



Photo courtesy of Kenny Bahr

Volume 15, Number 1
Spring 2014

Spring

Friends of Squaw Creek

Board of Directors

Christina Buhman, President
292 NW State Route F
Clarksdale, MO 64430
luhman@yahoo.com

Roy Wilson, 1st Vice President
307 E. 4th Street
Mound City, MO 64470
(660) 442-3101
doctorwilsondvm@yahoo.com

Dick Deschane, Treasurer
4309 Leighton Court
St. Joseph, MO 64506
(816) 279-5308
mobadger4309@sbcglobal.net

Christine Kline, Secretary
604 Independence
Pleasant Hill, MO 64080
(816) 540-3515
birdsecretary@comcast.net

Linda Deschane
Director & Membership
mobadger4309@sbcglobal.net

David Norwood, Director
dnorwood6@kc.rr.com

Dear Members,

Here we are again entering another season, SPRING migration!! Let us come together, and support Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge as they prepare for the spring and summer seasons. Volunteering at the refuge during work days or in the nature shop during the week are two ways to contribute. We are also looking for volunteers for the weekends to keep the headquarters open during spring migration. Please contact me, and let me know your interest in helping us keep the refuge open during spring migration.

Respectfully,

NOTICE

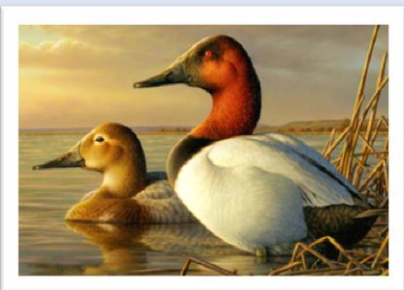
Friends of Squaw Creek Annual Member Meeting Saturday, May 3, 2014 at 10:00 AM

A Friends of Squaw Creek Annual Member Meeting will be held at the refuge headquarters.

A motion will be made to add Mickey Sigmon to our Board of Directors.

All members are invited to attend.

This is also a chance for members to bend the ears of our board and staff.



2014 Duck Stamp

Stamps are purchased by waterfowlers, but also by those who appreciate the art and know that the \$15 purchase raises about \$25 million each year to conserve and protect wetland habitats in the National Wildlife Refuge System. The new 2014-2015 Duck Stamp will go on sale in June, 2014. For more information www.fws.gov/duckstamps



Refuge Report

Ronald Bell is our Refuge Manager. He manages a staff that supports our operation including providing food, shelter, and water for wildlife. This includes prescribed burning, water and grassland management, and a large number of wildlife research and other biological programs.

Do you have an interest in volunteering?

You can show you are a supporter by volunteering for our refuge workdays which will start again next spring. Workdays also provide a wonderful opportunity to experience the refuge up close.

To express an interest,

Contact:

Corey Kudrna
(816) 383-0043

Volunteer Habitat Restoration Days

March 1 ~ 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

March 15 ~ 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

April 26 ~ 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

facebook

Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge



Refuge Happenings

The weather has been the "hot topic" affecting refuge events this winter. Sub-zero temperatures combined with a snow storm on December 7 & 8 resulted in cancelling our Eagle Days' events on Sunday for the first time in our 35-year history of Eagle Days at Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge. On Friday, December 6, 631 students and 88 adults attended our Eagle Days' student day, but on Saturday, the weather began to take its toll on visitation. As a result, only 967 visitors came in the office compared to the 35 year average of 2,968. Additionally, only 716 attended the live eagle show compared to 2,003, 1,625 drove the auto tour route compared to 5,562 and 289 took the guided bus tour compared to 541. Another snow storm on the 21st dumped an additional eight inches of snow which shut down the refuge for several days before the roads could be plowed. Sub-freezing temperatures the remainder of December and the first week of January essentially moved all waterfowl south.

