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North Lakeland Discovery Center

Discover Us!

Manitowish Waters, WI. www.discoverycenter.net Connecting People with Nature

Vol. 3 • No. 1

January 2012

## A Word of Thanks

SARAH JOHNSON, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

We express our gratitude this beautiful holiday season and New Year, to each and every one of you. By keeping the Discovery Center in your annual giving, you are providing greater service to our communities. We are able to continually expand our efforts to enrich and inspire lives through the facilitation of connections among people, nature and community – you allow us to do so!

Our membership includes donations from over 800 individuals, families, businesses, foundations and service organizations. We are blessed with members that are finding more ways to give to the Center, through volunteerism, company matching funds, material donations, and educational scholarship gifts. The Charles Petrie Scholarship provides low or no-cost outdoor education programs to youth; the Bill Lambrecht Trail Fund allows for maintenance and improvements to our Interpretive Trail; the Bruce Janssen Memorial Fund adds to outdoor habitat improvements for wildlife; and William Bablitch's memorial donations support the Center's work for which Bill so loved. Grants from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Plum Creek, the Citizen-Based Monitoring Network, Iron County Forestry and

*Continued on pg. 2*

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## NLDC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Duane Swift.....President  
 Rolf Ethun.....Vice President  
 Dorothy Wahner.....Secretary  
 Al Manteuffel.....Treasurer

## BOARD MEMBERS

Betty Forster, Dick Hemming, Tom Joseph,  
 Jim Reichert, Blake Theisen, Jerry Wilke

## NLDC STAFF

Executive Director.....Sarah Johnson  
 Assistant Director.....Katie Simonsen  
 Admin Support.....Carrie Stiegler  
 Naturalists.....Zach Wilson  
 .....Licia Johnson  
 Grounds Coordinator.....Ryan Wahlgren  
 Bookkeeper.....Beth Meyer

## OUR WORK

Connecting people with nature, promoting  
 stewardship of our beautiful Northwoods  
 resources.

Property managed under an agreement with the WDNR.

# Top 10 Fun Things To Do In The Snow

Bring on the snow...Bundle up and get out with your friends and family to enjoy all that winter has to offer.

- 1. Get active.** Strap on a pair of snowshoes or skis. The Discovery Center has over 12 miles of snowshoe and groomed ski trails to enjoy.
- 2. Ice cube scavenger hunt.** Make colored ice cubes by adding food coloring, hide them in the snow and try to find them.
- 3. Catch snowflakes.** Put a black piece of paper in the freezer. Then take it outside, catch a snowflake, and use a magnifying lens to look at the flakes up close.
- 4. Make a home.** Pack and use the snow to make an igloo or quinzee hut!
- 5. Make ice cream.** Take one cup of cold milk, dissolve 3/4 cup sugar, and add 1 tablespoon of pure vanilla extract. Mix in 4-5 cups of fresh snow until it becomes thick.
- 6. Make colorful snow angels.** Make snow angels, then take colored water in spray bottles and color away!
- 7. Make maple candy.** Boil pure maple syrup and then drizzle it on well-packed snow. Make sure it is cool before eating!
- 8. Explore by moonlight.** Each month, take advantage of the full moon's bright light by exploring the forest at night.
- 9. Footprint tag.** Play tag, stepping only in each others' footprints.
- 10. Become a winter wildlife detective.** After a fresh snowfall, look for animal tracks and figure out who left them.



## ED Message of Thanks, *continued from pg. 1*

Conservation Departments, and from the Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin all contribute to our educational efforts.

The Bruning Foundation has donated \$200,000 to assist with capital projects – our long range plans will determine how these funds will be used. An anonymous donor pledged \$50,000 this year to a matching fund Double Your Dollar\$ campaign. The match was met, with the largest donation from new members Tom Miller and Cindy Sobczak. The MacLean Foundation, alongside funds from an anonymous donor, pledged two years of financial support for a staff position. Barry and Maryann MacLean funded a state-of-the-art bog boardwalk. Elizabeth Uihlein has contributed significantly to building and grounds improvements, including a new amphitheater and driveway, upgraded technology systems, and renovated lodge, cabins and Director's house.

Many, many others have contributed to the Center's growth and improvements. It is easy to see why we feel blessed in the New Year! Our wish is that each and every one of you is blessed in return, and that you have a wonderful, safe and happy 2012.

*A special thank you to those who joined as Voyageurs, or to members who increased their giving level to Voyager, Guide or Pathfinder during the Double Your Dollar\$ campaign. Your donations help to ensure the long-term strength and success of the Discovery Center.*

Darlene and Bob Berdan  
 Nancy and Steve Frank  
 Carol and Otto Gebhardt  
 Sue and Rick Gering\*  
 Jalana and Bill Handal  
 Marilyn and William Hopper  
 Doug Moericke and Family  
 Tom Miller and Cindy Sobczak\*\*  
 Jim Weerts  
 Kim and Ed Wiede  
 Karen and Jerry Wilke

Voyageurs \$1000+; \*Pathfinders \$2500+; and \*\*Guides \$5000+.

