University League Fall Coffee Features William Cronon

If you have ever picnicked on Picnic Point, enjoyed the view from Observatory Drive, or observed wildflowers and Indian mounds in Eagle Heights Woods, you have experienced the Lakeshore Nature Preserve. The Lakeshore Nature Preserve (see aerial photograph by Bill Cronon) is the 300 acres of natural area along the Lake Mendota shoreline on the University of Wisconsin-Madison Campus. The area includes Picnic Point, Frautschi Point and the Lakeshore Path and runs from Muir Woods along the lakeshore to Eagle Heights Woods.

Join University League for the Fall Welcome Coffee at the Visitor Center of the University of Wisconsin Arboretum on September 11 at 9:30 AM to learn “The Many Meanings of Madison’s Lakeshore Nature Preserve” from our speaker, Professor William Cronon. His fascinating slide show includes historical photographs and beautiful current nature pictures of the Preserve.

Bill Cronon will reflect on the importance of UW-Madison’s Lakeshore Nature Preserve not just for the university but for the city, exploring the ways in which the varied landscapes it contains serve not just as a refuge for natural ecosystems and organisms, but also for human beings, their histories, and cultural values. At a time when concerns about environmental sustainability and the human future are once again at the forefront of public discussion, places like the Lakeshore Nature Preserve can serve as powerful symbols of the ways our homes and communities reflect who we are as individuals and as a society. (Continued on page 3)

Fall Welcome Coffee

Come to the Fall Welcome Coffee to meet friends and hear Bill Cronon. We will meet at 9:30 to have a catered coffee consisting of bagels and cream cheese, mini "birthday" muffins (in Bill's honor), fruit, juice, coffee or tea. The talk will begin at 10:15. Learn about an Interest Group or a Volunteer Activity. Bring a friend to learn about University League and the Lakeshore Nature Preserve.

The cost of the coffee is $8.50 per person and all reservations are due by September 5th. Please return the reservation form (the last page of the newsletter) with a check payable to The University League, Inc., to:

Helen Read
813 Ottawa Trail
Madison, WI 53711

The UW Arboretum is located off Seminole Highway in the Nakoma area or you may enter from Wingra Drive near the Zoo parking lot.

University League Welcome Coffee

When: September 11, 2008
9:30 – 11:30 AM
Where: Arboretum Visitor Center
Registration Deadline: September 5th
Cost: $8.50
President’s Message—Janice Golay

Welcome to 2008-2009. We are looking forward to hosting the Bi-Annual Big Ten Organizations Conference June 5-7, 2009. Look for more about this during the year.

No, there is no mistake. My photo appears again as President because we are starting an experiment of a two-year term of office. The rationale is that it makes sense to take advantage of the first year’s experience, provided the President is willing and able to serve a second year. The “learning curve” is long. I was told by several Past Presidents that they only just began to understand the job and issues by the end of their term. In principle, the second year should be easier. If the experiment is successful the Board may recommend a Bylaw change at the end of the year. Incidentally, I noticed that until 1929 the President’s term was two years.

I want to thank you for your generous scholarship contributions last year. A total of $58,847.76 was awarded as Endowed, Memorial and General Scholarships, as well as for Grants and the Odyssey Project. This demonstrates extraordinary generosity at a time when it is especially appreciated. University League plays a very special role in scholarship support. We are recognized throughout the University and community for this support. Again, thank you.

We are fortunate and delighted to have “captured” Professor Bill Cronon for our September 11th Fall Coffee. Don’t miss this! I’ll see you there.

Janice Golay

Share the Fun

Bring a friend, neighbor, or acquaintance to a University League meeting or interest group. Introduce them to this vital organization and its friendly members. Give me a call, or a note, or an email and I’ll send information to prospective members about this wonderful organization and its many interesting opportunities.

Bev Zarnstorff
Membership Chair
2606 Waunona Way
Madison, WI 53713
608-221-8132
wczarnst@wisc.edu
University League 2008-2009 Events
Helen Read, Program Chair

The League’s Program Committee for 2008-09 has lined up a year of stimulating events, keeping the tradition of previous years. As you see below, we have commitments from some of the most interesting people in our community, bringing us ideas for the environment, the justice system, science education, and — dear to my heart as a retired librarian — good books to read. For our Candlelight Concert we will be privileged to have the renowned Pro Arte Quartet.

Please write these dates on your calendar, plan to bring a friend or two, and join your University League colleagues for fun, food, and fascinating programs.

We look forward to seeing you!

