



## Lawrence Hidden Valley Camp Annual Report 2018-2019

### Chair's Statement

Written by Ann Marie Boncella, LHVC, Inc. Chair

The mission of the Lawrence Hidden Valley Committee, Inc. (LHVC) is to use its assets and annual income from the Alfred H. Bromelsick Trust to promote and provide supplemental support to the Girl Scout movement in Douglas County. All registered adult Girl Scouts living in Douglas County are members of the Committee. The business of the corporation is managed by a twelve-member, duly elected Board of Directors. The major asset of the LHVC Inc. is Hidden Valley Camp, a 40-acre camp located at 3420 Bob Billings Parkway, Lawrence, KS, 66049. The Committee works closely with the Friends of Hidden Valley, Inc. (FHV) to preserve and enhance the physical property. Among the many outdoor activities available at the camp are hikes, cookouts, campouts, structured stream walks, pond life observation as well as organized Girl Scout events. We have two enclosed structures: a propane heated cabin and a 30-foot diameter yurt. We also have a large storage building off of the main upper parking lot named "Evelyn's Attic," a storage shed known as the "Dogshed" down by Dogwood Forest, and the "Sherwood Shed" by the archery range in Sherwood Forest.

There were many activities this year at the camp. Not only were there two very successful week-long sessions of Day Camp, but multiple work days to maintain the camp. This year we replaced the high zip line and purchased new equipment including full-body harnesses for facilitators and participants.

Another major project begun this year with the planning and funding of the fireplace to be assembled in Southern Shade shelter.

We continue our good relationship with the Friends of Hidden Valley board and the members of Presbyterian Manor. Thanks to the Board Officers and individual Committee Chairs who wrote the included reports and served Hidden Valley so well. Of vital importance to Hidden Valley is our sole employee, Camp Manager, Durand Reiber. Durand's vision, environmental knowledge and commitment to the camp have enabled Douglas County Girl Scouts to continually value our treasured wilderness and learn and play in a natural environment. We strive to maintain a strong, ongoing working relationship with our council, Girl Scouts of Northeast Kansas and Northwest Missouri, Inc.

We welcome and encourage all Douglas County Scouts to use and take an active role at Hidden Valley Camp. The Board meets on the second Monday of most months at 7:00 PM

### A Year in Review...

Site Committee report written by Jeff Bandle, Committee Chair

Purpose: The primary function of the Site Committee is to ensure the maintenance and development of the camp as an urban wilderness area for local Girl Scouts to have a variety of outdoor experiences while learning to appreciate and care for the natural environment. Maintenance and development with native plants and wildlife in mind has been a central theme since the camp began in 1956, and we strive to achieve a balance between human and wildlife needs. The committee also handles reservations and equipment checkout, sets policy concerning usage, and oversees the Camp Manager.

The Camp Manager, Durand Reiber, is the sole part time employee, and deals with the day-day needs of the camp, including: coordination of service events with GS, KU students and other volunteers; coordination with directors of large events; workday planning; meeting/oversight with contractors for mowing, tree trimming, road, major repairs, and building projects; regular inspections, upkeep, cleanup, and minor repair of buildings and grounds, including poison ivy and weed control and maintenance of unit sites, trails, wetlands, prairie, woods and streams.

Due to extreme weather this past year, including bitter cold, more snow than usual, and intense rain and wind storms, service projects were cancelled, and many projects have been delayed. We have experienced major damage to our

roads, streams and bridges, and trees, as well as more mowing due to increased growth. This has caused us to expend more money, and to begin looking into ways to mitigate the impacts of climate change on our own little 40 acres.

At a December retreat of both boards, the Site Committee decided to meet more frequently (4 times per year) to increase communication and involvement of the whole Site Committee. This has proven beneficial, resulting in more team work and involvement by all. The May 22 meeting consisted of a whole camp site inspection, with discussions of needed repairs, issues and concerns, goals and brain-storming of new ideas. A list of potential award projects for Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts were identified.

