

# AUCTION

## ANNUAL FUNDRAISER



With "Remarkable" Randy

**April 8, 2004**  
**7:00 pm**

- Smorgasbord of Treats
- Entertaining Auction
- Raffle
- Cake Walk

**Prepare for Fun!**  
See page 5 for details

## Upcoming Meetings

Please refer to the back page for more information about the meetings on **February 12th** and **March 11th**. Don't forget to bring a guest! See *Incentive to Meet* article.

*Programs are held at 7:00 pm at  
Bubolz Nature Preserve on Lyndale in Appleton*

## Ex Comm Election Results

*by Penny Bernard Schaber*

The Fox Valley Group holds its annual Executive Committee elections each year in November and December. The results are in and are as follows: Maureen Birk, Alan Lawrence, Diane Mandler and Jan Moldenhauer are continuing on the committee and Nancy Graham and Jerry Sonnleitner are newly elected committee members. The Fox Valley Sierra Group extends a big thank you to everyone who ran in our election as well as a big thank you to all of you who voted in the election.

On the ballot there was a bylaw change question, asking for a change in the term of office from a two year term to a three year term. This question was approved unanimously and will be enacted this year.

The Group also wishes to say "Thank You" to Chris Calhoun and Lori Weyers for their dedicated service as Executive Committee members to the Fox Valley Sierra Group. Their presence on the Executive Committee will be missed.

The Executive Committee generally meets every month. All Fox Valley Sierra Group members are welcome to attend the meetings. Call one of the Executive Committee members for meeting date, time and location.

## Newsletter Available Online

*It's Our Nature* is now available in pdf form from our website. Read online or send a copy to your friends! Go to:

<http://wisconsin.sierraclub.org/foxvalley/Newsletter.html>

# People Power Prevails on the Wolf River

By State Representative Spencer Black

The purchase of the Crandon mine site by two northern Indian tribes was a historic victory for the environment. The action by the Forest County Potawatomi and the Sokaogon

## SIERRA SWAP

**Peltonen Zephyr waxless xc skis, 200 cm, used little, \$50.**  
**Exel Arriva poles, 140 cm, \$10.**  
**Suvernem Goretex lowcut fabric boots, NNN, size 42, \$10.**  
**Roddie 920-725-5700.**

The cost of running one ad (not to exceed 30 words) is \$5.00. Your ad, accompanied by your payment, should be sent to:

Jackie Smith, 1801 W. Main St.,  
Appleton, WI 54911.

Questions can be directed to Jackie at (920) 832-0612. FVSG reserves the right not to publish any ad deemed inconsistent with the goals of this organization.

Chippewa tribes will keep 44 million tons of cyanide laced mining waste out of the pristine headwaters of the Wolf River.

But stopping the mine was not just a victory for the environment; it was a victory for the power of people over the power of money. So often, it seems hopeless to fight the big money and powerful corporate interests that have such disproportionate influence today. That is why the grassroots movement that spawned the Mining Moratorium and stopped the Crandon mine - a movement led by Wisconsin's conservation community - was so impressive.

The previous owners complained about the \$150 million spent in the unsuccessful attempt to open the mine. A good chunk of that money was spent lobbying against strengthening Wisconsin's mining regulations. Exxon spent more against the Mining Moratorium than

has ever been spent to defeat a piece of legislation in Wisconsin.

Despite their massive expenditures on lobbying and public relations, the Mining Moratorium law passed in 1998 and the stage was set for last week's end to the Crandon mine misadventure. When I introduced the moratorium in 1995, it was given little chance of becoming law. But a ragtag citizens army took on the world's largest corporation and won with one of the most successful citizen lobbying efforts in recent Wisconsin history. Indian tribes and sportsmen who once sparred over Native American fishing rights were now allies on a new issue, along with environmentalists and hunters, students and senior citizens, local governments and church groups.

