



Bay Creek Bulletin

Bay Creek Volunteers: Dane County Humane Society

By Pam Gates

The Bay Creek Bulletin is starting a series featuring Bay Creek residents and their volunteer careers. If you have an interesting volunteer job or know of someone who does and would like to let other neighborhood residents know about it, contact Bulletin editor Sara Richards. See back of Bulletin for how to do this.

Hannah Line, 10, and her grandma, Debbie Thorp, have an animal lover's dream job: they are Feline Friends. Every week they go to the Dane County Humane Society and play with cats for two hours! They have been doing this for two years and it sounds like they'll continue on cat detail until Hannah, who loves dogs even more than cats, is old enough (12) to qualify as a dog companion.

When Debbie and Hannah go to the Humane Society each week (at a time of their choosing), they sign in on the computer, pick up a clipboard that tells them which cats are available for play, say hello to all the cats, and then choose one they will spend about half an hour with. Afterwards, they check off that cat on the clipboard and write positive notes in a red book and concerns in a white book, Hannah says. There are lots of clean cat toys they can choose from, and they can take the cat from its cage and go to a quiet room to play with it.

"I'm always happy to come back and find that a cat we've played with is gone," Debbie says. "That means it's been adopted. I look at this as an opportunity to help this animal find a forever home. Our entire job is to socialize the kitties, to love them and play with them. The staff just doesn't have time."

If you like animals, this job is perfect. Every time they go, for example, Debbie and Hannah visit the dogs. And they know a lot about the Humane Society. Did you know there's a barn for large animals and wild animals? Debbie says a few horses are there now. There are trails for walking dogs — Hannah can hardly wait! — and a fenced area where dogs can be played with off leash. Volunteers can also work as small animal friends, in the gift shop, (continued on Page 4)



Hannah with Gracie and
Debbie with Spaz

Bay Creek Billboard

Mon Mar 9 Bi-Monthly BCNA meeting at 6:30 pm
Madison Baha'i Center, 324 W. Lakeside St.
All Bay Creek residents are invited to attend.
Please see notice on page 6 re: annual BCNA elections.
Voluntary annual dues of \$10 can be paid at any neighborhood meeting or sent to Rose Brothers 1112 Gilson St
Madison, 53715

Second Monday of odd-numbered months
Bay Creek Neighborhood Association (BCNA)
meetings at Madison Baha'i Center, 324 W. Lakeside St.
All Bay Creek residents are invited to attend.

**Saturday Feb 14, Saturday March 14 and Saturday
April 18 (in conjunction with other Earth Day events)
10 am to noon**

Shoreline clean ups with Friends of Monona Bay. Meet at
Brittingham Park Beach House (corner of Proudfit and W.
Brittingham Place). Garbage bags and tools are provided,
please bring your own gloves and dress accordingly.
Contact Nina for more info; Email: ninaj@wisc.edu,
Phone 265-3411 or 258-1788.

First Wednesday of each month
Friends of Monona Bay, 124 S. Brooks St., Rm 1, 6:30 pm.
Go to www.mononabay.org for more info.

Book review: The Calligrapher by Edward Docx

Reviewed by Robert Koehler

Wow, this novel knocked my socks off. Its surprise ending sent shockwaves through me. But that is only because the story that preceded it was so good, had gripped me completely. This is the author's first novel and a stunning debut. On the surface it is a romantic comedy but the substance beneath sets it apart from the usual books in that genre. The plot centers on a young London calligrapher named Jasper. In his late twenties, his good looks and intelligence have been put to good use in seducing women only to soon lose interest in the relationship. Then he meets Madeleine and falls head over heels. While trying to win her heart, Jasper is transcribing the *Songs and Sonnets* of the poet John Donne. Docx does a masterful job of weaving Donne's complex poetry into the fabric of the story. It isn't just an aside but the book's true centerpiece. The plot is a rich one with plenty of twists. It presents a vivid picture of modern London, with an added bonus of bestowing an education on the art and craft of calligraphy. But it is the poetry of John Donne that provides Jasper with the education he needs to mature into a caring adult. He learns about the cost of constancy, the difference between lust and love. This is a stylish debut, not only witty and clever, but a romantic comedy with a real heart.

