



It's Our Nature

Newsletter of the Fox Valley Sierra Group www.fvsg.org Vol. 04 Issue 6



Solstice Celebration



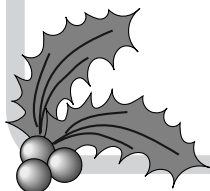
December 9, 2004

7:00 p.m. • Bubolz Nature Preserve, Appleton

PLEASE BRING

- Dish to Pass
- Your Own Beverages
- Your Own Table Settings
- Money Donation* for Bubolz Nature Preserve
- White Elephant Gift
A White Elephant Gift is something from your home that you no longer want. Do *NOT* buy a gift: recycle one!
- Good Spirits & A Friend

* This year we have again decided to collect donations as financial help to Bubolz Nature Preserve. Numerous things in recent years have caused a serious strain on their budget. Because of our relationship with the Preserve we desire to help. We will accept your financial offerings (via mail or at our Dec. meeting) and forward them to the Preserve. Please open your hearts (and your wallets) this holiday season.



Public Enemy #1: Buckthorn

by Sharon Duerkop

Fall 2004 marks the start of our 5th year in a joint project with Gordon Bubolz Nature Preserve in eradicating common and glossy buckthorn from their property. An estimated 60 acres have been treated thus far and we hope to add another 15-20 acres this year to our impressive start of restoring one of the natural treasures in the Fox Valley.

Put on your land stewardship hat and join us as we cut and paint herbicide on this European pest. Sign up at our monthly meetings or contact Sharon Duerkop at 734-1419. You'll need outdoor clothing appropriate to the weather, sturdy footwear, work gloves and a lunch. Feel free to bring along your own loppers or chainsaw. Tree identification and instructions will be given in the field during each outing. If you come later in the day, a map of where we're working will be posted on the nature center's door. A treat is always provided to keep you energized!

The following dates are this year's workdays:

November	Sunday 28th	9am-3pm
December	Saturday 11th	9am-3pm
	Sunday 12th	9am-3pm

FOX VALLEY SIERRA GROUP

2004 Executive Committee Ballot

Please vote for six positions. Refer to the accompanying article for information on each candidate. Individual spaces are provided for joint members.

	Member 1	Member 2
Rich Krieg	_____	_____
Kelly Krupka	_____	_____
Charlie Paine	_____	_____
Sally Peck	_____	_____
Write-in Candidate	_____	_____
Write-in Candidate	_____	_____

Please vote for six positions. Return the completed ballot to:
Penny Bernard Schaber, 815 E. Washington St., Appleton, WI 54911-5660.

Deadline for voting is December 20, 2004



RICH KRIEG
Green Bay
Member since 1993

Occupation: Biology Teacher,
Green Bay East High School

**Background in Sierra Club
Activity:** Webmaster and trip

leader for the Chapter's River Touring Section,
Political Chair for FVSG

Candidate Statement:

What are your goals for FVSG?

I think it is imperative that all Sierra Club members become politically involved in working to protect the places we think are important. I have been volunteering as FVSG's political chair and would like to continue in that role. I plan on working at letting elected officials know that if they work to protect our environment they can count on our help. Right now, in Wisconsin, restoring the Public Intervener Office and de-politicizing the DNR must be top priorities. Also, I think it is important that our group become more focused in our effort in order to achieve some long term successes.

What conservation issue have you followed recently and why?

The elections! President Bush basically launched an attack on the environmental protections that our country has made a priority over the last 30 years. He has also made any environmental decision making processes less open to the public.

Contact Information:

1440 Comanche Ave
Green Bay, WI 54313
(920) 497-8004



KELLY KRUPKA
Neenah
Member since 1999

Occupation: Graphic Artist

**Background in Sierra Club
Activity:** Board member for 4

years, Newsletter Editor for past 2 years

Candidate Statement:

What are your goals for FVSG?

My #1 goal for FVSG is to get more people actively involved in our group, especially young people. Our group currently has over 1,500 members but I see the same group of 30 people pulling all the weight. While it's great to have financial sponsors it's even better to have members who are willing to get their hands dirty.

What conservation issue have you followed recently and why?

