



It's Our Nature

Newsletter of the Fox Valley Sierra Group www.wisconsin.sierraclub.org/foxvalley Vol. 07 Issue 3

Picnic

August 9, 2007 • 5:00 to 9:00 PM
Small Pavilion at Telulah Park in Appleton

The FVSG Picnic will take place at the Small Pavilion in Telulah Park, 1300 East Newberry Street, in Appleton. The park is located north of the junction of Newberry Street and Walter Avenue. Access to Walter Avenue is from East College Ave.

Please bring a dish to share, utensils, plates, cups, etc. and something to grill. Grills will be ready at 5:00 PM for cooking. We will stop grilling at 8:00 PM. Electrical outlets are available if you need to keep a dish hot. No glass containers are allowed. Beer (6% alcohol), wine coolers, and soda allowed. No pets are allowed in the park.

Telulah Park has a playground, 18-hole disc golf course, soccer field, and access to the Newberry Trail.

Questions? Contact Dale Schaber at 920-739-6041 or dschaber@athenet.net.

Jessica Garrels to Receive FVSG Environmental Award

Jessica Garrels is this year's recipient of the Fox Valley Sierra Group's Environmental Award. We will be presenting her with the well-deserved award during our September meeting.

Jessica is the Northeast Wisconsin Organizer for the Wisconsin League of Conservation Voters Institute. Since coming to her office two years ago, Jessica has rejuvenated the environmental community in Green Bay. She is the link between many conservation organizations in our area and has coordinated efforts among these groups to focus on similar issues when dealing with our state legislature. By narrowing the scope of environmental issues in the Northeastern Wisconsin region, the voices of our local organizations can be heard in a way they have not before. With collective efforts and coordination, many scattered environmental missions have been able to come together into a powerful voice that Wisconsin can no longer ignore.

Jessica organizes coalitions of local conservation leaders, recruits many citizens to participate in Conservation Lobby Day, is part of the founding hosting committee for Green Bay Green Drinks, is on Mayor Jim Schmitt's Sustainable Green Bay Task Force, is Vice President of the Green Bay Chapter of Trout Unlimited and constantly works to educate Northeast Wisconsin legislators on environmental issues. She also works tirelessly on making Earth Day a significant event in Green Bay. Much of her Earth Day work involves coordinating efforts of a wide variety of groups.

(Continued on page 3)

Global Warming Primer

by Alan Lawrence

Industrial age humans release lots of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere through consumption of fossil fuels and burning of forests. Despite the huge size of our planet it is difficult to imagine that our contributions of carbon dioxide are without consequences.

Arctic ice core samples provide accurate and continuous measurements of atmospheric carbon dioxide levels and temperatures going back 800,000 years. The accuracy of these records is not being challenged by scientists, to the best of my knowledge. Geologic evidence provides spotty records going millions of years into our past.

While not demonstrative of cause and

effect, there is an interesting and very strong correlation between carbon dioxide and temperature. Carbon dioxide is a greenhouse gas and this observation is expected.

There is now more carbon dioxide in our atmosphere than at any other time measured in the past 800,000 years. Carbon dioxide levels have never been this high since long before our species, or Neanderthal or Cro-Magnon Man ever walked our planet. The graph plotting carbon dioxide levels is also steeper in recent years than at any other time.

Current carbon dioxide levels stand at more than 380 parts per million (ppm), more than 100 ppm higher than the pre-industrial average, an increase of more than 37% in only 200 years.

Many species of plants and animals are

finding their ecosystems changing too quickly, and many of these species are endangered and going extinct. Plants are everything to this world; we cannot survive if plants don't thrive.

While it is impossible to accurately predict the consequences of our elevated, and probably anthropogenic, levels of carbon dioxide, we can safely conclude that it is unprecedented and that it will probably affect our climate.

It is entirely conceivable that climate changes will cause portions of Greenland ice sheets and Arctic ice to break off into the oceans, resulting in extensive flooding of populated coastal regions. It is entirely conceivable that glacier loss will put millions of people worldwide at risk of water shortage. It is entirely conceivable that rainfall patterns will change, causing floods or droughts and (*Continued on page 4*)

FROM THE CHAIR

The worldwide "Live Earth" marathon of concerts took place July 7 to call attention to global warming. Whether the rock star entertainers were effective at sharing the message is still a question. With many Americans still expressing skepticism for global warming, and others believing it will simply cause a minor inconvenience of air conditioning, I must hope some in the worldwide audience are called to action. We cannot afford to be like Nero, fiddling while Rome burned. I've written an article for this newsletter on the subject.

