



NATURISTE NOTES



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What's Happened Lately?

Spring has hardly shown itself this year but we have still been busy. There have been a lot of delicious meals, our Help Party free dinners have been home cooked meals provided and prepared by our members and guests. We celebrated our founder's birthday with lunch and cake. The new Hot Dog Roller Grill was tested out and did a great job grilling up various links. We had numerous hot sandwich choices for the Mad Hatter Tea Party. Then we all donned our handmade Mad Hatter hats for a group picture. We again played Rotten Apples, which is a great game for a big group. There were lots of laughs, and some duds. There were also naked snow angel sightings. John, Debbie, and Randy, all had their pictures taken making snow angels in the buff. We have spent a lot of time relaxing and enjoying each other's company this spring. The closest we have gotten to the nudist lifestyle this spring has been sitting in the reflection of the sun off the clubhouse, but warm temperatures will arrive soon.



What's happening next?

April 28th - Help Party @ 1:00pm and Free Dinner @ 6:00pm

May 5th - Derby Watch Party with 6:00pm Soups, Stews, and Gumbos Pitch-in Dinner

May 12th - Help Party @ 1:00pm and Free Dinner @ 6:00pm

May 19th - Help Party @ 1:00pm and Free Dinner @ 6:00pm

May 25th - Drakes Ridge Summer Season Starts with Memorial Day Weekend

Come help us get ready for another great season at Drakes Ridge Rustic Nudist Retreat. It's a great way to get to know each other and reap the rewards of getting things done while making a difference in our community of nudists.

On May 5th we'll have the TV on all afternoon leading up to the fastest 2 minutes in sports. We'll watch the marquee race while enjoying some warm Soup, Stew, or Gumbo.

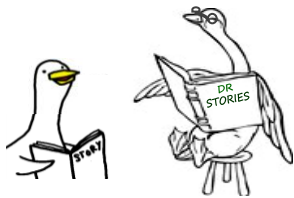
Then get ready for a fun, busy, nude season of fun in the sun. Every summer weekend will be filled with events and activities to keep you busy. Of course there is always time to relax and spend time when friends at Drakes Ridge Rustic Nudist Retreat. There have been updates to the calendar of events, check them at drakesridge.com/events-news and start planning your nude summer.

You Deserve a Thank You!



The list of contributions to Drakes Ridge this spring is very long and so many have played a huge part in making Drakes Ridge better and better. Randy has helped pick up brush and helped Karin with RV issues. Sherrie, dug out the fire pit, has helped with ground cleanup, clubhouse cleanup, tool shed tear down, cooked fried chicken, and brought a whole lot of crafts and hats for the Mad Hatter Tea Party. Dencil and Bob have put in countless hours this winter and spring. They cleaned up a lot of brush, put hours in on the tool shed, cleaned the clubhouse and bathhouse, bought the Hot Dog Roller, and treated us all with hot dogs. Dencil has checked guests in and Bob did a lot of chain sawing. Check out their cabin too, it has new color! Kelly has been helping clean up the grounds. John is always giving a helping hand and has helped with the grounds, stumps, and the tool shed. Debbie brought birthday cake, a crock pot, magazines, and cooks us lots of great food. Jeff donated to the cake fund and Norm donated to the pond fund. Norm also unlocked a car that was running, but stuck in the mud, with the keys locked inside. Dave and Sheila cut down more trees including a new RV spot for large motor coaches. Every bit of help counts and is much appreciated even if not mentioned here. It is so hard to account for all the benefits that will come from working together to build the best nudist retreat around.

Special Stories



Love at First is Possible!

It was love at first sight. Some folks believe it can happen, some folks say it can't. No matter what folks think, I know it can happen. The first time I drove down the lane into Drakes Ridge (Tri-State Country Club at the time) and saw the expanse of green, the pool, the clubhouse, and being greeted and welcomed by a naked lady (Ellyn), caused me to fall in love with the camp at first sight. The icing was put on the cake when I met Jerry. He was working on a walk trail, clearing the path of obstructions. We talked as we went, stopping by the Jewelweed patch where he told me of its healing properties. I liked Jerry very much. That night the three of us were joined by Irwin and Linda in the clubhouse around the fireplace.

I didn't want to leave Tri-State Country Club. I slept in my car that night. The next morning I awoke to sunshine in a lovely new world. I knew I had to be home for a radio show on Saturday morning, **but I didn't want to leave!** I was afraid if I left the camp it would disappear, or I would wake up from my dream and poof! No more rocky creek, sunning lawn, lake, trail, no more dream! I joined the club that day. I felt it was my home.