One conservation issue I have been following is the Rails to Trails project in Langlade. Currently, the trail is in jeopardy of being opened up to ATVs. This would destroy the peacefulness that the Wolf River bestows upon all who travel near. I would like to see motorized vehicles prohibited on the trail in order to preserve the landscape and keep the Wolf River area a pristine place to visit.

Contact Information:

217 1/2 Congress St.
Neenah, WI 54956
(920) 540-9139
kellykrupka@yahoo.com



CHARLES M. PAINE
Town of Harrison
Member since 1977

Occupation: Retired
Environmental Engineer

**Background in Sierra Club
Activity:** Board member for

several years. Outings and Awards chairperson.

Candidate Statement:

What are your goals for FVSG?

1) to increase member participation in FVSG activities, and 2) to schedule a variety of outings throughout the year, averaging two outings per month.

What conservation issue have you followed recently and why?

I am following the funding, staffing, and reinstatement of WDNR to its former role in enforcing environmental regulations. This is important to me because I like clean water and clean air and I'm really tired of all the algae in Lake Winnebago.

Contact Information:

N8172 Firelane 13
Menasha, WI 54952-9650
(920) 739-1900
chasp@dataex.com



SALLY PECK
Green Bay
Member since early 1980's

Occupation: I work in my home with my husband's Insurance Business. I am a herb gardener and a volunteer at the Green Bay Botanical Gardens.

Background in Sierra Club Activity:

I have worked on the Board in several positions. I have been the treasurer for the Fox Valley Group since about 1985.

Candidate Statement:

What are your goals for FVSG?

I believe in the Sierra Club's environmental policies. I am very willing to continue on the Board if elected. I would like to be able to identify and train a new treasurer for the Group.

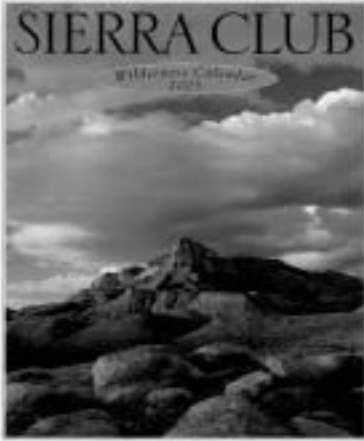
Contact Information:

1646 Amy St.
Green Bay, WI 54302
(920) 468-5986

**Deadline for voting is
December 20, 2004**

SIERRA CLUB 2005 CALENDARS

Sierra Club 2005 Engagement Calendar—
Week-by-week format, featuring 57 spectacular
photographs and "wire-o" binding.



Sierra Club 2005
Wilderness Wall
Calendar—Spiral
bound, month-by-
month format,
featuring 12 majestic
North American
landscapes.

Mail this form, with check made out to FVSG to:
Fox Valley Sierra Group, 1801 W. Main St., Appleton, WI 54911.

Your order will be DELIVERED to the address below.
For information: Call (920) 832-0612

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State/Zip _____

Phone (Work) _____ (Home) _____

	<u>Qty</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>Total Price</u>
Engagement Calendar (6 5/16 x 9 1/4)	___ x	\$12.00	\$ _____
Wilderness Calendar (13 1/2 x 11 5/16)	___ x	\$11.00	\$ _____
Home Delivery/Shipping Fee:		under \$25 \$3.00	
		\$25 to \$100 \$4.00	
		over \$100 \$5.00	\$ _____
Total amount enclosed			\$ _____

A portion of the proceeds from sale of these calendars goes to support the efforts of the
Sierra Club to preserve and protect our environment

From the Chair

I'm writing my column the day after the election. The long voting lines thrilled me, and I had hoped that Sierra Club's environmental message had gotten out and that pro-environment candidates would be elected. As the early returns came in Tuesday night I realized that our message was not important enough to the voters. Our organization wanted to defeat President Bush because of his poor environmental record and many of our members actively worked for this goal. But, President Bush was re-elected and we must continue on.

Bummed out this morning over the outcome of the election I couldn't understand why it turned out as it did. I thought of the famous quote from journalist H.L. Mencken: "No one in this world has ever lost public office by underestimating the intelligence of the great masses of the plain people." It made me smile, but it doesn't really help.

