



CITIZENS
FOR
CONSERVATION

CFC NEWS

Saving Living Space for Living Things

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Working together achieves more – Inspirational BGI partnerships

by Tom Vanderpoel

In the continuing effort to help nature provide benefits to the greater Barrington area, we are thrilled to share that activity on Citizens for Conservation (CFC)'s Barrington Greenway Initiative (BGI) is continuing to move forward. The vision for BGI is for improved and expanded natural spaces, linked habitat corridors, increased biodiversity, and improved ecosystem benefits, such as water and air purity.



The power of partnerships

An important part of achieving that vision is active partnerships with other conservation groups and concerned citizen volunteers. These groups are coming together to achieve big results by linking 14,000 acres across three counties. The coalition of partners is utilizing the expertise, efforts, and resources of each group to improve and link land parcels together for a greater overall conservation outcome.

BGI partners and volunteers

The list of BGI partners and volunteer groups is growing. Current BGI partners joining CFC volunteers include: the Forest Preserves of Lake, McHenry, and Cook counties; Bobolink Foundation; Audubon Great Lakes; and Friends of the Forest Preserves. Recent citizen volunteers include approved Site Stewards and the Planet Heroes Conservation Club from Barrington Middle School-Prairie Campus. Several generations across multiple county groups contribute a variety of skills working together as a coordinated team.

Recent collaborative efforts

- 3,000 Pennsylvania sedges planted at Cuba Road in the recently restored oak savanna. CFC volunteers, Lake County Forest Preserve, and Barrington Middle School-Prairie Campus Planet Heroes Conservation Club worked together to accomplish the plantings.

- Wetland sedge plugs planted at Flint Creek Savanna by CFC volunteers and Friends of the Forest Preserves.
- Restoration, controlling and eradication of invasive plants at Spring Creek Forest Preserve. CFC volunteers and Friends of the Forest Preserves removed reed canary grass, buckthorn, dame's rocket, and garlic mustard.

Focus on goals and results

Partners are meeting regularly to coordinate both mutual and individual group strategic plans in order to collaborate effectively and leverage results. Examples:

- Current planning meetings between CFC, Lake County Forest Preserve and Bobolink Foundation to identify specific plans for where and how to expand ecosystems and protected areas.
- Active negotiations by CFC on land protection for a key targeted habitat corridor area.
- Site meeting with partners at Spring Creek Forest Preserve to set new priorities and the best sequence of efforts for successful restorations. CFC, Site Stewards, Friends of the Forest Preserves, and the Bobolink Foundation all participated in the site planning meeting.

Partnering on long-term plans

The strong partnerships, collaborative planning, and coordinated activities are benefiting both CFC's long term BGI vision as well as the plans of the other partners. Working together will create greater conservation success and deliver returns through benefits to our community and its residents. BGI is an ambitious goal benefiting from inspired partnerships.



Restoration Report

“The Sought-After Sixty”

CFC’s restoration report usually emphasizes the positive. We have written about our success transplanting plugs of spring ephemeral flowers to our oak woods; we are very pleased with the success of our spring prairie flora, which are left out of many prairie restorations; we take great pride in the results from our legume scratch-in technique; we have pointed out how the gentle slopes of our recontoured wetlands allow us to seamlessly restore the full range of habitat from the open-water emergent, to rush and reed marshes, to sedge meadows, to wet, then mesic and finally dry prairies. Our advanced methods enable us to collect sizable amounts of seed of such uncommon and rarely restored plants as hoary puccoon, dark-scaled and Mead’s stiff sedge, yellow star grass, bastard toadflax, yellow pimpernel, prairie panic grass, fen loosestrife, porcupine grass, white prairie clover and five species of gentian.



Cream wild indigo. Photo by Donna Bolzman.

In 2016, we included 209 species of native plants in our seed mixes—CFC proclaimed 2016 as the “Year of the Seed”—but we are still not satisfied. The Restoration Committee, after pouring through Wilhelm and Rericha’s wonderful new *Flora of the Chicago Region*, has determined that there are more than fifty additional species of native plants that are in our range and would be appropriate to our habitats. We call this assemblage of plants “The Sought-After Sixty”. Our new goal is to establish populations of these plants and add their seeds to our habitat-specific seed mixes.

Our goal is clear, but what is our strategy?