Schedule of Events

September 11 (Thursday)  Fall Welcome Coffee at the UW Arboretum
9:30 a.m.  Professor William Cronon, UW-Madison

October 30 (Thursday)  Dinner at Nakoma Golf Club
Social 5:30, Dinner 6:30  Chief Justice Shirley Abrahamson, Wisconsin Supreme Court

December 5 (Friday)  Candlelight Concert at Covenant Presbyterian Church
5:30 p.m., Supper follows  Pro Arte Quartet

March 17 (Tuesday)  Midwinter Luncheon at Nakoma Golf Club
Social 11:30, Lunch 12:00  Liz Amundson, Madison Public Library

May 8 (Friday)  Luncheon and Annual Meeting at Blackhawk Country Club
Social 11:30, Lunch 12:00  Professor Patty Loew, UW-Madison

University League Fall Coffee (continued from page 1)

William Cronon

Bill Cronon, Frederick Jackson Turner and Vilas Research Professor of History, Geography, and Environmental Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, studies American environmental history and the history of the American West. He served as Chair of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve Committee from 2004 through 2006. During his tenure, the first Lakeshore Nature Preserve Master Plan was completed and an award-winning web site (www.lakeshorepreserve.wisc.edu) was developed. His ongoing commitment to understanding human interactions with the natural world is demonstrated through his teaching, scholarly articles, books, and university service. Professor Cronon is a distinguished teacher and a renowned scholar. His books include Changes in the Land: Indians, Colonists, and the Ecology of New England and Nature’s Metropolis: Chicago and the Great West. He has edited collected volumes, including Uncommon Ground: Rethinking the Human Place in Nature and is currently writing a book entitled Saving Nature in Time: The Past and the Future of Environmentalism.
Milestones and Signposts

At the Chazen Museum of Art, A Shared Taste: The Janice and Jean-Pierre Golay Collection, donated by our University League President and her husband, will be displayed from July 12 through September 7, 2008. According to Chazen Museum News:

Janice and Jean-Pierre Golay have collected art in Europe and America since the early 1980s, mostly in Switzerland and Wisconsin. They met when Jean-Pierre was in Madison on sabbatical from his native Switzerland, then married and lived in Lausanne, Switzerland, from 1981 to 1988. Their desire to share art with others was nurtured at informal fêtes in the home of a dynamic and hospitable collector-friend. Inspired, the Golays built a collection that ranges from the delicately representative to the fully abstract, in various media from textiles and paintings to sculpture and prints. Returning to Madison, they generously volunteered with local visual arts organizations, working to bring people closer to art. In support of the Chazen, the Golays played a key role in creating a 1991 exhibition of Swiss art, and since 2003 they have graciously donated nearly 250 works from their collection. Though the works are diverse they are all thought-provoking, sometimes playful, and they reward contemplation (“Two Major Collections to Exhibit at Chazen Museum of Art,” June 12, 2008, Chazen Museum News).

Volunteer Corner

I volunteer at the University Hospital and sell flowers one afternoon a week. That takes about four hours. I have never been very busy selling flowers but it is a great place to people watch and it is surprising how many people like to stop at my desk, tell me their problems and how their loved one is doing. The flowers are always there to cheer them and sometimes their children. We have novelty planters such as trucks, a fire engine, Sesame Street characters, frogs, etc. We also have cut flower arrangements. We take phone calls from out of town for items and then I deliver them to the patient. I enjoy the families and the staff with whom I work. The Hospital has a variety of needs for Volunteers ranging from answering questions at the information desk, helping families find their way to places they need, assisting to fit wigs, to working in the Gift Shop in either the regular hospital or the children’s hospital. There is also a web site (www.uwhealth.org/volunteer) where many more questions can be answered.

Your help is needed and you will enjoy it. Elinor Zach

Contribute to this Newsletter

The University League Newsletter is your newsletter. Please contribute to it:

- Profile your Interest Groups. Include photos, history, and what you are doing.
- Tell us about your volunteer work with one of our volunteer groups.
- Contribute to Milestones and Signposts - share the interesting things happening in your life.
- Any other interesting information.

Send your information to Roma Lenahan, newsletter editor, (rlenahan@charter.net) or contact her at 238-5406.

Newsletter Deadlines: September 16, October 22, January 28, and March 27

The newsletter is mailed about three weeks after the deadline.
Volunteering for Wisconsin Book Worms Makes You Smile

“Bookworms provides a chance for me to share some of my reading talents with young children. I love the looks of appreciation on each face when I hand out a book to each child.”

Those are the words of a Book Worm volunteer reader and as you can tell, she enjoys the experience because it enriches her life and brings joy and positive experiences to the children she reads to each month.

University League has been involved with Book Worms for three years and it continues to be a popular volunteer opportunity for a loyal and talented group of University League members. There are twenty volunteers in all in the Book Worm program and they read in 15 different early childhood programs around Dane County. Some are classes of 18 children and others are small groups in family child care homes. Some of the children speak Spanish or Hmong at home but they all speak mostly English at school. All are children from low-income families who may not have access to many books at home. The idea behind the Book Worms program is to make more books available in the homes of low-income children so that their parents and older siblings will be more likely to read and enjoy books with them on a regular basis. Reading and enjoying books in the early years is a strong support for children’s success in school.

Interested in being a Book Worm volunteer? If you decide to be a Book Worm volunteer, you and a partner would read in the same classroom for the entire academic year. Generally, volunteers read once a month for eight months. Each time they take a new book to read and copies of that book to distribute to each child. Many volunteers also do a very short project or activity related to the book before passing them out. There are opportunities for training and support in how to teach early literacy, manage a large group and plan activities to go along with each book. There are also many very experienced volunteer readers right in the League who can help you have a great experience.

