



Friends of
Peninsula State Park
For Now and the Future

MAY 2015 UPDATE

A NOTE FROM PARK SUPERINTENDENT KELLI BRUNS

FRIENDS FOCUS ON NATURE CENTER ADDITION

Dear Friends,

Spring has arrived at Peninsula State Park bringing warm days, blue skies, emerging wildflowers, migrating warblers and wetlands full of wonderful frogs alive with song! At this time of year we truly discover how special Peninsula State Park is to our community and personal well-being. After welcoming thousands of visitors for the Door County Half Marathon May 2, the park staff has been very busy preparing the park for the season.

Thank you for being a "Friend" of Peninsula State Park. Your continued support provides funding for many park improvement projects and supports the Interpretive Team. As the Wisconsin State Park System prepares for a new State Budget cycle to take effect July 1st, we could be faced with new challenges relating to park operations. Over the next few weeks, we will be provided additional information on funding for Wisconsin State Parks and more specific information relating to position reductions in DNR. After July 1st we will be able to share information with you and discuss the support projects the Friends have been actively moving forward.

The Friends have secured two (of three total) phases of the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Grant supporting the addition to the White Cedar Nature Center. Over the winter months, the Friends have contracted with Marc Isaksen Design to design the addition of flush toilets, a small multi-purpose room and additional program planning space at the nature center. The first phase helps fund the costs of the site plan to add flush toilet facilities and additional display and work space. The second, awarded for 2015, will allow for the construction of the addition. The initial drafts of this plan are currently under review with the DNR and will help us determine our construction costs. The support of the Friends is integral as we embark on this journey together. We are always looking for additional Friends and volunteers to help with these efforts! Please visit the Friends website (peninsulafriends.org) or stop by the park office and nature center for additional information.

Upon DNR and DOA approval of the plan, we will share the new layout as the Friends move forward with fundraising. Upcoming Master Planning for Door County State Parks is scheduled to begin in 2015. Please consider attending a Friends of Peninsula State Park Board meeting to find ways you can become more involved with all our efforts. (Call the office for the date of the next meeting.) The Friends are looking for new board members this year; it is a great way to become more involved. Election of new officers will take place at the Annual Board Meeting in August at Weborg Shelter.

Thank you for your continued support!

-Kelli

A NOTE FROM PRESIDENT CHRIS HOLICEK

NEW FRIENDS BOARD MEMBERS NEEDED

Happy Spring, Friends! We are all looking forward to spring and summer activities in the park. Whether camping, bird watching, hiking, writing poetry, painting, or bike riding, we all appreciate Peninsula Park's beauty and peace.

Now, more than ever, with state budget shortfalls possible, I would like to stress the importance of being a Friend and, if possible, to help us by volunteering. Your membership is important to us!

Please consider purchasing merchandise, available in the office and at the nature center. Revenue from the sales helps us fund summer staff and special events. Pass the word to your family and friends. We greatly appreciate your help!

We are also looking for three new board members. If you are interested in any volunteer opportunities, please indicate on the application form.

WE NEED FRIENDS!

RENEW YOUR SUPPORT TO THE FRIENDS TODAY

The Friends finished its founding year with two business members, 30 life members, and 101 total members. At the end of 2014, we had 22 business members, 77 life members, and 228 total members.

Memberships are more important than ever as the park relies on Friends to fill in where state funding is shrinking, no matter what happens with the state budget this year.

A membership form is printed in this newsletter. You may use it to donate to any of our funds, indicate an interest in volunteering with us, and/or renew your membership.

If you are a life member or have already renewed for 2015, thank you. If you're not a life member and haven't already renewed for 2015, please renew now. Thank you so much for your support!

FRIENDS MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

NEW MERCHANDISE NOW AVAILABLE AT THE PARK

Through sales of merchandise at the park office and nature center, the Friends annually fund the park's summer naturalist and invasive species specialist positions. Your purchases support these vital activities.

Remember the Friends receive a 10% discount on purchases, so please stop by to see our custom-designed adult and children's clothing, or choose from our selection of excellent field guides and children's books. We also carry a variety of other items -- from plush animals and finger puppets to bookmarks and magnets -- that would be great gifts or souvenirs of your visit to 'the emerald jewel'!

2015 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP AND SUPPORT ENDOWMENTS

I am (check all that apply):

renewing my membership

making a donation

a new member

interested in volunteer opportunities

Membership level (circle): (Individual \$25) (Family \$40) (Individual Lifetime \$300) (Business \$150)

Additional Contribution Opportunities

Visit www.PeninsulaFriends.org/support to learn more about each opportunity.

\$ _____ Nature Center Renovation Fund

\$ _____ For Now & the Future Fund

\$ _____ Peninsula Research Fund

\$ _____ Trail Improvement Fund (ski/hike)

\$ _____ General Donation

For information on Friends Memorial Bench/Tree Program, contact Supt. Kelli Bruns, 920-868-3258
You may also renew and support endowments using PayPal at www.PeninsulaFriends.org/membership

Volunteer Opportunities

Circle the areas that are of interest to you. You will be contacted with additional information.

Invasive species control

Candlelight ski & Family ski/snowshoe

Trail maintenance

Board and committee work

Educational programs Special Events

Nature Center volunteer

Merchandise committee

Fundraising/Grant writing

Historical Research/Archives

The Friends is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. All dues and donations are deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

Name(s) _____

Address 1 _____

Address 2 _____

(Oct – May, if different) _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Please e-mail all newsletters and
timely updates about Peninsula State
Park and Friends of Peninsula State Park.

OR

Please send newsletters by mail.

Mail this form along with your check to: Friends of Peninsula State Park
PO Box 502
Fish Creek, WI 54212-0502.

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Fish Creek, WI 54212-0502

THANK YOU TO OUR BUSINESS MEMBERS

PLEASE GIVE THEM YOUR SUPPORT AND A BIG THANK YOU

Our Business members continue to generously support the efforts of the Friends and Peninsula State Park.

A Peninsula Park View Resort
Bay Property Services of Door County
Baylake Bank
Cookery Restaurant & Wine Bar
Ecology Sports
Ephraim Visitor Information Center
Fish Creek Kite Company
Gibraltar Grill
Great Northern Construction, Inc
Hat Head
Hide Side Boutique & Corner Store

Homestead Suites
Julies Park Café & Motel
Nelson Shopping Center
Nicolet Bay Concessions
Nor Dor Sport & Cyclery
Peninsula Pacers LLC
Spielmans Kid Works
Thomas/Pfeifer Insurance
What Next?
Wild Tomato Wood Fired Pizza & Grille
Wilson's Restaurant & Ice Cream Parlor