



It's Our Nature

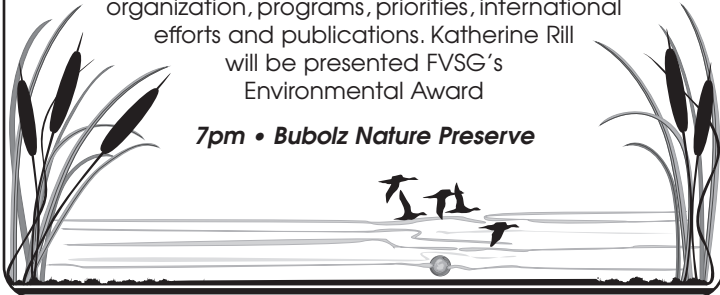
Newsletter of the Fox Valley Sierra Group www.wisconsin.sierraclub.org/foxvalley Vol. 05 Issue 4

September 8, 2005

The Sierra Club: Explore, Protect and Enjoy Northeastern Wisconsin

Learn about the Sierra Club and the Fox Valley Sierra Group in Northeastern Wisconsin. Find out about Sierra Club's organization, programs, priorities, international efforts and publications. Katherine Rill will be presented FVSG's Environmental Award

7pm • Bubolz Nature Preserve



October 13, 2005

Stopping Wisconsin's Coal Rush

In Wisconsin, we face big decisions about our energy future, decisions with impacts that will be felt for generations. With two brand new coal plants on the way, several others on the horizon, and outdated dirty coal plants with no modern pollution controls, it is ever more urgent that we find a cleaner, safer energy future. Learn how these plants affect your health and your community; cleaner, safer ways of power; specific efforts to clean up Green Bay's Pulliam plant and how you can help. **Bubolz • Appleton • 7pm**



Sierra Club and Clean Wisconsin Put Green Bay Power Plant On Notice

by Ashley Brenke, Green Bay Clean Air Campaign

When crossing the Fox River in Green Bay, it is hard not to notice the giant smokestack of the J.P. Pulliam coal-fired power plant. Wisconsin Public Service Corporation's Pulliam plant has violated its air pollution permit every quarter for the last five years. When Pulliam violates its permit it pumps into the air illegal amounts of pollution that causes asthma and heart attacks. The Sierra Club and Clean Wisconsin were unwilling to accept illegal pollution, especially when it puts peoples' health at risk. That's why the two groups filed an official notice under the Clean Air Act, informing WPS, the State of Wisconsin, and the EPA that the groups plan to sue to enforce the Clean Air Act if Pulliam is not cleaned up in 60 days.

Soot, smog and mercury are the biggest threats from coal-fired power plants. The World War II-era Pulliam power plant emits more than half of these pollutants coming from smokestacks in Brown County.

Soot and smog make it difficult for many people to breathe. They are responsible for causing heart attacks and asthma attacks, and for permanently limiting our children's lung capacities. The DNR has recently issued seven health advisories for Brown County due to dirty air. Pulliam should not be allowed to violate its air permit (*Continued on page 3*)

Stewardship Service Project: Buckthorn Eradication

by Sharon Duerkop

Fall 2005 marks our 6th year of working with the Gordon Bubolz Nature Center's staff and volunteers in eradicating buckthorn from the Preserve. Buckthorn is a Eurasian shrub/tree that spreads rapidly to shade out Wisconsin's native forest ground layer plants. With the latter gone, there's less habitat for all the critters that depend upon a diverse understory. Figuring we clear approximately 15-20 acres a year, we're looking at some 75-100 acres now out of a gloomy monoculture of buckthorn. Mike Brandel, Executive Director of Bubolz, recently noted, "The progress has been excellent! We're gaining on it and seeing a lot of native's returning to their historical range."

Especially this year with the state's first declaration of June as invasive species month and the recent loss of one of Wisconsin's greatest land stewards and Earth Day founder, Gaylord Nelson, I'm energized to keep fighting for Nature and to leave this corner of Wisconsin a little more biologically diverse for the folks and critters that come after me. I hope you think the same and join us on one or more of our field days this fall. You will need outdoor clothing appropriate to the weather, sturdy footwear, work gloves and a lunch. Feel free to bring a chainsaw or lopper. Instructions are given in the field each day. If you arrive after 9am, a map of where we're working is posted on the nature center's door.

A treat is provided to invigorate you and folk of kindred spirit. Sign up at monthly meetings or contact Sharon Duerkop at (920) 734-1419. I'll call you if we need to cancel due to precipitation (herbicide application needs to be full strength) but I'll need your contact info first.

