



*Friends
of the
Platte River, Inc.*

Summer/Fall

2010

A group that exists to serve as a forum to address issues affecting the Platte/Little Platte River watershed and to seek impartial solutions that restore, enhance, and protect this valuable resource

*Upcoming Board of Directors
Meeting Dates:*

Sept. 18, 2010; 9:00am

Nov 6, 2010; 9:00am

Jan 8, 2011; 9:00am

March 5, 2011; 9:00am

May 7, 2011; 9:00am

Sethne going for a swim. Laura appreciated a couple of people from the Friends of the Platte River going for a dip to show everyone that there was nothing to fear in the water! After everyone exited the river at Church Road, we packed up the boats and headed to Potosi Brewery where we enjoyed appetizers, good conversation, and some of the finer hops in life. It was a fabulous day, with a wonderful paddle, and a great crew of people.

*"Hoppiness on the Platte" Event
Update*

On July 10th Laura MacFarland, the Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator with the River Alliance of Wisconsin, and around 15 members of the River Alliance and Friends of the Platte River came to the Driftless Area to enjoy a few hours on the Little Platte River. Launching from the bridge on County O, they started their 2.5 hour journey. Along the way, everyone was able to see how thick the Japanese hops are along the riverbanks. Everyone was also able to experience tight curves, riffles, pools and an area where a tree blocked about half of the river. This tree turned out to be one of the highlights of the trip because this obstacle was the cause of Tammy Enz and Mark



Event participants float down the Little Platte River

*\$10,000 Grant Awarded for
Platte River Work*

In April, 2010 a \$10,000 River Planning Grant from the Wisconsin Department of

Natural Resources was awarded to the Friends of the Platte River for continuing work on sedimentation study in the lower Platte River and continued efforts at implementing a Community Water Trail on the Platte River.



“Hoppiness on the Platte” group members enjoy some “good hops” at Potosi Brewery

Raffle Gifts: Thank You

Our June 17 Annual Meeting included a raffle to raise funds for continuing work on Platte River projects. Several local businesses and sponsors donated excellent and much appreciated items to the raffle. Many thanks go out to the following sponsors:

- Driftless Market, Platteville*
- Momentum Bikes, Platteville*
- Platteville Mining Museum*
- Mississippi River Museum, Dubuque*
- Ducks Unlimited*

Upcoming Event: Monitoring Training Event

Friday, September 17 will kick off a training event for a water quality monitoring project in the Platte River watershed. Families involved in the Tri-State Homeschool group will be trained in six water monitoring parameters and these families will be assigned stream segments to monitor over the upcoming

year. A previous participant in a similar project described the monitoring experience in this way:

”It was a great way to learn about stream health, how to test for oxygen levels and how fast the stream was flowing, the types of bugs that indicated a healthy or unhealthy stream, what happens when fertilizer runs off our land (farm or city) into the stream and how that affects the oxygen levels which then affects what type of creatures can survive in the water, how run-off from big cities and hot parking lots affect the aquatic life, what the banks of a healthy stream look like...just a lot of real-life science that helps us understand that what we do and how we live affects our home here on planet earth.

The kids loved going down and kicking the floor of the stream to collect samples and then identifying the bugs they found.

If the kids learn even part of what I did, they will have a much better understanding about how our lifestyles and choices affect the nature around us. This is the type of activity that I think everyone should be involved in at some point--an eye opener and a challenge to live our lives responsibly.”

Ellenboro Canoe Launch Update

A permit has been issued for construction of a canoe launch on the Platte River at Ellenboro. As work moves ahead on this project, be on the look out for more information and opportunities to become involved.

Goodbye and Hello

The Friends of the Platte River welcomed two new members to our Board of Directors

at our June annual meeting. Dale and Carol Ann Hood, long time watershed inhabitants and active members of local government, make exciting additions to our board. Welcome!

We also welcome a new UW-Platteville Student Ambassador, Jared Marugg. Jared will help facilitate projects with student groups at the university. He replaces graduating student ambassador, Ben Heidemann.

Sadly, we had to say goodbye to two valuable board members whose terms were up: William Moore and Bob Donald. Thanks so much for your service!

Wanted: Your Stories

Everyone who lives near or has enjoyed the waters of the Platte River watershed for its beauty and recreation has a story to tell. We would love to read your story or hear about your ideas and inspirations in a future issue of the Friends of the Platte River, Inc. newsletter. Please contact us if you have something you'd like to share.

Join

Your investment in the Friends of the Platte River, Inc. allows you the right to help determine actions for the group, receive newsletters, updates, and invitations to educational events.

Your membership supports the very important mission of the group and insures that we will be able to continue applying for and receiving funding to work toward continued improvements in the watershed.

Thank You!

Membership Form

Sign up for:

Student _____	\$10.00
Individual _____	\$20.00
Family _____	\$35.00
Municipality _____	\$50.00
Corporate Silver _____	\$100.00
Corporate Gold _____	\$250.00
Corporate Platinum _____	\$500.00+
Add'l donation _____	_____

Total _____

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Contact:

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