(continued)

SPECIES SCIENTIFIC NAME	SPECIES COMMON NAME	HABITAT
<i>Agalinus auriculata</i>	Eared False Foxglove	P
<i>Agropyron trachycaulum</i>	Bearded Wheat Grass	P
<i>Apocynum androsaemifolium</i>	Spreading Dogbane	S
<i>Asclepius sullivantii</i>	Prairie Milkweed	P
<i>Astragalus canadensis</i>	Canadian Milkvetch	P
<i>Athyrium filix-femina micauxii</i>	Lady Fern	WO
<i>Baptisia leucophaea</i>	Cream Wild Indigo	P
<i>Brachyelytrum erectum</i>	Short-awned Wood Grass	WO
<i>Calystegia spithamea</i>	Low Bindweed	S
<i>Campanula aparinoides</i>	Lesser Marsh Bellflower	WE
<i>Carex interior</i>	Prairie Star Sedge	WE
<i>Caulophyllum thalictroides</i>	Blue Cohosh	WO
<i>Comarum palustre</i>	Marsh Cinquefoil	WE
<i>Dichanthelium boreale</i>	Northern Panic Grass	WE
<i>Dichanthelium latifolium</i>	Broad-leaved Panic Grass	WO
<i>Dichanthelium leibergii</i>	Prairie Panic Grass	P
<i>Erigeron pulchellus</i>	Robin’s Plantain	S
<i>Galium obtusum</i>	Wild Madder	WE
<i>Galium tinctorium</i>	Stiff Bedstraw	WE
<i>Linum sulcatum</i>	Grooved Yellow Flax	P
<i>Liparis lilifolia</i>	Purple Twayblade	S
<i>Lysimachia lanceolata</i>	Prairie Loosestrife	P
<i>Micranthes pennsylvanica</i>	Swamp Saxifrage	P
<i>Muhlenbergia glomerata</i>	Marsh Wild Timothy	WE
<i>Muhlenbergia sylvatica</i>	Long-awned Satin Grass	WO
<i>Piptatherum racemosum</i>	Black-seeded Rice Grass	WO
<i>Panax quinquefolium</i>	Ginseng	WO
<i>Perideridia americana</i>	Thicket Parsley	S
<i>Phlox divaricata</i>	Woodland Phlox	WO
<i>Phlox glaberrima</i>	Marsh Phlox	P
<i>Poa palustris</i>	Marsh Blue Grass	WE
<i>Polygala verticillata</i>	Whorled Milkwort	P
<i>Polytaenia nuttallii</i>	Prairie Parsley	P
<i>Ranunculus flabellaris</i>	Yellow Water Crowfoot	WE
<i>Rosa palustris</i>	Thorny Swamp Rose	WE
<i>Rosa setigera tomentosa</i>	Downy Illinois Rose	S
<i>Rumex verticillatus</i>	Riverbank Dock	WE
<i>Salix humilis</i>	Prairie Willow	P
<i>Schoenoplectus acutus</i>	Hard-stemmed Bulrush	WE
<i>Silene virginica</i>	Fire Pink	S
<i>Sisyrinchium augustifolium</i>	Stout Blue-eyed Grass	S
<i>Smilacina stellata</i>	Starry False Solomon’s Seal	S
<i>Solidago patula</i>	Swamp Goldenrod	WE
<i>Sparganium emersum</i>	Dwarf Bur Reed	WE
<i>Sphenopholis intermedia</i>	Slender Wedge Grass	WE
<i>Spiraea alba</i>	Meadowsweet	WE
<i>Spiranthes magnacamporum</i>	Great Plains Lady’s Tresses	P
<i>Symplocarpus foetidus</i>	Skunk Cabbage	WE
<i>Stellaria longifolia</i>	Long-leaved Stichwort	WE
<i>Thaspium trifoliatum</i>	Meadow Parsnip	S
<i>Thelypteris palustris</i>	Marsh Shield Fern	WE
<i>Trillium flexipes</i>	Declined Trillium	WO
<i>Turritis glabra</i>	Tower Mustard	S
<i>Utricularia macrorhiza</i>	Common Bladderwort	SU
<i>Vallisneria americana</i>	Eel Grass	SU
<i>Vicia caroliniana</i>	Wood Vetch	S
<i>Viola labradorica</i>	Dog Violet	WO
<i>Viola pedatifida</i>	Prairie Violet	P
<i>Viola pubescens</i>	Smooth Yellow Violet	WO
<i>Zizia aptera</i>	Heart-leaved Meadow Parsnip	P
Habitat Key	Woodland	WO
	Savanna	S
	Prairie	P
	Wetland	WE
	Submerged	SU

Restoration Report (continued)

First, we need all members and volunteers interested in restoration to learn these plants—study the internet and field guides; examine the associated list in *Flora of the Chicago Region*; keep your eyes out as you pass by remnant habitats.

