

The Friends of the Fox Quarterly Newsletter



Discovery

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

Spring 2011

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The **Fox-Wisconsin Heritage Parkway** is in full fundraising mode. Stories need to be gathered, resources need to be analyzed, existing heritage sites need to be surveyed, and a plan needs to be formulated to best poise the Parkway for success. How are the histories throughout the Parkway best woven together to tell a comprehensive story of this region, one that is compelling to residents and visitors alike? How do the existing museums work together to offer a series of stops that can be marketed as a destination? Which aspects of the Parkway themes are incorporated into which historic sites? Is the infrastructure in place to accept the added visitor traffic that will

come once we become a National Heritage Area? All of these questions need to be answered in order to ensure success.

To do that takes planning; it takes a comprehensive interpretive and economic plan to link the Parkway together from Green Bay to Prairie du Chien~ to give us the

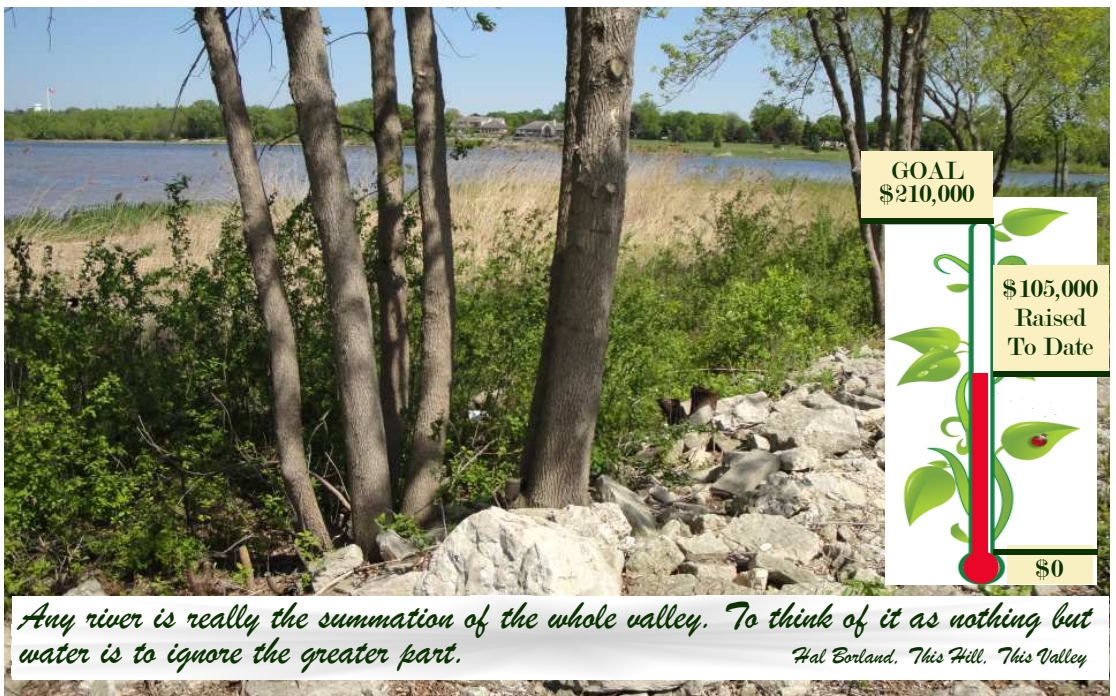
blueprints to follow to become....

**The Fox-Wisconsin Heritage Parkway
National Heritage Area.**

**Please join with us in our fundraising
endeavor.**

EXPLORE ~ ENGAGE ~ PRESERVE

(Continued on Page 2)



Community Projects

FOX-WISCONSIN HERITAGE PARKWAY FUNDRAISING NEEDS YOU!!!

EXPLORE ~ ENGAGE ~ PRESERVE

(Continued from Page 1)



The cost of the planning needed for the Fox-Wisconsin Heritage Parkway endeavor, in keeping with National Park Service requirements and guidelines, is approximately **\$210,000**. This will ensure each community is visited and listened to in the planning, and that the personal time and attention is given to preserve the character of the stories that are just waiting to be told. It will also ensure that those projects that make most economic sense, those that have the best potential for economic viability, ultimately leading toward stability and job creation, will be the focus of the first phase of implementation.



