

December 13, 2017

Field trips

With only one more field trip left, the combined attendance of field trips and Science expedition in 2017, is estimated to the be about 500 people as it was in 2016.

Science Expedition 2018 will be on April 8.

Projects

<u>Planting survey and spring planting</u>: The spring and summer plant surveys of the two Spring Planting areas of 2013-1016 have been completed and statistically evaluated. The final report is completed in draft form and will be presented at this meeting.

The spring planting day for 2018 is being coordinated with Preserve staff. A tentative date has been set for May 12, in the morning. The site location for the planting will be determined in February by Preserve staff and Friends, taking into account survey results and Preserve needs. Glenda Denniston will again raise plants from seeds in the Greenhouse for this effort and the Friends will provide funds for the preserve for plant purchases.

<u>Garlic Mustard Pull</u>. The event, led by Roma Lenehan and Preserve staff, has been tentatively set for May 6, 1-4 pm.

<u>Eagle Heights Woods</u> monitoring. A meeting of Friends Board members, Roma Lenehan and Preserve staff will be coordinated by Laura Wyatt in January.

<u>Prairie Partner Summer Interns</u>: The Friends proposal to fund the Interns for 2018 has been approved.

<u>The Communication Committee</u> has begun with an inventory of communication tasks. An invitation to join the community Nature.Net coordinated by the Leopold Center is being followed up, with Laura Wyatt taking the lead and consulting with the Friends.

<u>Annual Meeting speaker</u> for April 3, Arboretum auditorium, will be Aaron Bird, School of Education. His focus will be on effigy mounds in the Preserve and the native American connection.

<u>Nomination Committee</u>. A slate of returning Board members and first time nominees has been approved by the Board, including hydrologist Steve Sellwood and Lillian Tong (educator, advocate for women scientists and students of color).

The Budget for 2018 has been approved.

Submitted by Gisela Kutzbach, President