From church basements in Milwaukee to a high school gym in New London, from the clubhouse of a Fox Valley fishing club to a town hall on the Wolf (*continued on page 6*)

## From the Chair

All of us are probably aware of abuses being done to our environment. Many of us joined the Sierra Club so that we could help. Our club, locally and nationally, is a powerful force working to help the environment. Local grass-roots volunteers ultimately control the organization, and the organization helps provide the support and tools needed by those volunteers.

Locally, our group helps support local nature areas. We also try to influence political decisions that effect the environment. At the national level our organization is doing these same kinds of activities.

There are many organizations and partnerships of organizations trying to protect the environment. Our John Muir Chapter of Sierra Club recently became a partner in an organization called "Wisconsin Conservation Team Network". I had the honor of helping build their Internet website. The idea is to help Wisconsin citizens know what issues need our attention in the legislature.

Something continues to bother me. Why are people careless with our environment? Why is it necessary to constantly tell our politicians how to vote? Why can't people just "get it" and do the right thing? What is so difficult to understand? From what I can tell, most people really do enjoy a clean outdoors and wildlife. But it seems that the legislature does not know this.

I've been thinking. Maybe we need a marketing campaign to help politicians remember the environmental side of each issue. Religion coined the successful phrase, "WWJD: What Would Jesus Do?" Maybe we need something catchy to help our politicians, perhaps "What Does Sierra Club Think?" or "What Would Wilderness Want?" Any ideas?

At our Group's holiday party in December we collected funds to help Bubolz Nature Preserve. We had learned that Bubolz had budget problems. Because of our relationship with the Nature Preserve we desired to help. I am pleased to report that our members generously donated \$450 to the Preserve. Most was collected at our party and some was mailed in later. Mike Brandel, Director of the Preserve, came to our January meeting to thank us and tell us our efforts are significant.

We will hold our major fundraiser at our April 8 meeting. The Auction has become a fun tradition, and its profits are extremely important to our group. I hope you can participate. We always have a need for donations of goods or services, as well as a need for buyers. Please join us. Among my favorite purchases have been for the services of other members. My family has been able to enjoy picnics, swimming at lakefront cottages, and sailing trips, thanks to services sold at the auction.

Thanks for reading my comments. As leader of our group I welcome your feedback.

- Alan Lawrence, FVSG Chair  
alawrenc@execpc.com

## Winter Solstice 2003

Once again, our annual Christmas party was a huge success. The food was wonderfully delicious and warm smiles and laughter filled the air. The amusing white elephant gift exchange presented a variety of chuckles, looks of remorse, and unanswered questions as to why one deserves such humiliation. Overall, the evening left everyone in good spirits except Jan, who thought her number to open a gift would never get called. And remember, when selecting a white elephant gift, good things come in small packages (at least it will fit in your car).



by Jan Moldenhauer

*And the winner of the raffle is...  
Penny Bernard Schaber with her new toy soldier.*



by Kelly Krupka

*Good things come in small packages, right?  
Chris Calhoun strategizes on which gift to pick.*



by Kelly Krupka

*I'm glad I didn't pick that gift!  
Everyone had fun during the white elephant gift exchange.*



by Kelly Krupka

*Don't get too comfortable with your book, Jerry.  
This highly coveted gift was stolen more than once.*

**“Passing the Hat” for Bubolz Nature Preserve raised more than \$450! Thanks to everyone who graciously opened their wallets and donated to a great cause.**

## 2003 Buckthorn Report

by Sharon Duerkop

Some 15-20 more acres of the Bubolz Nature Preserve soil are seeing daylight - some for the first time in decades. The reason is the efforts of individuals from Bubolz, the FVSG and several community activists to clear away over 4 weekends this past fall the often times impenetrable stands of the European buckthorn shrub/tree from this deciduous swamp in the heart of the Fox Valley. We worked circularly outside the central core where a large deer enclosure is beginning to provide proof of northern white cedar regeneration, according to Mike Brandel Executive Director of the Preserve. Opened areas from past years are showing diversity progress sometimes with a sharp reminder of what else lurks in the seedbed - reed canary grass has also moved into some of the cleared areas and Mike is hopeful RCG will be checked as the forest canopy closes with native species. Patience is a virtue in forest restoration - when

to act and when to allow Nature to take the lead. Watchfulness will also be necessary. As community sprawl continues to close in on the Preserve, how will urban runoff be allowed to impact the ecological balance in this lacustrine forest?

