



THE STARKWEATHER TRICKLE

Spring, 2011

Vol 7, Issue 1

StarkweatherFriends.org

FSC, PO # 8442, Madison WI 53708

Friends of Starkweather Creek works for a healthy urban stream and watershed to benefit the community through stewardship, education, and advocacy.



Photos by Jeff Soellner & Lisa Goodman of Earth Day Clean up 2011

“It is wonderful to have national parks and forests to go to, but they are not enough. It is not enough to make a trip once a year or to see these places occasionally over a long week end. We need to have places close at hand, breathing spaces in cities and towns, little plots of ground where things have not changed; green belts, oases among the piles of steel and stone. Children especially need this contact, for they have not as yet been weaned from the primal needs of the race.”

-Sigurd Olson: Wisconsin native, author, and Boundary Waters champion

SOLSTICE CELEBRATION & BONFIRE

Sat. June 25 4 to 11pm

across Atwood from Olbrich Gardens (by lake)

Music, art, picnic, & canoe rides start @ 4 pm

PARADE OF THE SPECIES @ 5:30 pm

Bonfire, drumming, and dancing @ 8:41 pm

Earth Day Creek Clean-up

By Carl Landsness

On April 23rd, I felt inspired, awed, encouraged, hopeful, and grateful when 16 Starkweather friends (on water) converged with 17 Worthington friends (on land) at the new bank and bridge by E Washington Av for our Earth Day creek clean-up:

-*inspired* by the passion, purpose, persistence, and PLAY of the people

-*awed* by the beauty of the new bend, bank, and bridge

-*encouraged* by the participation of local youth

-*hopeful* that such local efforts can ripple and “trickle” outward and upward

-*grateful* for champions like Dace Zeps, John Steines, and Allison Werner to catalyze such efforts

The weather and water were amazingly perfect... as were the divine pastries from Madison Sourdough (thanks to Alfonso).

Clean-ups like this blur the boundaries of work and play, hopeless and hopeful, dirty and divine... as we pulled racy bikes, cleared major jams, and extracted bags and bags of debris (see photos of John racing his new bike and walking on water).

Goodman CC Job Corps Crew

By Betsy Brooks

This summer the Friends of Starkweather Creek are looking forward to a new partnership with students through the Job Corps program at the Goodman Community Center. Job Corps is a program that teaches job skills to young people and will include learning skills related to habitat restoration. These skills will include invasive species removal, native plant pruning and native species planting. Job Corps is made up of three groups of about six students and two teachers each. Each group will travel to nearby natural areas and practice hands-on learning. The exact vicinities in which the students will work has yet to be determined but there are many areas in close proximity to the creek that are possibilities. Job Corps and FSC will work closely with the City of Madison to decide exactly what work will be done and where. We hope to create a lasting relationship with this group so that students are able to see the long term benefits of habitat restoration and invasive species management.



Garver: Now What?

By Carl Landsness

With the unexpected withdrawal of Commonwealth's proposed arts incubator in the Garver building (behind Olbrich Gardens), the question (for both building and land) is "Now what?"

- Revisit past public input?
- Open new public input?
- Return it to Olbrich Gardens?
- Ask the land what it wants?

Indigenous cultures would tune in to the messages from the land and its lifeforms (through both physical and intuitive senses)... receiving much guidance on how to be in harmony. Is this an opportunity for such guidance and harmony?

So I went to this land
to BE with this land
to listen to her message
and this is what she said:

*"Thank you for coming
Thank for caring
I have much to offer
if you love and listen*

*You must open your hearts
to ALL forms of life
transcending all ego
Then solutions will be bright"*

So I invite YOU to walk this land
to see, feel, and be
all the potentials she offers
to create a new we.

And the land will say *"Thank you"*



Solstice Celebration and Bonfire

By John Steines

Friends of Starkweather Creek (FSC) with the support of the Goodman Community Center and SASYNA (Schenk-Atwood-Starkweather-Yahara Neighborhood Association) have been putting on a solstice celebration twice a year since 2002 in Olbrich Park. This summer's event will be Saturday, June 25th, 2011. We hope to have a number of artist and environmental educational tents and more food options in addition to byo picnic and donations.

This year, for the second year, Laurie Rossbach and MadLibPlayers, our local neighborhood puppet street theatre troupe, are sponsoring Procession of the Species at solstice. Species are made by many children and families. Workshops are underway to create new species for this years parade and pageant to be held 5:30 pm Saturday June 25th 2011. Please see adjacent flier on workshops. Laurie's shop is at 2717 Atwood Ave and workshops are Wednesday evenings and Saturday afternoons (except Memorial Holiday weekend), if you want to participate in making a species puppet.

The schedule for our June 25th 2011 Summer Solstice is canoe rides starting at 4 pm and continuous. Music begins around 4:30 pm. The Procession of Species will be at 5:30 pm. Music continues until final walk to bonfire at around 8:30. Lighting of bonfire at dusk (8:41 pm)!

**Annual Membership Meeting:
Thur. Oct. 20th**

FSC meets with City Staff

By Steve Gaffield

On January 13, several Friends met with City of Madison engineering and parks staff to discuss the restoration of Starkweather Creek along Zieir Road near East Towne mall. This project will clear invasive tree species while keeping native trees, and it will plant native understory vegetation which will help stabilize the stream banks. A new hiking trail will also be established. The City will contract the heavy work, and Friends of Starkweather Creek will assist with future trail and vegetation maintenance. Details of the project are under development, and a public meeting is expected to gather comments. The Starkweather Creek corridor near East Towne includes springs and some high quality wetlands, so thanks to the folks at the City for helping to protect and restore this resource. Another exciting opportunity we discussed is teaming with the Job Corps youth career training program to assist in this and other restoration efforts while providing valuable knowledge and job skills. We look forward to building this relationship.

PROCESSION of the SPECIES

A Community Art Parade to CELEBRATE BIODIVERSITY!

Come as your favorite Plant or Animal!

FREE, OPEN, DROP-IN WORKSHOPS
to build MASKS & GIANT PUPPETS for the Procession!

<p>May-June Schedule:</p> <p>WEDNESDAYS 6 - 9 PM</p> <p>SATURDAYS Noon - 4 PM</p> <p><small>(No workshop Memorial Day weekend, Sat May 28)</small></p>	<p>Where:</p> <p>Lucky Mojo Studio 2717 Atwood Ave</p> <p>More info:</p> <p>www.MadProcession.org 241-0259</p>
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THEN PARADE AT THE SOLSTICE CELEBRATION!

SAT JUNE 25

**Note cards to benefit the Friends of Starkweather Creek
with photos of Starkweather
at Absolutely Art 2322 Atwood Ave**

View at www.starkweatherfriends.org/cards.asp

The cards feature photos by Jonathon Beers...
printed at Lakeside Press on recycled paper from a wind-powered paper mill...
charging half their normal fee.

*Friends of Starkweather Creek
PO BOX 8442
Madison, WI. 53708-8442*

Membership Form

Friends of Starkweather Creek - PO BOX 8442 - Madison WI 53708-8442
www.starkweatherfriends.org

NAME: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Annual Membership Fee (donations are tax deductible)

Crane fly Larva (\$10) - Crayfish (\$25) - Damselfly Nymph (\$50) - Mayfly Nymph (\$100) – OTHER__

Make check out to: Friends of Starkweather Creek