Second, if you locate target species, notify the Restoration Committee. If the specimen is unprotected, we may want to transplant it to our preserve; if this is not possible, we will definitely collect its seed. Third, once we get seed, we will give it to the Native Seed Gardeners or other master growers to germinate and grow specimens for transplanting into our seedbeds. We were fortunate enough to win a grant from the Barrington Area



Blue-eyed grass. Photo by Donna Bolzman.

Community Foundation of \$12,000 to build new seed beds at our Headquarters. At least one of these beds will be located in the shade so we can grow woodland plants in a protected bed for the first time. Fourth, our Habitat Corridors outreach program should encourage the planting and maintenance of these underused plants.

CFC brings many strengths to the Barrington Greenway Initiative: one strength is our knowledge of what plants should be planted in a restored site; our second strength is the creation of rich, diverse and habitat-specific seed mixes that have been and will continue to be shared with our land owning partners in the Initiative. Let’s do what we can do to conserve “The Sought-After Sixty”.

—Jim Vanderpoel



Ignite the Night!

Let’s “Ignite the Night” on September 30th! – Music, dancing, dinner and a blazing bonfire under the stars!

by Ginger Underwood

Ignite the Night is sure to be a fall highlight once again! It will take place on September 30, 2017, starting at 5 p.m. at the Spring Creek Forest Preserve and the Barrington Hills Park District, 361 Bateman Road in Barrington Hills.

Ignite the Night is an event for the whole family. All are welcome to have fun and enjoy this fall festival with a spectacular bonfire, great live music, wonderful food, star gazing, flashlight walks for kids, horse drawn wagon rides, and great neighbors getting together – all in our beautiful protected forest preserve that we are so lucky to have right here in Barrington.

The night will kick off with live music by the fun and energetic band, Dave Anderson and the I-Lights with Henry Heine and Dana Underwood. There will be a delicious cookout with wood fired pizza, hotdogs, brats, salads and home baked desserts, as well as an open bar with beer, wine and soft drinks.

You won’t want to miss the Spring Creek Stewards narrating on horse-drawn wagon rides around a field where you can learn about the native plants and shrub land that is being restored. You will also learn about native wildlife in the area, and be able to view, up close, several majestic rescued raptors.

Up for stargazing on this starlit night? Local Barrington Hills residents and astronomers Tom and Edith Auchter will once again share their knowledge and amazing telescopes and give everyone a chance to view the night sky, stars and planets.

There will be a great raffle with lots of fun prizes. You do not have to be present to win! Of course, the highlight of the night will be the fabulous bonfire, large enough for everyone to gather around for warmth and fun with new and old friends.

Tickets will be available online in mid-August along with more details of the event. If you would like to volunteer, please call Ginger Underwood at 847-331-3568. If you have something you would like to donate for the raffle, please call Jessica Underwood at 224-627-3730.

All proceeds from this event will go to support Citizens for Conservation and its mission of “ Saving Living Space for Living Things through protection, restoration and stewardship of land, conservation of natural resources, and education.”

Special thanks to the generous supporters of this event including the Barrington Hills Park District and the Cook County Forest Preserves.

Who are these people? – Observations of a new volunteer

by Patty Barten

Like many, I was drawn to the Barrington area by its iconic open green spaces. I quickly learned this was thanks to the foresight and efforts of a few concerned citizens decades ago. They became CFC, worked to identify lands and organize with others who valued nature. Their efforts created a defining positive impact on our area. So I became a member of CFC, but it wasn't until recently that I became an active volunteer. I wanted to do something to help our environment and decided to invest my time locally where I could have a direct impact. What I discovered about CFC volunteers was special. Here are some observations.

CFC's volunteer-based culture – The culture is welcoming, results-oriented, highly respected, always sharing knowledge, inclusive, and supportive. Volunteers are CFC's core. This not-for-profit produces big results but has only one part-time employee and a hardworking board of directors in support of its dedicated volunteers. CFC also has strategic partnerships with other respected conservation organizations and foundations.

