citizen Science Monitoring

Woodland Dunes received a grant from the Department of Natural Resources to increase and organize our citizen science efforts. Citizen science is a term that describes projects in which volunteers perform research-related tasks such as observation and measurement.

Woodland Dunes is involved in a number of citizen science projects. They are great learning opportunities for individuals and families. The two opportunities below will help you get involved this summer. Contact the Nature Center for more information.

Water Action Volunteers River Monitoring Project

Water Action Volunteers (WAV) is a statewide program for Wisconsin citizens who want to learn about and improve the quality of Wisconsin's streams and rivers. Woodland Dunes coordinates this effort on parts of the East and West Twin Rivers. Monitoring involves monthly trips (April-November) to the river where a variety of tests are performed. Woodland Dunes will provide you with all the equipment and teach you how to perform the tests.

Worm Week!

Worm Week training: Monday August 23. (times TBA)
Earthworms were wiped out when glaciers moved through our part of the country. The current population, brought here by early Europeans, is changing the face of our native forests. We will teach you how to collect a sample, identify the worms you find and enter your data into a statewide database. During worm week, spend an hour sampling in your backyard and let us know what you find. Worm week will take place in late September/early October.

An Ancient and Mysterious Treasure

One never knows what treasures lie in wait for those who are seeking; it turns out this treasure-seeker found a Time Traveler. The saga began years ago—somewhere west of Woodland Dunes at a farmer's rummage sale. I came upon a small, old-looking object which captured my attention. It sat in a shoebox with a mix of odds and ends; the box was marked "Ten cents each."

The item fit nicely into the palm of my hand and was surprisingly heavy. It was pleasantly smooth to the touch and had a rich, bronze-like patina. A small, sculpted 'button' at the tip of this weighty oval, convinced me that it was an old, old plumb bob with a whole lot of character—it was a keeper! At home, I added the new bauble to my box of odds and ends, never giving it another thought.

Until . . . several years later, I made another rummage sale purchase: two old volumes entitled *The Stone Age in North America* (25 cents each). Imagine my surprise to discover in Volume II, an exact picture of my 'plumb bob'! It turns out this was no plumb bob.

It was, in fact, a plummet, a treasured object, laboriously shaped and smoothed by ancient, stone-age, human hands! It was made of hematite, a highly-prized form of iron ore found in Missouri, and, according to Volume II, the ore reached Wisconsin via early trades with middle Mississippi Valley tribes.

Still, there is much mystery surrounding plummetts. Why would a prehistoric man, using only the most primitive of tools, undertake the long and formidable task of shaping and smoothing hematite into a plummet? Was he creating a mere ornament? Was he making an amulet, or good-luck-charm? Or, might his plummet possibly represent an ancient sacredness? No one knows. What is known, however, is that early man revered plummetts enough to put them in his burial sites.

As I hold this ancient piece of human history in my hand, I try to imagine the hard-working hands which shaped and sculpted such a beautiful ornament. That person lived on this very land, worked beneath the same sun, and gazed up in wonder at the same night-sky.

Although I've always thought of modern man as something separate from ancient man, this plummet—this work of art—rings in me a deep sense of connection to the very roots of my human family. What a beautiful and unexpected gift . . .



Plummetts look like a surveyor's plumb bob.

Jean Bleser-Abreu & Helen Bleser



Sweet like Honey...Bees!

Ever since I was young, I have loved bees. I used to go outside and lie down in the grass and watch bees land on clover blossoms. I knew that there were different kinds of bees, but I did not understand what the difference between them was. Don't all bees collect pollen and nectar and make honey?

Yes, they do, but honeybees are given their name because they produce honey that we humans use. They also make beeswax, which is used in many products, including candles, lip balm, and even jellybeans.

Honeybees look different from their relatives, the bumblebees. Honeybees are smaller and do not look as brilliant, but they are no less beautiful as they buzz around in their busy lives.

