



# Advocate

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SUMMER 2023



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 Seth Taft

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Summer is in full swing...and what a hot and dry summer it's been so far! Fortunately the lake provides a cool and refreshing option to avoid the heat. As I drive into the park, I always like to watch the hot temps fall a few degrees on my car display due to the cooling presence of the lake.

Welcome to Seth Taft as our new Executive Assistant for the Friends Group! He brings a great skill set to the position and will help us grow and reach out to new members and the public. And thanks to our previous assistant Susan Hall for all of her help in getting our organization to run more smoothly. We wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

Since our last newsletter, we received a 2023 Incentive Grant from the Friends of Wisconsin State Parks for \$7,000. This is a 50/50 match grant that will be

used to pay for equipment, supplies and programs at the nature center. We continue to search for opportunities to make your donations go further towards helping the park and park visitors. If you are aware of any grant opportunities that we could apply for, please send us an email.

The end of June marked the end of our contract with Baker Street Consulting Group for the campaign for a new Interpretive Center for the park. We thank them for their hard work in getting us organized and ready to take the campaign to the next phase. Look for a new kiosk that will be installed by the Chateau. It will provide information on the Friends group and specifics on the campaign and how to get involved and donate. With all of the foot traffic in the vicinity of the Chateau, it should

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help raise awareness of the campaign.

In addition, a new campaign display in the Visitor Center will hopefully be installed this Fall. If you are interested in getting involved in the campaign, please send us an email at [info@friendsofdevilslake.org](mailto:info@friendsofdevilslake.org). We are currently recruiting for help with marketing and fundraising.

The Friends Board has several members whose terms are expiring at the end of September. Although it will be difficult to replace their skill sets and

institutional knowledge of the Friends group, it will be a great opportunity to get some new faces and ideas on the board. Look for more information later in the newsletter if you are interested in getting involved in a board position.

Thanks for your continued support of the Friends, we couldn't do what we do without it!

***Enjoy Summer!***

Jayne Englebort, President

[jenglebort@friendsofdevilslake.org](mailto:jenglebort@friendsofdevilslake.org)

## LOCATE THESE TRAILS!

*Submitted by Jim Carter, Superintendent*

Both of these trails below were designed by the CCC. Can you tell us where are they located in the park? The correct answer will be revealed in a Friends group post on Facebook!



*Visit our website or follow us on social media for the most up-to-date information!*



## CHRISTMAS IN JULY

By Sue Johansen-Mayolett

The Nature Center has experienced a surge of excitement, akin to Christmas in July. This excitement is from the Friends group, who successfully applied for and received the 2023 Incentive Grant from the Wisconsin State Parks Systems Friends Group. This annual grant, which matches funds, allows Wisconsin State Park Friends groups to request a specific amount of money and supplement it with funds from their own group. The Friends Group was awarded a generous sum of money this year, enabling us to introduce several new programs and purchase materials to enhance the interpretation program at the park throughout the summer.

In the upcoming months, we eagerly anticipate the arrival of various new program presenters, beginning in late July and continuing into August. We are particularly excited to welcome back the fun-loving Voyagers, presented by the Fox of the River Voyageur Canoe LLC. If you have not yet experienced the Fox of the River Voyageur Canoe programs, we wholeheartedly invite you to join us for a truly immersive, hands-on journey into the history and camaraderie of the fur trade era, focusing on the lives of the Voyageurs—the vibrant participants of that time. You'll have the extraordinary opportunity to paddle a 28-foot Voyageur canoe while delving into the Voyageur way of life. Let Jean Paul Pauquette and Jacques Largillier, our expert guides, transport you to the past.

Thanks to the grant, we are thrilled to host Shelley Mordini this summer. She will captivate us with her ghost tales about the town of Baraboo. Shelley is known for her unique tours around Baraboo, ranging from the haunted to the historic. When she joins us by the lake, she will gather us around the campfire and regale us with stories about the ghosts that have put the "boo" in Baraboo! Additionally, in August, we eagerly anticipate the visit of the Raptor Education Group, Inc. (REGI), who will bring their magnificent birds of prey. Prepare to be enthralled as you discover the essence of a raptor, listen to their fascinating stories, and learn how you can contribute to their preservation as an integral part of our ecosystem. For detailed information about these programs and their scheduled dates at the park, please visit the DNR's event calendar at <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/events>.

