



Friends of Hidden Valley, Inc.

Post Office Box 442073

Lawrence, KS 66044 .

2023 – 2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Amanda Atkins, Jenny Gleason, Karen Lassman, Ken Lassman, Gwen Macpherson, Laurie Martin-Frydman, Patsy Moody, Cindy Riling, Gayle Sigurdson, Marcia West, and Lily Yu

Annual Report for 2022-2023

This past year has been a year of re-building: rebuilding from the effects of COVID on our volunteer and funding base, and re-building ourselves into a 100% volunteer facility as Hidden Valley no longer has a camp manager. In 2023, Friends of Hidden Valley, Inc. (FHV) has continued to do our best to support Hidden Valley camp's mission of supporting Girl Scout Programming and the FHV mission to provide support for the Hidden Valley Camp through gifts of time, money endowments and tangible items. We have also included our commitment to maintaining the property as environmentally accurate to the landscape that these 40 acres of green space were meant to be for generations of youth and others to learn and enjoy.

MONEY ENDOWMENTS AND TANGIBLE ITEMS

Our Fund Development Committee reorganized and made some assertive changes and grant applications. We changed our on-line donation portal to Zeffy, which is better described in the financial committee's report. **Three grant proposals have been written:**

Douglas County Cultural Heritage (which was not funded) and two other grants for funding from Kriz Charitable Foundation. One of these was turned down, two are pending, and more possibilities are being discussed. We also have an anonymous donor waiting to assist with these projects once we learn the outcome of our grant proposals. The funding committee wants to rebuild the Brookside Bridge and work on some environmental projects to augment our knowledge of flora and fauna at camp with inventories and wildlife cameras. The ultimate goal is to engage Girl Scouts and other youth and adults in this aspect of camp via an enhanced and more active website, and host an event at camp for Citizen Scientist for Girl Scouts working on Girl Scout Journeys.

GIFTS OF TIME

The Volunteer Committee has increased our commitment to upkeep at the camp in addition to our regular 3 Volunteer Days. This is described in detail in the Volunteer Committee Report.

COMMITMENT TO GIRL SCOUTS

The Recognition Committee continues to award Girl Scouts and Troops as well as our many valuable volunteers.

COMMUNITY AWARENESS

We have participated in events in town to bring awareness to Hidden Valley such as Earth Day, talks at local organizations and our newsletters which continue to get rave reviews from our membership.

Without the continued dedication of volunteers and donations, this green space could not be maintained. We are eternally grateful for everyone's contribution.

— **Cindy Riling, Chairperson**

Secretary

Laurie Martin-Frydman, Secretary

Minutes for the following Board meetings were transcribed, distributed to Board members and filed in FHV Google docs drive – September 22, 2022, October 10, 2022, January 19, 2023, February 16, 2023, March 23, 2023, April 20, 2023, May 18, 2023, June 15, 2023, July 20, 2023, August 17, 2023. No meeting was held in November or December of 2022.

FHV Volunteer Committee Report for 2022-2023

Submitted by Gwen Macpherson, Chair, Volunteer Committee

Chairperson: Gwen Macpherson.

Members: Cindy Riling, Marcia West, Paula Wunder, Karen Lassman, Ken Lassman, Durand Reiber, Laurie Martin-Frydman, Amanda Atkins.

Volunteer Day Coordinators: September 10, 2022, Cindy Riling; November 12, 2022, Cindy Riling and Gwen Macpherson; April 23, 2023, Karen Lassman

Bluebird Monitoring: Jill Baringer

Honeysuckle Warrior Coordinator: Durand Reiber

Valley Gardeners Coordinator: Durand Reiber

Hiking Patrol Coordinator: Jill Giele

Assistance with Hiker Registrations: Nancy Jorn, Cris Bandle, online registrations

OVERVIEW

The Volunteer Committee organizes three official workdays/volunteer days (September, November, April) and reports on camp use by the Hiking Patrol (through Jill Giele), other camp walkers through the onsite and online registration (assisted by Nancy Jorn and Cris Bandle), Honeysuckle Warrior efforts (coordinated by Durand Reiber), Valley Gardeners (coordinated by Durand Reiber), and bluebird monitoring (by Jill Baringer). Like other Board members, we also assist with Trails Day in June as needed.

