



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

Winter Newsletter (December 2011)

Memorial Brick Pathway dedicated at Day Camp

The Friends of Hidden Valley Board Members hosted a dedication ceremony on June 16, 2011, for the new Memorial Brick Pathway in the Butterfly Memorial Garden at Hidden Valley Camp.

The Memorial Brick Pathway was created to recognize our most committed volunteers. Hidden Valley Camp was founded in 1956 and many, many people have contributed to the success of our camp over the years. Some of them stand out for serving our camp "above and beyond."

When it was dedicated in June, the Memorial Brick Pathway included bricks for 19 Honorees, all deceased. Attending the ceremony were family members of the Honorees, and all of the scouts who were at Day Camp that week. Cindy Riling talked about the Honorees with the daycampers; Durand Reiber discussed the history of the Butterfly Garden and Jill Baringer used an analogy of a daisy plant to illustrate the importance of past volunteers. Riling, Reiber and Baringer are all Friends Board Members.

Marcia West, also a Friends Board Member, told the campers:

"Today we honor 19 of those individuals as the first, therefore inaugural, honorees of the Friends of Hidden Valley Memorial Brick Pathway.

These honorees are people who have made a significant contribution, of their time and/or financial support, dedication above and beyond the ordinary. Among these 19 honorees are people who founded our beloved Hidden Valley. People who not only visualized the concept of Arcalooka Cabin, but saw it through the construction. People who planted trees, made trails, unit sites and saw that bridges were built. These are just a few of a tremendous number of varied and wonderful accomplishments of these honorees."

The ceremony concluded with the release of a Red-tailed Hawk, by Operation Wildlife, and also the release of 24 Painted Lady butterflies.

Although the formal Dedication occurred during the first week of camp, Friends Board Members returned during the second week of daycamp and duplicated the ceremony, this time with Operation Wildlife releasing two young American Kestrels.



Jill Baringer talks with the daycampers at the Memorial Brick Pathway dedication on June 16.



Lucy McAllister, daughter of Marianna and Henry D. Remple, poses with her parents' bricks.

NEW brick project planned as a fundraiser

In celebration of the 100th year of Girl Scouting in 2012, an ongoing fundraising project has begun at Arcalooka Cabin.

Now, anyone can be honored with a custom-inscribed brick that will be placed in the south cabin patio.

This first phase of fundraising will pay for a new brick chimney for the cabin.

The orders for this first round of bricks, called Bricks for Bricks!, is due on Feb. 15, 2012. ***Perhaps there is a person or family on your Christmas list who loves Hidden Valley and***

would appreciate being honored with a brick!

Please see the flyer included with this newsletter for more details, or visit our website, friendshv.org, for details and the order form.

Friends honor volunteers at Annual Meeting

The Hidden Valley Friends Annual Meeting on Sept. 15, 2011, was attended by 21 members and guests. The evening started with a tour of projects in Dogwood Forest, then everyone had dinner and learned about the bricks projects, and we finished with awards

This year, the *Friends Volunteer of the Year Award* was presented to Cris and Jeff Bandle, a couple that is worthy of this award pretty much every year!

As parents of three daughters, both have been involved in Girl Scouting and Hidden Valley since 1997, when Cris became her oldest daughter's Daisy leader. Since then, she has been active leading two troops at once; she has also been on the Service Unit team since 2003 as the volunteer Registrar. Jeff has handled the "cookie cupboard" for the past several years, filling the Bandle garage with cookies and doling out boxes.

The Bandles' involvement at Hidden Valley has been extensive. Cris served two three-year terms on the Friends of Hidden Valley Board, as treasurer and website designer, and she still manages the website. Her computer graphic skills were greatly valued, as she designed many of our flyers during that time. Jeff is wrapping up his first term with the Lawrence Hidden Valley Committee, serving as Chair the past two years, with plans to serve a second term. Cris has also dedicated many hours to Day Camp, ranging from planning to unit leader, with Jeff always there, helping out. Cris trained as a facilitator for the zip lines, and now can be seen high on the platform during Day Camp. Cris has used her carpentry skills many times, and recently made new Hidden Valley signs for the entrance. She passed her skills on when her troop made wooden kitchen boxes for their Bronze Award, to fill a need at Day

Camp. In spite of their busy lives with work, family and many other volunteer activities, they continue to appear at most Hidden Valley workdays, and have probably done pretty much every job out there! **Thank you Cris and Jeff!**

Other awards were also presented at the Annual Meeting. Kyra Flummerfelt, who has started and supervised many brush fires at our work days, was the *Hot Chick Award* recipient.

