

# The Friends of the Fox Quarterly Newsletter



## Discovery

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

Winter 2013

### Inside This Issue

President Message

2014 Annual Meeting

Green Bay Boat Show

Kaukauna Utilities  
New Hydro Park

New Zealand  
Mud Snail

2014 Fox-Wisconsin  
Heritage Paddles

Lock House at  
Little Chute  
Fundraising

Fox River Lock Tender  
House Map

Fox-Wisconsin  
Heritage Water Trail  
Update

Paddle Wheel Survey

Fox-Wisconsin  
Heritage Water Trail  
Portage Proposed  
Placements

Membership Renewal

## Message From Our President

The only good thing I can find in this long bitter winter comes when I think of the moisture content in the snow. I will surely feel the benefits of the season's abundant snowfall this spring as it melts, beautifying the landscape and filling the Fox River to overflowing, as I get ready for yet another fun filled boating and fishing season. I can not wait to get back out on the water! Think spring!

Friends of the Fox (FOF) has been busy attending meetings and encouraging waterfront projects. The city of Green Bay is considering allowing a large Walmart store to be built in their Broadway business district. The location is on the Fox River, on the historical site of Fort Howard. FOF has suggested that if Walmart builds the store where they are proposing, they also include an informational kiosk to promote tourism. FOF has also pointed out the benefits of having a large 24 hour store on the waterfront. Boaters find it very difficult to purchase necessary items within walking distance of public docking. Food, clothing and tools are among the hard to find items.

Fox River System Navigational Authority (FRNSA) have arranged for a booth at the 58th Annual WBAY Boat Show. FOF is excited to have been invited to share this booth with FRNSA and Fox Wisconsin Heritage Parkway (Parkway). FOF will have information about our projects and charts for sale, as well as tourist information. More information on time of event and location on page 3.

We are excited to hear that the Parkway has decided to contract with a 62' Coast Guard certified paddle wheel boat that will provide cruises on the Lower Fox, in the Appleton area, for 3 weeks during the 2014 summer season. If you are interested in a cruise, please visit [heritageparkway.org](http://heritageparkway.org) for current information during the navigation season. Please take the time to respond to the Parkway's questionnaire on page 7, as to whether or not you would be interested in a Fox River cruise this summer.

The Berlin Boat Club has received another large anonymous donation of \$97,000 to finish paying for the restoration of the Eureka Lock. The entire waterway community thanks Mike McMonigal for his active role in securing this generous financial support. The donation has allowed the lock to reopen, bringing Berlin back onto the Winnebago system.

We are once again planning our Annual Meeting. Please reserve the Saturday, May 17<sup>th</sup> 2014, to attend and kick off the boating season. Find more information on page 2 of this newsletter; additional information will be posted on our website as it becomes available.

Article by Dave Peck

*"This river is more than just water ~ This river is an emotion not to be summed up in words" William Cheesman*



# Annual Meeting



## Friends of the Fox

asks you to

**Save This Date**

*Saturday, May 17, 2014  
and Plan on Attending Our*

## 2014 Annual Meeting

*To Be Held at the Riverview Country Club in Appleton  
Mark Your Calendars for this Special Evening!!*



## "Moving Forward on the Beautiful Fox River"

*Time: 2:00 - 6:00 pm*

**Tasty Hors d'oeuvres \* Cash Bar** (\$5.00 Person)

*Information on the completion of the Kaukauna locks, lift information  
and much more will be provided.*

*If you are a Friends of the Fox Member... You have a Vote. If you are not a member, come see  
what all of the excitement is about. We will have a great time getting together with our Fox  
River enthusiasts and sharing the events, projects and other goals for 2014.*

**Come and Join the Fun!!!!**

*Watch our website for more details as they become available at: [friendsofthefox.org](http://friendsofthefox.org)*

### 58TH ANNUAL WBAY BOAT SHOW

**Open Date:** Thursday, Feb. 13, 2014

**Close Date:** Sunday, Feb. 16, 2014

**Location:**

Brown County Veterans Memorial Arena  
1901 South Oneida Street  
Green Bay, WI 54304

**Additional Features:**

Commercial Vendors, Gate Admission,  
Handicapped Access

**Hours:** Thursday 4:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Friday 2:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Saturday 10:00 am - 8:00 pm

Sunday 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

**Admission:**

Adults - \$8.00

Senior Adults (62 & up) - \$7.00

Children (17 & under) - FREE

Weekend Pass - \$13.00

Thursday - Free Admission with donation of 3 non-  
perishable food items

**Phone Number:** (888) 867-3342 - **Altern.** (920) 494-3401

**Description:**

Since 1958. Pull up the anchor, because the boat of  
your dreams is waiting. Boats of all sizes and styles,  
as well as supplies are on display by dealers and  
industry leaders.



