



*A view of the Boardwalk in summer*

## Boardwalk Dedication

*Lois Morava*

The highlight of this summer was the dedication of the completed accessible Boardwalk, July 27, 2002. After hoping for rain for weeks, it finally arrived THAT MORNING, but spirits were not dampened.

Phase I of the Boardwalk was completed in 1998 by Lions of District 27A-I, especially Pete Oehmen, and the Williams Bay Lions. Now the Boardwalk begins at the Harris Road parking lot and continues over the wetlands, through the forest to the Lake Trail opposite the boat launch area, completing Phase II.

The completion was celebrated with a ceremony and brass plaque mounted at the beginning of the extension. Guests introduced by "Friends" President, David Everhart included Lion Hal Hoxie, past 27A- I District Governor, Russell Hovde of the Geneva Lake Association, County Supervisor Tom Lothian, KNC Commissioner Harold Friestad, Boy Scout Troop #237 and volunteers.

*What a grand accomplishment!!!*



*"Friends" president, David Everhart at the Boardwalk dedication with Rick Wolski, Cub Scout Troop #237*

Kishwaukee is the Potawatomi Indian term for "sparkling water". This natural area has been established for the enjoyment of all. The Kishwaukee 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."*

## From the Chairman

*Thor Rasmussen*

To see the progress in the KNC each year and be able to tell you about it is rewarding to all who contribute to its success-Commissioners, Friends, volunteers and supporters.

In 2002

- Extended the Boardwalk through the wetland 730' to meet the Lake Trail
- Dedicated the Boardwalk in July
- The interns water-sealed the Boardwalk, shelter and viewing tower
- Installed brass plaques recognizing

contributors to the wildflower garden, arboretum and Boardwalk

- Made a wood chip trail along the Calvary Church lot line
- Studied the possibility of a wildlife pond

For 2003

- Eradicate garlic mustard in the old growth forest in the spring

*Cont'd. on next page*

*From the Chairman cont'd.*

- With help from the 2002 Lake Geneva Garden Club grant, do extensive clearing of buckthorn and box elder
- Have a controlled burn in early spring
- Enhance the Boardwalk with more clearing for light and breezes
- Work on eradicating purple loosestrife, foxtail and reed canary grass
- Harvest wildflower seeds for future plantings

## What it Takes to Build a 730' Boardwalk

*Harold Friestad*

1. \$29,000
2. 14,000 screws
3. 1,460 cedar deck boards
4. 3,796' of cedar support frames
5. 1,300' of galvanized pipe
6. 3,000' of handrail
7. 156 much pods
8. 160 deck brackets
9. 900 hours



*Construction of the Boardwalk*

## KNC Friends

*Dave Everhart*

One of the most valuable functions of our prime wetlands is the preservation of the natural purification of water flowing into Geneva Lake from its surrounding watershed. Kishwauketoe is the last major wetland area supplying Geneva Lake, and we are dedicated to keeping it that way!

The KNC continues to be indebted to the Lake Geneva Garden Club members and their generosity. This year we received a grant for prime wetlands restoration. Restoration is vital to the water quality of Geneva Lake. Wetlands need to be filters and kept clean of invasive trees and plants. Restoring and enhancing the KNC wetlands remain our primary concern.

The Friends of Kishwauketoe is a small group of lake-area people who are charged with the responsibility of assisting the Kishwauketoe Nature Conservancy Commission with the raising of funds to support its ongoing operation.

All expenses of the KNC are paid from contributed funds and grants and not from the operating budget of the Village of Williams Bay. The improvements of the last 12 years- including clearing the land, planting of the prairie, establishing trails, constructing the nature shelter and the observation tower and completing the boardwalk, were made possible by the generosity of volunteers who have given their time, talent and money to make it happen.

Your support is really appreciated. Your tax-deductible contribution may be sent to: Friends of Kishwauketoe  
PO Box 580  
Williams Bay, WI 53191-058

## KNC Volunteers

*Kim Parker*

The Kishwauketoe Conservancy is lucky to have many volunteers. Projects this past year included the construction of the Boardwalk, clearing brush for the boardwalk, spreading wood chips around trees in the arboretum, removing alien plants and collecting seeds to be planted in the future. Meet a few of the high school volunteers who worked on these projects - the "Kish Kids."

Maria Martin, a sophomore at Williams Bay high school, has been volunteering for a year and a half. She enjoys helping the KNC while aiding her college applications. Ryan Bower likes working outside with his friends and learning to identify plants. His favorite project has been working on the construction of the Boardwalk. Steve Reno also enjoys volunteering in the outdoors with his friends. His favorite projects have been pulling garlic mustard and spreading wood chips. Rob Lewis, a sophomore at Big Foot High School, feels volunteering is a great way to become a well-rounded person and have fun as well. Kyle Schryver was one of the first volunteers and Margaret Martin, Michael Thompson and Lynn Parker have also given time to the KNC.

Over 900 volunteer labor hours in just seven and one-half weeks, made this project a success.

The project, to complete Phase II of the Boardwalk, was completed through the generous donations of time and money from the Williams Bay Lions Club, Lions District 27A-1, the Geneva Lake Association and Kishwauketoe Volunteers.

All major projects, as well as wetland and prairie restoration are accomplished through private donations and volunteer labor. This was the pledge of the Village Board at the time the Village purchased the property and is still the case, twelve years later.

