Al Prey



Al retired in 2000 as the Forest Health Coordinator after 40+ years with WDNR. He started in 1958 as a forester working on Forest inventory in Tomahawk, and then as a Service Forester in Columbia County. In 1959, he supervised the planting of a million trees under the soil bank program. Al went to the UW Madison in the fall of 1959 and earned an MS in Plant Pathology. In 1961, he became the first WCD Forest Pathologist and was stationed at the Nevin Fish Hatchery, for the rest of his career working on forest health issues and forestry research.



Al is married to Judie Prey and they celebrated their 48th Anniversary, January 21, 2009. They have three children, Jeff (Jana, Madison), Tim (Lisa, Asheville, NC) and Amy Rosenkranz (Rob,Oshkosh) and one grandchild, Michael (born in Ivanavo, Russia, adopted by Tim and Lisa).



Al is a daily lap swimmer and has run in Crazylegs run 25 times in he past 26 years. As a volunteer at the Madison School Forest, he serves as a member of the Management Committee. He also serves as a Board Member for the Friends of the Madison School Forest.

Al is a founding member of the Madison Bike and Bowl retiree group. In June of 2000, Earl Meyer and Al, with the idea of getting some regular exercise and for a spirit of camaraderie, began bicycling once a week. Several weeks later, Duane Dupor borrowed a bike and joined them. Through the years the groups membership has widened to include those from other professions. There are generally 10-20 meeting every week to bike around Dane County.

Considering the five months of winter here, with all a associated slush, snow and freezing temperatures, the group needed an activity to continue on through the winter. From roughly November 1, though sometime in early May, the group bowls once a week at Dream Lanes, located on the east side of Madison.

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