Volunteers have all sorts of backgrounds. Some are former teachers or librarians; some speak Spanish and read to Spanish speaking children in both languages; some love children’s literature and others enjoy just being with young children. All are welcome!

For more information contact: Joan Laurion, 608-224-3722 or laurion@co.dane.wi.us. Training is September 9 and 10, so call soon!

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Wisconsin Book Worms Booklist 2008-09

Bearobics: a Hip-hop Counting Story – by Vic Parker
Duck on a Bike – by David Shannon
Groundhog Gets a Say – by Pamela Curtis Swallow
I Know a Rhino – by Charles Fuge
Polar Bear Night – by Lauren Thompson
Rooster’s Off to See the World – by Eric Carle
The First Day of Winter – by Denise Fleming
Who Says Moo? – by Ruth Young

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The University League Board and the scholarship recipients want to thank all of you who donated to
the 2008 Stay at Home Scholarship Benefit. Your gifts make college easier for eager students.

In Memory of
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Jean Stewart

In Memory of
Susan Ames
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In Memory of
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In Memory of
Valdis Zeps
Betty Zeps

In Memory of
I Mona Ziaian
Mahi Tandon

In Honor of
Justice Shirley Abrahamson
Barbara Holtzman

In Honor of
Karen Goebel
Anna Bender

In Honor of
Nan Field
Mary Boyle

In Honor of
Janice Golay
Kathy Sandefur
Nancy Webster

In Honor of
Jean-Pierre Golay
Joan and James Krkleas

In Honor of
Linda Harvey
Mary Boyle

In Honor of
Shirley Montrass
Mary Boyle

In Honor of
Annetta Rosser
Frances Rall

In Honor of
Eric Rude
Nancy Rude

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Thank You, Scholarship Donors

Stay at Home Scholarship Benefit Donors

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Meet Friends While Sharing Unforgettable Experiences
By Jean-Pierre Golay

The “Art Appreciation” Interest Group just closed a magnificent season, including an outing to Dr. Evermore’s open air studio and construction site, as well as an excellent contact with a talented glass blower, to mention just two recent visits.

Margaret Strass and Jean-Pierre Golay, the two chairs of the group, are now busy making sure that they will show you in the coming season some of the most attractive artists, techniques, studios or collections available in 2009:

- The Chazen Museum will exhibit part of the recently donated Janice and Jean-Pierre Golay Collection (see photo of art and page 4 for more information). Jean-Pierre and Janice Golay, the two local collectors, will be there, with amusing anecdotes, information and answers to questions you might have. Can anyone be a collector?

- Some treasures from Africa, as well as Chinese textiles will be presented by experts in the field.

- You might have seen how prints are created with an Art Press. The technical aspects may not necessarily interest you. We shall take you one step further. With the help of a professional, you will make a print from start to finish. You will go from technique to art, something you probably never had an opportunity to experience.

- You are perhaps an assiduous reader of the art critic in your newspaper. Or you don’t understand critics. Or you are wondering why they write the way they do. You will have a chance to meet one of the most well-known art critics in our area and to question him, grill him.

- Finally, when the MMOCA shows an exhibit of works by the famous and moving sculptor George Segal (it had to be postponed last season), you will be in the front row.

If you decide to be with us, you will receive detailed illustrated information about all these events. Generally we meet the third Wednesday of the month, at 9:45 a.m. Join us! The season starts August 21.

To Join: Margaret Strass, co-Chair, email: mstrass@charter.net, phone 831-4728 or Jean-Pierre Golay, co-Chair, email: golay@claire.org, phone 244-4345.

Contribution for the season (postage, etc.) is $5.00.
Interest Group - University League Gardening Group

Cherith Bruckner's garden in Fitchburg in June

Sue Niesem's garden on Old Sauk Road in July

The Gardening Group has been in existence since 1974 when a group got together and discussed their shared interest in gardening. We have exchanged information about everything from vegetables to wildflowers to formal gardens. Our group has varied interests. We discuss and learn from each other and speakers and we share plants as well as information. We welcome anyone with an interest in gardening – no knowledge is required. We experience the lovely variety of gardens and nurseries in the area and we enjoy each other. We meet the first Thursday of each month at one o'clock except in January and December. Interested? Join us! Elinor Zach, Chair.
UNIVERSITY LEAGUE FALL WELCOME COFFEE
RESERVATION FORM

Due by September 5, 2008

Program: “The Many Meanings of Madison’s Lakeshore Nature Preserve”
Name: __________________________ Phone: __________________________
Guest: __________________________ Guest: __________________________

Continental Breakfast Buffet

Reservations @ $8.50 each = __________________
Scholarship donation = __________________
Total = __________________

Check(s) payable to: The University League
Mail to: Helen Read
U.L. Fall Coffee
813 Ottawa Trail
Madison, WI 53711