A CHILD'S VIEW

"A thankful community is all friends standing together making each others lives happier."

This quote from Grace Quinlan, a 4th grader, was included in a radio story regarding room 206 of Randall Elementary School. The story was broadcast in June 2008 on National Public Radio's "To The Best Of Our Knowledge", a program that originates in Madison.

Grace, the daughter of Bay Creek residents Maureen and Jim, also wrote,

"A friendly community is a painting with swirls of bright fresh colors
each one is different and helpful in its own way."

Winter in the City

The city of Madison has created a website full of information about sidewalk shoveling responsibilities, alternate side parking, snow emergencies, and even recreational activities: www.cityofmadison.com/winter

Some basics:

- You must clear off snow from sidewalks by NOON of the day after it stops falling. Fines for not shoveling are \$109 for your first ticket; \$172 for each subsequent ticket. Warnings are not issued.
- Alternate side vehicle parking rules are in effect from Nov. 15 to March 15, between 1am and 7am – even if there's no snow! Fines are \$20; increases to \$60 when a **Snow Emergency** is declared.

MADISON SCHOOL & COMMUNITY RECREATION (MSCR)

Winter 2009 Program Guides (including a Spanish language version) are available online at www.msqr.org or by calling: 204-3057.

Snow and Ice Complaints, call Building Inspection: 266-4551
City Snow plowing information: 266-4681 (for WEST side)
Winter Parking Hotline: 261-9111

Help improve our local economy by
supporting the businesses that
advertise in the
Bay Creek Bulletin.

If you are interested in advertising in the
Bulletin, please call
Judy Robinson at 469-1218

Artists Among Us: Clarence Cameron

By Pamela Gates

(Previous articles in this series featured Donna Page's ethnographic art, Betty Bracey's paintings, and Jae Adams' calligraphy.)

Clarence Cameron, the Owl Man, has lived in Bay Creek since 1971 and in Madison for 50 years come September. His real claim to fame, however, is his owl artwork.

"I started out in clay," he says. "I made owls for two to three years before I started studying them. I worked in clay for 24 years before I burned out, mostly from sticking the feathers on."

Clarence has sculpted owl wind chimes, owl vases, owl pendants, owl candleholders, and owl statues. He has created linoleum block prints of owls and made note cards with the prints. He seems especially pleased with the medium he primarily works in now: dendritic soapstone from southwestern Montana. In fact, he was so pleased that he once purchased a shipment of two *tons* of dendritic soapstone!

"I put up a sign at the Art Fair Off the Square" — more about that later — "that this was my last year for clay. People lined up to buy my clay owls ... In my first year with soapstone, my income dropped by half," because of the expense of soapstone, but "I kept all my old customers and got new ones."

"Somewhere in there I started casting pewter. I still do. It's a nice little filler: Soapstone is considerably more expensive." He sells his pewter owls for \$5 to \$40.

When he takes a piece of raw soapstone, Clarence says, "whatever shape a piece is, I try to find the owl in it" and proceeds from there.

Clarence and his partner, Bob Lockhart, used to do art fairs all over the country from Tucson, Ariz., to Florida to Maryland. "But I've reached that age where driving isn't fun anymore," he says. He now does Madison's Winter Arts Festival, which he founded and which celebrated 20 years in November — "we even have an executive director!" — and the Art Fair Off the Square, which he co-founded with Aimee Whittwer Jashea in 1979.

"I was at the Art Fair on the Square for 14 years," Clarence recalled. But then Fair managers decided to seek artists from beyond the Midwest, and the Fair's tenor changed. "I was rejected," he says. "So we started the Alternative Art Fair. We struggled for years. But now we have about 400 members statewide in the Wisconsin Alliance of Artists and Craftspeople, which I also founded."

