



**The Newport Wilderness Society, Inc.**

**2018 ANNUAL REPORT**

**of**

**The Newport Wilderness Society, Inc.**

**a**

**Not-for-Profit Friends Group**

**for**

**Newport State Park**

**in**

**Door County, Wisconsin**

**July 28, 2018**

<http://newportwildernesssociety.org>

## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

<b>DATE OF INCORPORATION</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>MISSION OF THE SOCIETY</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>GOALS OF THE SOCIETY</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>BOARD OF DIRECTORS</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>BOARD OF DIRECTORS' COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS 2017-2018</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF NEWPORT WILDERNESS SOCIETY</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>PRESIDENT'S REPORT</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>TREASURER'S REPORT</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>MERCHANDISE COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>15</b>

<b>MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>NATURE INTERPRETATION &amp; STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>VOLUNTEER SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>PUBLICITY COMMITTEE REPORT</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>LOCAL BUSINESS SUPPORTERS OF NEWPORT WILDERNESS SOCIETY</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>IRS EXEMPT ORGANIZATION RECORD</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS RECORD</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>NWS – ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES – JULY 29, 2017</b>	<b>23</b>



**Date of Incorporation:** August 26, 1985

**Mission of the Society:**

**To work with the management of Newport State Park, Door County, Wisconsin, to help preserve the natural beauty of the Park's forest, meadow and shore areas for appropriate public use.**

**Goals of the Society:**

- 1. Help preserve Newport State Park as a minimal development natural Park;**

- 2. Encourage the individual study and the preservation of Wilderness and Nature in Newport State Park and elsewhere in the County;**
- 3. Seek volunteers to help the Newport State Park management with projects to maintain the Park and facilitate its proper use;**
- 4. Develop other projects and programs appropriate for the Park as may be determined by the Board of Directors working with the Park management.**

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR NEWPORT WILDERNESS SOCIETY**

### Executive Committee

Dick Heil, President

(Retiring from board)

Electronics engineer. Retired from Bell Labs and the FAA. In a moment of weakness, agreed to continue the FAA work after moving to Door County in 2011. Frequent Newport hiker. Lives in Ellison Bay with his wife Carol.

Dick Smythe, Vice President

Retired from the United States Forest Service. Has a Ph.D. degree in Entomology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Dave Vermillion, Secretary

Dave and Meg have lived north of Ellison Bay since 2000. Before retirement worked for Continental Can, Schlitz, and Carnation in the manufacture of tin cans. Volunteer naturalist training at Riveredge and Retzer nature centers. Several board positions with the DC Unitarian Fellowship, including president.

Jeanne Rabel, Treasurer

Retired federal civil service employee with an MBA in health care administration and health care finance. Lives in Ellison Bay and enjoys hiking and snow shoeing at Newport.

Mary Hansen, 5<sup>th</sup> Officer

Mary was raised on Washington Island, and attended college at UW-La Crosse. She moved back to Door County in 2014, and has since been hired as Production Manager at Island Orchard Cider.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR NEWPORT WILDERNESS SOCIETY**  
**(continued)**

## Board Members

Amy Dwyer

(Retiring from board)

Amy moved to Door County in 2012 after being a visitor for 25 years. She loves to hike with her dog and kayak, star-gaze, camp, cross country ski, and snowshoe!

Sheryl Honig

(Candidate for election)

A teacher and teacher educator, Dr. Honig is thoroughly enjoying her position at The Ridges Sanctuary as Environmental Educator. Recently transplanted to Door County, she is grateful for all the time and space to be in the woods and on Lake Michigan! She is committed to supporting Newport State Park!

Gene Kenny

Retired from the University of Wisconsin as a Physician Assistant in pediatric cardiac surgery in 2016. He and his wife Helen moved to Door County full time and live on Europe Lake. Gene is an avid woodworker, recently completed the Master Gardener program through the UW Extension and is volunteering on a Habitat home build.

Neil Smith

Retired CPA. Owned and operated a tax and consulting services business. Served as Vice President and Principal Accounting Officer for NAVTEQ Corporation and Corporate Controller for Snap-on Incorporated. Enjoys hiking, paddling and biking in and around Newport State Park.

Karen Studebaker

(Candidate for election)

Graduate of Purdue University; Educator;  
LWV activist; business owner; loves living  
in Door County and having Newport  
Wilderness State park as my “neighbor”.



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR NEWPORT WILDERNESS SOCIETY  
(continued)**

Tom Turriff

(Retiring from board)

Retired CFO living in Ellison Bay with his wife Jo Ann. Enjoys being outdoors and photographing nature. Active in many nature/environment related organizations.

Greg Wilde

Before retirement, Greg worked as Executive VP of a Midwestern insurance company. He is a Board member and volunteer with Pine View Wildlife Rehabilitation and Education Center. He and his wife Jean split their time between Ellison Bay and Milwaukee.

Data Base Administrator

Marc Demoly

Professional spread-sheet administrator.

Trillium Editor

Sheryl Honig

NWS Board member noted above.

NWS Website Manager

David Studebaker

Software consultant and technical writer since the early 1960s (aka programming dinosaur). Software business owner with partner Karen for 35 years; life partner with Karen for 50+ years. Volunteer with Northern Sky Theater and various Liberty Grove Town Committees.

Ex officio Member

Michelle Hefty

Park Manager, Newport and Rock Island State Parks.

