

Sierra



May/Aug 2015

SIERRA
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Newsletter of the Chippewa Valley Group

SIERRACLUB.ORG/WISCONSIN/CHIPPEWA-VALLEY

May

- 1 Round Hill Prairie Trip
- 4 Sail with Scoll
- 6 Monthly Meeting
Paddling to Winter
- 9 Tiffany Train Ride
- 18 Book Group discussion
- 20 Welcome Back Bird Day



22-23 Gov. Knowles State Forest

June

17 Solstice Paddle & Bike

July

18 Photography Workshop

NEW EDITOR NEEDED NEW WEBMASTER NEEDED

As your **newsletter editor** is now planning to give up his joyful job of preparing these newsletters, there is now a wonderful opportunity for you budding environmental journalists to practice your trade. This change will have to occur sooner or later, but it may very well be sooner! So think about it folks. Great experiences await! Call Caryn or Margo or Bob (see Mini-Directory, last page)

You may also have noticed that our Chippewa Valley Group website's URL (web address) has changed somewhat (see masthead above, and the new version of our web page) The website will now be updated by you, our new **webmaster**, using Drupal software, training for which is available from national Sierra Club. Lacinda of the 4-Lakes Group in Madison will also help. Call Bob.

May Monthly Meeting

Paddling to Winter

Wednesday, May 6, 7:30 PM

Ojibwe Ballroom, Davies Center UW-Eau Claire

PADDLING TO WINTER: A COUPLE'S WILDERNESS JOURNEY FROM LAKE SUPERIOR TO THE CANADIAN NORTH

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF VENUE FOR THIS MEETING

The Ojibwe Ballroom is on the 3rd floor, west end of Davies Center at UW-Eau Claire, and there is an elevator!. Parking is open to the public after 6:00 PM.

In May 1999, newlyweds **Julie Buckles and Charly Ray** of Washburn launched their handcrafted red canoe from Bayview beach into the cold blue Lake Superior water beginning a 1,700-mile journey north toward the Arctic Ocean. It was an adventure that tested them physically, mentally and emotionally as they paddled through wicked weather, biting bugs, difficult portages and challenging rapids to Wollaston Lake, Saskatchewan, Canada, where they spent a winter on an isolated island cabin. Buckles chronicled their remarkable story her first book, "*Paddling to Winter: A Couple's Wilderness Journey from Lake Superior to the Canadian North*", published by Raven Productions Inc., of Ely, Minn. in September 2013. Buckles will be sharing stories and presenting slides from her journey. Books will be available for sale and Buckles will be available for signing afterwards. Attendees are also invited to dinner and conversation at Stella Blues (306 E Madison St, Eau Claire) at 5:30 pm before the meeting.

Julie Buckles was born in the driftless region of Wisconsin near Viroqua and raised on a dairy farm. She now lives near Washburn with her Charly, two children and a team of Siberian huskies. She studied history at the UW-Madison and earned her MFA in Creative Writing from Antioch University Los Angeles. Buckles has worked as a reporter, freelance writer and as adjunct professor at Northland College, where she currently is the public and media relations specialist. Her book "*Paddling to Winter...*" was recently awarded the Next Generation Indie Award, the Independent Publishers Award, the Foreword Book of the Year in Adventure and the Eric Hoffer da Vinci Eye Award for cover design.



Conservation Notes

by Steve Scoll

The spring migration of Lesser Sandhill Cranes past the Platte River near Kearney, Nebraska is over for this year but anyone who hasn't witnessed this event should make a point of going there. It's a pretty amazing show. Look up the Rowe Audubon Sanctuary for getting informed.

Speaking of birds, I don't know which event is more memorable to me, the thousands of cranes coming to roost in the Platte River at dusk or the Red Breasted Nuthatch that joined me sailing past Madeline Island a few years ago. Fearless little guy, I think he ate every spider on board, by August there tend to be some. Hopped right over my arm several times, the bird that is. Went completely through the rigging like a comb until we got close to Long Island when he decided he was full and rested enough to move on.



Julie Buckles will be visiting our group at the May meeting. She'll be talking about a trip she and her husband Charly took in a canoe they built for the purpose of paddling from the Bayfield Peninsula on Lake Superior through the Canadian arctic. If you haven't read the chronicle of that part of her life titled Paddling to Winter you should. Day to day accounts of miles made good with the right blend of anecdotal background draws the reader firmly into her narrative.