A major project this year was the planning and initiation of a long term goal of building a large fireplace and grill at Southern Shade Shelter. A planning committee met several times to determine the scope of the project. Jackson Clark, a retired architect has provided excellent voluntary assistance in moving the project forward and obtaining the necessary permits. He suggested the use of a contractor to oversee the project, and brought in another architect, Mike Myers, of Hernley Associates, who donated time to draw up architectural plans and will document the project. Mar-Lan is the contractor, and Bob Sweeney is the stone mason. Once bids were obtained, FHV applied for a \$40,000 grant from the Kriz Charitable Foundation, which was granted. These funds join \$10,000 from FHV and nearly \$2,000 from the Brick 4 Bricks fundraiser, giving us up to \$52,000 for the entire project. Besides the stone fireplace, plans include a new roof that will extend over the fireplace addition. If remaining funds are available, we will also install a new water line source to service the shelter, along with a dry sink, food and serving counter, and new seating. The project commenced in July, and is expected to wrap up in November.

Another major project was the replacement of the large Mary's Meadow Bridge. The support of this important bridge were deteriorating, making the bridge unsafe, so the bridge was dismantled during the November 2018 workday. Wolf's Landscaping was contracted to build the bridge, with donated lumber from the Green Team of Westar Energy (milled lumber from salvaged utility poles). Funding of the bridge is from a foundation managed by Jeff and Mary Weinberg of Lawrence. Unfortunately, due to the unusually high amount of precipitation all winter, spring, and summer, this bridge has still not been built. A totally dried out stream bank must be present in order to properly install the support posts. We are hopeful the bridge can be built this fall.

Major repairs were made to the Yurt by Dan Klinknett. After removing the lower portion of the covering, they replaced the rotten bender board with a flexible vinyl board, covered all rotting under flooring with sheet metal, and re-stretched the covering while screwing it back in place.

The roads and lots took a beating this winter with all the snow, rain and freezing/melting weather, and were in need of new gravel, an unanticipated cost. Lakeview Excavating delivered and spread the gravel in the neediest places on March 21. Unfortunately, much of this gravel was lost during heavy rainfall later in the summer, and huge ruts developed as well. This condition remains, as we ponder ways to divert the runoff and better accommodate our users.

An important partner is the Friends of Hidden Valley, Inc., (FHV) a separate non-profit whose mission is to support the camp via donations of time, funds and by spreading public awareness (see attached FHV report). Friends-sponsored work days occurred September 16, November 11, and April 27. There is no longer a trail maintenance workday in June, as FHV will concentrate on Hidden Valley Trails Day, a PR event open to the public. Trail maintenance can be performed at other workdays or by GS troops on their own. The workdays were highly successful this year. September, which includes monarch butterfly tagging, brought in a record 202 volunteers for that day. Routine projects, such as mulching, weeding, stocking woodpiles, cleaning fire rings, painting, stream cleanup, seed collection and dispersal, plantings, thorough cabin and outbuilding cleaning, as well as special projects are accomplished. These workdays are vital in assisting the manager in making sure this is a well maintained camp. Volunteers include Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, members of Friends and the public and local school and KU students.

Five Girl Scout troops also conducted service projects on their own throughout the year, with a variety of tasks. Of special note, Kristy Teska's Senior troop worked with Rod Hoffer to make six Leopold benches, which are now scattered around the camp. It was a dad/daughter project. Rod provided the rough wood, design of the benches, and transportation to the camp. Additionally, six groups (primarily Jr/High school and KU students), conducted other service events at the camp, totaling 100 hours of service. All total, Hidden Valley Camp was the recipient of over 1,400 hours of service from Friends, Girl Scouts, and the community!

The invasive honeysuckle battle continued this year with weekly cut, haul and burn events by the all volunteer crew of Honeysuckle Warriors throughout winter. The November mist blowing, which kills off new growth that follows removal, was unable to occur this year. Durand attended a seminar about how to make and use biochar, (the charcoal remains of burning woody mass), and determined that making biochar from the burning of honeysuckle could have many uses around the camp. A biochar team (Durand, Gwen Macpherson, Margaret Townsend, Ken Lassman and Melinda Black) was formed and a grant proposal submitted to the Great Plains Biochar Initiative of the KS and NE Forest Services, which seeks to encourage the production and marketing of biochar as a way to deal with undesirable woody mass. We were awarded the \$5,000 grant, with \$5,000 matching funds from FHV, and implemented several experiments around the camp, including using biochar in the mucky trails, in plantings to improve soil fertility, for erosion control, and for stream pollutant filtering. Day Campers liked the biochar in the trails, so we will definitely continue that process. Stream sampling has indicated that our streams are relatively clean and safe for creeking, although users should always wash their hands afterwards. Funds were also available to hire a tree company to remove large areas of mature honeysuckle. As part of the grant, the team conducted a burning demonstration on April 5<sup>th</sup> for the public, and continued its public awareness initiative at Trails Day and workdays.

