
Nine hundred and ninety-three birds were banded that year at Woodland Dunes. Eight of those birds were recovered elsewhere. Three had lived— a sharp-shinned hawk caught at Cedar Grove, a rose-breasted grosbeak caught at Whitefish Bay, MI, and a red-tailed hawk found entangled in WI. The remaining birds—a flicker, woodcock, red-tailed hawk, house sparrow, and ovenbird, were found dead or were shot within a year. Such are the perils birds face. All of them are long gone now, and we know nothing of the remaining 985. But what has happened to the place they were banded is remarkable.

The minutes of the first organizational meeting I can find from 1974, written by Lyn Brouchoud who is still our secretary, mention the name Woodland Dunes Wildlife Study Area. Bird observatory and nature center were two alternative descriptions mentioned. Some ambitious goals included preserving all forested land in Manitowoc County, and banding 25,000 bird annually, in addition to providing education programs.

Our forest thinks nothing of forty years. That community has survived for thousands. For most of that time the land took care of itself. Later, it took care of our community, feeding and housing and warming people, and it did so for more than a hundred years. Now, we take care of the land, and in return it feeds our souls, and those of the countless beings that share it with us.

Children, now old-timers, loved this place. They come back and visit, and talk fondly about how they would roam the forest and follow its streams which held nicknames like the Nile River and Forget-Me-Not creek. The woods was large enough to justify a packed lunch to sustain an all-day outing. They shared the ridges and swales with grazing cattle, mink ranches, and egg farms, but still found the wilderness they needed in the ferns and frogs and bunchberries. One had tears in his eyes when he expressed his gratitude that it had been preserved.

The spirit of those children still lives here—a desire for exploration rather than consumption. Bernie shared that curiosity, and revealed the spirit to us through his interest in birds. It turned out that spirit resided in thousands of us, who together have made this place possible and have sustained it for forty years.

As we celebrate our forty years, remember what’s important. Every plant, animal, and person of Woodland Dunes is a part of the same community, and we’re all needed to sustain each other.

Jim Knickelbine
### Updates:
All hiking trails, except Cattail Trail and part of Willow Trail, will be closed from November 22nd - Dec. 10th for the gun deer season.

**Closed for the following holidays:**
- November 27th & 28th
- December 24th, 25th & 31st
- January 1st

### Herbal Gift Making Class
**Tuesday, December 9th**
6:00-8:30pm

- **Members:** $35
- **Non-members:** $40

Join herbalist Linda Conroy for this fun, hands-on class! Make approximately 6 herbal items to give this holiday season! Gifts may include lip balm, felted soap, herbal condiments, dream pillow, herbal tea blend herbal massage oil. Learn about herb varieties while crafting too. All supplies provided; decorative packaging provided as well. **Registration and payment required by Wednesday, December 3rd.**

### Christmas Bird Count for Kids
**Saturday, December 27th**
9:00-11:30am
$2 per child

Enjoy a friendly morning counting birds for the National Audubon Society’s 115th Christmas Bird Count. Small groups led by experienced birders will walk a trail, document bird species and tabulate results. The bird count is for children ages 8 and up.

Kids ages 4-7 can join us for the Budding Birders program while their older siblings are on the trail. Learn about birds and help decorate a tree for the birds! Kids must be accompanied by an adult. **Registration required by December 22nd.** Call 920-793-4007 or email jessicaj@woodlanddunes.org.

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### Contact Information:
Woodland Dunes Nature Center
3000 Hawthorne Ave
Two Rivers, WI 54241

Phone: (920) 793-4007
Website: [www.woodlanddunes.org](http://www.woodlanddunes.org)

Like us on Facebook and stay updated on events!

### Kids’ Nature Club
**Second Thursday of the Month**
- **9am Guided Nature Walk**
- **10am Guided Nature Activity**
$2/participating child

All families with children and teens are invited to the Kid’s Nature Club! Enjoy a guided nature walk followed by a guided nature activity. Please bring weather-appropriate clothing, binoculars if you have them, a water bottle and comfortable shoes/boots. Kids’ Nature Club is for all ages, especially young children. Children/teens must be accompanied by an adult.

RSVP to Margaret Pauwels at obyrml@yahoo.com or 732-1562, by the Monday before the program.

