

CFC awarded ICECF grant for Craftsbury

by Peggy Simonsen

The Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation (ICECF) has awarded CFC a land acquisition grant of \$360,000 to contribute to the purchase of our new addition to Craftsbury Preserve. CFC acquired an additional 31 acres from the Art Rice family to expand our preserve west of Hart Road and south of Cuba Road in Lake Barrington, making Craftsbury Preserve our second largest property totaling 52 acres.

The original parcel is 21 acres for which we received a stewardship challenge grant from ICECF in 2018 and the restoration is on-going. Included in this grant are funds for initial restoration on the new Craftsbury West site.

CFC Restoration Manager Kevin Scheiwiller says, "Craftsbury West is a continuation of the original Craftsbury donation from the Rice Family on the east side of Hart Road. This new site is comprised of the same glacial topography and offers rolling slopes to the west and wetland depressions to the north and east including the remainder of the main wetland from the original donation."

"Although a majority of the site is degraded with non-native, invasive species, the potential for restoration is extremely high as portions of the site appear to never have been plowed. This increases the chance of a remnant seed bank and microbial interactions that will improve restoration success. Additionally, there are pockets of intact sedge meadow and wetland species that already exist on the site and, with proper management, should flourish."

Treated as one site, Craftsbury will be a large rolling grassland restoration located within the Flint Creek Watershed with



*Sign at original Craftsbury parcel.
Photo by Patty Barten.*

close proximity to other CFC restorations. To be able to attain that goal, the brush and invasive wetland plants will have to be strategically removed from the site, followed by the seeding and planting of appropriate species over years of restoration.

The Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation was established in December 1999 as an independent foundation with a \$225 million

endowment provided by Commonwealth Edison. Their mission is to improve energy efficiency, advance the development and use of renewable energy resources, and protect natural areas and wildlife habitat in communities all across Illinois.

This land acquisition increases CFC's ownership of ecologically valuable land in the Barrington area to 476 acres. In addition, CFC was instrumental in the formation of the Barrington Greenway Initiative, with the intent of creating a greenway of more than 14,000 acres of linked quality ecosystems by partnering with Lake and Cook County Forest Preserves, Audubon Great Lakes, the Bobolink Foundation and Friends of the Forest Preserves.

While this latest ICECF grant is a substantial contribution to expanding CFC's land purchases, we still depend significantly on volunteers, donors and members for success. Together we provide on-going restoration to attain the goal of creating high quality habitat to attract native birds and pollinators to our area. Our years of restoration experience have proven successful in doing so at our award-winning preserves, Grigsby Prairie and Flint Creek Savanna. We welcome new volunteers to help us achieve the same success with Craftsbury Preserve!

Spring migration

In 2010, I reported on CFC's success at attracting birds to our preserves, with an emphasis on breeding birds. The presence of native birds on our preserves is a good indicator that our restoration efforts are creating good habitat. Since birds are capable of flying great distances, they can search far and wide for just the right spot to establish their breeding territory, or land to rest and have a meal during their long migrations. The expression "if you build it, they will come" applies to birds and their habitat more than anything else, and serves as a good inspiration for the restoration team.

The Restoration Committee has been keeping a bird list for Flint Creek Savanna since that 2010 report, and we have seen at least one new species in each calendar year since starting the list. I am glad to say that 2019 has been a banner year for birds at Flint Creek! We have added common loon, canvasback, Virginia rail, red-breasted nuthatch and, most exciting of all, the American bittern. Now, I must say that part of this increase in new sightings may be due to the increase in the number of skilled birders spotting and reporting, but I think that these primarily wetland species are choosing to stop over here because the restored marshes and sloughs are offering better food and shelter than most of what they see on their flights.

Some of these new birds on our list are strictly migrants; the common loon nests in the wooded lakes of the North Woods; the canvasback nests in the prairie pothole region of the Great Plains; and the American bittern probably has disappeared as a nester in the Chicago area. Nevertheless, it is still important to provide healthy and rich lands and waters for our migrants so they can reach their destinations well fed and protected. The mature oaks of Original and Mike's Grove at Flint Creek Savanna are decent places to see the migrant warblers, woodland sparrows and woodpeckers. I look forward to more birding in the now cleared Flint Creek South preserve. Grigsby Prairie is the best for migrating prairie birds. The slough, the marshes and the sedge meadows of Flint Creek have become very productive for waterfowl and wading birds.

2019 has been a very strong year for nesting birds too. It appears that Savannah sparrow, Eastern meadowlark and bobolink have marked out territories at Grigsby Prairie, and, for the first time, Wilson's snipe and Virginia rail have been added as probable nesters in the richest restored marshes of Flint Creek. Well after the migration would be expected to be over, sora called from the best sedge meadow of Grigsby this June, which means that individual has at least staked out the meadow as a possible home. Also, for the first time, at the beginning of June, a pair of sandhill cranes was patrolling Grigsby with two colts.

