

# Bay Creek Bulletin

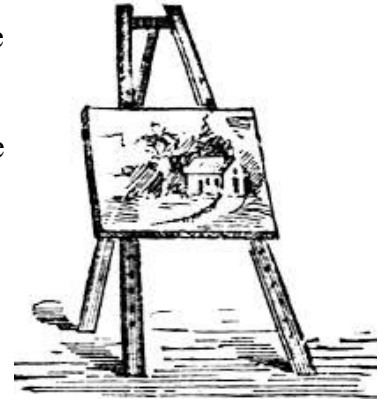
## Spring Activities in Bay Creek

By Judy Robinson

With the phrase ‘Polar Vortex’ being used so frequently in our weather forecasts it may seem as if Spring will never get here. But it will arrive eventually. When it does get here, we will be starting work on the next phase of the gateway project. The sign was the first phase and now we are in the planning stages of the edible landscaping phase. The edible landscaping concept was chosen because many of us who live in Bay Creek are passionate about gardening and/or sustainability.

The planning is just beginning so now is a great time to get involved. We will also need volunteers to help with maintenance after the project is completed. We are picking low maintenance plants but there will still be weeding, trimming or pruning needed from time to time. The landscaping committee meetings are posted on the Bay Creek calendar at baycreekmadison.org. You can also contact me at (608) 469-1218 or [treasurer@merr.com](mailto:treasurer@merr.com) for info if you’d like to be involved but can’t attend the meetings.

Another project that is being discussed for Spring is a Bay Creek Art Walk. We have a large number of outstanding artists in our neighborhood who work in a wide variety of mediums. See page 4 for the next profile in our ‘Artists Among Series. An art walk would be a great way to increase recognition of their work. This would also be a unique option for a neighborhood get together in the warmer months. If anyone in the neighborhood is interested in coordinating an art walk, please contact me at (608) 469-1218 or [treasurer@merr.com](mailto:treasurer@merr.com).



## KW2 showcases Bay Creek Artist

Speaking of increased recognition for our neighborhood artists, Aaron Laux recently had his work on display at KW2 Advertising on Atwood Avenue. Aaron has done work for Osteria Papavero Restaurant on Wilson St. and Change Fair Trade Boutique on Williamson St. You can see his work at <http://www.aaronlauxdesign.com/>

## Adios, Chiripa

Kathryn Leide and Beth Robinson are closing Chiripa and retiring. According to their website, chiripa is Spanish word that means ‘stroke of luck’. It certainly was stroke of luck to have this fabulous store so close to Bay Creek. We wish them both good luck and all the best in their retirement.

Nevin and Sonali Frank, owners of Burnie’s Rock Shop, will take ownership of the building at 636 S. Park St. at the end of February. We will have more information on the their plans for the space in the next issue of the Bulletin.

### Bay Creek Billboard

**Sat Feb 8 & March 8, 10:00 am – Noon Shoreline clean up with Friends of Monona Bay** Meet at Brittingham Park Beach House (corner of Proudfit & W. Brittingham Place). Garbage bags and tools provided, please bring your own gloves & dress accordingly. Contact Nina for more info. Email: [ninaj@wisc.edu](mailto:ninaj@wisc.edu), phone: 258-1788 or 698-9708.

**Sat Feb 15 6:00 pm Candlelight Ski at Turville Park** Please see page 3 for more info.

**Mon March 10 6:30 pm BCNA Bi-Monthly meeting** BCNA meeting at the Bahai Center, 324 W. Lakeside Street. Voluntary annual dues of \$10 per household can be paid at any neighborhood meeting or sent to Sara Richards 710 Spruce St 53715. Please make checks payable to BCNA.

**Tues Apr 1 Spring General Election** Offices up for election include School Board and County Board Supervisor. Polls are open 7:00 am to 8:00 pm. Bay Creek residents vote at Romnes Apartments 540 W. Olin Ave. Union Cab is offering free rides to the polls, please call 242-2000.