## NEW KAUKAUNA UTILITIES HYDRO PARK

Kaukauna Utilities is building a large recreational park, just upstream of their corporate offices in the middle of Kaukauna. It has a theme of hydro power on the Lower Fox, and its historical importance to the area.

During the planning Friends of the Fox, Fox-Wisconsin Heritage Parkway and Fox Cities Greenways, Inc. were asked to attend an informational meeting and contribute their thoughts on the project. The park is on the water but not directly on a navigable channel. It will be a place for public events with connections to walking trails, businesses, and Thousand Islands Environmental Center. FOF appreciates having been invited to express our thoughts and opinions on the subject. We look forward to the improvements that will take place by adding a beautiful park in Kaukauna. **A special thank you to Kaukauna Utilities for their vision!**

Article by Dave Peck

## NEW ZEALAND MUD SNAIL



The January Friends of the Fox board meeting featured a guest speaker, Todd Verboomen, an Associate Environmental Planner from East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission. His educational background and degree was in Professional Geography with a water resource emphasis.

Todd's topic for the evening elaborated on the newly found Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) in our area, the New Zealand mud snail. This AIS species, which is only a few millimeters long, is mainly transported by boats. The mud snail potentially does damage to many of the trout streams. Because of this invasive species, it is crucial to thoroughly clean, scrub or freeze your gear for 8 hours before moving to a new body of water.

Educational outreach within our communities is a large part of Todd's responsibilities. Throughout the last three years, over 5,000 students in classrooms around the region have been educated by the information Todd has provided.

Todd grew up exploring the banks of the Lower Fox River from Appleton to Wrightstown. Through the years he has seen the water quality improvements of the Fox River. The information he provides regarding AIS in the area is crucial in providing needed change of the way we handle our boats and equipment, when moving from one waterway to another.

Friends of the Fox appreciates the contributions Todd has provided to many waterways. **Thanks for a job well done!**

Article by Brunhilde Courtney

## 2014 FOX-WISCONSIN HERITAGE PADDLES

### May 17-18: Lower Wisconsin River: Camp at Wyalusing State Park

May 17 – Wisconsin/Kickapoo Rivers: Bridgeport into Mississippi to Wyalusing - 8 mi.

*Camp at Wyalusing State Park & enjoy music around the campfire at CANOETANANNY*

May 18 – Wauzeka Kickapoo River: Plum Creek to Wauzeka - 8 mi.

### May 31: Upper Fox River

May 31: Mekan River: Germania Dam to the Upper Fox River at Princeton - 15.5 mi.

### June 21-22: Wisconsin River

June 21 – Wisconsin River: Newport Park to Pine Island - 13 mi.

*Tour the Leopold Center and Camp at Sky High Resort*

June 22 – Wisconsin River: Prairie du Sac to Ferry Bluff - 9 mi.

### July 19: Lower Fox River – Park-to-Park Paddle

July 19 – Fox River: Shattuck Park, Neenah to Lutz Park, Appleton - 8.5 mi.

### August 16: East River

August 16: East River Paddle: Manderly Lane Landing to Green Bay Metro Marina - 7 mi.

### September 27: Lower Fox River – Appleton Locks Paddle

September 27: Appleton Locks Paddle: Tour 4 hand-operated locks Lutz Park, Appleton, to Sunset Park, Kimberly - 6 mi.

