



Connections

Fossil & Prairie Conservation Foundation

Winter 2010



13th Annual Spring Celebration Banquet

Spring Celebration Banquet

Saturday, March 5th, 2011

Rudd Community Center, 501 Floyd Street, Rudd

5:00 p.m. Social Hour & View Silent Auction items

6:00 p.m. Dinner

7:00 p.m. Larry Stone presents

“Gladys Black: The Legacy of Iowa’s Bird Lady

Tickets are \$25.00 per person.

(includes Dinner & 1 yr. membership to the Fossil & Prairie Center Foundation)

Tickets must be purchased prior to banquet - No tickets are available at the door.

Please RSVP by February 25th.

Your membership and donations continue to support environmental education programming, matching funds for grants and new projects.

Fossil & Prairie Center - Spring Celebration Banquet - March 5, 2011

Yes, we are attending this years Spring Celebration Banquet

Number of Banquet tickets _____ @ \$25.00 per person.

I have an unique item to donate to the auction _____

Sorry, we will be unable to attend but please renew my/our membership.

Fossil & Prairie Center membership _____ \$10 single \$25 family

Total Amount Enclosed _____

Please make checks payable to the Fossil & Prairie Center Foundation, P.O. Box 495, Rockford, IA 50468

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Please RSVP by February 25th.

From the Board . . .

My name is Jon Schneckloth and I have been a member of the Fossil Prairie Center Foundation for about 5 years. Since I have attended the Annual Banquet/Fund raiser for about 3 times that long, I have had the opportunity to look at it literally, from both sides of the table. With the new year upon us, we are deep into the prepping stages of this anticipated event the first Saturday of March. Funds generated will not only be used to help provide Center programs, but to improve signage on site. This year marks the 10th anniversary of the Center and our theme for the banquet was provided by board member DeeAnn Ewen, “10 years and Still Growing”. Come to the banquet and see how she plans to prove it. Located in this newsletter, you’ll find an invitation and ticket order form. Please take the time to look it over, note the due

dates and respond accordingly.

The banquet committee has been discussing this year’s program since last April. It is shaping up to be another sold out event and we hope you can share it with us. Larry Stone, former Des Moines Register outdoor writer and photographer will be our guest speaker. Those that have known or seen him, know that his program is top notch. A smoked pork loin dinner, loved by most last year, will again be catered from Dave’s Restaurant. We are planning to provide a variety of nature related items for a silent auction and perhaps even some new games of chance, along with donations of labor. Hand-made products are sincerely appreciated and provide funds for new and continued programming. Those of you who have donated items in the past are encouraged to notify the Center if you would like to do so again. For those of you who have not, we would surely like to add you to this year’s auction.



Fossil & Prairie Conservation Foundation

Board of Directors

Janette Lien, Rockford, President

Lyle Wendand, Charles City, Vice Pres.

Diane Sande, Charles City, Secretary

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Jon Schneckloth, Charles City

Dr. Jeanne Staudt, Rockford

DeeAnn Ewen, Dougherty

Susan LeMaster, Charles City

Dennis Carney, Greene

As you will notice, only 200 advance tickets will be sold this year and will be \$25 per person. Reasoning for the increase is that this year, your banquet ticket will include your Fossil Prairie Center membership (\$10) and eliminate separate mailings. And as a member, you are eligible for discounts on various programs, plus, your actual Family membership (2 or more people) will cost you LESS than the regular fee: (\$20 vs. \$25.) We also think this will provide an increase in our membership roll and allow us to spread the word of Floyd County’s best kept secret easier and further. All in all, this will hopefully work better for all of us and we look forward to having you join us in “Still Growing” on March 5th. Order your tickets now and we’ll see you soon.



*Matt Hager with benches that will be set out this spring
The benches are in memory of Ed & Lois Houser, Marvin Matthews, and Bill & Marie Weigand.*



Memorials

Marvin Lackore
Larry & Sharon Hicok

Bill & Marie Weigand
CW Weigand

Joe Paulus Sr.
Larry & Sharon Hicok

John McDevitt
Floyd County Izaak
Walton League

Larry Gelner
Rhonda & Dennis
Westergard

Mary Lou Seibert
Juanite Schubert

Clayton Chambers
Larry & Sharon Hicok

Betty Unger
Ron & Margaret Squier

Garry Paulus
Larry & Sharon Hicok

Ron Schlick
Warren & Janet Dunkel

Tom Leary
Rhonda, Dennis & Cala
Westergard

James Schneckloth
Warren & Janet Dunkel

Meet the Fossil & Prairie Conservation Foundation Board

... *Dennis Carney*

This is the first in a series of interviews
introducing the members of the
Fossil & Prairie Conservation Foundation Board.

Dennis Carney and his wife, Diane, live on the southern edge of Floyd County near Greene. Dennis graduated from ISU in 1974 and has worked on the family farm SE of Marble Rock ever since. He has served on several local boards including the Conservation Board, the Floyd county FSA committee, and the Nashua Research farm board. He is currently a Soil Commissioner and has been a Boy Scout leader for over 30 years.



