

The BRIDGE

Volume 23: Issue 7 July 2010

The Newsletter of the Friends of Rock Bridge Memorial State Park

News from the Friends of Rock Bridge Memorial State Park (FoRB)

Friends of Rock Bridge Memorial State Park is a membership supported 501 (c)(3) organized to promote understanding, appreciation, enjoyment and preservation of Rock Bridge Memorial State Park and the surrounding area. Website: <http://rockbridge.missouri.org/>, email: forb@socket.net, phone: 573-815-9255, address: Suite 204, Outdoors Building 200 Old 63 South/P.O. Box 7293, Columbia MO 65205

President's Message by Susan Haines, FoRB President - BE OUT THERE!

Dear Friends, The Queen Anne's Lace and Black Eyed Susans are in full bloom. The gorgeous cornflower blue Chickory is painting the road sides, while the wild tiger lilies and red clover demand a second glance. The fields are abloom with wild flowers and fireflies in the early evenings. The evening dove is cooing at a distance, and I have the pleasure of sitting on my back deck watching the deer and wild life come to the neighbor's pond to drink. I'm out there, out there listening to the evening crickets and tree frogs, and totally appreciating the life around me on a cool summer evening.

Gov. Jay Nixon's has recognized the necessity, also, to "BE OUT THERE" through his participation and speech at the Conservation Federation's symposium this last spring. Several Friends participated when KMOS hosted Kids Day at Rock Bridge High School last month. Our theme was also, "BE OUT THERE". Over 300 youngsters and adults participated enjoying our portable, inflatable cave provided by the Rock Bridge Memorial State Park DNR staff. We provided a royal tour through Devil's Ice Box narrated by Roxie Campbell, and a very interesting DVD on bats compiled by the Bat Federation of America. A guestimate attendance for the whole program was over 2000.

Watch our newsletter for more adventures in the park through the Nature Detectives, the UPOP program, and the bat emergence programs scheduled throughout the summer. Please sign up to volunteer for these programs, we can always use your help...and remember... its great to just BE OUT THERE!!!

FRIENDS BOARD MEETING: Monday July 19, 6:30 pm Country Kitchen on north Providence. All members are welcome to attend!!

FRIENDS PROGRAM: No formal program this month, but volunteers are needed for Nature Detectives July 10, 21, 24 or August 4, either 9:30 or 10:30. Email or call Meredith Donaldson mjdonlsn@aol.com or 573-443-0104 if you can help.

2010 Officers and Board Members

President: Susan Haines; V.P.: Scott Schulte, Treasurer: Laurel Kruse, Secretary: Katheryn Holland,
2009 - 2011 Board Members: Greg Horstmeier, Maggy Kirby, Rosemary Stevens
2010 - 2012 Board Members: Bill Hobbs, Jan Weaver, Sue Tillema

FoRB Membership - as of June 2010: 145 (single 49, family 48)

New Members and Renewals - Sheila and Robert Bailey, Nancy Boon, Donna Sue Cool, Tim Drennan, John Larkin and Maggie Kirby, Darlene and Ben Londeree WELCOME and THANKS FOR RENEWING!

Renewals due in July 2010 - Mary L. and Willam D. Hobbs, Katheryn Holland, Greg Horstmeier

Renewals due in June 2010 - John Fritz

Renewals due in May 2010 - Annette Albin, Melinda R. and Eric Staley, Helen and William Steinmann, David Webber

Renewals due in April 2010 - Jack B. Beckett

DONATIONS 2ND QUARTER - Tim Drennan THANKS FOR DONATING!

2010 Nature Detectives

Nature Detectives is FoRB's unique educational offering for getting pre-schoolers and their caregivers out in nature together. This is one of the key recommendations in Richard Louv's book 'Last Child in the Woods. The outings are free but space is limited and registration is required. Contact Meredith Donaldson at 573-443-0104 (h) or email her at mjdonlsn@aol.com to register

Wednesday, July 7, Saturday, July 10 -- Forest Friends -- 9:30 or 10:30 am

Wednesday, July 21, Saturday July 24 -- Bats in the Cave -- 9:30 or 10:30 am

Wednesday, August 4 -- Stream Explore -- 9:30 or 10:30 am

Volunteers needed for July 10, 21 and 24 and August 4. email or call Meredith

News from Rock Bridge Memorial State Park

Rock Bridge Memorial State Park is managed by the Department of Natural Resources, Division of State Parks, and is primarily funded by 1/2 of 1/10 of a per cent State Parks-and-Soils Sales Tax. It is located at 5901 S. Highway 163, Columbia, MO 65203. phone: 573-449-7400; Website: <http://www.mostateparks.com/rockbridge.htm>, email: rock.bridge.memorial.state.park@dnr.mo.gov

Park Perspective by Jim Gast, Park Superintendent: State Park Youth Corps Workers

The State Park Youth Corps (SPYC) workers have been doing an excellent job assisting at the park. They are all hard workers and willing to assist with the numerous tasks involved in running and maintaining not only Rock Bridge, but the other three sites we managed as well.

