

CFC NEWS

Saving Living Space for Living Things

Vol. 22, No. 4, Fall 2003

CFC remembers long-time volunteer Waid Vanderpoel

Editor's note: this article is based on a biography written by the Vanderpoel family and was read by Sam Oliver at Waid Vanderpoel's memorial service.

Robert P. Vanderpoel married Helen Marie Waid in 1921. Robert, a financial columnist, and Helen, a school teacher, had two sons, Waid Richard and Robert Peter. Waid was born May 19, 1922 and Robert in 1925.

Growing up in the open Norwood Park neighborhood, they observed nature at an early age. While on a walk one warm summer afternoon, they gleefully stoned a garter snake. It was injured badly, and both Bob and Waid remorsefully attempted to nurse the snake to health. They were not successful.

Growing up during the Depression, Waid took the street car to Carl Shurz High School; his brother went to Taft High School. Waid showed an aptitude for money management as the business manager of the senior play and graduated in 1939.

Waid attended Grinnell College in Iowa studying economics. Prior to receiving his diploma, duty called and he joined the Armed forces in 1942.

Under General Omar Bradley's First Army, Waid was directed to organize, track, and distribute GI mail, spending nearly 24 months in Normandy, France, and Central Europe. After V-Day, Waid returned to the states and began his career with the First National Bank of Chicago.



While working within the Bank's personnel department, Ruth Evelyn Silberman met Waid in early 1947. They courted between Homewood and Norwood Park on the Illinois Central Railway and

the "water cooler." In October of 1947, they were married in Homewood, Illinois.

Waid knew stocks - his career at the bank in investment portfolio management was rich and collegial; he was part of a dedicated team of professionals successfully managing many of the bank's largest trust accounts. He received many honors, including an award from the

(continued on next page)

Waid Remembered *(continued from page 1)*

Financial Analyst Society for his work with Governor George Romney in national tax relief for stock dividends. After 35 years of exemplary service and mentoring, Waid retired from the bank in 1981 and passionately continued investing as a hobby with friends and family.

Waid and Ruth first lived on Wrightwood Street in the City and over the next 8 years had five sons: John, Thomas, William, James and Mark. Moving three times, they made the Cumberland area in DesPlaines their home where he tried his best...but largely in vain...to keep the boys from running roughshod throughout the neighborhood!

As Waid was promoted and the family grew, they moved to Barrington and built a home on a five acre parcel with a rolling hill and six majestic bur oaks. Waid had a **passion** for gardening. At his new home he pursued his passion in rock gardening, creating a garden that was visited by people from all around the world. Waid wrote numerous articles on rock gardening, and pictures of his garden were included in the chapter he contributed to *Rocky Mountain Alpines*.

Waid and Ruth traveled extensively in Europe, Asia, Africa, Australia and South America collecting artifacts, studying plants and enjoying the local cultures. She drove...he spotted for flowers. Waid and Ruth last traveled in Europe in 2001, their 25th trip...and with the entire 20 member family in Costa Rica in 2003.

Waid worked tirelessly for 25 years within the community advocating the value of preserving open space. Citizens for Conservation now boasts 343 acres of restored prairie, wetland, and savanna. As a result of Waid's love of nature and passion for working with people to achieve a common good, the residents of the Barrington area can now enjoy Grassy Lake Flint Creek Forest Preserve, Ela Road expansion of Cuba Marsh Forest Preserve, and the Younghusband farm adjacent to Bakers Lake, ...over seven hundred acres.

Waid is survived by his wife, brother, five sons, their wives and eight grandchildren. He loved working with people, loved his family and loved his wife.

It is safe to say that Waid has atoned for the demise of the snake a thousand times over.

Editor's note: The following are e-mails and condolences and memories about Waid that have been sent to CFC:
Chicago Wilderness Member Bulletin, Sept 5, 2003
Admired Conservationist Passes Away. Waid Vanderpoel was a long-time supporter of open space in the Barrington area who made important contributions to regional biodiversity conservation.

Thanks for letting me know about Waid. Thinking of him standing at the water's edge in July, the old spiritual "Wade in the water" came to mind, and I smiled thinking how Waid certainly "troubled the waters" as he went about saving space for living things in Barrington. A great life lived. I'm sure he is home in an infinitely beautiful place where everything is saved!! —Jeannie Hanson:

On behalf of the Vehe Farm Foundation, I wish to express to Citizens for Conservation our condolences on the passing of Waid Vanderpoel. We are truly indebted to Waid and CFC for the support given to the organization over the years, from the initial grassroots efforts to save the farm to today's restoration of the prairie and wetland. The passion to preserve open space that Waid so eloquently expressed and your organization so strongly shows will be reflected forever in our fields.
—With deepest regards, Teri Bridge

(Received by e-mail via the CFCNews E-update)