Buzzing About Bumblebees

Ever since I was very little I have been terrified of bumblebees. The sight of their fuzzy coats concealing a stinger was enough to send me back inside the house. At one point I convinced myself I had a "sixth sense" that alerted me to the proximity of bees and wasps. (I have never been stung.) Eventually I realized I was only afraid of bumblebees because I didn't really know what they were. So I stopped running and started looking. Fortunately for me, the bumblebee, like the honeybee, does not care to use its stinger. If it feels threatened by your close presence, it will raise a middle leg as a warning.

While the bumblebee's name suggests it to be lazy, these ingenious insects diligently collect nectar.

When a worker bee finds a reliable food source it returns to the nest, dancing in a figure-eight pattern and waving its wings in excitement. Apparently, this crazy behavior, along with the scent of the last visited flower, interests the others to go out and explore for themselves. Sometimes they carry enough honey to make up seventy-five percent of their body weight. There's definitely a lot more to these little guys than bumbling around in their fat coats.

Truth be told, when I walk in a garden I'm still a little wary of bees. But now when I see one, I don't run away-and neither should you. Watch it bumble and buzz. It's beautiful.

Create A Cartoon!

What's going on? Write a caption or draw extra details to tell a story.



Go On a Moon Walk...Try It!

Unfortunately, you can't just hop on an airplane and take a real moon walk just yet. While you're waiting for technology to catch up, summertime is perfect for observing the night sky. This year the summer full moons fall on June 26, July 26, and August 24. Make plans for a moon walk on at least one of those days.



1. Get away from city lights. Venture out into the countryside, by the beach—even your neighborhood will do if there aren't a lot of street and house lights. Cover a flashlight with red cellophane so you can preserve your "nighttime eyes." In any case, always make sure you're with a trusted adult.

2. Study the moon. Find your favorite constellation, or "draw" your own in the stars you see. Listen for crickets. Breathe the air—it always feels different at night. A moon walk is all about exploring nature at night, so use all your senses.



Sources: *Birds of Wisconsin Field guide* by Stan Tekiela; bumblebee.org; nwf.org; <http://www.gpnc.org.honeybee.htm>

The Living Classroom

Gardening with kids

This time of year sunlight and water make magical things happen. Gardening with kids is a great way to introduce them to the beauty and mystery found in the natural world. I am still amazed that a tiny seed can grow into a huge cottonwood or tiny spring beauties. Remember, gardens are not just for plants—they will also attract insects, birds, amphibians and other animals. Even if you have never gardened, you'll find it's an enjoyable hobby for you and your family.

Basic guidelines to make your first garden a success

1. **Start small**, giving yourself time to get your feet wet slowly. Container gardening is a great way to get started without altering your lawn. Reuse that old kiddie pool as a big container. Make sure kids have a garden to call their own.
2. **Let kids choose** what to plant and in what layout. Teaching older kids to follow the spacing recommendations is a great way to add math to the mix, but don't be too rigid. Many plants do just fine growing closer than suggested on the package. Plants don't mind crooked rows or unusual color combinations.
3. **Appreciate the many insects** that will be seen in the garden. Let kids know that some are beneficial and even the destructive ones are interesting and part of the web of nature. If you find an insect or animal you can't identify, visit Woodland Dunes' library. With help from some books and a naturalist, you will learn about your little friend. Taking pictures to bring along lets you leave the animal in its habitat and teaches basic photography.
5. **Help** with the weeding and watering to keep things growing and successful. When it comes to impending doom (no pumpkins appeared on vines; the daisy is uprooted) do you add a pumpkin from the farm stand? Replace the daisy? Some parents use loss as a lesson; others smooth things over for success.
6. **Remember:** One of the best things you will ever grow is a nature lover!

Great Plants for Children's Gardens

Extremes: huge flowers, like sunflowers; small vegetables, like cherry tomatoes

Surprising colors: purple carrots, striped beets, rainbow chard

Performers: Sensitive plant (*Mimosa pudica*) closes to the touch; snapdragon flowers can "talk"; jewel weed makes beautiful earrings.

