

The Official Newsletter of the "Friends of the Kickapoo Valley Reserve"

"BETWEEN FENCES" Coming January 11 – February 16, '08

Between Fences, a traveling exhibit of the Smithsonian Institution's *Museum on Main Street* program will be at the Kickapoo Valley Reserve Visitor Center from January 11 thru February 16, 2008. Working in conjunction with the Wisconsin Humanities Council (the state sponsor), the **Friends of the Reserve** serves as the local host while the exhibit is in La Farge.

Between Fences is a traveling exhibition that explores how tightly the fence is entwined with American history, politics, industry, and daily life. It presents a cultural history of land use and fences examining how neighbors, both divide and protect, offend and defend through the boundaries they build. The exhibition explores many themes, such as land use, the defining of public and private

space in terms of home, farm, and factory, the settling of the United States, and the boundaries and borders of human relationships.

La Farge is one of six communities in Wisconsin selected by the WHC to host **Between Fences**. Other sites include Waupaca, Hales Corners, Sauk-Prairie, Clear Lake, and Cable.

The **Friends of the Reserve** has scheduled a series of local events and programs to enhance the exhibit's stay in La Farge. These include preview activities held before the exhibit arrives (more below), and programs held while **Between Fences** is at the KVR Visitor Center in January and February (more on next page).

(Continued on page 2)

PHOTOS, FENCES, COLLECTIONS, DANCE!

Before "Between Fences" even arrives in La Farge, a series of lead-up activities will be held this fall at the Reserve.

Entries are currently being accepted for the "Between Fences" Photo Contest. Using the exhibit themes of *Farm & Fence* and *Good Fences Make Good Neighbors*, entrants can earn one of 25 cash awards in four different age categories. Entries must be submitted by November 6, and then will be on display to be judged by the public from November 12-December 1. An Awards Reception will be held at 4 pm on December 8 to announce the winners in each category. **(More on the photo contest on page 2)**

An outdoor display of farm fences was recently built by **Friends'** volunteers & students of La Farge Schools near the KVR parking lot next to Highway 131. Stop and walk thru the many types of fences there.

From December 10-21, a local fencing exhibit will be on display in the KVR Visitor Center lobby featuring collections of different types of fencing material.

"String Ties" will entertain at a "Don't Fence Me In" dance/concert at 7 pm on December 8.



DOCENTS/GUIDES NEEDED

Would you like to help as a docent or exhibit guide while **BETWEEN FENCES** is at the Reserve?

Friends' members and friends of **Friends** are being asked to help at the KVR Visitor Center while **BETWEEN FENCES** is in exhibit there from January 11 thru February 16, 2008.

Docents can guide groups of students and adults, pointing out highlights and generating discussion by observers of the exhibit. Other volunteers are also needed at the front desk to register visitors and answer their questions about the exhibit.

Docent and guide training will be conducted on Thursday, January 10th with the exhibit in place. A practical guidebook will aid in the training.

If you can help contact Brad Steinmetz at bcstein@mwt.net or (608)



BETWEEN FENCES PROGRAMS

(Continued from Page 1)

An exciting schedule of complimentary programming has been set for the visit of the **BETWEEN FENCES** exhibit. Tailored to weave local stories and issues into the themes of the exhibit, these programs feature outstanding presenters in a variety of fields.

- Jan. 11 – **Opening Night Reception** – 5 – 9 p.m.
- Jan. 12 – **Lynne Heasley** – author of *A Thousand Pieces of Paradise* will discuss her study on land-use in the Kickapoo Valley – 1:30 p.m.
- Jan. 19 – **Rob Nurre** – *The Surly Surveyor* will present the history of the early land surveys in the Kickapoo Valley – 1:30 p.m.
- Feb. 2 – **Curt Meine** – author of *Correction Lines* and noted biographer of Also Leopold will lead a discussion of fences and their functions around the world – 1:30 p.m.
- Feb. 9 – **Stuart Stotts** – Wisconsin author and storyteller

will accompany students from La Farge Elementary School as they sing original songs and read original writings.

- Feb 16 – **When the Fences All Came Down** – A Retrospective of **The People Remember** oral history project on the La Farge Dam Project, including choral readings and songs performed by students from La Farge High School – 1:30 p.m. Closing Day Reception will follow the program.

Also on display in the Visitor Center from January 11 thru February 16 will be the winning entries in the **BETWEEN FENCES** photo contest, which was conducted earlier and winners announced on December 8th.

An accompanying kiosk which was developed by the Wisconsin Humanities Council, features information on each of the six host sites in Wisconsin, including a panel on the Ho-Chunk people and their time in the Kickapoo Valley.



(above) – The Friends' Heritage Days exhibit of COE photos this year featured new displays of the Ontario area properties. The display was located in the KVR Visitor Center meeting room.



The always-popular Friends' entry in the La Farge 4th of July parade had a full load. Clifford Turner of Rockton drives the horses and wagon.