We have to work harder, as individuals and as an organization, to educate the public about environmental issues. An election day column, buried within the Milwaukee Journal, was entitled "Damaged ecosystem makes other issues mute". The author, Philip Chard, began by saying, "The most dangerous threat facing our nation was barely mentioned in the verbose run-up to today's election." He makes a strong case for his opinion that our ecosystem is "the mother of all issues".

How do we get this message out to the public and make them believe it? How do we get this news out to our leaders? How do we get our society and leadership to act upon this news? That is our challenge.

With the election over but the issues remaining, I think we should review the goals of the Sierra Club which include (1) enjoying the outdoors, (2) enjoying the outdoors with friends, and (3) protecting the outdoors so that it can be enjoyed. Participation in our outings and programs are ways to enjoy the outdoors with friends and learn about issues related to protecting the outdoors. I hope to meet and visit with you at some of our events.

I'd like to highlight a couple of recent activities for our group. In October some of our members participated in the annual Ice Age Trail Hike-A-Thon at Hartman Creek State Park. This is a fitting way to celebrate the service work that our group does for the trail. In October the Sierra Club chapter "Autumn Assembly" was held near LaCrosse. This educational retreat was enjoyed by everyone who attended. Also in October our group again helped with the annual Romp in the Swamp public fundraiser for Bubolz Nature Preserve, home for our group.

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

- Alan Lawrence, FVSG Chair
alawrenc@execpc.com

Volunteering Pays Off

by Jan Moldenhauer

Volunteer. It's fun, you meet different people, and you get into places for free. That's why I was at the Outdoor Weekend sponsored by Ducks Unlimited. It was a fabulous afternoon, sun shining, people and dogs everywhere, and a thousand things to do. All I had to do was man the booth for Sierra Club. I had never been to one of these events before so I was sneaking off every once in a while to see what the other booths had to offer.

It was midway through the afternoon when a beautiful golden retriever waltzed by and sat to have his head petted. Since I love dogs, I gave in to his desire and murmured that he was a beautiful dog. His master, standing close by, said, "He's the grandson of Bear." Well, okay. With a questioning look I followed the uniformed legs up to an aging face. The master went on, "Bear was the first Search and Rescue dog on the scene on 9/11. I was with him." In disbelief I stood up and asked the man if I could shake his hand. After our greeting the man wanted to make a monetary donation to the Sierra Club. I told him that I could not take his money because that was not the reason we



by Dale Schaber

At our November meeting Sandra Rachal, Sokaogon Chippewa Chairwoman, accepted the FVSG Environmental Award on behalf of the Sokaogon Chippewa and Forest County Potawatomi Tribes.

were attending the event. Intrigued by the unknown hero I asked him why he wanted to donate to the Sierra Club. "They were the only ones who believed and supported me during Bear's illness," he replied.

By this time my brain had started functioning so I asked his name and asked if I could write about his

experience. We talked for awhile more and then the man disappeared into the crowd, his dog at his side. My mouth was still agape and I thought he would not return until some time later the man reappeared with a book and a brochure for the Bear Search and Rescue Foundation. The Bear Search and Rescue Foundation is a group that provides health care to canines that worked at Ground Zero and the Pentagon and provides instruction in emergency management and equipment to groups throughout the country. I read Shields book throughout the rest of the afternoon and finished it later that night.

Scott Shields, a man trained and working in safety, emergency management, and traffic and disaster control was eating breakfast in Connecticut when he saw the television picture of the first tower being hit. By the time the second plane hit he was already on his way to New York accompanied by his dog, Bear. It was the right time to be a hero.

I write this story not to introduce you to a hero but to encourage everyone to volunteer. Volunteers fill so many cracks in our lives. They ease pain and often bring unexpected joy. Our nation is based on volunteers. The original

Declaration of Independence did not relay on assigned jobs or influence peddlers. The funny old men that wrote that marvelous document stood around in their tights and wigs and volunteered to write a document that has been a guiding force in our nation ever since. That was a great group of volunteers!

