



# Friends of Hidden Valley, Inc.

The mission of the Friends of Hidden Valley is to provide support to the Lawrence Hidden Valley Committee, Inc., in programs, development, maintenance and goals that promote and benefit Hidden Valley Camp. [www.friendshv.org](http://www.friendshv.org)

Fall 2014

## Friends Annual Meeting and Awards for Honored Volunteers

Thursday, September 18<sup>th</sup>, was a celebration of Friends of Hidden Valley's year end with the Friends Annual Meeting. It was truly a wonderful evening with perfect weather! We all gathered for dinner and the celebration of our volunteers. Tables were set up behind Arcalooka cabin for 26 Friends and Board members.

Cindy Riling, our outgoing Friends of Hidden Valley Chair, reviewed the year's accomplishments. We announced the election of our four new board members, Karen Lewis, Mary Beth Swayne, Lily Yu, and Carol Zhiri, and the re-election of Durand Reiber and Marcia West.

Marcia West, Durand Reiber, Sandy Beverly and Christine Graves presented the following awards:

**HOT CHICK AWARD**-Robyn Flummerfelt – Robyn has followed her mother's footsteps in attaining our Hot Chick Award! She has taken on the hot job of burning brush for us at workdays and troop service projects.

**HOT DUDE AWARD**-Mike Huslig  
Mike began volunteering several years ago and became a member of the Honeysuckle Warrior Crew. Mike does important work in tending the fires, and often comes back to finish up burning what we couldn't get to.

**HONORABLE MENTION AWARD**-Marty Birrell - Marty has been our go-

to expert for burning off the prairie of Flag Pole Hill. As director of Prairie Park Nature Center, we have also drilled her brain on topics, such as prairie and woods management.

### **HONEYSUCKLE WARRIOR AWARD**

-Ren Liu  
Ren began volunteering last year, and he quickly became the Assistant Camp Manager intern for the year.

Now, he is playing a role by conducting some study plots to analyze the effectiveness of this year's honeysuckle eradication program.

**HIKING AWARDS**-Liz Miller and Alice Weis - Liz is a long-time Friends member. She joined the Hiking Patrol recently, and has become a regular hiker. Alice is also a Friends member. She has been hiking since 2009, and hiked several times this year.

**HAZMAT AWARD**- Susan Iversen  
Susan has been a member of Hidden Valley since 2007, and hikes regularly for Hiking Patrol, encountering wasps and other hazards.

**BEHIND THE SCENES AWARD**-Mary Burchill - Mary has been around Hidden Valley for a long time. She researched and wrote 50 years of history for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Mary worked behind the scenes for Hidden Valley for six years by arranging Eagles Day, and getting pictures and events into the newspaper.

**BEST NEW FRIEND AWARD**-Liz Phillips - Liz came to the FHV Board in 2013 and has been our Best New Friend. She became our Vice Chair and worked



Volunteer awardees in attendance. Front row, from left: Cindy Riling, Carol Zhiri, Wanda Waugh. Back row, from left: Mike Huslig, Robyn Flummerfelt, Liz Phillips, Ren Liu, Vicki Collie-Akers, and Kim Cooper.

tirelessly to secure our wonderful new members of the board.

**FILL-THE SHOES AWARD**- Vicki Collie-Akers - Vicki is a new member. She "filled-the-shoes" of our last Friends of Hidden Valley newsletter editor, which were tough shoes to fill!

**GREEN THUMB AWARD**-Kim Cooper - Kim has been great at getting her troop to Hidden Valley work days, more than most other troop leaders over the past year. We so appreciate leaders who support Hidden Valley.

**VOLUNTER OF THE YEAR AWARD**- Wanda Waugh - Our Volunteer of the Year came to us first as a member of another organization, and joined the Friends of Hidden Valley in 2005, and has been one of our most active volunteers since joining. She attends a most of our annual workdays, often helping in the gardens or honeysuckle removal. She has been a crew leader as well, leading other volunteers in tasks around camp. She has been a routine hiker in the Hiking Patrol.