Irresistible to touch: fuzzy woolly thyme and lambs' ears; prickly coneflowers and strawflowers; delicate maidenhair fern

Fragrant: heliotrope, roses, peonies, and lilacs. If you show children which plants to rub between their fingers, they'll never forget lavender, pineapple mint, lemon balm, rosemary, basil, and scented geraniums.

Butterfly attractors: Monarda, butterfly weed, and salvia are great nectar plants for adult butterflies, but don't forget about caterpillars' host plants like parsley, dill, milkweed, thistles, and knapweed.

Night bloomers: Fill summer evenings with the magic of moonflowers, four o'clocks, and evening primrose.

Pickable plants: Cosmos, snapdragon, salvia, zinnia, coleus, and celosia are just a few plants that produce more vigorously if picked.

The Big Spill

The spring programs at Woodland Dunes both have a water focus, one on water quality and wetland habitat, the other on wetlands and the animals that live in them. It is no surprise that during the spring field trips students brought up the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico. Many are worried and express concern about the animals that live in the ocean. This is a tragedy not only for the environment but us as well. Environmental disasters are hard on the wildlife and the wild places that we love and need.

Turning sad feelings and worry into action is a great way to help kids process environmental problems. Help them understand that the more oil we use, the more has to be pumped out of the ground, potentially leading to more oil spills.

Five things kids can do

1. **Stop drinking bottled water:** The plastic containers used for our nation's bottled water habit waste 50 million barrels of oil a year. Get a filter for your tap, or use reusable bottles.
2. **Stop using plastic bags:** Use canvas bags for grocery shopping, and clip a mini expandable tote to your key chain for errands; put your kids in charge of taking them on shopping trips and returning them to the car afterwards. Nearly 100 billion single-use plastic bags are used each year in the U.S., to the tune of 12 million barrels of oil.
3. **Bike to school and friends' houses.** This is easy, since most kids use bikes. Explain that they are helping the planet when they walk and bike.
4. **Help kids write to senators and other government employees** about how they feel about the oil spill.
5. **Turn off lights, computers, and televisions** when not in use. Conserving energy is the best way to decrease our dependence on fossil fuels.

While major oil spills grab our attention, smaller leaks from cars are easy to overlook. The National Resource Council estimates 363 million gallons of oil per year enter the coastal ocean from storm drains alone. It comes from cars on roads and parking areas, so make sure your cars are well maintained.

Kelly Eskew Vorrn, Education Coordinator







Less Lawn! Shrink your lawn and grow your pleasure!

Tuesday, June 15th, 6:30 p.m.







Explore the possibilities of less lawn with award winning author Evelyn J. Hadden's colorful presentation Design ideas to shrink your lawn. You'll glean fresh ideas and return to your own yard with a renewed sense of its possibilities. NOTE: the program takes place at the Manitowoc County Office Complex, 4319 Expo Drive, Manitowoc. Limited seating: To register, contact Judy at (920) 732-3258 or jtgardener@lakefield.net Program is sponsored by Woodland Dunes and Manitowoc County Master Gardeners.

What's happening at Woodland Dunes






The dates given are based on data from previous years, but will vary depending on actual conditions.

		Look for starflowers along Conifer Trail.			Frog Hike 7:30 - 9:00 p.m.	
6	Painted turtles begin laying eggs.		Look for mayapples along Trillium Trail.		Hike Willow Trail to the big cottonwood to see "cotton" flying.	
13		Look for spittlebugs along Willow Trail.		Listen for green frogs and bullfrogs along Cattail Trail.		
20		Summer Solstice			False Solomon's seal blooms.	Full strawberry moon
27		Common milkweed is in bloom.				

June

4		Butterfly weed is in bloom.				West Twin River Paddle
11		Look along roadsides for chicory, St. John's wort and Queen Anne's lace.				
18	Sandhill crane chicks are learning to fly.				Look for south-migrating shorebirds at Goodwin Rd. prairie.	
25		Hike Yellow Birch Trail to look for spotted jewelweed.		Hike Trillium Trail to look for deer, antlers growth nears its peak.		

