

Friends of KVR

April 2009
Volume 6, Issue 2

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF FRIENDS OF THE KICKAPOO VALLEY RESERVE
tel: (608) 625-2960 web: kickapoofriends.org



Volunteer opportunities for Friends of KVR members

"I want to become more involved."

This is the time of year when Friends of KVR needs your help, particularly for upcoming events (as detailed on page 3):

- ~April 18 Earth Day Cleanup
- ~April 18 Garden Party (ongoing)
- ~May 9 Spring Fling (p2)
- ~July 3-5 Homecoming at the Reserve

~July 25-26 Kickapoo Country Fair
Regular Reserve programs benefit from the assistance of a host or hostess—convenient if you plan to attend.

Some educational classes can use volunteer helpers (p2).

In addition to this the Visitor Center can often use extra volunteer hands for a variety of projects.

Call KVR at 625-2960 or email: Patti.Knower@wisconsin.gov/ to find out how you can help. Friends of KVR is composing a form that will simplify the process in the future.

CURRENT KVR FRIENDS' MEMBERS

If you do not see your name listed here please consider renewing—memberships are for the calendar year.

Phyllis Gabrielson
Bernice Schroeder
Maxine Shird
Kevin & Patsy Alderson
Jud Anderson & Judy DeHaan
Paul & Marcia Bader
Jeff & Jennifer Banowetz
Paige & David Baumgardner

cont. page 4

GO TAKE A HIKE!

Experience each season's unique beauty

Take an hour and start at the Reserve Visitor Center. Pass through the community gardens and pause to see the snowdrops. Head down the path through the woods, past the massive pines, past the bench, over the primitive bridge. Turn left at old 131, cross bridge 16, hike up the hill and turn left. You're now headed out below the dam berm, where a short walk will take you to the prairie restoration area.

It's a broad field on the right with fluffy grasses now, but return here in the summer, and you'll see drifts of native wildflowers, planted by the Coulee Region Prairie Enthusiasts around six years ago. The plan is to gradually cover the entire berm. This summer a kiosk will provide information, says Marcy West, KVR Executive Director.

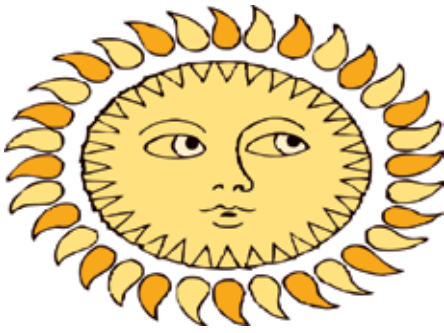
Loop around the dam tower and follow the trail below the berm back to the old highway, past the ponds and flaming red dogwood, turning on old Harris Road, a trail adopted by Brad Steinmetz. Along the way peepers already call and cranes feed in the weeds. Follow the trail back to the Visitor Center.

Parts of this walk are multi-use, and there is handicap access along the berm and old highway. For a shorter hike to view the prairie restoration, park at bridge 16.

The prairie restoration hike is just one of the trails maintained by the Reserve. KVR maps are available to guide you—so go take a hike!



PHOTOS: J. KRUK



SPRING FLING

Come to the Kickapoo Reserve **Saturday, May 9th** for an evening of fun, friendship, and learning!

The Friends of the Kickapoo Reserve and the Sister City Project/Nicaragua are having a joint fund-raiser to support educational programs in the two reserves. Money raised will be split equally between the Kickapoo Reserve Education Program and the schools in the Chacocente Wildlife Refuge, Santa Teresa, Nicaragua.

4:00-5:00

Bird walk—Barb Duerksen, Cathy Pierce

Plant Identification—Darcy Kind
Raptor Exhibit—Maggie Jones

5:00-7:00 Meal \$8

Brats, burgers, salads, homemade desserts, and the “brew canoe.”

Beverage by donation: beer, soda, water (Kids drink soda or water free.)