## Successful September Work Day!

Friends of Hidden Valley Workday on Sunday, September 14, 2014 consisted of 75 total volunteers including Girl Scouts, members of Friends of Hidden Valley, Board members for FHV and LHVC, KU students from Phil Baringer's Honors class and Kappa Delta Sorority as well as other students. Dr. Baringer and his students have become a constant at this workday and, as always, were a pleasure to work with. They assisted in every area, were eager to work, diligent, and very pleasant. The Girl Scouts, as always, were very appreciated and worked very hard. Their presence makes every Workday fun. A new, equally pleasant, influx of volunteers came from Kappa Delta. They also contributed a great deal and proved to be hard workers. Hopefully, they will continue to make this a fall event for their sorority to partner with a project benefitting Girl Scouts which is their National Philanthropy Organization. As in previous years much was done in a short time. The cabin was thoroughly cleaned, as well as the patio and area latrines. Fall chores were completed in the Memorial Butterfly Garden. Much work was done in the cabin yard by cutting back honeysuckle and cutting dead branches and clearing them away. There were two fires burning brush as well. Buffalo grass was planted in spots other plantings were watered and mulched. Everyone reported that they had a good time and would be willing to come again for another work day.



### ***Please Join Us for Other Volunteer Opportunities:***

- ❖ **HIDDEN VALLEY FALL WORKDAY:** November 2, 2014, 1-4 PM. Rain date November 16, 1-4 PM  
Bring your family & friends, tell your neighbors! Join with others to:  
\*Cut, Haul & Burn brush\*Spread woodchips\*Cleanup streams\*Wetland work\*Renovate camping sites\*  
\*Split firewood\*Stock woodpiles\*Plant and Mulch
  
- ❖ **HONEYSUCKLE WARRIORS CREW:** Beginning in January, and lasting through mid-May, this great group of hardy individuals meets for about 2-3 hours during a weekday afternoon to cut and clear... HONEYSUCKLE of course! Some come with chainsaws, others use our loppers, and everyone gets a great workout and goes home tired! For more information please contact Durand Reiber at [durandi@sunflower.com](mailto:durandi@sunflower.com).

## A Letter from the Outgoing Chair of the Board

I have had the pleasure and responsibility of serving on the Friends of Hidden Valley Board since 2007, and as Chair three different years, most recently, this past year. It has been a difficult decision to announce my resignation from the board, as it is entirely due to personal reasons, and not anything related to the excellent experience I have enjoyed in working with everyone at Hidden Valley. From my first experience as Day Camp Unit Leader around 1989 to present, I have fallen in love with and remain passionate about this place. It has been a rewarding experience, both because of the part I have been able to play in contributing to ongoing improvements these past few years, and more importantly, the relationships I have established with our excellent volunteers, board members and, yes, especially, working with our youth. I hope I have been able to make a positive impact on preserving the past and ensuring the future of Hidden Valley.



Christine Graves (left) honors Cindy Riling (right) for her service to the FHV Board during the Annual Meeting.

To all our members, thank you so much for the opportunity to serve and for your support; it has been an honor.

~Cindy Riling

## Adventures in Hiking

Every month, Friends of Hidden Valley Board Member, Sandy Beverly, organizes committed volunteers to hike the camp to assure that everything is in order. Volunteers regularly share the observations. Please enjoy these brief notes from people who have served on the Hiking Patrol during the last year.

- I hiked the west and middle portions of the camp yesterday. It was so beautiful with the sun glistening off the snow. Back in the woods the snow looked like whipped creme where it was untouched. Saw and heard plenty of robins and cardinals. Could spring be far off? – *Debbie Smith*
- I hiked this evening. It was warm but with a cool breeze. Saw lots of bunnies and a few squirrels. The columbine were very pretty in the butterfly garden. When I came out of the brush and over the bridge by the picnic tables, there were three does in the clearing! They looked me over, then their white tails went up and they pranced off into the trees. What a wonderful start to the week! – *Liz Miller*
- It was a surprisingly sultry evening for mid September, as if summer just didn't quite want to let go yet. The cicadas were still desperately seeking mates (, incessantly, but there were only a few lethargic grasshoppers around, and even fewer butterflies. I heard chickadees and heard and saw a short, bright, raucous flash of a blue jay, and some other birds were opining, also, but I didn't recognize their songs so cannot identify them. I caught the briefest glimpse of a single rabbit on Rocky Road in the camp site there. – *Gwen MacPherson*

To participate in the monthly Hiking Patrol, and have adventures of your own, please contact Sandy Beverly at [sbeverly@sunflower.com](mailto:sbeverly@sunflower.com).

