

Parks Volunteer of the Year 2009



The Martin family received recognition for their outstanding contributions to Harnischfeger Park over the years. Standing from left to right: Glenn Daily, Chairman of the Harnischfeger Park Friends Committee; Betty (Martin) Tremaine, Shirley (Martin) Zwiag, Ed Martin. Seated Ginnie (Martin) Tremaine. An Eastern Redbud Tree was planted in their honor east of the clubhouse.

Thanks to Our Campground Hosts!

Our volunteer hosts again provided vital assistance to staff and park visitors in 2009. Thanks to Marlene Soulsburg-Astico Park; Ed and Sandy Firlus-Ledge Park; Frank and Deanna Winkelman-Harnischfeger Park. Campground hosts help with camping registrations, canoe/kayak rentals, firewood sales and visitor information, to name a few of their many services. We are currently in need of a volunteer campground host at Derge Park for 2010. If you are interested, please contact the Parks Central Office at (920) 386-3700 or email parks@co.dodge.wi.us



Boardwalk Project Nearing Completion

Construction on the 800' accessible boardwalk through the wetland to the river began in late 2009. Crews consisting of staff, huber inmates, contracted labor and Burke Correctional inmates completed over 600' of the 6' wide walkway before being shutdown by snowfall. With a full crew of four to six, three more workdays should be sufficient to complete the project. The boardwalk has three side observation decks with benches and will have an observation deck and fishing platform at the river's

edge. Besides providing fishing access, the boardwalk will provide a unique opportunity to view the wetland ecosystem from within. The close up view of the wetland wildlife and vegetation will provide good potential as an outdoor classroom. Educational signage is planned. If interested in volunteering to help finish the boardwalk, contact the Parks office at (920) 386-3700.



FRIENDS OF DODGE COUNTY PARKS, INC. FINANCIALS		
FUND ACCOUNTS	2008	2009
Administrative Fund	(\$330)	(\$208)
Astico Park	\$1,740	\$1,740
Astico Canoes	\$340	\$340
Derge Park	\$140	\$140
Derge Shoreline Fund	\$2,705	\$3,106
Ledge Park	\$850	\$850
Nitschke Mounds Park	\$1,964	\$2,087
Harnischfeger Park	\$8,906	\$6,713
Harnischfeger Park - Playground	(\$12,000)	(\$6,000)
*\$36,000 Balance of pledge from Hartford Savings Bank.		
Harnischfeger Park—Barn Restoration	\$3,986	\$6,098
Harnischfeger Park—Boardwalk	\$5,000	\$5,040
Harnischfeger Park—Clubhouse Imp	\$5,906	\$799
Harnischfeger Park—Disc Golf	\$387	\$387
Harnischfeger Park—Fallfest	-	\$2,756
WGST - General Fund	\$7,030	\$5,768
WGST - Horse Trail Fund	\$2,160	\$660
WGST - Hwy 60 Parking	-	\$2,020
New Park Acquisition	\$195	\$195
Undesignated General Fund	\$9,585	\$9,790
Total All Funds As of December 31	\$38,564	\$42,231
Total Revenues	\$39,059	\$19,131
Total Expenses	\$37,011	\$14,338
Endowment Fund	\$8,013	\$9,139

FRIENDS OF DODGE COUNTY PARKS Membership/Donation Form

Yes, sign me up as a member of the "Friends of Dodge County Parks".

Enclosed is my ANNUAL dues payment of:

- \$10 Senior Citizen/Child (Under 18)
- \$15 Individual/Classroom/School
- \$25 Family
- \$50 Club/Agency/Organization/Not-for-Profit Corporation
- \$75 Municipality
- \$100 Corporations/Businesses/Foundation

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Yes, I'd like to make an additional tax deductible contribution to the "Friends of Dodge County Parks" to assist with continuing improvements to the Dodge County Parks.