**Second Saturday of Each Month 10:00 am Guided Nature Walks** There will be guided nature walks at Turville Park on the second Saturday of each month. Please see Page 3 for details. These walks are co-sponsored by Friends of Olin Turville (FOOT). For info on future meetings and other events, please go to [olin-turville.org](http://olin-turville.org).

**First Wednesday of each month, Friends of Monona Bay** 124 S. Brooks St., Rm 1, 6:30 pm.

# Bay Creek Jan 13, 2014 Meeting Minutes

By Carol Medaris

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 by Jim Winkle.

**INTRODUCTIONS** Because there were many new faces, we began the meeting with introductions all around.

**SOUTHSIDE COMMUNITY POLICING** Officer Steve Magyera of the Madison Police Department, in his first year with the Southside team, described some of the issues the team deals with. He emphasized that it is not a patrolling unit but one that responds proactively to issues that arise, e.g. executing search warrants; responding to domestic abuse; dealing with “problem houses;” and investigating local robberies/burglaries like the armed home invasions in the Vilas Park area last fall (often driven by heroin habits). He said there have been many fewer calls/problems at both Brittingham and Olin Parks, and gave some reasons for this progress, but said there is still work to be done. There were questions raised and discussions about 1) the use of weapons in one’s house in response to a burglary; and 2) what situations were appropriately directed to 911.

**EDIBLE LANDSCAPING** Judy Robinson asked for volunteers to be involved on an ongoing basis in working on this project, and announced a meeting scheduled for January 21st. This is the last portion of the new sign project.

**COUNTY BOARD UPDATE** Kyle Richmond reported that there is money in the budget for jail reconfiguration, emphasizing that this was not an “expansion” or a new jail, but a reconfiguration of some cells, updating some spaces, and consolidation of services. The county continues to move in the direction of concentrating incarceration on violent people while keeping those, for example, with mental health problems out of jail.

Kyle announced that there will be two county ballot questions on April 1st, one concerning the legalization of marijuana and the other concerning non-partisan redistricting.

Regarding conservation issues, the county is purchasing an easement to conserve land along the Sugar River south of Verona, next to a larger parcel purchased last year from the Bruce Company. Kyle also reported briefly on the leak in the county’s first manure digester, which alarmed Waunakee citizens, and progress being made on the second manure digester in the Town of Bristol.

**SCHMIDT AUTO YARD EXPANSION** This issue has been successfully resolved.

**FRIENDS OF OLIN TURVILLE PARK (FOOT)** Tom DeChant passed out nicely done notices for the next Candlelight Ski and Hot Chocolate event on Saturday, February 15th from 6 to 9 p.m. Non-skiers are invited to enjoy the hot chocolate, and there will be hiking if the snow is gone.

There is a natural bird walk every 2nd Saturday from 10 to 12 noon, with people meeting at the large parking lot at the end of Olin Ave. There is also a new bluebird trail in Quam Park.

We discussed the issue of the lack of hiking trails in Olin Turville, as the trails groomed for skiing are off-limits for hiking. And, some other county parks have snow shoe trails, but not Olin Turville.

**BY LAWS COMMITTEE** Ron Shutvet said that the committee hasn’t had time to get together since the discussion at our regular meeting in November, but will announce a meeting soon. Those with questions or concerns about the by laws are invited to attend and the plan is to have a rough draft of the meeting minutes for our regular March BCNA meeting.

**TREASURERS REPORT** Judy Robinson reported that money is available for the next few bulletins, but that we are still coming up a bit short for each issue. Late payments by some advertisers is a problem. A facilitator for next meeting is to be announced. The meeting adjourned at 7:45

## Candlelight Ski at Olin

Come to a unique winter event in one of Madison's most beautiful places. On Saturday, February 15, from 6-9 PM, meet at the entrance to the Turville Conservancy to ski scenic, moonlit trails by candlelight, or just enjoy hot chocolate provided by Barriquer’s around a warming fire. Local drummers will add to the evening's festivities. Looks like lack of snow will not be a problem this year.