In 2017, we noted that, while we were pleased with our results in plant reintroduction, we still had room for improvement, and created the Sought After Sixty list. This was a list of plants that we identified that we needed to do more to restore to our preserves—this list serves as a steering tool for improvements to our restoration techniques. I would like to create a similar challenge for CFC's birders. We'd like to improve our bird list—high priorities among the waterfowl

would be horned grebe, snow goose, redhead, Northern pintail, American widgeon, ring-necked duck, lesser scaup and ruddy duck. Our target birds of prey would be bald eagle, rough-legged hawk and barn owl. Our marshes and wet prairie should attract yellow rail, common moorhen, American golden-plover, upland sandpiper, Wilson's phalarope and long-billed curlew. Our failure to report

yellow-billed cuckoo, blue-winged warbler, orange-crowned warbler, Wilson's

warbler, yellow-breasted chat and Eastern towhee at Flint Creek probably illustrates the lack of shrubby habitat. This will be one of the great challenges restoration ecologists and practitioners will have to solve—how can we manage for shrubby understory in our woods and shrubby thickets out in the prairies without allowing buckthorn and honeysuckle to infiltrate? Currently these pests are kept from invading our large prairies at Flint Creek and Grigsby and best savanna at Baker's Lake by regular burning.

One final note—the Flint Creek bird list will be maintained on our website, but do note that both Flint Creek Savanna and Grigsby Prairie are hotspots on the Cornell Lab of Ornithology's fine eBird website. If everyone posts their observations on eBird, we will eventually maintain our preserve lists in the cloud.

— Jim Vanderpoel



*American bittern at Flint Creek.
Photo by Barbara Laughlin-Karon.*

Notes from the Restoration Manager

2019 is officially the “Year of Planting!” The summer has only just begun, but CFC volunteers have already planted over 8,000 native sedges and wildflowers to fill in the areas where the nasty weeds such as buckthorn and reed canary grass have been beaten back. On Earth Day, volunteers planted 1,500 common oak sedges (*Carex pensylvanica*) at Flint Creek Savanna to help rebuild a savanna. This seemed like nothing compared to the 3,800 wetland sedges that were planted just a few weeks afterwards at our Barrington Greenway Initiative event at Galloping Hill in Spring Creek Forest Preserve in Cook County. Similar to last year, volunteers were able to get out ahead of construction crews to save more wildflowers from destruction at two preserves, Wright Woods and Rollins Savanna. Thousands of plants were relocated to other Lake County Forest Preserves and to our own CFC preserves. Some of the species we rescued include: large white trillium (*Trillium grandiflorum*), wild geranium (*Geranium maculatum*) and bellwort (*Uvularia grandiflora*). CFC volunteers have been keeping busy, but we are just getting started! This year our BGI partner, the Lake County Forest Preserves, received a large grant to help re-vegetate large areas of Grassy Lake Forest Preserve. They have 21,000 plants ordered and looking for a home at Grassy Lake, so be sure to keep an eye out for special BGI workdays to help get all of these plants in the ground!



Kevin Scheiwiller. Photo by Leslie Coolidge.

— Kevin Scheiwiller

Welcome our 2019 college interns

by Larry Anglada



Photo by Larry Anglada.

It finally feels like summer. No, not because it's warm. It's because the farmhouse is imbued with the energy and enthusiasm of this year's interns.

Please welcome back Spencer Henry (in the middle), who is a sophomore at University of Illinois majoring in Biology. He began as a high school intern from Barrington High School (BHS) and is now in his third summer with us. Welcome back!

On the far left is Natalie Paparone who will be a junior this year at University of Wisconsin Eau Claire majoring in Ecology and Environmental Biology. She is our first intern hailing from Lake Zurich—home of our much beloved Restoration Manager Kevin. Natalie is our self-professed “bug lover,” and is looking forward to her outdoor experience.

Next from the left is Leah Hartung, who is a 2018 Libertyville High School graduate and is now attending Emory University in Georgia where she is double majoring in Environmental Science and Economics. Ask her about her Herbivore Society, as she has some insight as to what we should be eating.

Emily DeJesu is a 2017 BHS graduate and is a sophomore at Iowa State where she is majoring in Biosystems Engineering. Emily is also the granddaughter of long time Lake Barrington Village Board member and CFC supporter Lauren DeJesu.

Lastly on the right is Dane Dalton, who became a frequent volunteer at our CFC restoration workdays during last fall and winter. He is our third intern who is a BHS grad from 2017. Currently he is attending Iowa State with the intention of receiving an Environmental Science degree.

Please welcome all of these young people into the Citizens for Conservation family, as becoming an intern for CFC continues our legacy of developing the next generation of environmental stewards.

Thanks to our high school interns



Maren, Declan and Marisa with Larry Anglada (on left).
Photo by Patty Barten.

Maren Prokup, Declan Smith and Marisa Ban completed a one week internship with CFC in June. We appreciate their efforts!

A morning with Rachel Carson

by Peggy Simonsen

At Community Education's last program of the winter on April 13, Rachel Carson came on stage and told us about her life. Leslie Goddard is an actress and historian who portrayed Rachel Carson, an influential and significant scientist from the mid-20th century. The portrayal started with a verbal introduction of Carson's nephew whom she raised, and the importance of involving children in the wonders of nature. Educated in zoology and marine biology, she combined science and writing. Carson's first book was "The Sea Around Us", published in 1951, which became a New York Times best seller for 86 weeks.

