

November 1, 2019

## Field trips

The Friends have organized four recent field trips, all of which have been very well attended. Students from Forest and Wildlife Ecology have added to the count of participants, but many others attended as well, and the total for the four trips is over 100.

September 22, Walk Like a Crane, Alex Kerr and AJ Binney from the International Crane Foundation

October 6, Trees of the Preserve, Paul Quinlan, Madison Parks (and Friends board member)

October 13, Mushrooms and other Fungi of the Preserve, Marie Trest, UW Department of Botany

October 20, Class of 1918 Marsh, Tracy Hames, Wisconsin Wetlands Association

## **Project Proposals**

The Friends have submitted three Project Proposals for fiscal year 2020.

- 1. Prairie Partner Interns. Similar to the past few years: funding from the Friends for five students to work one day per week in the summer.
- 2. Wildflower Planting. Again similar to the past few years: working with the staff, Friends fund the purchase of plants and arrange a work day in the spring.
- Funding Support for Eagle Heights Woods Restoration. \$15,000 from Friends to pay for contractor work needed for restoration of the North Zone. The money raised by the Friends in 2014 for Eagle Heights Woods has been spent; this will continue the work.

## Other Activities

As suggested by Gary Brown, the Friends board has decided to postpone its plan to do its own strategic plan. It seemed likely to cause further confusion while the staff was doing strategic planning as well. We are still planning to move ahead with a survey of our members. However, the scope will be cut back and it will concentrate on how best to connect with our membership, rather than begin a strategic planning process.