Most of us will probably never have an opportunity of that importance, but we can make our communities stronger, healthier and live more productive lives through volunteering. On this anniversary of a very sad date in the history of our nation we can thank once more those everyday heroes who did uncommon things to preserve our way of life and our country.

Thank You...

to our Romp in the Swamp booth volunteers who braved the wind and cold to hand out trail mix, hot chocolate, and Fox Valley Sierra Group newsletters.



Alan Lawrence, Jennifer Reschke, and Diana Lawrence



Diane & Jack McComb



Paul Siket, Chris Calhoun, and Nancy Brown-Koeller

Not Pictured: Jan Moldenhauer, Dale Schaber

Trekkin'

with Dale



Many of the trails we hike in spring, summer and fall are available during the winter for snowshoeing. This winter I would like to snowshoe some of those trails. Checkout "Winter Trails Wisconsin: The Best Cross-country Ski and Snowshoe Trails" (Winter Trails Series) by Phil Van Valkenberg c1999.

From the Back Cover

"Designed for all levels, from the consummate winter recreational skiers and snowshoers to beginners and families, 'Winter Trails' will lead you to the best places to snowshoe or cross-country ski in Wisconsin. Be it a day trip or a two-hour jaunt, you can enjoy the beauty and peacefulness of the great outdoors in winter with these 51 carefully researched trails. Each outing is described in detail and includes information about the natural landscape, such as distance in miles, trail difficulty, surface quality, and more. New converts to the winter sports of outdoor snowshoeing and cross-country skiing will also find a rundown of proper equipment and clothing suggestions, as well as tips on safety, navigation, and trail etiquette. This helpful guide includes: point-by-point trail directions, detailed trail maps, driving directions to trailheads, rental facilities, food and lodging information as well as local lore and historical facts."

Another book I found helpful is "Snowshoeing: from Novice to Master" by Gene Prater, edited by Dave Felkley, Fifth Edition 2002.

"'Snowshoeing: From Novice to Master' presents the best information on one of America's fastest-growing sports. Whether you want to navigate through snow-clad woods, compete in races, or summit a mountain, this book offers easily learned techniques for beginning, intermediate, and experienced snowshoers.

From equipment selection to physical conditioning to racing, you won't find a more complete guide to the sport than 'Snowshoeing: from Novice to Master.' It's your key to turning deep winter drifts into easy paths to outdoor fun."

A website that contains helpful information about "Winter Hiking, Winter Backpacking and Snowshoeing" is <http://www.backpacking.net/winter.html#hiking>. This site "(1) creates awareness that hiking is a year-round sport (2) promotes use of appropriate gear for winter hiking, winter backpacking and snowshoeing and (3) provides information that may help someone stay healthy & alive, while out in it."

I'm purchasing snowshoes and poles to use on this outing sponsored by the Portage County Ice Age Trail Chapter.

Saturday, January 15, 2005 - Snowshoe Walk on the Ice Age Trail in Portage County. Meet for carpooling in Stevens Point at the NW corner of Wal-Mart next to Applebee's off Hwy 10E at 9 a.m. We'll travel to the Ice Age Trail at Stratton Lake Road and snowshoe on the Far-away Valley Loop toward Emmons Creek in Portage County. We'll start around 10 a.m. and be back in Stevens Point around 12:30. If there is bad weather, call Bob Jack at 715-341-5225. Leave your telephone number and name and he will get back to you. Bring your own snowshoes. This outing is co-sponsored by the Aldo Leopold Chapter and the Portage County Ice Age Trail Chapter. Anyone is welcome. Bob Freckmann (715-344-0686) will also help lead the snowshoe walk.

If you do not wish to carpool you may meet the group at Stratton Lake Road at 10:00 a.m. Contact Bob Jack (715-341-5225) or Bob Freckmann (715-344-0686) for further details.

I want to thank Jerry Ladewig for giving me her list of facts about snowshoeing. I found them helpful and useful.

With all this education, training and gear available there is no reason I can't be actively snowshoeing in the winter just as I hike in the spring, summer, and fall.