Carson studied the impact of DDT and other pesticides, which were causing complete destruction of wild life, sea life and up the food chain. The loss of bald eagles in the 1940s was so extreme people thought we would need to find a new national symbol. She researched and wrote "Silent Spring" for several years. It was published in 1962 and sold 100,000 copies in its first printing. Her lyrical, persuasive writing caught the public's attention. The book caused a firestorm; she was both attacked and supported, but her lack of grandstanding and serious scientific research was convincing. It became a seminal wake-up call about the use of pesticides. She was invited to testify to President Kennedy's Science Advisory Committee. All this while Carson was suffering from cancer. She died in 1964.

The chemical industry fought banning DDT and claimed because DDT was used widely in Africa to combat malaria it should continue to be used in the U.S. Finally, in 1970, the Environmental Protection Agency was created. It took until 1972 for the U.S. to ban DDT and eight other pesticides except in national emergencies.

Leslie Goddard did a superb job portraying Rachel Carson, including dressing in 1950s style. After the presentation, she answered the audience's questions. Most of the full house of attendees knew the history of "Silent Spring", but Leslie is dismayed that many young people today do not know who Rachel Carson was or the impact she had on the environment. We commented that there is a similar issue today with use of pesticides containing neonicotinoids so prevalent. Nationwide there is a significant reduction of all insects, and we know about the problems with pollinators at least partially caused by pesticides. We need to heed Carson's message again.

2019 CFC/Joe Cragan Environmental Scholarship winner

by Larry Anglada

This year's winner of the four year renewable scholarship is well known around the farmhouse. Maren Prokup has been a high school intern twice and has been our Barrington High School Liaison for 2018/9. She was also very involved in helping CFC to win an award for our float at last year's Fourth of July parade through a huge contribution in regards to the artwork. Maren's college plans are to attend the Colorado School of Mines majoring in environmental engineering. This coincides perfectly with the intention of the scholarship to encourage college students pursuing environmental studies. Please join the Cragan Family and myself in congratulating Maren and wishing her well in her college pursuits as she represents the next generation of CFC family.



*Larry Anglada, Maren Prokup and Jessica Cragan Wollmuth.
Photo by Patty Barten.*

Articles welcome

Do you have an idea for an article for *CFC News*? We welcome submissions on topics of interest to CFC members. If you'd like to submit an article, please direct your idea to our editor Leslie Coolidge at cfc@citizensforconservation.org.

Youth education has a busy spring

by Julia Martinez



This May, Youth Education once again attended KidFest, hosted by the Barrington Park District. The weather was perfect for kite flying, a popular activity at KidFest. Katherine Grover attended KidFest for the first time and rated it, "Total, terrific, tremendous success for all ages..." The event was attended by

over 2,000 people. Our main theme was mammals! Children enjoyed making clay prints of mammal tracks, with the aid of long time Youth Education volunteers Doe Crosh and Bonnie Albrecht. Attendees had the opportunity to see specimens of various Illinois mammals, including skull replicas and skins.

In June, once again, CFC hosted a group of elementary school-aged children for a week of nature where they explored and learned more about the world around us. They met with CFC volunteers each morning for just a couple of hours but came away with many special learnings across the spectrum of nature, as well as crafts that they made to take home.



Each day was dedicated to a specific aspect of nature and began with a daily walk. Birds one day, insects the next ... followed by aquatic critters, mammals and plants over the week. They saw over 15 species of birds, including a Canada goose and its five babies. Among others they saw in person: great egrets, purple martins, mourning doves, killdeer, turkey vultures, black-capped chickadees and even a double-crested cormorant, warbling vireo, chimney swift and Eastern kingbird.

All in just one day.



Best of all, attendees generally exclaimed their enthusiasm for the experience with one of them specifically noting at the end of the week: "I wish we had another day!"

CFC's Director of Youth Education Julia Martinez planned and operated the week's activities with support from Victoria Self, Doe Crosh, Linda Krauss, Alison Vanderpoel, Emma Landenberger, Priscilla Rose, Rich Teper and Heidi Tarsiuk



All summer camp photos by Alison Vanderpoel.

CFC Youth Education offers two programs in July

Celebrate moth week and discover night creatures! Tuesday, July 23, 8:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., join us at CFC Headquarters for this unique event to discover the amazing diversity of flying night creatures. Local entomologist Rich Teper will share his knowledge and lead the activities. A "moth sheet" and special light will be used to draw in the insects. They will then be identified and can be observed up close and discussed. All ages welcome and crafts for the younger enthusiasts. Free event but registration required.

Butterflies on the prairie are the topic on Saturday, July 27, 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Come experience our local butterflies up close. Learn their life cycles, habitat requirements and interesting facts. Live butterflies, caterpillars, pupas, and all stages of development will be shown. Guided nature hike to identify local species. All ages welcome. Butterfly crafts for the younger ones. \$5 per child to cover costs. Free for parents and CFC members.

To register for both events: email - youth.ed@citizensforconservation.org or call - 847-382-7283.

Welcome New Members!