Our May auction fundraiser earned \$1610 for our group, including several cash contributions mailed to us. Thank you. We have an article in this newsletter with more information on our group's budget so you'll understand where our money comes from and what we do with it.

On June 28th the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources announced a modification to the cleanup plan for PCB-contaminated sediment in Wisconsin's Lower Fox River. Our organization is disappointed in the revised plan because it uses capping as a cleanup method in many areas of the river. We do not believe that covering the contaminated river bottom with layers of sand and gravel is any sort of permanent solution. I believe we will be cleaning the river again someday, and I do not believe the cost or solution is any better for having to do it twice.

A recent Public Radio program talked about songbird populations. Many species of birds are in serious trouble. An interesting rhetorical question was asked by the interviewer. We look out into our back yards and can still see many birds. Why should we be concerned? The problem is that most of us do not know how to identify the birds we see. We are still seeing lots of birds, but we are seeing representatives of fewer species.

I enjoy walking near my office during my lunch hour. My office is in a developing business park where there are many undeveloped plots of land with tall grasses and the accompanying wildlife. I am often scolded by killdeers and redwing blackbirds, apparently protecting hidden nests and young. I am distressed when the developer decides to mow his fields. Obviously the developer believes that mowed property is more valuable than wild fields. But, obvious to me, the mowers are needlessly killing helpless animals.

I am considering ways to increase awareness of the problems of mowing wild fields. It seems to me that if you are going to mow fields that you should keep them mowed. It seems cruel to invite wildlife to live in wild fields, and then mow them while babies are growing.

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

Alan Lawrence 920-730-9515
alan_lawrence99@yahoo.com

Invasives on the Run

October will start our 8th year in a buckthorn eradication project at the Gordon Bubolz Nature Preserve near Appleton. If you've ever wondered just how much invasive species cost us, there's an interesting (scary) website at: www.unk.edu/acad/biology/hoback/escape/home.html

My last check: \$61,023,112,341 so far this year. Here's another number. Generally we estimate treating 20 acres each year of this project—the more volunteers, the more acres. Thus we have covered about 140 acres. You can be a part of this natural area's transformation this fall.

The October, November and December work dates are listed in the Outings section on page 7. We work from 9-3. Come for all or a part of the day. Wear sturdy footwear, dress for the weather and bring a lunch. If you know how to operate a chainsaw, we may be able to put your talents to work with one of the preserve's saws.

Instructions and materials are provided each date. Call Sharon (see Outings) with your contact info so she can let you know of any rain cancellations. Join us and meet a few other green warriors in the great Wisconsin outdoors!

SAVE THE DATE!

The **Autumn Assembly** is October 12-14. Find more information and a registration form on our website at: <http://wisconsin.sierraclub.org/aa/>

(Garrels continued from page 1)

Her pleasant personality makes her an extremely motivating person to work on projects with. However, just beware that after you sign on to help her out, she does not take no for an answer!

Jessica joined the WLCV Institute staff in March 2005. Prior to that, she was a Natural Resource Management Volunteer in the Peace Corps on the edge of the Sahara Desert in Niger, West Africa. She grew up in Marshfield, Wisconsin, and graduated from UW-Madison in 2002, with a B.A. in International Relations. She spent a large portion of her college years interning and working for WISPIRG (Wisconsin Public Interest Research Group), which is how she became involved in conservation efforts, public education and outreach, and mobilizing people to have an open dialogue with their elected representatives. Jessica also interned with the State Environmental Resource Center in 2002.

Please join us on September 13, 2007 at Bubolz Nature Preserve to congratulate and present the award to Jessica.

Upcoming Programs

September 13 • Intro to FVSG and Bicycle Touring

If you've never been to a meeting, this is the perfect time to start. Learn about the different functions of our Group then enjoy a program presented by Alan Lawrence. Meet at 7 PM at Bubolz Nature Preserve on Lynndale in Appleton.

October 11 • To be announced...

