

HORTON'S CLIPS

From the Friends of McGilvray Road, Inc.

FALL, 2003

Edited by Mariel Carlisle

**Your Board of Directors is planning a
Meeting at Nancy Hill's
425 S 19th St (Between Madison and Cass)
Tuesday, September 2 at 5:30 p.m.
&
The Annual Meeting
Tuesday, September 16 at 6:00 p.m.
At the Trempealeau Hotel**

Agenda includes election of officers, membership dues and possible By-laws revisions.

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MC GILVRAY ROAD AND BRIDGES UPDATE

Greetings from your *temporary* chairperson, Nancy Hill,

At our last meeting, with all sorts of good will and great expectations, some of the members present tried to infuse some energy into the organization. There was a nice walk on the trail with Pat Beringer, the DNR Wildlife Biologist and Project Manager for the Van Loon Wildlife Area, pointing things out, identifying the habitat, taking notes and listening.

After the walk, we went to the Trempealeau Hotel and had a meeting. Joe Noelke has held the chairmanship reins valiantly the past year, but did not want to be chair any longer, and it appeared that a replacement was in order. I was selected to fill that role, but would love to have had someone else rise to the position.

So we elected the following slate of officers:

Nancy Hill, Chair, 782-1753

D.A. Ferguson, Vice Chair, 784-7865

Karla Pierson, Treasurer, (608) 269-6111

Mariel Carlisle, Secretary and Newsletter editor 782-4281

I read the By-laws and found that we need to amend them. There are several things that are no longer applicable since we wrote them in 1989. We will need to revise those By-laws a bit and vote on those *proposed* revisions at our annual meeting.

Here is the plan:

- For those who wish to air concerns or to help shape the By-laws for the next few years, there will be a short meeting **at 5:15 at 425 S. 19th St., Tuesday, September 2**. I will order a couple of pizzas and try to accommodate those who are arriving from work. DA Ferguson and I (and later, Mariel) have already worked some on the changes we felt necessary, and I will have copies there for inspection.
- **On Tuesday September 16, at 6 PM we will have our annual meeting at the Trempealeau Hotel** with election of officers and we will vote on the revised By-laws.

Phil Yehle and D.A.Ferguson are directing the nominating committee. We will also take nominations from the floor at the annual meeting. If you would be interested in serving or have ideas to share, please contact them. Phil is at 526 3155 and D.A. is at 784 7865.

OUT AND ABOUT

The Benches are in place! Thanks to John Harned and his fellow scouts for the completion of his Eagle Scout project of making and installing **three benches** along the trail. Thanks also to Pat Beringer for helping him on such hot days, and to John's parents, Rick and Emily. Further thanks to any of you who donated money or materials to the project.

More thanks to Pat for his sharp eyes and sense of urgency. He spotted a culvert that was dangerous and has had it removed. It will be a low area where it will allow water to course over it and not dam up. We applied that technique in other places to reduce stress on our bridges.

He directed the repair of the washed-out areas by the abutments on **Bridge 5**, at least in a temporary fashion.

Pat has a project in mind that I am not sure how to incorporate under our structure or corporation, but it has great merit. He would like to work on **the habitat** that is near the end of the trail. That would help make it more historic and encourage wildlife. If you have ideas on how to help, please call him at 795-9992, or me at 782-1753. I know it would be a fine addition to the trail, but I need advice on this one.

Pat has seen to it that the trail has been maintained. It is extremely dry down there, and rain is needed.

Mariel has proposed that we set a **multi-year dues fee** as an option for those who do not want to be bothered with dues each year. Please respond to that idea. Nancyfhill@peoplepc.com. I do not know how much seems realistic for a longer period, or how much a lifetime subscription ought to be. What I do know is that I did not pay my **dues** on time, and many others did not either. So if you know you haven't paid, send your money. Still only \$10.00 per individual.

Reminder:

"The McGilvray Bridges and the Friends Who Saved Them" by Ray Kyro. Sixty-four pages of history and photos. Wonderful for special occasions and as gifts for your summer hosts or guests. Also available by mail for \$34.00, or at the Van Loon Animal Hospital, The Trempealeau Hotel & The Holmen Historical Society for \$30.00.

Other gift suggestions:

- **McGilvray Plates** are priced to sell, starting at \$10.00. Limited number. Only two complete sets remain at \$50.00. Call Mariel.
- **McGilvray Prints**, by Art Anderson and Mike Klafke. A few *secondary market* prints are available. Call Karla or Mariel for inventory.
- **McGilvray Note cards** are available for a bargain. \$8.00 for pack of eight. Call D.A.
- **The Friends of McGilvray Endowment Fund.** Contributions to this fund make fine memorials. Contact D.A.

The Wisconsin Trust for Historic Preservation has proclaimed this as the “Year of the Barn”. We are especially fortunate to have barns designed for a variety of uses and representing several ethnical and architectural styles in our region.

The Preservation Alliance of La Crosse will present a Heritage Home Tour of four historical homes in the Cass/King Historic District. Featured homes include the Mueller home at 128 South 14th St, the Gundersen home at 1504 King St., the Easton house, 1327 Cass St. and the Holway house at 1419 Cass St. Sunday, September 14, 1-4 p.m. Tickets at the doors: \$12.00.

The Preservation Alliance of La Crosse has recently completed the first phase of the moving and restoration of the little Cobbler Shop across from City Hall. Look for it.

The La Crosse County Historical Society is presenting “Discover the Silent City Cemetery Tour” on Friday and Saturday, September 12 and 13. Watch the media for details.

The La Crosse 4000 Club is busy restoring the locomotive at Copeland Park. This extensive restoration project is also very expensive and a lot of fund-raising has been necessary. Watch the progress.

Web Site. Check us out. Phil Yehle has compiled the information and photos. Address: www.7bridgesrd.org. Enjoy!

Your membership is important to us. We don’t meet quite as often as we used to, but maintenance projects continue. As always, we really appreciate your membership and hope you will consider supporting the *Friends* group, and/or contributing to our Endowment Fund. The Endowment Fund was established to secure funds for bridge repairs in the future.

Membership form for your “Friends” organization. Clip and return

Single: \$10.00/ year

Supporting: \$25.00/year

**Send to: F.M.R., P.O. Box 2976
La Crosse, WI 54602-2976.**

Name

Address:

Phone:

Email: