SPRING NEWSLETTER, 2023 VOLUME 26, ISSUE 1

Camp Delton Club E10305 Xanadu Rd. Wisconsin Dells, WI 53965

www.campdelton.com



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Welcome Back! Camp Delton Club



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Board of Directors:

President: Brian Wachowiacz
Vice President: Joseph Gambino
Treasurer: Audra Arndt
Buildings/Grounds: Roland Eisch
Membership: Heidi Helm
Personnel: Corey Holland
By-Laws/Insurance: Sue Whitaker
Activities: Eddie Mallonen

Camp Managers:

Grounds Manager: Vince Klitzman
Office Manager: Carol Rochester

Presidents Report

Welcome Back! The weather is looking great and the camp is open and ready to welcome you back. The Staff has been working hard and have done a fabulous job getting everything ready for us.

Your Board of Directors has been working this winter along with the staff to get various projects completed. The plumbing to the restroom on the main floor of the lodge has been repaired and we now have a working restroom in the lodge. The road going to the dumpsters was repaired, and the electrical service in the game room is being replaced. This, along with continuing to work on the cell tower agreement, are just a few of the items that have been accomplished.

A few reminders to help everyone have an enjoyable summer.

- 1. Speed limit is 10 mph. This is for everyone's safety.
- 2. Members are responsible for the actions of their guests.
- 3. Keep sites clean and pick up after your pets.



I look forward to the warmer days and nights and the smell of a campfire burning and the pool full of people having fun.

Happy Camping Brian Wachowiacaz President

Vice President's Report

Hello Campers!

Welcome back and I am excited for another camping season. This season, we have a lot of great things in store. Many fun activities are being planned by Eddie Mallonen, and I hope to you see you all there!



A couple of reminders: be sure to have sites cleaned up by the second Saturday in June. This includes raking and bagging leaves, weed whack the weeds, and clean the green away from the trailers to make them sparkle and shine in the amazing summer light. As always, if you have concerns over your site, please ask the office or a board member if they

can assist. Please make sure you camp fires are completely out when do with them for the evening and drive slowly. Help us maintain a safe and secure campground. I look forward to seeing you all this season!

Joe Gambino Vice President

Treasurers Report

Welcome back campers! I hope you are ready for a great summer here at Camp Delton Club! Here are some updates regarding the camp finances.

Camp Maintenance and Improvement Reserves

Every year in the late summer/early fall, the finance committee reviews previous year expenses and current needs and then, recommends a budget to the board. The finance committee also pre-plans to allocate money in our reserve accounts for future expenditures. The board approves the budget that includes the amount to be set aside in the respective reserve accounts. The 2023 approved budget allocated \$68,211 to be transferred to the different sub-accounts of the reserve savings. These transfers happen in January. These savings make funds available for larger purchases and repairs where Camp Delton Club, Inc is able to avoid financing a purchase or repair and paying interest on that purchase.

The board continues to make decisions in the best interest of the camp for repairs and replacements; it would be much more difficult if the camp was not putting these funds aside in reserve savings to allow for these often unplanned expenses. In 2022, this allowed us to pay cash from our savings for the purchase of a used truck and salter to help maintain the camp. In 2023, the reserve has been used to offset a very large expense for tree removal from the storm in January as well as fixing the plumbing in the lodge restroom, a new furnace for the Manager's home, and a new snow plow for the truck. For reference, purchases made from the reserve accounts do not require a referendum because the monies set aside in these accounts are annually approved budgeted amounts.

Please contact the Treasurer of Office for a copy of this report.

Internal Audit

An internal audit will be scheduled for later in June or July. If you would like to participate in this process, please sign up in the lodge or call the office to be added to the list. Many hands make lighter work.



Enjoy this upcoming camping season. Stay well and be safe!

Respectfully Submitted, Audra Arndt Camp Delton Club Treasurer

Dells Village Restroom Facility Update

A motion was made at the 2021 annual meeting to form a committee that will investigate multiple options to find a solution for adequate restroom and laundry options for the Dells Village.

The committee met several times last two camping seasons to discuss planning for the future of a Dells Village Restroom facility. In simple terms, state law requires us to have a restroom facility in Dells Village.

Based on the previous condition of the facility, the committee and Vince determined that repairs could be made to interior of the restrooms to significantly extend the life of the facility for a period of possibly 5+ years. Thank you to Vince who did these repairs over the 2021-2022 winter season.

The committee was able to come up with a rough plan for a structure that would meet the needs of the camp with regard to a restroom/shower and laundry facility. After obtaining pricing from several architects, the committee reached out to one of those architects to draw up plans for a building that could be used to have contractors provide costs for the construction of the building. In Spring of 2023, the chosen architect sent us the preliminary plans. There is a copy in the camp lodge for those interested in taking a look. The committee will meet during the summer to address a feet



in taking a look. The committee will meet during the summer to address a few questions that the architect posed.

Because of the extended life of the current facility, the committee is able to more thoughtfully and thoroughly plan for the building, and it no longer poses the same sense of urgency. The committee and the board recognize that the best approach for the Camp is to plan to utilize as much money from the Camp Maintenance and Improvement Reserve Saving Accounts as possible to avoid large financing costs yet provide a functioning facility for our members and guests. Thus, the well-done repairs to the current building have provided additional time to internally save and fund a new building.