Who volunteers – Volunteers have varied backgrounds and skills. Examples: attorney, teacher, single parent, NFL player, HR executive, IT consultant, small business owner, musician, sky diving instructor, engineer, and various levels of students. Others come from backgrounds in medicine, manufacturing, banking, marketing, retail, and more. Some come from other communities. But it is a 'level playing field' with everyone working together and dedicating their energy to help nature.

Why they volunteer – Responses include: joy of making a difference, investing in the future for the next generation, first-hand learning opportunities, social networking, and contributing a wide variety of skills. For some it is being outside or getting exercise at their own pace; several said they cancelled their gym memberships and are now in the best shape of their lives. For others it is helping with inside roles, some from their home computers and on their own scheduled times. Many come for the multigenerational activities. One person started in order to share time with his daughter, who was a volunteer, and then stayed on when she moved away because volunteering is so rewarding.

What they get in return – Volunteers talk about the thrill and reward of seeing rare native plants and trees bloom in

areas restored by their handy work, sharing the moment of discovery and excitement through the eyes of a youth learning about the magic of nature, seeing native animals and birds return and thrive, helping residents integrate native plants into their landscapes, and benefiting from improved ecosystems helping control erosion and purifying our waters. Everyone notes opportunities for personal continual learning and developing new friendships.

Results – CFC has been a major force in making Barrington the desirable setting that it is today. It continues to help nature deliver benefits through actively preserving and restoring acres of lands, annually providing conservation education that starts in elementary schools and continues all the way through adult sessions, and providing hands-on learning and sharing of expertise. New plans call for even bigger conservation opportunities to benefit residents: the Barrington Greenway Initiative.

Volunteering has been a positive experience for me. I have learned a tremendous amount, made new friends, been able to contribute, and have a positive impact locally. I encourage you to volunteer some of your time and talents in some way. You will get more in return than you give and you will make a big difference to future generations in our area. You can have a positive impact on what Barrington can become in the future.



Patty Barten. Photo by Diane Botkin.

Volunteers needed

Volunteers are the lifeblood of CFC. To achieve our ambitious restoration goals, we need to recruit additional volunteers. Workdays are scheduled every Thursday and Saturday from 9:00 – 11:00 a.m. Please join us at CFC Headquarters.

News from Habitat Corridors

Trees as habitat

Although it is still May as I write this, Habitat Corridors volunteers have been visiting homes for almost two months. We like to wait until many of the plants have broken dormancy so that we can see what already exists in a yard. Then we take it from there, advising property owners on building a healthy landscape at home.

One of the things we always stress is the importance of native trees to every yard. There is usually appropriate space for an oak or a hackberry or a more modestly sized serviceberry. We emphasize the importance of trees to the native insects that form the next step up the food chain. These insects are vital for nourishing baby birds. I know I repeat this regularly, but 95% of nestlings must have soft-bodied larvae as food. The remaining larvae, those not snatched by parent birds for their babies, become the moths and butterflies we enjoy watching in our yards.



Dead trees provide bird habitat as a small bird begins to excavate a nest hole in this snag. Photo by Meredith Tucker.



Blooming in early April, this native pussy willow (*Salix discolor*) provides pollen for early pollinators. Photo by Meredith Tucker.

Trees have so many other advantages. Besides providing shade that cools the soil and atmosphere in your yard, they also help to cool your home and decrease power use. Trees hold the soil and prevent erosion. They provide nesting sites as well as food for birds and other little critters. They provide homes and safe places for creatures like the mourning cloak butterfly that overwinters under loose pieces of bark on hickories and river birches.

I hope you have invited one of our volunteers to visit your property and make suggestions for healthy habitat, but even if you haven't, please plant some natives, especially trees. Also, don't buy or use insecticides; if you do, you will kill all the little creatures you attract to your yard with native plants.

— Meredith Tucker

Upcoming Events

Barrington 4th of July Parade

Look for CFC at the Barrington 4th of July Parade. The parade steps off at 10 a.m. from Barrington High School and will run along Main Street, ending at the train station.