Bay Beach Walkway- By A. Schutte

Please support one, two, or even four miles of this 280 mile river corridor. We need \$535 per mile to interpret our history and tell our story in the way it deserves to be told – these monies will cover the cost

for the interpretive master and economic plans. The Parkway is requesting your support. To become a Heritage Parkway Founder requires a gift of 4 river miles (\$2,140.00). To become a Heritage Parkway Supporter

requires an amount of your choice.

Written by C. Mortara

To date we have raised \$105,000 and have made many friends and partners along the way!!!!

I ACCEPT your invitation to support the history, trails, and rivers that are instrumental in connecting us all by becoming a Fox-Wisconsin Heritage Parkway Founder.

☐ I have enclosed a gift of \$2,140 to celebrate 4 miles of our heritage.

I do not wish to become a Fox-Wisconsin Heritage Parkway Founder at this time, but would like to make a special gift of:

☐ \$250 ☐ \$535 (1 mile) ☐ \$1070 (2 miles) ☐ Other _____

Check enclosed in the amount of \$ _____

Name(s) _____

Business Name (if applicable) _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-Mail Address _____

☐ Please keep me updated on the progress the Heritage Parkway makes in my interest area:

☐ Historic Interpretation ☐ Water Trail ☐ Hiking/Biking Trails ☐ Tourism Initiatives

All donations are tax deductible.

The Fox-Wisconsin Heritage Parkway thanks you for your support!

“Every outcome to this project is positive – protecting the environment, communicating history and enhancing quality of life. Getting involved is not just about giving dollars, but being a part of an effort that is sure to have tremendous state significance and having a voice in how it all takes shape.”

John Forster, FWHP Advisory Board Member and Former Friends of the Fox President

Please clip and mail form, along with your financial donation to: FWHP, PO Box 204, Kimberly, WI 54136



ONEIDA INDIAN MIGRATION FROM NEW YORK TO WISCONSIN

Of the many American Indian tribes that have resided in the Fox River Valley, the Oneida are one of the few remaining tribes visible throughout the river corridor. Many of the members reside on the Oneida Reservation, consisting of 102 square miles on the west side of Green Bay. The Oneida, however, have not always resided in Wisconsin, considering their homeland to be New York State.

The Oneida are one of the Six Nations of the Iroquois Confederacy, a bond formed in ancient times under the "Great Law of Peace." The Oneida call this period "the time of great abundance," with a vast territory that extended from Lake Oneida to the Susquehanna River. Their political unity with the Iroquois splintered when the tribe sided with the Americans in the Revolution. The tribe proved to be a valuable ally against the Redcoats, providing the Revolutionary Army with food and supplies. Despite their loyalty, the government began taking Oneida land. By 1788, they had absorbed 5.3 million acres.

In 1816, a Mohawk Episcopalian lay preacher, Eleazer Williams, arrived among the Oneida. Williams spoke the Oneida language fluently, and set to work converting the pagan faction of the tribe. Despite their conversion, pressures were still building

between the Indians and the New York settlers. In 1818, Williams began making plans to move the tribe to Menominee lands in Wisconsin. It was his dream that all Indians from New York State, many from Canada, and the Senecas at Sandusky move to the area surrounding Green Bay. There, he believed, Indians would form a great confederacy of Indian nations, with his church as the primary governing body. "The dream of Mr. Williams... was that all the remains of the Indian race in the territories of the United States, should be there



Oneida Indian Traditional Dress
Route of Oneidas from New York to Green Bay
Walk in the Water – Oneida Nation website



gathered [in Wisconsin] into one vast community, where the savage tribes might be won over to civilization and Christianity, by intercourse with their already civilized brethren."

In September 1822, a faction of

Oneida and Stockbridge Indians followed Williams to their new home. Disputes over land between the Ho-Chunk and Menominee, however, continued for eight years, until the millions of acres Williams had promised dwindled down a mere

65,400, the acreage of their previous New York reservation. In 1832, the tribe cut ties with Williams, who later claimed to be the Lost Dauphin (the son of King Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette).

The following century is recognized by the tribe as a time of great struggle, to retain both their land and their culture. In 1887, the Indian Allotment Act divided up and privatized their remaining tribal lands. Many of the Oneida Indians were seized by

the government due to unpaid taxes. In 1937, the Oneida Nation began purchasing back some of this land. Despite their difficult history, the peoples of the Oneida Nation have remained strong and their culture has survived.

