

The Friends of the Fox Quarterly Newsletter



Discovery

Friends of the Fox Mailing: P.O. Box 741, Appleton, WI 54912-0741

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A Tribute to A Dear Friend

Each person comes into this world with a specific destiny--he has something to fulfill, some message has to be delivered, some work has to be completed. You are not here accidentally--you are here meaningfully. There is a purpose behind you. The whole intends to do something through you -Osho

Tribute to Dear Friend

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FOF Newest Members

"Annual Meeting"

We salute you Jack!

When Friends of the Fox began their historic efforts on behalf of protecting the future of the Fox River waterway, one of the first people to join the effort was Elwyn "Jack" Nelson. Our dear friend Jack lost a battle with leukemia on December 8, 2010, after a life of dedication to his family, friends and community service.

Oftentimes we work with people for years, then we read their life history in an obituary and realize how much more there was to their lives than we thought possible. As I worked with Jack on the river issues, I knew that he was married to the "love of his life", Virginia (Ginna). I knew that he had a college degree in engineering and served in the Navy during World War II. I knew he worked in the construction industry through his entire working career. I knew he loved to ski, loved sailing his boat (Sommer Schuss) and loved spending time at his cottage at Black Wolf Point in Oshkosh with his family and friends. I also knew Jack loved to participate in triathlons at age 80 and beyond, winning his last race this past summer at the age of 87 in spite of his leukemia. I also knew from my long visits with Jack and Ginna of Jack's love and dedication to his family.

What I didn't know, however, was Jack's deep involvement on various boards of directors as well as many civic organizations he was active in. I did not know of Jack and



Ginna's work with the Methodist Youth Fellowship where they embarked on an ambitious project to educate a young Filipino man to become a medical doctor.

I was unaware that this doctor, Dr. Ricardo Fernando has become the outstanding authority on diabetes in all of Southeast Asia and is world-renowned in his field. Dr. Fernando established the Institute

for Studies in Diabetes in Manila, where over 500 doctors and nurses have been trained serving their countrymen in the Philippine islands.

I was honored to be known as a friend of Jack Nelson, and especially honored to have shared some of the life of Jack and Ginna, both at their cottage and home in Oshkosh. Thank you Jack Nelson for sharing your enormous talents, your dedication to your community and enthusiasm for life with us. Thank you Ginna for sharing Jack with us.

A great passion of Jack's was the restoration of the Fox River Locks. He spent more than 20 years encouraging and working to develop the Fox-Wisconsin Heritage Parkway.

Jack was a board member of the Fox River Navigation System Authority. He was a long-term member of Friends of the Fox and was given the John Forster Vision trophy for his efforts.

Jack, you will be sadly missed by your friends and family!

Written by John Forester

Community Projects

FOX-WISCONSIN HERITAGE PARKWAY LEGISLATIVE NEWS UPDATE



Legislation was sponsored in the Senate by Senator Kohl and in the House by Representative Kagen. With Kagen's defeat, Congressman Petri is willing to move from co-sponsor to sponsor but first wants to offer the opportunity to Representative Ribble.

The Heritage Parkway Board will be meeting with Representative Ribble and Senator Johnson to introduce the project in early February.

Senator Kohl's office will then take the lead to get all parties at one table and finalize the plan for the legislation going forward.

New information will be available on the Friends of the Fox website.

By C. Mortara

Anyone wishing to support or receive more
information on the
Fox-Wisconsin Heritage Parkway
May Contact FWHP at 920-707-2965

THE FOX-WISCONSIN HERITAGE PARKWAY

The Fox-Wisconsin Heritage Parkway has formed a fund raising team to manage grant submissions and local fund raising along the Parkway. Initial efforts have focused on available corporate and community grant opportunities. In the past month the fund raising team has submitted 5 grant applications to potential donors.

The Parkway area incorporates approximately 1,444 square miles, consisting of 329 square miles of water cover and 1,115 square miles of land cover. The area runs through fifteen counties in Wisconsin.

We are looking for qualified volunteers to spearhead fund raising efforts in each of the following counties bordering the Fox-Wisconsin Heritage Parkway.