Dates of workdays:

Oct.	Saturday 22th	9am-3pm
Nov.	Saturday 5th Sunday 27th	9am-3pm 9am-3pm
Dec.	Saturday 10th Sunday 18th (Rain Date)	9am-3pm 9am-3pm

From the Chair

The White House and Congress continue to introduce legislation that would permit oil drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR). These numerous attempts have always been defeated, only to be re-introduced in yet another form and hidden within another package. It is always bad policy and always needs to be defeated. On July 15 several of our Sierra Club members participated in an ANWR rally organized by WISPIRG, the Wisconsin Public Interest Research Group. I was one of the speakers. You can find my speech on our website.

There is still time to protect ANWR. The latest budget bill assumes revenue from oil leases (a sneaky way to permit oil drilling). After the Congressional recess in September, the House and Senate will vote to reconcile the budget bills that have already been passed. If you haven't told your representatives that ANWR must be protected, this may be your last chance.

I enjoy participating in many of our Group activities and recently had the opportunity to lead a bicycle ride outing on the Wild Goose Trail near Fond du Lac. Several new faces joined us, including a non-member who worried whether we would be much faster than she, and leave her in the dust. We did not abandon her. I mention this because I think perhaps others are interested in our outings but afraid to join us. Please feel comfortable with us.

I also wanted to report that LEADING an outing can be an enjoyable experience. I'll have the privilege

to lead another bicycle outing on September 18 on the newly built Trestle Trail. I'm realizing that even the advanced preparation work (reading, planning, test-rides) is part of the fun trip leaders enjoy. Our Outings Chairperson would love to have more outings leaders.

If you live in Green Bay, or travel through it, you may have noticed a coal-fired power plant just west of where the Fox River joins the bay. The Pulliam Power Plant is among the dirtiest coal plants in the nation, ranking seventh for its sulfur dioxide emissions. It is the second highest nitrogen oxide polluter in the state of Wisconsin. Pulliam has used loopholes to avoid upgrades required by the Clean Air Act of 1977. Furthermore, it makes little effort to comply with the laws it is required to obey. It has violated its air permit each of the past 20 quarters. Sierra Club and Clean Wisconsin are working to make the plant's owner, Wisconsin Public Service Corporation, clean up its act. (More info on our website.)

In closing, please consider attending our Autumn Assembly in Milwaukee, October 7-9. It is fun and enjoyable, and you'll renew friendships with other club members throughout the state. (More info on our website.)

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

- Alan Lawrence, FVSG Chair
alan.lawrence@wisconsin.sierraclub.org

(Continued from page 1)

when Brown County's air is already unhealthy because of soot and smog.

Mercury also threatens our health. Mercury robs our children of their ability to think and learn by impeding brain development. In fact, the EPA estimates that one in six women of childbearing age already carries enough mercury in her body to put her children at risk of mercury poisoning. Mercury is responsible for the fish advisories on all of Wisconsin's waterways and for threats to our tourism economy.

Scrubbers and other modern pollution controls can reduce the amount of soot, smog, and mercury from coal-fired power plants by up to 90%. This technology is readily available and is already being used by other power plants in Wisconsin. Green Bay deserves no less.

What can you do to help? Talk to your neighbors - many are not aware that this power plant has been breaking the law and that it does not have modern pollution controls or scrubbers. We all need to be able to turn on our lights, but there are many ways of producing the needed power without violating the law! The question is what is the cleanest, safest way to generate power? At the very least, we can clean up our old, dirty coal-fired power plants and slash their pollution by more than 90%. Integrated Gasification Combined Cycle (IGCC) can make coal emissions ten times cleaner. Natural gas can produce 1000 times less pollution. Renewable energy sources, such as wind and solar power, create no pollution at all and are the only energy sources native to Wisconsin.

There is a better way, and now is the time to talk to your neighbors. Write a letter to your local newspaper's editor. Let your local elected officials know how you feel about where your energy comes from. Visit

wisconsin.sierraclub.org/foxvalley/Pulliam.html or contact Ashley Brenke at aabrenke@wisc.edu to learn more and find other ways to help out. Right now Wisconsin has the opportunity to shape its energy choices for decades to come. Let's make sure we head in the right direction.

A "Slough" of Memories *by Bill Ellis*

I'm writing in regard to Sandy Krupka's article about the Neenah Slough. I must confess it dredged up (pun intended) many memories from long ago.

My grandfather, Chris Nielsen, had a farm where the Breezewood/Bell interchange is now located. The slough had to be rerouted somewhat from its old location to where it "runs" now. In fact, the bridge that you cross going from Harrison Street to Jewelers Park Road is at the approximate location of one of the two bridges my grandfather crossed to work the fields that ran along "Grandpa's Woods" where Plexus now sits. My cousins and I spent many a happy hour trekking through those woods trying to find the old Boy Scout camps that used to be there.

