



## From the Chairman

*Thor Rasmussen*

**K**ishwauketoe is the Potowatomi Indian term for "sparkling water". This natural area has been established for the enjoyment of all. The Kishwauketoe Nature Conservancy (KNC) has more than four miles of trails that will take you through many habitats and plant communities. The Conservancy is open every day from dawn to dusk. Please come to enjoy the beauty of this special place.

Dedicated July, 1990

*"To the children of tomorrow  
Theirs is the dower of  
bird and flower  
and theirs is the  
land and the sky."*

This, our seventh year, has been one of accomplishment. Because of generous donations, plus our state Stewardship Grant, we were able to complete the Observation Deck, plant three acres of a mixture of 75 wildflowers species and finish a full third of the entrance garden project.

Our college interns, along with our site manager, Dick Bowman, removed 14 truckloads of invasive tree saplings and shrubs and maintained the four miles of trails on the Conservancy grounds.

The Commission again is grateful for the funding various civic organizations have donated to the Conservancy. It should be recognized that NO village money goes to support the Conservancy. All our expenses are paid from donations and grants.

1997 was a year of big accomplishments and it gives me great pleasure to take a look back one more time before we turn to look forward.

1997

In 1997 we:

1. Built the Observation Deck.
2. Planted three acres of wildflowers.
3. Completed one third of the entrance garden.
4. Removed 14 truck loads of invasive plants.
5. Maintained four miles of trails.
6. Planned and marked wetland areas for the Lions' Boardwalk project.
7. Built three benches for the shelter.
8. Last but not least—sent a newsletter to each Williams Bay taxpayer.



1998

Our 1998 projects include plans to:

1. Finish the entrance garden.
2. Apply for an Urban Forestry Grant.
3. Remove more invasive trees and shrubs.
4. Improve trails.
5. Build a wetlands boardwalk.
6. Make a botanical survey.
7. Produce and send out a newsletter.

# Kishwauketoe Workshop

Kendra Johncock

George Williams Lake Geneva Environmental Outreach Program, Wisconsin Electric and the Kishwauketoe Board have formed a partnership and are working to present another workshop based on the Kishwauketoe Curriculum.

In 1994, a group of educators developed the curriculum with a grant from the Wisconsin Environmental Education Board to help educators use this valuable resource. Through the partnership with Wisconsin Electric, which is sponsoring the two-day workshop we hope to reach K-12 educators in the surrounding area.

The workshop date will be sometime in mid-August for approximately 30 formal and non-formal educators. We are also working to have the workshop approved for credit through Aurora University Master of Arts in Teaching Program based at the George Williams • Lake Geneva Campus. If you would like to attend the workshop, please call Kendra Johncock at 245-5531, ext. 38 to be placed on the mailing list.

*(Kendra Johncock is the Director of the Environmental Outreach Program at the George Williams • Lake Geneva Campus.)*

*KNC Commission*

*Members:*

*Thor Rasmussen,*

*Chairman*

*Dr. William B. Duncan*

*Harold Friestad*

*Guri Henderson*

*Shawn Kelly*

*D. Raymond Loyd*

*Lois Morava*

## FRIENDS— An Active Support Group

Dave Everhart, President of FRIENDS

The FRIENDS of Kishwauketoe, Ltd. was created by the Village Board in February, 1992 as a voluntary not-for-profit corporation whose sole purpose is to provide fund-raising support for the programs of the Kishwauketoe Nature Conservancy.

The FRIENDS consists of seven members, all of whom live around Geneva Lake and are committed to making the Conservancy a free-standing and financially healthy organization.

We thank all of you, and your organizations for your support. As you know, we have a lot of good plans for the future and need your continuing help.



A view of summer in Kishwauketoe—lush, diverse and everchanging. Four miles of managed paths circle the Conservancy grounds.

*Friends of Kishwauketoe,*

*Ltd.*

*David Everhart,*

*President*

*Thomas J. Cashman*

*Charles L. Colman*

*June Gross Freeman*

*William B. Gage*

*Alice J. Morava*

*Thor Rasmussen*

# Harvest Moon Bonfire

Guri Henderson  
Lois Morava

For the past seven years, the KNC has hosted an annual Harvest Moon Bonfire. The event takes place on a Friday evening in late fall. This special evening for moonlit walks on paths lit with luminaria, music and a roaring bonfire is open to all members of the community. The event is enjoyed by hundreds of area families and friends.

This year's Harvest Moon Bonfire was held along with the dedication of the Observation Deck. Funding for the deck was provided through grants from Wisconsin Electric Power Company and donations from the Geneva Lake Association and the Department of Natural Resources Stewardship Funds.

In spite of inclement weather, the evening was a complete success. The festivities were moved to the Lions Fieldhouse where a local disc jockey provided music for the crowd and free hot dogs were enjoyed.