Brown	Crawford	Grant	Marquette	Sauk
Calumet	Dane	Green Lake	Outagamie	Waushara
Columbia	Fond du Lac	Iowa	Richmond	Winnebago

**If you are interested in the opportunity of furthering the work of the
Fox-Wisconsin Heritage Parkway, please contact Dan Reinhold at 630-240-7733.**

Community Projects Continued

FUN FOR ALL ~ ENJOYING THE "TALL SHIP FESTIVAL" in GREEN BAY



Day of Fun was enjoyed by all during the 2010 "Tall Ship Festival" in Green Bay.

Photos courtesy of Steve Lockhart



*"If my ship
sails from
sight, it
doesn't
mean my
journey
ends,
it simply
means the
river
bends."*

John Enoch Powell

FRIENDS OF THE FOX HELPING FRIENDS!

Friends of the Fox is assisting Hollie Hammen with the creation of her proposal to lease the Little Chute lock tender house for the purpose of housing the Fox River Arts Refuge and The Keeper's House Gallery.

Ms. Hammen has presented her idea to the Lower Fox River Committee of the Fox-Wisconsin Heritage Parkway. Ms. Hammen will also present her proposal to the Property Committee of Fox River Navigational System Authority in February.

The plan for the Arts Refuge is to provide a

historic, quiet setting for all ages to explore the arts, creativity, and the beauty of the Fox River.

We are proud to be a part of finding viable reuse opportunities for the lock tender houses. We invite proposals from others in the community who also have interest in projects that may improve our Fox River frontage.

If you have an idea and would like to share it, please contact us at 920-707-2065.

By C. Mortara

***Huge Thank-You for the Donation from the
Fox River Navigational System Authority
To Fox-Wisconsin Heritage Parkway for Help in Interpreting the Locks
for the Public!!***

Community Projects Continued

FRIENDS OF THE FOX PARTNERS WITH CITY OF MENASHA

The Friends of the Fox board of directors have agreed to partner with the City of Menasha in establishing a quiet paddle launch site at Jefferson Park. Jefferson Park is located in Menasha at the mouth of the Lower Fox as the river flows north from Lake Winnebago. This area is a critical location for a paddler's launch or recovery.

Brian Tungate, the Menasha Park and Recreation director, approached FOF with the idea of creating a paddler's launch site away from the motor boat ramp which tends to be very busy. The new paddler's launch site will eliminate conflicts between motor boat use and paddle craft. This site will be identified as LF 1 on the Fox Wisconsin Heritage Water Trail map.

We are proud to support our community projects!

By P. Hensler



Photo of a Paddler's Launch Dock similar to the one FOF will be donating to City of Menasha.

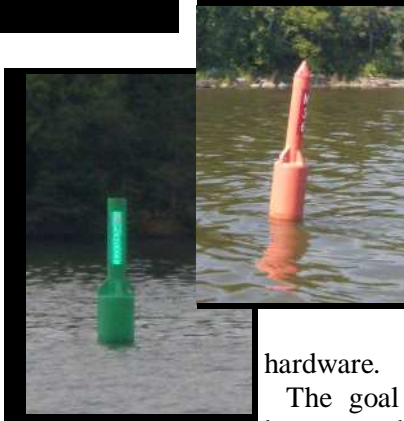
BUOY PLACEMENT ON THE LOWER FOX RIVER

In the last several months there has been considerable progress in the placement of buoys on the Lower Fox River. The Friends of the Fox Navigational Safety Committee has been diligently working with East Central Planning Commission, the Appleton Yacht Club, Fox River Navigational System Authority and other interested parties to work through the sometimes complex permitting and jurisdictional issues involved in placement of buoys along the river.

In late fall the Appleton Yacht Club (AYC) placed new year-round buoys from the Menasha lock to Appleton lock 1.

The club received funding assistance from the annual Duck Derby fund raiser along with added financial support from interested individuals.

Thanks to the AYC members who put in all the volunteer time to organize fundraisers and complete the project of placing the buoys.