July

1	Raspberries are ripe!					
8		Hike Conifer Trail to look for the bright blue fruits of blue bead lily. Wear mosquito repellent.		Hike the prairie trail: see yellow cone-flower, black eyed Susan and compass plant.		
15		Look for fall migrating warblers.				Butterfly Garden Festival
22				Hike Black Cherry Trail and look for bottle gentians blooming.		
28	Snapping turtle eggs hatching	Monarchs could be leaving for Mexico.				

August

Water on the Land



An area of marsh marigolds (*Caltha palustris*) flourishes in a wetland on high ground at Winghaven.

Water seeks the lowest level. That's pretty obvious, but I now know that concept has to be qualified by the word "eventually." I always thought high ground was dry ground, so British murder mysteries that had people sinking into quicksand on the high moors left me confused. If you've read Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's novel *The Hound of the Baskervilles*, you know that his Great Grimpen Mire was a dangerous wetland—located high on the moors. Although that wetland is fictional, it was based on Fox Tors Mire, a real and equally dangerous place.

Here at Winghaven, my home, it has taken me years to figure out the ways of water on this particular piece of land. When I first started gardening here, I assumed that because most of the property is twenty feet above the lake the ground was well drained. My first month here, I took advantage of an end of season sale at a local nursery and blithely planted flowering trees and shrubs against the dark arbor vitae (*Thuja occidentalis*) lining the west side of the property.

My first indication that all was not well was the following spring, when large, shallow lakes formed between the house and the road. Next to the arbor vitae the water was five inches deep. The trees and shrubs I had planted on what I thought was high, dry ground were now under water. They were not happy about it, not at all. The lakes slowly dried up, but every time we had heavy rain, we also had lakes. And the plants died. It was a big disappointment—and a bit of a mystery.

Later that spring, while out at the mailbox, I heard a gurgling sound, like running water, in the ditch. I couldn't see water anywhere, so I remained baffled for a few weeks. Another mystery. Then, deep in the woods, I discovered a deep, steep-sided hole. I investigated myself, and then got my sidekick (all the best detectives have sidekicks), who poked around and dug a bit. We moved some brush aside, and saw that it was a large, buried, clay pipe that had bro-

ken open on top, leaving the hole I had found. Once we figured that out, we were able to follow its path through the woods. It ran from somewhere in the farm fields to the west to the lake. We went down to the lake and looked up at the bluff. Sure enough, ten feet up, a pipe was spilling water out. From there it ran across the beach to the lake.

To people who have lived and farmed here their entire lives, there was no mystery to any of this, but I grew up in Wittenberg, near the center of the state. There excess rocks, not water, were the problem farmers dealt with daily. I found out that here in northeastern Wisconsin the heavy clay soil that overlays this part of the state makes it necessary to lay drain tiles under farm fields, ensuring that they are dry enough for crops. The gurgling by the mailbox—probably a pipe that passes under the ditch—and the old pipe in the woods are remnants of a drainage system that made the fields to the west farmable. I don't know if the old pipes are still functional, and short of digging up the entire place, I probably never will.

I do know that when the house and driveway were built, they must have interrupted both the natural drainage patterns and the man-made drainage systems. Whatever the reasons, now that I have been here a while, I know where water is retained, and where it drains away. If I just observe, the land itself will provide all the clues I need to site plants successfully in the garden and landscape.

Susan Knorr, Editor

I planted tamarack (*Larix laricina*) trees in the area where lakes form. Their golden autumn color is lovely against the arborvitae, and they are just fine getting their ankles wet each spring.

An Elusive Native

Green dragon, *Arisaema dracontium* is a member of the Araceae (Arum Family). It is native to Wisconsin, but uncommon. Although it is found in sedge meadows, southern lowland forests and southern upland forests, habitats occurring at Woodland Dunes, it has not been recorded. It is an erect perennial, one to three feet tall. It has a single leaf; however, the leaf stem forks so that there appear to be two leaves, each divided into five to fifteen unequal leaflets on the tip of the stem.

