



Dunes Echo

Summer 2023 (June, July and August) ~ Vol. XVII, #2

Enhancing the Visitor Experience Today and Tomorrow

Friends of Indiana Dunes Updates

Summer is finally here!! The past three months have been a very busy time for the FRIENDS. March started with the FRIENDS sponsoring Maple Sugar Time at the National Park's Chellberg Farm. You would find our Board Members and volunteers in the barn talking about our calves, the Sugar Shack turning sap to syrup, cooking maple treats on the woodstove in the kitchen, or outside the farmhouse offering pure maple syrup snow cones for a small donation to the FRIENDS. Six gallons of syrup was produced this year – five have been bottled and are available for donation – FRIENDS members \$15 and all others \$20.

The Spring Indiana Master Naturalist (IMN) course began March 19 at the State Park. Special thanks to our Board Members and volunteers who spearhead this fantastic educational and volunteer experience. The FRIENDS happily continue its support of IMN and are looking forward to the Fall session. Recently, SP Naturalist Marie Laudeman was honored with the Lucy Pitschler Award for Interpretive Innovation by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources. Congratulations Marie!!

If you missed the Annual Meeting in April, you missed a fun visual retrospective of our 40th Anniversary Celebration and all the wonderful ways the FRIENDS help. From smiling faces of children at the Dunes Learning Center, to buckets full of trash off of the State Park beach, to completion of the State Park's Beach Mats and the Trail 8 boardwalk, to removal of a huge cottonwood blocking the Little Calumet Water Trail, to the addition of calves at Chellberg Farm – we provided over \$150,000 in support in 2022 to our partners.

In celebration of Earth Day, the FRIENDS supported the re-opening of the Paul H. Douglas Center for Environmental Education which had been closed due to the removal of the pedestrian overpass entry and rehabbing of the interior. Please stop in or better yet, walk the Pollinator Trail on its grand opening on June 24.

In May, FRIENDS happily supported and welcomed three visitors from Poland to our Indiana Dunes. Thirty years ago, the FRIENDS helped the National Park bring Polish visitors from Kampinoski National Park to sign a sister park agreement. This year Adam Olszewski of Kampinoski National Park, Magdalena Jedro of Slowinski National Park and Artur Wiatr of Biebrzanski National Park were here to participate in the 8th Annual Indiana Dunes Birding Festival, another event we are happy to support. As Chair, I was able to represent the FRIENDS at the Polish Consulate in Chicago when Superintendent Labovitz re-signed a sister park agreement with Kampinoski.



The FRIENDS continue to present their weekly series, Way Back Wednesday, on Facebook - a great historical missive on all things Indiana Dunes. We are working on another fundraiser to support Chellberg Farm. Look for our "Adopt a Chicken" program to be officially released at the Duneland Fall Festival on September 16 and 17.

Have a great Summer and enjoy your frequent visits to our Indiana Dunes!!

Chellberg Farm Produce and Maple Syrup Stand Opening Soon

Once the Chellberg Farm garden starts producing, those delicious garden goodies will make their way to the little produce stand located in our office parking lot. Pure maple syrup produced at this year's Maple Sugar Time is now available at our office on Wednesdays from 1:00pm – 4:00pm, the first Saturday each month from 9:00am – 12 noon, or call (219) 707-3617 to make other arrangements. Look for future posts on our Facebook Page about available garden goodies!

All monies raised from our Chellberg Farm Produce and Maple Syrup Stand will continue to enhance the visitor experience at Indiana Dunes National Park's Chellberg Farm!

National Park Programs

For more information contact Dorothy Buell Memorial Visitor Center at 219-395-1882 or www.nps.gov/indu

All below programs are sponsored by FRIENDS of Indiana Dunes!



Chellberg Farm Open House

Every day in June, July and August starting Monday, June 5 from 2:30pm – 4:30pm

Stop by the historic Chellberg Farm to tour the farmhouse and visit the animals. Rangers and volunteers will be on hand to share the area's history.

Paul H. Douglas Center Open House and Nature Play Date

Every Saturday in June, July and August from 1:00pm - 3:00pm

Visit the Paul H. Douglas Center for Environmental Education for a day of family friendly fun. Enjoy the free nature themed craft set up in the art room, watch the staff feed the animals, or build a fort in the Nature Play Zone.

Gardening at Chellberg Farm

Every Sunday in June, July and August from 9:00am – 11:00am

Spend the morning helping the Chellberg Farm Garden get off to a great start.



Feeding at the Farm

Every Sunday in June, July and August from 4:30pm – 5:00pm

Join a volunteer or ranger and help feed the cows and chickens at the historic Chellberg Farm.

Dog Days at Chellberg Farm

Wednesday June 21, July 19 and August 16 from 1:00pm – 3:00pm

Join fellow dog lovers and bring your four-legged friend for a self-guided hike at the trails at Chellberg Farm and Bailly Homestead. A ranger will be stationed in the parking lot with information on how your dog can become a B.A.R.K. ranger.



Pollinator Trail Grand Opening

Saturday June 24 from 10:00am – 3:00pm

Come celebrate the grand opening of the pollinator trail at the Paul H. Douglas Center for Environmental Education. There will be two ranger guided hikes on the pollinator trail from 11:00am - 11:45am and 1:30pm - 2:15pm. Save the Dunes will offer a native plant talk from 11:00am – 11:45am and a ribbon cutting at 1:00pm. There will also be educational talks held earlier in the week. Check the National Park's Facebook page for more details.

Midsummer

Sunday June 25 from 1:00pm – 3:00pm

Celebrate the start of summer and learn about the traditions of the Swedish immigrants at Chellberg Farm. Enjoy the music and dancing associated with this special day.



