

The BRIDGE

Volume 25: Issue 11 November 2012

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. email: weaverjc@missouri.edu, address: FoRB, P.O. Box 7642, Columbia MO 65205-7642 website: <http://www.friendsofrockbridgemsp.org/>

President's Letter - Kevin Roberson: How Can We Make Next Rock Bridge Renewal Better?

Greetings Friends! The muse is elusive this month, so I fear a rambling diatribe or base sentimentality. I will struggle against both.

The changing of seasons is upon us in full force starting with the drop in temperatures last week. As we prepare our homes, properties, and families for the coming winter, maybe it would be a good time to look at the changing needs of the Friends group. Now that we have had some small successes in our projects, we can focus on changing how we do "business". We were able to secure several new volunteers to assist with the Rock Bridge Renewal, we were able to accomplish specific goals for the Renewal, and we were able to get the word out about whom we are to a new audience. With the next Rock Bridge Renewal 6 months off, now is the time to be deciding how we manage the next one for more success, and a larger positive impact to the park.

I have a few ideas that I think could help in this growth, but I would really like to hear from the board, the membership, and the community on how we can properly engage a larger group to do these good works. Please email me at kwrcdr@aol.com and let me know your thoughts, or come to the next board meeting on Monday November 19, at the Department of Transportation Building at the north park entrance.

And don't forget to get out and enjoy the park. This time of year you can see rare things. I have seen a mature Bald Eagle and a Trumpeter Swan in the last week over the park.

Best regards, Kevin Roberson
President, FoRB

FRIENDS BOARD MEETING: Monday, November 19, 6:30 pm, at the DOT Building at the northern entrance of the park. Agenda items include reports on the Hickam Cabin renovation and Solar electricity for Rock Bridge Mills Shelter, review and suggestions for next spring's Rock Bridge Renewal and discussion of new educational space at the park. The board will be joined by State Parks Director Bill Bryan.

2012-2013 Officers and Directors

2012 - 2013 Officers: President: Kevin Roberson; V.P.: Jeffrey Friel, Treasurer: Jan Weaver, Secretary: Brennan Van Matre
2010 - 2012 Directors: Bill Hobbs, Sue Tillema
2011 - 2013 Directors: Scott Schulte

News from Rock Bridge Memorial State Park

Rock Bridge Memorial State Park is managed by the Department of Natural Resources, Missouri 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

Naturalist News – Devil's Icebox Cave Launched Eugene Hargrove into an Environmental Ethics Career - By Roxie Campbell

At times, I've been surprised by the number of people who have experienced Devil's Icebox Cave and in some cases by how profoundly they have been affected by that experience. A really good example is Eugene Hargrove. Cavers from across the nation had the opportunity to learn about his story in the September 2012 issue of the NSS News, the magazine of the National Speleological Society. In the "Spelean Spotlight" Eugene Hargrove was interviewed. Eugene Hargrove was a freshman at the University of Missouri-Columbia in 1963 when someone asked if he wanted to "go caving." He said "why not?" which led to his fascination with Devil's Icebox Cave and his exploration of much of it. Proof of that can be found in the name of "Hargrove's Canyon" attached to a location that is well past the usual C level trip destination of Dripstone Cascade in the Left Fork. A person has to be really "gung-ho" to reach this spot because it involves a long belly crawl on rocks. I made it there just once.

While Eugene began as an English major, he switched his focus to academic philosophy. While writing his dissertation in the 1970's, he became engaged in a political battle to protect Devil's Icebox Cave from water

pollution produced by rural housing developments. Later, he traveled to Europe where he did some research and connected with the caving community there. Back in the States, he received a Rockefeller Foundation Fellowship to do research on the history of ideas behind environmental ethics. His experiences with arguments about the protection of Devil's Icebox became a case study that he included in his book entitled *Foundations of Environmental Ethics*. Eugene went on to become the founder of the Center of Environmental Philosophy and continues to be the publisher of the journal *Environmental Ethics*. The NSS News writer points out that he is one of the few American academic philosophers who is interested in caves.

I had the privilege of having a conversation with Eugene at a conference once and we have documents on file from his work to protect Devil's Icebox Cave in the 1970's. We owe him a debt of thanks... and I suspect that he would say that he owes the cave a debt of thanks for giving him a start with his career.

More about Eugene Hargrove

- personal homepage - <http://www.phil.unt.edu/~hargrove/> (includes photo of the location of the planet where he lives)
- environmental ethics website - <http://www.cep.unt.edu/> (includes discussion of why people think nature is beautiful)

In other news....

Governor recognizes MDC 75th Anniversary. Kansas City Infozine. October 21, 2012. The Governor presented a proclamation honoring MDC for its 75th anniversary to Conservation Commissioners Don Bedell of Sikeston, James T. Blair, IV, of St. Louis, Don Johnson of Festus and Becky Plattner of Grand Pass, along with MDC Director Robert Ziehmer, at the Commission's Oct. 18 meeting in Springfield. <http://www.infozine.com/news/stories/op/storiesView/sid/53517/>

Missouri landowners offered CWD seals to thin deer herds. Kansas City Infozine. **October 24, 2012.** MDC's CWD management plan, will offer up to 5 seals to 80 landowners with five acres or more in and around a one-mile radius of where CWD has been detected. Each seal would allow the landowners, or hunters they authorize to hunt their lands, to harvest one deer of either sex. MDC is contacting eligible landowners in Linn and Macon counties and will host an information meeting with them in early November. <http://www.infozine.com/news/stories/op/storiesView/sid/53552/>

Majority of Americans believe climate change is worsening extreme weather. Mongabay, Jeremy Hance. October 11, 2012. According to a new poll, 74 percent of Americans agree that climate change is impacting weather in the U.S., including 73 percent who agreed, strongly or somewhat, that climate change had exacerbated record high temperatures over the summer. <http://www.enn.com/agriculture/article/45068>

Events

November 7-9 - E-Waste Drive - Mizzou Campus, Columbia -http://sustainmizzou.students.missouri.edu/?page_id=46

November 10 - Composting Workshop - 11:00 am, Compost Demo Site, Capen Park, Columbia - <http://www.columbiaurbanag.org/get-involved/events/>

November 14 - Audubon Program: Hog Island Audubon Camp - 7:00 pm, Unitarian Universalist Church, 2615 Shepard Blvd, Columbia - <http://columbia-audubon.org/#>

FoRB Membership - To join, Clip and Mail this section with check made out to FoRB, P.O. Box 7642, Columbia MO 65205-7642

\$15	Park Staff/Vol, Student, Senior	Name _____
\$20	Individual	Address _____
\$35	Family	Phone _____ Email _____
\$100	Supporting	

FoRB is a 501.c.3 organization. That means your donations to us are tax deductible!

FoRB
P.O. Box 7642
Columbia MO 65205-7642

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Naturalist News: DIB Cave and Environmental Ethicist Eugene Hargrove