The green inflorescence includes a long, tapering spadix with tiny flowers covering the lower section; the long, green, thin, whip-like spathe is longer than the spadix. It blooms in May and June. Orange-red berries follow.





Aegolius Bird Club members volunteer at Bird Breakfast. Above, Julie Woodcock collects admissions; John leads bird tours.

Aegolius Bird Club

The Aegolius Bird Club meets at Woodland Dunes the second Tuesday each month at 7:00 p.m. The club also makes field trips each month on Saturdays to places around our area that are rich in bird life. Membership is open to anyone interested in birds, but you need not be a member to attend meetings or to participate in field trips. For more information, call John or Julie Woodcock at (920) 683-3878.

Field Trips

- June 12: Meet at Knollwood Mausoleum Parking Lot at 7:00 a.m. to look for summer resident birds at Heidmann County Park in Kewaunee Co.
- July 17: Meet at the Hwy. 151 and I-43 Park and Ride at 8:00 a.m. to look for summer resident birds at Ledgeview Nature Center in Chilton.
- August 14: Meet at the Nature Center at 8:00 a.m. to look for early fall migrants at Point Beach State Forest.
- September 18: Meet at the wayside on Hwy. 42 at 8:00 a.m. to look for fall migrants along the Ice Age Trail in Woodland Dunes.

Adopt an Owl

Spring Adoptions

- Nancy Ludwig
- Jacob Andrew
a gift from Tom VanHorn
- Johnathan Beyer
a gift from Tim and Debbie Beyer

How to adopt

For \$25 you can adopt a saw-whet owl caught and banded at Woodland Dunes. You will receive a certificate of adoption with the band number of your owl, a photo of a saw-whet owl, and a form for recording recaptures. Funds raised from this program will support the mission of Woodland Dunes. Please contact Jessica at 793-4007 or jessicaj@woodlanddunes.org for details.



The Bird Life List

Bird watching is increasing in popularity across the U.S. There are festivals in various states sponsored by local chambers of commerce and recently, in Wisconsin, cities may be fortunate enough to qualify as "Bird Cities."

As new birders become more involved, some begin a life list: those birds seen during their life time. As the list grows, birding trips become more frequent since northern and southern birds are as different as eastern and western species. New states, national parks, etc. become goal areas for birders to visit.

There are different kinds of bird lists. Some birders begin a new list on January 1st for an annual yearly list, then add new species identified during the year to their life list. There are county, state and North American life lists. Woodland Dunes Nature Center has 250 birds on its checklist but since this list includes occasional and seldom seen species, a birder should not expect to see all 250.

As an enthusiastic birder, each year, usually during the third or fourth week in May, I do a "Big Bird Day" at Woodland Dunes. This is an annual challenge for many birders. Some travel throughout Wisconsin on this midnight to midnight adventure but my day is spent at this preserve. If the weather is just right, on a good day, I would expect to have identified 80 species by 10 am and 100 species by noon. The number would increase slowly after that since there would be fewer left to identify. 130 species or higher at the end of the day would be considered very good.

As birders continue to add species to their life list each year, some may wonder where their listing will take them and what new birds they may see. My life list includes 245 at Woodland Dunes; 305 in Manitowoc County; 315 in Wisconsin; 517 in North America and 603 worldwide. One birder's goal, in one year, was to see 700 species in the U.S. By December 31 he ended his year with 699! Other birders travel throughout the world in search of birds. I know of at least one member of Woodland Dunes who has thousands of birds on his list.

In the pursuit of birds, certain criteria should be adhered to. The following is from a National Audubon Society article by Richard J. Glinski:

- Don't use tape-recorded territorial calls of birds that are actively breeding.
- Universal attractants such as "pishing" are more acceptable since they probably have fewer adverse effects than the use of specific calls.
- Observe bird nests from a distance great enough so that parent birds and their activities are not disturbed. Avoid nesting colonies and rapture nests.
- Do not relentlessly follow or harass birds.
- Photography of birds should never include the removal of nestlings from the nest or of foliage close to the nest.
- Respect the property and wishes of the private landowner. The misbehavior of one person may result in the exclusion of all.
- Do not associate with large groups that are bussed, en masse, to critical habitats and turned loose without responsible guides.