Mark Your Calendars – September 16 and 17 – Duneland Fall Festival

FRIENDS' Sponsored Special Chellberg Farm Programs

Join us for one or all the FRIENDS' Summer Fun sponsored Saturday afternoons at Chellberg Farm. FRIENDS' members will present three different fun and informative family friendly events from 1:00pm – 4:00pm at the Chellberg Farm. Hope to see there!

June 17 – Making Jam the Old Fashion Way

Our woodstove cooks will prepare strawberry jam and then preserve it using historical techniques. Stop in for a taste.

July 15 – Red, White and Blue Ice Cream Social

Visitors can take turns to help make homemade vanilla ice cream which will be shared along with assorted seasonal berries.

August 19 – Old Time Toys

Come prepared to have fun playing with the Chellberg Farm's historic toys! Make a buzz saw, try your hand at corn cob toss, see if you can find a prize in the straw, and many more family friendly activities.

State Park Programs

For more information contact Nature Center at 219-926-1390 or www.interpretiveservices.in.gov



Full Moon Hikes

Saturday June 3 and Sunday July 2 from 9:00pm - 11:00pm

Enjoy the beautiful full moon and night sky on these special night hikes from the Nature Center to Lake Michigan and back. Stories about our moon, up-close views, and “stellar” treats furnished by FRIENDS of Indiana Dunes. These hikes will still proceed in cloudy conditions, but not inclement weather.



26th Annual Sand Sculpture Contest

Saturday July 15 from 9:00am - 1:00pm

Watch the sand come alive at this year’s 26th anniversary event! This year’s theme is “Games”. The registration table opens by 9:00am, but groups may begin as early as 7:00am. Judging starts at noon with awards at 1:00pm. Whether building or not, come vote for your favorite in the “People’s Choice Award.” Park volunteers will be judging sculptures for the funniest, most creative, and most thematic awards provided.

Indiana Dunes Explorer Day Camps

July 17 – 21 = Ages 6 - 8 years, Cost = \$35/child for the week

July 24 – 28 = Ages 9 - 12 years, Cost = \$35/child for the week

Join us for a summer of fun at the Indiana Dunes State Park! Each camp is perfect for the inquisitive child of the dunes and provides a low-cost option close to home. For more information or to register, visit or call the Nature Center at 219-926-1390.

S’mores Day Fun

Friday August 4 from 7:00pm - 9:00pm

Help celebrate National S’more’s Day by learning a little about the history of this delicious treat. Then help yourself to a *S’moregasbord* of different variations. Visit with Smokey Bear while enjoying the tasty treats.



15th Annual Perseid Meteor Shower and Stargaze

Saturday August 12 from 8:30pm - 11:30pm

This annual shooting star event marks the peak of the Perseid Meteor Shower. Sky lore stories will begin at the State Park Pavilion at 8:30 p.m. with the best star observations taking place after 9:30 p.m. There will be deep sky viewing and constellation talks. Bring a chair or towel and enjoy these spectacular views from the State Park’s beach until midnight.



Hummingbird Banding

Saturday, August 26 starting with a presentation at 8:30 a.m.

Join us at the Nature Center as special hummingbird bander, Allen Chartier, teaches all about his work with these tiny-winged jewels of the dunes. Learn about Ruby-throated Hummingbird and see them up-close!

Dunes Learning Center Programs

For more information, please go to: <https://duneslearningcenter.org>



Summer Garden Salsa

August weekend date to be determined – check out FRIENDS’ Facebook page for updates

Get ready to spice up your life at Dunes Learning Center with a Garden Salsa Program! Learn how to maximize garden vegetables to make a delicious salsa. Explore the DLC garden and make your own salsa, from harvesting the produce, chopping it up, and mixing it all together to create a tasty treat that will impress your friends and family. Recipes provided!

Ages 10+, costs \$20 per person.

Summer State Park Beach Cleanups

Sundays, June 24, July 22, and August 26 from 8:00am to 10:00am



The FRIENDS will again partner with Crazy Legs Race Series to sponsor beach cleanups at the State Park. Meet at FRIENDS’ tent on east side of the Pavilion. Bring your own gloves and reusable water bottle. Trash buckets and drinking water will be supplied.

**FRIENDS OF
INDIANA DUNES**

P.O. Box 166
Beverly Shores, IN 46301

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Our mission is to enhance and foster understanding, appreciation, and enjoyment of the Indiana Dunes through financial and volunteer support of the state and national parks.

Friends Board Members

Chair: Angel Goins **Secretary:** Kathy Wilder
Vice-Chair: Paul Stofko **Treasurer:** Tracey Stevens
Dan Barriball Zach Lindeman Bonnie Miller
Rudy Moyado Zella Olson Marti Pizzini
Roz Potter Michelle Shebesh Lori Weed
Newsletter Editor: Cliff Goins
www.dunefriends.org 219-707-3617

Since 1982, our organization has supported the interpretive and resource management programs of the Indiana Dunes. The Friends sponsor the kind of interpretive programs that make a visit to the Indiana Dunes informative and fun. Membership in the Friends is vital to creating this positive impact.

Please support the Indiana Dunes by joining the Friends today. Your financial contribution is tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. Your support will make a difference and assure our important work continues.

Current Friends Members will receive a renewal form in the mail when your renewal is due.

FRIENDS Membership Application

P. O. Box 166 ~ Beverly Shores, IN 46301-0166

- Marram Grass \$ 25
- Cottonwood \$ 50
- Jack Pine \$100
- Black Oak \$250

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Mail completed form to the address above.

Additional Contribution \$ _____

Phone _____

Interested in Volunteering _____

Email _____