I attended the Conservation Congress meeting in Menomonie and introduced two resolutions for a vote. I was only permitted two of the four proposed by Sierra. Both were well received.

Conservation Congress Results Show Citizens Want Mining Safeguards and Review of Tar Sand Pipelines (forwarded by Steve Scoll)

Madison: Final results from the annual statewide Conservation Congress Spring Hearing held on April 13 demonstrate significant statewide support in favor of mining safeguards and environmental review of Enbridge's proposed tar sands pipelines. Overwhelming majorities supported resolutions for: repeal of 2013 Act 1 – the law written by Gogebic Taconite for its now-abandoned iron mine proposal; a statewide moratorium on new frac sand mining permits until the state acts to strengthen state laws; to require an Environmental Impact Review of Enbridge's tar sand pipelines proposal; and to support the Mining Moratorium Law in effect for metallic mining. Each of these resolutions was approved by 3-to-1 margins or more across the state. The DNR tabulation of results can be using the link "2015 Citizen Resolution Results" at: dnr.wi.gov/About/WCC/springhearing.html Contacts: Dave Blouin, Sierra Club Mining Committee Chair (608) 220-4040. Patricia Hammel, Madison Action for Mining Alternatives (608) 279-4136

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Earthgreen Award 2015

by Jeff Henry

STEVE BETCHKAL APRIL 14, 2015
Tonight is the occasion for the Chippewa Valley Sierra Club Group to present its annual EarthGreen Award. Karen Voss came up with the idea for this award in 1986. She and other group members worked on the concept of giving annual recognition to individuals, organizations, or businesses for their efforts to protect, preserve, or promote the environment in the Chippewa Valley region. As a videojournalist for over 27 years, Steve Betchkal has produced more than 10,000 stories on news and life in the Chippewa Valley. He is presently the senior videojournalist at WQOW in Eau Claire. Steve has won numerous awards

for his work, including the first-ever Emmy Awards won in Eau Claire. Steve is particularly proud to have covered birds on TV since 1987. His bird stories, now totaling 100, started at WEAU when Steve was a contributor to Dave Carlson's show. In 1990, Steve produced a 3-part series titled "Flight to Nowhere" about the plight of neotropical migrant birds. It was the first story of its kind on television in Wisconsin. Bird and environmental stories continue to be woven into his current work for the news department at WQOW. Steve has written bird and wildlife travel articles for the Leader-Telegram - 144 articles in all. He has written for several magazines as well. He is a published poet and author of several books.

Steve took hold of an idea from Jane Schley to establish an on-line source to connect birders in the Chippewa Valley. With the help of Paul Wagner, Steve has established an e-mail based forum for birdwatchers in the Chippewa Valley. There are now more than 100 members with amateur birdwatchers of all levels of experience alongside UWEC ornithology professors and DNR wildlife biologists. The Chippewa Valley Birding Group is a convivial and informative source for current bird sightings and information on bird-related topics. The creation of this group, I believe, has been the catalyst to connect and fully invigorate our local birding community. Steve's presence is the underlying current that connects everyone and keeps it all flowing. (Contact Paul Wagner or Jane Schley to get the e-mails)

Field Guide to the Birdwatcher

by Steve Betchkal

Corral a hundred people
in a city park
and urge them to
reflect upon
their blessings
and eighty-five will recall
the faces of family and friends
and car horsepower and dream homes,
ten will light up cigarettes and
flip through phone messages
four will struggle and fail
to summon a single happy thought
and one
face canted skyward
will be too busy tracking
a flight of pigeons.

Events – Paul Ebel

May 1/Friday 9-11 am

Round Hill Road Prairie Trip

Explore a recent prairie addition to the Tiffany Wildlife Area with DNR Wildlife Biologist, **Mark Rasmussen** and DNR District Ecologist **Dean Edlin**. We'll be looking for the elusive pasque flower plus other early bloomers, birding, and discussing prairie management on Tiffany WA. This property was the site of a Lower Chippewa River Alliance Dec. 2014 prairie restoration workday, so those volunteers will have a chance to see the results of their labor. This site also presents a spectacular view of the Lower Chippewa River system. For directions and carpooling, contact Eleanor Wolf at 835-3829 or **ellewolf1@hotmail.com**. Weather may change date.