Bring your own skis or rent a pair in advance at one of the following locations: [Fontana Sports](#), [Rutabaga](#), or [REI](#). All ages are welcome.

Help reduce waste by bringing your favorite mug (and treats, if you like).

Meet at the entrance to Turville Point off the south parking lot of Olin-Turville parks. This event is hosted by FOOT and Madison's Parks Department. Questions? Check the web at [www.olin-turville.org](http://www.olin-turville.org)

## Bay Creek Even Has Iron Casters (Artists Among Us)

By Pam Gates

One of the more amazing Bay Creek residents I've met is Alisa Toninato, an artist whose medium is cast iron. She owns two companies, American Skillet and Felion Studios, which has nothing to do with cats. Headquarters are a shop south of the Beltline, where Alisa mixes her mold materials in a cement mixer, lifting the 100-pound sacks of sand into the mixer by herself!

The shop, a fascinating chaos, includes a portable furnace that she and her partner, Andrew McManigal, built. The day we met, they had just gotten back from an iron pour with the UW-Platteville Department of Metallurgy. The iron-casting community is uniquely interested in collaboration, she said.

Andrew is a carpenter, "an amazing craftsman with an old Irishman's soul... He does all the woodworking and has slowly gotten into metal fabrication. He's inventive and good at the operations," she says.

Alisa earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in sculpture but has moved on in many ways. What really got her moving was her idea to create cast-iron skillets in the shapes of states. She made the patterns out of wood and archived them by making a silicon mold and then a plaster one. "I use a water-based chemistry called sodium silicate. A lot of chemistries are toxic, and I stay away from them."

American Skillet is taking her skillets commercial, selling through eight mostly Wisconsin retailers. The focus is on Illinois-, Wisconsin-, and Minnesota-shaped skillets. They hope to get a big retailer.

"We work a lot in New York," Alisa says.. "We just did an event with the Food Network." She recounted her experience with Martha Stewart, who recently started an awards program called 'American Made.' Awards are given to 10 companies in 10 different categories each year, and American Skillet was honored the first year. The awardees appeared in Stewart's magazine and on the show. "All this happened one month before Christmas," Alisa recalled. "Everything just snowballed. It was like riding a dragon. It was awesome!"

Now they contract with another Wisconsin company to make the skillets, because demand is unpredictable. She works directly with the pattern makers and on quality control. Last year they did a lot more promotion; this year they've been trying out trade shows. "We're still very much figuring it out," she says. "Our story is truly a story of art to industry. It's been a crash course in business.

"I'm excited about the commercial world: its bigness, the many parts working together. We ride a roller coaster, relying on our intuitions, flying by the seat of our pants. Working with other people is how I learn.

"We want to make it worth it for all who have helped us along the way," she says. "They've been instrumental to us pushing forward in the startup phase. You take a lot of risks, and it costs a lot of money."

But it's clear she's having a lot of fun! (Felion, by the way, gets its name from the periodic table symbol for iron, Fe, and Alisa's birth sign, Leo.)



# NEIGHBORHOOD NOTES

## **Spring Election Information (courtesy of Sue Ellingson)**

**DON'T VOTE** on Tuesday February 18, 2014. For the first time since 1986, there will be no February Primary in Madison. There are no primary contests in any of our county board or school district races.

**DO VOTE** on Tuesday April 1, 2014. Contests in the spring election include

- School Board candidates Wayne Strong and Michael Flores running for Seat 6.
- School Board candidate Ed Hughes is unopposed for Seat 7.
- County supervisors Chuck Erickson and Kyle Richmond are unopposed.

**NEW WAY TO VOTE:** Beginning with the April 1 Spring Election mark ballots by filling in ovals instead of completing broken arrows.

## **Regent Resale**

The West High School PTSO will be holding the Spring Regent Resale in conjunction with the West High Green Club Recycling collection on Saturday, March 8 from 8:00AM-1:00PM in the West High School Cafeteria. This popular resale collects gently used items contributed by the entire West High community. Items include winter coats, teen clothing, holiday lights and ornaments, sports equipment, bikes, children's books and board games, video games and systems, toys, stereo equipment, newer CD's, videos, collectible knick knacks, tableware, furniture, and more.