***December we encourage you to participate in the Christmas Bird Count for Kids on Saturday, December 27th from 9:00am-11:30am. See information to the left.***

***January - no meeting***

***February 12th - Snowshoeing! Registration required, space is limited.***
Full Moon Walk
Monday, January 5th
6:00-7:30pm

Donations are appreciated.
Enjoy a self-guided walk, snowshoe or ski by the light of the full moon at our Nature Center! Bring family and friends along for this great experience. If there is snow, adult and kids’ snowshoes will be available to rent on a first come first served basis for $5 a pair. You can also bring your own snowshoes or skis.

Bird Viewing Area Grand Opening
Date TBA

Join us for the grand opening of the new bird viewing area inside the Nature Center! Generous support from Alyea family. Enjoy bird watching, song bird banding demonstrations (weather permitting) and coffee sponsored by SeedNBeans.

Candlelight Night
Saturday, February 7th
6:30-8:30pm

Members: $5; $15 Family
Non-Members: $8; $20 Family

Enjoy an evening stroll along a candlelit trail, live music and warm beverages. Learn about winter constellations (weather permitting) and enjoy an outdoor fire. A fun, relaxing evening with friends and family. Adult and kid’s snowshoes available for use (if there’s snow) or bring your own. Baked goods available for purchase. Held at the Nature Center.

Spaghetti Dinner
Monday, January 19th
4:00-7:00pm
Location: Two Rivers Family Restaurant

$8 per plate
Baked goods available for purchase

Enjoy a delicious spaghetti dinner at the Two Rivers Family Restaurant and support Woodland Dunes Nature Center! All proceeds support our environmental education programs. No reservations required.

Exploring the Landscape Family Series:
Winter
Saturday, February 21st
9:30-11:30am

Donations are appreciated. Join us for a new series focusing on nature play and exploration for families with young children (children ages 10 and under). Enjoy winter activities that encourage outdoor play for both caregivers and children. This is a program the whole family participates in!
Dress for the weather. Located at our Nature Center. **More information on page 6**
Registration required by February 18th. Sponsored by WEEB

Save-the-Date

Dash at the Dunes 5k Trail Run/Walk
Saturday, April 25th

Bird Breakfast and Migration Celebration & Grosbeaks Galore Workshop
Saturday, May 9th

Check on our website, www.woodlanddunes.org and our Facebook page for more information as the date for the event gets closer!
Thank you to all Teacher Naturalists who helped with fall programs! We could not offer the community these amazing opportunities without you!

Memorials
In memory of Dave Evans
Donna Drexler
In memory of Rita Londo
Helen Bleser
In memory of Mary Peterson
Amy Mullins
In memory of Donna Feest
Helen Bleser

Sponsors:
Farm to Table Dinner:
Trusted Earth Farm
Holiday Inn in Manitowoc
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Owl Fest:
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Grants
Manitowoc River Watershed Project – LNRP
West Foundation

Donations
Greg Scheuer & Merrie Star – Butterfly Garden
Bay Care Clinic Foundation – Dash at the Dunes 2015
Grace Boeder
Melanie Scherer
Ron Ratajczak
Jim & Susan Knorr
Lee & Cathy Hansen – Seeds ‘n’ Beans

Matching Funds
US Bank
Dominion Foundation
Ameriprise
Bristol-Myers Squibb Foundation

NEW Members
Mike Skornicka
Paul Klein

Volunteer Spotlight
Don DeBruyn

Get to Know Don DeBruyn:
1. How long have you been involved with Woodland Dunes?

   My wife and I have been financial supporters of Woodland Dunes for many years as guarantors. I served on the Board for 6 years (2006–2012) and have been serving on the Property committee now for 6 or 7 years. I have helped out with many special events and have also been able to help with removing invasive species. We believe in the mission of Woodland Dunes to preserve and educate people about our natural environment.

2. What do you most enjoy about being involved with Woodland Dunes?

   I have always enjoyed nature, being outdoors, and learning new things about nature. I enjoy working with like-minded people on projects to preserve and enhance our natural environment.

3. What are some of your other favorite hobbies or pastimes?

   I also enjoy gardening, bicycling and canoeing and walking our dog. I have an interest in renewable energy, and we have installed solar hot water and solar PV and solar heating on our house.