Check out the Bubolz Nature Preserve this spring to see what pops up in place of the buckthorn. In fall '04 we'll begin year 5 of making a difference in a natural treasure right in our own backyard. Come and join us.

### Many Thanks to...

This Year's Buckthorn Crusaders: Ruth, Jennifer, Diana and Alan Lawrence, Joe Magno, Jan Moldenhauer, Sydney and Karen Phelps, Darrel Ruechel and Penny Bernard Schaber from FVSG and Mike, David Bayer, Siobhan Maley, Norm Neilssen, Howard Meyer, Ken and Colin from Bubolz Nature Preserve.



## Celebrate Baird Creek

Green Bay's Baird Creek Parkway Preservation Foundation proudly invites all conservation minded individuals to dinner and a special evening on March 1 with one of the most renowned and respected conservationists of our time, Wisconsin native Michael Dombeck. Funds will go to the Baird Creek Parkway Preservation Foundation who continues its mission to assist the city of Green Bay in acquiring land in the Baird Creek Greenway and to helping enhance the Greenway's value as an ecological and educational resource for northeastern Wisconsin. The Greenway runs approximately five kilometers along Baird Creek and covers 375 acres on the northeast side of Green Bay.

Dr. Dombeck has dedicated a quarter of a century to managing federal lands and natural resources. His leadership in the Bureau of Land Management and as former Forest Service Chief impacted nearly 500 million acres. In recognition of excellence in public service, he was awarded the Presidential Rank Distinguished Executive Award, the highest recognition given in federal service. Dr. Dombeck is also the recipient of the prestigious Audubon Medal and the Lady Bird Johnson Conservation Award. He has authored, co-authored, and edited over 200 publications. This year he co-authored the book *From Conquest to Conservation: Our Public Lands Legacy*. Currently, Dr. Dombeck serves as GEM Pioneer Professor and UW System Fellow of Global Conservation in the College of Natural Resources at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point.

We hope you will join us for this special evening!

## Is Your Relationship in Trouble?

### Seven Danger Signs

by John Byrne Barry  
(excerpted from *The Planet*, Jan/Feb '04)

It's a new year, time to take stock of your relationship with your president. What's ahead? A ring - or couples' counseling? How did it feel seeing him over the holidays? What do your friends think? Check out our seven warning signs and see how your relationship stacks up.

#### 1. He says one thing, does another.

Dinner with Mike Dombeck will be  
Monday, March 1, 2004  
Holiday Inn City Center  
200 Main Street  
Green Bay, WI

5:30 Social ~ 6:15 Dinner  
7:00 Program with Dr. Dombeck  
\$15.00/person

Reservations by check by Feb. 20 to  
Baird Creek Parkway Foundation  
Mail to: Rich Krieg  
1440 Comanche Ave.,  
Green Bay, WI 54313

you about high mercury levels in fish, but won't recommend tighter controls on mercury emissions.

#### 2. He won't introduce you to his friends.

Actually, he won't even tell you who his friends are. His energy task force, chaired by Vice President Cheney, drafted a national energy plan in secret in 2001. Lobbyists from the fossil fuel industry participated in these meetings, but consumer and environmental groups were shut out. And two years later, despite lawsuits filed by the Sierra Club and others, we still don't know who the task force members were.

#### 3. He lets his friends make a mess and not clean up after themselves.

He allows polluters to break the law

and go unpunished. For example, in November, in what was essentially a presidential pardon for polluters, the administration announced it would drop cases involving 50 plants and refineries that had violated the Clean Air Act. The administration also refused to reauthorize the "polluter-pays" provision of the Superfund toxic-waste cleanup, forcing taxpayers to pay cleanup costs. He is the first president in history not to put a Superfund trust request in the budget.