May 4 or later

I would like to re-extend an invitation to any readers to join me (us) for sailing out of Ashland if you chance to be in that neighborhood during ice free months. The boat is scheduled to be launched at Cornucopia May 4th. - Steve Scoll 715-556-1891



May 9/Sat

Tiffany Train Ride The local Prairie Enthusiasts will again be hosting the Tiffany Train Mini Car Ride, on Saturday May 9th. including ornithologist Brian Collins, botanist Mark Leach, and compatible folks participating. Kathy Stahl 715-962-4010

May 18/Mon 6 pm Book Group

Read Naomi Klein's *This Changes Everything*, then join Eleanor Wolf and other members to explore and expand our climate change knowledge and attitudes derived from Klein's well-researched climate change analysis. Hopefully the discussion will result in some individual/community plans of action. Meet May 18, 6 pm at The Cabin in the UWEC Davies Center

May 20/Wednesday 7 am–7 pm **Welcome Back Bird Day**

The Gaylord Nelson Audubon Society is holding its Second Annual Eau Claire Welcome Back Bird Day on Wednesday, May 20. Come witness the return of songbirds to Wisconsin from their wintering grounds in the tropics. Join expert birders from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at five sites across the City of Eau Claire to view migrant birds and learn about their incredible northward journey. Binoculars, a spotting scope, and bird guides will be available at each site. Participants will be working toward a citywide goal of spotting 100 species of migrant and resident birds.

You can visit any or all of the sites which include Braun's Bay at Carson Park, Owen Park near the bandshell, Little Niagara along the Chippewa River on the UWEC Campus, Truax Prairie at Kane Road and 10th Avenue (near Menards HQ), and the Dells Pond Overlook at the end of Ruby Lane (just off Riverview Drive). All ages are welcome.

This event is in celebration of International Migratory Bird Day, observed in hundreds of communities across North America. You can find additional information at **GaylordNelsonAudubon.org**. -Jeff Henry

May 22-23/Fri-Sat **Camp/Canoe Gov. Knowles State Forest**

The Sioux Portage Group Camp in the Governor Knowles State Forest, near Danbury, is reserved for Friday and Saturday nights (May 22 & 23) of Memorial Day Weekend. The camp is located in a quiet oak woods on a bluff a quarter mile from the St. Croix River. We'll choose among the Yellow, St. Croix, and Namekagon Rivers for day canoe trips on Saturday and Sunday. Basic moving water paddling skills will suffice. Early risers on Sunday morning can come along for an auto tour of Crex Meadows, one of Wisconsin's premier wildlife areas. We will see sandhill cranes, trumpeter swans, bald eagles, and common loons as well as other wetland and grassland species. Come for all or any part of the weekend. For further information,

contact Patty and Jeff Henry (715-832-1387).

*Footnote - The Chippewa Valley Group has run an outing to the Governor Knowles State Forest most years going back to 1984, not long after the campground first opened and not long after our group first started. This is the standard writeup used for three decades. It still works with one exception. On July 1, 2011, hurricane-force winds struck east-central Minnesota and northwest Wisconsin, causing severe damage over an extensive area. There is no longer a "quiet oak woods" on the bluff above the St. Croix River. Virtually every tree in the campsite and the immediate vicinity was blown down or severely damaged. The DNR has finally completed cleanup work and the campground is being reopened this spring. Our group will be the first to use it. It is difficult to envision how different it will be. There will be no more scarlet tanagers or night-singing ruby-crowned kinglets among the oak trees leafing out in spring green. However, there will be the same quiet and peacefulness, removed from the crowds of a holiday weekend. The night sky will be more visible and expansive. We'll have a good campfire. And, we might still hear the howl of a distant wolf.