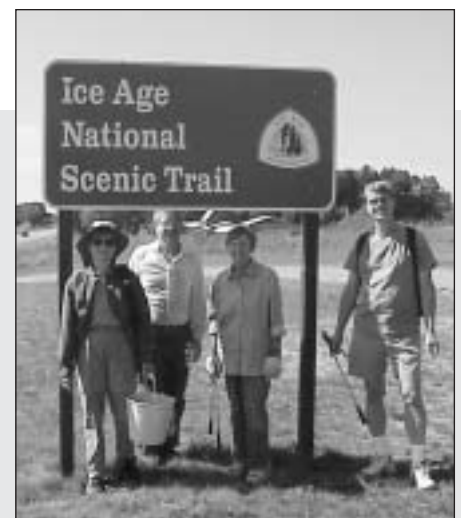
IAT Workdays Come to an End in 2004

by Dale Schaber

On June 12th Fox Valley Sierra Group members worked on rerouting the Ice Age Trail on a logged over section of the Edminster Property which is located south of Hwy 54 and north of Hartman Creek State Park.

On September 18th we prepared the Ice Age Trail around Hartman Creek State Park for the 18th Annual Hike-A-Thon. We cleared the Trail and checked the clarity of the yellow blazes that are used to indicate the route of the Ice Age Trail.

Thanks to the following FVSG members for their help on the Ice Age Trail in 2004: *Dan Bartell, Maureen Birk, Barb Boudry, Sharon Duerkop, Monny Hjerstedt, Mike Kirk, Kelly Krupka, Dale Schaber and Bruce Weideman.*



Sharon Duerkop, Dan Bartell, Barb Boudry & Monny Hjerstedt take a break while working on the Ice Age Trail by Hartman Creek State Park at the Hwy 54 parking lot on Sept. 18th

by Dale Schaber

What's happening at:

Heckrodt Wetland Reserve

Saturday, January 15

Winter Nature Detectives Snowshoe Hike. Find out what animals are active during the winter at the Reserve. We will strap on some snowshoes and look for animal tracks. You'll have a chance to try your hand at reading the story the tracks tell. If there is a lack of snow, we will go for a winter hike. 1:30-3:00 p.m.

Fees: \$2/person w/o snowshoe rental or \$4/person if snowshoe rental is needed. Snowshoes available for children as young as 4. Bring along a sled or toboggan to pull along the younger ones. Limited number of snowshoes available, so register early. Registration required by January 12th. (920) 720-9349

Bubolz Nature Preserve

Saturday, December 11

Birch Candle Lantern & Wild Wrappings Workshop. 10:00 am - Noon. Using birch logs and decorative glass lamp shades, participants will construct candle lanterns. Hand dipped candles will add a finishing touch to this unique Christmas gift or decoration. Please register by December 5th. Cost: \$10/members; \$15/non-members. (920) 731-6041

Saturday, January 15

Beginner Cross-Country Ski Instruction. 9-11:00 am (Adults). 1-3:00 pm (Family). Join expert ski instructors, Rich and Janelle Schiller, who will take you through the basics of cross-country skiing, including instruction on equipment and proper clothing. Afternoon session will be for families with children 7 and older. Cost: \$6/person. Ski rental is available from the Preserve for a special rate of \$4. Register by Dec. 28th. Class also offered on February 12th. (920) 731-6041



by Maureen Birk

*When the shuttle just takes too long...
Sandy Krupka can't wait to start
paddling the Manitowish River*

Saturday, January 29

Snowshoe Workshop. 9 am - 3 pm. Construct a functional pair of bearpaw style snowshoes from recycled materials. These bearpaw style "shoes" are fun to make and will carry participants through the deepest snow. Bring a bag lunch & drink. Cost: \$50; includes all materials. Register by Jan. 18th. (920) 731-6041

Woodland Dunes

Saturday, December 4

Christmas for the Birds. 9:00 am - noon. Come to our annual open house to celebrate the joy of feeding wild birds, with demonstrations and birdfeeding, bird identification, crafts, and shopping in our gift shop. (920) 793-4007

December 18 & 19 and January 1 & 2

Annual Winter Bird Counts. Volunteers and staff will go afield to count birds in different quarters of Manitowoc County. Call the nature center for more information. (920) 793-4007

Saturday, January 15

Bryan Bowers Concert. 7:00 pm. Join legendary Autoharp virtuoso and folk singer, Bryan Bowers. Part of the Woodland Dunes Folk Concert Series. Cost: \$12 at the door. For more information go to: woodlanddunesconcerts.org



HOLIDAY GIFT MEMBERSHIP

A Sierra Club Gift Membership is a wonderful way to let someone know you care—about them *and* the environment.



