

The Friends of the Fox Quarterly Newsletter



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

Fall 2012

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*"The activist is not the man who says the river is dirty.
The activist is the man who cleans up the river." Ross Perot*



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I am honored to follow Candice Mortara in service as president to Friends of the Fox (FOF). Candice brought the vision and dedication required to move the mission of FOF forward. Under her leadership the FOF board played a key role in the creation of the board of directors of the Fox-Wisconsin Heritage Parkway (FWHP). Our board of directors has worked diligently the last 5 years to get the FWHP operational. FOF is currently partnering with the FWHP board as well as the Fox River Navigational System Authority (FRNSA). All three of these organizations share, as part of their missions, the support of water recreation on the Fox River and its pool lakes.

A brief history (more on page 3):

Friends of the Fox began as a group trying to reopen the Lower Fox locks. John Forster led us, in our 15 year struggle, to get the lock system turned over to the State of Wisconsin. FOF also convinced the U.S. government to include in the deal the money the government would have spent moth balling the locks.

The FRNSA board was created to manage the restoration and operation of the Lower Fox locks. The key to that eventual victory was the Fox-Wisconsin Heritage Parkway concept, because it involved many more people and interests beyond just large boats in the waterways.

As president of Friends of the Fox, I will encourage our board to put additional effort and focus toward supporting FRNSA's building of the Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) barrier at Rapide Croche. This is the last remaining major project needed to return navigation to the Lower Fox River.

Services the FOF board will be ensuring at the Rapide Croche barrier site are:

- That the haul over of boats is an AIS training center open to the public
- It will be a place where visitors can observe onsite, and learn current best practices toward preventing the transfer of AIS
- Individuals will have a place where their trailers and boats can be cleaned before they return to the Winnebago system, which is an important part of our concept.

Cleaning only large boats, while continuing the current practice of trailering small craft around the barrier and into the system, is not a long term, responsible practice.

Making the Rapide Croche barrier site the most effective part of the effort to prevent AIS from entering the Winnebago system is the end result FOF has in mind. Overall public awareness has changed dramatically in the last 5 years. That change in awareness and behavior was an important required step in protecting our resources. It has become rare to talk to people involved in outdoor recreation who do not know about best practices for invasive species prevention. This is an exciting time to be involved with the Friends of the Fox; thank you for being part of our effort.

Article By President Dave Peck

Friends of Fox Leadership

A TRIBUTE TO OUR RETIRING "FIRST LADY" PRESIDENT CANDICE MORTARA



Candice Mortara is stepping down as president of Friends of the Fox. The last five years -- since October 2007, while Candice was our FOF president, we have marveled at her deep dedication to making the Fox-Wisconsin Heritage Parkway (FWHP) become a reality. She possessed a clear vision and a deep driven desire to accomplish a personal goal, as well as the mission of FOF. Candice spent hours of her spare time working with, changing, organizing and engaging those individuals who would help move this project forward. Many evenings were spent in various communities, gathering the historical data necessary to compile information for the Interpretive study for FWHP. The project has been submitted to the powers that be...so far it's a waiting game. Candice continues on as the President and volunteer executive director of the Parkway, and no doubt will be successful in her endeavors.

Friends of the Fox board of directors will truly miss having Candice as our president, for when things got a little tense, she had a quiet, comical way of easing the moment. Candice possesses an easy going, nonchalant and charitable way of dealing with others. She has always been known to be relentless in challenging many systems, while a few of us would sit back and think it was over. We applauded her success then, and continue to applaud her future successes!

Hurrah to you Candice for sticking to your convictions. We admire your bravery. Thanks a million for your leadership!! Under your leadership, we were all made more aware of the big picture and the goals of FOF. We are grateful you are continuing to serve as a member on the FOF board, and look forward to facing new challenges with you for many more years!!!

Article by Brunhilde Courtney

Candice the Friends of the Fox board of directors asks that you continue to.....



Love ~ Laugh ~ Live ~

*Engage ~ for the
Love Of Our River*



FRIENDS OF THE FOX EARLY BEGINNINGS

March 1982- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers announced intent to place the Lower Fox River Locks in caretaker status with the navigational system to close on October 1, 1982, with no future operations planned. The water levels would continue to be a responsibility of the Corps. The first public meeting with Corps was held at the Appleton Yacht Club on March 7, 1982. The Boater's Rights Committee of the Yacht Club sponsored this meeting.