Written by Helen Young

WARM WELCOME TO FRIENDS OF THE FOX NEWEST MEMBERS

Chris & Naomi Blohm	Peggy Cox
Jane Frawley	Christine Warrick
Tom Frawley	Tom & Kathleen Cashman
Gordon & Linda McDaniel	John Hoffmann
Neal & Lisa Jurss	Terry & Kathy Kohlman
Dick & Cris Schramer	Steve & Lynn Kissinger
Pam Elmer	



DePere Lock and Dam complex Aaron Schutte Photo

2011 Annual Meeting Highlights

2011 Annual Meeting and Board Re-Election

Friends of the Fox would like to extend our sincere thanks to all who contributed to our 2011 “**Focus On The Upper Fox**” Annual Meeting. The event was well attended and was a **HUGE SUCCESS!**

We all enjoyed the power point presentation given to us by Dan Reinhold highlighting accomplishments from 2010, as well as goals for 2011. Since our focus was on the Upper Fox River, the Eureka Lock project was featured. **The Eureka Lock project completion date celebration is set for July 4, 2011.** (For more info see Page 5)

Thank You Dan!

Board elections were held and the following members were re-elected for a three year term:

Bob Stark Candice Mortara

We appreciate your continued dedication!

We also introduced and offered a warm welcome to our newest Board members:

Chris Blohm Mark Geall

Welcome Aboard....

We are Pleased You Have Joined Our Team!

Karin Whealon was presented with a plaque thanking her for the many years of diligent service to FOF as she retires from the Board.

Your Years of Service are Appreciated Karin!

Tim Mulloy, Jack Nelson's son-in-law, presented a heart warming celebration of Jack's life. What a

wonderful legacy Jack has left to us all.

Jack we miss you greatly!



Annual Meeting
Photo by Dave Peck

The Supple Group surprised all of us with a little beer tasting and a short message from their Brew master Kevin.

The beer was light, zesty and enjoyed by all!

Four Upper Fox River city planners displayed maps and brochures of the river plans of their areas of interest for all to view.

The organizations sponsored were:

City of Berlin

City of Portage

Greenways Committee

Fox-Wisconsin Heritage Parkway

Thank You for your Informative Displays!

Friends of the Fox would also like to extend a GREAT BIG HAND of applause to our Vice President, Pete Hensler for being our auctioneer. We all agreed this could very well be Pete's next career. **We can not thank you enough for doing such a super job!** We already have you signed up to be our auctioneer next year!!

Last, but not least a very big heartfelt Thank-You to Co-Coordinator, Dick Abb. He is definitely a man to have working diligently behind the scenes. **I would also like to thank the entire Friends of the Fox Board as they are an incredible team to work with!**

Written by Brunhilde Courtney

Chris Blohm, has recently joined FOF Board. Chris's primary effort while serving on the FOF Board will be advocating for the environmentally responsible, safe, sustainable and effective completion of Rapid Croche site.

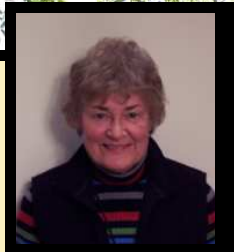
Chris is an electrical systems manager for Mercury Marine in Fond du Lac.



Mark Geall, is FOF newest Board member. Mark is particularly interested in the Fox-Wisconsin Heritage Parkway trail, increasing community access to the waterways, and preserving the historic lock system.

Mark is currently working on the RiverHeath project in Appleton.

Annual Meeting Highlights



Tribute to Karin for Your Years of Service on the Board!

The Friends of the Fox Board would like to say a "Huge" thank-you to our newly retired Board member Karin Whealon. Karin has served faithfully for many years on our board. We will miss your dedication, support and all the work you have done.
Best wishes as you truly retire!



EUREKA LOCKS TO REOPEN THIS SUMMER

The BERLIN BOAT CLUB (BBC) is excited to announce the reopening of the Eureka Locks which is currently anticipated for the July 4th weekend.

The Eureka Locks were closed in 2003 which ended navigation to Berlin. At this time BBC is seeking donations to help defray the costs of rebuilding and opening the locks. It has been a huge financial undertaking and donations are needed to help defray the costs. Written by Mike McMonigal

**Anyone interested in making a tax deductible pledge or contribution to this worthwhile project:
"EUREKA LOCKS FUND"**

Berlin Boat Club, PO Box 148, Berlin, WI 54923
MORE INFORMATION ON EUREKA LOCKS:
www.friendsofthefox.org Tab: Upcoming Events

THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS BENEFACTORS, DONORS AND FRIENDS!