Stay updated at: www.wisconsin.sierraclub.org/foxvalley

New Members!

ALGOMA

Marge Curtin
James Evans
Sandra Winnemueller
Lois Lehmann*

APPLETON

Shannon Cochran
Marilyn Gardner
Kimberly Kettner
Karinna Lindert
April Vande Hei
Gwendolyn Bomann
Shirley Grosskopf
Melanie Horn
Karn Peck
Thomas Verkuilen
Martina Fronczcik
William Hill
Mark Kloehn
John Lyons
Rodney Muenster
Al Olson
Kate Davis*
Connie Krueger*
Merry Wolf*

BERLIN

Elizabeth Reetz
Gerard Schubert*

BRILLION

Patrick Riley

DENMARK

Kelly Gezella
Jennifer Jerabek

DEPERE

Mary Kirchman
Jane Olson
Bernadine Williamsen
Judith Bohne
Michelle Tichy

FISH CREEK

William Klein

FLORENCE

Donald Stacho

GILLETT

Lee Schaal

GREEN BAY

Carol Bauer
Marte Carlin
Dan Mitchell
Alicia Aldrete
D. Brice
Bonnie Groessl
Torstein Hansen
Jeffrey Kaczmarek
Donald Wikgren
Patricia Bunker
Walter Cloud
Glynn Deprey
Walter Herrscher
Ron LeGros
Carol Preston
Janis Vandenbranden
Gary Overby*
Morrika Wolford*
James Liebig*

GREEN LAKE

Ali Rossberg

GREENVILLE

Courtney Wolff

KAUKAUNA

Crystal Masterman
Lolita Blood
Tom Lonsway

KEWAUNEE

Alex Ulmen

KIMBERLY

Linzi Parish

LENA

Thelma McAllister

LUXEMBERG

Marcianne Hansen

MARINETTE

Cliff Tebo

CRIVITZ

Jay Julian*

NEENAH

Lori Hein

Peter Nagan

Gail Dolan

Jim Fritz

Elizabeth Krizenesky

Michelle Zuleger*

OGDENSBURG

Wayne Boutwell

Nancy Morris

ONEIDA

Laverne Bochek-Rebbins

OSHKOSH

Roger Brey

Bryan Leinweber

Robert Abraham

Dr. Eugene Drzycimski

John Kruger

Valerie Lightholder

PESHIGO

Louis Faust

PRINCETON

Elaine Leon

RED GRANITE

Donna Herbst

RIPON

Roger Conant

SAXEVILLE

Jean Davidson*

SEYMOUR

Daniel Hakes

SHAWANO

Jerry Sutherland

John Wall

Tyler Michael Gramm

SISTER BAY

Ron Kane

STURGEON BAY

Julie Baures

Michael Freeman

Gregory Smith

Mrs. Robert Hansen*

Betty P. and

S. Craig Alexander*

WILD ROSE

Carol Delrow

Valarie Powell

WINNECONNE

Robert Hoffmann

* Transfer

Group Budget Notes

by Alan Lawrence

Thank you to everyone who helped make our annual auction fundraiser a success at our May meeting. We raised \$1610 with this event for our group.

In our last newsletter I encouraged everyone to participate in the fundraiser, and I shared some information about our club finances. Our board of directors felt that we should share more information about our finances.

Most of our members are surprised to learn that their annual Sierra Club dues do not support the local groups. Most of that money is for the National organization. The state chapter (John Muir Chapter) receives a portion of your dues. But the groups get a very small portion. We receive only 30 cents per member, and we may apply for an additional 30 cents for approved projects. Sierra Club Groups are mostly self-supported. Our group earns most of its income from our annual auction fundraiser.



Penny Bernard Schaber and Rich Krieg discuss bidding techniques at the May auction. DALE SCHABER

Our bank account has a modest reserve, thanks to some successful fundraising in our earlier years. But in recent years we have been spending more than we bring in.

Our major expense is our newsletter, which costs about \$3500 each year. We have about 1600 members, though only a small fraction participate with us. We believe our newsletter is a vital communication tool. A portion of our newsletter costs are reimbursed by National; we receive nearly \$1000 in reimbursements. That leaves net costs of about \$2500 each year for our newsletter.