THANKS TO BETWEEN FENCES SPONSORS

The Friends of the Reserve would like to thank the following to help sponsor the **BETWEEN FENCES** exhibit and programming:

Partner Level – Vernon Memorial Healthcare

Event Level Sponsors:

- **Dr. Jeffrey Lawrence-Viroqua Center for Orthopaedic Surgery – Photo Contest**
- **Dairyland Power Company – Opening Night Reception**
- **La Farge State Bank – Lynne Heasley**
- **Kickapoo Valley Association – Rob Nurre**
- **Organic Valley – Stuart Stotts**
- **Village of La Farge – The People Remember**

Contributing Sponsors: State Bank of Viroqua, Vernon Telephone Co-op



FRIENDS & KVR CALENDAR

- Oct 5 – Friends' Spaghetti Supper – 5-8 pm at Visitor Center
- Oct 6 – KVR Dam Challenge! Canoe, Bike, Run!
- Oct 27 – Friends Annual Meeting – 5 pm – KVR Visitor Center
- Nov 6 – Entry Deadline – “Between Fences” photo contest
- Nov 12-Dec 1 – Popular Voting on “Between Fences” photo contest; entries on display in KVR Visitor Center lobby
- Dec 8 – Friends Holiday Cookie & Candy Walk; “Between Fences” Photo Contest Awards Reception – 4:00 pm; “Don't Fence Me In” holiday dance/concert featuring “String Ties” – 7 pm
- Dec 10-21 – Friends local display on fences in KVR Visitor Center lobby
- Jan 5 – KVR Winter Fest
- Jan 11 – Opening Night Reception for “Between Fences” exhibit – 5 – 9 pm
- Jan 12 – “Between Fences” program featuring Lynne Heasley – 1:30 pm
- Jan 19 – “Between Fences” program featuring Rob Nurre, *The Surly Surveyor* – 1:30 pm
- Feb 2 – “Between Fences” program featuring Curt Meine, author of *Correction Lines*
- Feb 9 – “Between Fences” program featuring performance by La Farge Elementary students and Stuart Stotts – 1:30 pm
- Feb 16 – “Between Fences” closing day program – When The Fences All Came Down – A Retrospective on the La Farge Dam Project



“Give us your best shot!”

The Friends of the Kickapoo Valley Reserve are presenting a photo exhibit in conjunction with the Smithsonian Institution traveling exhibit, **Between Fences**. You are invited to “give us your best shot” following a *Farm and Fence* or a *Good Fences Make Good Neighbors* theme. The photo exhibit winners will be on display from December 8 thru February 16, 2008.

Photographs may be 5”x7” or 8”x10” in size, in black and white or color, and mated with a neutral color mat. Each photographer may submit two entries. No e-mail entries will be accepted. A copy of the entry form should be taped to the back of each photo entry. Mail or deliver the entries to **Photo Exhibit, Kickapoo Valley Reserve, S3661 State Hwy 131, La Farge, WI 54639**. Entries

must be received by November 6.

Entries will be judged by popular vote of those viewing the exhibit at the Visitor Center from Nov. 12 – Dec. 1, 2007. The photos will also be judged by a panel of Friends’ members. Cash awards for six places in each category will be given. One “Best of Show” \$100 purchase award will be made. Winners will be announced at an Awards Reception at the Visitor Center at 4 p.m.

To obtain a copy of the entry form, go to the Reserve web site at <http://kvr.state.wi.us>. For more information contact Carol or Don at don094@centurytel.net. The contest is sponsored by Dr. Jeff Lawrence-Viroqua Center for Orthopaedic Surgery.



KVR Executive Director Marcy West presents a picture of the covered bridge to George Nettum, founding KRMB member, who was honored on June 30 as part of Heritage Days.



Heritage Days Happenings - 2007

Newsletter -
October, 2007

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Friends' members Brad Steinmetz & Chuck Hatfield speak to a large crowd during the Heritage Days program on July 1 to release the republication of the book, The Kickapoo Valley-Gem of Wisconsin.



Dick Wallin, above, presented a muzzleloader demonstration as part of Heritage Days. Below, a wagon history tour readies to depart in Rockton. The tours were led by Friends' members Brian Turner, Kevin Alderson and Brad Steinmetz.



ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE FRIENDS OF THE KICKAPOO VALLEY RESERVE, A 501©(3) NON-PROFIT CORPORATION, WILL BE HELD AT 5:00 P.M. ON OCTOBER 27, 2007 AT THE KICKAPOO VALLEY VISITOR CENTER. MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND.

KVR DAM CHALLENGE NEWS!

Getting ready for the 5th Dam Challenge triathlon at the Reserve has been a challenge in preparation. The August storms and floods created havoc on the trails and portion of the river used for the event. The KVR staff has expended a maximum effort to get the Dam Challenge course and interchange area ready for the October 6th event. Event Coordinator Jonel Kiesau reports that the on-line registration went well in its first year of use. Over 275 entries were received using the new process by the Sept. 19 deadline. Late entries will be accepted until October 5th.

The **Friends of the Reserve** is a major sponsor of this event and many **Friends'** members volunteer to make the Dam