A fond memory of mine is going into the basement of the farm house and seeing the dozens of muskrat hides that my uncle had drying down there. So, yes, there used to be a robust muskrat population in the slough. We pretended to fish from one of my grandfather's bridges over the slough, but the most we ever caught were a few bullheads.

When winter came, we would clean off a section of ice among the reeds and go ice skating. The water was so shallow that it froze quickly and was never dangerous.

Unfortunately, we never did go from one end of the slough to another, but I recall it somehow ran between the two Lake Butte des Mortes. It never was very deep, and it never had enough of a current to keep itself clean. When development finally took over, the slough was narrowed and deepened so you could now at least take a stab at trying to take a boat from one end to the other. When we were young, the only thing we ever tried to navigate the slough was a homemade raft, which never quite got finished.

Thank you again for awakening some old memories. When the farm was finally sold off, and the farm house was torn down, one of my cousins had the foresight to salvage some of the doors from the bedrooms. Two of them now are part of the basement in my home on Bishops Lane.

FVSG ExCom Seeks Nominations

The Fox Valley Sierra Group is starting its annual election process for the Executive Committee. We need you to help with the success of the Group. We are looking for people who would like to share their time and expertise by agreeing to run for a position on our board. We need to elect four people in this upcoming election.

The Executive Committee meets about 10 times each year to help guide the Fox Valley Sierra Group. The ExCom is made up of 13 people elected from the membership at large. Each year only a portion of the committee is elected. Those elected will serve for a 3 year term. Serving on the board can be a very rewarding experience.

If you are interested in being nominated to run for a position on FVSG's Executive Committee please contact a member of the current ExCom (see back page of newsletter for contact info.)

Sheboygan Gets \$25 Million for Trails

by Nancy Brown Koeller

You may have read in the local papers that Sheboygan County, as part of the recently passed Transportation Bill, will receive \$25 million to carry out its plan for bike and pedestrian trails. I called Rep. Tom Petri's office (he played a central role in moving the bill through Congress) to make sure the number was correct. I thought maybe a decimal point was misplaced! But, no, the number is correct. The county was included in a new pilot program to demonstrate the value of nonmotorized transportation facilities. Four communities received funds for the purpose of constructing a network of nonmotorized transportation facilities (sidewalks, bicycle lanes, pedestrian and bike trails) that connect schools, recreational areas, businesses, and other community centers. Rep. Petri said that "This is an exclusive group. Sheboygan County is joining Marin County in California, Columbia in Missouri, and the Minneapolis-St. Paul area in receiving these funds. The bike trails will build on the fact that Wisconsin is a good place to live and a good place to visit." Rep. Petri also thanked Sen. Herb Kohl for his help with these projects.

Also included in the bill was \$350,000 earmarked to construct the North Shore Extension of the Friendship Trail (Calumet and Winnebago Counties). YEAH!

Ode to an Eastern White Pine

by Georgiana Mika

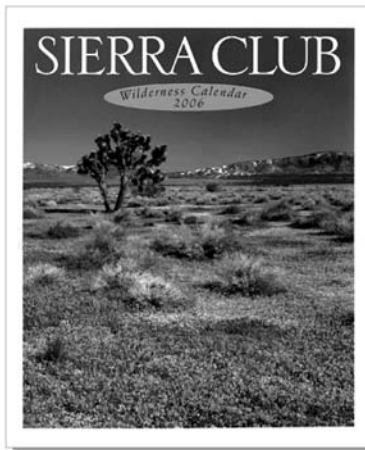
*Statuesque, with lovely
boughs reaching skyward,
Boughs with feather soft
needles swaying in a breeze,
tall with tender needles,
your beauty beckons me
the great White Pine!*

SIERRA CLUB 2006 CALENDARS



**Sierra Club 2006 Wilderness
Wall Calendar**—Spiral bound,
month-by-month format,
featuring 12 majestic North
American landscapes.

**Sierra Club 2006 Engagement
Calendar**—
Week-by-week format, featuring
57 spectacular photographs and
"wire-o" binding.



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. Call (920) 832-0612

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State/Zip _____

Phone (Work) _____ (Home) _____

	Qty		Price	Total Price
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

Take a Walk on the Wild Side!

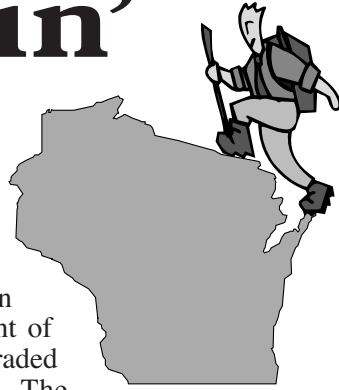
Mark your calendars and shine up your hiking boots for the 19th Annual Hike-A-Thon scheduled for October 1, 2005! The purpose of the Hike-A-Thon is to raise funds to acquire, develop and maintain Ice Age Trail lands for the education and enjoyment of future generations.