Explore, enjoy and protect the planet

Join today and receive
a FREE Sierra Club
Weekender Bag!



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/LIMITED INCOME	<input type="checkbox"/> \$24	<input type="checkbox"/> \$32

Contributions, 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.

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

F94Q W 1607 1

Winter Outings

November 13

Meet at 10:30 for an hour hike in Rib Mountain State Park. Trails are steep - bring a hiking stick or ski poles. After lunch at local restaurant, visit the 28th annual Birds in Art exhibit at the Leigh Yawkey Woodson Museum, a world renown proponent of avian art. State Park sticker required for hike. Donation at LYW. *Nancy Brown-Koeller 722-2648 (home), 721-5431 (work), 715-524-2293 (weekends)*

November 28

Buckthorn removal work day. (see article on page 1) *Sharon Duerkop 734-1419*



by Kelly Krupka

No Mountain Too High. No Block Too Heavy?

Alan Lawrence and Penny Bernard Schaber use teamwork to carry a cinder block back to the garbage can during a recent service outing

No More Styrofoam

by Kelly Krupka

I generally enjoy our group meetings every month at Bubolz Nature Preserve, but there is one thing that never fails to tick me off. We are an environmental organization yet we use styrofoam cups to serve coffee and tea! Styrofoam will *never* biodegrade in a landfill.

Instead of FVSG buying different disposable cups let's practice what we preach and all bring our own travel mug to the meetings. If you forget to bring a mug you may use one of ours but please wash it out when you are done. Please help decrease the burden on Mother Earth. Stop using styrofoam cups!

December 11

Buckthorn removal work day. (see article on page 1) *Sharon Duerkop 734-1419*

December 18

Cross-Country Ski at High Cliff State Park South of Kaukauna. We will meet in the upper parking lot near the tower and ski through second growth forest and through old limestone quarries. *Charlie Paine 739-1900*

January 8

Cross-Country Ski the Lakewood Trail. Intermediate in difficulty. We will ski through second growth forest and see first hand the effects of logging and reforestation. *Charlie Paine 739-1900*

January 14-16

Cross-Country Ski in the Munising, Michigan area. We'll have a choice of six or seven places to ski, including Valley Spur, within a 40 mile area. Skate or stride, groomed and tracked. Learn the history of the railroad in the area and the impact it had on the environment.

Dependable snow (lake effects from Lake Superior), great places to stay and eat, what more could you ask for? *Steve Meyer (920) 684-4174*

January 22

The 9th annual "Toward Harmony with Nature" Conference will be held at the Hilton Garden Inn, Oshkosh. Sponsored by the Fox Valley Wild Ones, this event will have ten expert speakers to help you design, plant and maintain your own native plantscape. Brochures should be available by the end of November or see: www.for-wild.org.

January 28-30

Ski or snowshoe in the Land O' Lakes area (Sylvania and Razorback nearby) and stay at the you-think-you've-stepped-back-in-time Gateway Inn. Restaurant and whirlpool on site. About \$40 per person per night for lodging. **\$40 deposit. \$2 trip fee.** *Nancy Brown-Koeller 722-2648 (home), 721-5431 (work), 715-524-2293 (weekends)*



by Kelly Krupka

Fishing for Litter

Gary Krupka tries to fish a bottle out of Wolf Lake during a service outing in Waupaca

February 5

Cross-Country ski Northern Kettle Moraine. Skate or stride on some of my favorite trails. All skill levels. See the effects of the last glacier. Several loops to choose from. Later on we will enjoy a candlelight ski at Camp Sinawa at St. Nazianz. Warm food & drink will be available. *Steve Meyer (920) 684-4174*

February 12

Cross-Country Ski at the Brown County Reforestation Camp 10 miles north of Green Bay. This area offers a variety of trails well-groomed for skating and traditional skiing. *Charlie Paine 739-1900*

February 25-27

Ski or snowshoe in the Ironwood and Hurley area (ABR and others nearby). Stay in one of the houses built at the turn of the century for the Montreal Mining Company employees. Learn why the whole town of Montreal is on the National Register of Historic Places. About \$40 per person per night for lodging. **\$40 deposit. \$2 trip fee.** *Nancy Brown-Koeller 722-2648 (home), 721-5431 (work), 715-524-2293 (weekends)*

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.