We pay about \$425 each year to Bubolz Nature Preserve to rent our meeting place, a very reasonable cost for the excellent facility. Most of our program speakers come without cost, but we sometimes help them with mileage, and we provide inexpensive gifts to our speakers.

Our Chapter Allocation income, based on membership dues, comes to about \$350 per year.



Maureen Birk registers an auction item donated by Ruthann Hetzler. DALE SCHABER

We sell Sierra Club calendars, and earn about \$200 in the process. We will be offering additional Club merchandise in the future.

Our group provides a \$100 check with our Green Award to honor an individual or organization each year. We also make donations of approximately \$325 to other organizations, including the Ice Age Park and Trail foundation.

Sally Peck has been our Treasurer for many years. You can direct questions, or donations, to her. Phone: 920-468-5986 Address: 1646 Amy St, Green Bay, WI 54302-2456 or herbsinthyme@aol.com

Support Our Donors!

Fox Valley Sierra Group raised \$1,610 at our May auction!

Please support these local businesses who generously donated goods to be auctioned:

In Oshkosh: **Hergert's Sporting Goods, Salon Mode**

In Appleton: **The Free Market, Custom Printing, Inc.**

(Warming continued from page 2)

affecting food production. It is entirely conceivable that resource shortages will lead to wars.

Scientist Wallace Smith Broecker famously said, "The climate system is an angry beast and we are poking it with sticks!"

Although Americans tend to worry about the potential for a difficult future, we should not ignore the fact that the climate

has already been changing in parts of the world and people and wildlife are already suffering. A recent New York Times article was entitled, "Our Gas Guzzlers, Their Lives". It said, "Subsistence villagers in Africa will pay with their lives for our refusal to curb greenhouse gas emissions. The people who will suffer the worst will be those living in countries like this, even though they don't contribute at all to global warming." A CARE staff member said, "It's at the least disastrous and quite possibly cata-

strophic. Life was difficult, but with climate change it turns deadly."

Gary Werner, a Wisconsin Sierra Club leader pondered about political indecision and indifference or opposition. He wrote, "This is far worse than Nero fiddling while Rome burned."

To stay up-to-date on Global Warming issues in Wisconsin, visit: solveglobalwarmingwisconsin.org



Trekkin' with Dale

The Appleton Sesquicentennial Commission awarded the Fox Valley Sierra Group the "Celebrate Appleton" logo with a "Patron" designation as part of the Celebrate Appleton commemoration in 2007. Celebrate Appleton commemorates the City of Appleton's 150th birthday on May 2, 2007.

The "official" birthday party took place after the Flag Day Parade on June 9th at City Park in Appleton. Birthday Cake and other refreshments were served during the celebration.

The Fox Valley Sierra Group was honored for its 25th Anniversary and for its many accomplishments in the Fox Valley.

Timothy M. Hanna, the Mayor of Appleton, sent the Fox Valley Sierra Group an official Celebrate Appleton Proclamation.

The Proclamation reads:

WHEREAS, the Fox Valley Sierra Group, leader of a historic organization in the City of Appleton, is being recognized as a "Patron" of the city, based on their history in the Fox Valley; and

WHEREAS, long-standing organizations, such as the Fox Valley Sierra Group, have been the cornerstone of Appleton's success; and

WHEREAS, the Fox Valley Sierra Group has helped create a great history of community pride and vitality in Appleton; and

WHEREAS, the Appleton Sesquicentennial Commission, comprised of local businesses and community leaders, recognizes the Fox Valley Sierra Group for its contributions in the Fox Valley;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Timothy M. Hanna, Mayor of the City of Appleton, Wisconsin, do hereby recognize the

Fox Valley Sierra Group

as a "Patron" business supporting the sesquicentennial celebration; and

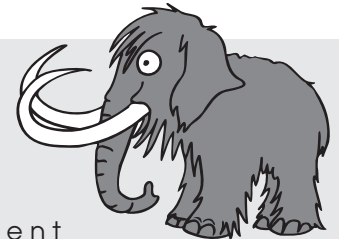
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, I call upon all to join me in congratulating the Fox Valley Sierra Group for their business' long-standing accomplishments and in celebrating Appleton's 150th Birthday!

Signed and sealed this 27th day of April, 2007.

Timothy M. Hanna
Mayor of Appleton

TAKE A WALK ON THE WILD SIDE!