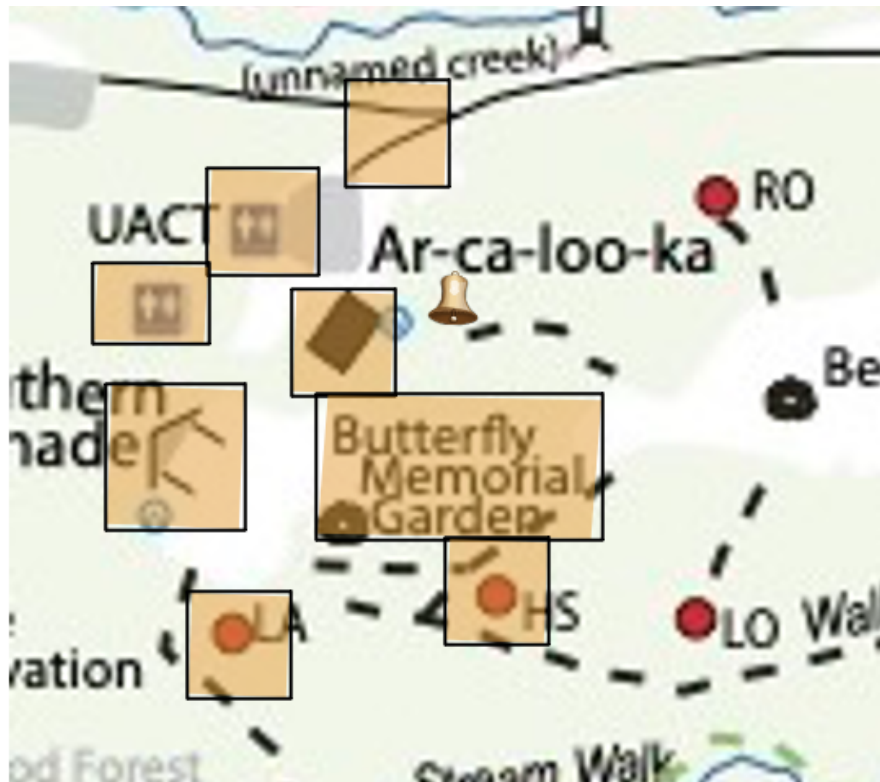
Below are maps of Hidden Valley showing the areas where work was done during the three Volunteer Days. As originally conceived by former camp manager Durand Reiber, the September workday focuses on the east-central part of the camp (cabin and surroundings), the November workday on the west-central part of the camp (Mary's Meadow and surroundings, and the April workday on the east side of the camp (entrance and Flagpole Hill vicinity).

Besides the project leaders, Scouts, other volunteer workers, and LHVC and FHV board members, we are also very grateful to the volunteers who provided first aid for the Volunteer Days (Mary Beth Petr and Margaret Townsend), and to the many who helped with refreshments.

VOLUNTEER DAYS

September 12, 2022

Orange-brown boxes show areas worked.



Volunteer Day Coordinator: Cindy Riling

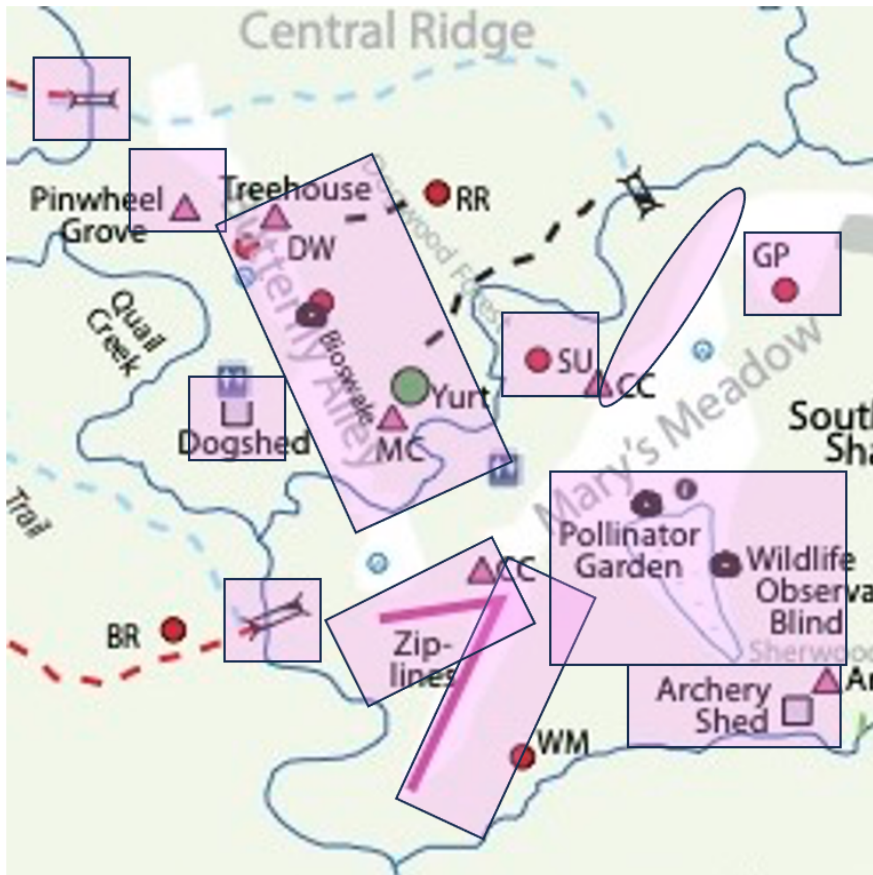
For the September Volunteer Day, we had 58 volunteers doing a splendid job working in the “middle” of the camp. They comprised 3 Girls Scout Troops with 17 girls and 8 adults; 5 FHV Board members (including one new Board member); 8 members of Friends; 1 LHVC Board member who also brought her troop; 3 KU students and 3 local high school students earning service hours for National Honor Society, one with a parent; and 13 parents and students from Morning Star School.

Tasks accomplished included cleaning the cabin including the solar panels, weed-whacking foxtail along the road and parking lot where mowers cannot go, removing a wasp nest from the bell tower (!), Friends Memorial Garden and East Garden maintenance and tree mulching, weeding and sweeping the brick patio, cleaning the 3-hole latrine and UACT (Universally Accessible Composting Toilet) including the solar panel, sweeping Southern Shade and trimming back encroaching branches and brush

in the front and back yards of Arcalooka, sanding and staining the Leopold bench in Southern Shade, and restocking several woodpiles.

November 12, 2022

Pink boxes show areas worked.



