



the Prairie News

Chiwaukee Prairie Preservation Fund P.O. Box 1802 Kenosha, Wis. 53141

“The flora and fauna know no street names and nothing of ownership.”

Dear Friends,

With firebreaks mowed and seed collected, it is time again to review the past year and share plans for 2014 as we renew *our mission: to acquire, restore, manage and preserve Chiwaukee Prairie and support research and environmental education.*

Land Transfer: Since 1965, we volunteers have worked with The Nature Conservancy (TNC) to fulfill this mission, first as a committee of TNC, then after 1985 as an independent organization, CPPF Inc. In the beginning, we needed a loan from TNC but soon we were providing all the funds for land acquisition, and later, we doubled the impact of our money by matching state funds. TNC has always taken title to the parcels for liability and administrative reasons. But Chiwaukee Prairie, though a natural jewel, is small and far away from TNC staff and resources.

Thus, this year TNC began the process of transferring title for its Chiwaukee land to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR), which already owns and manages most of the prairie lands in Carol Beach Estates. These lands are now also called Chiwaukee Prairie. Acquiring and managing land in the “**Chiwaukee Prairie - Carol Beach Area**” is the main purpose listed in the CPPF Articles of Incorporation. As we already work closely with DNR staff, we look forward to continuing our mission in an expanded partnership with them.

Land Acquisition: After completing the title transfer in June 2014, DNR will begin acquisition efforts in Chiwaukee Prairie south of 116th Street. They are also following up on the six tax delinquent lots tied up in Kenosha County administration. Earlier this year the Village of Pleasant Prairie donated 0.89 acre. Recently, CPPF pledged \$12,000 to DNR to combine with state and federal grant funds for the acquisition of three key lots in the Carol Beach area.

Inside the Chiwaukee Prairie boundary from the Kenosha dunes to the Illinois state line there remain over 100 privately owned lots to be acquired.

The need for your donations remains crucial!

Restoration & Management: If the increased presence of sandhill cranes is an indicator of healthy habitat, we must be doing something right! They are

enjoying the resurgence of native vegetation which followed the removal of wetland invasive species. The planned spring burn of the large unit bordered by 116th Street and the railroad will further improve habitat and produce a carpet of shooting stars in May. With the addition of over 20 newly trained prescribed burn volunteers, we look forward to the increased use of this vital management tool.

This winter, contract work supported by the federal grant covering the Chiwaukee-Illinois Beach Lake Plain will involve clearing **75 acres** of invasive brush. The volunteers will also be clearing scattered brush in high quality areas from now until spring. They were kept busy from April to November controlling a wide variety of invasive species not covered by the grant; absolutely critical management work. Seed collecting was restarted this fall and will be expanded in 2014. Many thanks to the volunteers, the indispensable management ingredient!

Research: A sampling of general results: Orchid counts remain low. Bluebird fledging was down from last year. The Butterfly Blitz was rained out and monitoring counts are down. But, Blanding’s turtles went from 80% egg loss to 80% survival in one year! Raptor migration was stable (see pg.3).

Education & Outreach: From the Harbor Market to the Carol Beach parade (see pg. 3), we are reaching out to the community to expand knowledge of the Prairie, bring in new volunteers and increase support for the work needed to preserve Chiwaukee. Group presentations are available on various topics from history to flora and fauna.

It is these very flora and fauna who call the area home that we and those who came before us have worked to protect. Plants and animals don’t care who owns the land, just where’s the best place to live or grow. With your support, we will continue working to acquire and improve their habitat.

Thank you everyone!

Tori Graham, President

We will continue until the last piece of land has been preserved

ACTIVITIES & OPPORTUNITIES

Monthly 3rd Saturday Work Party

Mark your calendars! All year long, volunteers come to Chiwaukee Prairie at 10AM on the third Saturday of the month to remove invasive species, collect and distribute seed, cut brush, mow firebreaks, and do what's needed.

No experience necessary. On the job training.

Meet us at 121st St. and 2nd Ave. and work until 1PM. Dress for the weather and come for all or part of the time. **Check our web site** for planned activities on upcoming workdays and for occasional extra workdays.