Thanks for passing along this sad news. What a shame - Waid was such a fine person and committed to conservation—Lauren Dorman

Our condolences. Waid was a wonderful man and we admired him very much. CFC would not be the organization it is without his dedicated attention. It was a pleasure to know him—Bob and Dot Woodsome

On behalf of all of us at Garfield Farm Museum, I extend our deepest sympathies for the loss of Waid. He many great contributions to our environmental community and certainly is a role model for the rest of us.—Sincerely, Jerome Johnson, Executive Director Garfield Farm Museum

My deepest sympathy to all at CFC—Maggie Gullede

Waid was a long-time member of CFC and served on its Board for many years. Not only was he a visible presence at CFC workdays, sharing his extensive knowledge of native plants and his enthusiasm about CFC's work with new volunteers, but he also worked tirelessly behind the scenes on real estate and other issues—Donna Bolzman

From the Staff Director

Thank you to those who spoke with reporters from the *Chicago Tribune*, *Chicago Sun-Times*, *Barrington Courier-Review* and *Daily Herald* about your remembrances of Waid Vanderpoel. The coverage was a gratifying tribute to his accomplishments and contributions.

When I was asked to speak about Waid and CFC during his memorial service, I used these quotes to help tell a long and complex story in a few words:

First, there is the mission of Citizens for Conservation: "Saving Living Space for Living Things"—through protection, restoration and stewardship of land, conservation of natural resources and education. Waid did it all.

"The world needs dreamers, and the world needs doers. But above all, the world needs dreamers that do." This was Waid..

"...all we need to make us really happy is something to be enthusiastic about." Waid's enthusiasm about our mission was contagious.

"The care of the earth is our most ancient and most worthy and, after all, our most pleasing responsibility. To cherish what remains of it, and to foster its renewal, is our only legitimate hope." *Wendell Berry, The Unsettling of America*

"The best use of life is to spend it for something that will outlast it." *William James*

"I bequeath myself to the dirt to grow from the grass I love, If you want me again look for me under your boot-soles.

You will hardly know who I am or what I mean,
But I shall be good health to you nevertheless,
And filter and fibre your blood.

Failing to fetch me at first keep encouraged,
Missing me one place search another,
I stop somewhere waiting for you." *Walt Whitman*

And this newspaper headline about Waid wrapped it up:
"Nature loses a great friend."

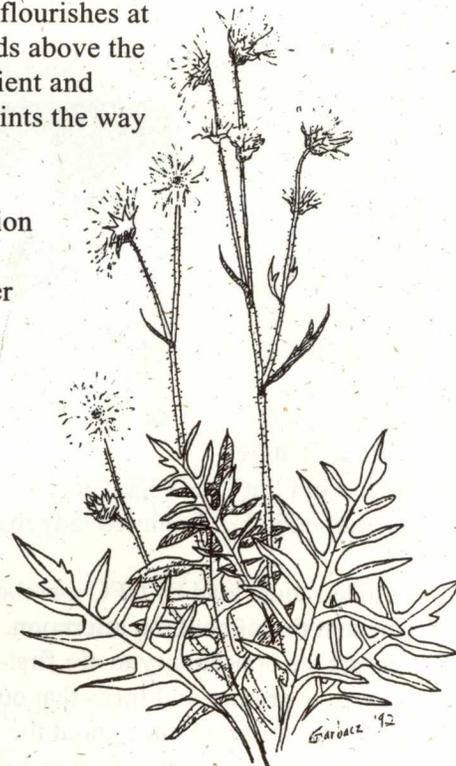
May we all "keep encouraged" as we work together to carry out his inspiring legacy.

—Sam Oliver

In memory of Waid

In the months since the Flint Creek Savanna –15th Anniversary celebration, CFC has lost our Waid Vanderpoel, the person to whom Flint Creek Savanna was dedicated in May, 2002 on his 80th birthday. We remember that Waid was instrumental in the negotiation for the land that would become Flint Creek Savanna and that his involvement was not only personal but also passionate. He worked side-by-side with each of us in the fields and on our committee projects. He shared his love of nature and spoke enthusiastically of the great strides we made with each project we undertook. Memories of his earthly presence help to fill the void we feel, and a lone walk at FCS assures us that his spirit remains. After all, he shared qualities with the prairie compass plant that flourishes at FCS: it stands heads above the tall grasses, is resilient and deep-rooted and points the way - so did Waid.

With great admiration
and respect,
Katherine R. Grover



In Appreciation

We thank Raymond & Linda Breski, Lionel & Charlene LaCasse, Nancy Koselke, John & Peggy Knebl, Janet & Dario Brezene, Thomas & Madeleen Barrett and Timothy & Janet Kolcz for donations to CFC in memory of Carol LaCasse's mother Marie Pertel.