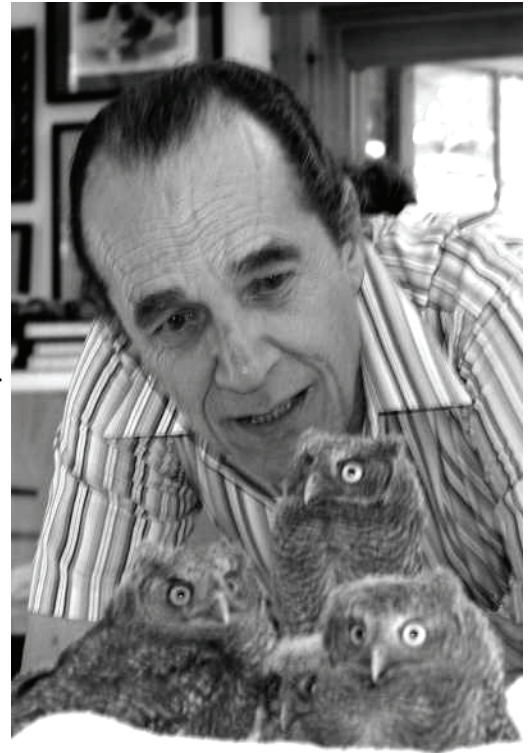
"We're doing all right" with publicity and attendance. "People just flow off the Square. When we started, it was for Wisconsin artists only. We had Wisconsin entertainment and Wisconsin food vendors."

Clarence has done commissions, including 15 to 20 porcelain owls every year for the Retirement Research Foundation to distribute as awards, which he did for about 10 years. Right now he's working on two elevator medallions for the Bohemian Club in San Francisco, which he considers a rather special honor. But in general, he says, "I don't like commissions. I want to do what I want to do when I want to do it. I haven't done one for years" (except for the Bohemian Club!)

When Clarence was trying to work his way out of art fairs, he considered Web site design and got pretty good at it. (Verify this by visiting www.owlman.com) In the process a Philadelphia man discovered him and told him that anyone could take a course and learn how to design Web sites, but he needed to use his special talent. "Every once in a while, someone comes into your life that really gives you a boost," Clarence said of Dan, who became a very special customer, purchasing many of Clarence's owls and admiring his work greatly until he passed away.

Clarence has received much recognition for his prolific work. "I'm pretty much always working on something," he says. "I like to be busy; I could not sit still. I'd like to do something big," he says, perhaps anticipating the next phase in his long and varied career.

And he now spends time with actual owls, going to a wild bird rehabilitation sanctuary in the area and visiting owls that cannot be released. "I made owls for 40 years before I ever held one," he says.



NEIGHBORHOOD NOTES

2009 BCNA Elections To Be Held At March Meeting

The BCNA will hold annual elections at the March 9, 2009 meeting. All residents of Bay Creek are eligible to vote and run for office. We will be voting on all officer positions; Treasurer, Secretary and Contact Person as well as committee chairs and Area Representatives. There are seven Area Reps within Bay Creek including our rep to the South Madison Metropolitan Planning Council. We currently have two areas without reps; Romnes Apartments and the area bordered by Lakeside St., Monona Bay and Park St. If you are looking for a way to become more involved in the neighborhood, please consider becoming an Area Rep. Area Reps are the first line of contact if people have questions about the neighborhood. Reps also act as a liaison between their area and the BCNA by reporting concerns and disseminating information. It is useful if reps come to BCNA bi-monthly meetings, but otherwise there is no time commitment.

Come to the meeting to nominate, be nominated and vote. If unable to attend, feel free to forward your interest in being nominated or a recommendation for a candidate to any of the contacts listed on page 8. The meeting is from 6:30 to 7:45 p.m.