We are delighted to welcome 99 new members this quarter:

Susan Adams
Brad Andresen
Jim and Sue Ardizzone
Judy Ball
Amy Barcroft
Stacey Barsema
Paula Beik
Jennifer Bellini Family
Carol Bergmann
Brenda Borkenhagen
Matt Borneman
Virginia Brown
Rita Brunn
Vicki Byrd
Frank and Tamara Byrne
Donato Cantalupo
The Cantigny Foundation
Donald Cernansky
Young Chung
Marjorie Cotting
Andrew Cupp
Mary Dale
Lisa Decatorsmith
Chris Dineen
The DiVesti Family
Robin Duggan and Michael Wohlfeil
Roman Dziaba
Jim Fay
Karen Frisella
Bernadette Fusco
Nancy Gillis
Kerrie Gonzalez
The Gorgal Family

Graft & Jordan, Attorneys at Law
Jean Graf-Teterycz
Jenny Gresko Schevers
The Hagy Family
Leslie Hartigan
The Held Family
Ana Hernandez
Derek Hummel
Dan Jedrzejowski
Becky Jeffries
Ellen Johnson
Margaret Justen
Rick and Gia Kanak
The Kazaglis Family
Todd Kerschke
Tracey Kihnke
Janet and John Kline
Dexter Kling
Deborah Koehn
Jackie Kosbab
Wayne and Lou Kurzeja
The Landenberger Family
Dan and Barbara Larkin
GeSa Ma
Robert Maier
Susanne Masi
Raymond and Paula McGovern
Vicky McKinley
Brian J. McManus
Antonia Meyers
Anu Mopul
Kathy Morrison
Audrey Mroczek

Carol Pankros
John J. Pappas Sr.
Christopher Parson
Thomas Paulik
Charles Penhaligen
Daniel Pesavento
Karen Phillips
Pamela Picirillo
Barbara Pintozzi
Vera Pollina
Lorri Reinke
Richard Resseguie
Right Angle Construction
Mike and Terri Robb
Cathy Robertson
Charles Root
Brent Rowley
Pam Sandbulte-Meitzler
Lois Shartiag
Ellen Smatlak
Diana Sudyka
Wanda Supenich
Barbara Sweet
Rita Tiehen-Salit
Bruce and Karen Tinkoff
The Tsis Family
Amy Vandenberg
Janet and Michael Vanderpoel
Ian VanWazer
Andrew Venamore
Susan West
Ted West
Cynthia Wittie



Earth Day participants. Photo by Daniel Suarez.

Celebrating nature together – Earth Day 2019 and more

by Patty Barten

It was indeed a special day of celebrating and collaborating to help nature on April 20. Folks came from near and far to participate as CFC consolidated fun and activities for Earth Day, April's BGI (Barrington Greenway Initiative) work event, and National Volunteer Appreciation Day. It was a massive sedge planting party and picnic at our Flint Creek Savanna Preserve.



Enjoying lunch on Earth Day. Photo by Patty Barten.

The group of more than 72 participants included volunteers from a wide area and covered all ages. Leaders and volunteers from CFC were joined by parents and scouts from Pack 15 in Streamwood, and volunteers from BGI partners: Audubon Great Lakes, Lake and Cook County Forest Preserves, Friends of the Forest Preserve and the Bobolink Foundation. What a wonderful collaboration of efforts.

Thanks to detailed pre-planning efforts, activities were a huge success and enjoyed by everyone. Four different species of sedges had been selected specifically for planting at this stage of the restoration on this site. After welcoming volunteers, Kevin Scheiwiller, CFC Restoration Manager, gave a quick overview of the importance of sedges to restoration work and instructions on proper planting. Teams of people were given tasks for hole digging, planting, watering or re-checking. All the flats of plants and tools had already been transported to the site. Everyone quickly sprang into their role while also learning and having fun.

1,528 sedges were planted in under two hours! A great accomplishment to help this habitat and make a difference in honor of Earth Day.

The scouts also participated in a nature scavenger hunt organized by CFC's Youth Education leader Julia Martinez. There was lots of excitement as the scouts found additional skulls and items beyond the artifacts that were originally planned for the hike.

A bountiful picnic lunch awaited everyone immediately following the planting and scavenger hunt. Five large tables of assorted sandwiches, salads, fruits, vegetables, chips, cookies, cakes, water and more were enjoyed by everyone. It was a great time of socializing, meeting new friends and building a strong community of people who care about nature.

A truly great event! Thank you to everyone who volunteered in so many ways to make Earth Day 2019 such a huge success. You made an important positive impact. You improved the habitat of this site at Flint Creek Savanna Preserve and it will benefit from your efforts for years to come. Thank you.

Upcoming Events

Youth Education

July 23 – Moth Week – Discover Night Creatures, 8-10 p.m. – Join our local entomologist as he uses special lights to attract moths and other night insects we can view up close. No fee.

July 27 – Butterflies on the Prairie, 1-3 p.m. – Take a walk at Flint Creek Savanna to find many species of butterflies and caterpillars. Crafts for younger participants. \$5 per child to cover costs. Free for parents and CFC members.

To register for both events: email - youth.ed@citizensforconservation.org or call 847-382-7283.

Community Education

August 11 – Are my trees OK or Not?, 2-3 p.m. – Barrington Village Hall, 200 S. Hough St., Barrington. Free event, but reservations required – cfc@citizensforconservation.org or call 847-382-7283.

Fall Native Tree and Shrub Sale

August 19 – August 30 – Submit preorders for Fall Native Tree and Shrub Sale.

September 21 – 9:30 a.m. -Noon – Pickup preorders at CFC Headquarters.