Flint Creek Savanna-15th anniversary 1988-2003

A time for thanksgiving and remembering

CFC set aside July 12th to celebrate Flint Creek Savanna's 15th anniversary. It was a day for CFC to express thanks for the 103 acres that include the savanna, prairie, wetland, ponds and potholes, and Flint Creek itself. It was also a time to thank the people and organizations that have volunteered their help and commitment over the years to restore and preserve these last remnants of open space.



As our guests arrived, a sign pointed the way to the welcome tent and to the entrance to the savanna.

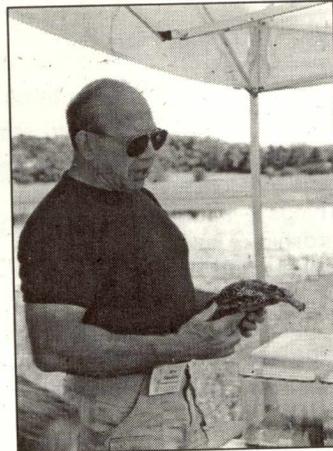
Event programs listed the activities for the day, and young adventurers received Nature Hunt Bingo game cards. The game acquainted the children with natural features found in Flint Creek Savanna and rewarded them with an authentic hand-painted ladybug rock.



Guided-tours lead by CFC members departed from the tent throughout the afternoon. The tours gave our guests the opportunity to see first-hand the abundance of native grasses and forbs that our volunteers have patiently nurtured throughout the years. It was an opportunity to see how former cornfields and pastures were returned to native plants and animals species.

One of the tours was led by guest speaker Charlie Keppel from The Care of Trees. In his combined lecture and tour he identified our native bur oak tree as well as European buckthorn and Asian honeysuckle. Guests learned that these aliens threaten the survival of our native trees, grasses, and forbs because the aliens are more aggressive and can out-compete native species for vital space and nutrients.

They also learned that when the alien and its seed source are eradicated, the native plants can reestablish and flourish. With this information in hand, guests can identify and eliminate the invasive aliens in their home landscapes.



To complement Charlie's lecture and the other guided tours, CFC offered two additional lectures by herpetologist Ron Humbert of the Morton Arboretum and entomologist Dr. Rex Bastian from The Care of Trees. They displayed both live and mounted native specimens of reptiles and amphibians and insects and butterflies, respectively.

They spoke of how important these small lives are to the welfare of our native landscapes and vice versa. Insects, reptiles, and amphibians contribute to the biodiversity and are vital to the health and future of these specialized environments. This was an important concept to share with our guests.

For those guests who wanted to see native grasses and forbs growing in a setting like their own yards, CFC had small scale demonstration gardens near the farmhouse. Even though these gardens were a "work-in-progress," they still offered the guests a sampling of the native plants that can be grown in our region. The gardens are available for viewing throughout the year, and we encourage visitors to stop by during each season to interact with nature and see "the reason for the season."

Guests gathered at the farmhouse to follow the 32-year history of CFC through photographs and news articles exhibited on a 32-foot paper runner which clearly

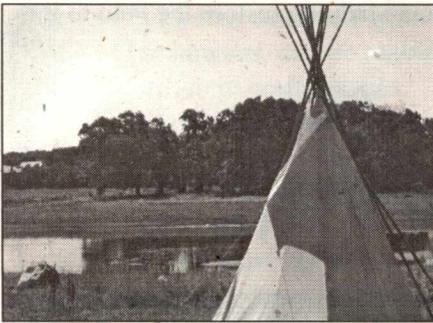


illustrated how many projects CFC has initiated. It stood as a testament to all the people who have been part of our growth and commitment through the years.

Beneath the canopy of the walnut tree, musicians and songwriters Sandy Andina and John Ludwig from the Chicago



Songwriter's Collective entertained with folk songs on the mandolin and guitar. Guests visiting the nature crafts, piece quilting, face painting, and hair braiding, had the opportunity to hear one of John's original compositions, "The Grand Prairie." It paid homage to the tall grass prairies of pre-settlement days when the open lands provided wide vistas to the horizon.



Just beyond Sandy and John's drifting melodies, a lone Indian teepee stood sentry over the big pond. Inside the teepee storyteller Jeannie Hanson told

stories about the land, the people, and the animals that have become part of our history and folklore. Between the setting inside the teepee and Jeannie's stories, one could believe that the ancient spirits came together on this day to listen to the recounting of their lives. There was no mistaking that Jeannie and CFC are preserving our heritage each in its own way.

As five o'clock approached, the low din of the evening was joined by the unmistakable sound of John's highlander bagpipes! What an air-splitting sound it made! It amazed the youngest and oldest among us that a goat bladder with gangly tube-like arms and legs could create such a sound! It



signaled the dinner hour and quickly drew the hungry folks to the dinner tent. The chuck wagon-style buffet and ice cream were served amidst dinner tables set aglow by summer flowers fresh from member's gardens.