Wetlands

Despite the fact that precipitation in 2013 was normal, the drought the previous 18 months continued to have a negative effect on the refuge wetlands and moist soil units. The water control structure on Squaw Creek has been closed since July 2012. We continue to take water from Squaw Creek and our goal for spring migration is to have all of our pools and moist soil units full. Water conditions have improved since spring 2013, but we still have a way to go on the west side of the refuge. Water from the Davis Creek control is used to flood the moist soil units and several pools on the east side. All of those units have some water, but still need more time to fill. We have never moved water in the winter for this long period of time since I arrived in 1987. Back to the topic of sub-zero, ice was still between 12 and 13 inches thick in most pools as of January 9, so it will take some above normal temperatures for an extended period of time before there will be any extensive open water. This may delay spring migration and obviously, weather conditions both south and north of the refuge will be the deciding factor.

Ronald S Bell



Seed that was collected and dried in summer 2013 was distributed by volunteers after a fresh snow on January 11, 2014. Prairie is being restored on 27 acres of land thanks to a grant and memorial funds collected by Friends of Squaw Creek.

Intern Report

When you join Friends of Squaw Creek or renew your membership, your funds are put to good use. For instance, each year, you help pay for an intern pursuing a career in Wildlife Biology or with the US Fish and Wildlife Service.

Carly Compton: I'm originally from a small town in southern Missouri called House Springs. I'm an undergraduate at Missouri Western State University, majoring in Wildlife Conservation Management Biology. I've always been interested in wildlife and working with people which is why I had applied for Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge's Interpretive Internship Program. I was very excited when I discovered I had been chosen as one of the candidates to participate in the program. Being an active volunteer through MWSU Student Chapter of the Wildlife Society had given me a good idea of what was expected of me. I'll admit I was a little nervous at first since I would be on my own and have, what I considered, a good amount of responsibility, although the whole experience proved to be eye opening, inspirational, and a lot of fun. To give the average person a general idea of my duties I opened up the refuge's nature shop that was also run by volunteers, signed them in, and made sure they could contact me if they had any issues. Then my day would start off driving the auto tour route to find the good bird watching spots and to see if anyone was out. Talking to individuals at Squaw Creek was one of my favorite things. So many of them would travel from areas several hours away just to visit us! It was exciting hearing what they liked and what they were looking for and if I could be of any help to them. They would even give me occasional insight as to where things were that I had missed.

Midway through my day I would bring out a "touch table" for visitors of all ages – my favorite because to put it together I explored to find items to use. I usually made sure I had brochures so that if anyone needed information I could easily give it to them. I'd always find an "eye catcher" for the kiddos. A lot of people loved seeing the deer sheds that have come from the refuge and how large some of them were. I met an eclectic variety of people and learned a lot from just talking to them. Overall the entire experience was great. I learned an immense amount just from those who visited Squaw Creek. I also became more familiar with the wildlife.



Carly Compton, as part of The Wildlife Society, accepts the Student Chapter of the Year Award.

Valerie Schneider: My internship was a rewarding experience that gave me the opportunity to expand my knowledge in environmental education and make connections with visitors as they observed the wildlife on the refuge. I really enjoyed creating my own education table to set up each week because I was able to choose skins and specimens that I am familiar with and have learned about in

my studies at school. Many people stopped to ask me about the specimens and it was especially rewarding when people shared stories of their own about the animals being represented. This was my favorite part of my internship because I was able to learn from others and hear about the different animals they are passionate about. Talking to children was enjoyable because I felt as though some of the children I talked to left with a more respectful view of wildlife. Being able to touch specimens and see them up close was helpful because many of the children had not seen some of the animals before. I really liked talking to people as they showed me pictures they had taken during their visits at the refuge. I was able to see great pictures of eagles, hawks, and geese. I loved seeing the visitors' excitement as they showed me how much they enjoyed bird watching and photography. I feel as though I learned a lot from this internship because I was able to see different animals around the refuge, observe migrations, and talk to visitors. My hope was that they left with more knowledge and respect for animals than when they arrived.



Valerie Schneider

A
new
way
to
support
us!

We are
grateful

to all those
who braved cold temperatures
to attend Eagle Days
and supported us
by shopping our nature shop
and dining in our food booth!
We're looking forward
to seeing you next year!