Give us your email address and once a month we will let you know what is happening on the prairie, plans for the workday, and other news about Chiwaukee Prairie. CPPF does not share its address or email lists.

Breakfast on the Prairie

This annual event for volunteers and Friends will be on **June 21, 2014 starting at 9AM**. Join us for good eats and a good time with fellow prairie fans!

ALSO in 2014...

Informal Prairie Walks

Rare Plant Monitoring

Invasive Species Training

Field Identification Sessions

Annual Butterfly Blitz

...for information on these and other volunteer activities and opportunities, special events, flora, fauna, and history, and to view the Prairie map, please visit:

www.chiwaukee.org

You can contact us at **cppf@chiwaukee.org** or call one of the directors listed on this page.

Many Thanks

We continue to be extremely grateful to Pastor Carlson and the congregation of the Kenosha Bible Church for providing CPPF with a room for our Board meetings.

Thanks also to Mike Breen of Rosborough Partners for facilitating the donation of loppers and folding saws from Russo Power Equipment.

Our trailer is sporting weather proof heavy duty locks thanks to Ted Nunziato and the folks at Master Lock.

Our historical archives were greatly enhanced by a copy of the 1921 plat map of the Chiwaukee subdivision, generously donated by Priscilla Andre.



DONATIONS STILL MATCHED!

All donations to CPPF are available for acquisition of land in Chiwaukee Prairie. As in the past, our funds will continue to be matched from the state stewardship fund, thus **doubling** the land buying power of your contributions.

Acquisition is the first step but management is the rest of the journey. Last year we asked you to mark "Discretionary" on your donation card if the money might also be used for land management. While the grant work has accomplished a great deal, there remains much to do and cutbacks in state funding and personnel mean our role will increase. Please consider marking the "**Discretionary**" line to give us the flexibility to do "whatever is needed" to acquire and manage the Prairie. To be clear, all donations can and will be used for land acquisition as buying opportunities arise.

The **Basic Membership** remains at the bargain price of \$10, but more is always welcome! Donate \$100 to be a **Blazing Star**. Donate \$500 to be a **Life Member**. And the category of **Sustaining Member** acknowledges life members who donate another \$500 or a new \$1000 donor. **Any amount is appreciated.**

The Chiwaukee Prairie Preservation Fund, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, all volunteer organization. Donations are **tax deductible and much appreciated!** Please consider CPPF when planning your will!

CPPF earns up to 30%!

You can earn \$\$ for the Prairie simply by using...

www.goodsearch.com

...to search the web, shop online, and dine out! Just list **Chiwaukee Prairie Preservation Fund** as your charity. Thanks!

CPPF Board of Directors

Tori Graham, President
Philip Wattles, Vice President
Eric Howe, Treasurer
Kay McClelland, Secretary (262) 554-6326
Pam Holy, Corresponding Secretary (262) 658-8336
Alan Eppers, Presentations (847) 881-6505
Dawn Feldman-Brown, Outreach (262) 694-1748
Nathan Robertson, Stewardship
Lenny Weiss, Volunteer Coordinator (262) 537-2050
Joy Wolf, Restoration Ecologist

Advisors

Gus & Renate Hauser, Honorary Directors
Marty Johnson, DNR Wildlife Biologist
Deb Maurer, Restoration Ecologist LCFPD
Donna Peterson, Director Emeritus
Doug Robinson, DNR Natural Areas Technician
Ingrid Verhulst, Non-Profit Management
Jerry Ziegler, The Nature Conservancy

Raptor Research Continues...



Rob Sulski and a Peregrine anxious to be on its way.

For many years now, Rob Sulski and his friends, all volunteers, have monitored the fall raptor migration at Chiwaukee Prairie. This includes count, catch, band and release. This fall they counted 25 Peregrine Falcons passing over in a single day.

Sedge Training at Chiwaukee



Andrew Hipp and Nathan Robertson examine a sedge.