The Hike-A-Thon will take place at the Iola Winter Sports Club, Norseman Hill, County Hwy. MM, Iola, Wisconsin. Water and apples are provided at each monitor station throughout the hike. The ski lodge will have cookies, cheeses, water, coffee, soda, door prizes, and educational displays before and after the hike.

What will you experience hiking the Ice Age Trail at the Iola Winter Sports Club? Hike the Iola Ski Hill/New Hope Ice Age Trail Segment and experience rolling, wooded hills of a recessional moraine as well as kames, kettle lakes, delta fans and a tunnel channel. A glacial outwash, where deer and turkeys frequently reside, is also visible.

The hike is rated easy to moderate. Please dress for the weather. For registration info, contact Dale Schaber at (920) 739-6041 or see him at FVSG's September meeting. If you have never hiked on the Ice Age Trail, this is an excellent time to start.

Trekkin' with Dale



This summer while hiking with Penny on the Ice Age Trail (IAT) in Lincoln County we came upon a 3.5-mile section of the East New Wood Segment of the Ice Age Trail that was upgraded by the Mobile Skills Crew. The Mobile Skills Crew worked on this section of the trail from May 18th through the 22nd of this year. This section of the Ice Age Trail connected with trail work completed by the Mobile Skills Crew in October 2003.

The upgraded trail was a joy to hike. The IAT yellow blazes were easy to locate and the Trail itself was cleared of any large rocks and fallen tree branches. One could take the time to observe the topography of the land, enjoy any glacial features found along the Trail and look at the blooming wildflowers.

I thought Fox Valley Sierra Group members would enjoy learning about the Mobile Skills Crew. This article was taken from the Ice Age Park and Trail Foundation's website <http://www.iceagetrail.org/news/crew.html>.

Mobile Skills Crew A new philosophy for trail building and the skills to make it happen!

The Ice Age Trail is recognized by the National Park Service (NPS) as one of the elite eight National Scenic Trails in America. A shared vision of NPS, the Wisconsin DNR and the Ice Age Park & Trail Foundation (IAPTF), is that the Ice Age Trail be established to provide superlative outdoor recreational experiences along a continuous footpath. One of the Ice Age Park and Trail Foundation's many roles is to help organize volunteer efforts in building, maintaining, and supporting this vision.



by Dale Schaber

Lora Corcoran paints yellow trail blazes to mark the IAT during an FVSG workday in Waupaca Cty.

ongoing program called the Mobile Skills Crew (MSC). In its inaugural year of 2002, MSC projects logged almost 3,700 volunteer hours!

Trail building volunteers come from all walks of life, bringing with them multiple reference points in trail standards and construction techniques. In order to avoid inconsistencies and ensure a higher standard of sustainable trail building and trail signage practices, the Ice Age Park and Trail Foundation, with support from the NPS, started an

The Mobile Skills Crew is a team of dedicated volunteers from Wisconsin who serve as skilled trail builders and educated outreach advisors to the IAPTF volunteer chapters. MSC is intended to support, not supplant, local chapter trail building projects. Hands on activities include creating tread using the 4-step method of basic trail construction, addressing erosion and water control issues, worker safety, project organization, user impact and environmental awareness, trail layout and design considerations, and effective crew leadership.

The Mobile Skills Crew helps to:

- Create an elevated, consistent and recognizable standard by which the Ice Age National Scenic Trail is built and maintained;
- Educate and empower IAPTF volunteers in trail construction techniques by providing qualified educators and equipment;
- Minimize the need for ongoing trail maintenance by using construction techniques and materials designed for long term self-sustaining use and by using on-site materials as much as is applicable;
- Generate a higher awareness and use of barrier free construction;
- Improve builders' safety concerns and their first aid response capability.



by Dale Schaber

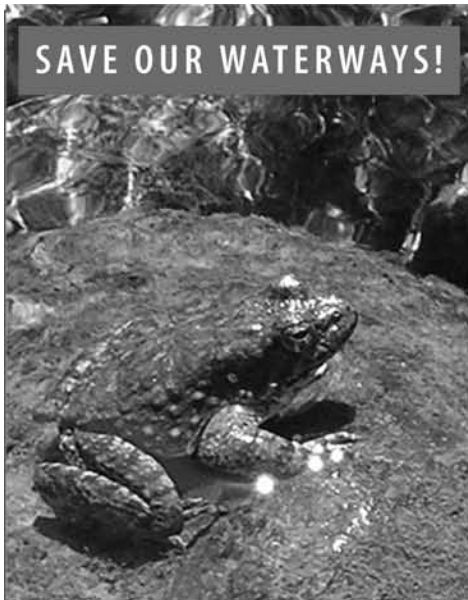
Darrel Ruechel pulls garlic mustard during FVSG's irradiation project.

