

# The BogHunter

the newsletter of the Friends of the Cedarburg Bog

Volume 14, Number 3 FALL 2019

## THE LADY BEHIND THE CAMERA

On this occasion of the first issue of The Bog Hunter not edited (and largely written) by Kate Redmond it is more than fitting that we recognize Kate for some of her many contributions to the Friends of Cedarburg Bog. Kate, who calls herself a “compulsive nature educator,” loves to share her passion for the natural world.



Kate Redmond, during one of her many guided hikes at the Cedarburg Bog

The Bog Hunter was Kate’s brainchild and creation. From the first issue of the newsletter to the one preceding this, Kate edited 55 issues of the Bog Hunter and has written over 150 original articles on

a wide range of topics in the process. In Kate’s essays she takes the reader along with her as she explores her fascination with the natural world.

Kate has also led more of FOCB’s educational events and walks than any other naturalist. The incredible breadth and depth of her naturalist knowledge, combined with her ability to translate that into easily understandable stories, has earned her a following as the most popular of the Bog’s educators.

Since 2007, Kate (a.k.a. The BugLady) has published over 600 “Bug of the Week” articles that are introductions to, and explorations of, the world of invertebrates, mostly insects. The Bug of the Week consistently conveys Kate’s sense of wonder at the amazing life histories she discovers and shares with the reader. She sends these to 140 subscribers, and the entire collection is the most visited feature of the UWM Field Station’s webpage. (To see those, or subscribe: <https://uwm.edu/field-station/category/bug-of-the-week/>)

Kate is an accomplished photographer; her exquisite photographs of insects inspire and accompany her Bug of the Week. She freely shares her photography, and most of the images that FOCB uses for just about everything come to us through Kate’s extraordinary observant lens.

In short, Kate contributes so much to

FOCB’s educational mission that it is an understatement to say that FOCB would not be as strong an organization as it is today without Kate’s talents, generosity, and leadership.

-Jim Reinartz

## BOG TERMS

What, exactly, is a Bog Hunter? The spirit of an early settler who got lost picking cranberries and now appears in the moonlight? Someone who spends the day hummock hopping, swatting mosquitoes and itching their poison sumac? Well... maybe. But our newsletter is actually named for a dragonfly.

There are two species of boghaunter dragonflies in Wisconsin, the Ebony Boghaunter (*Williamsonia fletcheri*) and the Ringed Boghaunter (*W. lintneri*). Both are rare. They are smallish (about 2”), dark dragonflies that typically perch on the ground. Their flight period occurs in late spring.

Boghaunters’ preferred habitats are sphagnum pools in bogs and fens formed in glacial wetlands. Neither species has been recorded here, but the Field Station dragonfly list is incomplete. Maybe, some day, as the Hines Emerald was found in 1999. In the meantime, its name evokes the mists and music and mystery of this amazing wetland. ([Vol. 2 No. 3](#))



Jumping Spider (Kate Redmond)

## FRIENDS OF WISCONSIN STATE PARKS GRANT

Thanks to an Incentive Grant from the Friends of Wisconsin State Parks (FWSP), the interpretive signs at Watts Lake will be renewed this fall. The signs have badly deteriorated and are in need of replacement. The signs have been ordered and FOCB Stewardship volunteers will install them in October. Watch for updates via our website and/or Facebook page.

The interpretive signs at Watts Lake were originally placed along the all access trail in 2010. These signs serve to provide information to visitors about what they are seeing and enhance their experience of the Cedarburg Bog State Natural Area.

*-Jim Ellis & Brennan Delap*

### A LITTLE HELP FROM FREINDS!

We all get by with a little help from our friends. This is especially true of the Friends of the Cedarburg Bog. Without all the support of our members, through volunteer efforts, donations and membership fees we would not be able to continue to support the conservation efforts at the Cedarburg Bog. It is your contributions that allow us to host our educational and fun events here at the Bog. For that, we Thank You!

The FOCB membership renewal drive will begin in November. Please renew your membership when you receive our email or letter and consider adding a donation. With your support we are working hard to continue to reduce the pressures of invasive plants encroaching on the Bog as well as to educate the public about the benefits and unique habitat found here at our educational programs.

### 2018 FIELD STATION ANNUAL REPORT

It's the time of year again to step back and reflect on the amazing work that goes on at the Field Station. The Field Station, which is part of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, manages about 320 acres at its main property adjacent to the Cedarburg Bog. In addition, the Field Station is also responsible for several other outlying natural areas that are owned by the university. The 2018 Field Station Annual Report was recently published, and it summarizes the diverse array of projects that are going on at these natural areas.