Ignite the Night

September 14 – 5-10 p.m. – Spring Creek Forest Preserve/ Barrington Hills Park District.

Barrington Greenway Initiative Explore and Restore Series

August 18, 1-3 p.m., Butterfly and Pollinator Hike at Grigsby Prairie

September 14, 9a.m.-Noon, Seed Collecting Workday

See CFC website (www.citizensforconservation.org) for details

Are my trees in trouble, or not?

On Sunday, August 11, Tricia Bethke will discuss how to identify diseases and pests that affect our trees. Oaks, maples, and walnut trees can exhibit signs of stress and decline; during this talk, learn how to identify signs and symptoms of tree stress and diseases like bur oak blight (BOB), sudden oak death (SOD) and anthracnose. August is 'tree check' month; learn more about spotted lanternfly, Asian longhorned beetle and other tree pest threats, how to identify, manage and report them. Participants will receive the newly updated Management of Invasive Plants and Pests of Illinois guide.



Spotted lanternfly (*Lycorma delicatula*). Photo provided by Tricia Bethke.

Tricia Bethke is the Forest Pest Outreach Coordinator for the State of Illinois. Her position is funded through a cooperative grant with USDA APHIS and the Morton Arboretum. Tricia's responsibilities include statewide training of key stakeholders on invasive species, forest pest identification, regulations and quarantines and reporting protocols. Tricia also coordinates and instructs tree identification, pest detection and tree health monitoring programs.

Please join us on Sunday, August 11, 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Barrington Village Hall, 200 S. Hough St., Barrington. The event is presented by CFC and the Morton Arboretum and free, but reservations are required. RSVP to cfc@citizensforconservation.org or 847-382-7283.

Cy pres awards

by Edith Auchter

Citizens for Conservation welcomes *cy pres* and court settlement awards.

Cy pres awards take their name from the French term meaning "as close as possible." When all the class members who can be located have received their share of a class action award, the left-over funds are often distributed to organizations with a mission in common with the objectives of the underlying class action.

Court settlement awards occur when the court approves a settlement that requires one of the parties to make a specified contribution to a charity.

CFC gratefully receives both of these types of awards. *Cy pres* and court settlement awards allow CFC to pursue our mission of saving living space for living things.

Please keep CFC in mind when directing a *cy pres* or court settlement award. For further information, contact edith.auchter@citizensforconservation.org.

CFC receives generous grants

by Peggy Simonsen

We appreciate the support of local organizations that have given CFC grants this year.

Our Youth Education Committee received a grant from District 220 Foundation to create environmental teaching kits for teachers. The kits will have hands-on plant and animal resources to supplement classroom science curricula.

Barrington Junior Women's Club provided a grant for another Youth Education project to create an exploratory "museum" in the youth room in CFC headquarters. These materials will be stored in a cabinet that an Eagle Scout created and will be used for the summer camps and other programs, and on occasion will be available for parents to visit with their children.

Cuba Township awarded a grant to CFC for purchase of additional fire safety gear—Nomex suits and hard hats—for use by our burn team.

We received 400 milkweed plants of three species from Monarch Watch to use in our restoration of Craftsbury Preserve.

The village of Lake Barrington has donated shrubs for CFC to plant on rights of way in the village.

The South Barrington Garden Club gave CFC a grant to purchase 1,000 sedge plants to continue the restoration of the wetlands at our Flint Creek Savanna South Preserve.

We are very pleased to again receive a generous grant from the Oberweiler Foundation to fund our college interns. These students are majoring in restoration ecology or a related area. They gain field experience under the guidance of our Restoration Manager, while contributing valuable time and effort to our many restoration sites.

The Garden Club of Barrington provided funding to replant the demonstration garden by the CFC office.

We thank these community organizations for their continuing support for the work that CFC does, from introducing children to nature, to restoring our ecologically valuable land, to supporting biodiversity.

News from Habitat Corridors

A rose is a rose is a rose. Or is it? Are plants what they seem to be based on their common names and appearance? Possibly not.

CFC, and especially Habitat Corridors, always recommend that homeowners identify plants by their scientific (Latin) names. Common names aren't reliable. However, there is more to the story than that.

Echinacea pallida is the scientific name for pale purple coneflower. It is native in our area of Illinois. However, if one searches for pale purple coneflower online or at a garden center, you are likely to find many *Echinacea* varieties that come in different colors, sizes, and shapes. These are cultivars, not true native species, although the garden center may claim they are native.

A cultivar is a plant variety that has been produced in cultivation by selective breeding. Perhaps the horticulturist wishes to produce a shorter variety of coneflower than the native species. He will breed the shortest individuals in every generation of coneflowers until the end product is a plant that is the height he wants. At that time, the plant should always produce short offspring, and it is given a "cultivated" name. These new cultivars are often cloned to create large quantities for retail sales.

Echinacea pallida cultivars include *E.* "Double Scoop Cranberry" which is red. *E.* "Cheyenne Spirit" has plants of many colors including yellow, orange, purple, cream, and red. Other cultivars are "Daydream" which is yellow and



Helianthus Sundance Kid has little room for pollinators to land.