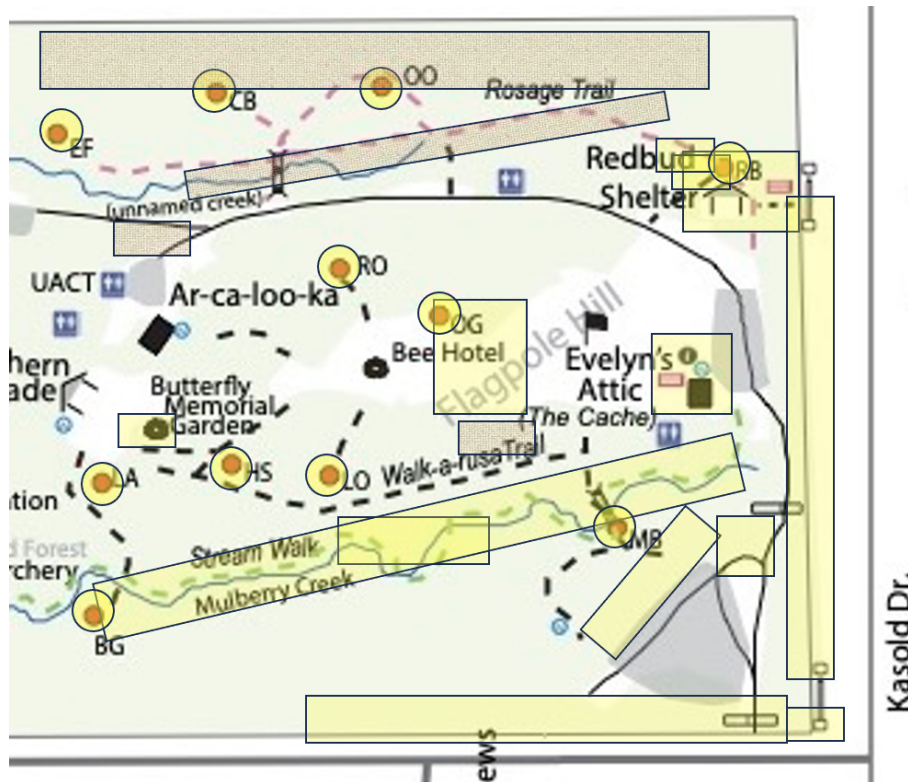
Volunteer Day Co-ordinators: Cindy Riling, Gwen Macpherson with Durand Reiber

This Volunteer Day was the largest, in terms of volunteers, and the coldest! There were 232 volunteers who accomplished a lot. The volunteers included 16 Girl Scouts with 11 registered adults, MANY volunteers from the Tri Delta sorority as well as other KU students, students from Lawrence High School Thespian Club and other high school students from both Free State and Lawrence High. Those groups totaled 188. There were 8 FHV Board Members, 2 LHVC Board Members and 7 FHV members attending. The areas addressed were Mary's Meadow, Zipline, Windmill, Wetland Pond, Sherwood Forest/archery range, Pollinator Garden, Dogwood Forest, the bridge at

Brookside, Yurt, and the natural areas in Dogwood Forest. Tasks completed include collecting and burning brush, sapling maintenance, garden maintenance (pollinator garden and bioswale), wetland and wetland kiosk maintenance, Wildlife Observation Blind renovation, bluebird box maintenance, fire ring renovation and maintenance, sanding Leopold benches (too cold to stain), marking the tools in the Dogshed with green tape for easier sorting from Evelyn Attic tools, trimming encroaching brush and tree branches, and sanitizing bluebird boxes.

April 23, 2023

Yellow boxes show areas worked; brown patterned boxes are areas where saplings were planted; yellow circles identify unit sites tended.



Volunteer Day Coordinator: Karen Lassman

There were 90 volunteers at the beautiful spring day that was the April Volunteer Day. These volunteers included Girl Scouts (26), adults accompanying GS troops (8), KU student volunteers (14), project leaders and project organizers (14), and community volunteers (28).

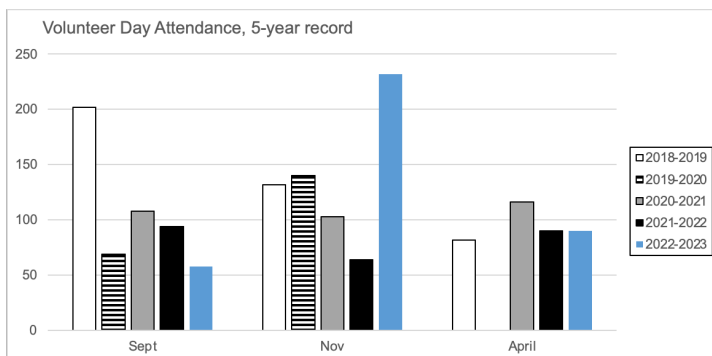
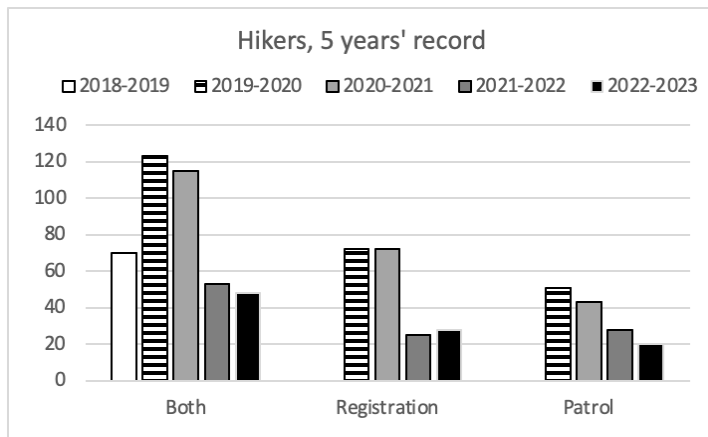
Tasks included cleaning Evelyn's Attic, cleaning the kiosk, tending gardens at Evelyn's Attic and the Sidewalk Gardens at Redbud Shelter, tending trails and especially clearing

