



# FRIENDS OF SQUAW CREEK REPORTER Mound City, Missouri

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**Summer 2006**

**Volume 7 Number 2**

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## SQUAW CREEK CALENDAR:

**Fall Workday**                      **September ??**

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## NEW MEMBERS & DONATIONS

New member: **David and Nancy Hanway**

Donations:    **James and Elsie Callow**  
                      **102 River Club**

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## PRAIRIE COMMITTEE

**Ed & Jeanine Montgomery**    660-935-2254

## VISITOR OFFICE COMMITTEE

**Vic Miles**                              816-444-2459  
**Barbara Crouser**                      816-233-0034

## REFUGE WETLAND COMMITTEE

**Vic Miles**                              816-444-2459

## EAGLE DAYS COMMITTEE

**Jeanine Montgomery**              660-935-2254

PLEASE give the above committee chairpersons a call to assist them.

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**Items for the newsletter must be sent to George W. (Bill) Scheil at 7311 Ditzler, Raytown, MO 64133 or to him at [gwsch@juno.com](mailto:gwsch@juno.com). The deadline for the next issue will be August 15.**

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## OUTDOOR CLASSROOM

Work continued on the Outdoor Classroom during the winter. The overhead door was installed. Maintenance Worker Chip Lehmer picked up a large wooden table, 2 metal-top tables with multiple plugs and a storage cabinet from excess property in Kansas City. The Friends purchased 4 picnic tables that were assembled during the spring workday. The electrical wiring has been completed and the underground wire was installed and hooked up April 18. Another bid was received for the side entry door and it will be installed soon. We are still waiting for the Rural Water District to visit the Refuge so we can locate the spot for the meter and the water line can then be laid. Tractor Operator Daryl Walker put up the split rail fence and gravel has been spread in the parking area. The Refuge has an overhead screen taken from the display room and a large white erasable board that will be added. The Refuge is planning to purchase shades for the windows. The Friends are putting together a grant for additional storage cabinets and educational materials. A formal dedication is being planned for this fall on the same day as the volunteer recognition picnic in October. Stay tuned for more details.

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## FRIENDS LEAFLET

There has been a real need to develop a leaflet about the Friends of Squaw Creek that describes who the Friends are, what the goals are, the Friends mission, activities, membership benefits, accomplished and future projects and a membership application. Refuge Manager Bell

and his wife attended the Regional Friends Conference at Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge January 20-21 and picked up a large number of leaflets from Friends groups around the Region. Tommie Rogers, with assistance and comments from a number of Friends Board Members, drafted a leaflet and presented it at the April 8 board meeting. The finishing touches have been put on it and it should be ready to distribute soon. This will be a great means to inform visitors and others about the Friends of Squaw Creek and hopefully encourage more to join and become active members.

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### **REGIONAL FRIENDS WORKSHOP**

Refuge Manager Bell and his wife, LaFaun, attended the Regional Friends Workshop January 20-21 held at Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge. A large number of Friends groups from around the Region attended. It was good to see many different Friends display boards, meet new people and share information with others from the Mid-West.

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### **WHITE-TAILED DEER SPOTLIGHT SURVEYS AND ANNUAL HUNT**

During 2005, four spotlight surveys were conducted to obtain annual deer densities. The estimated deer densities from these surveys indicated populations at approximately 60 deer per square mile. This density is considered relatively high compare to densities considered sustainable for our region and habitat type which is around 20 deer per square mile. As a result, the deer hunts will continue to be conducted until we see a reduction in the number of deer on the refuge.

The annual primitive firearms antlerless white-tailed deer hunt was completed January 7 & 8. This hunt was begun in January 1988 to reduce an overpopulation of deer on the Refuge that had

caused considerable habitat damage and was a safety factor from animals being hit along Interstate 29, Highway 159 and Highway 118. The deer were also becoming a problem to neighboring farm fields. A total of 180 deer were harvested by 101 hunters.

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### **CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT**

The annual Christmas Bird Count was completed December 14. During the week prior to the count, temperatures were below freezing and the wetlands were completely frozen over. A total of 82 bird species were counted by 10 volunteers. The species number was considered good despite the weather conditions prior to the count and the cold, windy day of the count.