June 17/Wed **Solstice Paddle & Bike Ride**

(Rain Date Thursday, June 19) Meeting location and time to be determined. Contact: **Renee Ebel: 715-379-0933** or **reneeespfe@gmail.com** (paddle) **Scott Kmetz: 715-864-5440** or **mjskmetz@charter.net** (bike)



July 18/Saturday 10 am **Photographic Workshop**

Irvine Park, Chippewa Falls. We will explore nature and landscape photography with film and digital methods. Additional activities include hiking and biking. Paul Ebel: 651-335-8759 or **paulebel44@yahoo.com**;

MORE 2015 EVENTS

Beaver Creek Reserve

www.beavercreekreserve.org

Click [View all events](#)

Acoustic Bat Survey June 18, 8 pm

Astronomy Third Saturdays 8 pm
cvastro.org

Big Bird Day (New) May 28
5 am or 12 pm

Butterfly House Training June 29 7 pm

Butterfly Festival August 2 12:30 pm

Celebrate Lower Chippewa River
August 28 & 29

Dragonflies/Damselflies June 27 9:30 am

Evening Bird Hikes May 5, 19 5:30 pm

Lower Chippewa Bird Monitoring
May 19, 5 pm

Native Plant Sale May 9, 8:30 am

Phenology for Elders May 14, June 4
9:30 am

Spring Wildflower Walk May 16 9 am

Chippewa Moraine Ice Age Trail

iatchippewa.org

Click under "Chapter Events Calendar"

Richard Smith

Email: chapter@iatchippewa.org

Phone: 715-967-2164



CV Paddlers

This Yahoo group currently has the following four events on the group webpage, thanks to Jim and Sue Block

April 26, 2015 (Sunday) Jump River from County I to Little Falls Bill and Sharon

May 9, 2015 (Saturday) Yellow River, Followed by potluck, paddling planning meeting and elections Donna M. and Steve W.

May 30, 2015 (Saturday) Flambeau River, Camp 41 to Beaver Dam Jim and Sue Block

June 27, 2015 (Saturday) Chippewa from County D to Imalone Odelia M.

Pie Riders

The 2015 schedule of bike rides was not available for this newsletter. You may find the group's current and past activities on their ECPieRiders webpage in Yahoo Groups. Many of the recent weekly rides have been arranged not long before the rides occurred, requiring a timely watch of the postings at groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/ECPieRiders/info



Miscellaneous Notes

Congratulations were extended by our Group to **Virginia** Hansis at our Earthgreen Award Dinner in April, for Virginia had reached her 100th birthday. Virginia, a charter member of our Group in 1982, still comes to many of our meetings.

Shahla Werner,

our director in the John Muir Chapter office in Madison, will be taking a new position in May, in the WI Department of Agriculture. She will be sorely missed. Your JMC Chapter ExCom is seeking a replacement. In the meantime please be patient if you encounter delays when you have business with the Chapter.



Thanks are due once again to **Eleanor Wolf** for overseeing all the many arrangements for the April Earthgreen Award Dinner at the Congregational Church in Eau Claire. (**Jerry Foote** made the Church venue possible and worked throughout the dinner along with all the other helpers.) Eleanor *really* wants you to read Naomi Klein's book *This Changes Everything* and hopefully join her May 18 discussion group at UWEC!

Our Group's 2015 brochure is also in this newsletter thanks to the efforts of **Paul Ebel and Richard Smith!**

Welcome, New Members!

December 2014 - February 2015

(Includes Transfers-in & Reinstatements)