1983- John Forster was asked to meet in the office of the Fox Cities Chamber Executive Don Stone with the following: Ron Van de hey -*Mayor of Kaukauna*, Gary Willecke-*retired VP of Miller Electric*, Don Mitchell-*retired from Wisconsin Tissue and a local historian* and Dorothy Johnson-*Mayor of Appleton*. This group represented the Fox River Management Commission and was asking for the creation of an advocacy group representing the Fox River issues. The commission had been charged with raising local funding for cost share of operations of the navigational system during the negotiation with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Friends of the Fox, Inc. was formed with the initial founders being John Forster, Eugene Palermo, Robert Loomis and John Bedore. The group struggled for several months until fall of 1983 when Forster, Palermo and Loomis were introduced by Walter Madsen, *the director of the Neenah YMCA*, to Bill Kellett and Frank Shattuck. Bill was the retired *CEO of Kimberly Clark Corporation* and a very public activist, who had chaired the Kellett Commissions. The Kellett Commissions were responsible for the restructuring of state government in Wisconsin during the 1960's under Governor Knowles. Frank Shattuck, a grandson of one of the founders of *Kimberly Clark*, and prominent *Neenah architect and philanthropist*,

and Bill Kellett were asked to help mentor our fledgling group.

Both Bill and Frank served on our board of directors for many years and have donated funds, which the ***Friends of the Fox*** organization used to create a Fox River Fund within the Fox Cities Community Foundation.

When ***Friends of the Fox*** was formed the immediate challenge was to stop the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers from abandoning the navigational system on the Lower Fox River, with an exit which would destroy any future economic potential from that system and which would leave costly requirements to the state and local governments.

As the negotiations continued it became evident that a plan for the future use of the entire system was necessary. The plan that developed was the Fox-Wisconsin Heritage Parkway. The scope and breadth of potential for economic development and national recognition helped negotiate a responsible settlement and transfer of the navigational system from the federal government to the State of Wisconsin.

The first step was to put a



management agency in place to begin rehabilitation of the navigational system and continue it's operation. At the same time, coordination of communities throughout the Fox and Wisconsin River System would begin to develop the Fox-Wisconsin Heritage Parkway.

Robert Loomis, a *local attorney* prepared incorporation papers and applied for not for profit status. ***Friends of the Fox*** was officially incorporated on March 28, 1985.

John Forster became the president of ***Friends of the Fox*** after serving with the Boater's Right Committee of the Appleton Yacht Club. He served in that capacity from 1985 until he retired and moved to Florida in February 2002.

Doug Dobbe served as president from 2002 until 2005. Bob Stark served as president from 2005 until 2007. Candice Mortara became president in 2007 and served until 2012. Dave Peck began serving as president in 2012 and is currently serving in that role.

Article from Friends of the Fox website

www.friendsofthefox.org

Navigation Operations

2007-2012 Fox Locks General Navigation Season Statistics

2012	MENASHA	LITTLE KAUKAUNA	DEPERE	UREKA LOCK	APPLETON (LOCKS 1-4)	CEDARS LOCK	2012 TOTALS
Lockages	1575	849	1271	261	116	65	Lockages: 4,137
Crafts	2488	1169	1983		186	95	Crafts: 5,921
Passengers	9435	4351	8301	820	778	413	Passengers: 24,118
Canoe & Kayak	152	15	82		147	12	Passengers: 408
2011							2011 TOTALS
Lockages	1396	738	1152		68	43	Lockages: 3,377
Crafts	2167	1027	1723		107	71	Crafts: 5,095
Passengers	8255	4351	6003		369	255	Passengers: 19,233
Canoe & Kayak	151	29	51		119	7	Passengers: 357
2010							2010 TOTALS
Lockages	1318	727	1252				Lockages: 3,297
Crafts	2055	1106	2062				Crafts: 5,223
Passengers	7395	4821	8087				Passengers: 20,303
2009							2009 TOTALS
Lockages	1563	934	1504				Lockages: 4,001
Crafts	2252	1470	2329				Crafts: 6,051
Passengers	8837	5761	8665				Passengers: 23,263
2008							2008 TOTALS
Lockages	1220	732	1348				Lockages: 3,300
Crafts	1580	1291	2202				Crafts: 5,073
Passengers	6677	4501	9048				Passengers: 20,226
2007							2007 TOTALS
Lockages	1439	911	1431				Lockages: 3,781
Crafts	2303	1452	2403				Crafts: 6,158
Passengers	8117	6059	9749				Passengers: 23,925