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### **PRESCRIBE BURNING**

With the onset of warm temperatures, the Refuge staff, with assistance from Refuge employees and fire personnel from various stations, prescribe burning was initiated. In March, a total of 8 units were burned totaling 266 acres. Most of the early burning was accomplished in the loess bluffs. Seven other units were burned in April.

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### **SPRING WORKDAY**

The annual spring volunteer workday was held Saturday, April 8. A total of 27 volunteers contributed 165 hours in various refuge work projects including building and ground maintenance, prairie restoration and trail maintenance. An additional 3 projects were accomplished including clearing of brush on the loess bluffs, garlic mustard control and forb planting.

### **FRIEND'S PRESIDENT TOMMIE ROGERS MOVING**

Unfortunately Friend's President Tommie Rogers will be leaving us soon. Tommie and her husband Ron, will be moving to Chattanooga, Tennessee sometime during the winter. Tommie was originally from Chattanooga. She was a dental hygienist by profession. She retired in October 2000 and moved to Mound City from Crystal River, Florida with her husband. She immediately began birding Squaw Creek and wanted to begin volunteering right away. The primary reason for living in Mound City was to be close to Squaw Creek.

Tommie has been a great addition to our Friends group being active as a vice-president for 2 years before accepting the president position in 2005. She has been the primary driving force the past 2 years in upgrading the interpretive book store. While at Squaw Creek, she volunteered hundreds of hours on a large number of projects. Her assistance to the refuge included helping with the shorebird research project, migratory bird survey point counts, breeding bird survey of the refuge as well as in Atchison and Andrew Counties, the North American Migratory Bird Count and the Christmas Bird Count to name a few. She has also served on the Missouri Bird Record Committee and worked on the winter report for the Missouri Audubon Society and North American Birds. She was selected as the Squaw Creek Volunteer of the Year in 2004 for her dedication to the refuge. Besides her work at Squaw Creek, she has completed Christmas Birds Counts and Breeding Bird Surveys in other areas in the country. She assisted on bird surveys at Chassohowitzka National Wildlife Refuge in Florida prior to moving to Missouri.

**Friends of Squaw Creek  
National Wildlife Refuge**  
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**7311 Ditzler, Kansas City, MO 64133**

### **Directors and Officers of Friends of Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge**

**Director - Ed McCullough, 5915 NW Caney Creek, Kansas City, MO 64151 [emccullo@metropolis.com](mailto:emccullo@metropolis.com)**

**Director & Vice-President - George L. Scheil, 9718 East 53rd St., Raytown, MO 64133 [glsch2@comcast.net](mailto:glsch2@comcast.net)**

**Director - Barbara Crouser, 1606 S. 33rd St., St. Joseph, MO 64507**

**Director - Brian Boultinghouse, 511½ State St., Mound City, MO 64470**

**Secretary - Jeanine Montgomery, 18637 Highway 113, Maitland, MO 64466 [jcandcompany@yahoo.com](mailto:jcandcompany@yahoo.com)**

**Treasurer - Charles Clodfelter, 603 Railroad Street, Mound City, MO 64470**

**President - Tommie Rogers, 305 Weightman Road, M o u n d C i t y , M O 6 4 4 7 0 [moroadrunner@longviewcomm.net](mailto:moroadrunner@longviewcomm.net)**

Vice-President - Vic Miles, 5917 Wornall, Kansas City,  
MO 64113 [vicmiles@juno.com](mailto:vicmiles@juno.com)

Newsletter Editor & Director- George W. Scheil, 7311  
Ditzler, Kansas City, MO 64133 [gwsch@juno.com](mailto:gwsch@juno.com)

**FRIENDS OF SQUAW CREEK NWR**

Friends of Squaw Creek is a tax-exempt organization  
& appreciate your membership and donations.

**PLEASE PRINT:**

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**CITY, STATE, ZIP:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-MAIL:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership Category:**

_____	Student(all)	\$5.00
_____	Individual	\$15.00
_____	Family	\$25.00
_____	Business Friend	\$50-\$199
_____	Patron	\$200-\$500
_____	Lifetime	\$750.00

**Send form and your remittance to:**

**Treasurer  
P O Box 244  
Mound City, MO 64470**