



# Annual Report 2021

The Friends are dedicated to the preservation and enhancement of White Clay Creek State Park. Our members come from a variety of backgrounds, with differing interests, knowledge, and concerns for the park's protection. All share the desire to preserve the park for the benefit of current and future generations.

## Membership

We continue to grow, from 220 members in 2020 to 275 members in 2021. We have additional connections that increase our contacts to about 350.

## Finances

Support from our community is also growing.  
Donations increased from \$3664 in 2020 to \$7310 in 2021.

Dues: \$2175  
Member donations: \$4155  
Other donations: \$3155  
Total dues and donations: \$9485.

Our major fundraiser is the summer concerts which raising \$4880 from raffle tickets, the beer garden, and food and water ice concessions

Our major expenditure commitment remains the scholarships that support the Park school programs. Our other large expenditure was the purchase of the Billy Goat mower.



## Volunteer Activities

Volunteer are the core of our commitment to the Park. In 2021 the Friends recorded 2032 hours by 108 volunteers. This does not include the 3822 hours worked by Terri Tipping's group fighting invasives and planting natives in the Judge Morris area, AND the many many hours that are spent by dedicated but more anonymous Park supporters.

**Summer Concerts** started up again in July after a long Covid pause. This is our major fund raising activity and Friends volunteers sold 50:50 raffle tickets and we had our second year of setting up a Beer Garden. Friends also organize the food trucks and water ice for the concerts.



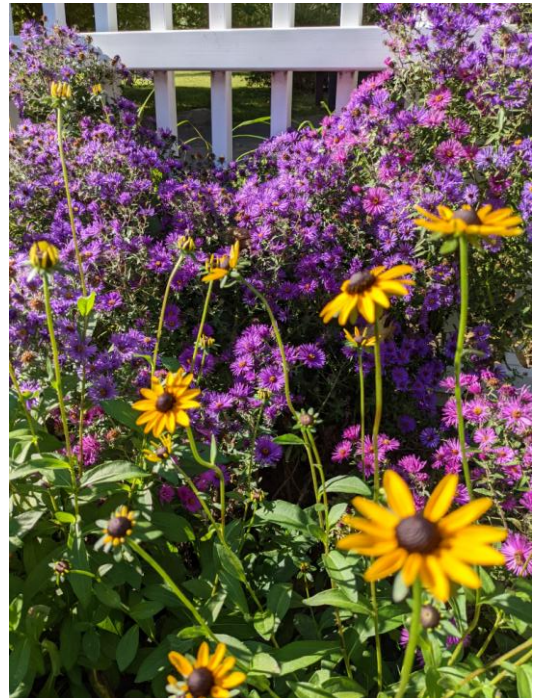
**Bird Box** volunteers, led by George Probst, installed, maintained and monitored the Park bird boxes. They had a successful year, counting 446 fledglings from 108 boxes

**Nature Center** A team of 30 volunteers, led by Allen Sievert, served Park visitors on fifty-one out of fifty-three available Saturday and Sunday afternoons from May through October, and provided 349 hours of service to the Park and greeted 553 visitors.



**Memorial Benches**, a total of seven, were made and installed under the leadership of Susan Eggert.

**Pollinator Garden** of native plants was new this year, planted around the Judge Morris mansion. Susan Eggert and Terri Tipping led their team of volunteers





**Trail maintenance** There are over thirty miles of trails in the Park and they are **heavily dependent** on volunteers to maintain. Friends have been working with the Park to coordinate the many volunteers who have stepped forward and this work will continue in 2022,

## Advocacy

The Friends advocated for funding for a Nature Center study, and \$300,000 was ultimately approved by the legislature. This study will continue through 2022 and the Friends will advocate for the implementation and construction funding that will be needed in the years ahead



## Fall Fling

With optimism that Covid was fading the Friends organized a general meeting in October. The theme was Celebration of the 200 year Anniversary of the Chambers House, and included food, beverages(cash bar), music, a silent auction and FOUR presentations:

Recognition of volunteers

History of the Chambers House (Claire Mickletz)

Memories of growing up in the house (Robinson siblings Susan, Rodney, Richard)

Tribute to the 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary (Representatives Baumbach and Smith, Senator Sokola)

The Robinson memories were recorded and are posted on the Friends website

<https://www.whiteclayfriends.org/nature-center-funding>



## Support the White Clay Creek State Park by Renewing your Membership!

The more members we have, the more our voice is heard when we seek to preserve and enhance our Park. Please go to our [website](#) and click on the purple button.