the overgrown and neglected Stream Walk, renovating 11 fire rings (MB, RO, OG, MB, OO, CB, EF, LO, HS, LA, BG) and moving cut firewood, planting about 65 saplings, tending previously planted saplings, repairing footbridge near Redbud, removing unwanted growth along fence lines, picking up trash along fence lines and in creeks, removing sticks in mowed areas, and thoroughly cleaning Redbud Shelter.

CAMP USE

Below are graphs comparing this year's camp-use numbers to the past five years, with hikers tallied in the first graph and workday attendance in the one below. We are grateful for all the volunteers and hikers who help keep the camp in top shape! Remember that the April 2020 workday was cancelled because of the first COVID outbreak, and there was no differentiation between spontaneous hikers (using on-site registration) and hiking patrol. We had a record number of volunteers for the November 2022 Volunteer Day, and we had respectable numbers for September 2022 and April 2023.

We are so grateful for all the help in keeping the Camp in top shape! Forty acres is a big area to maintain, and each of our volunteers who observe and report or volunteer their time and skills in the endless maintenance work are shining stars!!



A difference this year (2022-2023) is that the Morningsong Forest School held K-9 school at the camp from September – May, at the same times the USD-497 schools met. So, the camp had a pretty high occupancy Monday-Friday, morning to early afternoon, for most of the year. I hope the school has not discouraged hikers from walking, but I am sure the students there are greatly benefiting from using the Camp.

Special Reports from the Volunteer Committee

Bluebird Report

Jill Baringer, 16 July 2023

We had two successful nests built in two boxes at Hidden Valley this summer. The one on Flagpole Hill fledged 4 little bluebirds while the box in the middle of Mary's Meadow fledged 3 little ones. The experienced pair of adults has built a new nest in the Flagpole Hill location and over the past week the female has laid 5 white eggs, just like she did earlier in the season. One of the eggs in the first batch didn't hatch, likely sterile. I am betting this pair of birds are the same pair that attempted and succeeded with two batches of chicks last summer, as they remember success and will remain loyal to that location. I will repost how they fare in a few weeks.

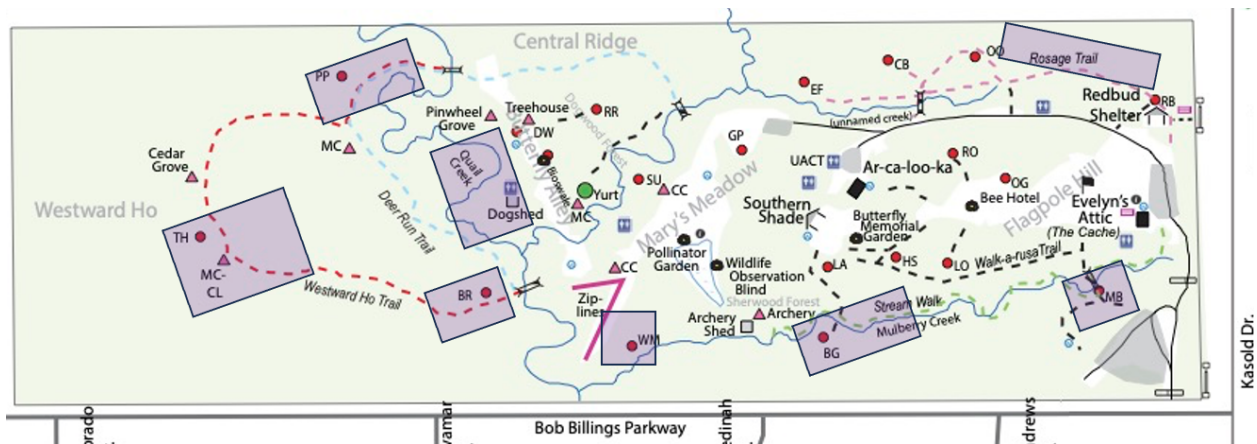
Honeysuckle Warriors and Valley Gardeners

Durand Reiber, extract of 6 July 2023 report (complete report is on the FHV Google Drive)

HONEYSUCKLE WARRIORS: We were very fortunate this year with new volunteers joining the fun. In all, 14 individuals, including the coordinator, (up from nine last year), contributed nearly 240 hours of hard physical labor during a total of 11 events. This represents 80 "people" days of site use by volunteers. There were seven long-term volunteers and a few new ones that came regularly, and seven others came occasionally. All are appreciated!!

One volunteer, Mike Huslig, in addition to working 20 hours at the Honeysuckle Warrior events, worked an additional 129.5 hours ridding Hidden Valley of invasive species including garlic mustard and mullein, as well as honeysuckle.