Helianthus mollis has ample landing space for pollinators.
Photo © Prairie Moon Nursery.

that are welcoming to landing pollinators. On the other hand, consider "Sundance Kid," a cultivar, which has little room for insects. It is also possible, perhaps likely, that cultivars will not have pollen or nectar to supply pollinators and other creatures.

Homeowners may appreciate the appearance of double flowers and the convenience of having a plant devoid of insect life;

however, actual beauty is in the seamless connections between plants, flowers, birds, pollinators and the other individuals in a smoothly functioning habitat. I love to see a flower being pollinated, contributing to its community. Please look closely at the true native plants and appreciate the life they are fostering.

— Meredith Tucker



Echinacea x hybrida Double Scoop™ Cranberry.
Photo © National Garden Bureau.

"Avalanche" and "Hula Dancer" which are white. Are these cultivars still native? I think not.

Native plants have evolved through thousands of years in our climate and weather and with the other flora and fauna that lived here. They are a part of local ecosystems and readily supply homes and food for birds, bees, and other wildlife. That is frequently not the case with cultivars.

Hybridizers often create cultivars because people want to buy huge colorful flowers. These may not have landing spots for pollinators, or the flowers may be too deep to allow insects to reach the pollen.

Picture the native sunflower *Helianthus mollis* or downy sunflower. It has a single row of petals

Land Acquisition Committee evolves as Alberto Moriondo retires from Board

by Patty Barten



Alberto Moriondo with his children. Photo provided by Alberto Moriondo.

While CFC's restoration work is regularly reported, the additional important work supporting land acquisition is quietly but intently completed behind-the-scenes. The process of land acquisition and donation is critical to fulfilling the long-term vision of CFC to save, improve and link nature spaces.

Acquisition is a long process. From initial intent to final land transfer takes an average of more than two years of professional, ongoing efforts. Some land is donated, but most is purchased. Each parcel must be evaluated for ecological value, Illinois Land Trust criteria, real estate and legal issues, owner/family considerations, and more. This detailed work, coupled with the generosity of our members and donors, allows CFC to add appropriate lands to the ecosystems of our community.

The hard-working Land Acquisition and Donation Committee has been led by Alberto Moriondo. Since joining the CFC board in 2007, Alberto has been diligently working behind the scenes with area villages, developers, and private landowners. Some land deals become complicated and challenging, and others are simpler, but take a lot of time and perseverance. Alberto's work and success reflect his long-term vision, attention to detail, creativity in dealings, and follow through to completion.

It is noteworthy that Alberto has participated in the land acquisition process of almost 48% of the lands owned by CFC. This includes the recent strategically important land additions of the Craftsbury West, Mullins, and Gibbs properties in 2018 and 2019. These extensions bring CFC preserves to 476 acres.

Alberto's team included Dave Lynam, Steve Smith and Ty Lagoni. Dave Lynam has been an important collaborator as well as CFC's legal advisor. Alberto recently moved and, accordingly, stepped down from the CFC Board in March 2019. The Land Acquisition Committee is therefore evolving and is now being led by Steve Smith with continued support by Dave Lynam. Alberto's contributions to the CFC Board also included leadership over the years in other areas such as marketing, website development, and community communications. Each of these areas were transitioned to new leaders as Alberto focused on Land Acquisition.

CFC and our conservation community thank Alberto for his diligent, behind-the-scenes work and dedication to the greater Barrington community. His influence and contribution will be building blocks for the future. We send him our gratitude and best wishes for continued success in whatever new ventures he undertakes.

Recognition for Craig Stettner

by Katherine Grover

On May 21, the Board of Commissioners of the Forest Preserves of Cook County (FPCC) presented a resolution in memory of FPCC Steward, Craig Stettner at the River Trail Nature Center.

Craig's brother, Tom and sister-in-law, Allison were presented with the document and Tom came forth to accept it and give thanks and appreciation from Craig's family, friends, Harper College and the conservation community for honoring his brother's memory and contributions.

CFC continues to appreciate Craig's support through directing his Harper College students to participate in CFC workdays for their class work.



Allison and Tom Stettner with resolution. Photo by Katherine Grover.

Ignite the Night on September 14

by Ginger Underwood



Horse-drawn wagon rides at Ignite the Night. Photo by Jim Bodkin.

You celebrated with us at the Annual Meeting, you got new plants at the Native Plant Sale and now you're wondering, "How else can I have fun while supporting CFC?" Come dance under the moon at Ignite the Night on Saturday, September 14!

Enjoy a cookout dinner, beer and wine, narrated horse-drawn wagon rides around a restoration site, stargazing with professional telescopes, and flashlight tours through the woods for kids.

We will again have a very unique raffle, dancing in the grass with live music, and an artistically arranged, truly magnificent bonfire. This year we will have native birds of prey.

The event will run from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. at the Spring Creek Forest Preserve/Barrington Hills Park District in Barrington Hills. Proceeds support Citizens for Conservation and its mission of *Saving living space for living things*.

Mindful Waste, a local environmental volunteer group, will be working with us to make Ignite the Night a zero waste event. We will focus on making sure all packaging is compostable, recyclable or reusable. Volunteers will be on hand to educate and help with the sorting process. Our goal is to divert as much material from landfills as possible. Imagine 350 people and no waste!

