



NATURISTE NOTES



Drakes Ridge Rustic Nudist Retreat
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Affiliated with the
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What's Happened Lately?

Well, it was at our Thanksgiving dinner that we were last gathered, but we have had some Full members out over the winter, mostly to work on their sites. We have heard from a lot of members and friends that are ready for another great season of nude fun in the sun.



What's Happening Next?

Your 2023 Drakes Ridge Event and Activities Calendar is almost ready and will be sent out and posted in the next few days! If you have any new ideas for events or activities or would like to host a meal or event, please let us know!! We have this season's calendar filled with the traditional events and some new ones, but we can always find space for a good event idea. We are always looking for hosts for our summer Learning Retreat also. We already have a Tea Workshop and Rock Workshop booked for this year's Learning Retreat.

This coming weekend is the final weekend of our Winter season. It is also the second Saturday of the month which means we will be having an Advisory Panel meeting at 9:30 am on Saturday April 8th, all Full Members are welcome. The following weekend is our Spring Season Opening Weekend, with open check-in on the weekends starting for basic members and guests on April 15th. The first two weekends of the Spring Season are booked for help parties to get the grounds ready for another great season. We will also have pitch-ins meals, campfires, and maybe a trail walk.

The weekend of April 28th-30th will be "Founder's Weekend", our first event weekend of the 2023 season. We will begin with preparing the pool for the season and then warm up in the afternoon with a Tea Tasting. We will have a pitch-in dinner and Founder's Celebration, followed by this year's first Neighborhood Campfire, on Lake Shore Ridge.

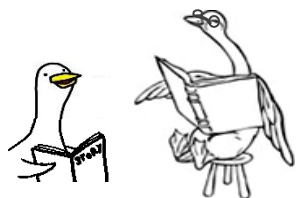
During our Winter Season, we are closed to basic members and guests (non-members).

You Deserve a Thank You!

Thank you to all who have contributed time, money, ideas, and goods in the last year. We are so grateful to have a great family of members and friends who give so graciously to Drakes Ridge. We had another great fundraiser in 2022 with a total of \$4,412 in contributions to the building fund. Thank you for helping us complete some of our facility improvement goals. Please read below about some of those projects completed and projects we'll be working on next.

Also, thank you to those who have been quietly giving their time over the winter to get ready for another great year at The Ridge. Norm cleaned up his old place, donated it back to the club, and has been getting his new place ready to be here all the time. Norm also started clearing out the brush for a better view of the Lake. Brad has been working on getting his and Jody's new trailer settled in. Bob has been updating the Bulletin and posting on Facebook. Sharon has been working on calendars and posters for the new season. Bennett has been focused on finishing the half-done all winter but did sell off his old trailer to get ready for a cabin addition. Carla has been staining and painting in the half-done all winter but has started to get the laundry done and the spring cleaning started. John and Debbie started some spring cleaning too. Michael finished the new rock bridge over the creek on the hiking trail.

This is always a great time of year to come outside to Drakes Ridge and help play a part in making a memory filled summer with your nude friends. We'll have plenty to keep you busy this Spring so we can play all summer. Come out and see us!



Special Stories

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

It looks like we had another level year in membership and attendance in 2022. Some slight changes in policies recently may have had some effect on siteholder growth but we are poised with some new siteholder opportunities in 2023. Having the new rental cabin ready for this season will help boost attendance. We will also be looking for some help to work on our branding this year, how we would like to see our club grow, and layout the steps to make that happen. As always there is a great interest in Drakes Ridge and what we can offer. Our "Brand" is everything we do and everything we are and we can use everyone's help to build and polish our brand. Most important for us is to always praise in public and criticize in private. Please share everything you love about Drakes Ridge with everyone you talk to and when concerns do arise please bring those to management.

Advisory Committee Report

The Drakes Ridge Advisory Committee has been a great sounding board for our president but we will also be looking for help to facilitate more productivity from our Advisory Committee this coming year. Starting with our meeting on May 13th all members and guests are invited to attend our meetings. We hold our meetings the second Saturday of every month at 9:30 am and are usually done by 11:30. Please come join us and put your two cents in.

Grounds and Facilities Report



We will be starting our 4th Annual Spring Building Project Fundraiser in the next few days. We started this fundraiser to fund spring improvement projects and your contributions have helped us fund a lot of projects. We will attempt to list the projects we have completed over the last few years as well as a list of projects ideas we would like to work on next.

Projects completed (or partially completed), starting with most recent:

Complete Renovation of the Half-done Cabin
Axe Throwing Gallery
New Water Pump and Piping
New Gazebo Cover, Pool Deck Table and Trash Cans
New Clubhouse Tables and Chairs
Office Renovation including, clean out, new desks, cabinets, a/c, blinds, doors, paint, tv, locks, decorations, bookcases, and our Founder's Wall
Tree Removal
Road Gravel
Kitchen Counter Repair
New Log splitter
New Bench for Clubhouse
New Starlink Satellite for Internet
5 New RV Sites (2 with Canopies)
Electric Upgrades to 3 RV Sites
Phase 1 of New Fence
New Picnic Tables
New Ping Pong Table
Painting of Old Picnic Tables and Bridge
New Pool Deck
Hot Tub Installation
New Display Cabinet
New Woodshed
New Tool Shed/Oak Room
Removal of Old Tool Town
Creation of Brush Road for Brush Disposal

"Next" Project Ideas

Rental Cabin Renovations
Pool Wall Replacement
Outdoor Furniture Painting
Restroom Upgrades
New Gatehouse
More RV Electrical
Tent Site Improvements
Cut New Hiking Trail
Gravel Roads
Build Backwoods Picnic and Nature Vista



Office Report

Now that the office has been renovated a more comfortable workspace and conference space has been created, there are many exciting opportunities to volunteer in the office to help Drakes Ridge grow into the best Nudist Park in the Midwest. Just a few of those opportunities are listed here.