Meriter Consumer Health Library

Meriter Hospital hosts a Consumer Health Collection of over 1,500 books and DVDs that can be checked out to the community. Topics include alternative medicine, child development, parenting, chronic illness, and others. Register with a current picture ID to check out materials. Requests for consumer health information can be made in person, by email (library@meriter.com), or phone (417 6234). The Consumer Health Collection is located in the Medical Library at Meriter on 1 North. Hours are 7 a.m. to 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday.

Changes at Washington Hotel Coffee Shop

The Coffeeshop located at the rear of Lakeside Fibers, 402 W. Lakeside, is now serving beer and wine. Hours of operation remain the same, 7 am to 8 pm seven days a week.

Notes from BCNA Meeting of January 12, 2009

Kyle Richmond summarized his Country Board activities. Kyle is chairman of the Country's Environment, Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee which helped establish the Dane County Food Council about three years ago to promote direct producer to consumer activity in Dane County. The committee now hopes to work with the Michael Fields Institute to promote a sustainable agriculture agenda for Dane County through diversification of crops, mentoring for young farmers, and possible use of farms donated to the Country for micro-agriculture. Kyle also served on the Clean Air Subcommittee and soon hopes to propose an ordinance amendment to enact environmental recommendations that have not yet been implemented.

Rick Dearworth, a BCNA resident, presented his interest in opening a wine shop at the corner of Olin and Gilson. He envisions retail sale of wine and cheese as well as a restaurant/bar serving wine and food for 50-70 people. He is applying for the needed liquor license and requested support of BCNA.

A formal vote on this request will be taken at the March 9 meeting.



Volunteers (continued from page 1)

cleaning cages, or helping the vets on spay and neuter day. You can also volunteer with the Society's Mobile Adoption Unit, which takes adoptable animals to area pet stores to increase their visibility.

The Humane Society offers volunteer orientation and training and has a volunteer appreciation picnic in the summer. Hannah also mentioned Camp Paw Print, a day camp at the Humane Society that she has enjoyed.

"My only concern," Debbie recalled, "was being there with all those kitties and not being able to take them home. I had to think about that. But I decided it was OK, and we've been volunteering ever since."

Recent Listings on NeighborNation.net

- ◆Great volunteer opportunity to get to know Senior Center Neighbors
 - ◆ Housecleaning
- ◆Canon Printer Ink For Sale
- ◆Great yoga studio right in our neighborhood
 - ◆Shovel help

Not registered yet?

Just go to

www.NeighborNation.net

NEIGHBORHOOD NOTES

South Madison Coalition of the Elderly

Letting go of Clutter Class (MATC)

Are you overwhelmed by incoming paper on a daily basis? Come and learn what to do with all those papers on Thursday, March 12, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. This class will help reduce stress, save you money, and make you more comfortable with the way your paper area looks and functions. Registration is needed Feb. 26, by calling MATC at 246-6240. The cost of the class is \$13.71, and just \$4.00 for 62+. The class is held at Romnes Apartments, 540 W. Olin Ave. buzz 200 to enter.

“Stepping Stones” Grief Series

The South Madison Coalition and Hospice Care are offering a series on grief entitled “Stepping Stones.” Meetings will take place 2–4 p.m. at Quaker Housing, 2025 Taft Street on the dates below. You don’t need to register, and you may attend one or all of the sessions. Each session will be led by Hospice Care grief counselor Debbie Percival.

February 23, Session Two: “How Grief Affects Us.” The group will discuss the wide range of feelings that accompany the grieving process and explore how grief affects many area’s of one’s life. Attendees are encouraged to bring a picture of someone who has recently died.

March 23, Session Three: “How Do We Cope?” The group will discuss coping strategies and ways to handle holidays and anniversaries, and will share ideas for rituals and ways to honor a deceased person. The session will include a lighting ceremony.