So far the workers have mowed; used a string trimmer to widen the trails full of stinging nettle and to trim grass around trees, benches and other structures; cut trees using a chainsaw; cut trees using a crosscut saw in the Gans Creek Wild Area where mechanized equipment isn't allowed; posted new cave closure signs (because of White-nose Syndrome); led visitors into Connor's Cave during Weekends on the Boardwalk; assisted with other interpretive programs; sharpened lawn mower blades; cut and applied herbicide to invasive species; developed flyers for and updated the bulletin boards; cleaned the office and restrooms; added stickers for businesses inadvertently left out of the Katy Trail Ticket Book and recruited people to become volunteers.

They also worked SAG stops and the information booth; found volunteers for and purchased supplies for the SAG stops; contacted local businesses for lunch options, loaded and unloaded baggage and bicycles; set up and took down a huge white tent; moved picnic tables; served breakfast and assisted with parking all for the Katy Ride.

Most SPYC workers are limited to a total of 240 hours or six weeks. We will be getting a new group of workers starting throughout July.

Park Natural History/History by Roxie Campbell, Park Naturalist: Butterfly Surveys

Park volunteers are conducting the annual butterfly surveys. This is a photo I took recently showing a Pipe Vine Swallowtail (blue morph) butterfly taken in the Grassland Trail area. The adults fly from early April into October, visiting flowers and gathering in damp spaces. The larva are spectacular, about the size of a child's finger when grown, dark reddish purple with red spots and fleshy black tubercles. They feed on Virginia snakeroot, Dutchman's pipe and cultivated Dutchman's pipe.



Park Events - Reservations are required for all park events - Call 573-449-7400 to reserve a spot

- July 16 - Bats: Unique, Awesome, Valuable and Threatened - 7 to 9:30, Rock Bridge Memorial State Park - <http://www.dnr.mo.gov/calendar/public/calendarParksSearchDetail.do?eventId=9549>
- August 13 - Bats: Unique, Awesome, Valuable and Threatened - 7 to 9:30 pm, Rock Bridge Memorial State Park - <http://www.dnr.mo.gov/calendar/public/calendarParksSearchDetail.do?eventId=9558>

Upcoming Community Events

- July 15 - Advancing Renewables in the Midwest Conference - 7:30 am to 5 pm, Natural Resources, MU Campus - <http://advancingrenewables.org/>
- July 27 - Missouri River 340 - Boonville to St. Charles River Race - <http://rivermiles.com/mr340/>
- July 30 - Working Professional's Workshop on "Wetland Ecology and Management" - 10 am to 4 pm, USGS Office in Columbia - <http://www.motws.org/>
- August 10 - Katy Trail Merchants and Communities Summer Conference - Les Bourgeois Winery, Rocheport - <http://www.katytrailmac.com/home.html>
- August 12 to 21 - Missouri State Fair - Sedalia - <http://www.mostatefair.com/>
- August 13 - Native Pollinators Workshop - 8:30 am to 3 pm, Bradford Farm, Columbia - <http://easternmabeekeepers.com/forums/showthread.php?p=1547>
- August 15 - Managed Deer Hunt Deadline - hunt dates, locations and restrictions at - <http://www.mdc.mo.gov/hunting-trapping/deer/2010-2011-managed-hunts>
- August 20 - Missouri Prairie Foundation Benefit and Dinner honoring MPF co-founder Bill Crawford - 6:30 pm, Peachtree Banquet Center, Columbia - tickets \$45 - mail checks to MPF, P.O. Box 200, Columbia MO 65205
- August 28 - Show-Me Yards and Neighborhoods Workshop - 9 am to 3 pm, Conf Room 1A & 1B new City Hall, registration required - http://www.gocolumbiamo.com/webcal/view_entry.php?id=1968&date=20100828
- September - No-Car, Low-Car and Whoa-Car Challenge - all month, Columbia - <http://www.pednet.org/programs/no-car-diet-challenge.asp>
- September 9 - Tomato Festival - Bradford Farm - <http://aes.missouri.edu/bradford/events/>

Friends' Friends - This space is for businesses, organizations and people that support our efforts!

Applebee's on Broadway and Troy Wieberg - <http://www.applebees.com/>
 Columbia Track Club - <http://ctc.coin.org/>
 Columbia Daily Tribune - <http://www.columbiatribune.com/>
 Donna Brunet Macro Photography - <http://donnabrunet.com>
 Missouri Department of Conservation and Jim French
 Missouri Wildflower Nursery and Mervin Wallace
 Party Perfect - <http://www.a1partyfun.com/>
 Socket Internet - <http://www.socket.net>

For other news and events, visit the FoRB website at <http://rockbridge.missouri.org/>

FoRB Membership Information - To join, *Clip and*

Mail this section with check made out to FoRB

- \$15 Park Staff/Vol, Student, Senior
- \$20 Individual
- \$35 Family
- \$100 Supporting

Name _____
 Email _____
 Phone _____
 Street Address _____
 City, St., Zip _____

Mail to P.O. Box 7293, Columbia MO 65205

FoRB
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 Columbia, Mo 65205

<p>July 2010 BRIDGE Be Out There State Park Youth Corps Pipe Vine Swallowtail</p>