However, the grant has not solely benefited the programs. The Nature Center has also been able to acquire several new items this summer, including digital



 Fox of the River Voyageur Canoe LLC

microscopes, underwater digital cameras, kick nets, and some new snowshoes to replace old pairs. These additions will greatly enhance the programs and events held at the nature center. I have previously written about the use of technology in our programs in Friends newsletters. Now, I know what you're thinking, kids (and adults) should put away their smartphones and tablets and just enjoy the outdoors. I once held the same perspective until I realized that it wasn't the most effective way to engage today's youth with the natural world.

Technology has become deeply ingrained in our lives and can serve as a powerful tool to connect visitors with nature. When I started incorporating technology into the programs, I ensured that it is not the sole focus but rather a seamlessly integrated tool, similar to any other resource we utilize. For instance, instead of using a magnifying lens to examine a bug or leaf, we now employ digital microscopes to closely observe nature. What I find truly remarkable is that integrating technology into our programs doesn't distract children; on the contrary, it enhances their engagement and

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## GREETINGS!

*My name is Seth Taft and I am the new Executive Assistant for the Friends of Devil's Lake State Park.*

I have also been serving as the Friends' social media director and look forward to the added responsibilities to help the organization.

I am a Baraboo resident who (like many of you) thoroughly enjoys a variety of outdoor recreation activities, including hiking to thru-backpacking and rock climbing. Additionally, I am fond of human history, as I am a professional archaeologist by trade.

I look forward to seeing and meeting many of you at upcoming events and supporting the Friends in your mission to promote and educate Devil's Lake State Park!



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sustains their interest throughout the activities. Technology does not diminish their enjoyment of the outdoors; instead, it helps them focus and engage by employing something familiar to them.

We are genuinely excited to incorporate all these new items into our programs this summer and beyond, further facilitating visitor learning and engagement with nature. Let's not forget about the snowshoes either. Although they may not be considered high-tech, they offer an excellent opportunity for winter visitors to immerse themselves in the wonders of nature. In case you were unaware, you can borrow snowshoes for free through the Nature and Visitor Centers. We encourage you to come by this winter and try a pair or two.

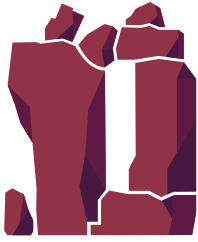
With the support of the Incentive Grant, the Friends Group at the Nature Center has provided a wealth of materials and presenters for the year ahead. I'm excited to have you come and enjoy all these offerings this summer and throughout the year! I hope to see you at one, or perhaps multiple naturalist programs offered throughout the year.



## NEW & RENEWED FRIENDS MEMBERS

**Thank you to these members who have joined or renewed their membership April 17, 2023 through July 14, 2023.**

Berigan, Katherine-Milwaukee, WI  
 Daly, Leo A-Baraboo, WI  
 Dargel, Gerald & Ellen-Baraboo, WI  
 Gander, Alissa-Wisconsin Dells, WI  
 Griffin, Dennis-Brown Deer, WI  
 Hammond Power Solutions-Baraboo, WI  
 Helland, Sigrid-Baraboo, WI  
 Hettrick, Gail-Madison, WI  
 Johnsrud, Derek-Fall River, WI  
 Kemp, Benedict J-Shorewood, WI  
 Konen, Janet-Baraboo, WI  
 Nadermann, Matt-Dubuque, IA  
 O'Connor, Matthew-Glen Ellyn, IL  
 Palm, Mike & Bonnie-Baraboo, WI  
 Phibbs, Anette-Baraboo, WI  
 Rabiega, Richard-Franklin, WI  
 Ross, Austin-Baraboo, WI  
 Rowley, Sylvian & JJ-Baraboo, WI  
 Schoepp, Chris-Lodi, WI  
 Sullivan, Tom & Catherine-Prairie du Sac, WI  
 Waddell, JoEllen-Baraboo, WI  
 Wiesztort, Walter-Kenosha, WI



## 2023 DONORS

Apr. 17, 2023 - Jul. 14, 2023

Thank you for your support!