The guitar and mandolin of Joyce Palmquist and Douglas Saylor set the evening in fast forward and kept the spirits charged with their toe-tappin' collection of folk songs and hand-clappin' sing-alongs. At this moment, we could imagine our pioneering forefathers celebrating the occasion of a fall harvest or a wedding. Our anniversary too, was indeed a celebration.

Before this occasion came to a close, CFC raffled off a quilt made by member Diane Greening entitled, "Flint Creek Savanna in Early Winter." Area Eagle Scout, Erik Johnson was the fortunate winner. Diane and Erik are examples of the people Flint



Creek Savanna has brought together through their volunteer experience:

Diane's quilt was inspired by the landscape she photographed while hiking along Flint Creek, and Erik's Eagle Scout creek bank stabilization project can be seen today. Together with our members, supporters, and the volunteers who planned this celebration (see listing in this issue), CFC continues to give thanks and remember those who celebrate "saving living space for living things."

Katherine R. Grover
Chairman, Planning Committee
Flint Creek Savanna- 15th anniversary

Many thanks to Flint Creek Savanna celebration's organizers, presenters and volunteers

by Karen Hunter and Sam Oliver

CFC has many people to thank for the success of its Flint Creek Savanna 15th Anniversary celebration. Chairman Katherine Grover enlisted a host of volunteers to help plan and carry out the event that ranged across the 103-acre nature preserve in Lake Barrington. Mother Nature provided a beautiful day as visitors took guided tours through the savanna and listened to guest speakers Charlie Keppel, Ron Humbert, and Dr. Rex Bastian talk about trees, reptiles and amphibians, and native insects and butterflies. They heard storyteller Jeannie Hanson spin tales inside the Native American teepee and listened to musicians Sandy Andina and John Ludwig under the trees and Joyce Palmquist and Doug Saylor who entertained during dinner.

Special Events Co-Chair Melissa Washow, Demonstration Gardens Chairman Patsy Mortimer, and Dorothy Sigel were an invaluable CFC headquarters team and Neil Timlin, Elaine Parnell and Demmy Giannis were key committee chairmen. Mortimer coordinated the savanna tours led by Wendy Paulson, Joyce Allen, Bob LeFevre, Meredith Tucker, Rob Neff, John Wagner and CFC interns Nancy-Jean Bachmann, Greg LeFevre and Albert Carbo.

Thanks to Karin Lee who recruited and organized fellow high school volunteers Melody Lee, Erin Vukovich, Kathleen Tsai and Jina Hong, to CFC photographers Marcy Trojak, Tony Szabados and Henry Heine, and to nature crafts leaders Laura Arndt and Diane Greening.

John Schweizer, Donna Bolzman, Ken Cowan, Dorothy Engelhardt, Lucy Wyatt, Donna Ducay, Barbara Phillips, Douglas Grover, Bill Hunter, Bob Oliver, Larry Washow, Edith Auchter, Wes Wolf, Tom and Doe Crosh, Nong Tarlton, Jo Seagren, Art Sigel, Rachel Steffens and Gail, Tom and Waid Vanderpoel rounded out the team.

Erik Johnson, a scout who has worked on CFC's Flint Creek bank stabilization project, was excited to be the winner of Diane Greening's quilted wall hanging "Flint Creek Savanna in Early Winter."

Thank you to Advocate Good Shepherd Hospital for sponsoring the celebration. Working with Syl Boeder and Heather Gates of Good Shepherd was a pleasure. Dr. and Mrs. Richard Smith graciously provided parking and space for our welcoming tent. Thanks to Terry Jennings and Steve Nightingale of the Barrington Park District for generous equipment loans and to Michael Harkins of the Barrington Area Historical Society who helped erect the authentic teepee.

As the day ended, the moon rose over Flint Creek Savanna and was reflected in the pond. CFC is grateful for all of the day's visitors/adventurers and for the many members and donors whose contributions over the years have made the purchase of Flint Creek Savanna possible, as well as the volunteers who have spent thousands of hours helping restore the land to its native origins.

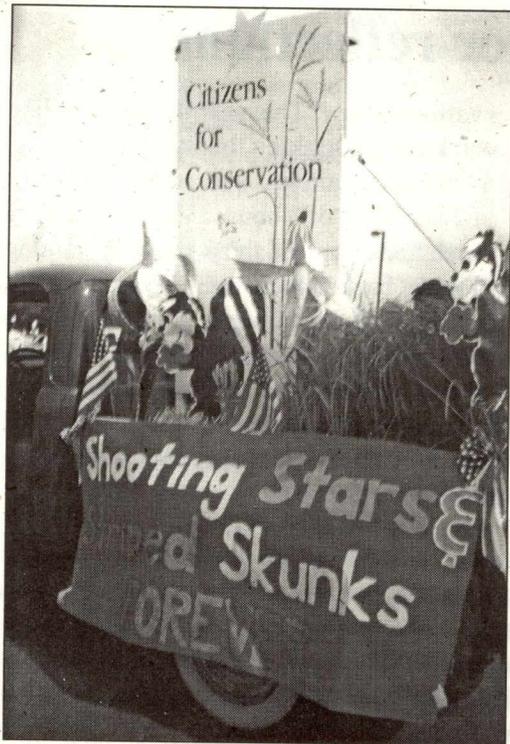


Thank you... Thank you...

