



*Friends* OF THE  
LAKESHORE NATURE PRESERVE

P.O. Box 5534  
Madison, WI 53705  
www.FriendsLakeshorePreserve.com

November 17, 2017

## **Year-End Report**

### ***Field trips***

21 field trips were scheduled, two of these were cancelled because of weather. Close to 300 people attended field trips, with the lowest 9, the highest 33, and the average about 15. Beginning in summer 2017, each field trip was accompanied by a host of the Friends, following Preserve protocol. A summary of each field trip, with photos, is published on the Friends website.

***Science Expedition*** About 120 people attended, about ten Friends volunteers

### ***Projects***

Bluebird Trail: the annual report was completed and submitted to the Preserve program manager. The monitoring team of four people has met to address the decline in the number of nesting boxes occupied by Bluebirds. In order to discourage House wrens, ubiquitous in 2017, to occupy the boxes, the team decided to reduce the number of boxes from 16 to 8 in 2018, by removing boxes along wood edges and ensuring sufficient space of more than 100 yards between boxes.

Purple Martin House: The annual report for 2017 was submitted in November. Monitoring will resume in spring 2018.

Planting survey: The spring and summer plant surveys of the two Spring Planting areas of 2013-2016 have been completed and statistically evaluated. Results and conclusions will be submitted in a report to the Preserve program manager and published in the Friends winter newsletter, in December.

iNaturalist: One of the fall field trips was used as an opportunity to create a self-contained project on iNaturalist (a citizen science project and online social network) documenting species observed in a photo summary. Project leaders are planning to develop this experimental project as an organized event in 2018.

Prairie Partner Summer Interns: Support for 2018 has been approved.

Class of 1918 Wellness Path: Friends efforts relating to this project have been placed on hold for one year.

The Communication Committee has been reorganized, with the added charge to maintain communication with Bryn Scriver relating to media matters.

The Project Committee has completed procedure updates to the Friends Operational Handbook.

Submitted by Gisela Kutzbach, President