Enclosed is my contribution of:

- \$1-\$99 - Friend
- \$100-\$499 - Contributor
- \$500-\$999 - Sponsor
- \$1,000-\$4,999 - Patron
- \$5,000-\$24,999 - Grand Patron
- \$25,000-\$49,999 - Benefactor
- \$50,000-\$99,999 - Pillar
- \$100,000+ - Philanthropist

I would like my contribution designated to:

- Undesignated
- Astico Park
- Derge Park
- Ledge Park
- Nitschke Mounds Park
- Harnischfeger Park
- Harnischfeger Park - Boardwalk
- Wild Goose State Trail
- Wild Goose Horse Trail
- Parks Endowment Fund
- Harnischfeger Barn Restoration
- Other _____

Return To: Friends of Dodge County Parks - P.O. Box 72 - Juneau, WI 53039 --- Thank you!



Winter/Spring 2010
Volume 13, Issue 1

Friends of Dodge County Parks Newsletter

To protect and enhance the quality of life in Dodge County by preserving, protecting and promoting natural resources, parks, trails and other County recreational resources.

Another Year Has Come and Gone...

The end of the year is a time to reflect our thankfulness for all of the things we are appreciative of. As the Chairperson of The Friends of Harnischfeger Park Committee, my list for 2009 is quite extensive. First and foremost, I am thankful for the many Volunteers on the Committee and their dedication to continuous improvements at Harnischfeger Park. Without them, the balance of this year's "Thankful List" would not exist. Some show up the day of the event to help, and there are those who are the force behind planning our events as well as executing them. THANK YOU to ALL; you are the "The Wind Beneath The Wings". I am thankful for Dodge County's forward thinking to provide

the public with the facilities and "Green Space" for friends and families to enjoy healthy fun. As a past Employee of Harnischfeger Corporation, the previous owners of the park, knowing that this park is in good hands, and that it will always remain open space for all to enjoy, touches my heart. The County, jointly with our Committee's governing body, The Friends of Dodge County Parks Inc., give me the comfort of knowing that the park is secure in it's future. The balance of my thankful list is the many improvements that were made to the park this past year. Through the efforts of the County, the Friends, and our park Committee, Harnischfeger Park has realized some changes. The clubhouse has a new heating and air conditioning system along with an insulation upgrade, new carpeting in the lower level, new

paneling on a lower level wall, and a start on replacing the out dated banquet tables. The park has a new, nearly completed Boardwalk through the lowland to the river, and will have two ponds in that area when conditions are favorable to complete them. This project was many hours in the planning, fund raising, and implementation. The County is fortunate to have a staff dedicated to seeing projects like this through. The Boardwalk will provide everyone the opportunity to enjoy the fresh air, wildlife, and even a little fishing on the river. My parting line...Stay Tuned,,More To Come!

Glenn Daily
Chairman—Friends of
Harnischfeger Park Committee



Friends of Dodge County Parks, Inc. Officers and Board of Directors

President (2008-2011) David Birschbach
Vice President (2009-2012) Bob Weiss
Secretary/Historian (2008-2011) Mary Welles
Treasurer (2009-2012) Virginia Seaholm

Director - at-Large/Past President Vacant
Director (2007-2010) Tim Galvin
Director (2007-2010) Bob & Delores Weiss
Director (2009-2012) Anthony

& Kathleen Weiss
Director (2009-2012) Larry & Shirley Neitzel
Director (2009-2012) Dean & Marie Becker
Director (2008-2011) Sherri Gysbers
Director (2008-2011) Rich Landrath & Larry Wagner

Board Elections

Three positions are up for election at the May 6th Friends of Dodge County Parks Annual Membership Meeting. The positions are Vice President and two Board positions. Officers and Board Members are collectively responsible for the affairs of the organization; approving fundraising efforts and projects to direct organization funds to, making recommendations to County Park staff and conducting other activities that are in support of the mission. Meetings are typically held the 1st Thursday of each Month in Juneau at 5 pm. Any current member in good standing is eligible for election. If you are interested in being nominated or receiving more information, contact Dodge County Parks office at (920) 386-3700 or any of the officers or Board members.

