



Discover Us

AUGUST 2012 VOL. 3 • NO. 4

Manitowish Waters, WI
DiscoveryCenter.net



Film Workshop: Biography to the Big Screen

Learn about writing and screenplays, and the intricacies of moving book to film from Dr. Curt Meine on Friday, September 7. Meine served as Project Advisor and onscreen guide for *Green Fire* – a documentary about conservationist Aldo Leopold – and also acted as Leopold's lead biographer.

In *Green Fire: Aldo Leopold and a Land Ethic for Our Time*, the challenge was to communicate Leopold's story in a compelling and honorable way – and in a way that wove history and the present together while speaking to a diverse audience. The

Discovery Center partnered with the Manitowish Waters Advance registration is required by calling 877.543.2085 or by registering online Chamber for the first annual DiscoveryCenter.net.
Bad-Dash, hosted on 9/1/12.

www.nwbaddash.com

Phone
715.543.2085/877.543.2085

Email
Contact@DiscoveryCenter.net

Following the workshop, the Discovery Center and Campfire Film Festival host a special screening and discussion of *Green Fire* at the Lakeland Cinema in Woodruff. The 4pm matinee features a Q&A with Curt Meine.

continued on page 2

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OUR MISSION

Naturally Inspiring and Enriching Lives through Meaningful Connections with Nature, People and Community.

Property managed under an agreement with the WDNR.

Visioning and Planning Top 10

The Discovery Center adopted a strategic plan in June. We are now in the midst of a Master Plan development process to bring that plan to life. Many of you have been involved in the process through vision sessions, online feedback and surveys. Below is a 'top ten' list of opportunities and highlights we are excited to embrace:



- 1) **New mission statement:** *to enrich lives and inspire an ethic of care for Wisconsin's Northwoods, through the facilitation of connections among people, nature and community.*
- 2) **Established values:** Experience, Community, Sustainability, Partnership and Lifelong Learning.
- 3) A **vision** that fuses our mission and values with a campus that thoughtfully integrates wildlife-friendly features, people activity, aesthetics and a clear sense of arrival.
- 4) Embracing our role as a **nature-based community center** to celebrate and socialize, monitor and learn, and to enjoy and experience. Explore your personal and collective connection to the Northwoods environment.
- 5) Creating a wider variety of **connection points** into nature including interactive exhibits, natural play areas, recreational pathways, access to diverse habitats, gardens and more.

6) **Community programs** focused on citizen and student science monitoring projects, with specialist knowledge on lakes and key wildlife species.

7) Commitment to developing a vibrant **volunteer program** integrated into all aspects of our operations including events, fundraisers, citizen science projects, docents and naturalist-guides.

8) **Live education animals** including bats and birds of prey, and a commitment to professional training in animal care and educational use.

9) Using Discovery Center's staff, volunteers, and site to more fully **connect user groups** to our mission, values and the area's regional treasures.

10) This process has identified many strengths and opportunities for our organization. Because of continued member and community support and involvement, we feel poised to **embrace the changes and challenges** that lie ahead.

Film Workshop, cont. from pg. 1

The workshop and film are part of a 5-day festival September 5 – 9, 2012. The Campfire Film Festival is a celebration of film, the arts and nature's grandeur and features the many talents of Wisconsin's film industry. For a full listing of events – including workshops, films, dinners and entertainment – visit CampfireFilmFestival.com.



Two New Discovery Center Events!

This year we offered up two new Discovery Center Events: Family Play Day and our Membership Appreciation Dinner. Both events were focused on family fun here on the grounds of the Center.

Member Appreciation Dinner

On June 27th we welcomed members for our first ever Member Appreciation Dinner. As a small token of our gratitude we treated guests to a Mexican Dinner, cocktails and pontoon rides, while the kids enjoyed crafts, games, and more. We look forward to making this an annual event!



Painting!



War Canoe Rides!



Fishing!



Leaf Stamping!



Minnow Races!



Casting Contest!

Family Play Day

Our first annual Family Play Day on July 6th was a rousing success! Almost 300 people enjoyed a perfect summer day at the Discovery Center. Kids enjoyed activities including crayfish and minnow races, geocaching and scavenger hunts, survival games, canoe races and tours, and too much more to mention! While taking a break from the activities, families enjoyed a BBQ lunch under a beautiful blue sky. This event brought in many families that had never been here before or gave those who had a new way of thinking about us. We will definitely be doing it again next year!





Eco-Discoverers on a Birch Bark Canoe ride on July 16.

Wolf Advocacy or Education

Rad Watkins, TWA Education Specialist

Now that the dust is settling from the recent decisions regarding the Wisconsin wolf hunt, the Timber Wolf Alliance (TWA) has moved its emphasis back to educating all ages about wolf ecology and behavior. During the fall, we host wolf howling surveys as citizen monitoring programs, and are anxiously awaiting the final printing of our annual Wolf Awareness Week (WAW) poster. Over 25,000 posters – filled with updated information on wolves in regions throughout the U.S – are distributed nationwide to schools, nature centers, state parks, libraries and more. Check out TimberWolfalliance.org to get your 2012 poster, as well as to view and purchase prior year posters. The collectible posters are adorned with beautiful artwork selected from a national contest held each year.



During the establishment of the Wisconsin wolf harvest bill, TWA's educational efforts were focused on legislators and other policy-making advisory committees. TWA, while not a political advocacy group, at times uses education as a form of advocacy. While neither in favor of or opposed to a wolf hunt, TWA did present statements and testify at hearings in opposition of the bill and as an informative voice on the ensuing regulations. TWA's educational and objectively-based testimonies were aimed at reversing irresponsible pieces in the bill including baiting of wolves with food and hunting of wolves with dogs. There is currently a lawsuit in process, focused on the lack of special regulations as related to hunting wolves with dogs. TWA continues to monitor the situation as it evolves.

If you have any further questions regarding the wolves of Wisconsin or TWA, contact Rad at TWA@discoverycenter.net

In Search of Aquatic Invasive Species

Anne Kretschmann, Water Specialist



Invasive purple loosestrife found while on 'purple loosestrife patrol' of shorelines.



Clipping and disposing properly of purple loosestrife flowerheads prevents additional seeds from getting into the seed-bank and germinating in the future! Each plant can produce up to 2.7 million seeds per year (seeds are smaller than a poppy seed)!



Proper disposal of purple loosestrife flowerheads is at the dump or burned, NOT composted as they will germinate and grow in a compost pile.



Scott Blado, Water Education Intern, leads the way in the search for invasive curly-leaf pondweed. The double-sided rake is used to bring plants at the bottom of the water body up to the surface for identification.





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North Lakeland Discovery Center

www.DiscoveryCenter.net • 215 Cty Highway W, Manitowish Waters

BIG Events

BIG Fundraising BIG Success



The Discovery Center sends a sincere "Thank You" to our members, volunteers, attendees, donors and to the organizations and service clubs involved in the success of our 2012 fundraising events.

Educating all ages through experiential learning.



\$75,000 raised
in support of
the Center's
mission!

Over 250 members gathered together at the Big Event Gala.

Thank You!



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