**NEWPORT WILDERNESS SOCIETY**

**2017-2018 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Dick Heil, President  
Dick Smythe, Vice President  
Dave Vermillion, Secretary  
Jeanne Rabel, Treasurer  
Mary Hansen, 5<sup>th</sup> Member

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS' COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS 2017-2018**

**BUDGET AND FINANCE**

- Jeanne Rabel, Chair
- Neil Smith
- Tom Turriff
- President (Ex Officio)
- Park Manager (Ex officio)

**MEMBERSHIP & FUND RAISING**

- Vacant, Chair
- Dick Smythe
- President (Ex Officio)
- Park Manager (Ex officio)

**MERCHANDISING**

- Gene Kenny, Chair
- Beth Bartoli
- Neil Smith
- President (Ex Officio)
- Park Manager (Ex officio)

**NATURE INTERPRETATION AND**

**STEWARDSHIP**

- Greg Wilde, Chair
- Marilyn Hansotia
- Al Schneider
- President (Ex Officio)
- Park Manager (Ex officio)

**NOMINATING**

- Dick Smythe, Chair
- President (Ex Officio)
- Park Manager (Ex officio)

**PUBLICITY**

- Dave Vermillion, Chair
- Nancy Rafal
- Karen Studebaker
- President (Ex Officio)
- Park Manager (Ex officio)

## **VOLUNTEER SERVICES**

- Amy Dwyer, Chair
- President (Ex Officio)
- Park Manager (Ex officio)

## **ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF NEWPORT WILDERNESS SOCIETY**

Newport Wilderness Society is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit, Friends group organization that was formed to support nature interpretive programs at Newport State Park

For the past several years, Friends of Wisconsin State Parks (FWSP) has conducted a Gold Seal Award program to recognize state parks in a variety of categories based on popular vote. Newport State Park has received the following Gold Seal Awards:

- “Best Friend’s Group Website” (2013)
- “Best Place for Quiet Recreating” (2014)
- “Best Backpack Campsite” (2016)
- “Best state park system property for star gazing” (2017)

Newport Wilderness Society raised enough money to build (\$180,000) and outfit (\$50,000) the nature interpretive room (Hotz Wilderness Room), the park naturalist office and a storage room. This project was completed in April 2008 and dedicated on July 26, 2008.

In addition, Newport Wilderness Society...

- Starting in 2018, Park Manager Michelle Hefty requested \$12,000 for annual funding of the part-time naturalist due to new wage scales for the position. In prior years, the position was funded at \$8000 annually. In 2018, the Society provided \$20,000 for naturalist funding, including \$8000 for 2017 that was delayed until fiscal 2018 due to problems with the state’s new accounting system. Provided \$8,000 for hiring two part-time park naturalists for the 2015 and 2016 seasons.
- Provided \$4000 for hiring a part-time employee for invasive species control work for the 2015 and 2016 seasons. For 2017 and 2018, Park Manager Michelle Hefty said that invasive species control work would be funded from the DNR account used for trail maintenance. Unspent donations to NWS for invasive species control will be reserved for use in the future.
- Provided \$1969 additional support funds in 2018 for these park activities and programs:

- Nature Center equipment, books, and supplies
  - Open Door Bird Sanctuary programs
  - Volunteer support (meals and supplies)
  - International Dark Sky Association membership
  - Telescope, binoculars and accessories for astronomy programs
  - Advertising for Newport Wilderness Days
  - Program expenses for International Dark Sky Park activities
- Provided \$10,052 in 2017 to fund various park activities.
  - Provided \$5992 in 2016 to fund various park activities.
  - Provided over \$1000 in 2015 to fund various park activities.
  - Provided \$450 in 2015 to purchase a slide converter and document camera for the nature center.
  - Supported Newport State Park’s application to the International Dark Sky Association as Wisconsin’s first Dark Sky Park.
  - Provided \$8,000 for hiring two part-time park naturalists for the 2014 season.
  - Provided \$6,000 for hiring part-time park naturalists for the 2013 season.
  - Provided \$12,000 for the purchase of a new UTV for park maintenance personnel to use while maintaining trails and campsites and fighting invasive plant species (Garlic mustard) in December 2012.
  - Provided meals for nine students and one instructor on March 29-30, 2012 from the Agriculture and Natural Resources Department of Fox Valley Technical College that was contracted by Wisconsin DNR to make up-to-date global positioning system (GPS) maps of Newport State Parks.
  - Provided \$ 6,000.00 for hiring part-time park naturalists for the 2012 season.
  - Provided \$ 4,950.00 for hiring a part-time park naturalist for the 2011 season.
  - Partnered with Newport State Park and three Door County poetry groups (Wallace Group, The Unabridged Poetry Group and Word Women Poetry Group) to install a walking poetry trail at Newport State Park in 2010.
  - Was one of several partners with the Wisconsin Natural Resources Foundation for an all-day (6:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.) Great Lakes BioBlitz at Europe Bay State Natural Area (SNA) in Newport State Park on June 26, 2010.
  - Provided \$ 5,000.00 for hiring a part-time park naturalist for the 2010 season.
  - Paid registration fees and lodging for two individuals to attend a cross-country ski trail grooming workshop (2009).
  - Sponsored a presentation by Lincoln Brower, “Mr. Monarch”, on the fate of Monarch Butterflies (2009).
  - Underwrote the development and printing of a brochure titled “*Geology of Newport State Park*”, which is available free to park visitors (2008).
  - Underwrote the development and printing of the Newport State Park *Summer and Fall Flowers* brochure, which is available free to park visitors (2008).