**Friends
of Squaw Creek
Board Meetings**

are always open to our
members and to the public.
Please join us if you have a
concern or wish to share your
thoughts or ideas with our
board of directors. Meetings
during the school year
start at 4:45 PM and are held at
the refuge headquarters.
We'd love to hear from you!

**March 11, 2014
April 8, 2014**

**Annual Members' Meeting &
Board Meeting
May 3, 2014**

Bob Evans
**COMMUNITY
FUNDRAISER**

Dine to make a difference

**Friends of
Squaw Creek**

**Saturday, March 15, 2014
10 A.M. - 10 P.M.
Valid on Dine-In or Carry-Out**

Bob Evans will donate 15% of sales
when you present this flyer* to

Bob Evans

**5101 North Belt Highway In St. Joseph
www.BobEvans.com/BEInd**

*Flyer must be presented at time of check out.

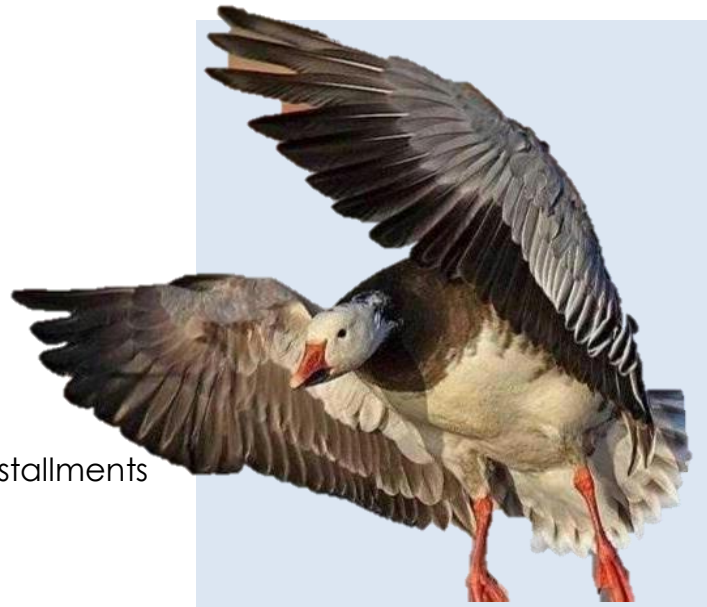
#538

Don't forget!

The conservation of 7,414 acres has to be managed.
Friends of Squaw Creek needs you!

Renew and Support

	1 Year	2 Years
Student	<input type="checkbox"/> \$5	
Individual	<input type="checkbox"/> \$15	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25
Senior (age 62+)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$10	<input type="checkbox"/> \$15
Family	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$40
Corporation	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50	
Lifetime	<input type="checkbox"/> \$750	<input type="checkbox"/> \$250 paid in 3 annual installments



Donate

Donation levels are named after pools on the refuge

Teal	<input type="checkbox"/> \$0-\$49	Pintail	<input type="checkbox"/> \$250-\$499
Snow Goose	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50-\$99	Pelican	<input type="checkbox"/> \$500-\$999
Mallard	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100-\$249	Eagle	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1000+

I would like my donation applied to one of the current goals that the board has listed below:

- Conservation ~ **Prairie and grassland enhancement** through seed collection and land management, seed trailer, intern, and storage
- Education ~ **Internships**
- Visitor Enhancement ~ **Webcams** at Loess Hills, Eagle Nests, and Wetland Marsh birds

Date: _____ Telephone: _____

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

Volunteer

Do you have an interest in volunteering one day a year?

Yes No

Tell us what you have an interest in:

- Nature Shop/Visitor Contact
 - Habitats and Workdays
 - Refuge and upkeep
 - Removing Invasive Species
 - Animal Surveys
 - Banding Birds
- Which animals do you have an interest in? _____

As a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization, we are only as strong as our members and donors. We appreciate your support, whether it be monetary or in-kind!

Become
a
member
and
support
education
conservation
and
more!

If joining or making a donation by check, make payable to Friends of Squaw Creek.

If joining or making a donation by credit card, contact Christine Kline (816) 540-3515.