Youth and Young Adult Education Classes

July 8 – Seining Illinois Creeks, 1-4 p.m. - Join us as we search area rivers and streams exploring aquatic biodiversity with nets. We usually catch 20 different species of fish! This class is open to children ages 5-18. Parents welcome.

July 22 – Discovering Night Creatures, 8-10 p.m. - Join us to watch for bats, owls and other nocturnal friends. A local entomologist will use special lights to attract moths so we can view them up close. This class is open to ages 11-18. Parents welcome.

August 5 – Butterflies on the Prairie, 1-3 p.m. - Hands-on experience with butterflies. Learn about their life cycles, and receive a milkweed plant to grow your own monarch attractions. Walk the prairie to find butterflies. Class open to ages 5-14.

September 16 – Acorns to Oaks, 1-3 p.m. - Help collect native acorns which will be cultivated and planted in local areas. Learn about these important natural resources. Open to kids of all ages.

September 23 – Landscape Photography, 1-3 p.m. - Learn tips and techniques to capture the presence of nature and beauty around us. Bring your own camera. Open to high school age students.

All classes meet at Citizens for Conservation, 459 W. Hwy. 22, Barrington.

Class fees: Members free; non-members \$5/child. Parents welcome to attend for free.

More info at citizensforconservation.org or 847-382-7283

Fall Native Tree and Shrub Sale

August 1 - September 1 – Submit preorders for Fall Native Tree and Shrub Sale.

September 16 – 9:30 a.m. - noon. Pickup preorders at CFC Headquarters.

Ignite the Night

September 30 - 5:00 p.m. - Barrington Hills Park District, 361 Bateman Road, Barrington Hills.

Thanks to our volunteers!

Photos by Donna Bolzman, Sarah Hoban and Dana Underwood.

Every native plant, shrub and tree sold at the Citizens for Conservation plant sale is now safely in the ground, flourishing in the right environment and you can sit back and enjoy your work, right?

Although the weather started off our work with a challenge... thanks to you, CFC had another outstanding success! There just isn't another group of volunteers who are more dedicated, smart and fun than those who make the CFC Native Plant, Shrub and Tree Sale work better each year.

It's a complicated operation: more than 18,000 green and growing natives ordered from eight different nurseries. 234 pre-orders composed of 7,700 plants, shrubs and trees organized. More than 80 volunteers putting in over 1,500 hours to make it all happen!

Why do all this? You know why, or you wouldn't spend your precious time working so hard. Thank you for caring enough to do your part in healing, preserving and protecting our earth by helping in all the ways you do - and especially for making the native plant sale the amazing event it continues to be!

The CFC Native Plant, Shrub and Tree Sale Committee



CFC receives grants

by Peggy Simonsen

Citizens for Conservation has recently been awarded grants from our long-term supporters in the Barrington community. We received a grant from Cuba Township to expand our Habitat Corridors program. We will reach out to residences that surround CFC's restored properties, inviting them to participate and encouraging them to create or improve the habitat in their yards by planting native plants and using earth-friendly yard practices. The purpose of Habitat Corridors is to link large restored properties with "stepping stone" habitat, thereby creating corridors for native plants, birds, butterflies and other critters.

From Barrington Area Community Foundation we received a generous grant to fund our Rare Plant Nursery that will contribute to expanded restorations in CFC's new Barrington Greenway Initiative. As we partner with other conservation organizations to restore and link natural areas, we will have greater need for conservative native plants that are hard to find in sufficient quantities in the wild. So in our Rare Plant Nursery we will be able to grow these native species from collected seed to increase the biodiversity of all these restorations.

CFC's Youth Education Committee received funds from the Barrington Junior Women's Club to plant a butterfly garden with students at Roslyn Road School. This project involves many local parents, Roslyn Road Environmental Action Committee, 5th grade Girl Scouts, middle and high school student volunteers, and other donors. The grant also funds an environmental native plant project with science students at Barrington High School. CFC has been partnering with Barrington High School Earth Council and Environmental Science, Biology, and Horticulture classes to bring more understanding of local ecosystems and the need for conservation and restoration in the Barrington area.

The Garden Club of Barrington has again provided funds for the purchase of wetland sedges to continue CFC's restoration of Flint Creek Savanna South. We use small plant plugs instead of seed in the wetlands to ensure they don't get washed away and can compete with the aggressive non-native plants we are replacing. We have nearly 100% success restoring with wetland sedges.

