

North Star News

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE NEWPORT WILDERNESS SOCIETY



Page 2
[Happenings](#)

Page 3
[First Day Hike](#)

Page 4
[Candlelight Ski](#)
[Upcoming Programs](#)



FIRST DAY HIKE

42 people of all ages joined NWS acting president Gene Kenny on the First Day Hike.

Read more below.

HAPPENINGS



On New Year's Day, America's State Parks have all 50 states offering free, guided First Day Hike Programs. These hikes provide a means for individuals and families to welcome the coming year in the outdoors, exercising and connecting with nature. This is the ninth year that Wisconsin state parks participated in this national event.

January 1st was a beautiful morning to be out enjoying Newport. Gene Kenny led the group of hikers on Fern Trail. This trail was chosen to showcase the upcoming boardwalk project being spearheaded by NWS. As many of you know, Fern Trail boardwalks are in dire need of replacement. Every spring, the trail is under water and the boardwalks move and get damaged by the flooding. This year's mild January weather showed just what happened to our only handicapped accessible trail.



Fern Trail under water

First Day Hike, continued



Fern Trail was, indeed, impassable. Gene explained the problems and what the scope of the project will entail. Fund raising, along with matching grants are in the works. Members will be kept informed as this project progresses.

After the hike, hot cocoa and baked goods were enjoyed by all in the Nature Center.

Mark your calendars for next year's *First Day Hike!*



"Cheers to a new year
and another chance
for us to get it right."

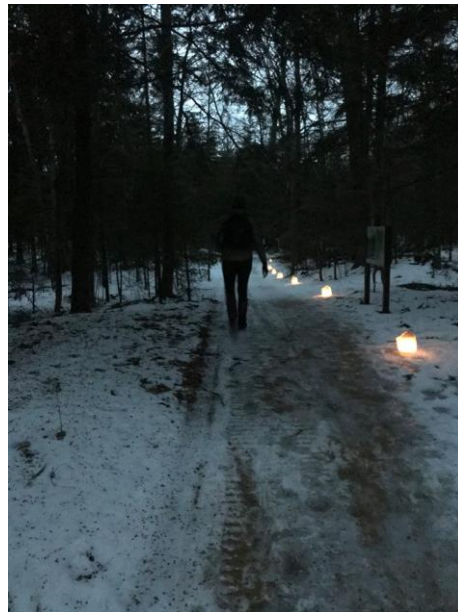
~Oprah Winfrey

Candlelight Ski, Hike and Snowshoe



Parking and greeter volunteers

Gene Kenny, Helen Kenny & Dick Smythe



Hiking the trail

A big THANK YOU to everyone that helped make our biggest event of the winter a huge success. From helping to organize all the help (thank you Karen Studebaker) to everyone who showed up to groom, light and put out candles, tend fires, bake, set up, tear down, pick up, park, greet and everything in between, we couldn't do it without you. Though the skiing was called off, a full moon led about 480 people out into a beautiful night of hiking at Newport.



A gorgeous shot of our Candlelight Ski/hike taken by Deb Wolfe

Upcoming Programs

February 29th

Leap Day Hike, 1:00, Lot 1. Refreshments, origami
“leap” frogs after in the Nature Center

March 21st

Bluebird program by Charlotte Lukes, 10:00 in the Nature
Center.

CONTACT US

PO Box 187

Ellison Bay, WI 54210

www.newportwildernessociety.org

info@newportwildernessociety.org

The Newport Wilderness Society, Inc. is the Official Friends Group for Newport State Park and is a 501[c] [3] non-profit, tax exempt, dynamic organization - dues and donations are tax deductible within the limits of the law.