Ignoring the obvious fact that vehicles are not allowed into the meadow without approval, an unidentified individual drove their truck over the small rock barrier wall into the wet meadow, creating deep ruts. We would like to emphasize that our many rules are there for a reason.

Every late winter, the prairie of Flag Pole Hill is either burned or mowed. This year, while mowing the prairie in March, their mower caught fire from the dead grass buildup in the engine area. The fire department helped them contain the fire to the prairie. It burned about ¾ of the eastern half.

LHVC was contacted by Matthew Steinle concerning the idea of operating a Lawrence Forest School at the camp. After a tour, and a proposal presentation to the Board, a contract and fee schedule was presented for use of the camp, but eventually rejected by the School.

Durand attended seminars on volunteer engagement and natural resource management, and coordinated on-site consultations with KS Forestry specialists and other agencies. (December, met with forester Dave Bruton, to discuss our honeysuckle removal progress, native woods restoration, and producing/using biochar; April, a tour for the Master Gardeners, with forestry specialist Charlie Barden to look over our stream revetment he helped install in 2008, and the red elms they had planted.

Day Camp, directed by Lysette DeBoard, occurred from June 10-21. For service projects, younger girls weeded and spread hay at the pollinator gardens; older girls renovated the rocks under two hydrants. The second week, the site committee purged damaged and old equipment with a give-away the last days. A big storm whipped through the camp on the final day, damaging and felling quite a few trees.

**Minor repairs and projects that occurred this year were:**

- A furnace coupler was replaced in the cabin furnace
- Replaced cabin screens chewed by mice
- Installed trim boards to the exterior of the roof/brick connection to deter drafts and bats!

- Repair of fencing on 15<sup>th</sup> st. due to a car wreck, and pole replacement at the NW corner, using hedge logs harvested from the camp, felled by Bob Topping, a volunteer arborist
- A solar inverter was installed in the cabin to operate the electric ignitions of the new stove. Jessica Hensley created a sign for operation of stove
- Townsend and Macpherson created safety protocols for stream play
- Kyra Flummerfelt made laminated instructions for setting up Pop-Up Rain flys
- Good Energy upgraded solar panel and battery at the Dogshed for more reliable power
- The battery for solar operations in the UACT was replaced
- A lower rope railing was added to the Brookside bridge to increase safety
- Routine tree trimming and dead/ hazardous tree removal
- Ropes replaced on Monkey bridge
- Wooden signs handmade by Rod Hoffer were installed on the archery shed and Dogshed
- Continued partnerships with KU departments: STEM students presented a working manual of activities leaders can use to explore and learn about the prairie and pollinators; Evolutionary Ecology and Biology graduate students created another large habitat poster for the yurt, and can lead GS troops on nature discovery field trips and badge work
- A “walk-about” for FHV & LHV boards and Site Committee, to share their collective knowledge.

### **Ongoing Projects and Discussions:**

- Repair and redesign of gravel road to mitigate impacts of increased rainfall
- Research for a bigger inverter for the new solar panels so we can install stronger lights and ceiling fans; repair of broken fan switch
- Revised electronic map of Hidden Valley is being created by Macpherson, ready for use soon
- Research on bridge safety has occurred, to be applied to our bridges as needed
- Revival of the Low Challenge Course: a team has been created to facilitate its usage

### **Future Needs and Goals:**

- Four bridges need upgrades or replacement within a couple of years; all need to be raised to avoid impacts of flash flooding: Redbud, Rocky Road, Locust and Windmill footbridge
- Carpenter bees are drilling into Redbud Shelter fascia boards (and more recently the cabin)—Should switch to a concrete board, and/or frequent painting and staining to also deter
- Redbud countertop is cracking, but OK and well supported; eventually replace top
- Replacement of rotting utility poles around cabin lot and elsewhere (Rod has some available).
- Screening of camp from Presbyterian Manor: eventual replacement of old cedar trees to east
- Continue use of biochar in low lying trails; address drainage issues on trails from Manor runoff
- Continue with native woods and prairie restoration projects;
- Address muckiness of Osage Orange and Emerald Forest sites; increase screening from Manor
- Build a rock wall along the south side of the meadow parking lot to prevent vehicle access
- As per KS Forest Service recommendations, remove undesirable trees in woods, like Osage Orange, to allow more sunlight to new native plantings; use harvested hedge in other applications such as to contain gravel along road, build a hedge hut, as planks in muddy trails
- Day Camp request: replacement of portable toilet in Mary’s Meadow with 2 new ones
- Research ways to add solar power to yurt for lighting and fans to circulate air
- Repair of sidewalks and driveway on Bob Billings—hope to address in a few years