MAIN SPONSORS

The Aykens Family ~ *Memorial Florist* ~ FOF
Jay and John Supple ~ *Fratello's Waterfront
Restaurant & Brewery, Oshkosh*
Diane Schback ~ *Menasha Marina*

DONORS FOR AUCTION ITEMS

Atlas Café Coffee Mill & Boutique
Tom Buedhel ~ *Taxidermy*
Bill Bush ~ *Board Member FOF*
Ed's Boat Sales
Fox of the River Voyageur Canoe, LLC
Fox Valley Camera
Harlan Kiesow ~ *CEO Fox River Navigational Systems
Authority*
Mark Geall ~ *Board Member FOF ~
Principal for RiverHeath*
Steve Lockhart ~ *Board Member FOF*
Menasha Marina
Dr. Kevin and Candice Mortara ~ *FOF President*

Paper Discovery Center
David Peck ~ *Board Member FOF ~ Upper Fox River
Coordinator*
Rendevous' Camping and River Trips

DOOR PRIZES DONATED BY:

Doug Klapper
Memorial Florist

A VERY SPECIAL THANKS TO:

Dick Abb
Dan Reinhold
Pete Hensler
Board of Friends of the Fox
Upper Fox River City Planners

ALSO A DEEP GRATITUDE TO:

Brunhilde Courtney ~ *FOF Coordinator of
Annual Meeting*
Candice Mortara ~ *President FOF*
Shari Manney ~ *Newsletter, Postcards & Website*

Navigation

HISTORICAL RECOLLECTION OF LOCKTENDERS ON THE FOX RIVER

Construction of the locks and canals on the Upper and Lower Fox River began in the 1850's. Since that time, locktenders, those men who oversaw the opening and closing of the locks, have been employed ensuring the safe passage of boats and their passengers throughout the Fox River lock system.

Shortly afterwards the Army Corps of Engineers constructed residences near the locks. This began a long history of men who tended the locks and their families calling these locktender houses their home. Frequently farmers were recruited as locktenders, as they were hard workers familiar with living in isolated areas. Prior military experience was also common, as servicemen were accustomed to the discipline the career of locktender demanded. Many of the men were employed with the Corps for decades and nepotism was common, with two or three generations employed in the locktender profession. The job required round-the-clock availability prompted by the whistle of an approaching barge or boat. Maintenance of the locks and dams was a year-round task regardless of weather conditions. The occupation was exceptionally hazardous with stories of men risking their lives saving boat passengers or others swept away by river torrents. Tragically, many men lost their lives while performing

4th Lock and Tender House~Appleton
Postcard Circa 1910



their duties, several drowning in the lock themselves. With the marked reduction of commercial traffic on the river in the 1950's, the Corps began shuttering the locktender residences over a thirty year period, ending this unique way of life forever.

While researching the history of locktenders as a project for the Fox-Wisconsin Heritage Parkway (FWHP), opportunity presented itself to speak with surviving locktenders as well as many descendants, including two lockmasters from the 1870s.

Diaries, Corps logs, newspaper articles and photos have been located. We have been fortunate enlisting the help of past and current Corps employees, lockmaster descendants, area librarians, historical societies and other committee members of the FWHP.

What began as a small website segment collecting personal stories of the lives of locktenders for the new FWHP website has become an extensive project uniting the two river segments of the Fox. Plans are in place for a traveling museum exhibit and an accompanying booklet.

**The history of the locktenders is fascinating ~
a true link to our past!**

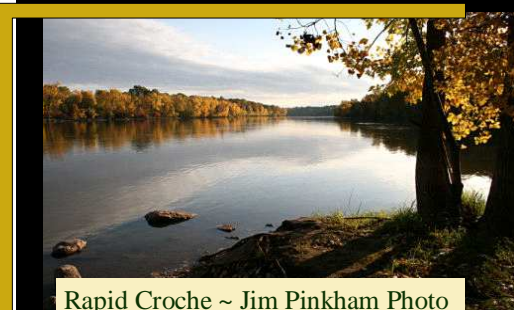
Written by Christine Williams

If you know locktender's descendants, have photos or articles pertaining to the locks, or would like to volunteer your time on this rewarding project, please contact Christine at 920-749-0415 or email: williams@heritageparkway.org

"When you put your hand in a flowing stream, you touch the last that has gone before and the first of what is still to come."

