



Friends of Hidden Valley, Inc

The mission of the Friends of Hidden Valley is to provide support to the Lawrence Hidden Valley Committee, Inc., in programs, development, maintenance, and goals that promote and benefit Hidden Valley Camp.

Fall 2016

www.friendshv.org



60th Anniversary Recognitions

To say that a lot of improvements have taken place since we celebrated the 50th Birthday Bash in 2006 would be an understatement! The following individuals, organizations and businesses were recognized for their vital help the last 10 years:

Dogwood Forest and Butterfly Alley Restoration:

- ***Bob Russell** - For his vision of what the area could be
- ***Elizabeth Schultz** Environmental Fund for restoration of the streambank, riparian habitat and creation of flowering bioswale
- ***KS Forest Service**-for help with stream bank stabilization
- ***Anonymous Donors**- supporting native woods restoration projects

Dogwood Forest Development

- ***Diane Oakes** - the last Executive Director of Kaw Valley GS Council, instrumental in getting remaining Council funds for purchase of the Yurt.
- ***Mary Beth Petr**-Project leader for the Yurt, built in 2008
- ***Ed Scheurich**- hired to build the yurt frame.
- ***Randy Farr**-volunteer general contractor for Yurt assembly.
- ***Bo Harris/Harris Construction Company** built the majority of the yurt in one day during Day of Caring.
- ***Lucy McAllister**-designed the flowers to cover the numbers spray painted on the Yurt floor.
- ***Mary Beth Petr** painted them on the floor and sealed the floor.
- ***Myette Simpson and Kate Baringer**- built the Tree house for their Gold Award Project
- ***Troop 7661** made Hedge Benches for Dogwood Forest from Osage Orange trees at Hidden Valley for Silver Award

(cont pg 2)

Fall Frolic Celebrates 60 Years!

Close to 200 people attended Hidden Valley's 60th Anniversary Fall Frolic on Saturday, September 24, a perfect day enjoyed by all. Lots of laughs and shouts were heard around the camp as the younger guests played games, chased elusive butterflies, dug into a muddy seed mix, played games, and roasted marshmallows.

The celebration, with a pollinator theme, included a variety of food – campfire roasted hotdogs, hearty Campfire Stew, and the traditional favorite --S'mores roasted at the 2 fire rings in Dogwood Forest.

History buffs enjoyed a full timeline of the history of Hidden Valley Camp, painstakingly created by Karen Warner. Also on display were early uniforms, 10 years of Day Camp shirts and mugs, contents of old time capsules and a complete "vintage



Guests began their day at the sign-in table, receiving activity maps and 60th patches from Jeni Phillips, left, and FHV & LHVC board chairs Christine Graves and Diane Church.

campsite" set up by Margaret Verhage. Developments that have been added during the last 10 years were highlighted with posters and exhibits throughout the camp, recognizing all those involved (see inset).

The celebration culminated with a dedication ceremony of Dogwood Forest lead by Mary Beth Petr. A donated wooden sign made and hung by Rod Hoffer was unveiled by Bob Russell, the visionary for the this new adventure zone. A brief Friends of Hidden Valley Annual Meeting was conducted, thanking

outgoing Board members for their service: Vicki Collier-Akers, Elizabeth Phillips, and Jill Baringer. Each received a framed photo taken and signed by Jim Bresnahan, a Friends of Hidden Valley Hiking Patrol member. The event was concluded with each guest taking a seed ball as they passed under the sign while humming the song "Linger a Little Longer", tossing their seed balls throughout the camp as they left.



Bob Russell helps unveil the new sign during the dedication of Dogwood Forest, with Ruby Hoffer in foreground, daughter of sign creator Rod Hoffer. She also helped paint the sign.