Below is a map showing the areas worked by the Honeysuckle Warriors in 2023 (lavender boxes):

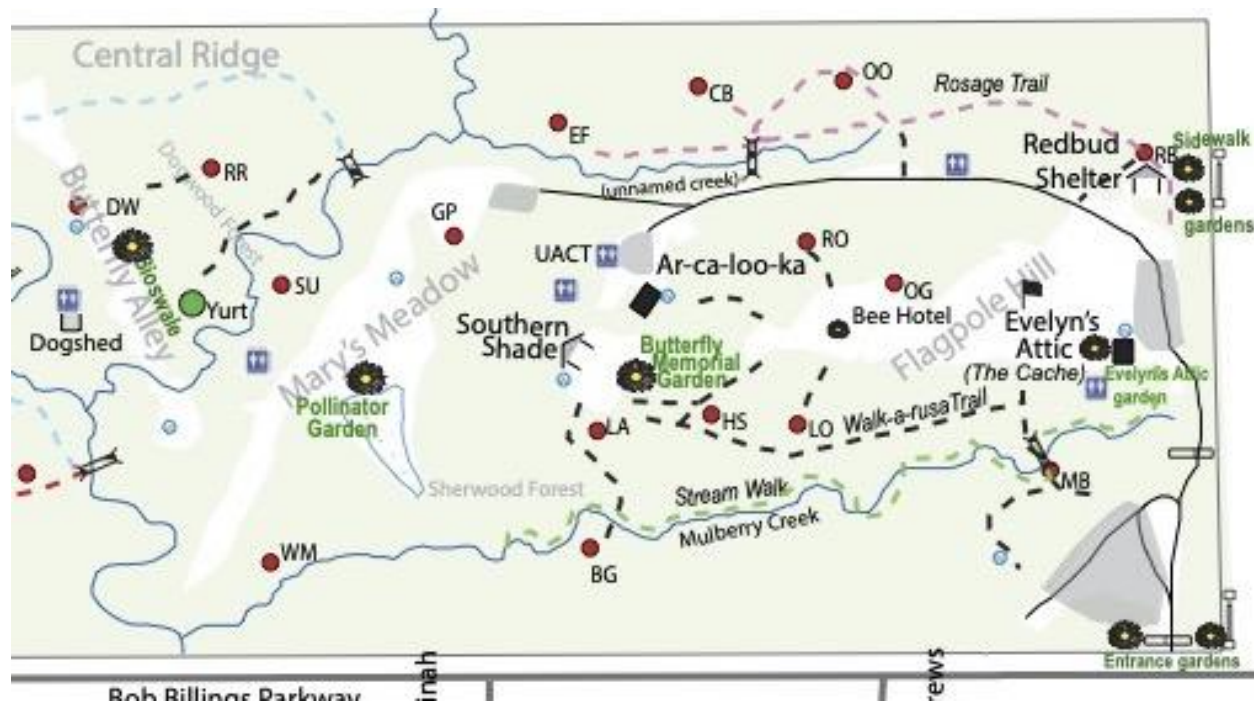


VALLEY GARDENERS: The Valley Gardeners is a new volunteer group that began this summer to address maintenance and improvements of the various gardens of Hidden Valley. Although many of our native pollinator gardens are intended to be fairly wild and do not require the attention of a regular home garden, they do need yearly maintenance to remove the more aggressive and/or invasive or weeds and woody plants that can easily take over the desired pollinator plants.

Coordination of these events began later in the season than desired due to the coordinator needing to address family concerns. Only two events were scheduled prior to the onset of soaring heat. Two volunteers met on June 6th and three on June 8th to work on the pollinator gardens in the berm surrounding the wetland. They did extensive weeding followed by the laying of cardboard and newspaper in the cleared areas, which were then covered with seasoned hay for mulch. This process allows us to suppress the weeds for a season as we catch up to more routine maintenance.

Below is a map showing the gardens at HVC. Garden names are in green; gardens are designated by a daisy-like flower. (The Butterfly Memorial Garden marker includes the garden on the southeast side of the cabin and the Madison Smith Memorial at the northwest corner of the cabin). The gardens are tended by the Valley Gardeners and also at the Volunteer Days, people-power and time permitting, as follows:

- Valley Gardeners: Primarily the Butterfly Memorial Garden, Pollinator Garden, and Bioswale
- April Volunteer Day: Entry gardens, Evelyn's Attic garden, Redbud Sidewalk gardens, Butterfly Memorial Garden
- September Volunteer Day: Butterfly Memorial Garden
- November Volunteer Day: Pollinator Garden and Bioswale



2022-2023 Non-Girl Scout And FHV Volunteer Service Events That Occurred

Veritas Christian School, "Day of Service" to the Lawrence community. Tuesday, October 11, 2022; 43 junior high students, 7 adults, ~ 1:00 to shortly before 3:00. (Gwen Macpherson, Durand Reiber, coordinators)

Delta Epsilon Mu Fraternity (Pre-health, co-ed fraternity) volunteer work. Saturday, Oct. 1, 2022, from 10 am to noon. Stain fascia boards at Redbud Shelter. Cindy Riling, Gwen Macpherson—3 volunteers besides coordinators. (*Initial contact was Ann Marie Bonella.*)

Patsy Moody and Gwen Macpherson, Friday, Oct. 21, 2022, noon to 4 pm. Sand and stain, Redbud Shelter fascia boards and fence.

Aspire, a student organization at the University of Kansas, 3/27/2023: RHVC: Sean Thamrin, the philanthropy chair for Aspire, a student organization at the University of Kansas. I am currently looking for group volunteer opportunities for my organization and was wondering if I could schedule a volunteer opportunity for 6 people sometime in April. (We responded about April Volunteer Day—I am pretty sure they attended.)