7:00- 9:00 Campfire and Music

Featuring Sinister Dane (Bring your instruments.)

In Nicaragua funds will support: Money for families to build four schools (grades 1-6); school supplies to five communities (220 students, 8 teachers); money for lunch program to enhance basic government food rations; environmental education program (including protection of sea turtles).

At the KVR funds will support: KVR Education Programs promoting positive environmental values for all ages.

Explore! Learn! Enjoy! KVR summer education programs include activities for all ages, interests

Friends of the Kickapoo Reserve provides support and volunteer assistance for a variety of educational programs. This season includes more activities for more ages. Complete information including detailed descriptions of classes at: <http://kvr.state.wi.us>

Day camps for youth offer opportunities for kids to further their skill levels; explore a wide range of environmental, art, and science topics; make new friends; and just have FUN in the great outdoors.



Adults are offered a unique and exciting way to earn college credit or continue their life-long learning or professional development through our Adult Courses for credit and non-credit.

AGES 2-4

Toddler Thursdays: Includes an outdoor hike and exploration, an indoor project, and healthy snack. Child must be accompanied by an adult) Reg. by June 11. Each Thursday in July, 10:00-11:30 a.m. Fee: \$6/program or \$25 for all 5 sessions.

AGES 5-7 Jeepers Creepers:

Stories, songs, nature art, discovery hikes and a healthy snack. Fee: \$8/program or \$35 for all 5 sessions. Reg. by June 29. All sessions 9:00-11:30 a.m.

July 20 Birds of a Feather
July 21 Amazing Insects
July 22 Frogs and Polliwogs
July 23 Tracks and Traces
July 24 Nature Art



AGES 8-10 Nature Nuts: Children ages 8-10 will spend the day exploring, creating and getting wet and dirty while they discover science and wilderness at its summer best! Fee: \$14/program or \$60 for all 5 sessions (includes healthy snack, child must pack own lunch). Reg. by June 22. Limit 12/program. All programs 9:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

July 13 Survivor (physical and mental challenges)
July 14 Wetland Wonders (explore creek, river and pond)
July 15 Animal Safari (tracking, calling)
July 16 Arts, Crafts, Games
July 17 Canoe Skills and Safety



AGES 11-13 Adventure Camp:

A week of high adventure, new skills and great fun during either week-long themed day camps. Fee: \$60/week. Limit 12 per program. Youth must pack own lunch. All programs 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

June 22-26 Extreme Outdoors Reg. by June 1. Canoeing, archery, low ropes

PHOTOS: KVR ARCHIVES

Education Programs cont. page 4

Friends & KVR Calendar of Events

Saturday, April 11

Exploring the Native Landscape Series
"Botanical Drawing with Graphite Pencil"
 Instructor: Monica Jagel 9:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
 \$40 Adult/\$30 KVR Friend (Limit 15)

Saturday, April 18

Early Spring Wild Edibles Hike
 Saturday April 18 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
 \$12/person/\$8 KVR Friend; \$6/kids (12 and under) Space Limited; call to Reserve.

Saturday, April 18

Earth Day Spring Cleanup & Reserve Garden Spring Cleanup
 Spring Cleanup: Pick up garbage bags and gloves at KVR front desk anytime the week prior to event. Let staff

know on what road you're collecting litter so they can total up the number of miles—it doesn't have to be in the Reserve. Dumpster will be in Reserve parking lot that Saturday or let staff know location of bag so it can be retrieved.



Earth Day Garden Party: A fun day of weeding starts about 9:00 a.m. at the KVR Visitor Center perennial garden. Bring your favorite tool and a snack to pass, if desired. Thereaf-

ter, Garden Party is Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m. All are welcome, no experience needed.

Saturday, April 25

Driftless Dialogue II: Aldo Leopold and the Science of Phenology Presenter: Stanley A. Temple, Beers-Bascome Professor Emeritus in Conservation in the UW-Madison Dept. Forest and Wildlife Ecology. Refreshments and socializing at 9:30 a.m. Talk 10:00 am. Free and open to the public.

