



KinniKeeper

A publication of the Kinnickinnic River Land Trust

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Fall Greetings



Welcome Fall! After a rather mild and wet summer, I am sure that you, like me, are ready for the crisp mornings and bon-fire fueled evenings of fall. With the changing leaves, migrating birds, and rutting deer, a new energy emerges on the Kinni. Now is a great time to look for our favorite birds, fish for those elusive trout, or simply reconnect with nature during a hike. We are so fortunate to have the Kinni for these purposes!

Accomplishing our mission of protecting the Kinni can often involve many complex pathways and unexpected turns, but I continue to find that in those bends are people like you who are dedicated to this place and its future. We are continuing to focus on partnerships, elevating the environment with younger generations, managing our preserves for public usage, and pushing for more private and public land conservation. We are excited and will share more information about newly protected sites and projects in future issues of the KinniKeeper.

Sincerely, Charlene Brooks - Executive Director

Welcome our New President and Board Members



New President - Alison Page

I was raised in River Falls in the 60s and 70s. Back then the Kinni was a cesspool. Through the efforts of many people and institutions, the Kinni has been cleaned up. The KRLT is one of the key organizations ensuring the future health of our river. Working with others, we will keep the Kinni cold, clean and free, forever.



New Board Member - Holly Dolliver

Dr. Holly Dolliver is a Professor of Soil Science and Geology and Department Chair for the Plant and Earth Science Department at the University of Wisconsin- River Falls. Holly grew up on a farm in central Minnesota and completed her B.S. at North Dakota State University and M.S. and Ph.D. at the University of Minnesota. Her research interests include the effects of land use changes and management practices on soil quality, fate and transport of nutrients and contaminants in the environment, and geomorphology and surficial geology of Western Wisconsin. Holly, her husband Brett, and two young children Katelyn and Brayden enjoy hiking and kayaking the Kinni, camping, and spending time outdoors.



New Board Member - David Gregg

David Gregg is a family practice Physician Assistant at Vibrant Health Family Clinics. He, his wife Tami, and their three children moved to River Falls in 1998. David has been active in the youth soccer program, River Falls Lions, the Free Clinic of Pierce and St Croix Counties, Friends of the Kinni, and the local Trout Unlimited chapter (where he has been heavily involved in winter stream restoration work). He is an avid, semi-competent fly fisherman. He is looking forward to becoming more involved with KRLT to help preserve and protect the Kinni now and for future generations.

Kinni River Land Trust Making Connections

UW-River Falls Student & Technology Transformation



KRLT connected with UW-River Falls (UWRF) professor, Dr. Christopher Holtkamp, and UWRF senior, Johnathan Von Roekel to improve conservation prioritization with cloud-based technology. Using online mapping tools and high quality data, KRLT can more readily share our conservation story with the public and illuminate next steps for protecting water quality, habitat, and

the places that make the Kinni special. As a student, this project was especially meaningful to Johnathan. Here's his story!

"As someone who is pursuing a carrier in Conservation Science, Geographic Information Systems, and Cartography, this project has helped me grow as an individual by allowing me to apply my knowledge and skills in an independent way to something I care deeply about. It has inspired me to continue with my education and pursue other opportunities where I can make a difference to help protect and conserve our natural resources and places of beauty. I am grateful to have been able to work with passionate, like-minded people, and am very excited to continue our efforts on this project in the future"

New Belgium Brewery & Juniors Unite

During the month of July, KRLT partnered with New Belgium Brewery and participate in their national Pint for Public Lands Campaign. Junior's Restaurant and Tap House, located in River Falls, WI, added New Belgium's 'Fat Tire' beer to their tap selection and \$1 of every pint sold was donated to KRLT. In total, the Pints for Public Land Campaign raised \$331 for the Kinni and \$45,000 for non-profits across the country. New Belgium is part of the 1% for the planet movement, that certifies that at least 1% of Fat Tire sales go directly to nonprofits working to protect our shared resources. ***Thank you for stopping by and supporting conservation for the Kinnickinnic River.***

JUNIOR'S — RESTAURANT & TAP HOUSE —



Manion Wildlife Area - DNR Partnership

In 2010, KRLT donated 158 acres to the WI DNR just outside of River Falls on County Rd. FF. 9 years later, the Manion Wildlife Area continues to thrive with restored grasslands, oak savanna, and central hardwood habitat. The property is open to birding, cross country skiing, hiking, hunting, trapping, foraging, shoeshoeing, and wildlife viewing. If you are looking for a spot to get refreshed as the leaves turn colors this fall, check out Manion. It's truly a gem and great example of conservation and partnerships in the Kinni River Watershed.



Local Residents & Beautiful Signage

KRLT partnered with local residents to create beautiful signage about the prairie flowers that call Kelly Creek Preserve home. Anne Butler, who leads nature education groups in the area, choose Kelly Creek for her capstone project through the Wisconsin Master Naturalist program. Working alongside artist Elli Kissinger, a student from River Falls, the two of them created a wonderful collaboration. Anne researched information and Elli paired that with her hand drawn illustrations. You can find their prairie flower signs at Kelly Creek Preserve along the trails now through the end of fall.