*Enjoy Appleton's Octoberfest after event*





# Community Involvement

## Fox-Wisconsin Heritage Parkway Lock House at Little Chute Update



This is the Little Chute Lock Tenders House at the end of Mill Street. The Fox-Wisconsin Heritage Parkway (Parkway) has formally leased this property. Faith Technologies has gifted in kind electrical services. The Parkway has many volunteers signed up to help with tear out. The restoration plan is finished and has just received approval by the State Historical Society. This was a huge step and the Parkway thanks Terry Laib for his excellent work on this plan. Volunteers are still needed in the skilled trades, as well as donations of materials, and/or funds to keep them going.

This lock house is being renovated into an overnight vacation rental. Fox-Wisconsin Heritage Parkway was a community project of Friends of the Fox for years. We support the work they do and invite you to get involved in their projects.

Article by Shari Manney

For more information: [mortara@heritageparkway.org](mailto:mortara@heritageparkway.org) Or visit website to make an online donation: [heritageparkway.org/support-us/](http://heritageparkway.org/support-us/)

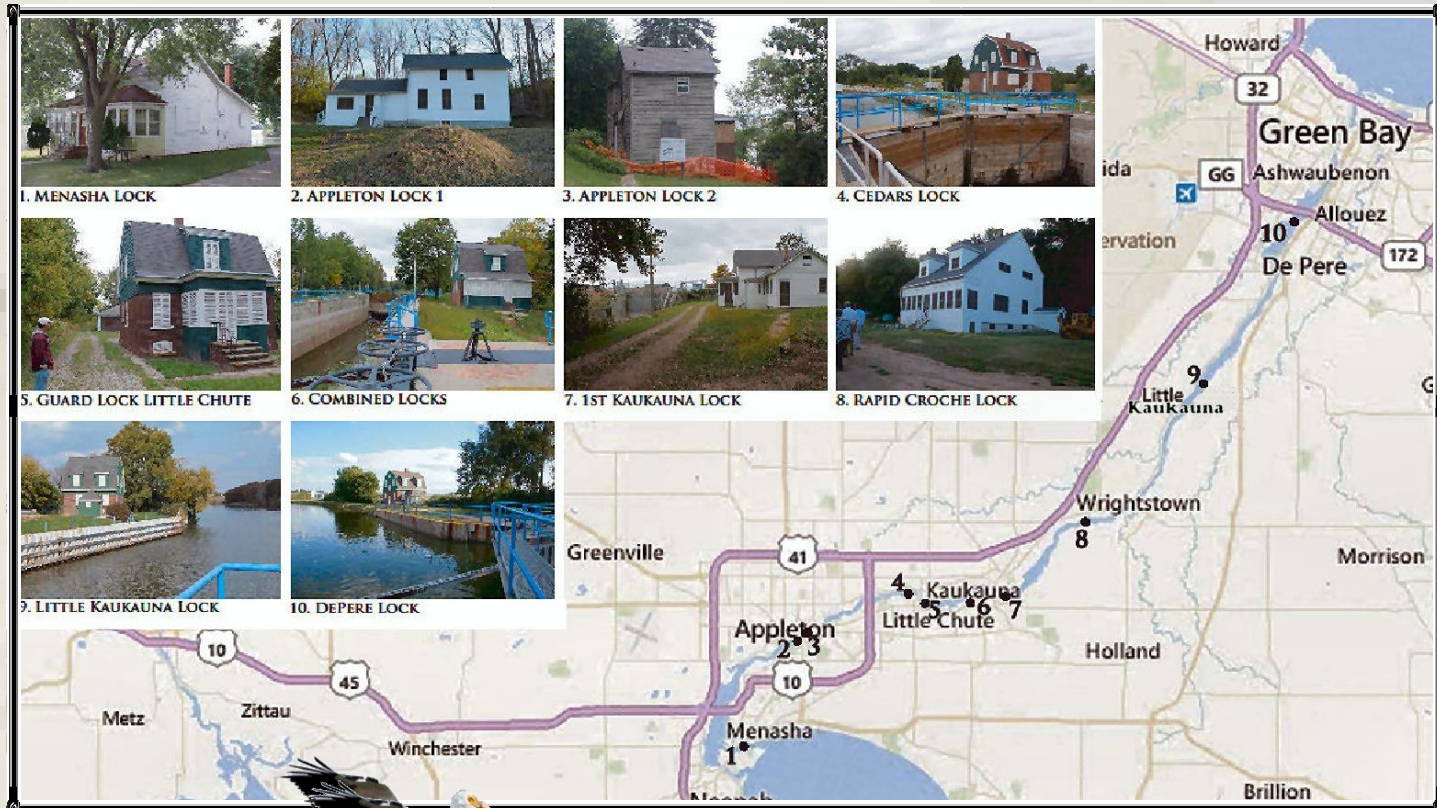
**2014 Lock Opening ~ The Menasha Lock opens April 20, 2014. This coincides with the 2014 DOT Bridge Operations Schedule.**