Office To Do List

- New Nudist and Park Etiquette Guidelines
- Update website
- Promote, promote, promote!
- Streamline customer service and membership
- Continue organizing member files
- Build DR museum/Expand library (starting with photos)
- Plan events
- Organize computer files
- Procure DR merchandise
- Create continuation plan
- Complete Stock sales brochure
- Plan bathroom renovations

Contributor Reports

We have quite a few members and guests reporting that they will be contributing their time and talents to Drakes Ridge this upcoming season. Sharon is preparing event signs that Bob is planning to post on Facebook. Norm has mentioned he will be contributing more time to Drakes Ridge now that he will be here full time. Debbie has said her, and John are ready and willing to help get ready for the season. Carla has planned time to get all the rental cabins cleaned up and ready for spring. She has said she would like to help get the clubhouse and bathhouse cleaned up and ready. If you have a talent you would like to share or show-off, or have some time to contribute, please come out and help us get ready for our new season. This is where your vacation time is an experience. The more we get involved the more we get to know each other, ourselves, and the world around us.

President's Report



As president the busiest time of year is right around the corner, but as of right now, I am focused on one of my favorite things to do at the Ridge. I really enjoy spending my time at Drakes Ridge building new things for the members and guests to enjoy. It seems like time slows down when I keep my hands busy, and it is so rewarding to look back at what I have built, and watch people enjoy it. It is even more enjoyable when others come along to help with projects. It is a great way to build relationships, make memories, and share in the rewards. It is not easy to get involved sometimes but I would encourage anyone to take some time to figure out

how to help at Drakes Ridge. The rewards are endless, come give it a try. Right now I am in the middle of a rental cabin renovation that is turning out beautifully but still has some work to do.

Weather and Nature Report

There has been a whirlwind of storms blow through camp lately. Sherrie's porch roof did blow off but other than that everything has stayed where it is supposed to be. It looks like the April showers will be a thing this year. Hopefully that makes for a healthy blossom this spring.

We have a new, once a month, event for this season. We will have a full moon walk on each of the full moons this summer. Most of those walks you will not even need a flashlight. Please check our event calendar, when it comes out later this week, for the full moon walk dates, and join us!



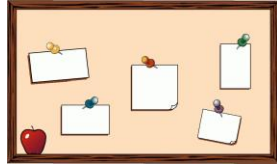
Real Estate Report

We currently are “building to suit” permanent personal sites. Permanent sites are now offered by yearly lease to Full members. We can build a wood/metal canopy and deck for your RV or we can design and build a cabin for a yearly lease. We do currently have a back log but the cabin we call the “half-done” will be available for rent or lease by the start of this summer season. Hopefully we will have a new name for that cabin by then. We have two more cabins in line for renovation after completion of the half-done remodel.

Karin's cabin has finally been completed. David and Sheila's cabin is “available”, please see Bennett for information. As mentioned, Brad and Jody upgraded their trailer, and Norm upgraded to a bigger cabin next door to his old cabin. We can use some help dismantling Joe and Sherrie's abandoned cabin. Hopefully we will see Don and Jeff get some work done on their cabin renovations this Spring.

We are still asking that all sites are cleaned up and any construction clean up finished by the start of Summer 2023 with any construction not finished to resume in the Fall. This goal will soon be outlined in our new Site Holder Guidelines. Our mission is to keep things as comfortably close to nature as possible, in a nice rustic theme, while cherishing the peace and tranquility of nature and our environment. The Drakes Ridge family has worked very hard the last few years to clean up and repair the grounds and facilities, and has added quite a few, new, nice, sites. We look forward to helping site holders spruce up their sites for the coming season.

Bulletin Board



They have torn out a bridge on Fairview Road and they say it will not be open until Fall. As usual, you do not want to use internet mapping for directions once you get close to Drakes Ridge. The internet mapping does not have the bridge marked closed and are still driving you through a creek. We will work on getting our own map posted on our website and Facebook page, but for now here are some tips for directions this summer.

From Cincinnati/Aurora/Lawrenceburg: This is the only direction you can trust your internet mapping.

From Indianapolis/Madison: Take 250 East from Pleasant Indiana, Go past Bennington Pike, turn right on Fairview Road, turn right on Drakes Ridge Road

From Kentucky/Markland Bridge: Take Indiana State Road 56 West(right turn off the bridge), turn Right on Markland Pike Road, fork left on Stowtown Road, Cross 56 and wind left onto Elam Road, cross Lake Geneva Road as Elam Road changes to Bradford Road, turn left on Fairview Road, turn right on Drakes Ridge Road



Upcoming Local Community Events

There are a couple of really cool vintage shops now open in Vevay. They are right next door to each other. Stop in for some home or cabin décor, or to just take a walk down memory lane. Google search “Vevay Vintage Prop and Shop” and “Vevay Antique Mall and Curiosity Emporium” for hours and directions.