



Advocate

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

 *B. Greenwood*

I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season. As I reflect on last year, the one word that comes to mind is resilience. We have been thrown curveball after curveball in this crazy pandemic, and yet, we persist. We continue. We hope for a better tomorrow. While we are not out of the woods at the moment, I do see a light and truly believe 2022 will be a new beginning of sorts.

A funny thought, why do we always say we are not out of the woods yet as a negative thing? I personally love being in the woods and find solitude in doing so. And if last year showed, with increased numbers of attendance across the country at National Parks and State Parks, there are a lot of folks who also do not want to be “out of the woods.”

We are looking forward to next year and are in the planning phases for all of our events. We plan to continue our volunteer days (second Saturday of each month

beginning in March, weather permitting). We will have all of our usual events from Music in the Park, to the torch lit hikes, and much, much more. All of our events will be listed on our website, shared on our social media platforms and sent out to our members via email. If you have not liked us on Facebook or Instagram, please do so to stay in touch!

The Friends are looking forward to an exciting year with our mission to support the WDNR in making Devil's Lake the best it can be. I cannot state enough how much we appreciate your support and if you ever have any ideas, questions or just want to reach out, please do so at info@friendsofdevilslake.org.

Bernadette Greenwood
President

UPCOMING EVENTS

Candlelight Snowshoe

Meet at Rock Elm Shelter

January 29, 2022 • 6:00 pm-8:30 pm

Self-Guided Torch-lit Hike

Meet at Rock Elm Shelter

February 12, 2022 • 6:00 pm-8:30 pm

Self-Guided Torch-lit Hike

Meet at Rock Elm Shelter

March 12, 2022 • 6:00 pm-8:30 pm

Volunteer Days at the Park

Second Saturday of the Month

Beginning March 12, 2022

(Rain Date: Third Saturday of the Month)

Meeting Location and Time TBA

We are busy finalizing our 2022 plans for Music in the Park and a whole lot more!
Visit our website or social media sites for updates.

See you at the park!



FRIENDS SPOTLIGHT

Written By *Bernadette Greenwood*

📷 Richard “Dick” Lathrop

Many of you may be aware of the work that was done related to high phosphorus levels in Devil’s Lake from leachate (contaminated liquid percolating through solid waste) emanating from the septic fields of the former resorts, cottages, and from runoff from farm fields on the west bluff (Lathrop, Richard C., 2021).

Recently, I have had the honor to speak to Richard Lathrop, the Wisconsin DNR scientist who was instrumental in the mitigation of phosphorus in Devil’s Lake. In our conversations, Mr. Lathrop shared his recent publication with me and provided the following details of his impressive bio and his work at the park.

Richard “Dick” Lathrop retired in 2010 after a 33-year career as a research limnologist with the Wisconsin DNR. In 1986, Dick began studying the reasons for declining water quality in Devil’s Lake. That early work identified bottom water withdrawal as the best lake rehabilitation technique to decrease the recycling of legacy phosphorus pollution causing excessive algae growth and associated problems in the lake. Throughout the 1990s, Dick obtained numerous state and federal grants (many through the sponsorship and support of the Friends of Devil’s Lake State Park and the Town of Baraboo) to evaluate the proposed rehabilitation project, as well as

grants to study the lake’s swimmer’s itch and fish mercury contamination problems. After garnering agency approvals and public support, state and federal grants were then obtained to fund the installation, that Dick directed, of the 5,500-foot withdrawal pipe system in 2002. Since its installation, he has run the siphon pipe system and orchestrated two modifications to prevent flooding in the park; he also has monitored the water quality in Devil’s Lake even after retirement through a part-time limited-term position with the DNR. Dick is very appreciative of the recognition given him by the Friends group when they put a brick in his name near the entrance to the North Shore Chateau. He also stays active as a lake scientist through his Honorary Fellowship with the UW–Madison Center for Limnology where he collaborates on their North-Temperate Lakes Long-Term Ecological Research Project.

I am happy to share Dick’s recent publication with you, “Siphon Pipe to Prevent Flooding & Reduce Internal Phosphorus Loading in a Dimictic Seepage Lake,” (LakeLine, Vol. 41, No. 3, Fall 2021).

Enter the following URL into your browser: <https://www.friendsofdevilslake.org/s/LakeLineArticle.pdf> to obtain a copy of this publication.



GO SNOWSHOEING

By Sue Johansen-Mayo, Park Naturalist

Winter is in full swing here at Devil's Lake! This winter, we are lucky to have enough snow on the ground to go snowshoeing! Snowshoeing is a perfect way to get out and about during the winter and still enjoy the park and the trails. Thanks to the generosity of the Friends Group, the park has 45 pairs of snowshoes visitors can check out and use in the park for free. You can check out snowshoes at the Nature Center or North Shore Visitor Center any time the buildings are open; see the end of the article for hours.

Why go snowshoeing rather than just hike the trails? Here's a few reasons to check out a pair or two.

It's Great Exercise - Snowshoeing can be a great way to stay in shape during the cold winter months. When you go snowshoeing, you can burn as many calories or more as you do when walking or running at the same speed you are snowshoeing.