Saturday, May 9

Exploring the Native Landscape Series
"Guided Native Plant and Bird Hike"
 8 a.m.-11 a.m. \$7 Adult/\$5 KVR Friend



Saturday, May 9

Spring Fling - Friends of KVR/Sister City
 A fund-raiser to support the educational programs in the two reserves. Money raised will be split equally between the Kickapoo Reserve Education Program and the schools in the Chacocente Wildlife Refuge, Santa Teresa Nicaragua. More info, page 2.

Saturday, May 23

Driftless Dialogue II: Odd Wisconsin

History Wis. Historical Society Press author Erika Janik tells strange but true stories. Refreshments, socializing 2:30 p.m. Talk 3:00 p.m. Free and open to the public.

Exploring the Native Landscape Series
"The Native Landscape in Pastel"

Saturday June 13: 9:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Sunday June 14: 9:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Instructor: Laverne Bohlin
 Sign Up for One or Both Days (Limit 15/day)
 \$40 Adult/\$30 KVR Friend (Cost per Day)

Saturday, June 13

Learning to Think Like a Bluebird
 Dr. Kent Hall, Vice President of the Bluebird Restoration Association of WI. Learn to attract bluebirds (also wrens, chickadees, swallows), how to construct, install and monitor nest boxes, and how to develop bluebird trails. Active bluebird nests with eggs or chicks will be visited. 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Free and open to the public.

July 3-5

"Homecoming at the Reserve"
 (see board news)

Saturday, July 25—Sunday, July 26

6th Annual Kickapoo Country Fair

Friends of KVR Board of Directors News

The Board held a special meeting on February 26, 2009 to approve a contract with Jonel Kiesau for 25 percent of her time as education coordinator at the Reserve. Kiesau will report to the Board throughout the year.

March 17, 2009 meeting: The Board allotted \$100 for expenses for the Kickapoo Reserve-Chacocente Reserve fund-raiser May 9. Maggie Lee and Rebecca Zahm are co-organizers.

KVR Friends will use Nuzum Grant monies for an archival program. The plan is for a workstation at the Reserve visitor center available for public access.

A new event, Homecoming at the Reserve, July 3-5, was approved for Friends' sponsorship. Brain Turner is in charge. He requests old or new photos of things going on in the Kickapoo Valley—not just the Reserve. The event will include a reception for the introduction of the Friends of KVR's reprint of the "Kickapoo Pearls."

Dates for upcoming board meetings: April 21, and June 9. The Board will now be meeting bi-monthly rather than quarterly—April, June, August, October, December, and February. The meetings will typically be the second Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Reserve. All members are welcome to attend.



Education Programs cont.

course, orienteering, geocaching, hiking.

July 6-10 Summer Scientist

Reg. by June 15. Use nets, traps to capture live fish for up-close observation.

AGES 14-17

July 20-22 Primitive Camping Adventure

Reg. by June 29. Experience "trails less traveled" during 3-day, 2-night camping, canoeing adventure. Fee: \$120/youth. Includes all meals. Limit 12.

June 15-19 Adventures with GPS

9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Reg. by May 25. Learn geocaching, while hiking, biking and

canoeing. Fee: \$60. Youth must provide own lunch. Limit 12.

July 27-31 Nature Notes

9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Reg. by July 6. For students entering grades 9-12 who may need to earn "catch-up credit" or just want to brush up on English and History. Fee: \$60. Youth must provide own lunch. Limit 12.

ADULTS

Making It Home in 2009! August 3-7.

Join scholars, cultural and natural resource specialists, and other K-12 teachers from throughout the state. Making It Home asks: How do people make this

place their home? What is their relationship to the land and water where they live?

This tour is a special project of Wis. Teachers of Local Culture in collaboration with the KVR and is based on the idea that resources and content for teaching exist all around us.

