

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

Between Fences Photo Contest Draws Huge Response and Interest!

The winning photos in the **Between Fences** photo contest are on display in the KVR Visitor Center meeting room. Winners were announced at a standing room only awards ceremony on December 8th and those photos will now be on display through February 16th.

Over 130 photos were entered in the contest and all were on display for public viewing and voting during November. The winners in each of the four categories were chosen by public voting done over a three-week period. A panel of judges also selected a "Best of Show" from the entries, which will remain at the Reserve.

Jerry Quebe of Soldiers Grove won the "Best of Show" award for his photo of a Kickapoo Valley farm field under a beautiful sky.

Winning in the youth category was Andie West of La Farge. Taylor Juresh of Kendall took second prize in the youth category, while Andie had another photo for third.

In the teen category, Breanne Schraufnagel of Hillsboro took top honors, followed by Brittany Halverson of Readstown in second and LeeAnn Everson of La Farge with third.

Don Schroeder of Madison took top honors in the adult professional class, with Tara Juresh of Kendall had second and Dave Heilman of Wilton was third.

Jackie Yocum of Viola was the winner in adult amateur and her "anonymous" entry took second, while Jerry Quebe's "Best of Show" entry took third in the category.

WINTER FESTIVAL SET FOR JANUARY 5TH

With over a foot of early December snow in the Kickapoo Valley, interest in the annual KVR Winter Festival is growing. Scheduled for January 5th, the WinterFest at the Reserve offers a variety of family fun activities. If the snow pack remains, outdoor activities such as sledding, snowshoeing, skiing, and ice-skating will be a reality this year. Dog sled races and pulls by professional sledgers will be run as well as the always popular Mutt Race for the kids & their family pooch.

There will be demonstrations in chain saw sculptures, snow sculpturing, ice carving, and kite flying. For the kids

there will be face painting and a custard-eating race.

For those wanting to get off the beaten path, there will be horse-drawn wagon history tours, a guided hike to nature's ice caves, and a winter woods walk.

Chili and Bread contests pit the various entries for the favor of the judges and popular votes to see who will get their name on the plaque of champions.

The Kickapoo Quick Auction will offer a chance to bid on many donated items.



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.

A docent training session will be conducted on Thursday, Jan. 10th at 11 am. A practical guidebook will aid in the training.

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



BETWEEN FENCES PROGRAMS FEATURES PROMINENT SPEAKERS



(above) – Friends of the Reserve member Jerry Quebe of Soldiers Grove entry that took 3rd place in the Adult Amateur category in the Friends "Between Fences" photo contest.



SOME OF THE WINNERS IN THE PHOTO CONTEST SMILE AT THE AWARDS CEREMONY HELD AT THE RESERVE ON DECEMBER 8TH.

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 Aldo Leopold will lead a discussion of fences and their functions around the world – 1:30 p.m.
- Feb. 9 – **Stuart Stotts** – The Wisconsin author and storyteller

will accompany students from La Farge Elementary School as they sing original songs and read original writings-1:30 p.m.

- Feb 16 – **When the Fences All Came Down** – A Retrospective of **The People Remember** oral history project on the La Farge Dam Project, including performances 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.

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
- **Dairvland 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, Nuzums



FRIENDS & KVR CALENDAR

- Jan 5 – KVR Winter Fest
- Jan 11 – Opening Night Reception for the “Between Fences” exhibit – 5 – 9 pm, featuring opening program, food, & music
- Jan 12 – “Between Fences” program featuring Lynne Heasley – 1:30 pm, reception to follow
- Jan 19 – “Between Fences” program featuring Rob Nurre, *The Surly Surveyor* – 1:30 pm, reception to follow
- Feb 2 – “Between Fences” program featuring Curt Meine, author of Correction Lines - 1:30 pm, with reception to follow
- Feb 9 – “Between Fences” program featuring performance by La Farge Elementary students and Stuart Stotts – 1:30 pm, reception to follow
- Feb 16 – “Between Fences” closing day program – When The Fences All Came Down – A Retrospective on the La Farge Dam Project, featuring performances by La Farge High School students – 1:30 p.m., with reception to follow
- March 29 – Nature Art Series I – Begin to Draw with Graphite Pencils – 9:30 to 4:30
- April 12 – Nature Art Series II – Begin to Draw with Colored Pencils – 9:30 to 4:30
- May 3 – Nature Art Series III – Field Sketching – 9:30 to 4:30



Annual Meeting Held in October

At the annual meeting held on October 27th, the Friends of the Kickapoo Valley Reserve re-elected Bonnie Sherman of Viroqua and Chuck Reynolds of La Farge to three-year terms on the board of directors.

President Brad Steinmetz showed a power point on some of the Friends’ activities from the past year and detailed the upcoming programs to accompany the Between Fences exhibit. Board member Chuck Hatfield gave a report on the progress of the publishing projects. The book, The Kickapoo Valley: The Gem of Wisconsin, released in July has sold well. A new plan to publish a collection of Ralph Nuzum’s “little books” was also presented.

A motion was passed to continue to have the annual meeting on the last Saturday of October in

2008, and to have the member appreciation dinner again after the meeting.

Friends’ member Joanne Shird prepared a wonderful Italian dinner for members and volunteers, which was served at the Milky Way dining room at Organic Valley in La Farge. Many thanks go out to Joanne for preparing the meal and volunteering to do the same for next year’s gathering. Joanne also prepares all of the sauces for the Friends’ spaghetti supper held the Friday night before the Dam Challenge.

For more information on the annual meeting, go to the new Friends’ web site at kickapoofriends.org.



A standing-room-only crowd was on hand Saturday, December 8th for the announcement program of the winning entries in the Friends’ Between Fences photo contest.



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KVR is on the Web at
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PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS



(Top Left) 1st Place in Teen Category by Breanne Schraufnagel of Hillsboro
(Top Right) 1st Place in Youth Category by Andie West of La Farge
(Bottom Left) 3rd Place in Professional Adult by Dave Heilman, Wilton
(Bottom Right) Best of Show by Jerry Quebe, Soldiers Grove

NATURE ART SERIES COMES TO RESERVE IN MARCH

A three-part series on nature drawing held on Saturdays at the Reserve will begin on March 29. Taught by artist Monica Jagel, the series will include drawing in graphite and colored pencils as well as field sketching. There is a \$40 fee for each session and a limit of 15 for each session. Check at the Reserve web site for more information.



5th KVR DAM CHALLENGE A SUCCESS

Despite the August storms and floods creating some problems in preparation on the trails and portion of the river used for the event, the 2008 Dam Challenge was enjoyed by over 300 participants on October 6th. The KVR staff has expended a maximum effort to get the Dam Challenge course and interchange area ready. Event Coordinator Jonel Kiesau reported that despite less than ideal conditions in the transition area, the event went off well and the first-time on-line registration was a success. The event raised over \$8,000 for education programs at the Reserve.

Once again the **Friends of the Reserve** was a major sponsor for this event and many **Friends'** members volunteered to