NEW Bird Observatory

We are excited that work has begun on the new bird observatory at our headquarters. The addition will be twelve feet wide and four feet deep with plenty of window space (which will be bird-safe) overlooking our bird feeding area. If funding permits, we will add a second video camera that can be accessed from our website when the ospreys aren’t on their nest.

The project is in memory of Esther Johnson and Jean Olson and is made possible through the generous contributions of Jack and Fred and Charlotte Alyea. The foundation has been installed, and the remainder of the project will begin after Thanksgiving. We plan to use the observatory for our Christmas Bird Count for Kids in late December, and have a grand opening in January.
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Exploring the Landscape: A New Program Series for Families

Are you interested in getting outdoors with your family, but are unsure of where to start? Do you need fresh activity ideas or suggestions of where to play outside? Did you know Woodland Dunes has a kids’ room and outdoor play area? Did you know it is free to use? You are invited to join us for the Exploring the Landscape series in 2015 to learn more.

With generous support from the Wisconsin Environmental Education Board (WEEB), the series will offer families with young children the opportunity to explore nature through the four seasons. It will also highlight the resources that are available in the Little Wings room and outdoor natural play area at Woodland Dunes. Each program will be designed to engage the children and the caregivers, so parents can share in their child’s wonder of the natural world. Caregivers, be ready to participate and play! Activities will change with each season and families will be sent home with information on the activities they participated in that day, as well as other ideas they can do on their own.

Why get outside with your young children? Children who play outside are more likely to care about the environment when they are adults. Also, research strongly suggests kids need connections with nature as a regular part of their healthy growth and development.

Regular time spent in nature:
- Promotes better social and physical development
- Improves fitness and motor skills and well-being
- Reduces stress and anxiety
- Boosts collaboration and reduces violence and bullying

Please join us for some seasonal fun! The first program will focus on exploring the winter landscape and will be held Saturday, February 21st from 9:30-11:30am. Dress warmly for the cold as the majority of the program will take place outdoors. Boots, snow pants, hats and gloves are recommended for all family members (parents too!)

Registration is required by Wednesday, February 18th, so please call or email Jess at jessicaj@woodlanddunes.org.

Thank You West Foundation

Woodland Dunes would like to thank the West Foundation for the generous grant we received recently in support of our education programs. This support is vital and helps educate thousands of school children and families each year. Thank you for your continuous support!
It’s been an exciting year for land management. We secured a grant from the DNR to treat Phragmites on the West Twin River and East Twin River, up to the first dam, over 5 years. This year was an exceptionally good year as far as weather and water level for treatment, and we treated approximately 10 acres of Phragmites.

Although we had approximately 30 acres mapped, most stands were so dense that the middle could not be reached and will be treated in following years. We also received grant money through Lakeshore Natural Resource Partnership (LNRP) to treat Phragmites on the Manitowoc River (1.25 acres) and at the Manitowoc County Recycling Center on County Road R (0.25 acres). Grant money through LNRP also allowed us to treat Japanese Knotweed along the West Twin River in Shoto.

Follow up treatment will be needed at all the sites for two to three years, and we have the funding to do it. It is important to partner with our neighbors and help them with invasive species management when possible, as these can act as source populations for our preserve as well.

Through other grants from US Fish and Wildlife Service, the West Foundation, WI Department of Administration’s Coastal Management program, and many other partners, we (along with many volunteers) were able to plant over 2,500 native trees and shrubs this year. These replaced invasive trees and shrubs we removed with help from approximately 200 volunteers. This effort is part of a larger initiative called Restore the Shore. This project is aimed at removing invasive species and replacing them with native species which are beneficial to migratory songbirds and other wildlife.

We look forward to continuing these efforts in 2015.
Woodland Dunes Nature Center
P.O. Box 486
Two Rivers, WI 54241-0486
woodlanddunes.org

Headquarters and Nature Shop
Hwy. 310 West of Two Rivers

Hours
Monday-Friday: 9am-4pm
Saturday: 9am-12pm (April-October)

Contact
Phone: (920) 793-4007
Email: nature@woodlanddunes.org
Website: www.woodlanddunes.org
Facebook: Look up Woodland Dunes in Two Rivers, WI and like our page!

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Please send this form and your tax-deductible membership to Woodland Dunes!