The next phase for the FOF Navigational Safety committee will be to coordinate buoy placement from Appleton lock 1 north. This undertaking will require additional funding for new buoys and

hardware.

The goal for the committee is to have something in place in areas of the river that will be open for navigation this year.



Winter on the Fox River

If anyone is interested in helping to support this effort please contact us as soon as possible. Meeting the goal of placement of the buoys this year will be a major task, one that will take all the financial help we can receive.

By P. Hensler
Please

**Contact us at:
920-707-2065
for more
information.**

Community Projects Continued

FRIENDS OF THE FOX ADVOCATES for EXTENDED SUMMER LOCK HOURS

Friends of the Fox (FOF) is advocating for the Appleton and Cedars locks to be open during all weekends between Memorial Day and Labor Day. We have heard this request from many of our members and are taking steps to see it become a reality.

The FOF Board feels this is an important step to promote use of the system and to highlight the good work that Fox River Navigational System Authority (FRNSA) has done. We are working with FRNSA on this issue. It has been determined that a decision should be made by the end of February. FOF will email the Lock Operation Schedule as soon as it becomes available, as well as post it on our website.

By C. Mortara



Boats approaching Appleton Lock #2
Photo by Dave Peck



Closing the doors
at the Menasha Lock
Photo by Dave Peck

PLEASE RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP OR CONSIDER JOINING TODAY –
Be A Part of an Enthusiastic, Dedicated Team Advocating for the Fox River!!

*Please Complete the Form Below, Enclose It in an
Envelope Along with Your Financial Donation
and Mail It to the Address on the Form
(checks made out to Friends of the Fox)*



Enclosed Are My Membership Dues to Friends of the Fox

Sustaining Donor: \$25 _____ Gold Donor: \$50 _____ Platinum Donor: \$100 _____

***Additional Donation _____

Please fill out this form, clip and mail it, along with your financial donation to:
Friends of the Fox, P.O. Box 741, Appleton, WI 54912-0741, Phone: 920-707-2065

Name: _____ Address: _____

Email Address: _____ Phone: _____

All contributions to the Friends of the Fox are tax deductible. Friends of the Fox is a 501-C3 not-for profit corporation.

Thank you in Advance for all of your Support! We could not succeed without you!!

Navigation

2008-2010 Fox Locks General Navigation Season Statistics

2010	MENASHA	LITTLE KAUKAUNA	DEPERE	2010 TOTALS (Menasha, Kaukauna, DePere)	APPLETON (Locks 1-4)	CEDARS LOCK	2010 TOTALS (Appleton & Cedars)
Lockages	1318	727	1252	Lockages: 3,297			
Crafts	2055	1106	2062	Crafts: 5,223			
Passengers	7395	4821	8087	Passengers: 20,303			
2009	MENASHA	LITTLE KAUKAUNA	DEPERE	2009 TOTALS (Menasha, Kaukauna, DePere)	APPLETON (Locks 1-4)	CEDARS LOCK	2009 TOTALS (Appleton & Cedars)
Lockages	1563	934	1504	Lockages: 4,001	24	31	55
Crafts	2252	1470	2329	Crafts: 6,051			
Passengers	8837	5761	8665	Passengers: 23,263			
2008	MENASHA	LITTLE KAUKAUNA	DEPERE	2008 TOTALS (Menasha, Kaukauna, DePere)	APPLETON (Locks 1-4)	CEDARS LOCK	2008 TOTALS (Appleton & Cedars)
Lockages	1220	732	1348	Lockages: 3,300			
Crafts	1580	1291	2202	Crafts: 5,073			
Passengers	6677	4501	9048	Passengers: 20,226			

Fox River Navigational System Authority
1008 Augustine Street, Kaukauna, WI 54130 Phone: 920-759-9833

"You must be the change you wish to see in the world."

Mahatma Gandhi

FEDERAL REGISTER NOTICE FOR CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILROAD DRAWBRIDGE IN OSHKOSH



Federal Register notice published January 13, 2011 for a new drawbridge regulation to cover the operation of the Canadian National Railway drawbridge in Oshkosh.