...to **Rebecca Brock** for a beautiful leather-topped desk for the office, a vintage country table for the kitchen and a sturdy shovel to inspire our restoration volunteers and to **Melissa and Larry Washow** for picking up the items in Geneva, IL and delivering them to CFC.

...to **New Generations**, a service club of high school students in the Barrington area, for donating a bench for the CFC grounds. Benches were constructed by the group and bear a plaque commemorating victims of September 11th. They have been contributed and delivered to several groups and locations in the area.

...to **Laura Arndt, Jill Garbarcz, Henry Heine, Margaret Hudson and Jo Seagren** for providing photographs and illustrations for this issue.



CFC float wins award in 4th of July parade

by Neil Timlin

Using the theme of "Shooting Stars and Striped Skunks Forever," CFC received another award at the annual 4th of July parade in Barrington. All of the hard work of the creative and talented parade committee and members (Gail Vanderpoel, Melissa and Larry Washow, Joyce Allen, Nancy-Jeanne Bachmann, Diane Greening, Jo, Scott, Josie-Dee and Parker Seagren, Karen and Bill Hunter and Elaine Parnell) was immediately rewarded with the Marshal award.

A combination of great planning, showmanship, the use of the Seagren's antique but stylish, green Ford pickup truck, and all of our enthusiastic participants who passed out candy and invited people to take part in the upcoming 15 year celebration for Flint Creek, made CFC a shoe-in to win something. What really put us over the top were the crowd pleasing abilities of Dave Timlin, our starred and striped Uncle Sam, and Rob Neff demonstrating yet another of his many talents - unicycle riding. Everyone involved did a great job and had a great time.

People in the News:

Congratulations to the following CFC members for helping us keep CFC in the news:

- ✎ An extensive article with color pictures in *Northwest Herald* featuring **Tom Vanderpoel**.
- ✎ A piece about **Karin Lee** in the Inverness column of the *Courier*: CFC submitted information about her dedication as a CFC high school board member.
- ✎ "Native plants are losing battle to alien invasion" by **Meredith Tucker** was published as a Guest Essay by the *Courier*, designating Meredith as a member of CFC.
- ✎ An article entitled "Part of your legacy could be helping a local charity" with a picture of 3 of us involved with Leave-A-Legacy Barrington Area was published in the *Courier*.
- ✎ The *Chicago Tribune* interviewed **Meredith Tucker** concerning the Chicago Botanic Garden's Plant Conservation Biology certificate for which she is studying. She mentioned CFC prominently.
- ✎ **Donna Bolzman, Bob LeFevre, Tom Vanderpoel and Waid Vanderpoel** were identified as members of CFC and featured in an article entitled "The people who save precious wildflowers" in the May 16-18, 2003 *USA Weekend*. This magazine was inserted into many Sunday newspapers across the country.

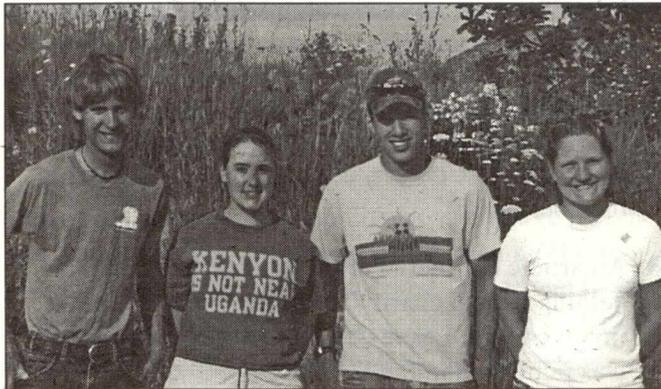
Congratulations

...to **Edith Auchter** who is the newly elected president of the League of Women Voters of the Barrington Area. In addition, Edith was elected secretary of League of Women Voters of Illinois at its recent convention. She will continue to serve as editor of the LWVIL Voter. She was also editor of the Barrington League's newsletter for many years until she was elected president.

...to **Greg LeFevre** for receiving the 2003 Lake County Soil and Water Conservation scholarship and the 2003 American Ground Water Trust's Amtrol scholarship.

The 2003 intern's summer reflections

Editor's Note: This summer, CFC's four interns were funded by the Oberweiler Foundation and by a portion of the proceeds from the 2001 North Barrington Run-through-the-Woods. We thank the Oberweiler Foundation, the Village of North Barrington and those who participated in the Run last year for their generous support. The 2003 interns have accomplished an amazing amount of work, but they have also learned a lot during their internships. We asked them to share their summer experience with us.