21st Annual Hike-A-Thon Set for October 6, 2007



Mark your calendars and shine up your hiking boots for the 21st Annual Hike-A-Thon scheduled for October 6, 2007. 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.

Join thousands of concerned people from all across Wisconsin who will be hiking throughout the state on completed segments of the Ice Age Trail raising funds through Sponsor Pledges to help preserve unique natural resources.

The Hike-A-Thon will take place at

the Iola Winter Sports Club, Norseman Hill, County Hwy. MM, in Iola, Wisconsin. Hike is rated easy to moderate. Please wear clothing for rain or shine.

Water and apples are provided at each monitor station throughout the hike. At the ski lodge before and after the hike there are cookies, cheeses, water, coffee, soda, door prizes, and educational displays. A survival party is held at the ski lodge 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. (Note: The jump is an edge of a large kettle).

For registration information, contact Dale Schaber at 920-739-6041, dschaber@athenet.net or see him at the FVSG's August 9th picnic at Telulah Park or at the September 13th meeting at Bubolz. If you have never hiked on the Ice Age Trail, this is an excellent time to start.

NATURE CENTER EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

Brillion Brillion

August 11 - Saturday

Art in the Prairie. 11-3. Stroll through the Nature Center prairie while you observe and discuss techniques with a wide variety of artists demonstrating their skills in the form of painting, printing, nature photography, nature journaling, drawing and more.

August 28 - Tuesday

Intro to Timber Harvesting and Sales. 6-8 PM. Learn the steps and timeline involved in successful timber sales from establishment to selling to harvest. Learn what is meant by thinning, selection harvest, group selection harvest, clear cut and shelterwood harvest. Presenters: Dan Pubanz, Wolf River Forester, Ron Jones, WDNR Forester. Please register in advance.

September 8 - Saturday

Habitat for Woodland Reptiles & Amphibians. 9-10:30 AM. If managed properly, woodlands can provide habitat for salamanders, frogs, turtles and snakes. Learn about the fascinating lives of these critters and how you can enhance your own habitat. Live reptiles and amphibians will be on hand for an up-close look! Presenter: Bob Hay, WDNR Herpetologist. Please register in advance.

September 29 - Saturday

Habitat for Woodland Birds. 9-11 AM. Enjoy a morning seeing woodland birds up-close as they are netted, marked and studied. Learn about ways that you can manage your woodland to provide habitat for birds that use the forest floor and shrub layer, the canopy, and even dead trees. Presenter: Jim Knickelbine, Master Birder and Director, Woodland Dunes. Register in advance.

Bubolz Appleton

August 11 - Saturday

Scout Clinic Astronomy & Collections. 1-3 PM. Earn your Astronomy and Collecting Belt Loops by doing crafts and activities as you learn more about these two very interesting topics. Tiger Cubs, Cub Scouts and Webelo Scouts may participate in a family, den or pack outing. Siblings may participate, but must pay and do not earn awards. Scouts must be pre-registered and pre-paid prior to the workshop. Cost \$5/Scout.

August 19 - Sunday

Reptile Fest. 1-4 PM. Join The Fox Valley Herp Club to learn more about snakes, lizards, turtles and other reptiles or amphibians. Club members will be on hand with an assortment of live animals. Come anytime during the afternoon. Cost: \$2/person or \$5/family.

August 29 - Wednesday

Natural Home Products. 6:30-7:30 PM. Join Jackie Johnson and Cindy Hermson from the NEW Herb Society to learn how to clean your home

without chemicals. They will teach you how to clean with simple products that have been used for centuries! Make an all-purpose cleaner to take home. Cost: \$10/nonmembers; \$8/members.

September 15 - Saturday

Digital Photography Workshop. 8:30-11:30 AM. Join award-winning photographer Eileen Herrling and discover the benefits of digital photography. Learn how to use your digital camera more effectively. Creative techniques and special effects will change your ordinary pictures into EXTRAORDINARY! Bring camera, manuals and photos for critique. Inquire about cost.

October 20 - Saturday

14th Annual "Romp In The Swamp" Family Fun Walk. 12:30-4:30 PM. Play games and make crafts. Enjoy strolling through the Preserve's trail system while taking advantage of rest-stops along the way serving delicious treats. Cost: \$30/Family, \$9/Adult, \$7/Children 12 & under.