Altoona Patricia Geraghty, Cheryl Johnson, Deleana Strohl **Arkansaw** Bruce Lamphere **Augusta** Carol & Larry Myhre **Bruce** William Detloff **Cadott** William De Jung, Kathleen Lea, William Stockman **Chetek** Deidre Hansen **Chippewa Falls** Robert & Sally Baker, Gabrielle Gilbertson, Peter Holm, Rita Meyers, Rod Pike, A Porter, Kristi Sazama, Ann Schick, Rick Siloway, Phil Swanhorst, Elizabeth Tillotson, Robert & Kathy Wood **Cumberland** Patty Frie, Robert Hasman, Dorene Weltzin **Downsville** Kathy Ruggles & John Thomas **Durand** Ellen Adler **Eau Claire** Maureen Anderson, Jack Bushnell, Diane Chaput, Deborah Erickson, James Fortner, Roberta Graf, Jeff Goettinger, Bambi Guelzow, Kristine Hayden, Lucas Larson, Doug & Rebecca Lee, Emily Lind, Ryan Luedtke, Pamela Maher, Jeremy McBride, David Mcmanus, C J Meitner, Elizabeth Milanski, Claire Nelson, Don Nelson & Gloria Warner, John D Peterson, Ellie Phillips, Kathryn & John M Sandquist, Gordon & Judi Satorius, Glen Schuster, Amy Schiefelbein, Lori Scott, Wanda Sommer, Virginia Sperry, Stephanie Turner, Mark Williams, Frederick Wyss, Nancy Yost, Loretta Young, Tom & Angela Ziel **Elk Mound** Susan Schindler Berg **Fall Creek** Robert Meyers, Mel Sundby **Ladysmith** K Wedwick **Maiden Rock** Wendy Dart, Peter Deneen **Mikana** Ted Simpson **Menomonie** Nancy Burritt, Susan M Dahm, Carol J Flanigen, Jenene Lehman, Paula Smith **Merrillan** Denise Gearing, Debra Horan & Holly Smith **Osseo** Jan Behringer **Rice Lake** Jane Landraf, Gary W Larson, Steve Mackiewicz, Laura A Thompson **Thorp** Thomas & Todd Pawlath **Ridgeland** John Samuelson **Weyerhauser** Laura & David Prorok

-from Patty Henry

(623 total memberships currently -ed)



Chippewa Vally Group Executive Committee – April 2015
From left: Emily Lind, Margo Miller, Jeremy Gragert, Steve Scoll, Caryn Treiber, Paul Ebel. (Jane Schey missing here but see below)



Steve Betchkal and Jane Schley with Steve's Earthgreen award

Sierra Club

c/o Bob St. Louis
3427 McElroy Ct
Eau Claire, WI 54701

Mini-Directory – Chippewa Valley Group

Chair	Caryn Treiber*	N9021 590th St Colfax WI 54730	684-9374
Vice Chair/Treasurer	Margo Miller*	221 Washington St Eau Claire WI 54701	835-4549
Political/JMC Del.	Caryn Treiber*	N9021 590th St Colfax WI 54730	632-2055
Events/Earthgreen	Paul Ebel*	P.O. Box 141 Menomonie WI 54751	651-335-8759
Programs	Paul Hoff	2519 Keith St Eau Claire WI 54701	834-5419
Conservation/Sec'y	Jeremy Gragert*	451 Lincoln Ave Eau Claire WI 54701	612-220-1970
ExCom member	Jane Schley*	1414 Emery St, Eau Claire, WI 54701	834-2864
ExCom member	Emily Lind*	3405 Trimble St Eau Claire, WI 54701	828-6565
Programs	Donna Martin	20279 77th Ave Chippewa Falls WI 54729	720-8890
Newsletter/Web Pg	Bob St Louis	3427 McElroy Ct Eau Claire WI 54701	835-4863
John Muir Chapter	Shahla Werner	754 Williamson St Madison WI 53703	608-256-0565
Membership	Patty Henry	2014 Ruby Ln Eau Claire WI 54703	832-1387
Ice Age Tr/Publicity	Richard Smith	27200 145th St New Auburn WI 54757	967-2164
Population	Paul Ebel*	P.O. Box 141 Menomonie WI 54751	651-335-8759
Fundraising	Steve Scoll*	N12096 730th St Wheeler WI 54772	556-1891

* Member of CV Group Executive Committee (ExCom).

Except as otherwise noted, all area codes are 715

EVEN MORE EVENTS

Tiffany Wildlife Area Workday • Friday, Dec. 18, 9-1 PM
Plan to work with Lower Chippewa River Alliance volunteers and DNR staff removing brush/invasive species to improve habitat and native plant restoration. For directions, carpooling, tools, etc. you will be required to sign-up. Contact Eleanor Wolf. Date may change due to weather.
Eleanor Wolf: (715) 835-4829 or ellewolf1@hotmail.com



Explore, enjoy and protect the planet



With your help we can clean up our water

Sierra Club Water Sentinels are the first line of defense of America's waters. We live on the water planet. However, water is a finite resource with only about 1% of the world's water actually being available for human consumption. Water pollution & over-use are threatening both the quality & quantity of our water resources at an alarming rate.