- Oshkosh Railroad Bridge Proposed Reconstruction Plans
- Oshkosh Railroad Bridge Project Development Report
- Oshkosh Railroad Bridge Federal Register

(For information on the above items please see photo on left) Coast Guard Bridge Office in Cleveland, Ohio is requesting comments from local users on the proposed new Oshkosh bridge by February 13, 2011.

For comments, please contact:

Scot Striffler, Bridge Program Manager, Ninth Coast Guard District
(216) 902-6087, Fax: (216) 902-6088, Scot.M.Striffler@uscg.mil



John Muir's Home near Portage
Wisconsin Historical Society photo

JOHN MUIR'S HOME

Montello Wisconsin. An emigrant from Scotland, Muir came to the state with his family in 1849, when he was just eleven years old. Growing up, John worked dawn to dusk on his family's Fountain Lake Farm, which overlooked a small secluded lake fed by the Fox River (Ennis Lake). It was here, he would later confess, that he cultivated his love of nature.

In Muir's book, *The Story of My Boyhood and Youth*, he recalls Wisconsin fondly. Growing up in the largely humanized landscape of Scotland, he had never before known a world so untouched by human hands. He described his early explorations of the Wisconsin wilderness with his brother, "we ran along the brow of the hill that the shanty stood on, and down to the meadow, searching the trees and grass tufts and bushes, and soon discovered a bluebirds and a woodpeckers nest, and began an acquaintance with the frogs and snakes and turtles in the creeks and springs. The sudden splash into pure wilderness—baptism in Nature's warm heart—how utterly happy it made us!"

At age twenty-two he began attending the University of Wisconsin. After finishing four years there, he left for

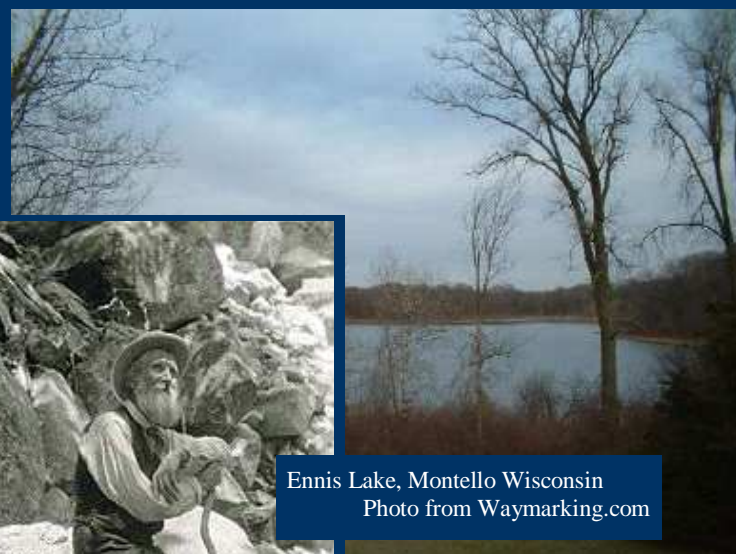
the "University of the Wilderness," moving to California to explore the backwoods of the West. Muir spent the his life in California. During his time there he became a renowned preservationist, known as the "father of the National Park System" and as co-founder of the Sierra Club. Despite his many achievements, he never forgot

the lake near his Montello farm, "where the beauty of its lilies and orchids is so pressed in my mind."

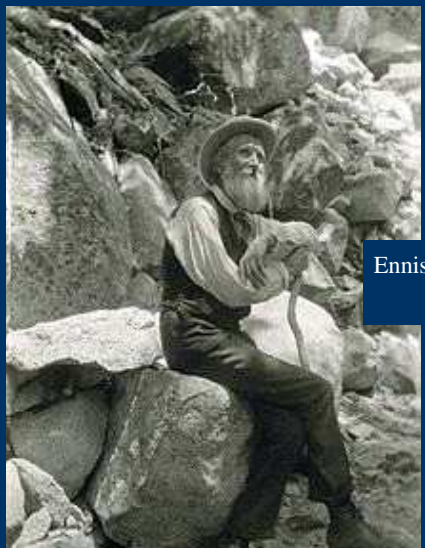
Today, tributes to John Muir and his efforts exist around the world; however, perhaps one of the least known is his

Fountain Lake Farm, which still remains in Montello. John Muir County Park exists near the farm, surrounding Ennis Lake. Still largely untouched by human habitation, the site provides a glimpse into the early wanderings of an ecological genius.