MSC projects take place along different IAT segments throughout the state. New volunteers are always welcome and encouraged to participate. Your talents and interests can help fill project support roles, such as cooking and public relations, as a trail builder, or just to meet new people who share a love for the Ice Age Trail. Stop by a MSC project sometime to learn how sustainable trail building techniques are less time consuming over the long-term and provide an enhanced user experience when the right tools are matched with dedicated volunteers who know how to use them.

If you are interested in the work of the Mobile Skills Crew you may contact Dale Schaber (920) 739-6041 or Butch Siegel (715) 258-0395. Butch is the Team Leader for the Mobile Skills Crew that will work at the Skunk/Foster Lakes State Natural Area in Waupaca County from October 13-16, 2005. This will be new trail development. This is also the first appearance of the Mobile Skills Crew in Waupaca County.

For information on the Skunk/Foster Lakes State Natural Area access the DNR website <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/land/er/sna/sna312.htm>.

Area Nature Center Events & Activities



photo/Ryan Peek

While the Clean Water Act has been instrumental in keeping millions of tons of sewage and toxic chemicals out of our waterways each year, we are still a long way from cleaning up ALL of the nation's water bodies. The goals of the Clean Water Act are still achievable — all that's missing is the will of our leaders to achieve them. We need to strengthen the enforcement of the Clean Water Act. And we could use your help to do it. **Join the Sierra Club today.**

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 **\$25**

REGULAR \$39 \$47

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: **F94Q W 1607 1**
Sierra Club, P.O. Box 52968, Boulder, CO 80322-2968



Explore, enjoy and protect the planet

Bubolz Appleton

Saturday, October 15

"Romp In The Swamp" Family Fun Walk. 12:30-4:30 p.m. Enjoy strolling through the Preserve's beautiful trail system while taking advantage of rest stops along the way serving delicious goodies. Play games for treats and listen to folk music performed by local musicians. Pre-register by October 1st and you will receive a FREE "Romp In The Swamp" T-Shirt. (920) 731-6041. Cost: \$25/family.

Saturday, October 22

"Tic-Track-Toe" Nature Detectives. 9-11 a.m. Have you ever wondered whose tracks those are? Here is your chance to be a nature detective and find out the answer to all your questions. We will examine tracks, scat, nests and other clues on the trail to find out who they belong to. Afterward we will create animal track T-shirts. Please bring your own cotton T-shirt for each person participating. Paint and tracks provided. **Register by October 14th.** Cost: \$5/person. (920) 731-6041

Ledgeview Chilton

September through November

Cave Tours. Most weekends at 1 p.m. Call (920) 849-7094 for schedule. Learn the biology, geology, and human history of Ledge View's caves. Plan on getting dirty! Bring a flashlight and wear long sleeves. Minors must be accompanied by a responsible adult; minimum recommended age 5 years old w/parent. Caves are accessed by stairs and ladders. Cost: \$5/person.

Saturday, September 17

Fall Harvest Spectacular. 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Enjoy a food fair promoting sustainable agriculture and offering great local foods. Also featuring children's hands-on crafts. Cost: \$2

Sunday, October 16

Prairie Wildflower Seed Collecting. 1 p.m. Participants will learn how to prepare prairie wildflower seeds for spring planting and collect seeds. Bring small paper bags. Cost: \$5/person.

Friday & Saturday, October 21 & 22

Halloween Candlelight Cave Tours. 6-8:30 p.m. Enjoy a family-oriented evening visiting Ledge View's trails and caves by candlelight, and meet some unusual personalities with strange stories. Educational rather than scary. Minimum recommended age 5 w/parent. Caves accessed by stairs and ladders. Tour departs every half hour. No reservations taken. Cost: \$5/person.

Navarino Shiocton

Thursday, September 29

Navarino 16th Annual Banquet. This annual fundraising banquet consists of a dinner, raffles, auctions and lots of fun while raising funds to keep NNC up and running.