## Choose Your Challenge...

Challenge Course Committee report written by Kyra Flummerfelt, Committee Chair

Purpose: The purpose of the challenge committee is to provide the Hidden Valley Board with the information needed to maintain and enhance the equipment and safety standards for the various challenge course activities throughout Hidden Valley. In addition, the challenge committee provides annual training for all challenge course facilitators.

Beyond Ropes based in Norman, OK, conducted our annual inspection of our equipment and the zip lines in May of 2019. Due to the age of the zip line, the high zip line was replaced this year. The low line will be replaced either in the Fall of 2019 or the Spring of 2020. We also converted to full body harnesses for participants as well as the facilitators. After the inspection was done we applied to the State of Kansas for our new permit which was granted. We had a lot of expenses this year with the zip line due to needing to replace the zip lines and most of the equipment. As always we will continue to stay updated on the ever-changing State regulations to give the kids of Douglas County a safe and fun zipping experience.

We have implemented a better tracking process so that we have more accurate numbers of how many people we zip and how many use the archery range during the year. We zipped 3 troops in the fall of 2018 and 1 troop in the spring of 2019. We also zipped 211 girls and 10 adults during day camp for a total of 256 kids and 12 adults for the fiscal year.

The archery range, Sherwood Forest, was once again used for the 13 girls during day camp, along with 2 troops in the fall of 2018 and 1 troop in the spring of 2019 for a total of 35 kids and 5 adults.

We are in the process of resurrecting the low challenge course and will be offering it to troops soon.

Please visit and bring your troop out for an adventure. We want to continue to offer outdoor challenge activities particularly to the Girl Scouts of Douglas County at an affordable rate so the more it gets used the more we can offset the cost of sustaining the challenge course. We are always looking for new zip line facilitators and archery facilitators so if you are interested please contact me.

## Reaching Out to Others...

Public Relations Committee report written by Sharon Reynolds, Committee Chair

Purpose: The purpose of the public relations committee is to promote the Lawrence Hidden Valley Camp to make it more familiar and visible to Lawrence area Girl Scouts. In addition, the public relations committee helps to inform and educate the Douglas county community about the origin and function of the corporation and camp.

The committee has assembled a kit containing stationary, stamps and suggested wording for thank-you, get well and sympathy messages. The kit will be passed to the current Public Relations Committee Chair.

The board discussed the Hidden Valley Public Relations Committee and the Friends of Hidden Valley Public Relations Committee should work together to suggest money raising events to benefit the camp.

The web site continues to serve us well and the committee is responsible for monitoring the content. Cris Bandle is the current web master.

## Remembering Where We Have Been...

Archives Committee report written by Margaret Verhage, Committee Chair

Purpose: The archive committee's purpose is to preserve the history and management of the late Alfred Bromelsick's bequest to the Girl Scouts of Lawrence, Kansas. To do such, the committee gathers and collects documents (e.g. maps, meeting minutes, flyers, etc.) in a central location where they can be accessed for research and reference purposes

The Archives committee continued its focus on gathering, identifying and sorting key past and current Lawrence Hidden Valley Committee materials such as minutes, treasurer's report and other documents, flyers of special event, etc. for deposit and storage in appropriate archival sites and for current reference. Archival originals of copies are stored at the Spencer Research Library at the University of Kansas. Copies of some materials are intended to be available for reading at the Watkins History Museum in downtown Lawrence.

## Helping Others Who Have Helped Us...

Scholarship Committee Report Written by Ann Marie Boncella, Scholarship Committee Chair

**Purpose:** The scholarship committee's purpose is to provide financial assistance to troops for activities and events that may otherwise be prohibitive due to the costs. In addition, the committee provides financial assistance to graduating Girl Scouts who are seeking to further their education at a post secondary educational institution. All individual applicants go through an application and interview process to determine their eligibility and the final decision from the committee.