*Send application and check to:
Friends of Squaw Creek
PO Box 244
Mound City, Missouri 64470*

Donations

Teal Level

William Richards
Mike Harvey
Glen & Judy Longworth
Christine Kline
Bill & Charlene Kick
Lawrence Werthmuller

Snow Goose Level

Lewis Frazier
Jerry & Linda Haley
Kerry Hallowell
Mary Ann Jernigan
Hazel's Cakes

Mallard Level

Mary Nemecek
Ray Grieshaber
Trophy Wildlife
Outfitters
Jerry & Linda Haley

Eagle Level

Mitchell Corbin
Barb Greene

Current Members

Susan Abernathy
Allegra Anderson
Ronald Bell
Bill Blackledge
Gerald & Jean Bos
Angela Brook
Ronald Bruno
Lynn & Christina Buhman
Harold Burgess
Don & Connie Callow
Charles Clodfelter
Carol Cobb
Doris Cobb
Mitchell Corbin
CSI Group - Greg Campbell
Dick & Ellie Dawson
Carl (Dick) Deschane
Linda Deschane
Jill DeWitt
Howard & Sandy Dozier
Harold & Jill Draper
Anne Duffer
L. Jaya Elleson
Linda Everett
Lewis Frazier
Chuck Gallaher
Randy Geivett
Bonnie Goldberg

Jan Gordon
Barb (Kenyon) Greene
Ray Grieshaber
Katherine Groves
Jerry & Linda Haley
Bob & Hazel Hall
Vance & Patricia Hall
Steve Hinds
Kerry Hollowell
Scottie Mabry Howles
June Humphrey
Gary & Dixie Jackson
Mary Ann Jernigan
Susan Jordan
Christine Kline
June Land
Joe & Susan Laukemper
Sherry Leonardo
Glenn & Judy Longworth
Richard Martinez
Ed & Heidi McCullough
David & Jean McDermott
Louis Jamison McDonald
Dr. & Mrs. Wallace McDonald
Jean Miles
Vic Miles
Jackie & Pat Musick
Sophia Nabil
Tom Nagel

Winnie Nash
Mary Nemecek
Wyatt Noel
David & Kiki Norwood
Patricia Parks
Ted Quinlan
William Richards
Brenda Ryan
Alice Scheil
Robin & LaVerne Shaw
Mickey Sigmon
Kathy & Terry Simmons
Steve Smith
Will Sterrett
Lori Stickler
Jaci Stone
Tim Tayson
Cammy Ungles
Tristan VanDerHeide
Lawrence Vohland
Ron & Linda Wagner
Marie Watson
Anne Webb
Stan & Lois Wiemeyer
Linda (Kirk) Williams
Roy Wilson
Frank & Arlene Wolff
Rick & Sueann Wright

Kenyon Greene Memorial

Youvee & Kathleen Babcock
Deborah Barker
Scott E. Barnes
Avis C. Bates
Ms. Harriet G. Bell
Elizabeth Carroll
Kenneth & Tina Conley
E.G. & Peggy Crawford
Barbara & Bob Dalsin
Marie DeSimone
Steve & Marsha Dunstan
Susan Dyer
Lyle & Patricia Farquhar
Sheryl Feutz-Harter
David & Carolyn Fjeld
Mary Gerit
Steve & Gail Goeke
Lee Ann Googe
Janice Gugino
Deborah Houston
Jill E. Jordan
Peggy Kinder
Michael & Gayle Kramer
LeRoy H. Kramer
Everett & RoseMarie Lawrence
Doris Leitt
Sherry Leonardo
Diane Louis
Jan McDonald
Richard & Sandra McLeod

Dennis & Suanne Millert
Kenneth & Amy Myers
Stephen & Nancy Persell
Phil & Linda Polley
George Edwin Proctor, Jr
Laura E. Robinson
Josef & Susan Rohrmeier
John & Connie Roller
Paul & Sara Scheil
Terry & Karen Stair
Brad & Sandra Sullivan
Bill & Christine Taft
Robert & Christine Urie
Linda (Kirk) Williams
Sueann & Rick Wright

Thank you
to those
Who
have
donated,
joined,
and
renewed.

We are
grateful.



facebook

Friends of Squaw Creek