#### 4. He spends your nest egg and plunges you into debt.

And of course, this means cuts in natural resource spending, cuts in enforcement of environmental laws, and so on. One small example: The cut by one-third the operating budget of Energy Star, its highly touted energy conservation program, that gives a federal government seal of approval for energy-efficient refrigerators and other appliances. And he gives no incentives for existing technologies that would clean up power plants or make cars more fuel efficient.

#### 5. He tells you everything is fine when it isn't.

After 9/11, the White House instructed the EPA to hide potential health risks in Lower Manhattan from the World Trade Center collapse. The EPA said the air at ground zero was safe to breathe, despite the presence of high levels of benzene, lead, mercury, PCBs, and asbestos.

#### 6. He doesn't believe in using birth control.

Domestically, he's pledged to increase funding for abstinence-only sex education programs, where contraception is only discussed in terms of failure rates. On the international level, the administration rescinded \$34 million for family planning programs abroad. It also brought back the Reagan-era "global gag rule," which bars international family planning organizations that receive U.S. funds from using their own money to provide abortions or even talk about abortions with their patients.

#### 7. You want a hybrid; he wants a Hummer.

Not only that, his administration gave a \$100,000 tax deduction to small-business owners who purchase sport-utility vehicles, including Hummers.

# Trekkin'

## with Dale



Recently Penny and I went for a winter hike on the Ice Age Trail in the Northern Kettle Moraine State Forest. Penny wanted to ski but there was no snow! The weather on that day was partly cloudy and cold. We dressed in layers and, as it turned out, really enjoyed ourselves. What a terrific hike we had!

We hiked the Parnell segment of the Trail from just west of the Parnell Tower on County Highway U to the entrance of the Mauthe Lake Recreation Area. The distance was approximately 11 miles.

I think this is the best segment of the Ice Age Trail that I have ever hiked. I would highly recommend this segment to anyone who would really like to experience what the Wisconsin Glaciation left us. We hiked on many eskers, over kames and around dry kettles and erratics. We saw frozen kettle lakes: Butler, Crooked and Forest. Since this was leaf off time the landscape and the topography of the land was easily discernable. At one point on the Trail we saw four kames in the distance while hiking on an esker. The different juxtaposed moraine hills created a beautiful scene to experience.

To learn about these glacial features tour the Henry S. Reuss Ice Age Visitor Center located west of Dundee, Wisconsin on State Highway 67 in the Northern Kettle Moraine State Forest.

You will receive forest information, see interpretive displays and view a 20-minute film explaining the ice age as a geological force responsible for the landscape of Wisconsin. Naturalist programs, walks, talks, hikes and auto tours are scheduled throughout the summer. The Visitor Center is open seven days a week from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm on weekdays and 9:30 am to 5:00 pm on weekends. The phone number is (920) 533-8322.

The Ice Age Park and Trail Foundation recently published a new guide to the Ice Age Trail: *Ice Age Trail Companion Guide - 2004*. This Guide was written by and for day, segment (section) and thru-hikers. It replaces the three editions of *On the Trail of the Ice Age* written by former Congressman Henry S. Reuss. I received our copy of the Guide before the Holidays. We used it to plan our hike. To order a copy of the Guide contact the Ice Age Trail and Park Foundation at (800) 227-0046. The Guide is \$12.00 for members and \$15.00 for nonmembers. Postage is \$3.00 per copy.