Heckrodt Menasha

August 25 - Saturday

Deer Hunter's Sampler. Noon-3 PM. Visit with game wardens, taxidermists, archery experts, shed hunters, official antler measurers, meat processors and more. Bring your antlers for official scoring. Special activities for kids in our Young Hunter's Hut. Program includes a raffle and kids prizes. Cost: \$2/person, raffle extra.

September 8 - Saturday

10th Annual Turtle Days Fall Harvest Festival. Noon-4 PM. Join us for nature hikes, hayrides, games, crafts and entertainment. Walk through our fall maze and enjoy food and beverages. Cost: \$3/person.

October 12 & 13 - Saturday & Sunday

Creepy Crawlies Halloween Program. 6-8 PM. Activities include live bats and owls, make-and-take craft, storytelling and a hayride. Check out the non-scary Little Spooks Trail and our fun and spooky Wetland Creeps Haunted Trail. Cost: \$5/person advanced tickets or \$8/person at the door (limited). Advanced tickets recommended.

Ledgerview Chilton

Most Weekends

Walk-In and Crawl Cave Tours. See schedule at www.co.calumet.wi.us (click on Departments: Parks: Ledge View, then choose schedule in green document sidebar), or call to check dates, 920-849-7094. Cave tours are led by a naturalist and include information on the geology, biology, and human history of the caves. Caves are accessed by stairs and ladders. Bring flashlight. Tours last 2-1/2 to 3 hours. No reservations required for families or individuals. Minors must be accompanied by supervising adult. Walk-In tour minimum recommended age 5 years old with parent. Cost: \$5/person. Crawl Cave Tour minimum recom-

mended age 8 years old with parent. Crawl covers will get very dirty. Cost: \$6/person.

August 12 - Sunday

Escarpment Tower-to-Tower Bike Tour. Ledge View's fundraiser Escarpment Bike Tour is a full-service ride. Maps, cue sheets, marked routes, sag wagon, and food are all included. Five routes of varying length. Discount for pre-registration. Visit website www.co.calumet.wi.us (departments: parks: Ledge View, then choose document in green sidebar) or call and request a brochure: 920-849-7094.

September 15 - Saturday

Fall Food Festival. 11-4. Check out organic local foods, natural fibers, wines, beers, cooking demonstrations by chefs, farmers market, and much more! Cost: \$3/parking.

October 7 - Sunday

Cidermaking. 11-3. Bring in your apples or pears, jug(s), and a friend to help, and you may use Ledge View's fruit press to make your own cider. Limit: one bushel. One bushel of apples can make 2-3 gallons of cider. Cost: \$3/bushel.

October 14 - Sunday

Prairie Wildflower Seed Collecting. 1 PM. Participants will collect seeds from a number of prairie wildflower species and learn how to prepare them for spring planting. Bring small paper bags. Cost: \$5/person.

Mosquito Hill New London

August 17 - Friday

Firefly Walk. 8-9:30 PM. Cost: \$5/adults, \$3/students, seniors, FOMH. Register by Aug 11.

September 8 - Saturday

Improving Your Image: Avian Photography. Noon-1. Cost: \$7/adults, \$5/students, seniors, FOMH. Register before August 1.

September 8 & 9 - Saturday & Sunday

Making a Meditation Flute. 8:30-4:30. Cost: \$80/adults, \$70/students, seniors, FOMH. Registration and payment due before August 24.

September 16 - Sunday

Honey Sunday. 1-4 PM. Cost: \$7/car.

September 28 - Friday

Harvest Moon Festival & FOMH Raffle Drawing.

The aforementioned activities are not sponsored nor administered by the Sierra Club. The Sierra Club has no information about the planning of these activities and makes no representations or warranties about the quality, safety, supervision or management of such activities. They are published only as a reader service because they may be of interest to the readers of this publication.