Earn graduate credits or meet the content requirements of your Professional Development Plan. Sponsored by the Wis. Humanities Council, Wis. Arts Board and the Center for the Study of Upper Midwestern Cultures at UW-Madison.

COMPLETE SUMMER PROGRAM INFO:
<http://kvr.state.wi.us>

Friends of the Kickapoo Valley Reserve members cont.

Sue & Tim Blanchard
Brian & Marlene Blatz
Steve Brandl & Karen Neuman-Brandl
Barb Briggs
Senn Brown
Pauline Buckland
Todd & Christine Camlek
Ed & Barbara Christie
Jayne Collins
Fritz & Susan Cushing
Henry Deutsch
Nancy Jo Dillman & Fred Moh
Bob Dreis
David Edinger
Patty Ellsworth
Jeff & Georgia Everson
Steve & Kaela Firebaugh
Paul Fisher
Glenn Forchione
Rodd & Nancy Foudray

Linda Gambrell
Celeste Gibson
Mark Glodoski & Carolyn Sieraski
Drs. Paul & Paula Grenier
Steve & Geri Hall
Roger & Diane Hanson
Chuck & Gwen Hatfield
Mary & Dave Hauser
Paul & Bernadette Hayes
Karen Hermsen
John & Rita Hoffmann
Don & Dorothy Hyde
Maureen Hysel
Mark & Monica Jagel
Orville Jensen & Deb Rolfe
Greg, Sherry, Joshua, Jake, & Jordan Johnson
Ben Johnston & Gina Rae
S. Evan Jones & Joel Johnson
Mark Kastel

Joan Kent & Don Foy
The Kettle Family
Barb & Rick Kettner
Jonel Kiesau & Andy Girrill
Pete & Nora Knapik
Patti & Charlie Knower
Lyn Korenic
Village of La Farge
Jack & Margaret Lee
Michael Majerle
Don & Marlene Mason
Jerry Mead & Donna Lach
Sharon Miessner & Randall Jurnemann
Rich & Lois Milonczyk
Doug & Dene Muller
Ruth Muller
Carol & Don Nelson
David Oldenburg
Peggy & Chuck Pasker
John & Therese Pedace
Joe & Carol Persons

Harry & Sylvia Peterson
Henry & Sandi Peterson
Jim & Cathy Pierce
Jerry & Liz Quebe
Joyanna Rambo
Pamela & Denny Rauen
Randy & Lynn Reinhold
Chuck Reynolds & Patricia Roth
Teague Reynolds
Mary & Tom Rondeau
Brian & Karen Rude
Ken & Ruth Rupp
Dave, Mary & Leeta Russell
Jane Sacho
Michael & Kelly Scheder
Mike & Bonni Schmitz
Angie Scotland & Arthur Bernstein
Joanne & Freddie Shird
Brad & Carolyn Steinmetz
Kent & Joyce Steinmetz

Jon Steinmetz
Chuck & Kathie Stelzner
Phil & Kathy Stittleburg
Katie, Carmen & Garnet Stout
Fritz & Christel Stueckrad
Al & Mary Szepe
Derek & Jessica Thomas
Linda J. Thomas
David & Rachel Toeppen
Dana & Robert Van Hoesen
Loni & Richard Weber
Dave & Marcy West
George Wilbur
Eric Wuennenberg

members please consider renewing.

YEARLY MEMBERSHIPS:

Individual - \$30
Family - \$45
Student - \$20
Municipal/Corporate/
Business - \$50

Membership forms are available on the website kickapoofriends.org or at the KVR Visitor Center.

MEMBERSHIPS ARE FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR.

If your name is not included in this listing of current

Contact us at:
Friends of the KVR
S3661 State Hwy 131
La Farge, WI 54639

Friends of the
Kickapoo Valley Reserve
S3661 St. Hwy. 131
La Farge, WI 54639



Friends
of the
Kickapoo
Valley
Reserve