What is a sedge? They look a lot like grasses except grasses have hollow jointed stems while sedges have solid triangular stems. “*Sedges have edges*”. In June, thirteen people attended an in-the-field training event led by Andrew Hipp PhD from the Morton Arboretum, author of Field Guide to Wisconsin Sedges. Using hand lenses and microscopes they examined samples and learned how to identify species in the genus *Carex*. The list of all 43 sedges found at Chiwaukee Prairie is on the web site. They are in the family *Cyperaceae*.

Carol Beach Estates Fourth of July Parade



Tori & Mike Graham flank Dawn Feldman-Brown

Kay McClelland decided to make a banner for the parade to promote knowledge of CPPF in Carol Beach. The logo is from a line drawing of the shooting star (*Dodecatheon meadia*) by Mary Alice Hammond (see pg. 4). Thousands of these flowers adorn the Chiwaukee Prairie around Mother's Day each year. This little flower from the primrose family has been used as the logo of the Chiwaukee Prairie Preservation Fund, Inc. since its incorporation in 1985.

Vittles for Vols

We have not had a fall picnic for our prairie volunteers for some years. This fall it was resurrected after our early summer Breakfast-on-the-Prairie was rained out. We were blessed with a beautiful day, new and old friends, and plenty of delicious food. Prairie workdays are critical to the continuing management effort and “many hands make light work” is the rule. Each volunteer is special and every task important. Thank you volunteers for being part of the team protecting Chiwaukee Prairie for future generations.



The Passing of Friends

The work of saving Chiwaukee Prairie has been going on since the mid 1960's when a citizens group first decided the Prairie needed saving. Since then, thousands of people have joined the effort. Three special Friends of the Prairie left us this year. Joy Joslyn was an avid birder and a passionate, early and lifelong supporter who also generously remembered CPPF in her will. Marjorie Renak, another early pioneer dedicated to preserving natural areas for future generations, passed away at age 100. Noel Cutright devoted his life to bird conservation and citizen science. A longtime friend of Chiwaukee, he was instrumental in getting CPPF its equipment trailer and significant wetland remediation funds which were used for land acquisition. We continue their mission.

Chiwaukee Prairie Preservation Fund, Inc.
P.O. Box 1802
Kenosha, Wisconsin 53141

Return Service Requested



by Mary Alice Hammond

Shooting Star (*Dodecatheon media*)

Many thanks to all of you, our 2013 volunteers!

WE APOLOGIZE IF YOUR NAME WAS OMITTED

Drew Ballantyne
Steve Bogusz
John Braig
Adam Brand
Mike Breen
Cathy Brnak
Jim Bullock
Darlene Burmann
Vicky Champagne
Kathy Cole
Carol Coppi
Franco Daino
Joseph Daino
Juliette Daino
Julie Daniel
Jackie Dean
Milt Dean
Josiah Donaldson
Alan Eppers
Glen Eppers
Gary Feest
Dawn Feldman-Brown
Kevin Fisher
Christine Franken
Amy Furreness
John Gann
Mike Graham
Tori Graham

John Harbeck
Jack Holy
Pam Holy
Eric Howe
David Johannsen
A'niyah Johnson
Brad Johnson
Marty Johnson
Clarence Kaplan
Karen Kaplan
Chris Kemper
Jim Kennedy
Paula Kester
Helen Klimowicz
M. Kosurdin
John Krerowicz
Kathi Kyrias
Andrew Lake
Jan Lake
Julia Lake
Elizabeth Lane
Jared Lassiter
Jenna Lassiter
Laura Lassiter
Janice Laufenberg
John Lees
Char Lender
Chris Lender

Kathy Lill-Bonner
Ryan Lyng
Deb Maurer
Kay McClelland
Ted Nunziato
Prairie High School
Connie Rekau
Nathan Robertson
Doug Robinson
Stan Rosenstiel
Bill Russin
Chris Russin
Dave Sanders
Jerry Schiller
John Schluckebier
Nancy Stoewe
Joann Sustachek
Julie Systma
Karen Tharp
Jerome Van Ruiswyk
Karen Von Bargaen
Philip Wattles
Lenny Weiss
Ethan Whyte
Scott Whyte
Joy Wolf's UW-Parkside
Field Methods Class &
Biogeography Class



JOIN US!