Not only are daytime hikes healthy and enjoyable but nighttime hikes are as well. During the winter season (January, February and March) you are able to view the brightest stars and the most easily recognizable constellations. Checkout the astronomy or constellation books from your public library or purchase a beginning guide to the constellations from a local bookstore. You don't need to stay out long to recognize the winter stars, and constellations. To learn more about these winter stars, constellations, and the four visible planets (Venus, Mars, Saturn and Jupiter) visit the Barlow Planetarium located at the UW-Fox Valley Campus, 1478 Midway Road, Menasha, Wisconsin 54952. For a schedule of programs and fees contact the Barlow Planetarium at *(continued on last page)*

- **Smorgasbord of Treats:** \$3 admission lets you indulge on an array of goodies. **Bring a dish to pass and your own table settings. BYOB.**
- **Entertaining Auction:** Back by popular demand, the Remarkable Randy will conduct the bidding on unique and priceless items and services. Items will also be up for bid on silent auctions.
- **Raffle:** Purchase tickets for your chance to win a wonderful prize. The raffle item will be announced the night of the auction.
- **Cake Walk:** In this old-fashion game, walk your way to winning delicious deserts such as cakes, muffins, bars, brownies, and breads. **Please consider bringing a baked good on April 8 to be included in the Cake Walk.**
- **Auction Donations Needed:** In order to make this fundraiser a success we need people to bring an appetizer to pass and an item or service to auction. Previous "hot sellers" include: art photos, computer work, bike ride & picnic, craft projects, professional massage, yard work, food specialties, sporting goods (new), antiques, dinner for two, rock climbing lessons, ect.

Please pre-register items or services for auction by phone (920-468-7252) or by mail: Maureen Birk, 3381 Nicolet Dr., Green Bay, WI 54311. Include your name, phone#, item/service to auction, any limitations, and estimated value. Bring items at the time of the auction, or call Maureen at 468-7252. Last-minute items accepted at the door, but please come 15 minutes early.

## ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

(continued from page 2) River, from the back room of a sporting goods store in Merrill to the community centers on Native American reservations, the citizens of Wisconsin met to exercise their democratic rights and to defend our state's environment. Over 40,000 signatures were gathered on petitions to the Legislature. A hearing in Milwaukee on the bill filled the largest hall at State Fair Park to overflowing. Over 60 local governments passed resolutions supporting the moratorium. And in the Town of Nashville, outraged

residents voted out the town board that signed an agreement with Exxon allowing the mine.

In the end, Exxon's millions couldn't beat the efforts of tens of thousands of Wisconsin citizens. Tommy Thompson, who had once vowed to veto the bill, ended up signing the Mining Moratorium on Earth Day on the banks of the Wolf River.

The mining moratorium succeeded in stopping the Crandon mine thanks to a

broad coalition of Wisconsin conservation groups and citizens who love our outdoors. Their stunning grassroots triumph proves that, while people versus money isn't a fair fight, it is a winnable fight – as long as people work together, get organized, and don't give up.

*Representative Spencer Black is author of Wisconsin's Mining Moratorium Law.*



**Don't Get Left Out In the Cold... Join Us!**

Sierra Club outings are a terrific way to meet new people and enjoy the great outdoors. Whatever your interests, hiking, canoeing, birdwatching—it's fun to be part of a group of like-minded folks. And if you are new to the area, let your local Chapter or Group show you around. Join today and become part of the largest environmental organization with the most enjoyable outings.

My Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone # \_\_\_\_\_  
 email \_\_\_\_\_

Check enclosed, made payable to Sierra Club  
 Please charge my  Mastercard  Visa  Amex Exp. Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
 Cardholder Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES	INDIVIDUAL	JOINT
INTRODUCTORY	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	
REGULAR	<input type="checkbox"/> \$39	<input type="checkbox"/> \$47
SUPPORTING	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100
CONTRIBUTING	<input type="checkbox"/> \$150	<input type="checkbox"/> \$175
LIFE	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1000	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1250
SENIOR	<input type="checkbox"/> \$24	<input type="checkbox"/> \$32
STUDENT	<input type="checkbox"/> \$24	<input type="checkbox"/> \$32
LIMITED INCOME	<input type="checkbox"/> \$24	<input type="checkbox"/> \$32

Join today and receive a **FREE Sierra Club Weekender Bag!**



Contributors, gifts and dues to the Sierra Club are not tax deductible; they support our effective, citizen-based advocacy and lobbying efforts. Your dues include \$7.50 for a subscription to Sierra magazine and \$1.00 for your Chapter newsletter.