Jill Baringer, who hikes the camp often and writes colorful reports on what she sees, received the *Hiking Award*.

Dave Kyner who attacks honeysuckle with a vengeance, received the *Honeysuckle Warrior Award*.

Stephen Fulton, who gets up on the roof of the cabin and UACT every year to clean the skylights and solar panel, received the *HazMat Award*.

Margaret Townsend and Leesa Terry were honored with the *White Gloves Award* for cleaning the cabin when nobody else wanted that job!

Marit Ehmke, a student who joined as a Rocky Road Volunteer, and has helped with fires on her own and during workdays was named *Best New Friend*.

Lucy McAllister, who has been doing artwork for camp events for many years, taking photos and helping



Cris and Jeff Bandle

with archiving and who has touched up the unit signs recently, was honored with the *Behind the Scenes Award*.

New this year, to recognize Girl Scout leaders who help out at camp, the *Arcalooka Award*, to Tracy House, and the *Green Thumb Award*, to Katie Sadler.

Both leaders have made the camp an integral part of their scouting activities, ranging from unique donations of cabinets and native plants, contributing special help at Friends workdays, and choosing Hidden Valley for their Girl Scout Award projects.



Award winners at the Annual Meeting: Lucy McAllister, Kyra Flummerfelt, Jill Baringer, Stephen Fulton, Tracy House, Leesa Terry and Margaret Townsend. Not pictured are Dave Kyner, Marit Ehmke and Katie Sadler.

Fall workdays brought many people to camp!

The Friends hosted two workdays this fall, on September 11 and on November 13.

The September workday focused on the cabin and Memorial Butterfly Garden, and it was highly successful. We had 54 volunteers at camp from 1 to 3 p.m. on this National Day of Remembrance for those lost on September 11, 2001.

Our volunteers included four troops with 17 Girl Scouts and 7 adults; 10 board members from the Friends of Hidden Valley; 2 Lawrence Hidden Valley board members; 2 Friends' members; and 3 family members. These dedicated volunteers were joined by Professor Phil Baringer and his KU Honors class of 11 students and one graduate teaching assistant.

Jill Baringer and Marcia West directed traffic, weeded out all the foxtail grass from the base of Evelyn's Attic, west and south sides, and instructed two groups in gathering seeds from Flagpole Hill to be used for later projects. They also cleaned the culvert near the cabin and cut honeysuckle around the parking lot.

Christine Graves, Flora Wyatt and Dave Kyner, along with three KU students and Phil Baringer, burned brush. Margaret Townsend, Wanda Waugh and Leesa Terry cleaned the cabin from top to bottom, while a troop came in and gave the floor a second mopping for good measure. Stephen Fulton once again climbed the roof of Arcalooka to clean the skylights. He was later joined by Clark Fulton and a KU student to apply a sealant to the chimney.

Jill Giele and Sarah Corliss thoroughly cleaned the UACT and the other latrines and cleaned the gutters. Margaret Verhage and a group of KU students cleared honeysuckle at Hillside as well as other trails in that area. Lucy McAllister joined her, and also took pictures of volunteers. Jeff Bandle cleaned and repaired bluebird

boxes all around the camp. Durand Reiber and a group of KU students cleaned and weeded the Memorial Butterfly Garden.

Sandy Beverly and Jill Giele

delivered mulch to Girl Scouts to spread around trees along the road, and helped mulch the Memorial Butterfly Garden. Our four Girl Scout troops were wonderful in assisting many of these projects, but also took leadership roles in clearing trash from streams, clearing and cleaning campsites at LaKaHiVa, Ceremonial Fire Ring and Bishop's Glen. They also weeded the gardens on either side of the cabin. One of the Girl Scout Troops was so industrious that they participated in four different projects during the afternoon, and did a great job on each!