OUTINGS

August 15 - Wednesday

Bike the Wiouwash Trail from Medina to Hortonville. Ten miles round trip. This is a leisurely evening ride, returning to Medina before dark. Along the way we'll have a good chance of seeing sandhill cranes. We'll stop at Charlie's Place in Hortonville for dinner and desert. Meet at 6:00 PM sharp in the parking lot across from D&D Liquidators in Medina on Hwy 96. *Kelly Krupka 920-540-9139.*

September 15 - Saturday

Bike Waupaca's Back Roads. 24 miles. This tour takes you through a slice of central Wisconsin forest and farmland. The ride starts in Hartman Creek State Park but follows a different route than in years past. You will need a bike (in good condition), a helmet, water, lunch. Dress for the weather. *Charlie Paine 920-739-1900.*

September 22 - Saturday

Ice Age Trail Work Day at Hartman Creek State Park. Joint workday between the Fox Valley Sierra Group and the Portage and Waupaca Chapters of the Ice Age Park and Trail Foundation. 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 outing. If you have a lopper or a pruning saw, please bring it with you. *Dale Schaber 920-739-6041.*

October 6 - Saturday

21st Ice Age Trail Hike-A-Thon at Iola Winter Sports Club, Norseman Hill, County Hwy. MM, Iola, Wisconsin. This is the annual fundraiser for the Portage and Waupaca Chapters of the Ice Age Park and Trail Foundation. See the article about the Hike-A-Thon in this issue of the FVSG's Newsletter. 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. (Note: Ski jump is the edge of a large kettle). *Dale Schaber 920-739-6041 dschaber@athenet.net*

October 12-14 - Weekend

Autumn Assembly at Camp Helen Brachman west of Waupaca. See our website or the July-September issue of *The Muir View* for details.

October 13 & 28

Buckthorn Removal Work Day. See article on page 3 of this issue.

November 10 - Saturday

Buckthorn Removal Work Day. See article on page 3 of this issue.

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.

Director Needed!

Due to an unexpected but wonderful opportunity for her family, Carla Klein has resigned from her position as John Muir Chapter Director. The search for her replacement has begun. Please notify any qualified individuals of this opportunity. Contact the Chapter office with questions. (608) 256-0565

Trip Report *by Charlie Paine*

To celebrate National Trails Day on June 16, nine eager paddlers and seven non-paddlers, including Wisconsin State Senator Robert Cowles, gathered at a little-known canoe landing on the Fox River, just west of Heritage Hill State Park. Senator Cowles spoke to us briefly about local environmental issues. Then two women, one from the Brown county library and one from Heritage Hill, gave us a brief history of the Fox River.

The start of our paddle took us upstream against the sluggish current and a light breeze, under the highway 172 bridge, to a landing on DePere's north side where we stopped to use the facilities and indulge in Dairy Queen sundaes. We then turned downstream past our original departure point to find a place for lunch where we ate outdoors overlooking the Fox River. After lunch we returned to the river to paddle upstream, this time into a brisk headwind, for the short trip back to our starting point.



On Sunday, June 17, Marcia Bjornerud, Professor of Geology at Lawrence University, led a group of 13 would-be geologists to an esker on the Niagara Escarpment northeast of Brillion. We gathered first at Mom's Diner in Brillion, where Marcia had promised we would get Father's Day pie after the hike. A short drive took us to the start of the trail which would lead us to the Esker. The trail took us through a lowland rife with mosquitoes and to the foot of the esker. Marcia explained that eskers form when melt water rushing through and under the glacier deposits rock and gravel along its course. When the glacier recedes the pile of rock and gravel remains as an elongated hill on the landscape. Parts of this esker have been quarried for gravel, but we climbed the remaining section. Upon returning to Brillion we found Mom's Diner closed: we would get no pie!





Explore, enjoy and protect the planet



We all deserve clean water, right?

The Clean Water Act has been protecting us for 30 years. While the 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. In fact, the majority of Americans live within 10 miles of polluted water. We need to strengthen the enforcement of the Clean Water Act, and we could use your help to do it. Clean water is not a privilege, it's a right.

JOIN Sierra Club to help keep the Clean Water Act strong.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (_____) _____

Email _____

Check enclosed. Please make payable to Sierra Club.

Please charge my: Visa Mastercard AMEX

Cardholder Name _____

Card Number _____ Exp. Date ____/____

| Membership Categories | Individual | Joint |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
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Students visit FVSG's table at the Earth Day Celebration at UW-Fox Valley in Menasha. DALE SCHABER

Deadline...

for submitting materials for the next newsletter is October 6, 2007!

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

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