The lake provides fishing and water recreation. The John Muir Ice Age Trail segment wraps around the lake for leisurely walks, with intermittent benches available for bluebird watching and lily gazing.



Ennis Lake, Montello Wisconsin
Photo from Waymarking.com



John Muir –
photo by: Francis M. Fritz, www.wikipedia.com

Article was taken from the
Fox-Wisconsin Heritage Parkway Feasibility Study
FOR MORE INFORMATION
ABOUT THE HISTORY OF THE FOX RIVER:
www.friendsofthefox.org

"Oh what glorious Wisconsin wilderness! Everything new and pure in the very prime of spring when Nature's pulses were beating highest and Mysteriously keeping time with our own! Young hearts, young leaves, flower, animals, the winds and the streams and the sparkling lake, all wildly, gladly rejoicing together!" -John Muir

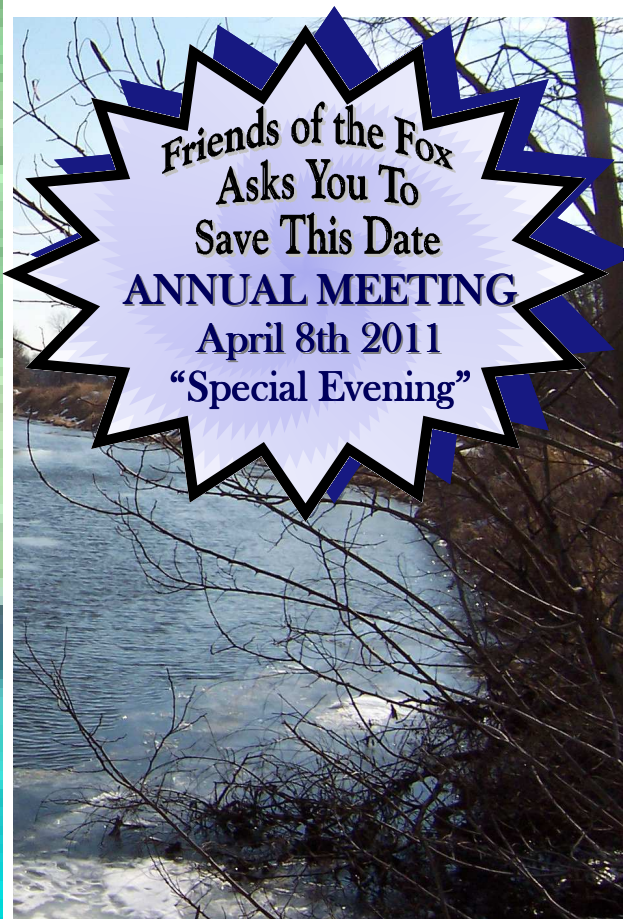


P.O. Box 741
Appleton, WI 54912-0741

Discovery

Our Mission and Purpose

The Friends of the Fox is a not-for-profit advocacy group established to preserve and develop the environmental, cultural, historical, economic and quality-of-life assets offered by the Fox River.



**Please Mark Your Calendars
for this Special Evening!!**
Time for Board Elections...If you are a
FOF Member...You have a Vote.
Come and Join the Fun!!!!

*Huge "Thank-You" To Our Sponsors
For Their Generous Donations!*

- *Fox Cities Greenways*
- *American Management Group/ Rollic Winter*
- *Stadtmeuler Associates*
- *Portage Project/ American Transmission Company*

*Warm Welcome to Friends of the Fox
Newest Members*

*Geoff & Beth Catlin Michael Danelski
James Kuehl Paul Wiegel*

**We Simply Could Not Do it Without the
Support of Friends Like You!!!**