# American Marten Field Studies: Witnessing Predation First Hand

For the last 9 years, the Discovery Center has led a student monitoring project for high school students. DC staff work with DNR Wildlife Biologists and school teachers, engaging students as field researchers. Students assist in the capture and collaring of mustelids (weasels); and develop, test and gather data based on annual hypotheses. This year's project is on the American marten, a Wisconsin endangered species.

This fall's field time was spent setting and checking traps, aimed at capturing new marten or recapturing previous year marten. We were successful at both – adding to our radio signals one new animal. The new adult female marten (#12) showed us something we had not seen before – post-natal signs of rearing young. Marten #12 happens to share a home range with Marten #6, an adult male we've followed for 4 years. We were especially excited to gather data on how their home ranges would interact and/or overlap. Following the trapping season, students track and document each animal's movements using radio-telemetry. Radio-collared animals are located and data on forest habitat, weather and human activity recorded.



During a data session, something strange happened. Our team noticed a mortality signal coming from Marten #12 (this occurs when a collar/animal stops moving for 8+ hours). Following a search, we found the remains of Marten #12. The head was separated from the body, and the front shoulders eaten. In order to determine what animal killed the marten, we have sent in the remains to the state's necropsy lab and we will report back any findings. Research shows marten are vulnerable to predation from raptors and carnivores including red fox, coyotes, fisher, and black bear.[1]

*For more information, contact Naturalist Zach Wilson [Zach@DiscoveryCenter.net](mailto:Zach@DiscoveryCenter.net), or sign up for our next Marten Tracking program on Saturday, January 21.*

[1] Buskirk, Steven W.; Ruggiero, Leonard F. 1994. American marten. In: Ruggiero, Leonard F.; Aubry, Keith B.; Buskirk, Steven W.; Lyon, L. Jack; Zielinski, William J., tech. eds. The scientific basis for conserving carnivores: American marten, fisher, lynx, and wolverine. Gen. Tech. Rep. RM-254. Fort Collins, CO: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Forest and Range Experiment Station: 7–37.

## Program Highlight: January Nibbles 'N Knowledge



The Discovery Center is proud to have Mark Naniot, owner of Wild Instincts Rehab in Rhinelander, as a presenter. Wild Instincts is a non-profit that provides quality, ethical wildlife rehabilitation while promoting wildlife stewardship through education and research.

Join us **Thursday, January 12th** for this interesting and engaging program. **Program will be at Camp Jorn YMCA** (call 543-2085 for directions). Complimentary appetizers and cash bar begin at 5 p.m. followed by the program at 6 p.m. *To learn more about Wild Instincts, how to support them, and to read about their many successful stories, please visit [www.wildinstinctsrehab.com](http://www.wildinstinctsrehab.com).*

To further support Wild Instincts, please consider bringing with you one (or more!) of these items: blankets~sheets~towels~newspaper~canned dog food~frozen venison~paper towels~toilet paper~garbage bags~scrub pads~sponges.

## New Board Member Announcement

The Discovery Center welcomes two new board members. Blake Theisen and Jerry Wilke are eager to lend their individual perspectives and relevant business experience.

Mr. Theisen is a landscape architect and park planner with expertise in recreational facility site analysis. With a background in ecology, he promotes environmental stewardship and preservation. Blake is a frequent speaker at conferences on subjects of community planning and public involvement. He is married to Jennifer Theisen, a 2nd grade teacher in Middleton, Wisconsin. Both share a love for the outdoors and are active in adventure sports such as mountaineering, skiing, climbing and backpacking. Blake has vacationed in the Northwoods for over 30 years, and now owns a cottage outside Mercer. He has years of great memories - fishing, hunting, hiking, birding, skiing and biking. He serves on the Discovery Center board to give back to the community and the region he loves.



Blake Theisen



Jerry Wilke with his favorite hiking companion, Magic.

Mr. Wilke is a lifelong Northwoods visitor and a Manitowish Waters homeowner since 1987. He is retired VP of Harley-Davidson Motor Company in charge of sales, marketing, and brand management. Jerry is now President of JGW Enterprises, providing management consulting for businesses nationwide. Locally, he is Chairman/Secretary of the Manitowish Waters Airport Committee. Jerry's wife, Karen, has been a summer resident for many years. Their children, daughter Dana and son Ross, have enjoyed many summers in Manitowish Waters, working summer jobs and as members of the Skiing Skeeters Waterski Team. The Wilke family shares a deep love of the Northwoods and enjoys its beauty and ability to bring family and friends together to create lifelong memories.

## Member and Community. Kindness and Generosity.

Discovery Center member Arlene Kellett recently donated this Great Horned Owl mount for display in our Nature Nook learning classroom. We are



always looking to enhance and add to our wildlife collection. If you have an animal mount or study skin looking for a new home, please consider donating it to the Center. Thank you, Arlene, for your beautiful contribution!