Recognitions Continued

***Bruce Snyder**-built the Climbing Tower donated to the camp.
***New storage facility, the Dogshed**, built in 2008, with
***Troop 3329** finishing up the composting bathroom project for Silver Award

Zip Lines, built in 2009, under direction of Mary Beth Petr, funded by Linda Penny donation

Wetland: Bob Russell-procured funding from KAWS and oversaw construction, seeding and created an educational discovery kit

Pollinator Gardens at Wetland-funding by Merc Change Program

Sherwood Forest

***Lysette DeBoard**-vision of archery area, oversight of development.
***Westar Green Team and Ben Postlewaithe**-building archery platform
***Gwen Macpherson**-building of long footbridge to access area

Ar-ca-loo-ka Cabin Upgrades:

***Troop 7722**-adopted cabin, serviced with new cookware & silverware for Silver Award; also sewed bags for tents
***Tracy House:** procured donated cabinets and counters
***Klinknett Roofing**-new roof
***Mel Raines**-Complete Windows & Remodeling. New windows and skylights

Brick 4 Bricks Campaign-

***Hamel Masonry:** new Chimney
***Karl Ramberg**-donated labor for laying new patio bricks

Evelyn's Attic (the Cache)

***Klinknett Roofing:** new roof
***Nieder Contracting:** new gutters & paint

Routine Contractors:

***Mowing:** Robin Willis-Lawrence Lawn Care
***Tree Trimming:** Dan Parker-Timms-Shamrock Tree service
***Ed Scheurich:** carpenter for many repairs & new projects
Wolf's Landscaping: built two new bridges

***Alex Houston:** Life Scout, built new gate, fence & sign at Presbyterian Manor entrance for Eagle Scout Award

***Color-coded Hedge Trail Markers** by Troop 7112 for Bronze Award

***Outdoor Kiosks** donated by KU

***Honeysuckle Warriors**, for honeysuckle eradication efforts

From Butterflies and Bee Hotels to S'mores, Guests Frolicked to 60 years of Hidden Valley Camp, our Local Treasure



KU Department of Ecology & Evolutionary Biology provided lots of expertise at two stations. Left, Chet Bhatta talks about the variety and importance of all pollinators at the new Bee Hotel on Flag Pole Hill, built by Cris Bandle. Cris helped guests fill the hotel with drilled wood and sticks. Right, Bob Hagen and Deb Smith set up a station at the wetlands to examine aquatic life under microscopes, and to identify butterflies and other insects they caught in their nets.



Although the weather didn't cooperate for tagging monarchs (too windy and cloudy), the kids had great fun catching other butterflies and flying insects! Thanks to Nancy Smelzer and Monarch Watch for loaning exhibit materials for Monarch Tagging and this popular photo opportunity!



Above: The Gathering Place was heavily visited for its' roasted hot dogs...yum! Below: the vintage campsite at Coralberry featured old pup tents and camping/cooking supplies, FA equipment, outdoor toilet and tastings of the one-pot Campfire Stew!



Above: A Brownie Scout examines a Monarch caterpillar. Below: Our pollinator-themed Christmas tree for the Festival of Trees features cute bumblebees, butterflies and flowers.



Transformations Charity Gala 2017 to Benefit a Lucky Local Charity!

January 14, at the Lied Center

For ticket information:
lied.ku.edu
 Or
Transformationslawrence.com

We are so thrilled to announce that Aidan Koster has chosen Friends of Hidden Valley as her charity of choice in this unique talent and entertainment extravaganza! Twelve local women consisting of all-star performers from the past 5 years will compete for the prize, with a panel of judges deciding the outcome. Past events were held at a sold-out Liberty Hall, and raised over \$10,000 for the winning charity! This year's special all-star event will be at the Lied Center, and it may even be sold out! Get your tickets now, and

help cheer Aidan on for Hidden Valley! Regardless of the winning performer & charity, thirteen local charities will receive lots of recognition, and have fun in the process of explaining who we are and what we do!

Aidan Loveland Koster is a Lawrence native and former Hidden Valley Camp attendee. By day, she's a legal administrator at Security Benefit in Topeka. By night, she's actively involved in many local charitable organizations: Douglas County CASA, St. John Catholic Church and School,

P.E.O., and St. Lawrence Board Catholic Campus Center, and Girl Scout Troops 42004 and 1599. Aidan holds a BA, MPA, and JD, all from the University of Kansas. She enjoys music (especially singing), cooking, baking, reading, gardening, and anything involving glitter. Aidan competed in Transformations last year on behalf of CASA and came in 3rd place! She is married to Dr. Chris Koster, a pediatric hospitalist at LMH, and they have two Hidden Valley Camper daughters, Emma (12) and Claire (7).