Be aware, careful and, most important, have fun!

Bernie Brouchoud, Environmental Educator

Thank You

The following reflect gifts, donations and memberships received through May 23, 2010.

Grants

Wisconsin DNR: Citizen-Based Monitoring Program

Memorials

In memory of Janie Buenzow
Ann Marie Paprocki

In memory of Rosie Hauser
William and Traci Hoeltke

In memory of a loved one
William and Traci Hoeltke

In memory of Mary Hronek
Aegolius Bird Club

In memory of Clarence and Josephine Koch:
Peter Koch

In memory of Josephine Koch:
Barbara Koch

Douglas and Adele Koch

In memory of Chuck Linsmeier and Marlene Babler-Linsmeier:
Don & Helen Bleser

In memory of Christopher Neuser
Helen Bleser

In memory of Eleanor Peterik
Helen Bleser

In memory of Elizabeth Senn:
Carol Martin

In memory of Walter Vogl
Grace E. Peppard

Carol Nystrom

Don & Helen Bleser

Jerrel Ralph

Matching Donations

Dominion
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Corporate Memberships

Northern Labs, Inc (renewal)
Hamann Construction (renewal)

Fund Drive Donors

Dorothe Casavant
Carol Elfner
Grace D. Boeder
Tony Scherer
Steven and Ruth Kloss

Thank you to:

Betsy Blitz-Kocourek
photography of events & programs
Tom and Betsy Kocourek
for beautifying our animal room.



Water Wonders volunteers ready to greet students.

Thank you Teacher-Naturalists

Water Wonders

Geri Berkovitz, Lee Brey, Lou Ann Gray, Joan Hanson, Jessica Johnsrud, Ellen Lewellen, Jim Knorr, Betsy Blitz-Kocourek, Susie Polk, Mary Savage, and Vicki Taddy

Thanks to our

Bird Breakfast Volunteers

Mary Ellen Beebe, Lynn Brouchoud, Donna Drexler, Dan Gray, Lou Ann Gray, Chris Jagadinski, Emma Knickelbine, Matt Knickelbine, Jim Knorr, Susan Knorr, Barb Koch, Betsy Kocourek, Tom Kocourek, Donna Langman, Ellen Lewellen, Norb Pritzl, Chuck. Sontag, Marilyn Sontag, Darcy Varona, Barb Vorrone, Carol Westphal, John Woodcock, Julie Woodcock



Nick, Kali, and Deb, volunteers from Starbucks, served pancakes and ham at Bird Breakfast

Wish List

large plastic storage boxes (Jessica)

In-kind Donations

Tom and Betsy Kocourek
the use of a 10-passenger pontoon boat for up-coming programs
a stand for one of our aquariums
a new snake aquarium
a new tank for the spring peepers.
equipment for the Water Wonders program

Glen Hanson
the cedar woodpecker display!

Marty Gregory
a gently used telescope.

Fred Radant Sons, Inc.
Top soil and sand for the Little Wings Play Area

London Dairy Alpaca
materials for the nesting ball construction at the Bird Breakfast

Seagull Marina
the use of the pontoon boat for the Bird Breakfast marsh tours

Browns of Two Rivers
food for Bird Breakfast

Refreshments for Members' Meeting
Donna Langman

Donations

Wild Ones Lakewood Chapter 72
(The chapter has been disbanded.)