And once again, we have received a generous grant from the Oberweiler Foundation to support our summer interns who are college students in various environmental studies. Interns work full time in restoration, supporting our Youth Education programs, participating with Habitat Corridors visits, and learning about the broader impact that Citizens for Conservation has in the conservation community. Many of

our former interns are now successful professionals making contributions to conservation in various capacities. We look forward each year to publishing their "stories" from their experience in our fall newsletter.

We are very grateful to these community organizations that support our successful environmental initiatives and outreach to the community.

Meet the CFC summer interns

by Gene Branson

We are pleased to have five college students working for us this summer. They will do primarily restoration work, but will also help with youth education and other areas of CFC when needed. We thank the Oberweiler Foundation for largely funding our summer intern program. Here is a little information about each intern:

Sarah Voska lives in Tower Lakes and attends University of Wisconsin-Parkside, majoring in Sustainable Management.

Miguel Cardenas lives in Mundelein and attends College of Lake County. His area of study is Natural Areas Management.

Joe Moynihan's hometown is Schaumburg and he attends Texas Tech University. His major is Landscape Architecture.

Sarah Strack lives in Fox River Grove and attends Miami University in Ohio. She is working on co-majors in Biology and Environmental Science.

John Williams is from Inverness and he attends the University of Miami majoring in Biology.

Welcome, interns!



CFC summer interns. Photo by Diane Bodkin.

Welcome fall with a new tree

by Sarah Hoban

Online ordering for CFC's Fall Native Tree and Shrub Sale begins Tuesday, August 1.

Fall is a great time to plant trees and shrubs, when roots can get established before winter's cold weather. Native trees and shrubs provide the best choices of woody plants because they absorb storm water, can survive our extreme temperatures, and don't need fertilizer or insecticides. And they're easy to care for; you only need to water them the first few years until the plant is established and protect them from deer, if necessary.

To order, go to www.CitizensForConservation.org where there will be plant descriptions, growing conditions and habitat benefits. Those who prefer a paper order form can download one from the website, request one by email at cfc@citizensforconservation.org or phone 847-382-7283.

Order deadline is September 1, and plant pickup is Saturday, September 16 from 9:30 a.m. to noon at CFC. The sale is preorder only; there will be no extra plants for sale on the pickup date.



Oak Seedling. Photo by Donna Bolzman.

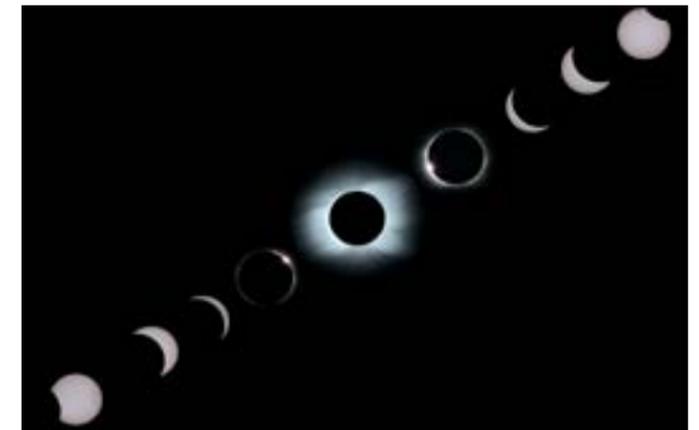
Rainy Astronomy Night filled with discoveries

by Gail Vanderpoel and Edith Auchter

May 26 was cloudy and rainy, but a large group of aspiring astronomers packed the farmhouse for our Youth Education Astronomy Night. Tom and Edith Auchter gave a fascinating presentation on solar eclipses in preparation for the total solar eclipse on August 21, 2017. Twelve students, mostly middle and

high school age, and six parents learned what causes eclipses and how often they occur.

Of particular interest was that the Auchters traveled to Easter Island in 2010 to view a total solar eclipse in this prime location. When eclipses occur, there is a narrow band called the path of totality; in this path, observers can see the eclipse completely and for the longest period of time. We learned how astronomers can use their telescopes and cameras along with solar filters to photograph an eclipse. The Auchters shared some unbelievable photos from their Easter Island adventure.



Total solar eclipse on Easter Island in 2010. Photo by Tom Auchter.

