

Friends of Potato Creek Newsletter

2nd Quarter

Spring/Summer 2007

Volume II

The purpose and mission of the Friends of Potato Creek State Park, Inc., is to develop and support projects and events that help preserve, restore, manage, and interpret the natural and cultural heritage as well as the recreational opportunities of Potato Creek State Park.



Message from the Vice President

Hello to all current and future members of Friends of Potato Creek State Park. Thank you all for your hard work and extra effort in making this a working organization. The projects started and completed, as a group, are very impressive and in working together, we accomplished so much more. The first group venture, the sign painting, worked out very well. It didn't seem so much like work since we were all working together.

I would like to wish Corey and Brooke the best of luck on their new venture. We will miss them very much. Their joint effort with Tim Cordell and Jim



Webb made organizing of the group run smoothly.

Good bye Corey and Brooke. We'll miss you.

We spent a day doing two new projects for the Friends Group. We held a bicycle safety program and a camper inspection program. Both went very well as we engaged the assistance of people trained in these events. They were able to answer questions right on the spot and could give professional advice. I hope the bicycle safety program offered information for the parents to give to their children to ensure their safety not only in the park but in their everyday riding. The children completing the program were rewarded with a free bicycle helmet.

Sgt. Gary Cleveland bike safety officer from Plymouth Police Dept. gives tips for safe bike riding at the FPOC Bike Safety Clinic to over 19 young riders and their families.

The park clean up program went better than we expected. Anything involving work doesn't sound like much fun but the group that gathered worked well together and were very proud of their combined effort. It sure improved the looks of the park.



Friends of Potato Creek State Park – Ready for Camp Clean up day.

The members of FOPC will have a group picnic July 21st. We will provide the meat. Please bring a covered dish and your own beverage. I hope for a good turn out for this party so that members will have a better chance to get to know each other. It's nice to get acquainted with people that share your interest and appreciation of Potato Creek State Park.

If you have a topic to address, please mention it to me so I can bring it before the officers of the club.

Thank you for supporting the Friends of Potato Creek State Park.

Ralph Campion, Vice President

2007 Special Events & Work Days

The Friends of Potato Creek State Park always need volunteers for special events and work days. Volunteers make the organization and help meet our goals. Please call the Park headquarters or your favorite Board Member to let them know which event or work day you plan to attend. Special clothing or equipment may be recommended and schedules may change at the last minute, so please call before you show up.

June 15, 16 – North Liberty's Potato Creek Festival: Friday Noon-10; Saturday 9-9, Need volunteers for Friends of Potato Creek State Park Booth both days please call Anna Krueger (krueger@adsnet.com) to volunteer.

June 30 - Port-A-Pit Chicken Sale - Potato Creek State Park Beach Parking Lot, 10am-2pm, \$5/half

July 21 – Painting of park trail signs

July 28 – Rain date for July 21

August 4 – “Tater Traditions” - assist with programming at Nature Center.

August 21 – Regular Meeting - Special Program

The People Who Called Potato Creek "Home" Jan Shupert-Arick is a fifth generation Shupert descendant of the Potato Creek area. Her talk includes insights to the people who settled the land we know today as Potato Creek State Park. Jan will share artifacts, maps, photos, and stories of the land and the people who once called this place "home."



A special invitation is extended to families and descendants who owned land within the park. Please bring photos and stories to share. For more info., contact Jan Shupert-Arick, 260-471-5670.

September 29 – National Public Lands Day – project to be announced.

Oct. 27, 28 – Halloween activities

Monthly Meetings

Each month the FOPC meets in the Nature Center Auditorium. We try to include an educational

program relating to the Park. Meetings are generally on the third Tuesday of the month at 7:00PM EST, but please double check the schedule or contact a board member in case the date or time changes. Complete minutes and scheduled programs are available on line at

<http://www.friendsofpotatocreek.org>

Know Your Board Members

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FPOC Receives Grants

The Friends of Potato Creek State Park, Inc. received a \$5,000 grant from the NiSource Environmental Challenge Fund. This grant will be matched with \$1,280.00 raised by the Friends group to construct stabilization measures on Worster Lake adjacent to the boat rental area. This area has been on the parks list of important projects for many years and the Park Naturalist, Tim Cordell, is pleased that it will finally be completed. We will apply for permits this summer. Work will likely start early next year. Many volunteers will be needed to implement the project. Please participate in this hands-on project next spring. The Friends have also applied for another \$5,000 grant from the Indiana Lake Management Society (ILMS) to implement erosion control near the Worster Lake Dam. We expect to hear whether or not we received this grant later this summer.

Newsletter Disclaimer and Opt-Out Notice

This newsletter is published by the Friends of Potato Creek State Park and is not published or managed by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources. If you do not want this news letter, contact Kathy Serrat, Secretary (kathy.serrat@us.bosch.com) Or write: Friends of Potato Creek State Park, P.O. Box 471, North Liberty, IN. 46554 to be removed from the mailing list.