Be A Ledge Explorer in 2010!

In recognition of the Year of the Niagara Escarpment in Wisconsin, the Fond du Lac Audubon Society is sponsoring a "Passport to the Ledge" Program. The Niagara Escarpment, locally known as "The Ledge", is a unique and important resource that is intermittently exposed in Wisconsin from Mayville to Door County. Kids can earn a patch or certificate by obtaining a "Ledge Passport" and

having it stamped at the designated sites. Dodge County Ledge Park, between Horicon and Mayville, is one of the designated sites. Several county, State and organization properties are designated sites with hiking opportunities and unique natural features. Program information will be available from the Fond du Lac County Audubon Society—website at www.fdlaudubon.org.



4th Annual FallFest Another Success

Despite less than ideal weather, Fallfest 09 was a success! Record numbers came out for the pancake breakfast. More buckskinner camps were set up, more antique farm equipment was on display and the farm/craft market and kids activities were well attended as well. Over \$2,700 was raised for park improvements. Thanks to all who helped make Fallfest 09 the best ever! To the many hands that showed up that day to help, the Lebanon 4-H kids, the Boy Scouts, and all of the individuals as well, THANK YOU. From the bakers for our bake sale to the cooks and servers of the pancake breakfast, to

the Rendezvous and Antique Equipment exhibitors, and all of our Market Place vendors that gave people things to see and do, THANK YOU. To our entertainment, Three Cats and a Kitten, and John Mathews along with the Dog Conditioning Demonstration and the many folks who brought in animals for the petting zoo, THANK YOU. To the many businesses and people that donated funds and goods to help us make this an affordable family event, THANK YOU. The smiles on children's faces, along with families and friends enjoying fresh air and the park are your reward for contributions made.



Credit Cards Now Accepted

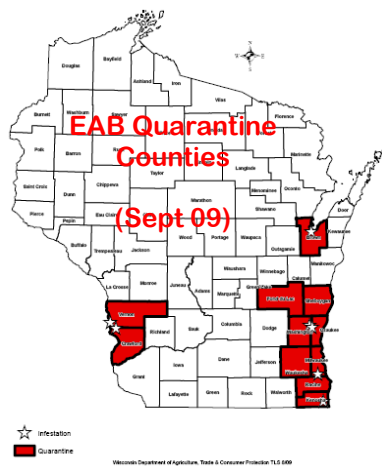
MasterCard and Discover Cards can now be used for payment of camping and other park fees through the Central Office. A convenience fee does apply on all transactions.

Wild Goose State Trail Sees Improvements in 2009

Two projects on the Wild Goose State Trail were undertaken in 2009. The first involved asphalt paving of a 1/2 mile section in Juneau from Home Road to Center Street. The paving was done to correct trail washouts and deterioration in addition to improving trail accessibility. The other project was the expansion of the Hwy 60 parking area. The expansion nearly doubled the size of the parking area to

better accommodate vehicles with trailers, such as equestrian, ATV and snowmobile. The parking lot project is being funded jointly by a National Recreation Trails Grant, the Friends of Dodge County Parks and Dodge County. The project will be completed by early summer with landscaping, picnic areas and general aesthetic improvements.

Firewood Ban Continues in 2010



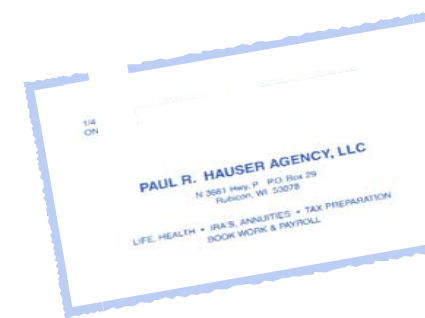
Dodge County took a proactive stance by banning outside firewood from entering the County Parks beginning in 2008 in hopes of slowing the spread of the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) into Dodge County. That ban continues in 2010 and is especially important now that the EAB has been found in seven counties. Eleven counties, including the adjacent Fond du Lac, Washington and Waukesha, are currently under state and federal quarantines restricting the movement of firewood or ash products. Ash trees are common in the Dodge County Parks and Dodge County communities, providing