### General Support

Anonymous  
 Anonymous  
 Bozarth, Daniel  
 Fredrickson, Kimberly  
 (University Bookstore)  
 Helland, Sigrid Nelson  
 Markman, Felix  
 Meade, Marilyn and Barbara Whitney  
**IN MEMORY OF ESTHER BLACKMAN**  
 Christenson, Eric & Rhonda  
 Wellman, Sally

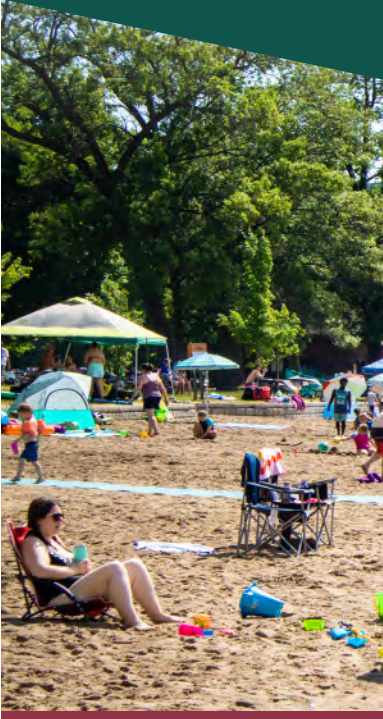
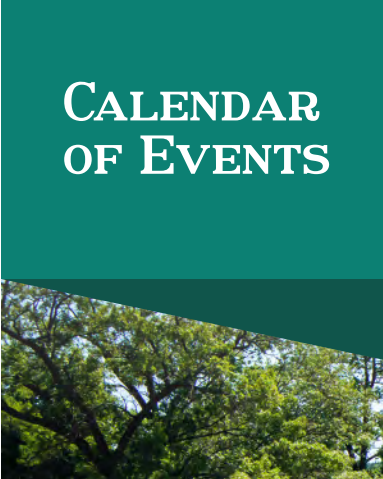
### Dedication Pavers

Alexander, Kevin  
 Bierman, Faith  
 Drescher, John & Patricia  
 Drescher, Charlene  
 Frank, Tina  
 Frost, Jennifer  
 Leonard, Lexi  
 Mosbach, Brianne  
 Suring, Kathy  
 Timmel, Jennifer & Tracy  
 Vigil, Brittany

Donate online at  
[friendsofdevilslake.org/donate](http://friendsofdevilslake.org/donate)

### Educational Interpretive Center

Anonymous	Koch, Fletcher
Anonymous	Krawczyk, Nik
Anonymous	Labeledz, Michael
Anonymous	Lambert, Nathaniel
Anonymous	Larson, Dana
Braun, Ashley	McGann, Bryan
Carrier, John	<b>In Memory of Hank Lee</b>
<b>In Memory of Karen Carrier</b>	McGrath, Ryan
Chovonec, Michael Josphe	McLeod, Sarah
Cremers, Cordell	Powers, Jim
Dargel, Gerald & Ellen	Radford, James
Gerdman, David	Radford, Zach
Graf, Jennifer	Riesen, Peg
Grunewald, Chris	Schallert, William
Hanson, Emmali	Simpson, Mark
Hart, Matt & Joan	Spiel, Andrew
Howard, Rachel	Taft, Seth
The Jerome Frautschi Foundation	Timbie, Peter
Johnson, Jonathan	Tonkin, Matthew