The West High Green Club will be sponsoring a recycling collection at the same time and will collect electronic items such as computers, printers (only desktop), laptops, cable boxes, cell phones and TVs (with a charge of \$15 or \$30 for TV's depending on the size).

West High School is located at 30 Ash Street. Please enter the Regent Resale and the Green Club Recycling Collection by following the signs on Regent and Van Hise Street. All proceeds will directly benefit West High teachers, students and school.

## **BCNA Email List**

Read or post neighborhood news and announcements, or discuss neighborhood issues through the Bay Creek discussion list. To subscribe, send a blank email message to [baycreek-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:baycreek-subscribe@yahoogroups.com). You'll receive a welcoming message back with instructions, usually within a day, with a confirmation request to which you should respond. After your membership has been approved, you may post a message by sending email to [baycreek@yahoogroups.com](mailto:baycreek@yahoogroups.com). If you aren't approved within a day, contact [Jim@EventsGalore.net](mailto:Jim@EventsGalore.net).

## **News from Olin-Turville**

**By Andria Blattner**

There is going to be a Nature and Bird walk on Saturday, February 8, in Turville Conservation Park 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. In fact, there will be a walk the second Saturday of every month. This is a new series sponsored by Bird City Madison, Audubon, City Parks and FOOT. Each walk will emphasize the natural events of the season. Meet in lower parking lot at the end of Olin Ave.

The first walk, on January 11, was led by Jeff Steele who is very experienced in leading nature walks. Paul Noldner had a fire pit and table set up with guide books, hot chocolate and treats. He was there to answer questions, talk about winter adaptations and to find birds with his spotting scope. There was a lot of activity in the park that day - Frisbee golfers and skiers – although the trails were so icy most skiers gave it up and we could hike.

There were lots of birds: woodpeckers, red-bellied, hairy and downy, black-capped chickadees, white-breasted nuthatches, crows, a cardinal, pigeons, a blue jay, a goldfinch and a bluebird!! No raptors were seen which was a little surprising, since a red tailed hawk usually hangs out here. We saw evidence of many mammals – squirrels left quite a mess under the branches where they had eaten walnuts or hickory nuts, rabbit tracks were everywhere and for quite a long distance on the trail by the lake we followed the tracks of a raccoon carrying a prey animal by seeing the tracks occasionally and the drops of blood along the trail. It was easy to identify two trees – shagbark hickory and walnuts since the nuts were still on them.

In February the “walk” will be on cross country skis – but only easy trails – because all the trails in Turville are groomed and there is no hiking or snowshoeing on groomed trails. Jeff will lead the walk and Paul will ready with hot chocolate. We are planning for a wonderful snowy, winter day, maybe with a few snowflakes in the air so we can examine them with magnifying glasses. But who knows what the weather will be like then .... Whatever it is, we will find something interesting.

## **South Madison Coalition of the Elderly**

The South Madison Coalition of the Elderly invites you to come to Romnes Apartments, 540 W. Olin Avenue for lunch at 11:30 a.m. Mondays through Fridays. If you are age 60 or older, the suggested donation is \$4 per meal. Other persons who attend the meals are asked to pay \$7.50.

Meal reservations and cancellations are needed 24 hours in advance. Call the coalition office at 251-8405 to sign up or for more information. Transportation from your home is available for \$1 round trip. Rides must be reserved separately by calling Transit Solutions, 294-8747, at least 24 hours in advance.

Enjoy special activities after lunch on:

Friday, February 14, 11:50-12:50: Romantic Tunes performed by Bess Berg on piano and vocals. Enjoy Valentine's Day décor and take home chocolate treats.

Monday, February 17: Join in some games to test your memory and learn something new and interesting about our most famous Presidents in honor of Presidents Day.

