

The Rowan Reporter

The Newsletter of
The Friends of Rowan Creek

Number 2

April, 2002



To restore, enhance, protect, and promote the unique characteristics of Rowan Creek and its watershed

Ah, Spring! ➔ See Page 4 ◀
A Time for Renewal!



Ira Kastenber photo

Coming Up Real Soon...

Creek Cleanup Day:

Sunday, April 28

1-4 p.m., meet at Pauquette Park,
downtown Poynette

Annual Meeting:

Thursday, May 9

7 p.m. at Poynette Village Hall

More upcoming events on Page 2!

Note from the Prez

Our Annual Meeting is scheduled for May 9, 7:00 at the Poynette Village Hall. Board elections will be held and an annual report provided. Following the business meeting we will hear an engaging talk on amphibians of Wisconsin, followed by a night-time excursion for those intrepid Creekers who wish to learn to identify these night calling creatures themselves.

Non-Profit Application Successful!

Our application as a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization was accepted by the IRS this fall! Now that we have our federal non-profit status we will have better access to various government and private grants and other programs. All purchased made by the group are exempt from sales tax, and additionally, your contributions to the Friends are fully tax-deductible!

UW-Madison Watershed Study

Our cooperative project with the UW-Madison Water Resources Program began when the students from that program began meeting as a formal class in late January. So far they have begun to gather existing data about the watershed, have met with the Poynette planning commission, and will soon be sending a survey to watershed residents to assess concerns and areas of interest. Look for an update from the student group on the project in early fall.

INSIDE

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Get Involved!



Future Activities

- ◆ April 28 Creek clean up, 1 - 4, Pauquette Park, downtown Poynette
- ◆ Annual Membership Meeting, May 9, Poynette Village Hall
- ◆ Rowan Creek Trail Maintenance, June 1, 9-12, DNR parking lot, CTH CS
- ◆ High School Prairie Planting, June 2, 2-6, Poynette High School
- ◆ Board meetings (7:00) (June 13, August 14, October 9)
- ◆ Board (6:30) and Member (7:00) meetings (July 7, September 11, November 13)
- ◆ Tour of Prairie Gardens/Plantings, late summer or early fall, TBD

For up-to-date information on these and other events, please consider joining the Friends of Rowan Creek email discussion list. Just send an email to <info@rowancreek.org> to be added to the list or for more information.

Note: Board and Members meetings are generally held at the Poynette Village Hall. If you are not on our email list, please call Nancy Braker to confirm the specific location.



photos by John Wachholz

Ways you can help:

The board has established committees and welcomes your assistance with their work. If any of the listed activities sound interesting, please contact the appropriate board member. Don't worry if you feel you have limited experience; everyone has useful skills and talents that we can put to work!

- Special Events and Projects** (Yvette Lokotz, Dan Cole)
- Fundraising** (Nancy Braker)
- Long Range Planning** (Nancy Braker and Allison Russell)
- Membership** (Ira Kastenberg)
- Publicity/Communications** (Nancy Braker and Allison Russell)
- Board Recruitment** (Steve Mueller and Nancy Braker)
- Web Page Development** (Theresa Plenty)

How to reach us

We want to hear from you! Get us your ideas about projects you would like to see taken up by the Friends of Rowan Creek. As a local organization, we need your help, ideas and resources to make our work successful. Contact any of our board members, send an email to us at info@rowancreek.org, or see our web page www.rowancreek.org for more information and useful links.

Current board members

| | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|----------|
| Nancy Braker, President | ncbraker@yahoo.com | 635-4040 |
| Dan Cole | colvly@merr.com | 635-4399 |
| Ira Kastenberg | ikastenberg@pol.net | 635-2128 |
| Yvette Lokotz | Ylokotz@jvl.net | 635-8719 |
| Steve Mueller, Vice-President | two_b_cool@sprynet.com | 635-4805 |
| Allison Russell | russell4@charter.net | 635-8588 |
| Theresa Plenty | plenty@mailbag.com | |

Recent Activities



Native Landscaping Lecture

In February Neil Diboll of Prairie Nursery providing an engaging talk on the benefits of using native prairie landscaping in urban environments. The group was introduced to basic ecological principles of the prairie landscape, the steps involved in creating a native plant garden, and benefits to wildlife that native landscaping brings. Prairie Nursery is located in Westfield, Wisconsin, and has been a supporter of the Friends of Rowan Creek.



Bluebird House Construction

In collaboration with the Kumlien Bird Club the Friends sponsored a bluebird house building event in March. Participants were able to build and take home their own bird house, and Bird Club members were available to answer questions about house placement and bluebird habits. Thanks to the American Legion for use of their facility.



Dissociated Press photos

School Prairie Planting

Members of the Poynette High School Conservation Club are working with the Friends to develop a prairie garden on school grounds. Partial funding was obtained from the C.D. Besadny Conservation Grant program of the Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin.



Business Memberships: We received our first business membership this winter from the **Bank of Poynette**. Many thanks to Bryan Skarr for his assistance in making this membership happen and for being the first business to join the organization at the business member rate (first approved by the members at the 2001 annual meeting).

If you know of a business that you think would be willing to support the Friends in this manner, please contact any board member for their assistance in making this membership request.

Regular Memberships: While our membership has been steady, we need your assistance in growing our numbers. Please consider sharing our brochure or newsletter with someone you feel would be interested in our group, or contact Membership Chair Ira Kasternberg to request an information packet be sent out.

RENEW! Response to a January renewal mailing was... slow. If you haven't yet paid your dues for calendar year 2002, please do so using the form below, or simply send in a check. Remember, your donation is now fully tax deductible (retroactive to the year 2000). If you joined us late last year, thank you and don't sweat it.

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|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|-------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Annual Dues | Junior (<18) | \$3 | <input type="radio"/> | Name _____ Address _____ _____ Phone _____ E-mail _____ Interests? _____ |
| | Individual | \$20 | <input type="radio"/> | |
| | Family | \$30 | <input type="radio"/> | |
| | Organization | \$50 | <input type="radio"/> | |
| | Business | \$100 | <input type="radio"/> | |
| | Lifetime Membership | \$250 | <input type="radio"/> | |
| | General Contribution | _____ | <input type="radio"/> | |
| <p>Your contribution is fully tax deductible.</p> <p>Please make your check payable to:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Friends of Rowan Creek P. O. Box 94 Poynette, Wisconsin 53955</p> <p>For more information visit http://rowancreek.org, email <info@rowancreek.org>, or call 608-635-4040</p> | | | | |



<http://www.rowancreek.org>
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