Saturday, October 8

Fall Family Fun Day. 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Fall colors, tractor pulled wagon rides, candle dipping, rope making, bird feeder building (fee), food and family fun. (715) 758-6999

Sunset Wagon Ride. 4-6:30 p.m. Ride on the NNC wagons from the Nature center around Pike's Peak flowage as we head toward the Wolf River Flowages. View waterfowl, fall colors and hundreds of Sandhill Cranes. Cost: \$2 NNC members, \$5 non-members. (715) 758-6999

Saturday, October 22

Halloween Happenings. 6:30-8:30 p.m. A non-scary Halloween event consisting of a number of Halloween games, a Jack-o-Lantern Trail walk, and food around a bonfire. All children under 15 receive a Trick or Treat sack for their Halloween game winnings. Everyone receives a ticket for a s'more down at the bonfire. Cost: \$2/person. (715) 758-6999

Mosquito Hill New London

Sunday, September 18

Honey Sunday. 1-4 p.m. Sessions on beekeeping, beeswax candle dipping, cooking with honey and more. Observe active hives, enjoy honey sundaes, purchase honey baked goods. Co-sponsored with the Waupaca Cty Beekeepers Association. Cost: \$5/car. (920) 779-6433.

Friday, September 30

Investigating Wisconsin Bats. 7-9 p.m. Learn about bat behavior and how bats communicate through echolocation. An indoor presentation will give participants an opportunity to learn about Wisconsin's species of bats. Captive live bats will be on display. Species will be netted on site for observation. Our presenter is Jodi Sedlock, Lawrence University Assistant Prof. of Biology. Cost: \$3/adults, \$2/students, seniors & FOMH, \$7/family. Call 779-6433 to register.

Saturday, October 1

Green Energy Fair. 11-4 p.m. Mosquito Hill and Outagamie Cty UW-Extension are teaming up to sponsor a Green Building Fair. We will educate homeowners about the latest green building practices, energy conservation design and alternative energy equipment. Seminars will be presented at 11:30, 1 and 3. Vendors will be representing their products or services. Cost: Fair is free but \$1/person/seminar is charged. (920) 779-6433.

(Continued on back page)



FALL OUTINGS



September 10

Bike the Ahnapee Trail from the North Section Trail Head on Hwy M (just north of Algoma) to a picnic area a few miles south of Sturgeon Bay. 30 miles round trip. The trail is crushed limestone with short stretches on roads. Tentative meeting time is 10 am at the North Section Trailhead; call to confirm. Bring a bike, helmet, water, lunch and snacks, bug spray. *Maureen Birk (920) 468-7252.*

Canoe the Embarrass River: Part 1. (*This is a Navarino Nature Center outing*) 9-11:30 a.m. Canoe from the Hwy 22 bridge to Embarrass. All equipment is provided. Call (715) 758-6999 for more info. **Must register by Sept. 6th.** Space limited to 15 people. Cost: \$15 NNC members, \$20 non-members.

Hike with A Naturalist: Little Habitat on the Prairie. (*This is a Mosquito Hill Nature Center outing*) 1:30-3 p.m. Join naturalist Jess Miller as she guides you through one of the most spectacular habitats at Mosquito Hill - the prairie. Learn why the prairie is home to hundreds of plant and animal species. Cost: \$3/adults, \$2/students, seniors & FOMH, \$7/family. Call (920) 779-6433 to register.

September 17

Last Ice Age Trail Workday for 2005. Joint workdays between the Fox Valley Sierra Group and local Ice Age Trail Chapters. Meet at Hartman Creek State Park west of Waupaca at 9:30 AM. Bring a lunch, water, work gloves, and mosquito and tick repellent. If you have a lopper or a pruning saw, please bring it with you. *Dale Schaber 739-6041*

Fall Bird Hike. (*This is a Bubolz Nature Preserve outing*) 7-9 a.m. Join the Naturalist and experienced birders as we take an early morning bird hike on the Preserve's trails. We will walk through marsh, prairie and forest wetlands seeking fall migrants. Please bring binoculars, bird books and wear comfortable shoes. Call to register (920) 731-6041. Cost: \$2 for nonmembers; FREE for members.

Canoe the Embarrass River: Part 2. (*This is a Navarino Nature Center outing*) 9-11:30 a.m. Canoe from Embarrass to Hwy 156. All equipment is provided. Call (715) 758-6999 for more info. **Must register by Sept. 13th.** Space limited to 15 people. Cost: \$15 NNC members, \$20 non-members.

September 18

Trestle Trail Bike Ride. Meet at Heckrodt Wetland Reserve in Menasha. After visiting this urban nature reserve we will bike westward on bike trails and easy city streets to the Menasha Lock entrance of the Trestle Trail. The 3/4 mile Trestle Trail includes a boardwalk with fishing platforms and a central pavilion area. The 1,600-foot long pedestrian bridge over the lake (once a

railroad) is the longest in Wisconsin. From the bridge we can see the progress on the Fox River PCB cleanup. Next we'll continue westward on the new Friendship Trail. We may ride to its intersection with the Wiouwash Trail before turning around and returning to Heckrodt. Bring lunch and water.