Aidan Koster will be performing on behalf of Friends of Hidden Valley at Transformations Charity Gala 2017. Get your tickets now!

September 11 Workday Brings out the Best of Volunteers!

The Friends-sponsored workday on Sunday, September 11, brought in 58 total volunteers, ranging from Board & Friends members, Girl Scouts, the public, and our growing connection with many different KU organizations. The Kappa Delta Sorority and Friends have been partnered for the year,

and they will assist as project leaders at our workdays, working with young Girl Scouts. The matchup has been a FUN plus for all! Dr. Baringer's Honors class students have become a mainstay at this workday, and other Honors Classes have been inquiring how they can get involved! The workday,

centered around the cabin and butterfly garden, was low key in terms of attendance, but the work output still met expectations based upon previous years. As per the Workday Coordinator, Cindy Riling, all items on our work list were checked off, making it another successful event!



Mother & daughter team Katie, left, and Susan Hall tend the butterfly garden.

The Honeysuckle Warriors are Back!

Release your inner warrior and join this fun hard-working volunteer crew of men and women as we cut, haul and burn that ever invasive, woods-destroying honeysuckle shrub! We'll work once a week, weather permitting, from January through April or May. Weekly notices are sent by email, and volunteers simply come when they can. Contact the Camp Manager/Volunteer Coordinator for more information on this, other workdays, or any other volunteer activities.

durandi@sunflower.com



***DID YOU KNOW** that organizations and businesses can organize their very own service events at the camp? Weekday events are especially appreciated. For more information, contact the Camp Manager for details:*

durandi@sunflower.com

Special thanks to the Lawrence Breakfast Optimist Club for their annual donations to Friends of Hidden Valley and other youth-oriented organizations! We sincerely appreciate their continued support of our mission to Hidden Valley Camp.

BRICK 4 BRICKS

A FUNDRAISING PROJECT

Our newest fundraising project for the Brick 4 Bricks campaign is a LARGE fireplace & grill to be built at Southern Shade Shelter. Buy a custom-inscribed brick for \$100 to help see our latest dream come true!

**ORDER FORMS CAN BE FOUND
ON OUR WEBSITE:**

WWW.FRIENDSHV.ORG



"Hiked Hidden Valley today. A nice, crisp Fall day in the low 50s, breezy with the smell of decaying leaves.... Not much activity. Crows were mobbing something up around the Northwest end of butterfly alley...." ~Jim

"I hiked the Hidden Valley camp this hot windy afternoon. All of the buildings were secure....I assume people are aware there is a dead tree down....Also a large dead branch across Westward Ho trail... A chain saw would make quick work of it I think." ~Wanda

"Perfect fall day at Hidden Valley. Everything was locked and safe. That one big tree on northwest trail is a bit of a hurdle...the sun was shining on the red berries of that pesky honeysuckle. Tons of huge hedge apples, my how fertile nature is with all those seeds..." ~Pat

Fall Snippets from the Hiking Patrol!

Members of the email-based Hiking Patrol are regularly enlightened with listings of typical seasonal happenings they can look for, as identified by Ken Lassman in his book "Wild Douglas County", and relayed by Patrol Coordinator Sandy Beverly. October was an especially good month to hike!

* The Osage Indians called the October moon the Deer Mating Moon.

* Bucks begin to "rut", i.e., scrape the ground with their hooves, as part of their mating ritual.

* Ash, hackberry, box elder, and elm trees often begin turning yellow in early October. Sumac, poison ivy, and Virginia creeper begin turning red. A little later in the month, maples and oaks begin turning red and orange.

* Prairie flowers include sunflowers, goldenrods, gentians, pitcher's sage, lady's tresses, asters, sweet everlasting, and ironweed. Also notice the seed heads of tall prairie grasses.

* Woodrats, squirrels, mice, and many birds are storing seeds, nuts, and berries for the winter.

* Crows are gathering in flocks. Also look for starlings or redwing blackbirds flying in large "snakelike" flocks. Mid-month, birds who winter in this area, like juncos, typically begin arriving.

* Many spiders and insects are laying eggs under bark, leaves, and rocks. These females die, and new generations hatch in the spring.



Friends of Hidden Valley, Inc.

PO Box 442073

Lawrence, KS 66044