*Jim Reinartz demonstrating how to apply herbicide during the Invasive Plant Management Techniques Class*

The Field Station's programs enhance the natural history, public appreciation and scientific study of the bog, and supporting these activities is an important part of the Friends of the Cedarburg Bog's mission. Highlights from 2018 include:

- The James and Dorathea Levenson Endowment for Ecology and Field Biology was established to provide fellowships to UWM graduate students who are conducting research at the Field Station and/or in the Cedarburg Bog. Dr. James B. Levenson conducted research at the Field Station while working towards his PhD in Botany at UWM (awarded in 1976).

- UWM gained the UW-Waukesha Field Station after the two institutions merged in 2018. The field station will be called the UWM at Waukesha Field Station and the merger will lead to greater cooperation between the two field stations.

- Phenology research in Downer Woods became part of an international collaboration working with data collected by VENμS (Vegetation and Environment monitoring on a New MicroSatellite). The UWM part of the project is being led by Alison Donnelly in Geography.

- Field Methods in Conservation, a new semester course taught entirely at the Field Station, was offered for the second time in the Fall semester.

- Jim Reinartz and Gretchen Meyer each taught an on-campus class during the Spring Semester: Plant Systematics and Evolution (Reinartz) and Community Ecology (Meyer).

- Over 12,700 person-hours of instruction and group use in 2018.

The Field Station is responsible for supporting scientific research at the Cedarburg Bog and the other university-

owned natural areas. A total of 28 research projects were conducted in 2018. These projects covered a wide range of topics, including wildlife surveys, prairie restoration, tree swallow breeding biology, pitcher plant microbial communities, and pollination studies, among others. Projects were conducted by undergraduate, M.S. and Ph.D. students, in addition to faculty from UWM and other institutions. A total of 22 scientific papers were published in 2018, based on work supported by the Field Station, and several others are in process. Abstracts of all research projects and a list of publications for the past 5 years can be found in the Annual Report.

The Annual Report also describes other activities carried out at the Field Station such as the collection of long-term data sets. These include species lists, weather records and observations of plant phenology. The 2018 Natural History Workshop Program and other educational events that took place at the Field Station are also summarized. You will also find descriptions of the 3 natural areas at the main property in Saukville (Cedarburg Bog, Cedarburg Beech Woods, and Sapa Bog). The 5 outlying natural areas that are also managed by the Field Station are included as well (Neda Mine Bat Hibernaculum, Neda Beechwoods State Natural Area, Benedict Prairie, Downer Woods, and the UWM Monarch Conservancy).

The Field Station Annual Report is available online: <https://uwm.edu/field-station/research/publications/annual-reports/>.

For a hard copy, write to the UWM Field Station, 3095 Blue Goose Rd., Saukville, WI 53080 or e-mail [fieldstn@uwm.edu](mailto:fieldstn@uwm.edu).

### NEW WEBSITE

Please visit <https://bogfriends.org/> to see our newly designed website.

## WELCOME ABOARD!

Meet Brennan Delap:

I discovered my love for plants at a young age working in garden beds with my grandmother. As a teenager I learned to love being outdoors backpacking in national parks. I decided to go to school for horticulture and ended up earning a native flora certificate, which completely changed my view of the world. I soon discovered the Cedarburg Bog through friends and got involved with the glossy buckthorn removal project. Spending hundreds of hours in the bog in all seasons while working and botanizing has made me realize how special this place really is. Currently, I work for a local ecological land restoration company managing properties around Ozaukee and bordering counties. I spend my free time collecting wild food, mountain biking, and advocating for ethical land practices.



*Turtle Head Flower*

## LATE BLOOMERS

Spring ephemerals compact their blooming and seed production into the period before the forest canopy matures. At the peak of the growing season's bell curve, with the fullness of summer ahead of them, the majority of flowering plants compete for a wide range of insect and even avian pollinators, with plenty of time to bloom and to produce and disperse their seed.

But some wildflowers bloom at the close of the growing season, flirting with unpredictable first frosts that could threaten their reproductive success. What is the botany of procrastination - do late bloomers have adaptations that allow them to thrive at the end of the season?



*Blue Lobelia Flower*

Late bloomers tend to be tall, they often top the surrounding vegetation. The bur marigolds, goldenrods and sunflowers, as well as the asters that decorate the fall landscape, are members of the Aster or Composite family and can be difficult to identify. Fringed and closed gentians, great lobelia, white turtlehead, and nodding lady's-tresses round out the early fall display.