Karen Lassman, Ken Lassman, Cindy Riling, Amanda Atkins and Dana McCoy, Gayle Sigurdson, Gwen Macpherson, Sunday, May 28, 2023, 1 pm. Planting the leftover saplings.

Non-Girl Scout And FHV Volunteer Service Events That Did Not Occur

(We were contacted and responded, but either got no response or dates were cancelled or did not work for the group)

Lawrence College & Career Center, 12/6/2022: A group from Lawrence College & Career Center, contact is Sarah Mahoney (an alternative and vocational high school) wants to do volunteer work to fulfill a service requirement, but before the end of their semester. Initial contact was to Kyra by Xavier Powers. (2-4 teenagers).

Boys and Girls Club of Lawrence, KS, 2/27/2023: Hi, I am the Director of Teen Services at the Boys and Girls Club of Lawrence, KS and I am reaching out to see if there are any volunteer opportunities that our teens could be involved with this summer in your organization. We have an 8 week summer program and I would like for them to get out at least once a week to volunteer in the community beginning the week of June 5 and ending the week of July 28. Is there something we could arrange? *Gwen responded; received no reply.*

Douglas County Youth Service Coalition. Hannah Davis. We have about 5 active members. Occasionally we'll get closer to 10 so between that. I would likely be the only adult with them - they're all high school students. Plan for 4/15 (weather permitting) and have 5/13 on backup if 4/15 doesn't work (weather permitting)! Hannah Davis (she/her/hers) or (they/them/theirs). 4/15/23, 2 pm: *cancelled because of lack of people. Also cancelled on 5/13/23 (weather).* (I called this "May 13, 2023, 10 am: Impromptu Service Opp" on my calendar.)

KU Big Event, 4/15/23: KU Big Event, 10 am. Cancelled—not enough KU students.

Recognition Report for 2022-2023

Submitted by Marcia West, Chair, Recognition Committee

Chairperson: Marcia West

Members: Karen Lassman, Gwen Macpherson, Mary Murphy, Cindy Riling

April is an exciting time for the Friends of Hidden Valley Recognitions Committee because annually we receive Troop Rewards and Mariana Remple Recognitions applications. This year did not disappoint. We received four applications: three Troop Rewards, and one Mariana Remple Recognitions Award.

Troop Rewards

Daisy Troop 3570, leaders Colleen Stock/Erin Rectenwald. They picked up logs and sticks on Flagpole Hill that could get caught in the mower and cleaned up O-gi-na-li campsite.

Brownie/Junior Troop 2271, leader Jessica Hensley. They pulled weeds at the camp, cleaned cabinets and drawers in the kitchen, cleaned the creek bed on the north side, and donated seven folding tables to the camp.

Junior Troop 4285, leader Sherri Whightsill. They worked on the Boardwalk and sanding older Leopold benches. In Summer of 2022, the troop completed their Bronze Award by making six Leopold Benches for the camp.

The Mariana Remple Award

Cadette Nora Greeson from Troop 1114 received the Mariana Remple Award. Her one-page essay “Why I Love Hidden Valley” keeps reminding us how important the experiences of the Hidden Valley camp are for Girl Scouts. Greeson writes that it’s easy to make friends at the camp. She always feels included and leaves happy. There are so many fun things to do, such as overnight camping, zip line, and hiking. Day camp is her favorite — doing challenges and singing songs — and she looked forward to being a Day Camp aide this Summer. She used the award money for a trip to New York City and Washington D.C.

National Volunteer Week in April

We appreciate the many volunteers whose hard work and dedication to Hidden Valley make it the great place that it is. Volunteers who went above and beyond include:

- **The crew of 11 (or so)** who manage the burn off of Flagpole Hill.
- **Jill Giele and Nancy Jorn**, who receive a big thanks each year for coordinating the hiking patrol.
- **Durand Reiber and the Honeysuckle Warriors** for record work turnouts the entire winter.
- **GSKSMO SU716 scout troops, KU student volunteers, and high school volunteers** for hard work at camp.
- **Rod Hoffer and Kristen Suter**, for their diligence and patience while posting information for our website to webmaster Cris Bandle.
- **Karen Lassman, Gwen Macpherson, and Cindy Riling**, Volunteer Day Coordinators from April to November
- **The Board Members of the Lawrence Hidden Valley Committee (LHVC) and Friends of Hidden Valley (FHV).**

