

# Palisades Views



Volume XXXVII No. 11

November 2007

## *Wolf specialist to speak at next meeting*

The Piasa Palisades Group will have a “howling” good time at its November meeting.

The guest speaker is Roger Richardson, docent with the Wild Canid Survival and Research Center, also known as the Wolf Sanctuary. It occupies 63 isolated, wooded acres within Washington University’s Tyson Research Center in Eureka, Mo.

The WCSRC was founded in 1971 by noted naturalist Marlin Perkins, his wife, Carol, and other like-minded individuals.

“It is a private, non-profit conservation organization dedicated to the preservation of the wolf and other endangered canids through education, research and captive breeding,” according to the center’s Web site.



Canids are animals in the canidae family, which includes dogs, wolves, foxes, coyotes,

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## **Freeman was a dedicated leader**

The venerable Louise Freeman, treasurer and co-founder of the Piasa Palisades Group, died Oct. 9 at Alton Memorial Hospital of respiratory and related health problems. She was 73.

Her last experience before going to the hospital was gathering with Sierra Club friends at Pere Marquette State Park’s Camp Ouatoga, a place of peace and natural beauty that she loved.

As usual, Louise’s husband, Bob Freeman, was in charge of the fall camp-out. She helped by collecting registration fees, assigning cabins, loaning kitchen appliances, buying groceries and planning a full-course meal for more than 50 people — no easy task.

About 250 friends and family members attended a memorial celebration of Louise’s life on Oct. 14 at Boy Scout Camp Warren Levis in Godfrey, where she volunteered as a Cub Scout leader for years. The rustic lodge overlooking a wooded lake was the perfect setting.

Louise’s son, Wayne Freeman, delivered a eulogy that triggered both tears and smiles. After the meal, some people enjoyed the beautiful fall day by hiking on the grounds.

Everyone went home with a packet of seeds collected from a native prairie that Louise helped plant 30 years ago at Gordon Moore Park in Alton.

The former Louise Tarrant was born Oct. 21, 1933, to William and Ada Tarrant in Alton. She graduated from Alton High School in 1952 and married Bob, her high-school sweetheart, three years later.

Louise worked 19 years as office manager for Maguire Signs in Alton and 15 years as a file clerk and teller at Wedge Bank in Alton. She also reared four sons.

Louise and Bob co-founded the Piasa Palisades Group with a handful of other local environmentalists in 1972. They continued to work tirelessly behind the scenes for 35 years, helping with newsletter mailings, outings, lemonade sales, etc. Bob still serves as fundraising chairman and chief sage.

Louise became treasurer for the Piasa Palisades Group Executive Committee about 16 years ago. The volunteer position required her to pay bills, make bank deposits, prepare year-end reports, monitor investments and otherwise keep the group financially solvent. She often crunched numbers at her dining-room



**LOUISE FREEMAN**  
1933 — 2007

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Serving the Southwestern Illinois counties of

Bond, Calhoun, Fayette, Greene, Jersey, Macoupin, Madison and Montgomery.

# U.S. suppliers of cleaning products go “green”

By **Richard C. Keating**  
Group member

Some interesting sustainability initiatives emerged from beneath my radar screen this week.

Deep in the “warehouse farm” west of Edwardsville, I have a friend who manages a distribution facility that handles Dial products. He mentioned a truly spectacular statistic that consumers should cheer.

The statistic turned out to be proprietary, but I can say this: Beginning this year, tens of thousands of trucks will no longer be used to move clean-

ing products around the country. The “Big 3” – Dial, Procter & Gamble and Unilever – will begin distributing ultra-concentrated cleaning products.

This means smaller packages, smaller shipping containers (therefore, fewer trees cut down), less plastic, less water in manufacturing and product, less warehouse space at \$4 a square foot, less fossil fuel and carbon in the atmosphere from moving containers around, and probably safer highways.

Dial executives admit the driv-

ing force behind this movement is the much-maligned Wal-Mart, a company that is ramping up its “green” initiatives these days.

Ultra-concentrated product standards have been operating in Europe for years. But until now, super-sized containers were supposed to make us gullible Americans think we were getting more for our money.

If each customer buys one ultra-concentrated container, Wal-Mart says, it will reduce waste by 50 million pounds a year.