- Purchased a computer for the park naturalist. Assisted in the purchase of trail grooming equipment for cross-country skiing
- Supported a study of monarch butterfly population in the butterfly garden area of Newport State Park (2002).
- Sponsored the development of a booklet titled “*The Ferdinand Hotz Legacy – a Door County Family History*” (1998).
- Underwrote the development and printing of the Newport State Park *Bird Checklist* brochure, which is available free to park visitors (1994).
- Underwrote the development and printing of the Newport State Park *Spring Flowers* brochure, which is available free to park visitors (1994).
- Sponsored a cultural history study of Newport, which produced a booklet titled “*Newport –Out of Wilderness into Wilderness*”, which is available free to park visitors (1994).
- Underwrote the development and printing of booklet titled “*Forest Heritage Tour – Newport State Park*”, which is available free to park visitors (1994).
- Underwrote the development and printing of *Mammals of Newport State Parks* brochure, which is available free to park visitors (1994).
- Provided funds to establish a small nature center next to the old park office (1994).
- Partially financed the construction of a three-sided cultural history kiosk near the former location of the village of Newport (1991).
- Underwrote the development and printing of Newport State Park Silurian Sea Fossil brochure (1989).

Members of Newport Wilderness Society lead various types of nature and cultural history hikes each year, serve as docents at the Hotz Wilderness Room, assist with the annual Candlelight Cross-country Ski event and assist in trying to eradicate invasive plant species in the Park.

## **PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

The 2017-2018 fiscal year of the Newport Wilderness Society ended on June 30<sup>th</sup> and marked the end of another busy year for the Society. Once again this year, my thanks go to the other members of the board who have worked hard to advance our mission of supporting Newport State Park. We bid farewell to Amy Dwyer, our Volunteer Services Coordinator, who is retiring from the board at the completion of her three-year term. Also retiring from the board is Tom Turriff, who has served on our Finance Committee.

We will miss them both. At the same time, we welcome new board members Sheryl Honig and Karen Studebaker, both of whom are full-time residents of Ellison Bay. Karen is familiar to NWS members as the past editor of our newsletter, *The Trillium*. She will be relinquishing that role to Sheryl as she joins our board. Finally, I will be retiring from the board after serving as president for the past three years and as a member of the board prior to that. It has been a privilege to have been on the board, but I feel it's time for new leadership. In addition, the demands of my job for the next several years will prevent me from spending much time in volunteer work.

After Newport State Park was designated an International Dark Sky Park by the International Dark Sky Association last year, the NWS board has been supporting efforts to enhance Newport as a destination for stargazers. Earlier this year, we approved the expenditure of \$5000 toward the installation of a dark-sky information kiosk at the lot 3 parking area. This will be a double kiosk with two 24" x 36" panels, reader rail, and a solar powered audio system that will give information to park visitors on how to enjoy Newport's night sky. We thank the Ellison Bay Service Club for their \$2000 donation toward the cost of this project. We have also applied for a Wisconsin State Park System grant to help offset the cost of the kiosk.

In June, the board approved the expenditure of \$3750 for a 10" diameter telescope, accessories and several pairs of binoculars for use by park visitors. This equipment will nicely compliment the smaller telescopes currently in use. We also funded the production of Dark-Sky information handouts that are now available at the park office for use by visitors. The attractive brochures were created by our Naturalist, Beth Bartoli, and are a valuable reference as visitors head to lot 3 for star viewing.

Our merchandise sales program, which is an important revenue stream for NWS, has been reoriented in the past year with an attractive line-up of Dark Sky-themed apparel, books and supplies. The Society sold \$509 worth of Dark Sky- merchandise on May 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> at the North Central Region Astronomical League conference in Sturgeon Bay. Many of the attendees at the conference traveled north to Newport in the evenings to enjoy the night sky thanks to the clear skies we enjoyed that weekend. And recently, volunteers installed four new telescope pads in the viewing area north of the shelter building. New reflective tape has been placed on the blacktop paths, guiding visitors to the optimal viewing areas.

For the past year, the board has been making plans to repair the iconic Hotz Trail Gate on Europe Bay Road. The years have taken their toll on the iconic stone archway, and it needs restoration to preserve its structural integrity. Last year, the board approved \$2000

for the masonry repair and recently authorized the repairs to proceed. Additional restoration of the metal and woodwork will follow later.

Again this year, our popular annual programs such as the Candlelight Ski, Perseid Meteor Shower Viewing and Newport Wilderness Days events were a success as described in past issues of *The Trillium*.

Finally, special thanks go to all friends of the Society who have again been very generous in their donations. During our 2017 – 2018 fundraising drive, we received these amounts: \$12,703 (Area of Greatest Need), \$19,685 (Naturalist), \$420 (Invasive Species Coordination), and \$1350 (Endowment Fund). At a time when all Wisconsin state parks are facing financial challenges, your donations have made a significant impact.

Dick Heil, July 28, 2018

### **BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT**

For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018

The Budget and Finance Committee includes Jeanne Rabel – Treasurer and Chair, Tom Turriff, Neil Smith, and ex-officio members Dick Heil and Michelle Hefty. The committee met several times to review the budget and financial performance of NWS and to review purchases on our newly acquired credit cards. The committee proposed to the Board that in the future a member of the committee would review purchases, expenses, and investments on a yearly basis and prepare a report for the entire Board to address any shortcomings. Neil Smith performed this evaluation this year and his recommendations were subsequently implemented.