Kinni River Land Trust Updates



Land Trust Days

This year, KRLT celebrated Land Trust Days by hosting a guided pioneer prairie walk at Kelly Creek Preserve. The walk included a sip from Kelly Springs, wildflower identification and uses, and historical information of the area presented by River Falls, native Mark Anderson. Even on a hot, steamy day, over 45 people attended the event and got to learn about the preserve from a historical perspective.



Land Trust Days is a series of outdoor events and activities, organized by Gathering Waters and individual land trusts, throughout Wisconsin, during the months of August and September.



Kelly Creek Sign

We are excited to announce an updated road sign for Kelly Creek Preserve on County Road J. Partnering with the students at River Falls Renaissance Academy, St. Croix Master Watershed Stewards, and neighboring landowners, we can showcase the preserve better. Hope to see you out there!

BE INVOLVED! *Your support is critical to accomplish our mission.*

MEMBERSHIP

- ☐ Renew your membership
- ☐ Become a Kinni Guardian by donating \$1,200 or more a year

MEMORIAL OR TRIBUTE

- ☐ Give a gift in memory of someone
- ☐ Give a gift in tribute for a special occasion for you or someone else

DONATE A GIFT OF:

- ☐ Stock
- ☐ Real Estate
- ☐ Conservation Easement
- ☐ Include KRLT in your will or estate plan
- ☐ IRA Qualified Charitable Distribution

VOLUNTEER

- ☐ Professional & Land Management Volunteers:
Do you have carpentry or work working skills? Interested in a Saturday outing to protect your favorite natural spaces? We are doing some extra work to get our preserves in tip top shape. Come join us. More information to come.
- ☐ Easement Monitoring:
October 13-26, 2019
Spend 1-4 hours visiting KRLT easement properties, evaluate their condition, and potentially explore a new beautiful place on the kinni. Reach out to marty@kinniriver.org to learn more.

Contact the KRLT office for information about any of the methods of giving • **Phone: 715-425-5738** • **Email: info@kinniriver.org**

Kinni River Land Trust New Members

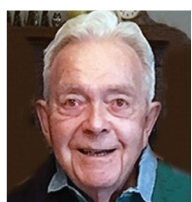
WELCOME NEW MEMBERS & NEW KINNI GUARDIANS!

- Anthony Misura
- Brian and Debbie Madson
- Carrie Green
- Charlene Brooks & Joe Simonson
- David and Mary Jo DeSmit
- David Rusterholz
- Elsa and Keegan Hartwick
- Ephraim Lasar
- Frank Linn
- Geoff Grcevich
- Harvey Halvorsen
- Joel Pieper
- John Davis III
- Jon Bents
- Kristin Wilson
- Leah Flygare
- Mark & Jean Ritzinger
- Owen Flygare
- Paul Mahler
- Roald Evensen & Pamela Thurow
- Sarah Abanor
- Sarah Davis
- Sarah Grcevich
- Steve Fanning
- Susan Flygare
- Thomas Peterson
- Tovah Flygare

KINNI GUARDIANS



Remembering Hugh Langevin



Langevin, Hugh L. Age 90, of Minneapolis passed away May 20, 2019. Born in Butte, MT, the only child of Signe and Hubert Langevin, Sr. Hugh

and his parents moved to Minneapolis while he was in grade school. He later graduated from Washburn High and the University of Minnesota with a degree in Economics. Hugh served his country with the United States Air Force, receiving his honorable discharge while working in air traffic control. While still in high school, Hugh returned to the mountain West for two consecutive summers to fight fires in Glacier National Park, all the while admiring the natural splendor surrounding him. With his dad, Hugh began fishing the mountain streams of Montana at age six, thus beginning a lifelong passion. He was an avid fisherman with a special interest in fly fishing. The originator of

the ballyhooed Langevin "Belly Cast," he was profiled in the August 1960 edition of Outdoor Life. He loved tying flies and building fly rods for himself and friends. In addition he was a founding member of Minnesota Fly Fishers where he used his patient ways to teach others the art of casting and fishing. What he loved most about fly fishing was the beautiful places it took him and the lifelong friendships it created. Hugh was a member of the Minneapolis Model Aero Club. Several times he earned a place on the national U.S. team, competing and garnering high honors in international competitions throughout Europe during the height of the Cold War. In 1972 he was the recipient of the free-flight model design of the year award from the National Free-Flight Society for his "Nordic Osprey". That Osprey soared on light thermals and could also weather heavy turbulence! He was a skilled wood worker and enjoyed designing and building cabinets. Hugh

was a long-time employee of Honeywell. He was also a life-long admirer of Lake Harriet, in his later years becoming an almost permanent fixture on a lakeside bench there, sun hat on and cane in hand. Gifted with a seemingly endless knowledge of just about everything, he was also equipped with a devilish grin, a handsome head of hair and a laugh that lit up a room. Importantly, Hugh never let an opportunity to tell those he loved just that. His gentle, kind spirit touched all around him daily, including the most casual of acquaintances. He will be missed immeasurably. Hugh is survived by ex-wife and abiding friend, Jo, his daughters Nan and Robin, sons-in-law Brad and Pete and grandchildren Max and Ellie. All of whom were deeply loved and a source of great pride to him. Hugh is also survived by countless beloved friends.

Published on May 26, 2019