Restoration
Seed Collecting
Rare Plant Monitoring
Invasive Species Scouting
Historical Research
Special Projects
Bird Surveys

Friends of Chiwaukee Prairie

GIFTS

Four Seasons Garden Club
The Hinrichs Foundation
Joy Joslyn
Wild Ones Root River Chapter

SUSTAINING MEMBERS

Pam Holy & Ingrid Verhulst
Kay McClelland
Lynne Nelson
Robert Osborne & Vera Scekic
Jack & Terry Shouba

LIFE MEMBERS

Helen & Robert Balcome
Christi Beerntsen
Lila Berge
Pat Tobin Chapman Family
Sharon & Eugene Dodd
Elena Dreiske & Bob Zdenek
John Erickson
Richard M Franz
Mark Giese
Margaret Henze
Ferdinand Hinrichs
Ferne Holy
Pam Holy & Ingrid Verhulst
Imogene P Johnson
Joy Joslyn
Chris Kemper & Nancy Stoewe
Janice Laufenberg
Karla Krampert
Paul Krampert
Janice Laufenberg
Ann Levin & Bruce Sedloff
Ken & Maggie Lukow
Kay MacNeil
Martina & Christopher Mann
Kay McClelland
Bessie Meland
Art Middlekauff
Robert Osborne & Vera Scekic
Frederick Ott
Lorrie Otto
Yvonne & David Petty
Helen Pugh
Nathan Robertson
Stan Rosenstiel
Dave Sanders
Mary & Paul Schuler
Anita Sculthorpe
Jack & Terry Shouba
Johanna Verhulst
Lenny Weiss
Thomas Zuhlke

NEW LIFE MEMBERS

Richard K. Johnson
Cyndi & Dave LeMieux
Donald Snyder
Jim & Carla Wilks

BLAZING STARS

James & Marty Anderson
Calvin S. Andre
Christopher Andre
Priscilla Andre
Daniel Bell
Camille Gendusa Bluestein
Darrell J. Borger
Michael K Breen
Kathleen Cole
Armando & Jo Covelli
Barbara Dewitt
Jean Downie
Alan Eppers
Barbara Farrar & Ellen Ferwerda
Tori Graham
Marianne Hahn
Ernest Hall & June Rongved
Chuck Haubrich
Nancy Hennessy
Margaret A Henze
Jack Holy
Eric Howe
Family of Joy Joslyn
Gary & Debbie Kanak
Chris Kemper & Nancy Stoewe
Dorothea B Kuehnl
Lester & Carol Lehman
Faye Miller
Fred & Marcia Nicas
Jeanne Nyiri
Dorothy O'Byrne
& Lannie LeGear
Claudia Ogren
Dan Pascucci
Ed & Peggy Raymond
Nathan Robertson
Dave Sanders
Bettie Schindler
John & Monica Schluckebier
Jean Schuller
Bob Tucker & Elizabeth Kopuraitis
Joe & Barb Vass
Gerald & Joanne Williams

GENERAL MEMBERS

Anonymous
Carol Anderson
Thomas W. Ault

GENERAL MEMBERS...

Bob Babcock
Margaret Barnato
Mary Jane Bates
Vicki & Peter Behrens
Fritz & Barbara Bohn
John Braig
David Buchanan
Miriam Bugnacki
Gretchen Burgess
Cathy Chybowski
Arthur & Kathleen Deiz
Matthew Edwards
Charles Erven
Trudy Farrell
Dawn Feldman-Brown
Barbara Federlin
James & Connie Ferwerda
Carol & Andrea Fjelsted
Bob Freckmann
Carla Freeman & Jay Benkowski
Julie Rae Friedman
Judith Gaskell
Richard & Deanna Guenther
James M Hansen
Virginia Hansis
Bill & Judy Hoff
Arlene Howe
Debra Huber
Daniel & Linda S. Janicki
Dorothy Kassilke
Mary Kenna
Laura & Anita Kentnesse
Len & Jeanette Klappauf
Mary Ann Kniep
Reid Knitter
Edward J. Kolinski
Marian E. Kornwolf
Ken & Lynn Krol
Mary E. Kugel
Steve & Louise Kumorkiewicz
Geraldine Lachman
Tom & Evelyn Lajiness
Diane Lembck
Roger & Inez Lemnus
Diane Levis
Julie Long
Bea Lundgren
Kay MacNeil
Joe & Pat Mangi
Mark Martin
Cory A Masiak
Mary A Meixner
Ann Meyerlund
Barbara Meyocks
Elizabeth Middleton
Susan Morgan