Photos by Steve Wagner

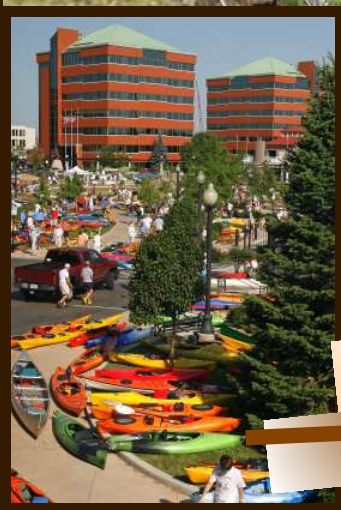
**Fox River Navigational
System Authority**
1008 Augustine Street
Kaukauna, WI 54130
Phone: 920-759-9833
For More Information:
www.foxriverlocks.org

Miscellaneous

SPONSORS & NEWEST MEMBERS



Indian Agency HousePortage Canal -
Fox-Wisconsin Heritage Paddle (left)
Mark Hoffman photos



WARM WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

Don & Mary Breckheimer Miriam Douglas

2012 FOX-WISCONSIN HERITAGE PADDLE EVENT

On September 29, the FWHP with hundreds of paddlers wrapped up the 2012 Fox-Wisconsin Heritage Paddle with the Appleton Locks Paddle. This autumn paddle routed through downtown Appleton, from Lutz Park through all four Appleton locks, downriver to Sunset Park in Kimberly. More than 180 paddlers in 147 boats enjoyed the great weather and beautiful fall colors along the river.

participating from across the state of Wisconsin. The paddle combines recreation and history, enabling participants to experience the Heritage Parkway from its very core - the Fox and Wisconsin rivers - just as the native peoples and explorers had centuries ago. The paddle took place over six weekends from May to September and

In its third year, the featured nine days of paddling. Fox - Wisconsin Paddles took place on both the Lower Heritage Paddle Wisconsin and Fox rivers and continues to grow, highlights various stories, figures and landscapes, including trips through the Fox River Locks; to the home of conservationist, Aldo Leopold; and Appleton's heritage festival, Octoberfest.

FWHP is beginning to plan 2013 Fox-Wisconsin Heritage Paddle.

If interested in assisting with next year's paddle or for more information please contact:
office@heritageparkway.org

LARGE CONTRIBUTORS

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

Bemis Corporation

Jane Mitchell

Gene Wulf

Helmut Schwalb

Community Projects



CEDARS LOCK TENDER HOUSE PARTNERSHIP



Cedars Lock Tender House
Tom Young Photo

Friends of the Fox, the Fox-Wisconsin Heritage Parkway and the Fox River Navigational System Authority in partnership, are currently in the process of assessing the condition of the Cedars lock tender house and the surrounding property. As soon as they have a photographic survey, they will draft a renovation report for the State Historical Preservation Office (SHPO). At that time we will work with SHPO to prepare the house for paddler use while retaining its character and historical significance as a former lock tender house.

Article by Mark Geall

HIRING OF AN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR FWHP

With the continuing success and growth of the Fox-Wisconsin Heritage Parkway, they have begun the process of looking for an executive director to work in tandem with Candice Mortara. Having a paid staff in this position has been identified in the planning as a necessity and will increase capacity.



FWHP ~ JOURNEY OF DISCOVERY

In August, 2011, the Fox-Wisconsin Heritage Parkway embarked on a journey of discovery – to investigate and understand its stories, and to find effective ways to convey them. Like the journey that inspired the birth of the Parkway – that of Father Marquette and Louis Joliet in 1673 – the full consequences of the journey may not be recognized for years, but the blueprint is drafted.

The draft Interpretive Master Plan articulates the significance of the Parkway. It identifies its essential stories, along with the needs and wishes of the audiences who will respond to them. Its recommendations cover interpretive services and programs; media, both electronic and traditional; vital partnerships; and special projects. Some of the recommendations will be implemented within the next few years, while others involve long-range planning and a strategic approach to the future.

With this initial planning phase nearly complete, the Parkway is looking forward to the many opportunities to share the meaning and significance of the themes and stories that make this unique landscape and its people so distinctive, and compelling.

The full draft plan will be available on the Parkway website by the end of the year. Public input and reaction is welcomed.

Article by Candice Mortara

Please keep watching the Parkway's website for more information:
heritageparkway.org

Community Projects Cont.