### **NWS TREASURER'S REPORT**

For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018

The NWS finances are managed by the treasurer, subject to guidance by the NWS Budget and Finance Committee and oversight by the NWS Board of Directors. Financial statements were first reviewed by a member of the Budget and Finance Committee, subsequently by the entire Budget and Finance Committee, and finally by the entire Board of Directors. Minor issues were corrected on the spot.

As shown on the Statement of Net Worth table below, the Society’s net worth increased to \$212,130 this year. Our assets include cash, bank accounts, and investments in our operating and endowment funds. The investments in the operating and endowment funds consist of publicly traded mutual funds and exchange traded funds. These funds contain equity and fixed income funds in keeping with our long-term investment objectives of low risk, capital preservation, growth and a steady income stream. A portion of our funds is invested in a fossil free fund in keeping with NWS environmental consciousness.

STATEMENT OF NET WORTH

	As of	As of
	June 30, 2017	June 30, 2018
Cash-Nicolet Checking	\$ 3,367	\$ 4,600
Cash-Nicolet Savings	\$ 15,151	\$ 11,166
Cash & Nicolet-Pay Pal	\$ 254	\$ 355
Cash on Hand	\$ 2,179	\$ 0
Subtotal	\$ 20,951	\$ 16,121
Merchandise Inventory	\$ 5,938	\$ 10,010
RBC Operating Fund Investment	\$ 65,543	\$ 79,248
RBC Endowment Fund Investment	\$ 95,225	\$ 106,751
Total Assets	\$ 187,657	\$ 212,130
Total Liabilities	\$ 0	\$ 0
Total Net Worth	\$ 187,657	\$ 212,130

A few things to note about the above net worth statement: In 2017 Newport State Park was honored to receive a designation as an International Dark Sky Park. To that end a significant amount of dark sky merchandise was added to the Park inventory which



accounts for the large increase reflected above in merchandise inventory. A portion of the difference in endowment fund investment was due to targeted donations to the endowment and life memberships which are automatically deposited in the endowment fund; this accounted for \$4,350 of the increase.

The table below contains the Statement of Revenues and Expenses. A few highlights of this statement include:

- Donations accounted for \$25,575 of our revenue, approximately an \$8,000 increase from last year. We were fortunate to receive a \$12,000 donation to fund the Park’s naturalist, a \$2,000 donation to fund telescopes and an information kiosk for the night sky program, and \$750 to fund the repair of the Hotz Gate. In addition, many generous members contributed funds that were set aside for the areas of greatest need. We are extremely grateful to the 36 individuals, the 53 families, and the 8 organizations which donated funds to Park programs. In-kind donations although not specified in the statement include a \$900 telescope and a \$3000 rescue sled.
- Merchandise sales increased by \$4,000 most likely due to the new night sky merchandise available for sale at the Park.
- Program support increased due to NWS donations to DNR to cover the salary of the naturalist. Program support which included funding for the naturalist program, interpretive programs, and park membership, and activities in the International Dark Skies Association accounted for 80% of total NWS expenses.

#### STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENSES

	As of	As of
	June 30, 2017	June 30, 2018
REVENUES		
Donations	\$ 17,205	\$ 25,575
Membership-Annual	\$ 4,245	\$ 4,205
Membership-Life	\$ 2,250	\$ 2,000
Merchandise Sales	\$ 13,379	\$ 17,417
Dividend & Interest Income	\$ 4,504	\$ 2,198

Unrealized Gains (Losses) Investments	\$ 8,035	\$ 8,546
TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 49,618	\$ 59,941
EXPENSES		
Program Support	\$ 10,052	\$ 21,968
Management & General	\$ 3,712	\$ 4,991
Fundraising	\$ 524	\$ 525
Merchandise for Resale	\$ 6,613	\$ 13,519
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 20,901	\$ 41,003
REVENUES LESS EXPENSES	\$ 28,717	\$ 18,938

### **NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT**

The nominating committee recruited two new board members in the 2017 - 2018 year.

We continue to so seek out individuals to serve on the board. If you would like to be a part of helping to shape the future of the NWS, we would like to talk to you. Please feel free to contact us at the telephone number below.

The following board members are nominated for terms ending in the year indicated:

- Sheryl Honig (2021) \*
- Karen Studebaker (2021) \*

\* Candidate board member

Respectfully submitted, Richard Smythe (920-854-3330).

### **MERCHANDISING COMMITTEE REPORT**

For the NWS year ending June 30, 2018

Committee Members: Gene Kenny - Chair  
Beth Bartoli - Naturalist

Ex-officio members: Dick Heil - NWS Board President, Michelle Hefty - Park Manager

Newport Wilderness Society merchandise showed increased revenue during fiscal year 2017 - 2018, with total sales of \$ 17,417, a 30% improvement. Newport's designation as a Certified Dark Sky Park as well as a great turn out for the Perseid meteor shower and all the activities by our park Naturalist contributed significantly to sales.

