

The BRIDGE

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The Newsletter of the Friends of Rock Bridge Memorial State Park (RBMSP)

*A membership 501(c)(3) organized to promote understanding, appreciation, enjoyment & preservation of RBMSP & the surrounding area
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From the Friends of Rock Bridge MSP (FoRB) News - from the FoRB President, Jan Weaver

May is the month we install new officers and board members, so it is a good time to review the board's work this past year. First, I would like to thank our outgoing board members for their hard work this past year: Nanci Johnson, our Secretary, and Helen Steinman, Jim Rathert and Jim Baker, our board members. They played key roles in helping us reorganize how we did things to make the best use of our time. I would also like to thank continuing officers - V.P. Scott Schulte and Treasurer Don Bay.

How does the board work? We have quarterly meetings - June is for board training. September is for choosing next year's projects (based on People Team recommendations). December is for finalizing the next year's budget. March is for identifying new board members and officers. Plus, at every meeting we evaluate membership, income, grants, volunteers, and projects, and what, if anything, we can help the park with.

In alternate months, either the Purpose Team or the People Team meets. The Purpose Team identifies and carries out projects that meet our purpose of encouraging awareness, understanding, enjoyment and preservation of the park and the surrounding area. Project planning includes setting dates, developing budgets and identifying volunteer needs. The People Team is responsible for outreach and tabling, membership recruitment and retention, and communication. This includes deciding which events to table at, what promotional materials to use, and how to involve members in activities (with the Purpose Team).

If you are not joining the board this year as an officer or board member, I do hope you will consider joining either the People Team or the Purpose Team - whichever suits you best. Your help with People or Purpose spreads the heavy lifting, and provides support and encouragement to our hardworking board.

Please join us Sunday May 17th 1:30 - 3:00 pm at the Gilbert Shelter in the Upper Park for our Annual Meeting and Board Installation. It will be an Ice Cream Social / Carry in Dessert meeting. Bring your own dish and spoon (to minimize waste) and a dessert treat to share. After the meeting, everyone is invited to join us at the Devil's Icebox Parking Lot to see the Heidi Bench and the new boardwalk over the bridge (if you haven't seen it yet).

FoRB Membership

Welcome to our newest FoRB member Annette S. Albin

Thank you to these FoRB members who have recently renewed!

Jack B. Beckett, Joan and Donald Bay, Meredith Donaldson, Jeannette & Jerry French, and Peter Holmes

FoRB values the support of its members and offers the following reminder to those whose membership has not yet been renewed: Lea Langdon, Darlene and Ben Londeree, Marci Lower, Melinda and R. Eric Staley, Helen and William Steinmann, David Webber, Lina and Harry Berrier, Nancy Boon, Dee Dokken, Mark Morgan, Jim Rathert, Pat and Phil Sachs, Ginger and Otis V. Wheeler

From Rock Bridge Memorial State Park

News - from the Park Superintendent, Jim Gast

Division of State Parks Director Doug Eiken announced that he will be retiring on June 1st. Dr. Eiken has been with the park system for 15 years. During his tenure several new parks and historic sites were added to the system. One of these is one that we manage—Clark’s Hill/Norton State Historic Site in Osage City. No announcement yet on a new director.

Several of the park staff and volunteer Wild Cave Tour leaders completed “Orientation to Cave Rescue” provided by the National Cave Rescue Commission. Also taking part in the training were members of Missouri Task Force 1. The training is designed to make the participants more effective in a cave rescue.

Upcoming Park Programs

Explorers Leave No Trace (Reservations Required)	June 10-12	9:00am to 3:00pm	Ages 10-12 Earn Mo State Parks & Historic Sites Explorer Patch
Gans Creek Adventure (Reservations Required)	June 13	12:30-4:30pm	Recommend ages 8 and up. Hike 2.5 miles along Gans Creek
Kids Go Batty Bats on Parade	June 14	1:00 to 4:00pm	Ages 5-12, must have an adult, Enjoy bat programs and bat related games.
Flicker, Flicker Firefly (Reservations Required)	June 20	7:00 to 8:30 pm	Ages 5 to adult, learn about fire flies, go for a hike, maybe catch a few
Bats: Living on a Wing and a Prayer Bats on Parade (Reservations Required)	July 17	7:00 to 9:00pm	Ages 12 to adult, program presented by Sybill Amelon of U.S. Forest Service
The Devil’s Delight: Bats in Flight Bats on Parade (Reservations Required)	July 11, 18, 24, or 25	7:00 – 9:00pm	Ages 7 to adult, see rehabilitated bats, a short video and view Connor’s Cave
Explorer Days (Reservations Required)	July 22-24	9:00am to 3:00pm	Ages 9-11 Earn Mo State Parks & Historic Sites Explorer Patch

Call the Park Office at 573-449-7400 for more details

Visit us on the WEB at: <http://rockbridge.missouri.org/>

Rock Bridge Memorial State Park is managed by the Department of Natural Resources, Division of State Parks, and is funded by primarily by the Parks-and-Soils Sales Tax. It is located at 5901 S. Highway 163, Columbia, MO 65203. Information about the park is at www.mostatoparks.com and the park may be contacted by email at rock.bridge.memorial.state.park@dnr.mo.gov or phone at 573-449-7400



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\$15 Special (park staff/vol, student, sr.)
\$20 Individual \$35 Family

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