November workday report

At our November workday, we focused on Mary's Meadow and Dogwood Forest, and had 125 amazing volunteers, including 80 Girl Scouts (including girls and their leaders, representing about 12 troops) and 45 community volunteers.

Lynne and Larry Bodle and Flora Wyatt greeted volunteers as they arrived, telling them where to park and check-in. Mary Burchill manned the sign-in table, and Sandy Beverly and Jill Baringer assigned jobs or



Photos: Volunteers did a GREAT job taking down the invasive cattails in the wetlands area at our November 13 workday.



directed volunteers to work area leaders. Members of Troop 7675, Cadettes and Seniors with their leader Kyra Flummerfelt, and other dedicated parents, tended the fire, cut and hauled brush and supervised refreshments.

In the zipline area, Cindy Riling

Workdays, continued on P. 4

Your money at work!

Our Hidden Valley Friends provide so many things for camp, including all of the projects and items in the photos below. Don't forget to send in your membership renewal. If you didn't receive information in the mail, renew your membership or join at our website, friendshv.org



New bridge to Bishop's Glen!

New Dogwood Forest bioswale!

New composting toilets!

workdays, continued . . .

instructed volunteers in several tasks. Troop 1983 watered and mulched saplings. Others cleared vegetation from near the zipline, making it easier to inspect and also to maintain the poles and support wires. Lawrence High and Free State High students removed LOTS of logs and branches from the area and hauled them to woodpiles around camp.

Perhaps most amazing of all was the transformation of the wetlands! An aggressive species of cattails has been filling in the area, making it difficult for

girls to get close to the water. The drought over the summer made even the deepest areas accessible, so brave volunteers, supervised by Leesa Terry and Margaret Townsend, donned boots or waders and cut cattails. Other volunteers raked them out and hauled them to nearby areas recently cleared of honeysuckle, and this should suppress the growth of new honeysuckle so that more desirable native plants can thrive. The volunteers included Kim Murphy and Troop 3326, several students from KU, LHS and FSHS, a group of Old Navy employees and Jordanna Arnold.

Durand Reiber coordinated the work at Dogwood Forest, with help from Jill Giele and Margaret Verhage. Jill supervised scout troops in planting native grasses, collecting and dispersing wildflower seeds, and mulching dozens of saplings. Sarah Corliss and daughter Emily tended the brush fire, with help from Kylee Clendenen and JCCC student Daniel Sondreal. Several volunteers, including Kylee, Daniel, Margaret, Larry Maxey and others removed honeysuckle from near the yurt and spread a deep layer of mulch around the climbing tower. Jeanette Walther prepared a tour of the new compost toilets in Dogwood Forest and gave use instructions to the visiting troops. All toilets were inaugurated! A very successful day!

Hidden Valley Day Camp 2011

Global Girl Scouts was the theme for this year's day camp 2011 at Hidden Valley. Camp was held during two sessions in June with Week 1 beginning June 13th and Week 2 June 20th. Over 300 girls from Douglas County, in first through fifth grades, participated as campers. As always, we had a wonderful group of aides who added that extra special touch to the campers' experience and who were a great help to the adult volunteers.

Girls learned and participated in many "global" events throughout the week such as chop stick races, henna tattoo art, belly dancing, and a martial arts demonstration. Their taste buds also explored the world by trying foods related to different cultures. Of course, all the rich traditions that camp has to offer continue to be an integral part of the experience – hiking, crafts, streamwalks, singing, and much more.

Camp also was enhanced this year by a special dedication of the Butterfly Garden and Memorial Bricks from the Friends of Hidden Valley (see story, P. 1). Two community service projects were also incorporated in a friendly competition, as each unit tried to outdo the others by donating the most food for the local pantry, and/or food and supplies for Operation Wildlife.

Friends Board Members:

Sandy Beverly, Chair
Cindy Riling, Vice Chair
Jill Baringer, Treasurer
Leesa Terry, Secretary
Mary Burchill
Sarah Corliss
Jill Giele
Durand Reiber
Margaret Townsend
Margaret Verhage
Marcia West
Flora Wyatt
Betty Jo Miller, Presbyterian Manor Liaison