## Young Women Receiving Awards Offer Notes of Thanks

Robyn Flummerfelt and Emmalee Squires received awards from the Friends of Hidden Valley, which they both used to support their trip with the Girl Scout Troop throughout Europe. The following are excerpts from their notes of appreciation.

“I would like to thank the Friends of Hidden Valley for awarding me a scholarship, which enabled me to further enjoy my Girl Scout trip to Europe over the summer. Our trip was 17 days long and we visited Germany, Austria, Italy, Switzerland, France, and England.. The scholarship enabled me to participate in these life-changing activities and I couldn't be more thankful for that opportunity.” – Robyn Flummerfelt

“Thank you for giving me a scholarship that helped me in going on the trip of a lifetime! My time spent there still feels like a dream because I can't believe how lucky I was to have gotten this opportunity.” – Emmalee Squires

## ***A Note from the Friends of Hidden Valley Board: Membership Renewal***

Dear Friends,

In an effort to save on mailing costs we are trying a new approach to our 2015 annual membership renewal appeal by including it in this newsletter. We hope that each of you will fill out the enclosed membership card and return it with your annual donation to us in the envelope provided. Remember that Friends of Hidden Valley is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization and your donation is tax deductible.

We have some ambitious plans in the works to improve our beautiful wooded and meadow-filled camp. We are planning a major project to repair and rebuild the exterior of the chimney of the fireplace in the Arkalooka Cabin. Water leakage and crumbling bricks have made it less than ideal for the girls to continue to use. Friends of Hidden Valley is also embarking on a massive invasive honeysuckle removal program in Dogwood Forest and along the eastern trails that will open up the understory of the woods and allow native cover to take root. We hope to make this progression of plants and the resultant diversity a teaching opportunity for the troops who camp at Hidden Valley this year and the years to come. Those of you who hike the camp may also notice the changes. It should benefit both the beauty of the camp and the natural food sources and habitat for wildlife.

Hidden Valley's 40 acres of green space right in the middle of Lawrence continues to serve the Girl Scouts of Douglas County and other youth groups as a place to learn and explore the outdoors. We are pleased to have the support of the surrounding community and other more widely spaced members helping us to maintain and improve the site for future generations. You are an important part, and we thank you. For more information please check our website at [www.friendshv.org](http://www.friendshv.org) or contact Board Member Christine Graves at [cgraves785@gmail.com](mailto:cgraves785@gmail.com).

