

Mountain Times

The Friends of Rib Mountain State Park

4200 Park Road, Wausau, Wisconsin 54401

www.ribmountain.org

Vol. 7 Issue 2

Summer 2008

Concerts in the Clouds—2008

All shows begin at 6 PM in the amphitheater

The only charge is a park admission



Saturday, June 21—Peter Mulvey

2008 Wisconsin Area Music Industry Award for Best Solo Performer

The ninth season of this concert series kicks off with singer/songwriter/guitarist, Peter Mulvey, from Milwaukee, WI. He honed his skills on the streets of Dublin and in the subways of Boston. Peter defies the word “folk” and stamps acoustic/alternative music with his own edgy, funky style. Said The Irish Times: “Peter Mulvey is consistently the most original and dynamic of the US singer-songwriters to tour these shores... a phenomenal performer with huge energy, a quick fire quirky take on life, an extraordinary guitar style and lyrically rewarding material... a joy to see.” The Washington Post said, “The subtle power of his voice, a husky, hushed baritone... understated, at once sophisticated and intimate... as cover-worthy as Randy Newman, Elvis Costello and Dar Williams.” Rain location for this concert only is the Granite Peak Ski Chalet.

June is Dairy Month—Free ice cream courtesy of The Marathon County Farm Bureau



Saturday, July 19—The Wausau Symphony and Chamber Groups

Join us for “Americana in the Clouds” music by Gershwin, Berlin, Copland, and others as performed by the Wausau Symphony Orchestra and Chamber Groups. The Friends are pleased to help share in Wausau’s rich musical tradition that began with a small orchestra in 1898. The Wausau Symphony musicians come from all areas of Wausau and the surrounding communities—students, teachers, retirees, and professionals from all walks of life.



Saturday August 9—Loose Strings

Loose Strings, a six piece semi-acoustic string band based out of Stevens Point, returns after a rousing 2005 concert at Rib Mt. The group blends traditional acoustic bluegrass sounds with classic country, western swing, and modern country rock flavors. Highly influenced by the acoustic sound of Doc and Merle Watson...the goal of the group was to blend that acoustic sound with a variety of material performed by artists from over the past five decades. The band also performs its own original material as well.

The Friends of Rib Mountain wish to thank our sponsors for making these concerts possible:
Please be sure to thank these businesses for their generous support.

The Aspirus Network
Wausau Insurance Company/Liberty Mutual
Rib Mountain Cycles
Granite Peak Ski Area

Lodging for the performers is provided by:
The Best Western Midway Hotel
2901 Hummingbird Road

From the President

Hello – my name is Sheryl Hemp and I am the new president of the Friends of Rib Mountain. I look forward to this great opportunity to work with our board of directors and membership to continue our existing programming and to move forward with new projects.

I want to thank our outgoing president, Steve Engler, for his years of dedication and service to our group and to Rib Mountain! Thankfully, he intends to stay very involved in the projects and programming of our organization. We could not continue without his hard work and creativity. I also want to thank our newest sustaining members for the park - Greg Huber, Theresa and Scott Miles, Granite Peak, and Eco-Peak Construction. Their financial support is greatly appreciated.

I am excited about our summer concert series! Please take advantage of this wonderful opportunity – the view from our amphitheater, beautiful summer days, and great music.

Hope to see you on the Mountain!
Sheryl Hemp, President
wishemp@aol.com, 715-842-5421

Work Begins on the New Quarry Trail

The latest Friend's Stewardship project began on May 19 in the 257 acre former 3M quarry property that was added to the park in 2001. This area offers a wealth of scenic hiking and wildlife viewing opportunities. A new trail loop will link the existing CCC red trail to a series of old quarry roads creating almost three miles of new hiking opportunities for park visitors. UW-Stevens Point student-intern, Aaron Gajewski, will be leading the trail development. Fellow Recreation and Parks Association student, Amanda Mellon, and other park volunteers will also be spending time on the project this summer.

-Volunteer Help Wanted -

Any members who would like to assist Aaron can contact Bill Bursaw at the park for more information.

New Web Site is Up and Running

The latest information on the Friends of Rib Mountain can be found at our new and up-to-date web site,

www.ribmountain.org

After updating software and lots of time we are back in cyberspace. The new website will allow us to provide *current* information on the activities at the park.

UW-SP Schmeckle Nature Center Study Presentation Wednesday August 6

The staff of the Schmeckle Reserve at UW – Stevens Point will be presenting the proposed master plan for the Rib Mountain Nature Center at a special Friends meeting on August 6. This plan will be our guide in the development and planning of the new building. It will also serve as a key fund raising tool and a starting point for architectural plans. Anyone interested is welcome to attend. Please visit the Friends website in July or call the park for time and location of the presentation.

Raptors of Wisconsin Friday, June 28—6 PM

The amphitheater serves as the perfect backdrop to get up-close and personal with some of Wisconsin's largest birds including turkey vultures, owls, and hawks. Presented by the Raptor Education Group of Antigo.

Universe in the Park Saturday, September 27—8 PM

Don't miss the extremely popular outreach program of the Department of Astronomy at the University of Wisconsin - Madison. "UitP" is predicated on a very simple idea, that the best environment in which to introduce the general public to astronomy is outside under dark skies. For the past five years they have taken "UitP" to state parks throughout Wisconsin during the summer camping season, giving talks and slide shows, answering questions, and letting the general public view astronomical objects through one of the UitP telescopes.

Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteer opportunities available this summer include:

- Concession stand, manning, merchandising, and fix-up.
- Exotic species removal.
- Quarry trail construction.
- Shower building painting.
- Cutting and splitting firewood.
- Directing traffic and clean-up at the concerts.
- Assisting DNR staff in painting decks and the tower.

Please consider spending a little time at the park to help make our park a special place. To volunteer, please call Bill Bursaw at the park 842-2522, Sheryl Hemp 842-5421, or Steve Engler 298-7933.

Teacher's Study Guide Available

The second edition of the Rib Mountain Teacher's Study guide is available at the park for area teachers, youth group leaders, parents, or anyone who would like to learn more about the natural world found on Rib Mountain. The cost is \$5 for teachers and \$10 to the public.

We Need Your Membership

Please look at your mailing label to see your membership status. Many of you have taken advantage of our two-year renewal option and are paid for this year. If your label does not indicate that you are paid through 2008, please take a moment to renew your membership today. Your membership will help us to continue to support Rib Mountain State Park. If you're paid for the year, consider a donation to the Rib Mountain Fund.

Board of Directors

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