The Discovery Center received a \$1000 donation from Minocqua's St. Matthias Episcopal Thrift Shop. The shop is a wonderful success story – making an impact in the lives of many. The shop started in the 1970s, and has operated on donations and volunteers since its inception. In 2005, the church purchased a larger building, further allowing the Shop's board and volunteers to expand their important role in the community. The Thrift Shop has quality merchandise at affordable prices, and makes donations of household goods, furniture, and clothing to needy families. Clothes and various other items are donated to large networking organizations for resale or shipping worldwide to disaster victims. 10% of the Shop's net income supports community outreach activities of the St. Matthias' Episcopal Church; the remaining dollars are used for upkeep, renovations, and community outreach donations to area charities. The Discovery Center, as a fortunate and grateful recipient of this good-willed and generous group of people, extends our sincere thanks.

# A Featured Spot on the Holiday Home Tour

The Manitowish Waters Lioness host a Holiday Home Tour highlighting area homes and businesses. The Center was invited to decorate and open up our doors for this year's Tour. The overall design of the space was developed by volunteers, Sherlene Schmidt and Cathy Breitholtz. Shortly thereafter, a group of volunteers transformed the Lodge into a festive gathering space. The theme was the night before Christmas, with settings arranged in anticipation of Christmas Day. Included were present wrapping stations, lots of fresh greens, dinner set with holiday china, a snug sitting place by the fire, and a children's bedroom with holiday books, train sets and more. We enjoyed being a part of this year's celebration, and extend our thanks to the Lioness for their work in the communities.



Many thanks, as well, to the volunteers responsible. The crew included: Cathy Breitholtz, Peggy Johnson, Duwayne and Janis Schumacher, Gayna Gaber, Beverly Schultz, Carmen Farwell, Carol Hartman, Cheryl Bowen, Kay Krans and Sherlene Schmidt. Bird Club volunteers Bill Weh, Bob Twelmeyer, Katie Foley, Carne Andrews, Bruce Bacon, Ed Marshall and Jon Cassady created a holiday friendly space for birds on our outdoor patio. Thank you all – over 100 people stopped by to enjoy!

“One must maintain a little bit of summer, even in the middle of winter.” — Henry David Thoreau

**FREE**  
Friday  
Adventures!

Every Friday throughout the season join one of the Discovery Center staff for a trail excursion. We will explore different trails each week. Depending on conditions, it may be a hike, walk, ski or snowshoe. For details, call or get updates online with Twitter and Facebook. A great way to start your active weekend! This is a free program, donations welcome. *Please note there will not be an outing January 20th.*

Cut Here.....

## Membership Form

### Discovery Center Membership

- Individual/Seeker.....\$25.00
- Family/Trekker.....\$50.00
- Adventurer.....\$100.00
- Trailblazer.....\$250.00
- Explorer.....\$500.00
- Voyageur.....\$1,000.00
- Pathfinder.....\$2,500.00
- Guide.....\$5,000.00

- Make me a **Bird Club** member for an additional \$10.00
- Make me a **Timber Wolf Alliance** member for \$25.00 or more: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount

My check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed

### All memberships include:

- Free onsite use of watercraft and snowshoes
- Newsletters and Program Guides
- Discounts on programs

.....  
Increased benefits at higher membership levels.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ St \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

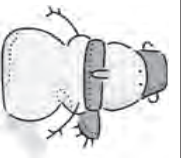
Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

The North Lakeland Discovery Center is a 501 (c) (3) not-for-profit corporation, so your contribution to The Center is fully tax deductible as allowed by relevant law.

For more details about membership, please visit  
[www.DiscoveryCenter.net](http://www.DiscoveryCenter.net)

Please return membership form to:  
NLDC, PO Box 237 Manitowish Waters, WI 54545.



# JANUARY 2012



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Happy New Year!!	2	3	4 Brown Bag: Tracks, Scat and Animal Sign 12 p.m. Held at Boulder Junction Library	5 National Bird Day	6 Friday Adventure Join staff for a trail excursion. 10 a.m.	7 Field Study: Snow Profiles 1 - 2:30 p.m. Moonlit Snowshoe 6 - 7:30 p.m.
8	9	10 Bird Club Annual Social (tentative)	11	12 Nibbles 'N Knowledge: Wild Instincts Rehab 5 - 7:30 p.m.	13 Friday Adventure Join staff for a trail excursion. 10 a.m.	14 Waterfalls in Winter 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Winter Tree ID 1 - 2 p.m.
15	16 Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday	17 Winter Bird Banding 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.	18	19 Board Meeting 3:30 p.m.	20 Van Vliet Snowshoe Hike 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.	21 Marten Tracking 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Tracking for Kids 1 - 3 p.m.
22 Bald Eagle Appreciation Day	23	24 Research Reviews Invasiveness 3 - 4 p.m.	25 Snowshoe Statehouse Lake 1 - 3 p.m.	26	27 Friday Adventure Join staff for a trail excursion. 10 a.m.	28 Nature Nook: Animal Track Stamping 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Winter Bird Banding 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
29	30	31 Winter Workshop Photography 101 Part I 4:30 - 6 p.m.	Feb 1 Winter Workshop Photography 101 Part II 4:30 - 6 p.m.	Feb 2 Winter Workshop Photography 101 Part III 4:30 - 6 p.m.	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">           For further details on programs please call 877.543.2085 or register online <a href="http://www.DiscoveryCenter.net">www.DiscoveryCenter.net</a>.         </div>	