Case Management

Do you need help planning ways to maintain the basics of daily life during times of illness or disability? Are you overwhelmed by complicated paperwork? South Madison Coalition’s case managers can help you find services and plan solutions that respect your independence. To set up an appointment for case management

Laid Off or Dislocated?

The Workforce Investment Act can help

By Jason Bergh, WIA Adult/Dislocated Worker Program

The Workforce Investment Act (WIA) is a federal program that offers free services to help laid-off individuals find suitable reemployment. The program provides resources and support for workers who lose a job through no fault of their own. Individuals may also be eligible for services based on their income status. Three levels of service are provided at the Dane County Job Center:

- Core services - outreach, job search and placement assistance, and labor market information available to all job seekers;
- Intensive services – more comprehensive assessments, development of individual employment plans and counseling and career planning;
- Training services - clients are linked to job opportunities in their communities, including both occupational training and training in basic skills. Participants use an "individual training account" to select an appropriate training program from a qualified training provider.

Once enrolled in the program clients work with an employment specialist who will assist them in meeting their employment goals. Services can include: resume and cover letter assistance, job search assistance, career counseling, classroom training, support service assistance, employability assessment, and employability skills such as interviewing. There may be some limited financial assistance for clients interested in pursuing short-term training to brush up on skills or training to acquire skills in a new field.

Basic requirements need to be met to be eligible for the program. In addition you must have had a dislocation within the last 5 years with no recall date and a letter of layoff from your employer. To qualify as income eligible you must have proper income status documentation.. For more information contact Sherri Durant at 608-242-7540

Bay Creek Bulletin information The Bay Creek Bulletin is published every other month by the Bay Creek Neighborhood Association (BCNA) and is a news and information service for the neighborhood. The Bulletin welcomes comments and submission of articles, photographs, drawings, poetry, announcements and other information.

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<p>BCNA officers Bay Creek contact person Bob Stoffs, 914 Lawrence; 255-1074</p> <p>Secretary Cindy Snyder</p> <p>Treasurer Judy Robinson 469-1218 jbella@merr.com</p>	<p>Standing committees Welcoming committee Julie Campbell, 818 Emerson St.; 258-1495; juliejamescampbell@hotmail.com</p> <p>Web committee Jim Winkle, 813 Emerson St.; 259-1812; jim@EventsGalore.net</p>	<p>Advertise in the Bulletin!</p> <p>Business sized card ads start at only \$30.</p> <p>E-mail Rose Brothers for more info: RoseBros13@aol.com</p>
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<p>BCNA area representatives Area 1—Wingra Drive west of Park Street Area 2—Northwestern railroad tracks east to Olin-Turville Park Area 3—Lakeside St to Monona Bay and west to Park Street Area 4—Central area between Lakeside St and Olin Ave Area 5—Tree streets Area 6—Romnes Apartments BCNA Rep to South Metropolitan Planning Council</p>	<p>Judy Robinson; 469-1218 jbella@merr.com Kirk Elliott 255-5646 Open Jim Winkle 259-1812 Bob Lockhart; 633 Cedar St.; 256-0444 Open Bob Stoffs, 914 Lawrence; 255-1074</p>
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<p>Government representatives City council County board State representative State senator Congresswoman U.S. Senators</p>	<p>Julia Kerr, 260-2661; district13@cityofmadison.com Kyle Richmond; 929 O'Sheridan St.; 251-3171; richmond.kyle@co.dane.wi.us Mark Pocan; 266-8570; rep.pocan@legis.state.wi.us Fred Risser; 266-1627; sen.risser@legis.state.wi.us Tammy Baldwin; 257-9200; tammy.baldwin@mail.house.gov Herb Kohl; 264-5338; senator_kohl@kohl.senate.gov Russ Feingold; 828-1200; russell_feingold@feingold.senate.gov</p>
<p>BCNA police department liaison: Officer Sarah McLaughlin; South Side Station, 825 Hughes Place; Phone: 266-5938; Fax: 266-4452; office hours 6 a.m. to 2 p.m.</p>	