

Friends of McGilvray Road

Horton's Clips

May 2015



Spring is here at last!

Join us May 17th for a walk in celebration of National Historic Preservation Month.

Check out our website and connect with us at <http://www.7bridgesrd.org>

Join us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/FriendsofMcGilvrayRd>

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Who's Who in the Friends of McGilvray Road

Board of Directors

Nancy Hill
Pat Caffrey
D.A. Ferguson
Jay Fernholz
Don Heidel
Mike Howe
Linda McMullin
Rachel Peterson
Karla Pierson

Officers

President	Nancy Hill
Vice President	Mike Howe
Treasurer	Pat Caffrey
Secretary	Karla Pierson
Webmaster	Linda McMullin
Horton Editors	Chris Sanders Greg DeBoer

Note from the President

After a long and chaotic winter, spring is finally here!

As we embark upon our journey through the month of May, take some time to get out and enjoy some sunshine (no rain!) with us on the trail. The sound of trees rustling and emergence of color as the landscape comes alive; let's hope the water stays at bay (especially on the lowered trail where the seeds need to grow).

Be sure to mark May 17th on your calendar as that is our annual walk of the trail. While you are welcome to come out at any time, we'll have Friends on-hand to answer questions and perform tours between 1:00PM-3:00PM. If you are wanting to help us prepare the area for the walk, we'll be getting together on May 16th at 10:00AM in the parking lot. As always, we would love the help!

Throughout winter, our "worker bees" plan what to do next. This group consists of WDNR personnel Tim Babros and Anna Jahns, Pat Caffrey, Mike Howe, Don Heidel, DA Ferguson, Karla Pierson, Linda McMullin, Steve Gabrielson, and I. Many ideas depend on permissions, money, weather, etc. They have worked well together and accomplished more than I can list.

We are including a poster that we encourage you to copy and share it to family, friends, and/or colleagues. We are dedicating May to increasing our membership ranks and this includes giving a friendly shout-out to those whose memberships have lapsed and a show of appreciation to all the people who are here for us. The more involved the community is with the bridges, the more support they'll have in the future.

Looking ahead, we need someone dedicated to bringing in new people and another to reach out to schools and other organizations to expand our contacts and influence.

Sincerely,
Nancy Hill

Walk with Us and Celebrate!

Sunday May 17th, 2015

1:00PM to 3:00PM ... and at your leisure

The Friends of McGilvray Road (FMR) invite you to walk with us as we celebrate

National Historic Preservation Month

Enjoy informative talks at several of the bridges as you walk the trail. Hear presentations on:

- Area birds and waterfowl. Bob Cottrell, nature lover, along the trail.
- Van Loon ecology. Anna Jahns, DNR, at 1:30 and 2:30 Bridge 4.
- Trees and herbaceous plants. Jay Fernholz, along the trail.
- History of the Bridges and of the Friends of McGilvray road, Bridge 1. Various Friends Members. Books, Visors, Greeting Cards will be for sale.
- Details of bridge construction Bridge 2. Pat Caffrey volunteer and engineer.
- Gile (Mac) McWain, History of Bridge 5 at Bridge 5.
- Information about the ongoing maintenance of the bridges and trail

Did you know?

The Friends of McGilvray Road has a web site. It has been updated and expanded over the last few years and has everything you need or want to know about the McGilvray Road trail and the Friends.

To find our web site you can by typing in “McGilvray Road” in any search engine (Google, Yahoo Search, Bing, etc). You can also enter in: <http://www.7bridgesrd.org> in the address bar of your favorite Internet browser (Internet Explorer, Firefox, Chrome, etc.).

Here you will find pictures and information about McGilvray Road including:

- Directions and maps on how to get there.
- Pictures of the bridges, the trail, and Friends at work on them; the Anderson Klafke prints, floods, and various flora and fauna found along the trail.
- Tips for visitors including information about maintenance, closures, and flooding.
- A short history of McGilvray Road, the bridges and the Friends that saved them.
- Statistical information about each of the bridges.
- Friends’ organizational information such as by-laws, meeting minutes, and newsletters.
- Membership information and forms for joining, making a donation or paying dues. Paypal is accepted.
- You will also find information about contacting us by mail or email.

In addition to the web site, our site administrator, Linda McMullin, has recently begun work on a Facebook page. The page will soon contain ongoing news about the trail, the bridges, and the Friends. You can use the “find friends” box at the top of your Facebook page by typing in: Friends of McGilvray Road.

Please let us know if you have any corrections or suggestions for improvement by sending an email to: mcmullinda@gmail.com. Happy surfing!

MEMBERSHIPS AND DONATIONS

In 1989, the Friends of McGilvray formed a volunteer organization and created a partnership with the Wisconsin D.N.R. to restore six historically significant bridges of McGilvray Road, located in the Van Loon Wildlife Area, La Crosse Country Wisconsin.

Membership dues and contributions provide FMR a means of

- Funding for safety and maintenance of the six bridges and trail.
- Conducting educational walks and community awareness programs.
- Distribution of newsletters, publications, and trail maps.
- Providing a volunteer base.

Friends of McGilvray Road is a 501(c)(3) organization. Donations are tax deductible as allowed by law.

Membership Fees

\$25.00 Annual Individual

\$100.00 Annual Corporate or Business

\$200.00 Lifetime Patron

Visit our website at <http://www.7bridgesrd.org> to download our membership form or send a check made out to 'Friends of McGilvray Road' along with your name and address.

**Friends of McGilvray Road
P.O. Box 2976
La Crosse, WI 54602-2976**

*** Please keep us informed on your e-mail address as that is the best way to share this newsletter without incurring any additional expenses. If you are getting this newsletter via mail, it might mean that we do not have your e-mail address on file. Please send it to theblonde2@centurytel.net (Karla Pierson) and we will add it to our list. Thanks!

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