Sincerely,

Friends of Hidden Valley  
Membership Committee

## ***Thank You to All Current 2014 Friends of Hidden Valley***

Aida Alaka & John Rury	Rebecca & Joe Gant	Liz Miller & Lindy Eakin	Deb Smith
Opal V Allison	MajGen (Ret) Gary Gardner	Betty Jo Miller	Helen Smith
Cris Bandle	Dr. Estela Gavoso	Patricia Miller**	Lucy Smith
Jeff Bandle	Lee Gerhard**	Robert J Moore	Mary K. Stephens
Jill Baringer	Jane Getto	Howard & Ginger Mossberg	Shere Stoner
Don & Lisa Barnett	Jill & John Giele	Patrick & Mary Beth Musick	Sunflower Rental
Mary Alice Barr	Sara J. Gillahan	James & Kathleen Neeley**	Elaine Taylor*
Mark & Paula Bastemeyer	Phoebe Godwin	Deborah Summers Norwood	Margaret Townsend
Maynard P Bauleke	Rybecca Goscha**	Diane Oakes	Jane Tuttle
Grace Beam	Jack L. Graham	Georgia & Dick Orchard	Galen Urich & Beth Rundquest*
Joleen & Bob Bechtel	Christine Graves	Ellyn L Owen	Edna Van Schmus
Joanne Bergman	Kitty Gray	William B. Pendleton	Margaret M Verhage*
Sandy Beverly & Kevin Ruland	Marilyn & Roy Gridley	Mary Beth Petr	Carol Ann Vernon
Monica Biernot & Chris Cr&ell**	Kathleen M Hall	Michelle Powell	Kevan & Gail Vick
Beverly Smith Billings	Margaret & Benjamin Hall	Lawrence Presbyterian Manor	John & Susan Wachter
Lynne & Lawrence Bodle	Tudy Youngberg Haller	Barb & Martin Pressgrove	Chuck & Karen Warner
Boy Scout Troop 55	Alice Hansen	Alice Randel**	Ruth Warren
Jeanie & Bruce Bundy	Don & Carol Hatton	Larry & Joyce Rankin	Wanda Waugh*
Mary Burchill	Chris & Marsha Hauffer	Dave Ranney	Alice Weis
George Byers	Nancy Hawkins	Catherine Reed**	Deb & Bob Werts
Karen Carlsen	Allison M. Haworth	Mitch & Rachel Reiber	Marcia West
Vicki Collie-Akers**	Marcia Hill	Durand Reiber & Martin Moore	Ron & Joyce Wolf
Suzanne Collins	Susan & Earl Iversen	Joan Reiber	Eleanor Woodyard
Julie & Jeffrey Colvin**	Claudette Johns	Cindy & Mike Riling	Mary Lou Wright
Joanne & Kirk Dahlberg	Lily & Bill Kelly	Riling, Burkhead & Nitcher	Benji & Flora Wyatt
John E Diehl	Joan Kenny	Robin Robertson	Jami Wyatt
Sandy Dolezal	David & Carol Kyner	Jerry & Jane Rogers	Ella Mary Yoe
Vicki Douglas	John & Linda Lungstrum	Martha Rose	Lily Yu
Danny Drury	Gwen Macpherson	Stan & Janet Roth	Carol Zhiri
Jane Drury	Dorothy M Maxwell	Bob Russell	
Pat & George Duerksen	Lucy Remple McAllister	Teresa M. Schreffler	*Denotes Lifetime Member
Kyra Flummerfelt	George & Marilyn McCleary	Janiece & Joe Scribner	
Carol & George Francis*	Jan K McElwain	Susan Shackelford	**Denotes New Member
Deborah & Ronald Francisco	Dorothy McGregor*	Erika Sheaver**	
John Frydman	John McGrew	Cris, Tanya, & Mason Sherman	
Larry & Marilynn Fullerton	Lori Michel	Pat & Nancy Slabaugh	

# Annual Report from the Friends of Hidden Valley Board

## Friends of Hidden Valley

### Annual Report

July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014

*The mission of the Friends of Hidden Valley is to provide support to the Lawrence Hidden Valley Committee, Inc. (LHVC), in programs, development, maintenance and goals that promote and benefit the Hidden Valley Camp. (Adopted July 14, 1999)*

*Board Members 2013-2014: Jill Baringer, Sandy Beverly, Mary Burchill, Susan Cary, Vicki Collie-Akers, Debby Francisco, Christine Graves, Elizabeth Phillips, Durand Reiber, Cindy Riling, Margaret Verhage, Marcia West*

The Friends of Hidden Valley continues to be active in many different aspects of our mission, and this year was no exception. We sponsored our four traditional workdays and many other workdays with community organizations volunteering their time at the camp. Volunteer hours and monetary donations are essential to our mission to support Hidden Valley. We finished the arduous task of rewriting, redefining and revising position descriptions for the Board. The result is more efficient division of responsibilities and greater continuity.

The year 2013/2014 was very good financially for Friends of Hidden Valley. Our wonderful membership contributed over \$10,000 in direct donations this year, up about 12% over last year. In addition we had almost \$5,000 in donations to our Douglas County Community Foundation endowment fund during the past year, a very good result. The Breakfast Optimist Club gave us a donation of \$1,250, something they have been doing for several years. We are most grateful for their continued support. On the expenses side, we stayed under budget in almost every category. In membership, a large investment was made to purchase Forever stamps which featured Scouting, something we could not resist and which will benefit us in the coming year. In ongoing camp expenses, we paid over \$2,000 for tree trimming and removal during the year, and purchased LARGE cedar trees for planting along Bob Billings Parkway. (The \$6,600 gain at the bottom of the financial statement reflects the increase in value for the DCCF fund and our Parnassus fund, both of which posted nice gains in this recovery year.) Also, this year we passed our first detailed financial audit by an outside agent.

Mark your calendars **June 6, 2015 is Hidden Valley Trails Day**. This will become an annual event in which we spruce up our trails during a workday, and then sponsor hikes at the Camp for all members of the community. The date coincides with National Trails Day, and we will incorporate activities and themes into our event.

The following data summarize our 2013-2014 membership figures: eight new memberships, 128 renewed memberships, and 136 total memberships (including five lifetime memberships).

Current fundraising includes managing an endowment with the Douglas County Community Foundation and promoting the ongoing Brick for Bricks campaign, earmarked to replace the crumbling chimney at Ar-ca-loo-ka Cabin. Engraved bricks may be purchased and installed in the brick patio on the south side of the cabin. We continue to make slow, but steady progress toward this goal and we have netted over \$2,000 to date.

The Fund Development Committee raised \$3097.27 as a recipient of The Merc's Change program for June. We researched ways to invest funds to enhance their return for future projects at the camp, and ultimately invested in the Parnassus Fund. The Committee wrote a detailed and extensive proposal for Douglas County Heritage Grant for native woods restoration, but was, unfortunately, turned down this year.

One **Troop Reward** was given this year to teen Cadette Troop 7772 (Troop Advisor Tracy House). The troop worked for six hours at the April workday, coordinating a project area and managing refreshments. There were two recipients of the **Mariana Remple Recognition Awards** this year; Robyn Flummerfelt and Emmalee Squires, both Ambassadors from Troop 7675 (Troop Advisor Kyra Flummerfelt). Both girls requested award money to help pay for a summer trip to Europe with their troop. Both girls had attended Hidden Valley workdays in the past 12 months and performed service projects at camp. Both wrote glowing essays on "Why I Love Hidden Valley" that were wonderful to read.

Because of her many commitments to Friends of Hidden Valley, Jill Giele's name was submitted as an outstanding volunteer for the Wallace Galluzzi Outstanding Volunteer celebration. Jill was recognized at the event on April 30, 2014.

The Volunteer Committee organized volunteer efforts at the camp, primarily through routine workdays and monitoring the camp through our Hiking Patrol. All total, Friends-sponsored workdays brought in 275 volunteers, while the Hiking Patrol supplied about 57 hikes, representing an estimated 848 hours of service to Hidden Valley. The Hiking Patrol continues to provide valuable weekly monitoring of the camp. This year about 17 volunteers hiked the camp approximately 57 times, emailing back reports on issues such as unlocked buildings, found items and downed trees, as well as interesting wildlife sightings and great pictures

Friends' members have also continued to assist the camp manager in directing other large community volunteer groups. Hidden Valley is known for being a well-maintained camp and valued natural area, made possible primarily due to our long and growing legacy of fantastic and committed volunteers. Thank you!

The full 2013-2014 Annual Report can be viewed at <http://www.sunflower.com/~friendshv/>

***Join Us in Maintaining the Beauty of Hidden Valley***

The beauty and peace that so many enjoy about Hidden Valley is maintained through the generous commitment of Friends of Hidden Valley members and volunteers. Please find inside many opportunities to support Hidden Valley through:

- Helping out at the November Workday on November 2<sup>nd</sup> from 1:00-4:00
- Exercising your inner-warrior as a member of the Honeysuckle Warrior Crew beginning in January
- Exploring the camp, while assuring its ongoing safety, as a member of the Hiking Patrol
- Renewing your annual membership

Hidden Valley is an important community resource, and its members and volunteers, like you, serve a critical role in its preservation!

**Friends of Hidden Valley 2014-2015 Board Members**

Jill Baringer  
Vicki Collie-Akers  
Christine Graves  
Karen Lewis  
Liz Phillips  
Durand Reiber  
Mary Beth Swayne  
Margaret Verhage  
Marcia West  
Lily Yu  
Carol Zhiri



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