We will be having monthly volunteer days on the fourth Saturday of the month throughout the year with the exception of December. Quite often, when we have a major project, we will schedule additional workdays.

For further information, please contact Harold Friestad, Lois Morava, or Thor Rasmussen at 245-6585, 245-6138 or 245-6555.

There are many more projects to be completed in the KNC in the future. The group meets regularly on the fourth Saturday of the month from 9 to 11 a.m. Watch local papers for scheduled work sessions. Bring work gloves, wear sturdy shoes and meet at the KNC shelter across from the Lion's Fieldhouse.

Call Thor Rasmussen at 245-6555 with any questions.

## Interns

Brad Gefvert and Matt Lee, both agriculture education majors at UW-Platteville worked as KNC interns this summer. They installed a new trail-marking system and facilitated group tours through KNC communicating history and ecology.

They helped cut back the growth on both sides of the Boardwalk extension, maintained the trail, and watered and fertilized the trees in the arboretum. Another of their summer projects involved using a global positioning system to make a more accurate trail map. Dick Bowman assisted with this project. Brad and Matt also built the bench alcove on the Boardwalk. It was a busy summer for the two young men.



Summer 2002 interns Brad Gefvert and Matt Lee

## Harvest Moon Festival

Ray Loyd

The harvest moon shone in full splendor, especially for those who walked the completed Boardwalk for the first time, at the 12th annual Harvest Moon Festival. Kim Parker and Thor Rasmussen led the walks. Hot dogs, cookies, apples, marshmallows and cider were enjoyed by community members who hiked the trails and listened to Gary Babler's music.

Our sponsors were Mid-America Bank, Walworth State Bank, Aurora University Lake Geneva Campus and Gage Marine.

## Is the Conservancy Significant?

Alice Morava

"The Kishwaukee wetland in Williams Bay plays an important ecological, environmental and social role. It moderates flood flow, improves water quality, recharges groundwater, provides a diversity of plants and animals."

"This area is the largest intact wetland remaining in the watershed of Geneva Lake. Two large Geneva Lake tributary streams, Harris and Southwick, meander through the property and are cleansed by the actions of this wetland."\* Each year, 565,000,000 gallons of water run through the KNC from these creeks.

The KNC is a wonderful pristine natural habitat and provides a safe and beautiful dimension to recreation in the Geneva Lake area. Opportunities for enjoying the benefits of the Conservancy are apparent during all four seasons. The "Friends" extend a welcome to Kishwaukee Nature Conservancy. \*Source: Kishwaukee Nature Conservancy Plan, 1992

## Boy Scout Troop #237 is Tops

Thanks to Deiter Konz and the Boy Scouts of Williams Bay Troop #237, under the leadership of Gail Fox, for the tree identification plaques mounted in the Harris Road Arboretum.

## Our Dynamic Duo Harold and Cheryl Friestad

Without the dedication, organization and drive of Harold Friestad, the completed Boardwalk may have been a dream yet.

Harold helped supervise the work sessions, devised efficient ways of construction and waded in mud along with his crew of friends, volunteers and Lions to complete the boardwalk ahead of schedule.

Cheryl made sure no one went hungry on working nights by bringing the "crew" dinner.

Our hats are off to you both!

## Gift Giving

As the 2002 tax year comes to an end, remember the KNC. Consider participating in the following gift-giving opportunities:

- Intern scholarships
- Endowments for special projects
- Memorials

Your gift has a double benefit - as a tax deduction for you (we have a 501 (c)(3) status) and a boon to the Conservancy's future.

# Garlic Mustard-#1 Target Weed Menace

Lois Morava

Garlic mustard is a swift-spreading, invasive weed that thrives in and along woodlands. In a matter of several years, garlic mustard can crowd out an entire forest floor of wildflowers, ferns and sedges, creating a dense mat of weeds.

First year plants have rounded to kidney shaped leaves. Second year plants have larger toothed, heart shaped leaves. Bloom time is May/June with numerous white flowers about 1/4" wide, four separate petals in clusters at the top of the stem.

There is a strong odor of onion or garlic when the plant is rubbed or crushed. Garlic mustard produces abundant seeds that are spread through animal fur, flowing water, wind or by human activities.

To control its spread, plants must be pulled including roots from mid-May to mid-June and removed in plastic bags for disposal. It grows in dense stands or beds, in gardens, walkways, trails, roadsides and the Conservancy. *Source: The Park People, Friends of Milwaukee County Parks*

## 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

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



"Kish Kids" (L to R)  
Kyle Schryver, Ryan Brower, Muck Resh, Steve Reno, Amanda Travis, Maria Martin

## 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 to:  
FRIENDS  
of Kishwauketoe, Ltd.

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

- Family Membership - \$25.00/year
- Individual Membership - \$15.00/year
- Sponsor - \$50.00/year
- Donor - \$100.00/year
- Patron - \$500.00/year
- Benefactor - \$1000/year
- I wish to volunteer at Kishwauketoe Conservancy.

## KNC Commission

Thor Rasmussen, Chairman  
Richard Bowman, Harold Friestad,  
D. Raymond Loyd, Lois Morava,  
Kim Parker, Joshua Skolnik

## Friends of Kishwauketoe, Ltd.

David Everhart, President  
Thomas J. Cashman, Charles L.  
Colman, June Goss Koch, William B.  
Gage, Alice J. Morava,  
Thor Rasmussen