FR4Q W-1657 1

Enclose check and mail to: **Sierra Club, P.O. Box 52968, Boulder, CO 80322-2968**



**SIERRA CLUB**  
FOUNDED 1892

Explore, enjoy and protect the planet

## Environmental Award Nominations

Each year the Fox Valley Sierra Group solicits its members for nominations for our Environmental Award. We ask that each member think of someone deserving of this award and submit a nominating essay. The purpose of the Environmental Award is to recognize and honor individuals, groups of individuals, or organizations that have achieved significant benefits to the environment from their efforts and contributions. The Environmental Award will consist of a plaque and a \$100 cash award to be presented at a regular meeting of the FVSG.

Persons making nominations must be current members of FVSG. Any individual or group may be nominated: for example, an informal group of individuals, a club, a company, a unit of government, or a nonprofit organization. Nominations must be submitted in essay form no more than 500 words in length. The nominating essay will describe the action or effort put forth, the environmental benefits accruing thereto, and the contribution of the nominee to the effort or action plus any other pertinent information.

The FVSG Board will appoint a committee of three or more to review the nominations and select those to be published in 'It's Our Nature' along with a ballot. Each FVSG member may vote for one of the nominees or may vote to select none of the nominations. Normally the award will go to the one nominee receiving a plurality of the votes cast. In the case of a tie or near tie the board may elect to present more than one award, in which case the cash award would be split among the recipients.

Send your nominating essay to:

*Charles Paine, N8172 Firelane 13, Menasha, WI 54952-9650*

Essays must be received by **May 1**. Those selected by the reviewing committee will be published in the June newsletter along with a ballot for members to use to vote for the nominee of their choice



# Winter Outings

## February 5 (Thursday)

Full Moon/Starlight ski-snowshoe. An annual event for several years. Each time the weather has been different: (snow, rain and gale-force winds). But if the ice is solid we give it a try. The weather may be unpredictable, but the fire and the chili will be HOT! Bring snowshoes or skis, dress for the weather, and meet at my house at 6 pm. We'll venture out on the Bay, under the (almost) full moon. (In case of clouds, flashlights or headlamps are helpful). Conditions permitting, we can explore the zebra muscle shell deposits that are forming dunes along the shore. A crackling fire and chili supper will warm us after. **Call by Tues 2/4**, so I know how much chili to make. \$3 for chili & "fixin's. BYOB. *Maureen Birk 3381 Nicolet Dr. Green Bay (Call for directions 468-7252)*

## February 7

Ski the Kettle Moraines. Skate ski or stride on some of my favorite trails. Any skill level. Learn how glaciers shaped this land years ago. Several loops to choose from. Later on a Candlelight ski at Camp Sinawa, St. Nazianz. Warm food & drinks. *Steve Meyer (920) 684-4174 meyerphoto@yahoo.com*

## February 8

This trail will challenge your skiing skills. Standing Rocks County Park, west of Amherst on Highway 10, is a unique combination of hills and elevated flat areas. There is a small downhill ski hill at the park that is not recommended for cross country skiing. There is a warming hut with food at the park. As we ski we will be looking at the unique topography and trying to decide how the glacier did its work. The ski area is located north of Iola on Highway M. Meet at the Citgo Station on the corner of Highways 96 and 45 about three miles west of Appleton at 9:00. We will plan to ski most of the day depending on the weather. *Penny Bernard Schaber 739-6041*

## February 13-16 Fri-Sun (Mon)

Return to Cable-Hayward: Wisconsin's Ski Mecca. This year there will be snow! (I know, I said the same thing last year! But this year, there really will be!) It's a long drive, but the skiing is amazing! At least a dozen ski areas locally, with hundreds of kilometers of trail to explore. Striding and skating at a variety of skill levels. Choose

the narrow, winding and wooded tracks at Rock Lake, or the wide and rolling Birkebeiner Trail. Bring your snowshoes. Local events can be fun: last year we watched the barstool races in Drummond. This is a 3-4 day trip, due to the distance. I will stay until Mon. Come for the whole 4 days or part early. COSTS: estimated \$35/night/person (depends on how many sign up). Trail fees, food, etc. are extra. Some shared meals, some on your own. Trip fee \$2.50. **Deadline Jan 25.** 1 night deposit and trip fee due at sign-up. *Maureen Birk 3381 Nicolet Dr Green Bay Wi 54311. 468-7252*