Alan Lawrence 730-9515

September 23 (Friday)

IAT Hike: N. Kettle Moraine. (*This is an IAT Foundation outing*) 6 p.m. Hike 3.75 miles on the North Kettle Moraine Ice Age Trail from Hwy 23 to Greenbush. Meet at the Greenbush Group Camp Area on the Kettle Moraine Scenic Drive and shuttle to Hwy 23 for this unique night hike. A campfire will follow the hike. *Sarah or Tom Gierke (920) 467-1958 tgierke@excel.net*

September 24

Voyageur Canoe trip on the Wolf River. (*This is a Navarino Nature Center outing*) 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Canoe this section of the Wolf River in the DNR Voyageur Canoes from the Boat ramp at Cty Hwy CCC to the Hwy 156 boat ramp. All equipment is provided. Bring a lunch and any personal items. **Must register by Sept. 20th.** Call (715) 758-6999. Cost: \$15 NNC members, \$20 non-members.

September 25

Bike the Mariner's bike trail. 15 or 30 miles. We'll start in the parking lot at Manitowoc Library and bike to Rawley Point in Point Beach State Park. In Two Rivers the trail runs close to Lake Michigan providing great views. We will stop at the historic Washington House Museum - an 1850's immigrant hotel and home of Berner's Ice Cream Parlor. *Maureen Birk (920) 468-7252 Steven Meyer (920) 684-4174*

Hike with A Naturalist: Fall Ecology Hike. (*This is a Mosquito Hill Nature Center outing*) 1:30-3 p.m. As autumn encroaches, daylight hours progressively shorten. The subsequent decrease in the amount of light hitting Earth triggers many phenomena which prepare plants and animals for the approaching winter temperatures. Join naturalist Mike Hibbard on a hike to discover spectacular natural changes that take place during autumn. Cost: \$3/adults, \$2/students, seniors & FOMH, \$7/family. Call (920) 779-6433 to register.

October 1

Ice Age Trail Hike-A-Thon. (*See the article about the Hike-A-Thon on page (4) in this issue of FVSG's newsletter.*)

October 2

Tour de Fall Bike Ride. (*This is a Mosquito Hill Nature Center outing*) 1-4 p.m. Enjoy autumn at its finest during this naturalist-led

tour of Waupaca County backroads. **Please call (920) 779-6433 to register by Sept. 25th.** Cost: \$5/adults, \$4/students, seniors, & FOMH.

October 8-9

Hike the Fox River Trail near Seney in Michigan's U.P. Car camping or day hike. Call for details and car pooling. *Jerry Ladewig (920) 336-6788.*

October 16

Hike with A Naturalist: Autumn Colors on Mosquito Hill. (*This is a Mosquito Hill Nature Center outing*) 1:30-3 p.m. Enjoy the autumn splendor and scenic views of the Wolf River floodplain forest from the top of Mosquito Hill. This hike with naturalist Mary Swifka involves a slow but relatively steep walk with many stops along the route. Cost: \$3/adults, \$2/students, seniors & FOMH, \$7/family. Call (920) 779-6433 to register.

October 22

Get up close and personal with a billion years of Wisconsin geology! Marcia Bjornerud, a geologist with Lawrence University in Appleton, will take us on a billion year geological tour starting at Mosquito Hill and ending at Cactus Rock, a geological site owned by Lawrence. Bring a magnifying glass if you have one, dress for the weather, and come prepared to walk and learn. *Marcia Bjornerud (920) 830-0436.*

Buckthorn removal work day. (For more info, see article on page 2 in this issue of FVSG's newsletter.) *Sharon Duerkop (920) 734-1419*

October 30

Hike with A Naturalist: Bottoming Out in the Wolf River Floodplain. (*This is a Mosquito Hill Nature Center outing*) 1-3 p.m. Explore one of last intact stands of Wolf River bottomland forest with naturalist Steve Petznick. Witness signs of winter preparation by local wildlife. Cost: \$3/adults, \$2/students, seniors & FOMH, \$7/family. Call (920) 779-6433 to register.

More detailed outings information may be found on our website. 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.

Neil Koeneman and Jaci Mueller will be representing our Sierra Club Group and Wisconsin Chapter at the Sierra Summit in San Francisco (September 8-11). Neil is our Group Delegate. To learn more about this event check out the website link: <http://www.sierrasummit2005.org/>

Saturday, October 8

Drum Making Workshop. 9:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Make your own 16" deer hide drum in the traditional Native American style. Gail Belling will immerse participants in tradition and culture during her class and explain many ceremonial rituals while in her native apparel. **Registration and full payment are due by October 1.** Cost: \$75. (920) 779-6433.