Leonardo da Vinci

ST. NORBERT COLLEGE BOATER SURVEY ~ RAPID CROCHE LOCK



Rapid Croche ~ Jim Pinkham Photo

The Fox River Navigational System Authority contracted with St. Norbert College to conduct a survey regarding the Rapid Croche Lock and Transfer Station.

Research Objectives

- The survey was developed to determine support for the development of a cleansing and transfer station at the Rapid Croche Lock.
- Determine demand for and usage of the Rapid Croche Lock, cleansing area, and lift and transfer station.
- Identify concerns that boaters might have with the transfer process.
- Determine familiarity with Aquatic Invasive Species.
- Identify amenities boaters would like to see at the Boat Transfer Station.

To view the survey results: www.friendsofthefox.org Tab: Community Projects/Rapid Croche Boat Transfer



Navigation Continued

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HELP FUND A BUOY ON THE FOX

The Friends of the Fox (FOF) Navigational Safety Committee is hard at work unraveling the jurisdictional complications associated with placement of buoys in the Lower Fox River. The FOF Board has authorized the safety committee to coordinate placement in sections of the river where buoys have been absent. Outagamie County, City of Appleton, Town of Grand Chute, Villages of Kimberly and Little Chute currently hold active permits from the DNR for buoy locations within their municipal boundaries. Even though buoys have not been placed in these permitted locations for years the permits are still valid. We must now request authorization from each jurisdiction before FOF can assume buoy placement responsibility.

In addition to the bureaucratic aspect of this puzzle we are seeking funds for purchase of necessary buoys, weights and tackle. We estimate the cost of the items needed to be between \$800 and \$900 per buoy. We expect



Spring Butterflies
Photos by Randy McSorley

that we'll need about 10 buoys each year for the next several years as new sections of the river open to more active river navigation.

Article by Pete Hensler

If you are interested in working on this project or are willing to contribute funding please contact:
Pete Hensler 920-450-1393 or henspete@aol.com

2011 FOX LOCKS GENERAL NAVIGATION OPERATION SCHEDULE

	City	Times	Dates
Opened 7 Days	Menasha	<u>Monday – Thursday</u> 10:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m. <u>Friday – Sunday & Holidays</u> 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 midnight	(May 7th - Oct. 2nd)
	De Pere	<u>Monday – Thursday</u> 10:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m. <u>Friday – Sunday & Holidays</u> 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 midnight	(May 7th - Oct. 2nd)
Opened 5 Days	Little Kaukauna	<u>Thursday – Monday</u> 10:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m. <u>Closed on Tuesdays and Wednesdays</u>	(May 7th - Oct. 2nd)
Weekends and Holidays	Appleton (Locks 1-4)	<u>Saturday – Sunday</u> 10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. <u>4th of July and Labor Day Weekend</u> 10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.	(July 2nd - Sept. 5th)
	Cedars Lock	<u>Saturday – Sunday</u> 10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. <u>4th of July and Labor Day Weekend</u> 10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.	(July 2nd - Sept. 5th)

All Other Locks are Closed with No Passage Allowed

Seasonal Lockage Permit - \$120.00 Daily Transit Permit (26 feet and over) - \$12.00
Under 26 feet - \$6.00



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.



ATTENTION: Friends of the Fox is considering sending a courtesy email of the weekly Bridge schedule closings on the Fox River due to train crossings.
This service will be available to our members only.



**IF YOU ARE
INTERESTED
IN RECEIVING
A WEEKLY BRIDGE
SCHEDULE VIA EMAIL**

**PLEASE CONTACT US AT:
www.friendsofthefox.org
Tab: Contact Us/Email Us!**



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

*Bemis Corporation Gene Wulf Connie & Gary Ludwig Timothy Mulloy
Randal & Carrie Goethke Lawrence Busse Steven & Betty Lockhart Mark Geall
Virginia Nelson Randy Coakley Tim & Kristy Begun Dan Reinhold
Drs. Mark Ballard & Karen Gremminger Dr. Kevin & Mrs. Candice Montara*

**IF YOU ARE RECEIVING THIS NEWSLETTER AND ARE NOT A MEMBER,
PLEASE CONSIDER JOINING AT: www.friendsofthefox.org Tab: How To Join OR CALL: 920-707-2065**