*\* Note: We will ski somewhere this weekend; location will change if needed.*

## February 22

Our group helps maintain and build the Ice Age Trail in and near Hartman Creek State Park during the summer. We also enjoy the Ice Age Trail Hike-A-Thon each October. These trails can be enjoyed in the winter, too.

Learn about the Ice Age Trail while we ski and see the trails in their winter costumes. Enjoy hot chocolate and light lunch provided by a camp stove afterwards. We may hike if snow is lacking. *Alan Lawrence 730-9515*

## February 27-29

The "Boulder Junction" X-C SKI Trip . A great trip, a FVSG classic. From a comfortable motel (with whirlpool) in a comfortable little town, we travel short distances to especially beautiful trails (e.g. Razorback and Escanaba Lake). Trails available for classic and skating styles. Nearby Winter Park, just west of Woodruff, also has rentals and lessons. Great food on this trip also. Walk to the café next door for a hearty breakfast and then walk to the renown Guide's Inn for dinner on Saturday night. We'll continue the wine and Union Star cheese tasting, too. Sally Peck will be in charge of political correctness at the wine tasting. (Don't forget your swim suit and skis!) Deposit of \$45 per person due **Feb. 12** to hold your reservation (for

lodging Friday and Saturday). *Nancy Brown-Koeller 721-5431 (days), 722-2648 (eves), 715 524-2293 (weekends)*

## March 6-7

Winter weekend in Waupaca. Learn the tracks of turkey, bobcat, coyote and badger as we see them in the snow. Hike, snowshoe, or ski on our 110 acres across gently rolling hills and through pine and oak forests. Many trails to choose from. We can also explore nearby Emmons Creek area. Stay in one of many bunks in our cozy mobile home or



by Nancy Brown Koeller

### **Bear Baiting**

*Charlie and Maureen picking raspberries on the Mountain Bay Trail.*

brave the cold and camp outside. Stove, refrigerator, and warm fire always available. Please sign up by Thursday, **Feb. 26** so I can mail directions. *Kelly Krupka 540-9139*

## March 13

Join a group from the Fox Valley traveling to Madison for the day. In the morning, be part of Wisconsin Public Radio's funniest audience. Experience the one-of-a-kind Whad' Ya Know Show with Michael Feldman. (Catch it live on 88.1 at 10am on Saturdays or check out notmuch.com.) We'll find lunch at someplace interesting on State Street and then for those who want, we can explore The World's Largest Paddlesport Expo, Canoecopia 2004. Speakers! Exhibitors! Deals! (For advance Expo guide, go to rutabaga.com.) And, Bike-o-Rama is next door. Canoecopia \$5 at door plus \$4 per car parking. Radio Show \$9 - reserve in advance by contacting *Nancy Brown-Koeller at 722-2648 (eve); or 721-5431 (day) by March 1.*

**More outings listed on back page.**

(continued from page 5) (920) 832-2848. Star maps are also available at the Stones and Stars Shop located inside the Weis Earth Science Museum next to the Barlow Planetarium. The shop is open daily. The phone number is (920) 832-2925. A walk in the crisp and clear winter night is enjoyable and relaxing. Try it! You'll like it!

## More Outings

### May 15

The Fox Valley Sierra Group is offering a hike and a picnic in the Skunk Lake area north of Hartman Creek State Park. We will meet at 10:00 am. Learn about the land, the lakes, animals and plants found at this outstanding property near the Portage-Waupaca county line. To register for the hike and to receive additional details (map and meeting location) contact *Dale Schaber* (920) 739-6041.