Nancy-Jeanne Bachmann

One more year of the CFC internship has passed, and last year's inclination to return was a good one. The progress of last year's restoration work is clear and the learning has increased twofold. I have especially stood in awe of the thriving wetlands of The New Deal on our property at Flint Creek. When sedges are happy, they don't hesitate to send out new shoots. We interns love keeping the sedges happy with a little TLC, i.e. restraining the cattails' efforts to overthrow the natural diversity. Last year we focused our efforts on pulling all of the new cattails. Through the winter I managed to maintain the vibrant tan line on the small of my back, and I have, in fact, nurtured it as we wicked this year's persistent cattails. The wetland looks gorgeous today, sedges, water lilies, pickerelweed, and all. Finding myself outside on my days off, I know why I love my job with CFC.

More than restoring threatened wildlife habitat, this internship is about taking correction, teamwork, leadership training, following directions. It's about relationships, making connections, and respecting each person you meet on any given day. It's about developing friendships.

The people with whom I had the absolute privilege to work made the summer unbeatable. If anyone has met my fellow interns and seen us laugh together, they have already witnessed the "four musketeers" in action. Last year we described the atmosphere of the interns as

"dripping with sarcasm." This year it was more like a bubbler, you know, a drinking fountain of sarcasm. Working with Greg again was successful. But you can only guess what 2 summers of 8 hours a day working together can do to a relationship. And the jokes keep coming...only now they go way back. Albert and I, we go way back to day 1: planting. Rachel and I have enjoyed New Zealand together and studied with each other at Principia College. To me, walking in the mud in rubber boots was old hat. Albert and Rachel's experience, however, reminded me of my baptism into the suction of the mooosh. Barefoot is always an option.

Our "bosses," could not have treated us any better than they have the past two years. Tom leads us and teaches us everyday at work without fail. And I couldn't appreciate more the work of Patsy and Melissa and all of the other intensely dedicated CFC volunteers that come out on their own time. It is a wonderful thing to work a job in an atmosphere of respect. Set with a list of tasks for the day, the interns are left to accomplish them, ironing out any wrinkles along the way. Tomorrow always comes and progress is always made. That's what restoration is about. It's a step-by-step process. And for that I gain patience and perspective everyday at this work.

Now I return to school, preparing to call myself a college graduate, and I could not be more excited. Every opportunity I have to make connections with people working in this field of study, I take it. I could not have prepared myself better for the working world than Citizens for Conservation has through these past two summers. Thank you for bringing out the passion within me.

Albert Carbo

It was ten weeks ago when I was first awakened by the shrill cry of my 6:30 alarm. An hour later I found myself standing in the heart of a field, still shaking the sleep off my heavy eyelids as Tom Vanderpoel gave us 'The Tour.' As we meandered across the grounds I remember pausing for a moment on top a berm to survey the novel surroundings. The wetlands, prairies, and savannas all lay quietly nestled among CFC's Flint Creek property, a startling juxtaposition to the roar of traffic on the adjacent Route 22. As I watched car after car pass I wondered how many times I had sped by this little tract of land, too preoccupied to offer it a passing thought. How could I have overlooked the simple beauty of this place? At that moment I realized that I was being given an opportunity

few have the chance to realize; to spend a summer working amidst this striking setting, experiencing nature and conservation through a far more tangible perspective than could ever be reached from behind the gleaming windows of a car. I knew then that I could never again permit myself to be an idle passerby.

That first week was admittedly hard work; but from the moment I plunged my hands into the thick, slimy mud to secure a sedge plug, I was hooked. Each following day I found myself becoming more and more invested in the work we interns had committed ourselves to do. I came home each night, drenched in mud, muscles aching, but beaming with eager pride at the chance to relate the day's efforts to friends or family. They all learned to patiently humor me, while I babbled on and on about specific antidotes like an excited grade-school boy.

As the weeks rolled on, the four of us interns quickly learned to work happily beside one another, and became very close. What an amazing group of individuals, each with a wonderfully unique personality and distinct gifts. Working with them has been a true privilege for me. Corny jokes, intense discussions, crazy quotes, and relentless teasing passed between each other as we worked side by side. They helped assure a smile, even through the most arduous days. As Greg often reminded us, 'friends that herbicide together stay together.' Oddly enough, I can now attest to the profound wisdom of that quote.

Being on such good terms with one another enabled us to get a lot accomplished this summer, but if I learned from this experience, it is that conservation is always an ongoing process, and thus all successes are relative. Without a continuous commitment, the brush, cattails, and the reed canary will always return, quickly enveloping what progress had been made. From this I have reached a greater appreciation for the conservation process that CFC has clearly established through years of hard work. Thus, I now see the greatest accomplishment of summer is merely being a part of this process, a process that I know CFC's persistent determination will ensure for many years to come.