The display area in the visitor center was also redesigned this year making it easier to view merchandise. Dark Sky products, which arrived in October, lead the way. Tee shirts and sweatshirts for both adults and children, that included a revised park logo and an image of the night sky were a great success. A new line of "long sleeve" shirts were added to our line-up this spring. Redesigning a park sticker that highlighted the Newport State Park's International Dark Sky designation also sold well. In addition, Dennis Motray (photographer) has generously donated several new night sky photographs for sale with proceeds going to the Newport Wilderness Society. Field guides and children's books continued to be a big hit. The Newport State Park's Dark Sky designation has certainly made a nice impact on sales.

The Newport Wilderness Society was invited to be a vendor for a conference of the North Central Region of the Astronomical League on May 4th and 5th in Sturgeon Bay. Along with a presentation by our park Naturalist Beth Bartoli, merchandise that emphasizes the dark sky sold well.

Aside from the generous donations from our business partners and individual donors, profits from the sale of merchandise are the single most important way that the Newport Wilderness Society can fund the programs and projects that benefit our state park. Everything from contributing to the Naturalist salary or supporting the wonderful activities like the new "Dark Sky kiosk" (coming this summer) and the repair of the Hotz Trail gate would not be possible without your support.

Whether you are at the park for a hike, presentation, star gazing or any of the wonderful activities led by our park Naturalist, stop at the visitor center and check out some of the new merchandise and thank you for supporting our Newport State Park again this year.

## 2017-2018 MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

2017-2018 Membership Report as of July 1, 2018

The Membership Committee for 2017-2018: Vacant, Chair; Dick Smythe; and ex officio members Dick Heil and Michelle Hefty.

We are pleased to continue to have professional support provided by Marc Demoly, assisting us in the administration of membership services. Our membership database information is fully computerized resulting in more accurate and efficient processing along with providing more effective management opportunities for the board.

The following table shows the membership by category:

### Types of Membership and Totals as of July 1, 2018

Couple Life		73		
Individual Life		45		
Business or Organization Life		3		
Business or Organization		30		
Delinquent	5			
Family		71		
Delinquent	7			
Individual		37		
Delinquent	1			
<b>Sub-Total - Delinquent</b>	<b>13</b>			
<b>Sub-Total – Paid</b>		<b>259</b>		
Honorary (Non-paying)		17		
<b>GRAND TOTAL (all categories)</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>276</b>	<b>= 289</b>

### 2017 – 2018 Fundraising Drive Results

Thanks to our donors' generous responses, the year-end fund drive totaled \$34,158. We are very grateful for our donors' generosity which has enabled the Society to benefit Newport State Park. We would like to recognize their contributions below.

**Duck Bay Trail Club (<\$100) - Endowment**  
Kaye Wagner - Baileys Harbor, WI

**Duck Bay Trail Club (<\$100) - As Needed**  
Patricia Alarie - Neenah, WI

Amazon Smile  
Beth & Don Bartoli - Kenosha, WI  
Nick Brashi - Ellison Bay, WI  
Linda Brooks - Sister Bay, WI  
Rosemary Caruk - Evanston, IL  
CHOP Restaurant - Sister Bay, WI  
Daniel Connolly - Manitowoc, WI  
Donna Danielson - Wheaton, IL  
Jack Travis & Diane Morgan - Ellison Bay, WI  
Roy & Helene Dilulio - Ellison Bay, WI  
Thomas & Joan Dunn - Madison, WI  
Martin & Hillary Ford - Ellison Bay, WI  
James & Janet Foster - Pleasant Prairie, WI  
Raymond & Kathleen Fuchs - Appleton, WI  
Anthony & Cheryl Furlick - Wauwatosa, WI  
GE Foundation - Fairfield, CT  
Jim & Joanne Gustafson - Ellison Bay, WI  
Jayne Harding - Ellison Bay, WI  
Harlan & Judyann Hirt - La Grange, IL  
Steve & Marjorie Karges - Janesville, WI  
Ron Klimaitis - Ellison Bay, WI  
Bob Lindahl & Wilma Van Arragon - Ellison Bay, WI  
Les & Roxann Lucas - Milwaukee, WI  
LURE Restaurant - Sister Bay, WI  
Phyllis Mielke - Sister Bay, WI  
Paul & Gabriele Moylan - St Louis, MO  
Peter & Jean Ann Nowak - Lake Villa, IL  
Edward & Maryjo Osowski - La Grange, IL  
Gwynne Schultz - Sister Bay, WI  
Shelley Shea - Lakewood, CO  
Ann Sheridan - Sturgeon Bay, WI  
Jeanne Smith - Madison, WI

Gerald Swanson - Ellison Bay, WI  
The Bridges - Ellison Bay, WI  
Catharina Thomsen - Ellison Bay, WI  
Kaye Wagner - Baileys Harbor, WI  
John & M. Jane Whitney - Baileys Harbor, WI  
Jane & Karl Wise - Baileys Harbor, WI

Carl & Sandy Zapffe - Ellison Bay, WI  
Barbara Ziegler - Nauvoo, IL

**Duck Bay Trail Club (<\$100) - Naturalist**

Roy & Helene Dilulio - Ellison Bay, WI  
Joy & Fred Lang - Jerry's Flowers - Sister Bay, WI  
Robert Judd - Ellison Bay, WI  
Charlotte Lukes - Egg Harbor, WI  
Michael & Barbara Madden - Sturgeon Bay, WI  
John Maguire - Fairfield, IA  
Demaris & Antonio Martinez - Portland, OR  
Peter & Jean Ann Nowak - Lake Villa, IL