This committee awards High School Merit scholarships and special requests for financial aid. This year the High School scholarships, were in the amount of \$500. The awards were presented to Aidin Manning and Macy Landes both from Lawrence High School. All eligible applicants were interviewed by members of the committee prior to our final decisions.

Two \$50 requests for troop start-up funding were granted. *If your troop needs a scholarship for troop start-up funding, requests must be made as close to the start of the school year as possible. Requests for Day Camp scholarships cannot be combined with Council funding unless special circumstances exist.*

## Bromelsick Blast!

Bromelsick Committee report written by Nancy Smelser, Committee Chair

**Purpose:** To honor the late Mr. Alfred Bromelsick and carry out the instructions in his will, the Bromelsick committee, jointly with the Boy Scouts and 4-H Club, hosts an annual Christmas party and his memorial service for the Lawrence area Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, and 4-H Club members. Each year the organizations take on certain responsibilities for each event.

Bromelsick Committee met several times to plan the years events. The Bromelsick Committee did not request funds from GS, BS, or 4H for the party last year or this year. Balance on hand is \$5,349.90, after 2018 expenses, and is sufficient to pay for annual expenses until further notice.

The 2019 Bromelsick Party will be held on Sunday, Dec 8, from 2PM – 4PM at Royal Crest Lanes.

Attendees are encouraged to bring a new toy to donate to Toys for Tots.

Girl Scouts are in charge of ordering and distributing treats, selecting who will receive the leftover candy, and securing ticket takers and ushers.

Boy Scouts were in charge of the 2019 Alfred Bromelsick Memorial service at Oak Hill; appx 60 were in attendance.

## The Nitty Gritty...

Policy and Procedures Committee report written by Jessica Hensley, Committee Chair

**Purpose:** The purpose of the Policies/Procedures committee is to maintain documents and policies that give the Hidden Valley Board a historical overview and procedural reference for Hidden Valley. In addition, the policies/procedures

committee maintains and distributes current copies of the Hidden Valley Board manual and SOPP (standard operating policies and procedures) to necessary parties.

The manual has been digitized and distributed to all members via GoogleDocs. It has been decided that the SOPP and Bylaws need to be reviewed and revised to reflect more current policies and practices. The SOPP will also be updated to agree with new Kansas laws concerning our zipline.

## Board Members

Nominating Committee report written by Kyra Flummerfelt, Committee Chair

Purpose: The purpose of the nominating committee is to nominate members of the Douglas County Girl Scout community to the Lawrence Hidden Valley Board, Inc. Each year, the nominating committee presents the slate of nominees to the Douglas County Girl Scout community at the Annual Meeting. The community then votes on accepting the slate of nominees.

### 2018-2019 Board Members

Ann Marie Boncella, Chair

Jessica Hensley, Vice Chair

Jeff Bandle, Treasurer

Lysette DeBoard, Secretary

Joanne Altieri

Kyra Flummerfelt

Nancy Smelser

Margaret Verhage

Rod Hoffer

LuAnn Hodges (Stepped down 2019)

### Slate of Nominees for 2019-2020

Virginia Musser

Laura O'Neil

## Behind the Scenes...

Finance Committee report written by Joanne Altieri, Committee Chair

Purpose: The finance committee's purpose is to monitor and review the various financial investments that affect the maintenance and upkeep of Hidden Valley. To do so, the committee works with a financial advisor who helps to make recommendations for current and future investments. In addition, the committee works with the treasurer who maintains the financial documents and pays any necessary financial obligations.

The Board of the Lawrence Hidden Valley Committee reviewed a long-term financial outlook report based on average costs and income from the last 10 years prepared by the finance chair. This projection was advised due to the three-year hiatus of funding from the cell tower lease that will occur during LHVC's fiscal years 2030 through 2032. The report concluded that the LHVC must carefully monitor future expenses in order to prepare for significant reduction in income in the future. In addition to the reduced cell tower income, FY29 will require an additional expense of ~\$15K for replacement of the zip lines and equipment as required by current state regulations. Several propositions were reviewed to increase income including: Submitting additional project-specific financial needs to the Friends of Hidden Valley to support infrastructure needs of Hidden Valley; Increasing site use fees gradually; Increasing charges for zip and archery usage gradually; and sweeping some of the excess income from the Kaegi funds (over \$10K) when necessary to supplement required expenses. LHVC replaced the zip lines in FY19 at a cost significantly less than expected using funds from the Kaegi account. The LHVC Board passed a balanced budget for FY20.