I must say that I am tempted to continue on in some detail and at some length about all that I have taken from this internship, but instead it will have to suffice to say that this has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my life. I have been exposed to more things over these ten weeks than I could have ever even imagined that first day. And, yes, it has been very, very unique. After all, how many people can say they've grown emotionally attached to an herbicide pack? (Yes, I'll admit, I even named my pack,

'Ellen') How many people can say they collected little beetles by sucking them through a tube? How many people can say they've thrown giant balls of algae? How many people can say they've been held afloat by duckweed, the world's smallest flowering plant? (Not Nancy-Jeanne!) But, best of all, how many people can say that they've had the chance to do conservation work with such a great group of people?

Thank you Citizens For Conservation for giving me this opportunity.

Greg LeFevre

This summer's internship has been an experience for me, and to say it has been positive is indeed an understatement. Actually attempting to describe my summer's experience to a casual observer is a bit like an astrophysicist explaining the lightyear to a six year old. But I'll do my best to translate. Holistic.

Holistic learning is the best term to describe what I have experienced this year and is something that is often all lacking in other pursuits of knowledge. This summer's internship has allowed me to learn through working directly in restoration and indirectly with the rest of the world. As we have gone through our tasks, we have learned from each other more about who we are (which sometimes can be a little strange).

Our work has gravity; an importance to my heart and that of the community. Our plug planting and herbiciding and seed collecting and weeding and other restoration work is what progresses CFC; saving living space. But, like the Counting Crows song goes, it's the little things that make up a memory. We had the courage to do the best possible job and have the most fun—making these little things the best possible experience we could.

Like our quote board. Or walking on duckweed on top of Flint Creek. Or how we had to correct each other's errors in English grammatical speech when standing in water. Or the jokes no one else on Earth would understand. Times like Guys vs. Girls loosestrife hunts, and fishing in deep lake. Digging and planting water lilies in shiver water—then stapling my shoe to the pond bottom, and bubbling the water with my mouth to give the plants more oxygen while laughing so hard I thought I'd choke. Working with all the diehard BHS volunteers. Chucking algae. Naming our herbicide backpacks and moving two ton boulders with levers, fulcrums, and Tom. Or how we always got here early, but never managed to leave on time.

I wish I could somehow convey the aura, the plethora of pathos of this all encompassing holistic experience. But, alas, it is slightly impossible. Recently, I came home directly from interning and was asked whether I had had a good day. And knee-jerk: "Everyday is a good day when you're a CFC intern." I actually said that. You know it's good when I wake up excited and ready to go with five hours of sleep, when I join arms with the others and jump about in dairy boots, when I never think for a second about the money, when I "work" all day and love it. I never "worked" a day this summer.

CFC and the internship program has been a fundamentally shaping force in my life, making me who I am. They have both made me confident; a lover of hard work, results, and positive change. They have given me the opportunity for college credit, scholarships, and to put to use concepts most others see only in books. The people at CFC have taught me so much—so much more than I could ever possibly say. The interns this year were truly fine people, who defined the experience for me. Through CFC I have met the most amazing girl ever to walk the planet. The future is always bigger than the past; more exciting, spicy.

And how.

Rachel Steffens

Editor's note: In the weeks following her internship Rachel has gotten married, moved and started a new job in Baltimore. We wish her our best wishes and hope to hear from her in the future.

The infamous intern board

Editor's note: The interns had a wonderful time and one of their fondest memories involves the quotes that were written on the "intern" board. Most of the quotes were written in the style of a famous person with a twist. Below is a sampling of their unique brand of humor, wit and insight. Enjoy.

"The sun is but a morning star."

-HDT

"Anyone can love a mountain, but it takes soul to love a prairie."

-Teddy Roosevelt

"When you love your job, you never work a day in your life."

-Erin Vukovich

"One cannot forget to remember."

-Socrates

"There is too much love in this world to carry about the baggage of hate. Except, of course, for nuclear war and reed canary."

-John Lennon

"'Tis no more a nobler pursuit in undaunted pleasure than to dig water lilies in the company of the world's finest souls."

-Voltaire

"Time never started."

-Albert Einstein

"when the sunshine
makes the cardinals
into my tearmakers
i see the world
stop

turning as
i pull cattails
in the pond."

-e e cummings

"Plant those in the drier water"

-Tom

"O, the snails popping underfoot."

-Ralph Waldo Emerson

"The world is a very strange place, and the dice are always rolling."

-Tom Robbins

"Friends who herbicide together stay together."

-Herbie Shakespeare

"A mushroom walks into a bar..."

-Whitman

"Rakin' away on the duckweed of a new day."

-Jethro Tull

"Jump!"

-Albert

"Life is like a mix CD on shuffle."