### May 1, June 12 & September 18

Joint workdays between the Fox Valley Sierra Group and Portage and Waupaca

Chapters are scheduled for Hartman Creek State Park. Volunteers should meet at Hartman Creek State Park, west of Waupaca, at 9:30 am. Specific Trail work will be provided on site. Bring a lunch, water, work gloves, and mosquito and tick repellent to the work outings. If you have a lopper or a pruning saw, please bring it with you. For information on which segments will be worked on for each specific date, contact *Dale Schaber* (920) 739-6041.

*Times and meeting locations of Outings can change. Always check with a trip leader at least 24 hours before the outing. Upon arrival all participants must sign a Release of Liability form.*

## Incentive to Meet

We are asking all members to extend invitations to our meetings out to non-members. Bring a guest to our February or March meeting and that person will receive a coupon for free admission to our April Auction. Now is your chance to get more people involved in our wonderful group!

## Upcoming Meetings

### February 12

**"Travel with Jaci and Neil to Eastern Siberia for an Environmental Education Expedition"** Jaci Mueller and Neil Koeneman were sponsored by the International Crane Foundation last summer to teach environmental education to children and teachers at Murakovia Park in eastern Siberia. The students learned about protecting the breeding and staging grounds for the native stork and cranes.

### March 11

**"Traveling with Cranes to Florida"** Rich King, naturalist at the Necedah National Wildlife Refuge, will explain the Whooping Crane Project that was established at the Refuge. We will experience what it is like to travel on ultralight plane flying with the Whooping Cranes to Florida.



by Nancy Brown Koeller

### Into the Mist

*Penny paddles into the eeriness on Legend Lake.*

## Deadline...

for submitting materials for the next newsletter is March 21st!

Anyone can submit articles, photos, poems, trip reports, etc.

#### Chairperson & Webmaster

Alan Lawrence 730-9515  
153 Northbreeze Dr, Appleton 54911-1224  
alawrenc@execpc.com

#### Vice Chair, Farms, Romp & Trails

Nancy Brown-Koeller 722-2648  
653 Wilson St, Neenah 54956-3129  
(Shawano) 715-524-2293  
ngbrown@execpc.com

#### Conservation

Jerry Sonnleitner 294-3597  
W1193 Mary St, Green Lake 54941  
jsonle@dotnet.com

#### Treasurer

Sally Peck 468-5986  
1646 Amy St, Green Bay 54302-2456  
herbsinthyme@aol.com

#### Membership, Fundraising & Calendars

Diane Mandler 832-0612  
1801 W. Main St, Appleton 54911-4139  
jcsdsm@earthlink.net

#### Programs & Campus Contact

Jan Moldenhauer 231-3407  
1845 Wisconsin St, Oshkosh 54901-2274  
moldenha@uwosh.edu

#### Newsletter Refunds & Secretary

Maureen Birk 468-7252  
3381 Nicolet Dr, Green Bay 54311  
birkmr@msn.com

#### Conservation Co. & Programs Co.

Nancy Graham 738-7794  
26 S. Meadows Dr, Appleton 54915  
preciousisgreat@aol.com

#### Outings & Awards

Charlie Paine 739-1900  
N8172 Firelane 13, Menasha 54952-9650  
chasp@dataex.com

#### Newsletter Editor

Kelly Krupka 540-9139  
216 Klein St, Kaukauna 54130  
kjkkrupka@earthlink.net

#### Communications, Media & IAT

Dale Schaber 739-6041  
815 E. Washington, Appleton 54911-5660  
dschaber@athenet.net

#### Ex Officio & Chapter Chair

Penny Bernard Schaber 739-6041  
815 E. Washington, Appleton 54911-5660  
dschaber@athenet.net

#### Newsletter Distribution

Jackie Smith 832-0612  
1801 W. Main St, Appleton 54911  
jcsdsm@earthlink.net

#### Political

Rich Krieg 497-8004  
1440 Commanche Ave.  
Green Bay 54313-5938  
eddyoutwi@hotmail.com



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