shade and aesthetics to active park areas and our neighborhoods. Dodge County has and will continue to plant more trees in the parks to help lessen the impact of the loss of the Ash trees when the EAB reaches Dodge County. Until then everyone needs to do their part in helping to slow the spread of EAB. Don't move firewood and take time to learn about EAB. Check out the DNR website at www.dnr.wi.gov or www.emeraldashborer.wi.gov to find out more. Hopefully together we can all slow the spread of EAB at least until research and technology can establish a means to eradicate it.

Camping Revenues Hit All Time High in 2009!

Camping revenues in 2009 exceeded \$108,000 representing the first time annual camping revenues topped \$100,000 and was a nearly 20% increase from 2008 totals. The number of campers in 2009 also reached record levels at \$17,100 for the

year, nearly a 37% increase over the previous high in 2008. Nationwide, as the economy struggled in 2009, more people have opted for low cost, close to home, family-oriented activities found in local parks.



Special thanks and appreciation goes out to Paul Hauser for preparing our required annual reporting to the IRS, pro bona.

WinterFest 2010 - Saturday, February 13th

Are you looking for that perfect Valentine's Day weekend date? Do you want to impress that special someone in your life? Do you enjoy the outdoors, even in the dead of winter? Moms and Dads, you know you will be looking for a reason to get the kids out of the house as well. Well look no more, mark your calendar for Saturday, February 13, 2010, and come to Harnischfeger Park for our seventh annual Winterfest 2010! The event runs from 10 AM to 5 PM. Activities for this year's event include the ever popular horse drawn sleigh and surrey rides, Dog Sled Demonstrations,

Local Musical Entertainment, "Dirty Kettle" Mountain Man/Fur Trader Old-Time Educational Programs/Authentic Tipi Tour, Petting Zoo, Family Treasure Hunt & Scavenger Hunt, Cross-Country Skiing (Bring your own skis and blaze a trail), Sledding (bring your sled & take a sleigh ride shuttle to the kiddie sledding hill or enjoy the peewee hill in front of the clubhouse), and lots more winter family fun. Also on tap, Chinese & Silent Auctions and Raffles, Kids Crafts, Caricatures, and much more.

Astico Park Family Camping Special - June 4th-5th



**\$5 Camping/Night Per Site
50% Off Canoe/Kayak Rentals**

Due to overwhelming success in 2009, the Family Camping Special returns to Astico Park again this year—the first weekend in June (4th-5th). This event sold out last year, so make your reservations early to guarantee your spot. Astico Park provides lots of shore fishing areas and a canoe access to take advantage of the State Free Fishing Weekend on June 4th and 5th (See www.dnr.wi.gov for free fishing weekend details. For reservations or information - (920) 386-3700 x 1/ or www.dodgeparks.com

Fallfest 2010

Saturday, October 2, 2010
Harnischfeger County Park
W3048 Crawfish Road - Ixonia

Pancake Breakfast
Buckskinner Encampment
Tractor Wagon Rides
Antique Tractor Display
Local Entertainment
Farm & Craft Market

Concessions and More...

Check Website at:
www.dodgeparks.com
for more information

Upcoming Events and Activities

May 1st-2nd - Horicon Marsh Archeology Weekend on the Horicon Marsh

Public Archeology Dig and Educational Programs at Nitschke Mounds County Park are planned. Lots of archeology activities in and around Horicon Marsh.

**June 4-5, 2010 - Astico Park Family Weekend
\$5/night camping
For Reservations
(920) 386-3700**

October 2nd - 5th Annual Fallfest at Harnischfeger Park
Mark these dates on your calendar. Let us know if you would like to volunteer time for one of these activities. (920) 386-3700 or parks@co.dodge.wi.us

Check website for information and updates
www.dodgeparks.com