Wednesday, February 19: Special meal of barbecued ribs on the bone, baked potato, roasted root vegetables and lemon bar. Celebrate Black History Month by learning more about the lives and accomplishments of Black Americans who have made a difference in the lives of others.

### **Foot Care Clinics at Romnes**

South Madison Coalition of the Elderly offers foot care clinics for older adults who have difficulty performing this task. Advance registration is needed. You are welcome to reserve your time a month or two in advance; call 251-8405 to sign up.

Diabetic foot care: For diabetics and persons who take blood thinners, an RN provides toenail trimming, checks your blood pressure and can answer basic questions about your health. Cost is \$20. These clinics are held on the first Thursday of most months.

Non-diabetic foot care: At these clinics, a certified nursing assistant from Home Health United provides a foot soak and toenail trimming. Cost is \$20. These clinics are held on the fourth Thursday of every other month.

Upcoming clinic dates:

Diabetic: Thursday, February 6, 1:30-4:00 pm.

Diabetic: Thursday, March 6, 1:30-4:00 pm.

Non-diabetic: Thursday, March 27 1:00-3:00 pm.

### **Great Dames: Leading Ladies of Stage and Screen**

Celebrate Valentine's Day at this live stage show! Enjoy some of the best local singers in a salute to the amazing women who dazzled audiences in the musicals of Broadway and the golden age of Hollywood. If you love "dames" like Mary Martin, Ethel Merman, or Judy Garland, you'll love this musical revue. Great Dames: Leading Ladies of Stage and Screen is the latest installment in Four Seasons Theatre's Great American Songbook series.

This event is FREE and will be held at the Madison Senior Center, 330 W. Mifflin St., on Friday, February 14 from 1:00-3:00 pm.

### **Volunteers Needed to be "Snow Buddies"**

Are you an able-bodied older adult who likes working outdoors? We are in the snow shoveling season and find ourselves in real need of volunteers to help out seniors who are not able to shovel, but can't afford to pay someone. We seek shovelers who can be called on relatively short notice as the weather demands, even if you could only help out once or twice. Please call 251-8405 to talk it over with our volunteer coordinator. Thank you!

**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.

**Next issue: Apr/May 2014 Deadlines: Ads and Copy, March 21 Delivery: First week of April**

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**About Friends of Olin-Turville:**  
Friends of Olin-Turville (FOOT) was established in 2010 through the joint efforts of the Bay Creek Neighborhood Association and the South Madison Police District. The organization's goals are to preserve and improve the parks' facilities and landscapes and encourage the community to rediscover the beauty and unique offerings of these two historic parks. The idea is based on the success of groups like Friends of the Arboretum. For information on how to join FOOT, please go to [www.olin-turville.org](http://www.olin-turville.org).

**About the Parks:**  
Located on the shores of Lake Monona, with stunning Capitol views, Olin and Turville Parks together form one of Madison's most beautiful, accessible natural assets. Facilities in these two parks accommodate a broad range of outdoor activities, from the quietest to the most active. Olin Park has a public boat launch, beach, soccer field, playground equipment, a restored historic pavilion that can be reserved, and trails for walking, jogging, and biking. Adjacent Turville Conservation Park is a quiet, wooded preserve where you can retreat into a contemplative nature walk or a moon-lit cross-country ski tour

**Standing committees**

**Welcoming committee**  
Julie Campbell, 818 Emerson St.;  
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Area 1—Wingra Drive west of Park Street	Judy Robinson; 469-1218 treasurer@merr.com
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Area 3—Lakeside St to Monona Bay and west to Park Street	Cindy Snyder
Area 4—Central area between Lakeside St and Olin Ave	Jim Winkle 259-1812
Area 5—Tree streets	Bob Lockhart; 633 Cedar St.; 256-0444
Area 6—Romnes Apartments	Sariah Dane; (715) 499-7283
BCNA Rep to South Metropolitan Planning Council	Bob Stoffs, 914 Lawrence; 255-1074

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City council	Sue Ellingson, 259-1824; district13@cityofmadison.com
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