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## 2007 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chair	Wayne Politsch	6424 Alpha Drive, Alton, IL 62002	466-6150
Vice Chair/Secretary	Sandy Wood	1719 Central Ave., Alton, IL 62002	463-0358
Treasurer	Louise Freeman	4813 Kaskaskia Trail, Godfrey, IL 62035	466-0656
Conservation	Jim Bensman	1802 Main St., Alton, IL 62002	463-0714
Membership	Gayle Borman	510 Hamilton Blvd., Wood River, IL 62095	254-2250
Chapter Delegate	Bob Larson	909 McKinley, Alton, IL 62002	462-4448
Political Action	Michael Fischer	1001 McPhearson, Alton, IL 62002	462-3832
Member	Everett Loy	221 Ladd, Alton, IL 62002	462-5919
Youth Coordinator	Jon Byrd	2065 Pinehurst Way, Maryville, IL 62062	401-9939

## OTHER COMMITTEES AND STAFF

Outings	Larry Tucker	1822 Park Ave., Apt. A, Alton, IL 62025	462-0649
Outings	Rich Keating	P.O. Box 13, Edwardsville, IL 62025	656-3647
Fund-raising	Bob Freeman	4813 Kaskaskia Trail, Godfrey, IL 62035	466-0656
Hospitality	Audrey Wiseman	3941 Sarah Lane, Alton, IL 62002	259-5997
Merchandising	Jennifer Politsch	6424 Alpha Drive, Alton, IL 62002	466-6150
Staff Person	Christine Favilla	christine.favilla@sierraclub.org	462-0282

## SIERRA CLUB OFFICES

Illinois Chapter	200 N. Michigan, Suite 505	Chicago, IL 60601	(312) 251-1680
Piasa Palisades Group	223 Market St.	Alton, IL 62002	462-6802
	E-Mail	Home Page	FAX
	ppg_sc@yahoo.com	www.Illinois.SierraClub.org/PiasaPalisades	462-0282

# CALENDAR

**Sunday, Nov. 4 Autumn Ramble fundraiser** for The Nature Institute in Godfrey. Vendors will sell candles, Tupperware, scarves, jewelry, honey, wood carvings, cookies and other products. Kids can go on a supervised hike and make crafts while parents shop. Hours are 1 to 4 p.m. at Talahi Lodge (see directions for the moonlight hike). For more information, call Patti Brown at (618) 467-2521.

**Monday, Nov. 12 Monthly program** of the Piasa Palisades Group. Roger Richardson of the Wild Canid Survival and Research Center will be the guest speaker (see related article). Meet at 7:30 p.m. in the community room at First Unitarian Church, Third and Alby Streets in Alton. For more information, call the Sierra Club office at (618) 462-6802.

**Wednesday, Nov. 14 Knee-High Naturalists program** at The Nature Institute in Godfrey for children ages 3-5 accompanied by an adult. November's theme is "The Three Rs." Participants will learn to reduce, reuse and recycle and make a bird feeder out of a plastic milk jug.

## WANTED

**PRAIRIE ENTHUSIASTS** – Learn more about prairies through hand's-on experience. Volunteers are needed to harvest seeds, maintain trails, treat invasive species and perform other tasks from 9 to 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 10, and 1 to 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 25, at the Heartland Prairie, across from Gordon Moore Park in Alton. For more information, call Nan or Neil Adams at (618) 655-0170.

Morning session from 10 to 11 a.m. and afternoon session from 1 to 2 p.m. The \$5 cost includes a nature walk, snack and craft. Register by Nov. 9. For more information, call Patti Brown at (618) 466-9930.

**Friday to Sunday, Nov. 16-18 Weekend camp-out** at Beaver Dam State Park near Carlinville, sponsored by the Piasa Palisades Group. Stay Friday and/or Saturday in the group campsite. Possible activities include archery and fishing (bring your own supplies) and hiking on 8 miles of trails. A perfect place for star-gazing, weather permitting, with the Leonid meteor shower near peak. The cost is \$4 per person per night. Minimum of 10 people. For more information, contact Jim Bensman at (618) 463-0714 or [jbensman1@charter.net](mailto:jbensman1@charter.net) or Carol Klinger at (618) 288-5630 or [ciklinger@yahoo.com](mailto:ciklinger@yahoo.com).

**Monday, Nov. 19 Executive Committee meeting** of the Piasa Palisades Group. All members are welcome to attend! Meet at 7 p.m. at the Sierra Club office, 223 Market St. in Alton. For more information, call (618) 462-6802.

**Friday, Nov. 23 Green Gift Bazaar**, sponsored by the Piasa Palisades Group. Fifth-annual event (see related notice). Hours are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. in a lower-level store next to Hallmark at Alton Square mall, 200 Alton Square Drive. For more information, call Christine Favilla at (618) 462-6802.

**Saturday, Nov. 24 Monthly moonlight hike**, sponsored by the Piasa Palisades Group. Explore Mississippi Sanctuary and Olin Na-

ture Preserve, 2213 S. Levis Lane in Godfrey. Meet at 7 p.m. at Talahi Lodge (note the earlier winter starting time). From Homer Adams Parkway in Alton (Illinois 3), turn right on West Delmar in Godfrey (also Illinois 3), left on Levis Lane and left on South Levis. Bring a friend! For more information, call Sandy Wood at (618) 463-0358.