Once again, special thanks goes to George Williams • Lake Geneva for their contribution of food and wood for the bonfire.



Observation Deck Dedication  
Row 1 (L to R) Raymond Geraldson, GLA; Chuck Coleman, Former State Representative; Harold Friestad, Village Trustee; Marianne Klemke, Village President; Thor Rasmussen, KNC  
Row 2 (L to R)  
Noel Cutright and Janice Melnik, Wisconsin Electric Company; Russell Hovde, GLA; Representative Neal Kedzie; Ken Erten, Architect; Gene Park, DNR

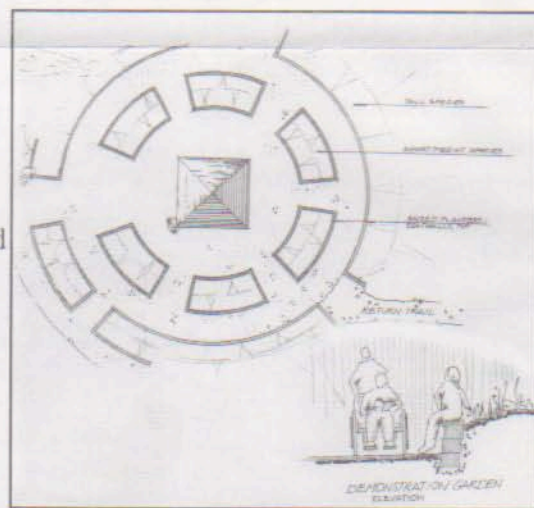
## Entrance Garden

Shawn Kelly

Concerns about the appearance of the main entry to the Conservancy prompted consideration of its improvement. The Kelly Design Group, LLC was asked by the Board to create a more attractive design.

Accordingly, the Kelly Design Group proposed several ideas. Making the plantings more visible and identifiable, including Braille signs, will be a significant feature. Additionally, plantings will be grouped to make identification and understanding even easier. The entire garden will be accessible to all by raising the height of the beds to wheelchair height.

Richard Bowman heads a team doing the construction. The new seat walls are made from units purchased at Polyblock Company in Zenda, Wis. Initial planting and construction will be completed this coming spring.



Rendering of the proposed Entrance Garden Project

## Guided Walks

Seasonal, guided walks in the KNC are listed in the local papers, library, radio station, post office and municipal bulletin boards.

Trail maps for self-guided tours are available in the Conservancy and at the Village Hall.



# Wildflower Planting

Dick Bowman

## What's Ahead

Alice Morava

### The Lions Boardwalk Project

A joint effort of the Lions, Lioness and Leo Clubs of District 27 A-1 and the KNC will result in a boardwalk, an accessible 1,175 foot long trail through the wetlands of the Conservancy. Spearheaded by Pete R. Oehman, past president of the Williams Bay Lions Club, the four-phase project will begin in 1998 and be completed by the year 2000.

Phase one, to be started this spring, will be a path of 350 feet that will cross a marsh and a Class 1 trout stream. The path will begin at the eastern parking area and move in a northwesterly direction. This ambitious project will be financed entirely by the Lions Clubs of District 27 A-1.

Last Spring, three acres were prepared and planted with 75 species of native wildflower seed as part of an ongoing project shared with the Lake Geneva Garden Club. The money for the seeds came as a gift from the Garden Club. Even though the seeds were planted this year, their full beauty will take several years to show. Wildflower plants can take as long as seven years to mature and produce flowers.

This summer, the main effort of our two interns was cutting down the box elders and buckthorns, which seemed to be everywhere. Neil Strozinski, a student of the University of Wisconsin, Platteville and Jenna Contuchio of Beloit College pulled and cut enough invasive plants to fill 14 truckloads. It is now possible to see an open space in the Conservancy from the top of the observation deck.



Volunteers plant seeds and maintain the four miles of trails in the Conservancy.

## Special Thanks

Thank you to Dr. Bill Duncan of George Williams • Lake Geneva, for providing the time and resources of his staff to produce this newsletter.

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### FRIENDS of Kishwauketoe, Ltd.

To become a FRIENDS supporter, please complete this form and return to KNC PO Box 580, Williams Bay, WI 53191. All contributions are tax deductible. Kishwauketoe is a not-for-profit organization with a 501(c)(3) status. Please make checks payable: FRIENDS of Kishwauketoe, Ltd.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Village/City: \_\_\_\_\_ State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Family Membership - \$25.00 annually  
\_\_\_\_ Individual Membership - \$15.00 annually

Gift Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Memorial Gift Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_ I would like to talk about a special gift.

I wish to volunteer at Kishwauketoe Conservancy as:

\_\_\_\_ Natural Landscape Helper  
\_\_\_\_ Trail Guide

Please call me at: \_\_\_\_\_  
Time \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_