I had basically been a nudist since childhood, running and playing naked on our farm, while in the service in Germany, France, Spain, Italy, and at home with my wife Shirley for 37 years until she passed away. Even with all those years, and my great dislike for clothes, shedding them at every opportunity, I never had a paradise away from the textile world where I could be naked without the worry of upsetting someone who accidentally saw me nude. Believe me. It was love at first sight. That love is still strong for Drakes Ridge. Now here I am at 81 Years of age naked in the rain on 18 acres in the Ozarks in Arkansas with my 80 year old lady who is naked in the rain also. We both love those skin to skin hugs, and each other. I am a very lucky guy.

Jim K., Drakes Ridge RNR Member

The special stories section is a section for friends and members of Drakes Ridge to share their stories. Please email submissions to info@drakesridge.com.

Membership and Attendance Report

We still keep having record setting attendance days. On a sunny, upper 70 degree weekday in the off season we saw 20 members and guests in attendance. We have also had very busy weekends and somebody in the rental cabin about every weekend. We have even had some tent campers already this cold spring. We have had numerous phone calls and emails from people getting ready for a nude season at Drakes Ridge.

Grounds and Facilities Report



It may be hard to notice with the foliage now coming out but we have removed even more of the marked trees, along with some general grounds clean up. Two new firewood cabinets have been set up. The clubhouse was reorganized further along with small upgrades to the concession area. A building from tool town has been moved and is getting upgrades to become the new tool shed and a sleeping room. Tool Town is so close to becoming only a part of history. There have also been preparations made to lay new gravel on the driveways, parking spots, and RV sites. We have all the necessities for a clean pond if the weather ever warms up. We purchased a new pond aerator motor that we can add more aerators to, and it is up and running. Everything does seem to take patience here, but thanks to its members, we are making great headway towards the new vision of Drakes Ridge.

Grounds and Facilities To Do List

- Cut down and cut up trees.
- Clean up grounds and sites.
- Load last trash truck from tool town.
- Finish tool shed.
- Rebuild pump house roof.
- Build firewood cabinets.
- Excavate and Gravel.
- Create rental unit.
- Replace pool liner.

Office Report



The office has been quiet lately, except for the regular duties. More time has been spent on the grounds but we still have plenty of projects to work on in the office. I would love to have someone volunteer as the Drakes Ridge photographer. There is so much we can do with pictures on social media that we need to share some of ours.

Office To Do List

- Update website.
- Promote, promote, promote.
- Membership Directory
- Real Estate Guide



Contributor Reports

(Formerly Board Report)

Sherrie has volunteered to host a “Crazy T-Shirt” workshop on Saturday of Memorial Day weekend. Kelly has expressed an interest in helping with the Trail Keepers Charter Meeting on Memorial Day, and is making plans to get started on her Gypsy Haven (cabin) at her site. We may have a barn raising for her. Kirk has made plans to make improvements to his cabin and help with improvements to Sherries. Shaun brought us a ton of craft supplies, including all the needed supplies and instruction books for rock painting. These are in the clubhouse and available for use anytime. Shaun will also use the supplies for a rock painting workshop during our summer Learning Retreat.

President's Report



The president is on grounds and facilities duty right now, getting ready for the summer season. I can still be found in the office but only when necessary until after Memorial Day. I will be focusing on finishing the cleanup of tool town, finishing the new tool shed, laying some gravel, and then repairing the pool. It is better for us if I am in the office though, please come out and help get these projects done. You can also help by donating to the building fund in the office or at drakesridge.com/donate.

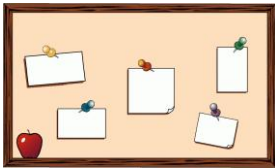
Weather and Nature Report

It has been a long time coming this year but it looks like the warm weather may finally get here. It looks like a warm May according to the extended forecast. It is finally turning green at Drakes Ridge and the flowers are abundant.

There have been Kingfisher sightings on Drake Lake. The Kingfisher is a fun fish to watch if you can sneak up on them. They are a larger bird with a long beak to nose dive into the water after a tasty fish for dinner. They are blue and white like a blue jay but a little larger.

Real Estate Report

We are now up to 22 permanent site holders, and room for more, right now. We have five available RV sites, and numerous available cabin sites. Bob's cabin is still for sale. Mike's cabin could become for sale soon. There is one club owned cabin for sale, lease, or rent.



Bulletin Board

Please donate to the building fund, in the office or at drakesridge.com/donate. Funds will be going to completing the tool shed/sleeping room and then to the Gravel Fund. The more donations we get, the faster we can get things done. Thank you in advance for all your contributions.



Upcoming Local Community Events



Visit the Community Art Center at the corner of Main & Ferry Streets in downtown Vevay. The First Friday of every month features a new art exhibit, meet the artists, and displays of the work of other artists and artisans. Other activities around town include live music, dining out, and just visiting our wonderful and unusual shops. Come out to enjoy and visit with friends and meet new people. Hours are from 6 to 9 p.m.