**Saturday, Dec. 1 Day trip to Beall Woods Nature Preserve**, a National Natural Landmark near Mt. Carmel. Cover 4 to 6 miles of mostly flat terrain in one of two virgin forests in Illinois. See many big trees along the Wabash River. Some people may camp Friday or Saturday night. For more information, call Jim Bensman at (618) 463-0714, e-mail him at [jbensman1@charter.net](mailto:jbensman1@charter.net) or visit the Web site at <http://dnr.state.il.us/lands/Landmgt/PARKS/R5/BEALL.HTM>.

## Palisades Views

is a monthly publication for  
and about Sierra Club  
members.

To submit a newsletter item:  
440 W. Union  
Edwardsville, IL 62025  
(618) 656-8132  
[palisadesviews@gmail.com](mailto:palisadesviews@gmail.com)

**DEADLINE FOR DECEMBER:  
SATURDAY, NOV. 24**



## FOR SALE

**CALENDARS** – The Piasa Palisades Group is raising money by selling 2008 Sierra Club calendars, which make great Christmas gifts. The desk-top engagement calendar has a weekly format and 57 stunning color photos of flora and fauna (\$13.95). The wilderness wall calendar has a monthly format with photos showing the grandeur of the North American wilderness (\$12.95). For more information, call merchandising chair Jennifer Politsch at (618) 466-6150. She also will sell calendars at group meetings in November and December.

## FREEMAN

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table at home.

“It’s a lot of work, but I don’t mind doing it,” Louise said in 2003, when she won the group’s Sierran of the Year award. “... It keeps me occupied. It keeps me busy. It keeps my mind young.”

Over the years, Louise also earned three major awards as a Cub Scout leader: the Scouting Statuette, Silver Beaver and Cub Scout Wood Badge.

Louise is survived by her sons and their spouses, Jeff and Beth Freeman of Bar Harbor, Maine; Wayne and Fanee Freeman of Bozeman, Mont.; Doug and Sharon Freeman of Alton; and Kenny and Stephanie Freeman of Dow; as well as three grandchildren, Drew, Emily and Abby Freeman.

The Freeman family invited the public to make memorial contributions to the Sierra Club or Cub Scout Pack 173 in lieu of flowers. As of press time, the Sierra Club had received more than \$1,000 in Louise’s honor.

## Gift bazaar is Nov. 23 in Alton

Black Friday will be Green Friday this year for the Piasa Palisades Group, which is sponsoring its fifth-annual Green Gift Bazaar.

It will be held on Friday, Nov. 23, the day after Thanksgiving, popularly known as Black Friday. It’s the busiest shopping day of the year. People hit the malls and other stores, looking for early bargains on Christmas gifts.

Bazaar hours are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. in a lower-level store next to Hallmark at Alton Square mall, 200 Alton Square Drive, off Homer Adams Parkway (Illinois 3). Local artisans and other vendors will sell eco-friendly products and services.

Admission is free. There will be live music and organic snacks and soft drinks.

The Sierra Club still is seeking vendors. If interested, call Christine Favilla at (618) 462-6802 by Nov. 16.

## UPDATE

The computer and electronics recycling drive at Edwardsville YMCA Meyer Center on Oct. 14 was a success!

Eighteen incredible volunteers served 175 vehicles. That kept 55,000 pounds (27.5 tons) of electronics, computers and related paraphernalia and 10,500 pounds (5.25 tons) of small and large appliances out of landfills.

## PRODUCTS

**Continued from page 2**

The lesson for environmentalists is, we should applaud such efforts every chance we get. Corporations don’t change their ways quickly, and they need our support, one consumer at a time.

For more information, visit the Web site at [www.walmart.com/commonfuture](http://www.walmart.com/commonfuture) or search for Dial, Unilever or Procter & Gamble on the Dow Jones Sustainability Index World.

## WOLF

**Continued from page 1**

dingoes, jackals and lycaons.

Richardson will discuss activities related to protection of endangered species and public education; challenges involved in developing habitat and managing a safe place for wolves and visitors; issues of captive breeding and placement; and ways the Sierra Club can help in conservation efforts.

“The wolves are well cared for in nearly wild settings (at the center),” said Sandy Wood, program chair for the Piasa Palisades Group.

“Some have been placed in states and regions where the loss of habitat has caused near extinction. Roger was the guide for our Sierra Club outing this past spring – a memorable event, even though the howls were on tape.”

The meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m Monday, Nov. 12, in the community room at First Unitarian Church, Third and Alby streets in Alton. Come hear, see, ask questions and develop an understanding of this interesting topic.

For more information, call the Alton office at (618) 462-6802 or visit the Web site at <http://www.wolfsanctuary.org>.