GENERAL MEMBERS...

Neale Murray
Patricia Murray
Scott & Beth Nichols
K. J. Norman
Carter O'Brien
Marcia O'Day
Mary L. O'Sullivan
Carol Owens
Marion Pacetti
Jackson Parker & Mary Ann Staupe
Lynn Passino
Donna Peterson
George & Cheryl Petricek
Patricia Pfarr
Merike Phillips
Racine Garden Club
Dave Regenfuss
Dan Rodriguez
Carol J. Ruffolo
Ellen & John Schmidt
Karl Schroeder
Valerie Spale
Jeffrey Sytsma
Barry Thomas
Rita Tomkiewicz
Peter & Paula Touhey
Susan Tragesser
Rachel Trobaugh
John Valaske
Joanne Wanasek
Jay & Melissa Warner
Philip Wattles
Waukegan Garden Club
Jan Wenzell
Robert W. Wirch
Joy Wolf
Elizabeth P. Wright

CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED IN HONOR OF:

John and Gail Blubaugh
- Laura and Anita Kentnesse
Erma Criner
- Kay McClelland

CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED IN MEMORY OF:

Gail Hansis
- Virginia Hansis
Nondi Hinrichs
- The Hinrichs Foundation
Joy Joslyn
- Ana
- Wil (Terry)
- Thomas (Leona)
- Lyn (Kevin)
- Julia
- Jennie (Mark)
- Sarah

IN MEMORY OF...

Mary Peasley
Virginia Snyder
Sara Banks Tiedeman
- Ed & Peggy Raymond
Marjorie Renak
- Anonymous
- Marian E. Kornwolf
- Kay McClelland
- Patricia Murray
- George and Cheryl Petricek
- Carol J. Ruffolo
- Jan Wenzell
- Gerald and Joanne Williams
Deborah Weiss
- Pam Holy & Ingrid Verhulst

PREVIOUS GRANTS/GIFTS

H.M. Benstead Jr. Foundation
Althea M. Brach
Citizen-Based Monitoring
Partnership Program
Citizens Natural Resources
Association
Col. L.C. Christensen Charitable
Foundation
Dain Rauscher Investment Services
Dairyland Charitable Foundation
Equitable Foundation
Four Seasons Garden Club
Frey - Lukow Family Fund via
Racine Community Foundation
Paul Gergen
Greene Manufacturing Co.
Foundation
John Harbeck
The Hinrichs Foundation
Jupiter Transportation Co.
Kenosha Orchid Society
Kerwin Foundation
Virginia Kline Award - Friends of the
Arboretum
Herbert H. Kohl Charities
Natural Resources Foundation of
Wisconsin
New Vision
Olympia Brown Unitarian
Universalist Church
Root - Pike Watershed Initiative
Network
Root River Chapter of
Wild Ones
Chester A. Satler, M.D.
Conrad J. Shearer Bequest

PREVIOUS...

Snap-on Tools Corporation
Society of Tympanuchus Cupido
Pinnatus
State of Wisconsin - Stewardship
Friends Grant Program
E.C. Styberg Foundation
WE Energies Corporate Foundation
WE Energies - Employee Match
Wild Flower Preservation Society of
Illinois

*Donations were received between
11/16/12 and 11/15/13.*

*If an omission or error exists,
please contact us.*

Visit us on the web:

www.chiwaukee.org

cppf@chiwaukee.org