**Tuesday, August 1st**  
 Members Only: Super Moon Kayak Tour  
*North Shore 7:00pm-9:00pm*

**Saturday, August 12th**  
 Volunteer Day  
*Meet at The Rock Elm Shelter at 9:00am*

**Tuesday, August 29th**  
 Music in the Park: Angela Puerta Band  
*North Shore 6:00pm-8:00pm*

**Saturday, September 9th**  
 Volunteer Day  
*Meet at The Rock Elm Shelter at 9:00am*

**Sunday, September 24th**  
 Music in the Park: Dan Walkner & Friends  
*North Shore 2:30pm-4:30pm*

**Sunday, September 24th**  
 Members Annual Meeting  
*Chateau 5:00pm-7:00pm*

**Saturday, October 14th**  
 Volunteer Day  
*Meet at The Rock Elm Shelter at 9:00am*

**Saturday, October 21st**  
 Halloween at the Park  
*North Shore 3:00pm-8:00pm*

## CAMPAIGN FOR AMERICA'S STATE PARK ENTERS A NEW PHASE

By Jim Radford, President and Founder, Baker Street Consulting Group

As the public phase of the Campaign for America's State Park picks up steam during the park's busiest season, the campaign has evolved.

The focus remains on raising \$18 million for a new Interpretive Center that educates people of all ages and abilities and tells the park's story in a compelling way. Working with the Friends, we've engaged the community, donors, foundations, and civic and political leaders to build critical support for the project.

At the end of June, Baker Street Consulting Group stepped away from the project considering the Friends' decision to continue the Campaign for America's State Park independently. We have worked diligently to provide strategic guidance, resources, tools, and promotional materials to move the project toward reality.

That means that the Friends are now well-equipped to carry on this important campaign and to sustain the momentum we have built together over these past months. The goals for the campaign remain unchanged

and the plan is to stay the course.

Baker Street has worked closely with the Friends to ensure a smooth, successful transition and a seamless handoff that will keep the campaign on track to achieving its goal. We're grateful for the chance to work cooperatively with the Friends to help craft the campaign. And we've made great friends along the way.

Moving forward, we hope you'll volunteer, donate and help spread the word about the need for this hub of learning for generations to come. Your leadership will inspire others throughout the community and drive the campaign to its goal.

We hope you give today to the Friends of Devil's Lake at [friendsofdevillake.org/donate/center](http://friendsofdevillake.org/donate/center) or at **P.O. Box 209, Baraboo, WI 53913.**

To discuss a donation or volunteer, contact Bernadette Greenwood, campaign co-chair, at [bgreenwood@friendsofdevillake.org](mailto:bgreenwood@friendsofdevillake.org).

*The project is a partnership of the Friends, the Devil's Lake Concessions Corporation and the Wisconsin DNR.*

# YOU ARE INVITED!

Friends of Devil's Lake State Park  
Annual Membership Meeting



Sunday, September 24th at 5:00p.m.  
The Chateau, North Shore



**JOIN THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS!**

## INTERESTED IN BEING ON THE FRIENDS BOARD?

We have several board members whose terms are expiring at the end of September and we're looking for new board members to replace them. If you are interested in running for a board position, please submit your responses to the bullet list in this article to [info@friendsofdevillake.org](mailto:info@friendsofdevillake.org).

Elections for new board members are held during our annual meeting, which will be on Sunday, September 24th 2023 at 5:00 pm at the Chateau. If you know of someone who you think would be a great addition to the board, please recruit them!

In particular, we are looking for people with the following skill sets: fundraising, marketing, project management and member recruitment and, of course, a love of the park!

If interested, please submit the following:

- **A short biography with your contact information.**
- **Why you would like to be on the board.**
- **What do you feel you can bring to the board.**

Board terms are for three years from October 2023 through September 2026. Board meetings are held at night on the second Monday of each month either at the park Chateau, at the Baraboo Chamber of Commerce office, or virtually via Google Meet. Board members utilize Google Docs and Google Drive for sharing documents and information, so familiarity with the use of these would be helpful, but is not required.

If you have any questions or suggestions for people we should contact about the board positions, please don't hesitate to let us know.

*Contact us at [info@friendsofdevillake.org](mailto:info@friendsofdevillake.org) for more information.*



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*).



**FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!**



@friendsofdevilslake @devilslakefriends @devilslakewi

**WANT TO JOIN US?**

Visit our website at [friendsofdevilslake.org](http://friendsofdevilslake.org) or scan the QR code below to become a member.