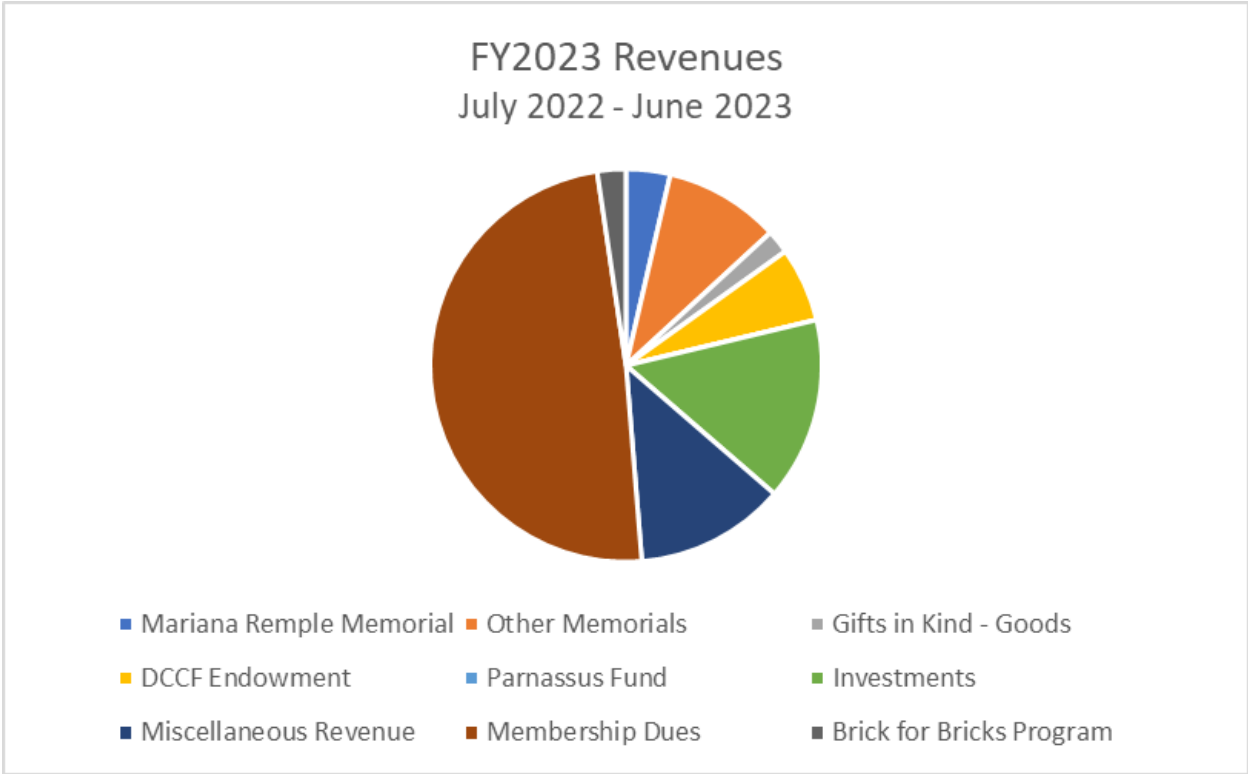
These volunteers have been helping to keep Hidden Valley the beautifully memorable place it is. (See all these reports on our FHV website.)

*Thanks again
to all our volunteers!*

*Hidden Valley Camp remains a safe, educational,
inspiring, and lovely place because of you!*

Financial Report for 2022-2023

– Chairpersons: Lily Yu, Patsy Moody



Revenues

Mariana Remple Memorial	770.00	3.64%
Other Memorials	2,020.00	9.54%
Gifts in Kind - Goods	411.80	1.94%
DCCF Endowment	1,300.00	6.14%
Parnassus Fund	0.00	0.00%
Investments	3,190.99	15.07%
Miscellaneous Revenue	2,623.07	12.39%
Membership Dues	10,361.00	48.93%
Brick for Bricks Program	500.00	2.36%
Total FY2023 Revenues	<u>21,176.86</u>	