**Duck Bay Trail Club (< \$100) - Invasive Species**

Robert Judd - Ellison Bay, WI  
Marilyn McDonald - Oberlin, OH

**Sand Cove Trail Club (\$100-\$249) - Endowment**

Michelle Bratzke - Lindenhurst, IL  
Werner & Sue Krause - Ellison Bay, WI  
Neil & Barbara Smith - Gurnee, IL  
Tom & Jo Ann Turriff - DePere, WI

**Sand Cove Trail Club (\$100-\$249) - As Needed**

Richard & Mary Joan Barry - Chicago, IL  
Arthur & Kathryn Budzak - Ellison Bay, WI  
Robert & Nancy Davis - Ephraim, WI  
Daniel Dineen - West Bend, WI  
Richard & Susan Farrell - Ottawa, IL  
Donald & Barbara Fuhrmann - Riverwoods, IL  
Norma & Wallace Hammerberg - Ellison Bay, WI  
Kendra Heckmann - Neenah, WI  
Richard & Carol Heil - Ellison Bay,  
WI Lail Herman - Evanston, IL  
Gene & Helen Kenny - Ellison Bay, WI  
Tom MacDonald - Ellison Bay, WI  
Steve & Daphne Racker - Chicago, IL  
Margaret Schnackenberg - Glenview, IL  
William & Judith Schuele - Muskego, WI  
Brent & Megan Sieling - Schliesman - Madison,  
WI  
Neil & Barbara Smith - Gurnee, IL  
Richard & Mary Smythe - Sister Bay, WI

John & Judy Turner - Ephraim, WI

**Sand Cove Trail Club (\$100-\$249) - Naturalist**

Ecology Sports - Sister Bay, WI

Terry & Jeanne Heidenreiter-Rabel - Ellison Bay, WI

Deborah K Johnson - Fairfield , IA

Paul & Gabriele Moylan - St Louis, MO

L. J. & Sharon Neuman & Lavin - Hartland, WI

Neil & Barbara Smith - Gurnee, IL

Gregory & Jean Wilde - Mequon, WI

**Sand Cove Trail Club (\$100-\$249) - Invasive Species**

Don & Coggin Herringa - Sturgeon Bay, WI

L. J. & Sharon Neuman & Lavin - Hartland, WI

Neil & Barbara Smith - Gurnee, IL

**Fern Trail Club (\$250-\$499) - Endowment**

Edward & Linda Heyes - Hortonville, WI

Don Luker - Sister Bay, WI

O'Leary Family Giving Fund - St Paul, MN

**Fern Trail Club (\$250-\$499) - As Needed**

R. David & La Vonne Callsen - Ellison Bay, WI

Ecology Sports - Sister Bay, WI

L. J. & Sharon Neuman & Lavin - Hartland, WI

Mary Rosecky - Ellison Bay, WI

Sister Bay Bowl - Sister Bay, WI

Mary Jo Stock - Greendale, WI

Surly Brewing Company - Brooklyn Center, MN

Beth Varney - Lombard, IL

Wild Tomato-Fish Creek - Fish Creek, WI

Wild Tomato-Sister Bay - Fish Creek, WI

**Ridge Trail Club (\$500-\$999) - As Needed**

Dr. G. Leonard Apfelbach - Sarasota, FL

**Hotz Trail Club (\$1,000 and up) - As Needed**

Mary & Doug Chomeau - Creve Couer, MO

Dennis & Mary Fales - Venice, FL

**Hotz Trail Club (\$1,000 and up) - Naturalist**

Lisa & David Beckwith - Wheaton, IL

## NATURE INTERPRETATION AND STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

**Submitted by Greg Wilde, Chair**

The Newport State Park International Dark Sky dedication was held on June 22, 2017. Last year, I reported on all of the considerable efforts expended by the park staff and others to achieve the recognition and designation. Over the fall and winter months, materials supporting the park designation have been produced to guide and assist visitors interested in partaking of the dark sky experience. These include new maps and brochures to guide people to viewing sites, new signage in the form of a solar powered kiosk complete with audio support, and four block pads to be used as telescope mounts. We also have two new telescopes to utilize for dark sky programs.

As long as we are on the subject of Dark Skies, Chicago television station WTTW will be doing a feature on Newport State Park as a dark sky destination this summer.

Over the past year, 3042 visitors to the park participated in programs offered by our Park Naturalist, Beth Bartoli. That is an amazing statistic when compared to 2016 where approximately 1400 visitors participated in park programs. What an incredible year! Why such a jump? Certainly, the Dark Skies destination had a considerable impact, but very interesting, creative, and diverse programs created by Beth were just as much of an influence.

Some highlights of program offerings:

- The Wednesday Challenge Hikes over the summer drew 130 souls who covered 32 miles of Newport trails.
- There were almost too many education hikes to mention – a sampling includes hikes focused on wildflowers, trees and shrubs, mushrooms, fossils, herbs, invasive species, birds, bees, and bats.
- If you wanted to learn more about the camping experience, there were sessions on backpacking, campfires, survival skills and poetry and the outdoors.
- There were IDA/Dark Sky presentations both in the park and to the North Central Region Astronomical League.
- The focus on Monarchs remains strong with milkweed planting sessions and larvae/egg collection to rear young monarchs. Last year 122 monarchs were raised and released, much improving the estimated 2% survival rate when left to Mother Nature.