Questions or comments should be directed to Treasurer Jeff Bandle – 785-979-6420

FINANCE SUMMARY REPORT

Fiscal Year July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019

INCOME		EXPENSES	
Direct Public Support	\$7,721.45	Scholarship	\$1100.00
Bromelsick Distribution	\$16,035.93	Site	\$11582.39
Cell Tower	\$12,285.00	Other Site Expenses	\$5,800.00
Challenge Course	\$4,097.50	Site Manager	\$11,600.04
Camp Use Fees	\$471.00	Treasurer	\$137.00
Interest	\$55.82	Utilities	\$892.56
Investments	\$3,763.06	Insurance	\$7,834.00
Investments (Kaegi)	\$1,952.55	Challenge Course	\$6,679.41
Donations FHV	\$2,700.00	Payroll Tax Expense	\$887.40
Archery Income	375.00	Miscellaneous	\$545.15
		Operation	\$71.95
		BioChar Initiative	\$4,621.45
		Business Expense	\$100.00
Balance	\$49,457.31	Balance	

## Friends of Hidden Valley, Inc

Condensed Annual Report July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019

*The Mission of the Friends of Hidden Valley is to provide support to the Lawrence Hidden Valley Committee, Inc. (LHVC), in programs, development, maintenance and goals that promote and benefit the Hidden Valley Camp. Adopted July 14, 1999.*

Board of Directors: Jill Baringer, Lisa Barnes, Melinda Black, Claudette Johns, Ken Lassman, Brigid Murphy, Durand Reiber, Cindy Riling, Robin Robertson, Margaret Verhage, Marcia West and Alex Weston

There is substantial progress on the Southern Shade stone fireplace and cooking grill utilizing a \$40,000 grant from KRIZ Charitable Fund and \$10,000 of our savings to the project. We also co-sponsored a project with LHVC for a \$5,000 grant from the Great Plains Biochar Initiative, matched by another \$5,000 from the Friends Vegetation Renewal budget. This important initiative promotes the making and using of biochar, a by-product of burning woody biomass to the charcoal stage. In addition to its use in plantings, biochar is being used in experiments for trail mulch, soil and bank erosion control and pollutant filtering in our streams. We now have a wonderful use for the over 300 hours of cutting honeysuckle that the Honeysuckle Warriors have contributed.

Day Camp this year, headed by Lysette DeBoard, hosted crowds of 307 and 272 during the two weeks in June. We continue to support the LHVC in developing, maintaining and promoting Hidden Valley Camp as a safe place for Douglas County Girl Scouts and other youth groups to learn about and explore nature.

One of our on-going programs, Brick For Bricks (B4B), offers people/troops/businesses the opportunity to purchase a brick with an engraving from which funds are currently being used to help fund the stone fireplace and grill at Southern Shade. Other ongoing fundraisers are the AmazonSmile account set up which generates .5% of eligible sales at smile.amazon.com for Friends of Hidden Valley, and we've joined the Dillons Community Rewards system. Users can help Friends by shopping at Dillons and linking their Plus card to Friends of Hidden Valley.

National Trails Day is a nationally coordinated event designed to unite and connect more people to trails. Always the first Saturday of June, FHV hosted its sixth Hidden Valley Trails Day event on June 1, 2019. This year's event had themed guided hikes with local experts and several stations with exhibits and activities. The wetland and environmental art stations were especially popular for the kids. We had 114 guests hiking our trails! We feel that getting people inside the camp is the best way to connect with the public.

### **Final Membership Numbers for 2018-2019**

103 Continuing Members; 16 New Members; 12 Lifetime Members; 4 Gift Members; 135 Total Members

Each year a troop from each age level (Daisy, Brownie, Junior, Cadette, Senior and Ambassador) may be rewarded with \$50 to be used however they wish. Troops must submit an application to the Recognitions Committee no later than April 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. Applications are located on the FHV website: [www.friendshv.org](http://www.friendshv.org). This year the following troops were honored: Brownie Troop 5606, Jessica Hensley, leader; Jenny Gleason and Junior Troop 5607, Jackie Stancil, leader Cadette Troop 7494, leader Margaret Milburn; Ambassador Troop 7579, leader Jaime Hay and honorable mention to Junior Troop 1599; leader Shari Anderson.