Here are a few interesting facts from Astronomy Night:

- The August 21 eclipse will cover the U.S. coast to coast, starting in Oregon and traveling to South Carolina in about 90 minutes time!
- The entire eclipse event lasts about three hours beginning at 11:53 a.m. and ending by 2:42 p.m. It is quite fascinating to look at the partial phases with proper eye protection.
- The time of maximum eclipse in the Barrington area will be 1:19 p.m. where it will be seen as a partial eclipse with approximately 87% coverage.
- The maximum viewing of the total solar eclipse will be near Carbondale, Illinois, where totality will last two minutes and 41 seconds. Another total solar eclipse traveling across the U.S. on April 8, 2024 will also have Carbondale in its path of totality.

Although our rainy May weather kept us from viewing the night sky with telescopes, all the class attendees got a much clearer understanding of solar eclipses. The Auchters gave out solar eclipse glasses, specially purchased by the Northwest Suburban Astronomers, so that we can safely view this amazing event. We will all be watching!

Many friends celebrate Earth Day with Citizens for Conservation

by Gail Vanderpoel

CFC provided many days of activities in honor of Earth Day 2017. Five days of Barrington School District 220 celebrations began on April 18 with two presentations at Barrington High School. Caroline Milne's freshman Biology classes learned about CFC's restoration efforts and techniques, future goals through the Barrington Greenway Initiative, and how students can improve local ecology. Students were full of questions and comments about native plants, remembering the nature ladies and 4th Graders on the Prairie. On April 19, eight CFC Youth Education volunteers visited Countryside Elementary School and provided outdoor activities to nearly 400 students.



Countryside students plant milkweed with Patty Barten. Photo by Diane Bodkin.

Children dug for bugs, had a nature scavenger hunt, planted acorns and made wildflower seedballs, dispersed milkweed seeds, and learned about beekeeping and bees' behaviors. These students enjoyed discovering deer tracks in the mud and discussed outdoor areas they like to explore. April 20 and 21, Barrington Middle School-Station Campus PALS students volunteered to help clean up the savanna at Baker's Lake. This program enhances students' social-emotional learning through hands-on community service projects. The students ate lunch there and learned about spring wildflowers (we saw trout lily, violets, spring beauty, bellwort, buttercups and rue anemone) and birds nesting on the rookery. Many of these activities involved parent volunteers as well and we appreciate their involvement.

Saturday, April 22, Earth Day volunteers numbered almost 50 people who came to the big oak grove at Cuba Marsh Forest Preserve to plant sedges. Half of the group was the Planet Heroes Club from Barrington Middle School-Prairie Campus, along with parents and teachers. The students had heard a presentation about CFC and the day's activities on Thursday to prepare them for the Earth Day events. Their group's goal is to make a positive impact on the environment and on the

community. On Saturday, they were joined by CFC volunteers, four high school students and a work crew from Friends of the Forest Preserves. CFC provided almost 3,000 sedges and much of the planning and manpower to get the plants planted. After working for 2½ hours, we all had sandwiches and lemonade to celebrate Earth Day. Volunteers also received a CFC tote bag to show our appreciation for their willingness to volunteer.

Two other activities held during the week were our restoration workday and breakfast on Thursday, April 20, and a Sunday open house and nature walk on April 23. Tom and Jim Vanderpoel told guests about CFC's history, the Barrington Greenway Initiative, and then led a walk around Flint Creek Savanna.



Barrington Middle School-Station Campus 6th graders help clean up Baker's Lake savanna. Photo by Bob Lee.

This year's Earth Day covered many sites and provided information to over 525 students from kindergarten through high school. It was a great week in which lots of good work was done outdoors at Baker's Lake and planting sedges at Cuba Marsh Forest Preserve. New people gathered to help the environment with restoration and new partnerships formed. Special thanks to Pepper Park Coffee for sponsoring refreshments for our volunteer breakfast on April 20. Also thank you to the 22 CFC volunteers who made all of the events possible and to the PALS program at Barrington Middle School-Station Campus and the Planet Heroes Club at Barrington Middle School-Prairie Campus for all their hard work and encouraging kids to be stewards of the land. Additionally, thanks to all the parent volunteers who helped coordinate and supervise the school events.

This Earth Day, Citizens for Conservation accomplished our mission of "Saving Living Space for Living Things" through working relationships with Lake County Forest Preserve and Friends of the Forest Preserves to expand and connect land corridors through the Barrington Greenways Initiative. We hope the tradition of incorporating nature education into school activities and bringing students to restoration and nature preserves continues at next year's Earth Day. CFC will continue to encourage volunteers of all ages to help protect and restore our native lands.