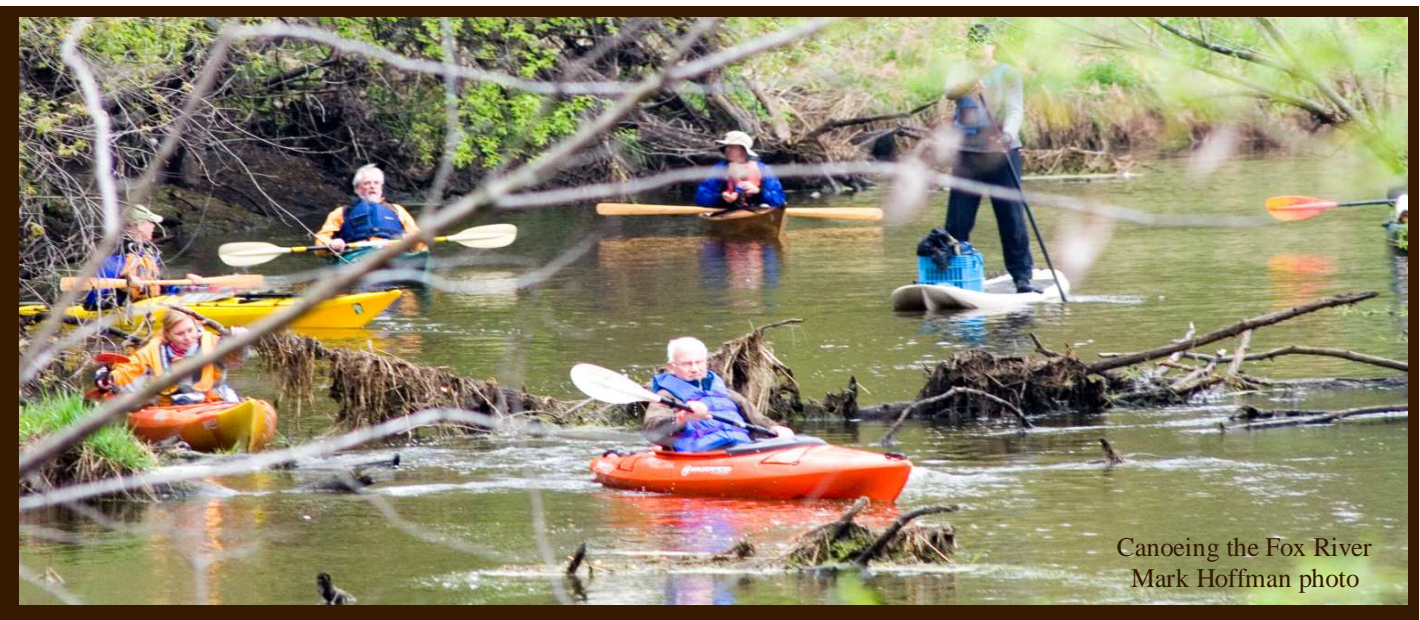
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Rapide Croche
Ken Pinkham photo

RAPIDE CROCHE LOCK UPDATE

Preliminary design, cost and boater survey was completed to Natural Resource approval of the background work has been estimate the amount and type of proposal. Once preliminary completed by the Fox River future usage of the site. This approval is given final engineering Navigational System Authority on information will be utilized in the plans and cost can be prepared and the proposed boat transfer/AIS preparation of an environmental fund raising can begin. The EIA cleansing station for the Rapide impact assessment (EIA) that will should be completed by mid-2013. Croche Lock Site. In addition a serve as the basis for Department of Article by Harlan Kiesow, FRNSA



Canoeing the Fox River
Mark Hoffman photo



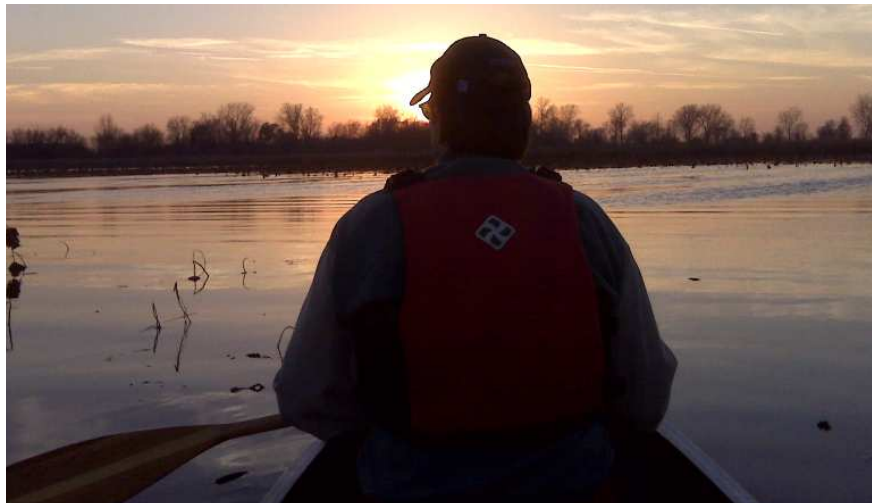
P.O. Box 741
Appleton, WI 54912-0741

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 Renew
Your Membership
or
Join
Friends of the Fox
Today ~



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!!