Upcoming Meetings

JANUARY 13

Wild About Elk

Tracey Koenig, Executive Director at Heckrodt Wetland Reserve, Inc., will demonstrate and use the newest educational teaching kit at the Heckrodt Reserve, "Wild About Elk." This teaching kit was developed by and purchased through a grant from the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation. The kit contains elk hides, skulls, antlers, tracks and much more. Through eight interactive stations, kids and adults will learn the difference between antlers and horns, discover elk body language, sounds and track identification, identify elk signs, and learn about research, management and the hunting of elk.

FEBRUARY 10

Wisconsin Frogs

Randy Korb will share a video about Wisconsin frogs that he produced in cooperation with CESA 7. He will have 8 to 9 species of live Wisconsin frogs for kids and adults to hold and examine. Since it is a Sierra Group meeting, Randy will also discuss the causes that have decimated amphibians in Northeast Wisconsin: atrazine and other herbicides, pesticides, loss of amphibian habitat for buildings and homes, etc.

Randy Korb is a volunteer for the Wisconsin DNR Frogs and Toads Survey that began in 1981. He is also a member of the Northeastern Wisconsin Audubon Society. He is the author of "Wisconsin Frogs: Places to Hear Frogs and Toads Near Our Urban Areas." This book and CD was published in 2001 in cooperation with the Northeastern Wisconsin Audubon Society (NEW Audubon). Randy also wrote in 1989 a booklet and produced a cassette entitled "Voices of the Night: Places to Hear Frogs and Toads in Brown County, Wisconsin."

Presently Randy teaches thousands of students and teachers about amphibians in both Wisconsin and Northern Illinois schools. He leads parents and students on night hikes to see and hear frogs. Currently he is developing live amphibian exhibits for Brown County libraries through NEW Audubon. He also offers members of NEW Audubon frog night hikes and opportunities to keep native Wisconsin amphibians in their homes for a short time.

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

Deadline...

for submitting materials for the next newsletter is January 9th!

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

Natural Landscaping for Tomorrow Grants Program

Do you know of a public or non-profit organization in the Fox Valley that may want to do a natural landscape project using native plants? If so, now is the time to plan that project and apply for a grant to help make the project a reality.

The Fox Valley Area Chapter (FVAC) of Wild Ones established a grants program in the fall of 2000. The awards range from \$100 to \$500, and can be used for native plants and seeds. Applicants can be schools, houses of worship, or any public or non-profit organization in the Fox Valley. (More specifically, those located no more than 15 miles outside the county line of any county that touches Lake Winnebago.)

Last year's winners were the Heckrodt Wetland Reserve for continuing a buckthorn reclamation project and Girl Scout Sara Waddell for her prairie project in Forest Junction.

Grant applications must be postmarked no later than January 15, 2005. Last year's applicants may reapply. Awards will be made at the FVAC General Membership meeting and Seed Exchange in February, 2005.

To obtain a grant application and to read more about the project requirements, visit the FVAC website at <http://www.for-wild.org/chapters/foxvalley> or contact:

Fox Valley Area Chapter
Attn: Grants Committee Chairperson
2801 E. Hietpas St.
Appleton, WI 54911-8755
(920) 730-3986

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
nbk04@sbcglobal.net

Conservation

Jerry Sonnleitner 294-3597
W1193 Mary St, Green Lake 54941
jerrysonn@charter.net

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
217 1/2 Congress St, Neenah 54130
kellykrupka@yahoo.com

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



It's Our Nature is printed on 50% recycled fiber,
30% post-consumer recycled, and should be recycled.