Setting an excellent example

by Gail Vanderpoel

High school seniors had been out of school for several days, and what does Lizzy Hucker do with her free time? She convinces three other seniors to join us for a Thursday morning CFC restoration workday!



Lizzy Hucker and friends. Photo by Kim Kazanowski.

Lizzy Hucker has been volunteering for CFC workdays for the past two years, as well as being our CFC/Barrington High School liaison. Lizzy is an amazing example of a volunteer who reaches out to her peers to join in CFC efforts. She has helped the Youth and Young Adult Education Committee plan classes and develop strategies to engage Barrington High School participation; she advertises all our classes and special events, and talks with teachers about having us present at BHS on environmental topics such as restoration, wildlife photography, and planting native plants. Lizzy has been a regular restoration volunteer since 2015, and has racked up a total of 78 workdays which last for two hours each. She received the CFC Mighty Oak Award for volunteering for over 50 hours in 2016. In the summer of 2016, Lizzy invited some BHS student artists to help us make signs and decorations for the Barrington 4th of July Parade. Lizzy has gotten her family more involved in CFC as well. Her sister attended a workday with her; her mom, sister, and brother attended our Great Backyard Bird Count. Lizzy's entire family attended our 2017 Annual Meeting to learn more about CFC and listen to our keynote speaker present about the smooth green snake and its reintroduction into Lake County nature preserves.

Speaking of snakes, this has become one of Lizzy's major interests. Lizzy has captured many snakes during workdays. She has adopted her own snake, a milksnake, which she keeps as a pet. She came to our first training on snake monitoring and checks our snake boards regularly. She and her brother

came to our 2016 Reptiles and Amphibians class, and Lizzy enjoyed visiting with local herpetologist, Dr. Steve Barten, and our presenter, Rob Carmichael, from the Wildlife Discovery Center.

Lizzy will be attending University of Wisconsin in Madison, pursuing studies in Biology/Environmental Education or some related field. In early June, she worked in our newly formulated high school intern program, and, of course, she encouraged her peers to apply. We will miss her as a weekly volunteer, but look forward to her appearances when she visits home. Lizzy has truly inspired many young adults and CFC volunteers with her dedication to CFC! Everyone who knows her is certain she will make a difference in the world.

Welcome New Members!

We are pleased to welcome 37 new members to CFC this quarter.

Beth Adler/Reiner	Laura Hunter
Roxane Allen	The Janowick Family
Dwayne Anderson	Stacey and Justin Libra
Richard Anderson	Roger Lofstrand
Judith Barnes	Gerald McAdams Kauffman
The Bouvier Family	Brian J. McManus
Holly Bowling	The Milne Family
Kristin Cannon	Terri Passolt
Diana Carlson	Mike Raczyla
Kevin Christensen	The Rath Family
Kaycee Coles Family	Larry and Judy Scalzitti
Luke and Katherine Dahlberg	Craig Shully
Jill Des Jardins	Dennis and Maureen Slott
Olga DeSio	Morgan Spry
Ronald Fruin	Jean Ternovits
Karen Furlong	James Thompson
The Georgacakis Family	Johnny Wedekind
Jacqui Guenther-Nguyen	Jennifer Weinstein
Randy Heidenfelder	

President's Comments

2017 marks the 23rd consecutive year of Citizens for Conservation's Summer Intern Program. With this summer's class of five interns, our program has attracted a total of 73 college students, most of them majoring in the environmental sciences.

CFC internships provide participants a hands-on experience in a living laboratory that directly relates to their academic studies. Our interns engage in practical techniques for native habitat restoration – leading edge techniques developed by CFC over the past 30 plus years. In testament to our program, many CFC interns have been inspired to pursue successful careers in environmental services. Most importantly, our program assures CFC supporters that we're nurturing conservation leaders of the future.

On behalf of the entire Board of Directors, I sincerely thank the Oberweiler Foundation for its generous funding of our Summer Intern Program. I also express my personal gratitude to our restoration director, Tom Vanderpoel, for devoting countless hours over the years to leading the program and inspiring its participants.

— Tom Crosh



Tom Crosh at workday. Photo by Donna Bolzman.



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