9:57 PM
08/13/23
Accrual Basis

**Friends of Hidden Valley
Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual
July 2022 through June 2023**

					TOTAL		
	Mar 23	Apr 23	May 23	Jun 23	Jul '22 - Jun 23	Budget	\$ Over Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense							
Income							
43400 · Direct Public Support							
43420 · Mariana Remple Memorial	0.00	160.00	0.00	0.00	770.00	150.00	620.00
43425 · Other Memorials	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	0.00	2,020.00	200.00	1,820.00
43440 · Gifts in Kind - Goods	0.00	0.00	0.00	51.40	411.80	100.00	311.80
43470 · Friends HV DCCF Endowment	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,300.00	1,500.00	-200.00
43475 · Parnassus Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	150.00	-150.00
Total 43400 · Direct Public Support	0.00	160.00	1,000.00	51.40	4,501.80	2,100.00	2,401.80
45000 · Investments							
45020 · Dividend, Interest (Securities)	556.10	0.00	0.00	901.10	3,189.46	3,800.00	-610.54
45030 · Interest-Savings, Short-term CD	0.08	0.10	0.16	0.51	1.53		
Total 45000 · Investments	556.18	0.10	0.16	901.61	3,190.99	3,800.00	-609.01
46400 · Other Types of Income							
46430 · Miscellaneous Revenue	0.00	50.00	180.46	10.00	2,623.07	15,700.00	-13,076.93
Total 46400 · Other Types of Income	0.00	50.00	180.46	10.00	2,623.07	15,700.00	-13,076.93
47200 · Program Income							
47230 · Membership Dues	0.00	1,464.00	475.00	1,460.00	10,361.00	12,900.00	-2,539.00
47250 · Brick for Bricks Program	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	500.00	400.00	100.00
Total 47200 · Program Income	0.00	1,464.00	475.00	1,560.00	10,861.00	13,300.00	-2,439.00
Total Income	556.18	1,674.10	1,655.62	2,523.01	21,176.86	34,900.00	-13,723.14
Gross Profit	556.18	1,674.10	1,655.62	2,523.01	21,176.86	34,900.00	-13,723.14
Expense							
62100 · Contract Services							
62110 · Accounting Fees	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	40.00	600.00	-560.00
Total 62100 · Contract Services	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	40.00	600.00	-560.00
63000 · Investment Fees	357.46	0.00	0.00	361.22	1,400.94	1,385.00	15.94
65000 · Operations							
65005 · Membership	0.00	63.00	0.00	11.90	560.89	550.00	10.89
65010 · Newsletter	0.00	126.00	0.00	0.00	562.97	600.00	-37.03
65030 · Annual Meeting	0.00	0.00	0.00	70.00	761.43	600.00	161.43
65040 · Camp Expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00	51.40	207.36	18,000.00	-17,792.64
65050 · Administration	0.00	0.00	0.00	853.98	1,400.62	500.00	900.62
65060 · Volunteer	0.00	0.00	177.96	0.00	822.67	675.00	147.67
65070 · Public Relations	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	178.01	250.00	-71.99
65090 · Fundraising	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	-100.00
65095 · Recognitions & Awards	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	234.93	325.00	-90.07
Total 65000 · Operations	0.00	189.00	177.96	987.28	4,728.88	21,600.00	-16,871.12
65100 · Other Types of Expenses							
65110 · M. Remple Recognitions Awards	0.00	150.00	0.00	0.00	150.00	300.00	-150.00
65115 · Troop Rewards Distributions	0.00	225.00	0.00	0.00	225.00	450.00	-225.00
Total 65100 · Other Types of Expenses	0.00	375.00	0.00	0.00	375.00	750.00	-375.00
70700 · Vegetation Renewal Project	0.00	181.43	0.00	0.00	2,970.05		
70710 · Vegetation Renewal Project 2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,000.00	-5,000.00
70800 · Brick for Bricks Project	0.00	71.16	0.00	98.53	241.15	200.00	41.15
Total Expense	357.46	816.59	177.96	1,447.03	9,756.02	29,535.00	-19,778.98
Net Ordinary Income	198.72	857.51	1,477.66	1,075.98	11,420.84	5,365.00	6,055.84
Other Income/Expense							
Other Income							
70600 · Unrealized Gains and Losses	6,529.64	0.00	0.00	4,288.74	10,569.32		
70650 · Realized Gains and Losses	296.04	0.00	0.00	66.99	2,716.43		
Total Other Income	6,825.68	0.00	0.00	4,355.73	13,285.75		
Net Other Income	6,825.68	0.00	0.00	4,355.73	13,285.75		
Net Income	7,024.40	857.51	1,477.66	5,431.71	24,706.59	5,365.00	19,341.59

Friends of Hidden Valley
Statement of Financial Position
As of June 30, 2023

	Jun 30, 23
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
DCCF- Endowment	148,732.91
US Bank- Checking	34,283.43
US Bank- Savings	11,067.19
10180 · Parnassus Fund	17,307.85
Total Checking/Savings	211,391.38
Total Current Assets	211,391.38
TOTAL ASSETS	211,391.38
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Equity	
31000 · Restricted Endowed Funds	36,856.94
32000 · Unrestricted Net Assets	62,490.22
32100 · Unrestricted Endowed Funds	87,337.63
Net Income	24,706.59
Total Equity	211,391.38
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	211,391.38

Fundraising Committee Report for 2022-2023

Chairperson: Lily Yu, Chairperson

**Members: Jill Giele, Gwen Macpherson, Jenny Gleason, Gayle Sigurdson,
Patsy Moody, Cindy Riling**

The fundraising committee re-organized this spring. Key highlights:
The committee will be meeting periodically this next fiscal year to set goals for the next 18-24 months. Goals will encompass a two-fold vision:

- Grant funding opportunities for specific projects to support the Hidden Valley Campsite and the goals set forth by the FHV incorporation vision.
- On-going funding opportunities or programs that would support on-going Friends of Hidden Valley activities within the vision set forth by FHV organization incorporation.

A committee member is gathering a resource list of grant funding possibilities. The hope is that grant opportunities will support several campsite projects under guidance of the Hidden Valley Committee. Some of these projects include Brookside Bridge repair, solar panels, trail-cameras, and funds to enhance our website to show the results from the trail-cams. The goal is to reach Girls Scouts in the environment of the 2020's, improving our use of the internet, etc. The process has begun and has already included possibilities such as Kriz Foundation and the Evergy Green Team.

OTHER NEWS:

AmazonSmile has generated \$650-\$950 each year for the past several years. This program was discontinued in March 2023. The fundraising committee will be exploring other possibilities including re-evaluating the cost of bricks for the Bricks-to-Bricks program.

We switched to a new on-line donation program which was installed in early summer. Our decision to transition from Just Giving to Zeffy, the new program, has saved us money we formerly spent in transaction fees for our valued members' donations.

Membership/Public Relations Committee Report for 2022-2023

Chairperson: Gayle Sigurdson

Members: Cindy Riling, Durand Reiber, Lily Yu, Amanda Atkins

Members continue to be the primary source of support for Friends of Hidden Valley. Their contributions of time, talent and funds provide the base of support needed for growth. There were 109 active members for the 2023 membership year, representing 146 individuals and including 16 Lifetime members.

There were three membership solicitation mailings, completed in November, February and June. The database of members continues to be updated at the conclusion of each membership year. Increased use of digital communication will continue to reduce expenses of traditional mailing.

Friends of Hidden Valley was pleased to join other environmental groups for the Earth Day celebration in South Park on April 22. Trails Day on June 3 welcomed the public and scout families to camp. We published three issues of the newsletter. Speakers and tours are available for community groups who want to learn more about Friends of Hidden Valley.