Last year was an amazing year at Newport State Park. I can't wait for the 2018 season.

## **VOLUNTEER SERVICES COMMITTEE**

I'm sure you've heard the saying, "Many hands make light work." Well, right here at Newport State Park you can see that adage in action all throughout the year! A park like ours couldn't thrive without the assistance from VOLUNTEERS! If you're looking for a way to make a difference, I bet we've got the opportunity for you! Most of the park's needs for volunteers don't require any particular skills or knowledge - just a willingness and time to help. Below are just some of the events or occasions where volunteers made all the difference!

- Candlelight Ski
- Stargazing Parties
- Perseid Meteor Shower event
- Earth Day Workday in the Park
- Newport Wilderness Days
- Fall Workday in the Park
- Citizen Science Projects
- Being on the board of the Newport Wilderness Society
- Helping install signage
- Hikes and presentations on birds and other animals, insects, herbs, trees, the dark sky

We thank the many volunteers who made the choice to share their time, energy, and in some cases, real expertise to enhance our park and the experience all visitors can enjoy when they visit. Let's do it again next year!

## **PUBLICITY COMMITTEE**

The members of the Publicity Committee are listed on page 7 of the report. The primary means for disseminating publicity about the Newport Wilderness Society and Newport State Park are:

1. *The Trillium* newsletter. Karen Studebaker and Sheryl Honig (summer issue) edited four issues of *The Trillium* in the 2017-2018 fiscal year. Gene Kenny prepared the mailed copies.
2. [www.newportwildernesssociety.org](http://www.newportwildernesssociety.org). Dave Studebaker serves as our web administrator.
3. facebook. The Society has a facebook page that is linked to our web page.



4. Other media. The committee created an ad for the Peninsula Pulse to thank business members of the Society and to publicize 2017 Newport Wilderness Days.

**2017-2018 BUSINESS AND ORGANIZATION SUPPORTERS OF  
NEWPORT WILDERNESS SOCIETY**

The following local businesses and organizations are supporters of Newport Wilderness Society:

Al Johnson’s Swedish Restaurant & Buttik, Inc. 10698 N Bay Shore Drive Sister Bay, WI 54234	Bayshore Outdoor, Inc. 2457 S. Bay Shore Drive Sister Bay, WI 54234
Bernal T. Chomeau Private Foundation Creve Coeur, MO	Blue Dolphin LTD 10320 Hwy 42 Ephraim, WI
Champeau Floor Covering 2613 S. Bay Shore Drive Sister Bay, WI 54234	Chop Restaurant 2345 Mill Rd Sister Bay, WI 54234
Country Walk BP 2431 S Bay Shore Dr. Sister Bay, WI 54234	Cook Book Store 10590 Country Walk Dr #2 Sister Bay, WI 54234
Dovetail Trading 10282 Hwy 57 Sister Bay, WI 54234	Ecology Sports 10740 N Bay Shore Drive Sister Bay, WI 54234
Going Garbage & Recycling Inc. 10564 Old Stage Road Sister Bay, WI 54234	Grasses Grill LLC 10663 N Bay Shore Dr. Sister Bay, WI 54234
Hammersmith TV & Electronics 10514 Country Lane Sister Bay, WI 54234	Husby’s Food and Spirits 10641 N Bay Shore Dr Sister Bay, WI 54234
Island Orchard Cider 12040 Garrett Bay Rd Ellison Bay, WI 54210	Innovative Printing LLC 2414- # 1, Country Walk Drive Sister Bay, WI 54234
JJ’s La Puerta 10961 N. Hwy 42 Sister Bay, WI 54234	Jerry’s Flowers LLC 2468 S. Bay Shore Dr. Sister Bay, WI 54234
Jungwirth Ace Hardware, LLC 10636 N. Bay Shore Drive Sister Bay, WI 54234	Kick Ash Products 12055 Hwy 42 Ellison Bay, WI 54210

Liberty Grove Market, LLC 11996 Hwy 42 Ellison Bay, WI 54210	Ludwigsen & Tischler DDS 2596 S. Bay Shore Drive Sister Bay, WI 54234
Lure Restaurant 10627 N Bay Shore Dr Sister Bay, WI 54234	Nicolet National Bank (formerly Baylake Bank) 636 S. Bayshore Drive Sister Bay, WI 54234
Night Sky Ventures PO Box 196 Sister Bay, WI 54234	Pirate's Cove Adventure Golf 2502 S. Bay Shore Drive Sister Bay, WI 54234
Risser Law Firm 16 N Carroll St., #200 Madison, WI 53703	Shoreline Restaurant 12747 Hwy 42 Ellison Bay, WI 54210
Shoreline Resort & Condos 12747 Hwy 42 Ellison Bay, WI 54210	Sister Bay Advancement Association P. O. Box 351 Sister Bay, WI 54234
Sister Bay Bowl 10640 N. Bay Shore Drive Sister Bay, WI 54234	State Farm Insurance Companies (Agent: Carol DeVault) 920 Egg Harbor Road Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235
Sub Express 2579 S. Bayshore Drive Sister Bay, WI 54234	Surly Brewing Company 4811 Dusharme Dr. Brooklyn Center, MN 55429
The Fireside Restaurant 11934 Hwy 42 Ellison Bay, WI 54210	The Garden Lady – Beth Coleman 1581 Ranch Lane Ellison Bay, WI 54210
Top Shelf Gourmet 10588 Country Walk Dr Sister Bay, WI 54234	Washington Island Ferry Line P.O. Box 39 Washington Island, WI 54246
Wickman House Restaurant 11976 Mink River Road Ellison Bay, WI 54210	Wild Tomato Pizza Hwy 42 Fish Creek & Sister Bay, WIO



Exempt Organizations Select Check

[Select Organization Select Check Home](#)

Organizations Eligible to Receive Tax-Deductible Charitable Contributions (Pub. 70 data) - Search Results

The following list includes tax-exempt organizations that are eligible to receive tax-deductible charitable contributions. Click on the "Deductibility Status" column for an explanation of limitations on the deductibility of contributions made to different types of tax-exempt organizations.