Keep our water safe. Join Sierra Club.

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Check enclosed. Please make payable to Sierra Club

Please charge my: Visa Mastercard AMEX

Cardholder Name _____

Card Number _____ Exp. Date ____ / ____

Signature _____

Membership Categories	Individual	Joint
Special Offer	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 15	N/A
Standard	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 39	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 49
Supporting	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 75	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 100
Contributing	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 150	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 175
Life	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 1000	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 1250
Senior	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 35
Student	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 35
Limited Income	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 35

Contributions, gifts & dues to Sierra Club are tax deductible; they support our effective, citizen based advocacy & lobbying efforts. Your dues include \$ 7.50 for a subscription to SIERRA magazine & \$ 1.00 for your Chapter newsletter.

Enclose a check and mail to:
Sierra Club, PO Box 421041
Palm Coast, FL 32142-1041
or visit our website: www.sierraclub.org

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SIERRA CLUB
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2015

EVENTS, MEETINGS, & OTHER INFORMATION

CHIPPEWA VALLEY

GAYLORD NELSON EARTH GREEN AWARD

Banquet and Presentation

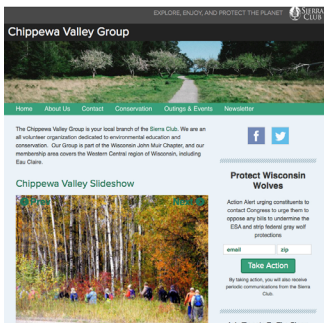
- Tuesday, April 14, 6 PM
- First Congregational UCC Community Room
310 Broadway St, Eau Claire

2015 Recipient:
Steve Betchkal



Steve is a local birder, author, speaker, and photojournalist who is dedicated to saving the world, one bird at a time.

NEW! CHIPPEWA VALLEY SIERRA WEBSITE



Bookmark the new Chippewa Valley Group website, and make it your go-to place whenever you have a need to know about local events, campaigns, and our current and recent newsletters. It's part of the new John Muir Chapter site and the national Sierra Club site, so all your Sierra news is but a click away!

<http://www.sierraclub.org/wisconsin/chippewa-valley>



<http://sierraclub.org/wisconsin/chippewa-valley>

To Explore, Enjoy, & Preserve The Nation's Forests, Waters, Wildlife, and Wilderness

The Sierra Club is the nation's largest and most effective environmental organization. It has a long legacy of accomplishments since its founding in 1892 by John Muir. Often, it's the Sierra Club that sets the standard for citizen action and citizen effectiveness on behalf of the environment.

The Chippewa Valley Group is one small unit of the Sierra Club. Members of the Sierra Club living in this area become members of our group.

We hold monthly meetings from October through May, usually at Eau Claire's Unitarian Fellowship Hall downtown at 421 S. Farwell St. Topics include environmental issues, "how-to" programs, and travel and adventure presentations. Our group has an extensive year-round events program. The meetings and events are not just for our members, but for all who wish to participate.

Since 1982, the Chippewa Valley Group has established a record of involvement in local environmental concerns. We have worked effectively on issues including recycling, wetland preservation, public land management, highway construction, and mining.

Our group welcomes:

- Outdoor enthusiasts who wish to meet others with similar interests.
- Anyone who cares about the natural world and wants to learn more.
- Those who want to protect our natural heritage by working on environmental issues or becoming political activists.

For more information call:

Caryn Treiber (715) 684-9374
Margo Miller (715) 835-4549
Jane Schley (715) 834-2864
Jeremy Gragert (612) 220-1970

or . . . Join us on an event or at our next meeting!

<http://www.sierraclub.org/wisconsin/chippewa-valley>

SIERRA EVENTS

Please call the phone numbers listed for more information and confirmation. Also check <http://www.sierraclub.org/wisconsin/chippewa-valley> for the events calendar showing newly added and updated event information.