Tickets are \$50 through September 12; \$65 at the gate; \$25 for ages 13-20; \$12 for children 12 and under. If you can't make it to the event, you can still support CFC by purchasing raffle tickets, donating quality raffle items and/or by helping to sponsor the event. For raffle items and sponsorships, please call Ginger Underwood at 847-331-3568. Online ticket sales begin July 15 at [Citizensforconservation.org](https://citizensforconservation.org). For more information, call CFC at 847-382-7283. Co-sponsors are the Forest Preserves of Cook County and the Barrington Hills Park District. Bring your family, friends and neighbors and meet some new friends. A full moon has been promised. Event is on rain or shine!



The bonfire. Photo by Jim Bodkin.

Another successful Native Plant Sale

by Laura Mandell

In this year of record-setting rain, CFC also set some new records during the 23rd annual Native Plant, Shrub and Tree Sale, held May 3–5 on the grounds of Good Shepherd Hospital, including:

1. 17,526 forbs, ferns and grasses sold; 227 varieties!
2. 448 trees and shrubs sold; 55 species!
3. 300+ pre-orders, a 15% increase over last year.
4. 100+ volunteers serving 1,000+ hours.
5. 54 renewed or new CFC memberships.
6. Shoppers from as far away as Hannibal, Missouri and Crown Point, Indiana.
7. Countless birds, bees and butterflies to be nourished over the coming summer months.

While 2.29 inches of rain was officially recorded during the week of set-up, some volunteers reported as much as 11 inches in their rain gauge. Thanks to the dozens of volunteers who donned ponchos and rain hats to ensure that the nearly 18,000 plants were ready to go to their new homes by the time the storms moved out and the shoppers arrived.

We are grateful for the many volunteers and offer special thanks to the following:

- Good Shepherd Hospital
- Good Shepherd Hospital grounds crew
- Heinen's (450 boxes donated)
- Jan Broder (sewing services)
- 2050 Design (website design and management)
- C.H. Hanson Company (supplies)

Plant Sale collage at right assembled by Jessica Underwood with thanks for photos provided by many contributors.

Place orders for Native Tree and Shrub Sale

by Linda Krauss

Online ordering for the Fall Native Tree and Shrub Sale will run from August 19 through 30 at citizensforconservation.org. Customer pick up will be Saturday, September 21 from 9:30 a.m. to noon at CFC Headquarters, 459 W. Highway 22, Barrington, IL. This sale is preorders only; there are no plants available for purchase September 21. Order online, or to receive a paper order form, please contact CFC Headquarters after August 19 at 847-382-SAVE.

Please visit our website to view all the native trees and shrubs being offered. In the past, sun and moisture were the two main

factors that govern plant selections. I would like to introduce a third—our warming climate. While native plants are always best suited for any landscape, consideration for how plants are able to handle increased temperatures and increased precipitation in our area due to warming may now be a factor. In 2016, a study was done by the Northern Institute of Applied Climate Science partnered with the Morton Arboretum, the Chicago Botanical Garden, the Field Museum, and the Chicago Region Trees Initiative. The purpose of the study was to determine how urban trees will handle the conditions the climate models are predicting. One result of the study was to divide trees into three categories, those most at risk, those with low vulnerability and those better suited to a warmer future. The following are the native trees which fall into these categories.

Trees most at risk:

American linden (*Tilia Americana*)

White pine (*Pinus strobus*)

Since trees have a long life, choosing to plant one of the above trees holds no guarantee it will survive to its full life expectancy. Some are not recommended by the Chicago Botanical Gardens "Trees for 2050" guide.

The following native trees have low vulnerability:

Sugar maple (*Acer saccharum*)

Red oak (*Quercus rubra*)

Swamp white oak (*Quercus bicolor*)

White oak (*Quercus Alba*)

American hornbeam (*Carpinus caroliniana*)

American sycamore (*Plantanus occidentalis*)

Eastern redbud (*Cercis canadensis*)

Eastern red cedar (*Juniperus virginiana*)

Since they should survive the climate change, these native trees are very beneficial to our native insects, birds and wildlife populations.

Trees better suited to the anticipated climate change:

Black gum (*Nyssa sylvatica*)

Chinkapin oak (*Quercus muehlenbergii*)

