

September 2014 News Update for Friends of Pope Farm Conservancy

Mark Your Calendars!

German Immigration Tour

Wednesday, October 15, 2014 (5:00-6:00 p.m.)



Join Antje Petty, Assistant Director of the Max Kade Institute UW-Madison, and learn about the story of German Immigration to the area in the 1850-1870's.

Topics will include:

- Why they came here and the “Push – Pull” dynamics that related to all Immigrants.
- “Chain Migration” - Imagine yourself leaving your family and friends forever.
- How they traveled here by sea and by land.
- How they lived here and how they developed a new community in America.
- Who lived at the German cabin site at Pope Farm Conservancy.

Join us for this educational adventure and **final tour** of the season at Pope Farm Conservancy!

Members Picnic

October 18th, 2014 (1:00-3:00 p.m.)

To thank you for your continued support of the PFC, the Friends of Pope Farm Conservancy invites all of its members to our annual Members Picnic. Please bring a dish to pass, and we will provide the beverages. The picnic will be followed by talks about the Friends of Pope Farm Conservancy, what was accomplished in 2014, and our plans for 2015. Mostly, it will be an informal gathering of the “friends” and a great opportunity to enjoy the fall colors at the top of the hill in the Conservancy. We hope to see you on this beautiful October afternoon!

Prairie Seed Collection is Underway!

A message from Curt Caslavka – Prairie Restoration Committee, Chair

The prairies at Pope Farm Conservancy are still young and still in their restoration stage. Our goal is to establish a large variety of different native prairie plants throughout the prairies. To help that process along, we collect certain seeds from places where the plants are well established and then plant those seeds in other parts of the prairie.



That’s where you come in! We need your help to collect seeds when they are ripe. The seeds of different plants ripen at different times, so we have chosen 9 dates when we’ll be collecting, weather permitting. Our first collecting date was August 16, but we have additional dates now through November.

You can sign up for one or more of these dates from the Friends of Pope Farm Conservancy (FOPOC) website. The easiest way to get to the registration page is to go to this URL:

<https://www.popefarmconservancy.org/events/2014-prairie-seed-collection/>

We will have team leaders on hand to help you on each of those dates.

Please join us – it’s fun and it’s an investment in the future. Hope to see you in the prairies soon! If you have any questions, please send an email to prairie@popefarmconservancy.com.

Past Events

Heritage Day - A HUGE Success!

A beautiful day of excitement and history! Photos by Dennis Schenborn



Horse drawn wagon rides from Treinen Farms were busy all afternoon with happy passengers.



Eric Carson shares with interested visitors how the land was formed.



Dr. Amy Rosebrough demonstrates how Native people made tools.



Mike Healy talks about the early vegetation on the land.



Families enjoy hearing about German Immigration from Antje Petty.



Dr. Nick Balster generates enthusiasm about soil.

Soil “It Gives Us Life” Tour Fascinating!

Dr. Nick Balster (right) from the U.W. Soils Department captivates the group as he describes what soil really is. At the Civilian Conservation Corps Spillway, we learned about the dust bowl, the depression, and the “soil soldiers” who came here to help save our soil.

Photo Credit: Barbara Esser



Pope Farm Conservancy’s Newest Resident

Just in time for kick off... The real Bucky the Badger



Bucky has made his home at Pope Farm Conservancy, and we are asking the “friends” to help us. If you see Bucky:

- Keep your distance and do not approach him
- Note the time and place that you see him
- Take a photo, if possible

Please send your information to info@popefarmconservancy.org. We will not disclose where the Badgers are to the public, rather we are working with the U.W. Department of Forestry and Wildlife Ecology to gather information for possible educational use.

Question of the Month

When does the upper parking lot close for the season?

The weather will determine when the upper parking lot will be closed for the season. After mid-October, the gate to the upper lot will be open (weather permitting) until November 1st and for the first two weekends in November. Then after November 10th, the upper parking lot will be closed for the season. The Old Sauk Road lower parking lot will remain open for cross country skiing and snowshoeing throughout the winter.

If you have a question for us, please send it to info@popefarmconservancy.org and we will try to answer it.

Friends of the Month

Heritage Day's Goodwill Ambassadors

The Goodwill Ambassadors did wonders at Heritage Day! Visitors commented about how well organized everything was. It was a challenge for this first time Heritage Day, between our 5 featured speakers at 5 different stations and two teams of horse drawn wagons. But it all went off without a hitch (pun intended), thanks to all of you! If you would like to be on the Goodwill Ambassador mailing list please contact us at info@popefarmconservancy.org. Because of the efforts of the Goodwill Ambassadors, funds were generated by the sale of t-shirts and wagon rides, and the membership was increased.

Thank you to the following Goodwill Ambassadors who volunteered at Heritage Day:

Peggy Ahlgren
Charlene Avery
Jim Bolitho
Curt Caslavka
Ann Conroy
Barbara Esser
Doug Gregory
Kathy Gregory
Nancy Gunder

Susan Hunt (flyers)
Erin Janssen
Navjot Kaur
David Kollasch
Jean Kollasch
CJ Kuehl
Carol McAdow
Jerry McAdow

Doug Normington
Antje Petty
Karen Prochaska
Beth Rahko
Amy Rosebrough
Dennis Schenborn
Robby Sonzogni
Stephanie Williams

Our sincere apologies to anyone else who we did not name.



And a happy field of Sunflowers to the Goodwill Ambassadors!

Connect with Friends of Pope Farm Conservancy on Facebook

Are you on Facebook? It's a great way to share your pictures and stories with others who "like" Pope Farm Conservancy.

<https://www.facebook.com/FriendsOfPopeFarmConservancy>



**Thank you for joining the
Friends of Pope Farm Conservancy!
Our Journey Begins and You are part of it!**