Gaylord Nelson Earth Green Dinner • Tuesday, Apr. 14
Steve Betchkal is an award-winning photo journalist, life-long naturalist and environmentalist who is dedicated to saving the world, one bird at a time. Steve will be honored and receive the 2015 Earth Green Award. Don't miss this special event and wonderful Italian dinner. Wine and conversation at 6 PM; Dinner at 6:30 PM; Program at 7:30 - 8 PM; Presentation title: "The ultimate test of man's conscience may be his willingness to sacrifice something today for future generations whose words of thanks will not be heard".
First Congregational UCC Church Community Room, 310 Broadway St., Eau Claire (corner of Broadway and Third Ave.).
For reservations, contact:
Eleanor Wolf: (715) 835-4829 or ellewolf1@hotmail.com

Round Hill Road Prairie Field Trip • Friday, May 1, 9-11 AM

Explore a recent prairie addition to the Tiffany Wildlife Area with DNR Wildlife Biologist Mark Rasmussen and DNR District Ecologist Dean Edlin. We'll be looking for the elusive pasque flower plus other early bloomers, birding, and discussing prairie management on the Tiffany Wildlife Area. This property was the site of a Lower Chippewa River Association Dec 2014 prairie restoration workday, so those volunteers will have a chance to see the results of their labor. This site also presents a spectacular view of the Lower Chippewa River system.
For directions and carpooling, contact Eleanor Wolf. Date may change due to weather.
Eleanor Wolf: (715) 835-4829 or ellewolf1@hotmail.com

Camping, Canoeing, and Birdwatching at Governor Knowles State Forest • May 22-23

The Sioux Portage group camp in the Governor Knowles State Forest, southwest of Danbury, is reserved on Friday and Saturday nights (May 22 and 23) of Memorial Day Weekend. The camp is on a bluff one quarter mile from the St. Croix River, away from the bustle of the holiday weekend. We choose among the St. Croix, Namekagon, and Yellow rivers for quiet water paddling on Saturday and Sunday. Early risers on Sunday can come along on an auto tour of Crex Meadows, one of Wisconsin's premier wildlife areas. Contact:
Jeff and Patty Henry: (715) 832-1387 or grayjay8@gmail.com

MORE EVENTS

Solstice Paddle & Bike Ride • Wednesday, June 17
(Rain Date Thursday, June 18) Meeting location and time to be determined. For information, contact:
Scott Kmetz: (715) 864-5440 or mjskmetz@gmail.com

Photographic Workshop • Saturday, July 18, 10 AM
Irvine Park, Chippewa Falls. We will explore nature and landscape photography with film and digital methods. Additional activities include hiking and biking. Meet at the main parking lot.
Paul Ebel: (651) 335-8759 or paulebel44@yahoo.com

Hike Hoffman Hills State Recreation Area • Saturday, Sept. 26, 2 PM
Meet in the second parking lot at 2 PM. Short or longer trails available. Supper potluck at Etheredge Tree Farm, 8 miles to the west.
Caryn Treiber (715) 684-9374 or ctreiber@discover-net.net

Parade of Colors Ice Age Trail Hike • Saturday, Oct. 3
The Ice Age National Scenic Trail at the Chippewa Moraine is one of the most spectacular segments in Wisconsin. Add fall color to sparkling lakes to a cool day, and you have the perfect hike! Hike 6 miles or less (you choose), end at the Interpretive Center and enjoy refreshments. Start between 9 and 11 AM at the Obey Interpretive Center at the Chippewa Moraine, 7 miles east of New Auburn on CTH M. Details at <http://www.iceagetrail.org/event/chippewa-moraine-parade-of-colors-fall-hike/>.
Richard Smith: (715) 967-2164 or chapter@iatchippewa.org

Ice Age Trail Hike • Saturday, Nov. 7
Join a guided group hike on the Ice Age Trail. The kettle lakes and glacial landforms are most visible in late fall, and the weather is always great. Section to be announced. Gather first for breakfast at Bohemian Ovens in Bloomer at 8 AM, or Obey Center at Chippewa Moraine at 9 AM.
Eleanor Wolf: (715) 835-4829 or ellewolf1@hotmail.com

Living Room Adventure • Sunday, Nov. 22
After another year of camping, hiking, and paddling, share slides, photos, and tales from your travels and adventures. A potluck dinner gets us ready for the evening's activities.
Patty & Jeff Henry: (715) 832-1387 or grayjay8@gmail.com

Continued on reverse . . .

Explore, enjoy and protect the planet