-GHL

"The car is NOT a jungle-gym!"

-Ogden Nash

Herbicide pack Roster:

Ellen

Hans

Redmond

Bruiser

Live relik

Restoration has a great summer

Restoration co-chairman Tom Vanderpoel reports that workdays are in transition to all seed collection. The workdays are going to a three-day schedule after Labor Day*. Interns have finished their terms, and it has been another successful year. They worked hard, showed up on time, were adaptive and diligent which along with the incredible weather made for an easier term for me. John Suchy has finished the work near the pumping station. Excellent progress has been made in restoration on the new FCS properties thanks in part to two successful intern years.

*Volunteer workday schedule

Thursdays 9-11 a.m.
Saturdays 9-11 a.m.
Sundays 3:30-5 p.m.

Volunteers meet in the parking lot behind the CFC office (459 Hwy. 22 Barrington IL, the white farmhouse across from Good Shepherd Hospital).

Remember that brush clearing starts in November. If you have any questions or would like to be on the brush clearing calling list, please contact restoration committee co-chairs Tom (847-462-0358) or Bob (847-438-3760).

Natural History Society fall program schedule

October 9 – Marty Jones with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources will discuss Chronic Wasting Disease and other ailments in local white-tailed deer.

November 13 – David B. Johnson of Buffalo Grove and former secretary of the Illinois Ornithological Records Committee will be presenting his program on owls.

Our meetings take place from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. in the Barrington Area Library in Meeting Room 1-B. Anyone interested in the natural world is welcome.

Garlic mustard

by Corinne Noble

Garlic mustard is a biennial herb in the mustard family (Brassicaceae). Since it first came to the U.S., it has spread and now poses a serious threat to the wildlife in Eastern and Midwestern states. It is an extremely invasive and virulent plant, overrunning native plants by monopolizing the light, space and nutrients. By killing off native plants, garlic mustard eliminates food sources for local wildlife. Most people have ignored it in the past, but it has become so abundant that people are beginning to realize its highly detrimental effects.

Garlic mustard came to the U. S. with the early settlers. These settlers believed that garlic mustard weed was good for medicinal purposes as well as for eating. They were mistaken (garlic mustard was named for its particularly strong, garlicky taste.) However, by that time it was too late to undo the harm as had already done as garlic mustard began to spread across the country and today threatens much of the eastern and central United States.

Garlic mustard is easily recognizable. It is a biennial and in its first year the plant produces a few rosette-shaped leaves and is 2-4 inches tall. The second-year plants grow to be 2-4 feet tall. Leaves become triangular shaped on the second-year plants, and they produce small white flowers from mid-May to mid-June, flowers having four petals that form a cross. The flowers lose their petals about a month later, and a two-inch seedpod forms. The small black seeds are then released in mid-July. After the seeds are released in mid-July after which the original plant dies.

To help eradicate this harmful plant, volunteer to help a conservation group in your area and spread your knowledge about garlic mustard to others.

(For more information on garlic mustard, please go to <http://units.nwsc.org/users/gstroop478/index.html>)

Editor's note: Corinne Noble is a Senior Girl Scout in Troup 478. As part of her Girl Scout Gold Award, the highest honor in Girl Scouting, she has written this article to increase public awareness on this invasive species.



GARLIC MUSTARD

Upcoming Events:

- **Fall Plant Sale pickup**—Saturday October 4th at the CFC Office parking lot 10 am - 12 noon
- **North Barrington's Run-Through-the-Woods** takes place on **Sunday October 5th** and benefits CFC. Please call 847-382-SAVE if you would like to volunteer.
- **Sunday, October 5 - Junior Naturalist Fall Scavenger Hunt**, CFC office 2 - 3:30 pm
- **Midwest Ecological Prescription Burn Crew Member Training for Staff 10/22/2003 - 10/23/2003**
Sponsor: CW Land Management Team
Location: Governors State University

This two-day training for staff of member organizations is designed to introduce the novice to prescribed burns. After this training, your staff should have gained the knowledge to participate safely on a burn crew.

- **Midwest Ecological Prescription Burn Crew Member Training for Volunteers 10/25/2003 - 10/26/2003**

Sponsor: CW Land Management Team
Location: Governors State University

This two-day training for volunteers of member organizations is designed to introduce the novice to prescribed burns paired with a more experience crew person. After this training, your volunteer should have gained the knowledge to participate safely on a burn crew. For both of these workshops one additional day of training is required in the field before the class is considered complete. If weather conditions permit, an optional third day for a practice burn may be scheduled. Otherwise, your volunteer should have this field training by participating on an organization's burn while paired with a more experience crew person.

You **MUST** reserve your space for this class. Space is limited. Register early. No walk-ins will be accepted. Registration form can be obtained at:
<http://www.chicagowilderness.org/members/calendar/>.
The workshop is being offered at no cost to participants.

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