# Community Involvement Cont.

## LOCK TENDER HOUSES ALONG THE FOX RIVER

- ◆ The Parkway plans to turn the Cedars, Little Chute, Combined Locks lock houses into overnight vacation rentals
- ◆ Menasha lock house is set to be demolished
- ◆ Appleton Lock 2 House is in the works for a Bed & Breakfast
- ◆ DePere is going to be turned into a coffee shop



*"The snow  
is melting  
into music"*

*John Muir*



Pelicans on Water

Photo by Steve Wagner



# Community Involvement Cont.

## FOX-WISCONSIN HERITAGE WATER TRAIL UPDATE

### ACCESSIBLE TRANSFER SYSTEM



Transfer/Sit On



Slide Over



Pull Out Correct Height



Lower Into



Launch/Pull Off



Re-Enter/Pull On

The total cost of the build out of the water trail from  
Green Bay to Prairie du Chien is \$650,000.00.

The amount raised to date is \$64,725.00.

Generously Donated by the Frank C. Shattuck Fund at the Community Foundation for  
the Fox Valley Region and the Fox Cities Convention and Visitors Bureau



Stair Landing



Grass Landing



# Community Involvement Cont.

## PADDLE WHEEL CRUISE SURVEY

Fox-Wisconsin Heritage Parkway is contracting to have a 62' Coast Guard certified paddle wheel boat to give cruises on the Lower Fox River in the Appleton area for three individual weeks during the 2014 summer boating season.

Please take the time to contact the Parkway to answer the following questions:

1. Would you be interested in participating in a 2-3 hour paddle wheel boat cruise this summer?
2. Would you bring guests/out of town visitors with you?
3. Would you recommend a trip to your family and friends?
4. How much would you be willing to spend on the cruise?

**Think spring and summer!**

Please submit your response to:  
[manney@heritageparkway.org](mailto:manney@heritageparkway.org)

For more information:  
[heritageparkway.org](http://heritageparkway.org)

## FOX-WISCONSIN HERITAGE WATER TRAIL INFORMATION

### The Water Trail includes:

- ♣ 15 ADA Accessible Landings
- ♣ 30 plus launch or portage sites
- ♣ Signage, safety study, mapping, and interpretation

### The sites along the Lower Fox set for ADA access include:

- ♣ Neenah
- ♣ Menasha,
- ♣ Appleton
- ♣ Little Chute
- ♣ Kaukauna
- ♣ Allouez

### Potential sites include:

- ♣ Kimberly
- ♣ Bellevue

Landings paid for to date - one and half ADAs, and three portages.

The Parkway is offering naming rights to donors making substantial contributions to the ADA accessible landings.

For more information:  
[mortara@heritageparkway.org](mailto:mortara@heritageparkway.org)  
Or visit their website to make an online donation:  
[heritageparkway.org/support-us/](http://heritageparkway.org/support-us/)

Or Mail a Check to:

P.O. Box 204  
Kimberly, WI 54136



Stair Landing

Photo by Mark Hoffman

*"The river flows quiet and swift It twists and turns as the waters drift" Kailey Jennings*





# Discovery

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

## *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

**Friends of the Fox  
Asks You To Schedule  
May 17th  
on Your Calendar  
and Attend Our  
2014 Annual Meeting**



Enclosed Are My Membership Dues to Friends of the Fox

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

\*\*\*Additional Donation \_\_\_\_\_

**If You are Receiving This Newsletter and Are Not a Member,**

**Please Consider Joining by filling out form, enclosing dues and mailing to the below address.**

Friends of the Fox PO 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.