- **How did you get interested in conservation?**

My grandfather sparked my interest when I helped him do tree plantings and we went on fishing trips as a child. He also impressed upon me that being a good steward of the land was preferable to short term farming profits.

- **Where is your favorite “Wild” place?**

We own a farm that was purchased in the 1950’s by my grandfather that is along the river, has a creek and a pond and is now all in CRP. I started planting trees there nearly 30 years ago and I enjoy seeing how the area has developed.

- **In, your opinion, why should people care about the environment?**

It is where we live and raise our kids, we should do our best to learn all we can about our surroundings and then do the things needed to improve them.

- **What do you like to do in your free time?**

Travel with my wife Diane, especially to Colorado to visit our two sons.

- **What do you hope will be the greatest accomplishment during your term on the Board?**

I hope that I can help raise public awareness of the foundation itself, and the need for strong environmental education programs.

Meet the Fossil & Prairie Conservation Foundation Board

. . . *Diane Sande*



This is the first in a series of interviews introducing the members of the Fossil & Prairie Conservation Foundation Board.

Diane is a graduate of Iowa State University, Buena Vista College, and has a Masters Degree from UNI. She has taught for the past 19 years in the Charles City School District, beginning in Special Education and am now in her 6th year of teaching 4th grade.

Diane is married to Dennis Sande, and has four boys, Chris, Trevor, Nick and Aaron. Trevor & Nick attend ISU and Chris attends college in Germany. Aaron is a sophomore at Charles City High School.

- **How did you get interested in conservation?**

When I was young, my family was very involved in camping, fishing and hunting. As a family we would go fishing and hunting. We would also do a lot of things outside. That is where my love for nature began.

I became more interested in conservation when I was involved in an Environmental Education class in High school. Our end of the semester activity included a 4-day long backpacking trip through the Yellow River Forest in Northeast Iowa.

- **Where is your favorite “Wild” place?**

It would have to be the Upper Peninsula in Michigan. My family has a cabin in the area and we would walk along the shores of Lake Superior, venture out to the lighthouses and walk along the sandstone cliffs. Despite the mosquitoes, we would commonly see bald eagles, black bears and pools of tadpoles.

- **In, your opinion, why should people care about the environment?**

We only have one earth and if we continue to use its resources without concern for the future the earth will not survive and neither will we. We need to think about our usage and realize that just because we can use things doesn't mean we should. We need to become a society that uses only what we truly need and look at alternatives that will help us maintain the resources we have been given. We need to teach our young people at an early age, that they need to be responsible for the earth as well.

- **What do you like to do in your free time?**

I enjoy doing woodworking. Mostly making things for my home.. I also enjoy planting and maintaining flower gardens and creating natural habitats for songbirds and butterflies. I also spend time with my family and two dogs.

- **What do you hope will be the greatest accomplishment during your term on the Board?**

I would like to help more teachers in our county expand their knowledge of the tall grass prairie and help them give that knowledge to their students. Give more students the chance to experience the Fossil Center and have them see the Fossil and Prairie Center as a place to come to on a regular basis with their family not just a school field trip. Encourage work days for educators and students to help improve the prairie itself and to experience the impact they can have on nature.

Programs & Events

All events take place at the Fossil & Prairie Center, Rockford unless otherwise listed.

**January 23rd A.C.O.R.N -
Hoo Give a Hoot Hike ●
4:30 p.m.
Trowbridge Wildlife Area, Charles City
AND
Ackley Creek Park, Marble Rock**
Discover the creatures of the night as they are active during the silence of a cool winter night.

**February 13th Nature Tales -
Nature Detectives ● 1 p.m.**

**February 27th A.C.O.R.N -
Suet Feeder Workshop ●
1 p.m.
Conservation Shop, Charles City**
Build your own suet feeder. (\$5 per feeder)

**March 5th Spring Celebration Banquet
(Complete details on page 2)**

**March 13th Nature Tales -
Colors ● 1 p.m.**

**April 10th Nature Tales -
Pond Pals ● 1 p.m.**

**May 1st Outdoor Family Fair -
Floyd Co. Fairgrounds
1-4 p.m.**

- Pre Registration appreciated
- Pre Registration required

For more information on any Floyd County Conservation sponsored programs, visit www.fossilcenter.com or call 641-756-3490

Year in Review

Spring Celebration Banquet -
March



Outdoor Family Fair - April



Grow Wild
Summer
Camps



Fun Run -
September



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Rockford, Iowa 50468
www.fossilcenter.com

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Address Service Requested



By becoming a friend of the Fossil & Prairie Conservation Foundation . . .

- *Receive the "Connections" newsletter and the "Yearbook".*
- *Receive information on new and special programs/events with member discounts.*
- *Invited to the Spring Celebration Banquet*
- *Support local conservation and recreation projects*

Student
\$5

Individual
\$10

Family
\$25

Donor
\$50

Corporate

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____

I wish to receive the newsletter: In the mail Via email

Email Address: _____

Please send me information regarding Volunteer opportunities

P.O. Box 495 • Rockford, Iowa 50468 • 641-756-3490