Results are sorted by EIN. To sort results by another category, click on the icon next to the column heading for that category. Clicking on that icon a second time will reverse the sort order. Click on a column heading for an explanation of information in that column.

1-1 of 1 results

Results Per Page:

20-1538862    Newport Wilderness Society, Inc.    WI    United States    DC

« Prev | 1-1 | Next »

## Wisconsin Department of Financial Institutions

### Strengthening Wisconsin's Financial Future

Search for:   Search: All records Current Name Availability

Corporate Records 1 record for N019914. (0.05 s., at 3/23/2018 1:56 PM)

ID	Entity Name / Type	Registered Effective Date	Status / Status Date
N019914	THE NEWPORT WILDERNESS SOCIETY, INC. 06 - Non-Stock Corporation	08/26/1985	Incorporated/Qualified/Registered 08/26/1985

## NEWPORT WILDERNESS SOCIETY

### MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING - JULY 29, 2017

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:10 PM. Prior to the meeting 40+ attendees enjoyed a delicious pulled pork dinner accompanied by donated Island Orchard Cider.

**President's Introductory Remarks:** President Heil welcomed all. It has been a very good year for the Park and the Society. He called on everyone to read the Annual Report Packet as it contains more detailed information than presented during the meeting. Financial

challenges remain for state parks but the activity level and interest in Newport remains strong. He noted the board members present and thanked them for their service. We have had many interesting programs during the year. A few highlights were the Perseid Meteor Event, Newport Wilderness Day, Fall Workday, First Day Hike, Candlelight Ski with record attendance, Earth Day Workday, and the June Bridges event. Karen Studebaker published four issues of the Trillium. David S redesigned the website and all are invited to view it at [www.newportwildernessociety.org](http://www.newportwildernessociety.org).

Thanks and kudos to Michelle Hefty and Beth Bartoli for Newport attaining **Dark Sky** status. We are the only Wisconsin state park with that designation! The June 22<sup>nd</sup> dedication was well publicized and this will surely result in increased park visits as well as interest in the “dark sky” concept.

**Park Manager’s Remarks:** Michelle thanked Dick Heil and the Society for their support. Now that her time is split between Newport and Rock Island she particularly appreciates Beth’s efforts.

Beth was essential in obtaining the Dark Sky designation – unique among Wisconsin parks. Ephraim and others are showing interest in “dark skies”. We have had several calls from other parks and organizations requesting information.

We are already planning for 2018 and looking forward to lots of park activity.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Neil Smith directed all to read the report contained in the Packet. Of particular note is the large increase in merchandize sales – from \$9,851 to \$13,379. This and favorable stock market performance caused our net worth to grow from \$152,327 to \$187,657. The full report is in the packet. Motion was made and seconded to approve the report and was carried. Neil thanked his fellow members of the Budget and Finance Committee.

**Recognition for Departing Board Members:** Two members are leaving the board.

**Judy Brodd** has been Volunteer Services Coordinator for three years and her tireless efforts have resulted in very successful park events. Thanks to Judy!!

**Jack Travis** has been a long term member of the board, wearing many hats. He was President from 2008 – 2014 and a key player in raising funds for our new building. He has most recently been chair of the Membership and Fundraising Committees. Thanks Jack – You will be missed!

**Nominating Committee Report:** Dick Smythe presented the report of the Nominating

Committee. Placed in nomination for three year terms ending in 2020 were: Gene Kenny, Jeanne Rabel, Neil Smith, and Dave Vermillion. There being no nominations from the floor, the nominees were duly elected to the board of the Newport Wilderness Society.

**Motion to dispense with other Committee Reports:** President Heil called for a motion to dispense with discussion of other committee reports while urging all to read such in the packet. Motion was made, seconded and carried.

**Remembrances:** President Heil asked for a moment of silence to honor the following members of the Society known to have passed away in the last year.

Martha Judd

Jon Peterson

Dick Malm

**Introduction of Guest Speaker:** Dick Heil introduced Janet Hutchins. She is the Friends and Volunteer Coordinator for the Friends of WI State Parks and spoke on opportunities available through the dynamic activities of the State Parks Friends groups. All are invited to the jamboree at Wyalusing from Sept 24 – 26.

**Closing Remarks:** President Dick thanked all for coming and reminded everyone read the 2017 Annual Report and to vote for Newport in the FWSP Gold Seal Awards. Newport should be a strong contender for Winter Recreating, Star Gazing, Sunrise, and others. With good weather we should have an excellent Perseid Meteor event on August 12<sup>th</sup>. Wilderness Days are September 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned by President Dick at 7:30.

Respectfully submitted

Dave Vermillion