Alice Burkel and Ed Lowe

New Members

Thomas Clark and Judy Rollin

Jacinda Cole

Jessica and Jacob Johnsrud

Elaine and Doug Kieffer

Susan and Tim Landers

Stephen Miller

Thomas and Evelyn Murphy

Ken and Angela Papineau

Maureen Puls

Sherrie Richards

Membership Errata

The following were omitted from the 2009 Membership List in the Winter 2010 Dunesletter:

Regular members

Ethel Frieder

Dr. and Mrs. Joseph E. Trader

Guarantor:

Mary Madison

Library News

Although there haven't been any new books purchased for the library, two recent donations may be of interest to our members. Unlike most books in our library, these do not relate to Wisconsin or the Great Lakes area, but they are both good stories about nature. Thanks to the anonymous donor(s).

Indian Creek Chronicles by Pete Fromm (508.7 FRO)

When the author was in college, he spent the winter (seven months) living alone in a tent by the mountains near the Idaho-Montana state line, guarding salmon eggs. Not an experienced wilderness camper, he illustrates his knowledge (or lack of knowledge) when the game wardens tell him he'll need to get about seven cords of firewood before the snow makes it impossible to get around with his truck. To quote Fromm: "Though I didn't want to ask, it seemed important. 'What's a cord?'" After making it through the winter, and later graduating with a degree in wildlife biology, Fromm was working as a river manager on the Snake River four years later when what he called "my salmon" fought their way back upstream from the Pacific.

On the Wing by Alan Tennant (598.9 TEN)

The author recounts his effort to radio-track the migration of the peregrine falcon, possibly the most famous of the world's raptors. Tennant's pilot (in an old Cessna) is a World

War II veteran who flies as much on instinct as instruments. The falcons lead them from the Texas barrier islands to the Arctic, and then back south through Mexico, Belize, and into the Caribbean. Along the way, they run into danger, as well as problems with the law, as they race to keep the birds in view.

Woodland Dunes' library is open the same hours as the office is. You'll find a wide selection of books about nature. A card catalog will help you find just the book you want.

Darlene Waterstreet, Volunteer Librarian

Volunteers Needed Summer 2010!

Scavenger hunts, pond exploration, insect hikes! Summer is a great time to spend outside with the kids visiting Woodland Dunes. One training session on Tuesday, July 6 from 9:30 to noon will teach you everything you need to know. Then make your own schedule by signing up for those dates when groups are visiting. Contact Kelly at kellye@woodlanddunes.org or 793-4007.



Woodland Dunes Nature Center and Preserve: Part of a Greater Conservation Community

Occasionally we like to remind you, our members and friends, just how important you are, not only to Woodland Dunes, but to conservation everywhere. Your support of our organization has far-reaching effects: as part of Woodland Dunes, you're part of a global community focused on conservation and education. Although your donations to the fund drive are all spent locally, what happens here has repercussions around the world. For example, some birds that nest here are also part of the ecological systems in South America; children who learn about the environment at Woodland Dunes go on to careers worldwide, taking their respect for the natural world with them. Never underestimate the value of your contribution. It is used with the greatest care, and returns dividends now and in the future. We have been gratified by your continued support during the past year's difficult economic climate, and hope you will continue to demonstrate your belief in this organization.

Please invest in your future by supporting Woodland Dunes.



Face painting was a popular activity at Bird Breakfast.

I wish to support Woodland Dunes with the following donation:

\$10 ____ **\$25** ____ **\$50** ____ **\$100** ____ **\$200** ____ **other**

Name (please print) _____ **Phone** _____

Address _____

City _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____

Please make checks payable to Woodland Dunes and return this form with your donation to: Woodland Dunes, PO Box 486, Two Rivers, WI 54241-0486

We apologize for any errors or omissions in this issue. Please let us know, and we will print a correction in the next issue of *The Dunesletter*.

Woodland Dunes

Become a member!

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____
 State _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____
 Email _____

- \$25 Individual
- \$35 Family
- \$50 Patron
- \$100 Contributor

Guarantors

- \$250 Conservator
- \$500 Benefactor
- \$1,000 Steward
- \$5,000 Guardian

Please send this form and your tax-deductible donation to Woodland Dunes today.

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Monday - Friday: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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Summer • 9 a.m. to noon

Winter • by appt. or for events

Hiking trails open year round

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