Pollinators are still plentiful. Populations of colonial insects have peaked, and, as predators or pollinators, ants, bees and wasps join moths, flies and beetles on this final crop of wildflowers.

Several factors contribute to a plant's readiness to bloom. Day length and weather – accumulated heat – signal plants to grow and bloom. Among plants that flower in spring and early summer, southern plants bloom earlier than their northern counterparts, and eastern plants are a bit slower than western plants. Yet, fall-blooming flowers bloom earlier in the north, probably because day length decreases faster in the north after the summer solstice.

Habitat also influences blooming dates. In general, there are more late bloomers on open prairies than in forests. Forest wildflowers tend to come from buds produced in the current growing season. Bog species, which often bloom when air and soil temperatures are decidedly cool, flower from buds set during the preceding season.

What allows fall plants to sneak in under the wire? Plants must achieve a specific level of growth before they can initiate flower buds. But, unlike garden plants, our native flora is indifferent to frost. Just as late spring frosts have only a temporary effect on spring-blooming flowers, asters and goldenrods continue to photosynthesize, bloom and produce seed long after the first frost. It turns out that we are the only ones who are watching the calendar.

*-Kate Redmond*

## BOARD TALK

Over the summer, many changes have been made to the FOCB Board of Directors.

Brennan DeLap has joined the Board to serve as Stewardship Chair. A student of botany, he has been a stalwart volunteer in controlling invasive plants in the Bog. As a newcomer to the board, Brennan will bring a fresh and youthful perspective to the group.

We are also saying farewell to a number of directors. Bill Taylor is moving on after nine years on the Board during which he has served as Treasurer and, in the last year, our President. Peg Edquist, who has served as Secretary and Chair of our Communications Committee for the last three years, is also leaving the Board to spend more time with family and her family business. Other departures from the board include Teri Haas, Carrie Heistand and Zoe Finney. Collectively, their contributions have helped sustain the Friends over the past few years. We wish them well as they move on.

Jim Ellis will become our new President. Jim has been with the board for three years, has served as Stewardship Chair, spearheaded the Bog Guardian Program and, most recently, has been our Vice President. As he takes office as President, he will work with the FOCB Governance Committee to fill leadership positions being vacated by departing board members.

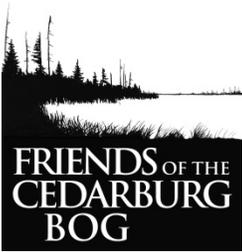
Andrew Holman, Andy Holschbach, Andrew Struck, Chuck Stebelton, Dennis Milbrath, Jim Reinartz, Julia Robson, John O'Donnell and Tim Vargo are continuing as directors.

Gretchen Meyer, UWM Field Station Director and Sharon Fandel, Wisconsin DNR continue as advisors to the board. Kate Redmond continues as an Honorary Director.

An added note, Bill Neihaus, a founder, former board member and a Stewardship Committee volunteer stepped away from his 15 years of volunteer work for the Friends in July.

*-Jim Ellis, incoming President*

*Friends of the Cedarburg Bog:  
Supporting stewardship and  
appreciation of the Cedarburg  
Bog through land management,  
preservation, research and education.*



C/O UWM Field Station  
3095 Blue Goose Road  
Saukville, WI 53080

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Volume 14, Number 3      FALL 2019

### **CEDARBURG BOG FRIENDS EVENTS**

**Unless otherwise noted**, walks meet at the UWM Field Station on Blue Goose Rd. Space is limited, so please register. To register, visit [www.bogfriends.org](http://www.bogfriends.org) (click Program & Events). Walks are free and open to the public; a \$5 donation is appreciated. Questions? Contact (262) 675-6844 or [fieldstn@uwm.edu](mailto:fieldstn@uwm.edu). *Please, No Pets.*

#### **Volunteer Work Day - Watts Lake Signs Installation**

October 13, time TBD  
Join the Stewardship Committee and other volunteers to install the new signs along the Watts Lake trail. Please meet at the Cedarburg Bog State Natural Area Parking lot off of HWY 33.