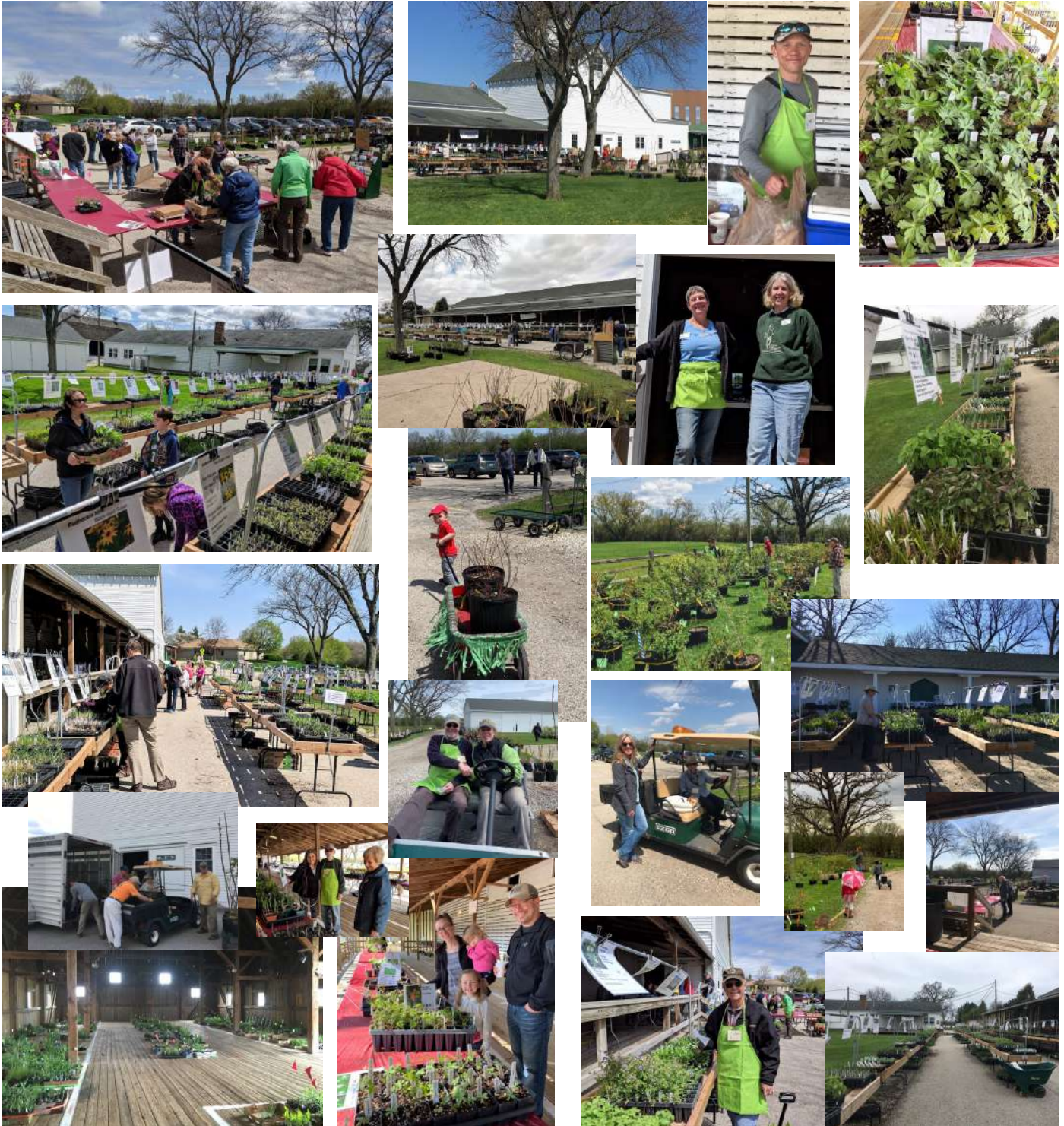
Mockernut hickory (*Carya tomentosa*)

Pignut hickory (*Carya glabra*)

This study is a guide to help you make better choices based on their findings. Only time will tell how accurate the predictions may be. Diversification of your trees, shrubs and native plants is always the best method.

Thank you for purchasing your native trees and shrubs at the upcoming CFC Fall Sale.

Citizens for Conservation 23rd ANNUAL PLANT SALE



President's Comments

On Saturday, June 1, CFC's Jim Vanderpoel led a lucky group of 20 or so people (including me!) on a walk of Grigsby Prairie. The day was lovely—at 76 degrees, with a soft breeze blowing all throughout the prairie, the day was perfect for viewing Grigsby's bounty.

We were immediately inundated with lavender shooting stars. Thanks to the new deer barrier installed last year, the deer couldn't eat their favorite springtime treat. As we walked the high ground, Jim explained how prairie plants like to live together, pointing out golden alexanders, yellow marsh marigolds, porcupine grass, common blue-eyed grass and meadow anemone and young compass plant and prairie dock among others. As we continued along the path, we saw two scarlet Indian paintbrush and Jim was able to identify two yellow-orange hoary puccoons that he planted years ago as seed. It took so long for them to flower that the many hoary puccoons in Grigsby have been grown in our Native Seed Garden and transplanted into Grigsby. We passed through a stand of young shagbark hickories blackened by last year's prairie burn but sprouting new growth this spring. As we headed into the wetland, we needed to watch our step walking the watery path so we wouldn't step on the frogs hopping underfoot. Great angelica already towers on the hillside.

Making our way back to the parking lot, we were greeted by a bobolink, his distinctive white stripe flashing as he flew back and forth in greeting. Two sandhill cranes and their colts kept a safe distance from us, but didn't seem to mind us being there, and a meadowlark sang to us from its unseen perch. They seemed to be welcoming us—and all the many springtime blooms— to Grigsby Prairie.

— Kathleen Leitner

Volunteers needed

Volunteers are the lifeblood of CFC. To achieve our ambitious restoration goals, we need to recruit additional volunteers. Regular workdays are scheduled every Thursday and Saturday from 9:00 – 11:00 a.m. Our Restoration Manager, Kevin Scheiwiller, sends a weekly email which outlines plans for both regular and added workdays. These emails provide a great overview of what's being accomplished at CFC. If you would like to be added to our email group to receive notification of upcoming workdays, please email kevin.scheiwiller@citizensforconservation.org.

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