The Art of Staying Found. 9-noon. Can you find your way out of the woods? Join naturalist Mike Hibbard as he demonstrates the lost art of reading a map and compass. Bring your compass if you have one. Dress for the weather and wear hiking shoes. **Registration and payment due before Sept. 30.** Cost: \$3/person, \$2/students, seniors & FOMH. (920) 779-6433.

Saturday, October 22

Bird Feeder Building Workshop. 9-noon. Build your own attractive wooden bird feeder, then stock up on seed at our annual bird seed sale. Our instructor is Mike Hibbard, Mosquito Hill director and accomplished wood worker. Call (920) 779-6433. for price and to register in advance.

Ridges Sanctuary Baileys Harbor

Friday & Saturday, September 23 & 24

Logan Creek Rambles. 1-2:30 p.m. Explore the trails at the Logan Creek Property, managed by The Ridges Sanctuary. We'll hike through upland forests, cedar swamps, and several natural communities in between. Meet at Mr. G's Supper Club, south of Jacksonport on Hwy 57. Call (920) 839-2802 to pre-register. Cost: \$5/person, \$10/family.

You Are Invited to a Picnic!

The Waupaca Ice Age Trail Chapter is hosting a picnic at Hartman Creek State Park to honor the Fox Valley Sierra Group members and their families for their work on the Ice Age Trail. The picnic will be held on September 17, 2005 starting at 2:30 PM at the closed shelter. The Ice Age Trail Chapter will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, buns, condiments, snacks and beverages. FVSG members may bring a dish to pass. If you plan on attending or wish to help with picnic preparations, please contact Dale Schaber at 920-739-6041 by September 12, 2005. September 17, 2005 is also an Ice Age Trail Workday. If you want to work on the Trail, please contact Dale Schaber by September 12, 2005. You do not need to work on the Ice Age Trail on September 17th to attend the picnic. See you on September 17, 2005 at Hartman Creek State Park!

Member Announcements Added

A new page has been added to our Group website. This is a page for club member announcements. Please visit it from our main web page or enter:

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

To have an announcement posted please send a well-written message to: alan.lawrence@wisconsin.sierraclub.org



by *Charlie Paine*

*Looking for Eagles
at Thousand Islands Nature Preserve in Kaukauna*

Deadline...

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

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

Chairperson & Webmaster

Alan Lawrence 730-9515
153 Northbreeze Dr, Appleton 54911-1224
alan.lawrence@wisconsin.sierraclub.org

Farms, Romp in the Swamp & Trails

Nancy Brown-Koeller 830-6625
N419 Mayflower Dr, Appleton 54914
(Shawano) 715-524-2293
nbk04@sbcglobal.net

John Muir Chapter Delegate

Jerry Sonnleitner 294-3597
W1193 Mary St, Green Lake 54941
jerry.sonnleitner@wisconsin.sierraclub.org

Treasurer

Sally Peck 468-5986
1646 Amy St, Green Bay 54302-2456
sally.peck@wisconsin.sierraclub.org

Membership, Fundraising & Calendars

Diane Mandler 832-0612
1801 W. Main St, Appleton 54911-4139
diane.mandler@wisconsin.sierraclub.org

Programs & Campus Contact

Jan Moldenhauer 231-3407
1845 Wisconsin St, Oshkosh 54901-2274
jan.moldenhauer@wisconsin.sierraclub.org

Newsletter Refunds & Secretary

Maureen Birk 468-7252
3381 Nicolet Dr, Green Bay 54311
maureen.birk@wisconsin.sierraclub.org

Conservation, Write-Place

Nancy Graham 738-7794
26 S. Meadows Dr, Appleton 54915
nancy.graham@wisconsin.sierraclub.org

Outings & Awards

Charlie Paine 739-1900
N8172 Firelane 13, Menasha 54952-9650
charlie.paine@wisconsin.sierraclub.org

Newsletter Editor & WI Postmaster

Kelly Krupka 540-9139
217 1/2 Congress St, Neenah 54130
kelly.krupka@wisconsin.sierraclub.org

Communications, Media & IAT

Dale Schaber 739-6041
815 E. Washington, Appleton 54911-5660
dale.schaber@wisconsin.sierraclub.org

Ex Officio

Penny Bernard Schaber 739-6041
815 E. Washington, Appleton 54911-5660
penny.schaber@wisconsin.sierraclub.org

Newsletter Distribution

Jackie Smith 832-0612
1801 W. Main St, Appleton 54911
jackie.smith@wisconsin.sierraclub.org

Political & Email List

Rich Krieg 497-8004
1440 Commanche Ave.
Green Bay 54313-5938
rich.krieg@wisconsin.sierraclub.org



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