



Site For Signing First Isolated Wetlands Bill

Alice Morava

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Meeting the Governor (L to R) Mary Rasmussen, Thor Rasmussen, Sean Kedzie, State Representative Neil Kedzie, Governor Scott McCallum

Passed unanimously by the State Assembly and the Senate, the law is in response to a US Supreme Court Ruling earlier this year that created a loophole in environmental protection. The loophole left 4.2 million acres of isolated Wisconsin wetlands - those not connected to streams and lakes - vulnerable to development. This gives the state DNR power to regulate the use of marshes, swamps and bogs.

Citizens of Williams Bay, as well as the surrounding area, flocked to the Kishwauketoe site to witness the reaffirmation of commitment to the 230 acres purchased by the village almost 12 years ago.

From the Chairman

Thor Rasmussen

Twelve years and still growing!!! The Kishwauketoe Nature Conservancy (KNC) continues to be a source of recreation, education and reflection for more people each year.

In 2001

- With our DNR Urban Forestry grant, we now have a species mix of 27 native trees and a total of 150 trees planted in our new arboretum on Harris Road

- Governor Scott McCallum came to KNC on May 7 to sign the first Isolated Wetlands Bill in the United States.
- Cut a new trail for the current boardwalk to the Lake Trail near Geneva St.
- Escorted school groups through the KNC
- The Interns built a bridge over the wet areas on the Tower Trail.
- The Williams Bay Boy Scout Troop #237 made wildlife animal habitats
- Mowed and trimmed trails, added wood chips and removed dead trees.

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Winter in Kishwauketoe
Nature Conservancy

Kishwauketoe is the Potawatomi 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 very special place.

Dedicated July, 1990
To the children of tomorrow:

*"Theirs is the dower of
bird and flower
and theirs is the
earth and sky."*

In 2002

- Apply for DNR Stewardship grants
- Finish the Boardwalk extension
- Plan to construct and plant a wildlife pond
- Have a controlled prairie burn in early spring
- Trim and maintain our four-mile trail system
- Continue removing invasive species

Guri Henderson Leaves Board

After serving 10 years on the KNC Commission as a charter member, Guri Henderson resigned. The KNC Commissioners and Friends appreciate Guri's many years of interest and concern for the Conservancy, organizing the Harvest Moon celebrations and her artistic flair.



*"Friends" enjoy festivities at the 10th Anniversary Party.
(L to R) JoAnn Hobbs, Dave Everhart, Marianne Klemke, Jan Giovanetti*

Dave Everhart

We have had another good year at the Kishwaukee Nature Conservancy! On June 24, we celebrated the 10th anniversary of our founding with a late afternoon reception held near the shelter. On that occasion, we dedicated the 80 trees just planted on our Harris Road site and the establishment of our Native Tree Arboretum. That project was made possible by a very generous gift to the Friends of Kishwaukee from the Lake Geneva Garden Club and a DNR Urban Forestry grant. We are most grateful for their ongoing support!

As you know, the "Friends" is the tax deductible, fund-raising arm of Kishwaukee and with the commission is responsible for providing the necessary financing for the operating and capital budgets of the Conservancy. We are totally dependent upon the continuing good will and generosity of those of you who represent organizations of families or individuals.

As a nonprofit conservation organization, the KNC qualifies for Stewardship Funds through the Department of Natural Resources. These grants match our funds raised dollar for dollar, doubling our money. Grants may apply to land acquisition, accessible recreational facilities, establishing native specie arboretums and lake protection.

We have some challenging new projects in the planning for next year. With a \$12,000 grant from the Lake Geneva Association, help from the Williams Bay Lions club, Stewardship Funds and YOU, we plan to extend the Boardwalk. The Lake Geneva Garden club has pledged support for the development of a wildlife pond. So, we should be busy and productive. Join us in the fun!

Selecting and ordering the species of trees and shrubs native to this area for the new arboretum takes education, knowledge and experience.

We are fortunate in having Josh Skolnik, a restoration ecologist, as a KNC Commissioner and acting as our technical advisor. He is also instrumental in helping with plant identification and prairie burns.

Welcome, Kim Parker

New Board member Kim Parker is the newest member of the KNC Board. For the past nine years, she has lived in Williams Bay with her husband and three children. She is very interested in prairie restoration and helped establish the two - acre prairie at the Williams Bay high school.

Completing the Boardwalk, expanding the prairie, creating a pond and removing unwanted brush are important projects for her.

Kim enjoys hiking and cross country skiing the KNC trails.

KNC Trivia

After bluebirds have nested and their young have flown on their own, their houses are then used by other birds in search of nesting sites.



Enjoying the Harvest Moon celebration are (L to R) Cheryl Friestad, Kay Loyd, Lois Morava, George Morava

Harvest Moon Festival

Ray Loyd

The fire crackled, the hot dogs cooked and the marshmallows dripped at the 11th annual Harvest Moon Festival, September 29, 2001 in the Conservancy.

Community members walked the trails and enjoyed the music, sponsored by Firststar Bank. The food was donated by Aurora University, Lake Geneva Campus and McDonalds. The only thing missing was the harvest moon - too many clouds to see it.

Next fall, watch for the KNC posters and newspaper articles announcing the KNC Harvest Moon Festival, 2002.

Volunteer Days

Harold Friestad

The KNC Commissioners continue to schedule Volunteer Work Days on the last Saturday of the month, February through November from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM.

This year, the volunteers weeded the demonstration planters, harvested wildflower seeds and trimmed trails. Next year we hope to continue the seed harvesting, to expand our prairies and continue our never-ending struggle against box elder and buckthorn.

Watch the local newspapers for scheduled work sessions. Bring your work gloves, wear sturdy shoes and meet at the KNC shelter across from the Lions Fieldhouse.

The KNC is an asset to all area residents and we need your time and talents to keep the Conservancy going.

Please keep in mind that we pledged to the Village Board that we would handle all maintenance and restoration projects without asking for additional tax dollars, after the initial purchase of the KNC property.

So far we have been able to do this with the exception of assistance we need periodically from our cooperative Village Public Works department.



KNC volunteers (L to R) Shawn Lovell, Pat Suel, Dick Bowman, David Gasser, Debbie Gasser, Harold Friestad

Interns

Brad Gefvert and Don Ambort, students at UW-Platteville, were this summer's interns. Besides performing ongoing maintenance, they cut a 730 - foot path from the end of the Boardwalk to the Lake Trail, across from the boat launch, and treated the Boardwalk with water seal and UV protection.

Along with repairing fences, the interns kept the trees in the new arboretum watered during the dry summer.



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