#### **A Walk in the Beech Woods**

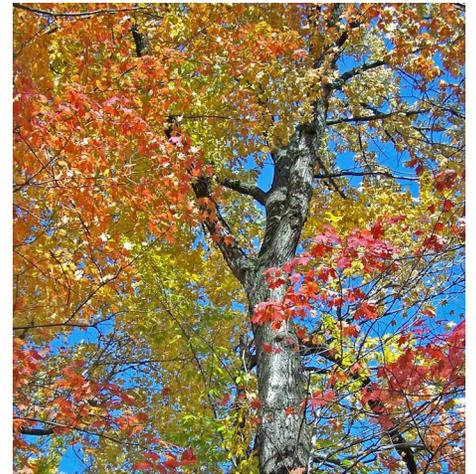
October 20, 9 AM to noon  
The Cedarburg Beech Woods State Natural area is spectacular in fall. Come and learn what makes this community tick.

#### **Owl Prowl**

November 9, 7 to 9 PM  
Join us as we search for resident and migrating owls. Location to be determined check for more information at [www.bogfriends.org](http://www.bogfriends.org) in fall.

#### **How Do Trees Grow?**

November 17, 9 AM to Noon  
How do trees do what they do? Find out as this indoor-outdoor presentation. Dress for the weather.



### **EVENTS HAPPENING ELSEWHERE**

#### **CALENDAR**

##### **Ozaukee Treasures Network Autumn Conference**

Thursday, October 10th at 5:30 pm **FBMP**  
Our focus will be on climate change and Ozaukee's efforts - specifics are still being worked out. People interested, who are not yet on the OTN Mailing List, can send an email to Marjie at [coordinator@treasuresofoz.org](mailto:coordinator@treasuresofoz.org)

##### **Autumn Celebration**

Saturday, October 12th, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm  
Urban Ecology Center - Washington Park Branch  
1859 N. 40th St. Milwaukee, WI  
Event is for all ages and Free. When the air gets crisp and the leaves change color, we celebrate the changing season with neighbors, family and friends! Get ready to take a nature hike, make crafts, enjoy caramel apples (yum), carve a pumpkin, canoeing, and much more!

##### **Lac Lawrann Conservancy Luminary Hike**

October 12th 6:00-9:00 pm  
300 Schmidt Rd, West Bend, WI  
Come spend a fun filled evening hiking the luminary lit trails and Lac Lawrann Conservancy. After your hike enjoy live music by Ken Weaton, take a look through the telescope with Northern Lights Astronomy Club and enjoy food and refreshments down by the campfire while listening to spooky stories. Open and free event to the public!

##### **Trails and Treats**

Friday, October 25th, 4:30-8:30 pm **RNC**  
Join us for an evening of tricks and treats on the trails of Riveredge! Families are invited to hike the Riveredge trails and visit educational stations along a one mile loop. Along the way, visit with costumed woodland creatures educating you about their habits and habitats and receive candy-free treats as you go.

##### **Southeastern Wisconsin Conservation Summit**

Friday & Saturday November 1-2 **FBMP**  
The conference is designed to foster regional collaboration and networking by providing an opportunity to meet and listen to the people who are conducting terrific work here in southeastern Wisconsin. Registration is \$35 a day, or \$60 for two days. Students must register, but due to generous sponsors, their registration fees are waived. Registration includes morning coffee, lunch and afternoon snacks. Register online at <https://wglbbo.org/swcs-register>

##### **Student Research Symposium**

Saturday, November 9th, 8:00 am-4:00 pm **RNC**  
Come meet, learn from, and support the best and brightest of Wisconsin's future scientists! Top undergraduate and graduate students from Wisconsin colleges and universities will present a wide range of research in the natural sciences at

this year's Student Research Symposium, and we'd love to have you there. Registration is required. Visit <https://www.riveredgenaturecenter.org/event/symposium2018/>

##### **SEWISC 12th Annual Education Symposium**

Wednesday, November 13, 2019 at 1:00 pm  
Hosted by Havenwoods Environmental Awareness Center in Milwaukee, WI  
This year's speakers will discuss Wisconsin's changing climate and how those changes influence the spread of invasive species. But have hope! We will also learn about new climate adaptation resources that can empower invasive species managers. The symposium is free, open to the public and local refreshments will be served. Learn more at: <https://sewisc.org/>

**FBMP** – Forest Beach Migratory Preserve  
4970 Country Club Road, Belgium  
<https://wglbbo.org/>

**Lac Lawrann Conservancy**  
300 Schmidt Rd, West Bend  
<http://laclawrann.org/>

**RNC** – Riveredge Nature Center  
4458 County Hwy Y, Saukville  
[riveredgenaturecenter.org](http://riveredgenaturecenter.org)  
(262) 375-2715