There's Lots Of Places To Explore - With many hiking trails buried beneath several inches or feet of snow, snowshoeing allows you to explore and see your favorite trails in a totally new way! If you feel comfortable, you can even go off trail and explore areas of the park you've never see before. When you are snowshoeing for adventure, the only limit to where you can go is your imagination.

Not A Lot Of Special Gear Is Needed - The only required gear includes snowshoes, appropriate winter footwear and clothing. Most snowshoes have simple "strap and go" bindings that fit a wide range of boot styles and sizes.

It's Easy - Snowshoeing doesn't require much training.

Many people will tell you "if you can walk, you can snowshoe". Snowshoeing on flat or rolling ground is fairly intuitive for beginners. Your stance should be wider than normal to keep from stepping on the insides of the frames. You'll want to take extra care going up and down hills, backing up or making sharp turns. If you take a little time to pay attention to the placement of your snowshoes in these situations, you'll be traversing the wilderness like a pro in no time!

It's Inexpensive - Whether you choose to rent to buy, snowshoes can be pretty affordable for any winter recreation budget. Borrowing snowshoes, at the park, is a great way give snowshoeing a try and see what's it's like before you purchase a pair of your own.

You Can Bring The Kids - Snowshoes come in all different sizes and is a great way to get the whole family out and moving in the winter. At the park, we have snowshoes that can fit kids as young as 4 years old on up to the adults in your group.

It's Fun - There's nothing quite like floating across the snowy surface of freshly-fallen snow!

If you are interested in snowshoeing at Devil's Lake, the Nature Center is open Tuesday – Saturday from 10 am – 4 pm and the North Shore Visitor Center is open 8 am – 4 pm, 7 days a week. Another fun way to try out snowshoeing is during one of the Friends' Candlelight Snowshoe events on Saturday, January 29 and Saturday, February 12. These events are scheduled from 6:00 – 8:30 pm. Hope to see you out snowshoeing on the trails this winter.



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AMERICA'S STATE PARK CAMPAIGN MOVES AHEAD

Jim Radford, President and Founder of Baker Street Consulting Group

The building blocks for a successful campaign to raise \$18 million to build an educational/interpretive center at the park are coming together as we raise awareness and map approaches to prospective campaigners and leading donors.

To rally support, we brainstormed with some creative campaign volunteers working on our Communications Action Team before settling on the theme of "America's State Park."

It's a catchy campaign slogan that resonates with local and statewide audiences, but also has appeal to supporters everywhere, some of whom have travelled to the park for generations. The theme will help us transform people who are unaware of the project into supporters, advocates and ambassadors.

The theme is also versatile, enabling us to address specific interest groups, as in, "Learning at America's State Park," "Hiking at America's State Park," "Climbing at

America's State Park," and many others.

To advance awareness, we invited dozens of park stakeholders to attend a January virtual preview of the project, which was well received and elicited constructive feedback.

We are continuing to build campaign leadership, identifying additional campaign volunteers and planning for the campaign's more public phases.

We hope you become involved as a volunteer or donor to help make the center a reality by contacting the Friends at info@friendsofdevilslake.org. Gifts are always accepted at www.friendsofdevilslake.org/donate or to the Friends at P.O. Box 209, Baraboo, WI 53913.

The project is a partnership of the Friends, the Devil's Lake Concessions Corporation and the Wisconsin DNR. Baker Street is helping to organize, direct and implement the campaign.



SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

By Jim Carter

📷 T. Gasser, cropped

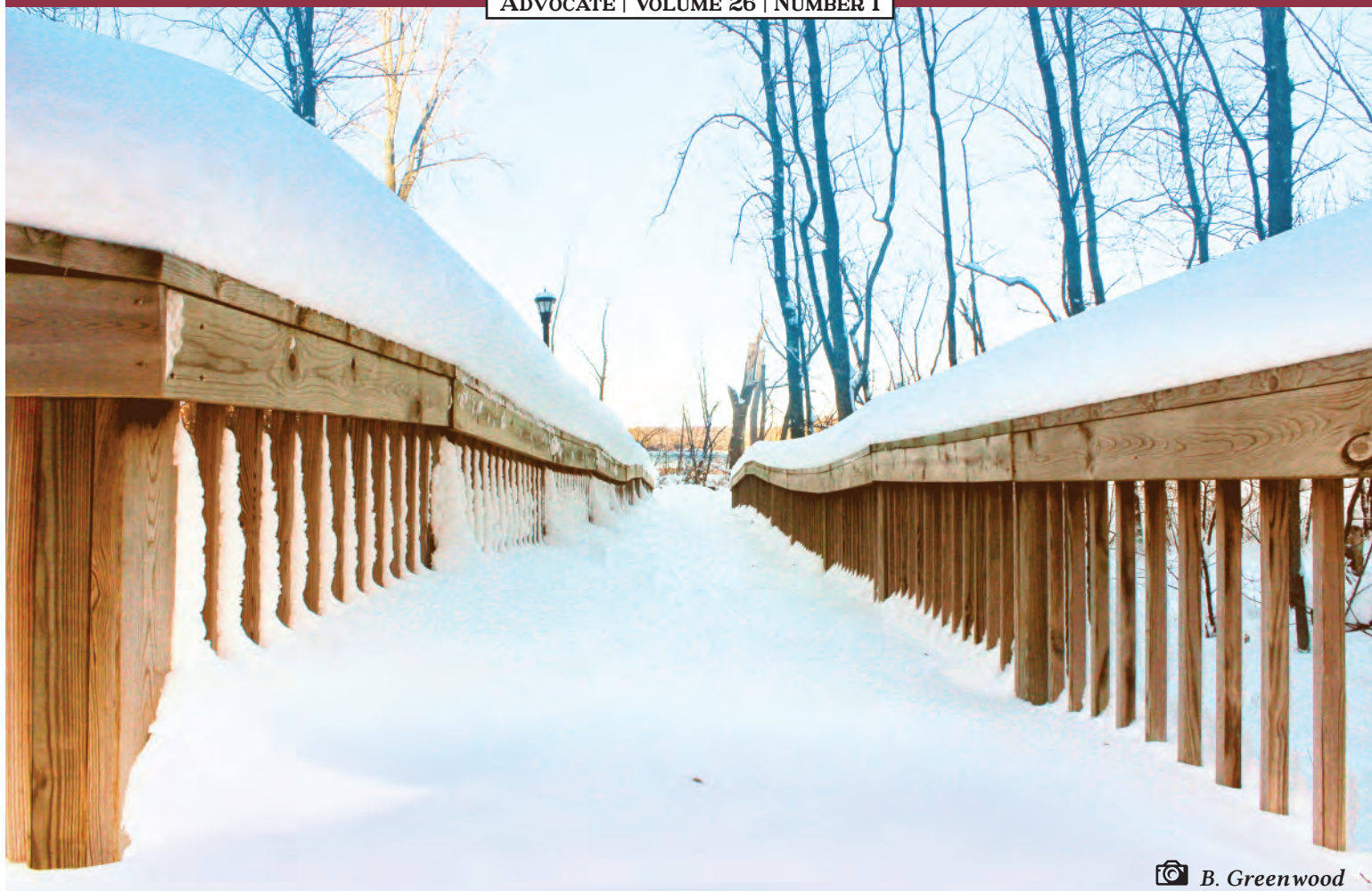
Devil's Lake State Park staff manage recreation activities at more than just the park. We may be the largest and busiest state park in Wisconsin, but the job duties and responsibility of our staff don't end at the master boundary of this 10,000-acre expanse. The park and recreation management staff from Devil's Lake are also responsible for Natural Bridge State Park, the Sauk Prairie State Recreation Area, the Baraboo Hills State Recreation Area, various state natural areas such as Pewit's Nest and Gibraltar Rock, and a number of boat landings along the Baraboo River and Ice Age Trail properties throughout Sauk and parts of Columbia County.

Besides the regular work and project planning for this upcoming season, park management staff are

planning new interpretive displays throughout the park. With funding assistance from both the Devil's Lake Concession Corporation and the Friends of Devil's Lake State Park, these displays will focus on geology, history, conservation, and recreation. Do you have an interest in one of these areas? Have you been to another property and enjoyed how they incorporated one of these types of displays into the outdoor experience? If you have and want to share your experience, please reach out directly to me if you want to be involved. Staff are working on various projects and topics and we always look forward to new ideas and perspectives.

Jim Carter

james.carter@wisconsin.gov | 608-356-8301 ext. 111



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FRIENDS OF DEVIL'S LAKE STATE PARK - MEMBERSHIP FORM

Membership Options:

- \$30 - 1 year individual
- \$80 - 3 year individual
- \$50 - 1 year family
- \$140 - 3 year family

Support for Devil's Lake:

I wish to make a donation of \$ _____ to the Friends toward
 General Support, or specifically toward (circle one):
 Educational Interpretive Center Trail Maintenance

Publish this donation as Anonymous

Name: _____

Address: _____ City/State: _____, _____ Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Preferred Contact for Newsletters/General Information: Email Postal Address (circle one)

Total Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Please mail payments to: **Friends of Devil's Lake State Park, Inc.**
 P.O. Box 209
 Baraboo, WI 53913

or visit our website friendsofdevillake.org to join or donate!

Memberships can be gifted too; just provide the name and contact information for the recipient.



Friends of Devil's Lake State Park
P.O. Box 209
Baraboo, WI 53913

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Membership paid through year shown on label.



SPREAD THE WORD... *About the Friends!*

Our members are special advocates for our unique, beautiful wonder we call Devil's Lake State Park. Will you also be an advocate to help build our membership?

Tell a friend the value of a Friends' Membership:

1. Membership fees go directly toward supporting Devil's Lake State Park.
2. Members receive a quarterly newsletter, the "Advocate" by mail and/or email.
3. Members are updated first when we have news to share or for volunteer opportunities.
4. Know that members' fees also go toward funding Devil's Lake State Park community events such as the Halloween Hike and Candlelight Snowshoe.
5. Friends are invited to member-only events and meetings.
6. Receive 10% discount on food and merchandise at Devil's Lake State Park concessions (*some exclusions may apply*).