Due to a COVID related government program, Camp Delton Club was eligible for a significant tax credit (refund) from June of 2021. A motion was made at the September 2022 board meeting to put this money from the IRS credit when received into the reserve for the Restrooms Repair/Replacement. The credit was received on April 24, 2023 for 26,590.82. This money was transferred into the reserve account in mid-May and is a nice start for funding for this building.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Dells Village Restroom Committee, Audra Arndt, Camp Delton Club Treasurer

Building & Grounds Report

Let's talk about Anti-Syphon Valves. When we added the split water spigot to each site, the camp installed the anti-syphon valves free. All members were informed to safeguard the valves and "per Wisconsin state statue" every water spigot MUST have an Anti-Syphon Valves. When you come to camp the first time, PLEASE make sure you put that Anti-Syphon Valves back on both water spigot. If the city inspector comes into camp for a surprise inspection, the first thing he will be checking is to ensure every water spigot has an Anti-Syphon Valves. If you did not safeguard the valve and can't find it, you must purchase a new one in the lodge.



Dumpsters: LOCATED BY THE MAINTENANCE BUILDING! Be sure to put only recyclables in the recycling dumpsters. They are the dumpsters on the right as you look at them from the maintenance building. Recyclable containers are for cardboard boxes, cans, milk jugs, and any food containers only. Pellitteri charges extra when they pick up recyclables dumpsters and

they are contaminated with trash. By the way, hide-a-beds are not recyclables.

When was the last time you checked your fire extinguisher or your smoke detector and CO2 monitor batteries? In addition to replacing your smoke detector and CO2 monitor batteries, please consider replacing the washer on your water hose where it connects to the spigot. The existing washer has typically been allowed to completely dry out and has been exposed to bitterly cold temperatures over the course of the Wisconsin winter, compromising the washer's ability to properly seal the connection. Replacing the washer at the start of every season literally costs pennies, will save the camp money, and could reduce the amount of soggy ground around your trailer.

Talking about water, if you walk around your camp site and see ground saturation, please contact the office immediately. This could be an indication of a busted pipe. Hope everyone has a great 2023 camping season! Roland, Building & Grounds Director and Vince, Grounds Manager

Membership Report

Hello everyone!

It appears spring has finally arrived and I hope everyone is as excited as I am to begin another great camping season.

When returning to camp for the season please remember to sign in at the office and display your tags on your vehicles. This helps ensure we have an accurate count of those in camp.

I hope things are going well for all and that this camping season continues to make many happy memories for family and friends. If you see something you would like addressed, please submit all issues or complaints in writing.

Let's keep our camp looking great by cleaning up trailers and campsites and continue to maintain them throughout the season

Heidi Helm Membership Director



Personnel Report

Over the off season we had Frontier come in and installed a new internet connection to the Grounds & Maintenance building. We are now in the process of going to online time and attendance book keeping. We are fully staffed for Grounds & Maintenance and have one part time position still open in the lodge which we are actively looking to fill. I hope everyone has a great upcoming"2023 " season and enjoys all the planned activities we have scheduled.



Best Regards
Corey Holland
Camp Delton Personnel Director

By-Laws/Insurance Report

Happy Spring and Welcome back to Camp!!!



After the long winter, I'm sure we are all excited to get outside, enjoy the fresh air, and get our sites looking amazing! The other directors put out some great reminders please read them.

The rules and regulations are constantly being updated; most recently, effective with the May 20th, 2023 Board meeting, it was unanimously approved to now allow members to work as part-time employees in the Lodge as well as with the ground

crew. With the lack of available candidates, we find it necessary to have a few members that are in camp fulltime for the summer on stand-by if a need should arise to make sure the lodge is covered 9 am until 10pm. The rules will be updated after the committee meets and we are sure no other rules need updating. Please review the most recent copy of the rules and regulations, if you do not have a copy, one is available online at the camp web page, or, please ask in the office. If you're interested on being one of the camps "stand-by employee", contact Carol in the office and express your interest.

Please remember, the speed limit is 10 miles per hour, and only legal drivers should be behind the wheel of any motorized vehicle, as required by the law, please no children on your lap. Be aware of children playing, and people walking their pets. Please remember to leash your pets, as well as cleaning up after them. I do ask that all members review the insurance policies they have on their campers with their agents, to make sure they are properly covered, remember life changes, insurance changes, and your agents want to make sure your needs are met.

Remember, without membership involvement, it's just a board of directors, and we all have responsibility to the camp, and the only way great things can be achieved is if we all work together. If any members have any concerns to the rules, regulations, insurance, please reach out to me, my preferred method of contact is email: sue2bingo@yahoo.com. Be sure to put Camp Delton in the subject.

Let's make 2023 an amazing camping season! Sue Whitaker, Insurance & By-Laws Director

Activities Report

Welcome Back to Camp!

Our Welcome Back Barbeque on Saturday, May 27th was a huge success, due the help of the following volunteers:

Shelby and Kari – Bartending and 50/50 raffle VP Joe Gambino and his dad Giorgio – Superhero Grill Masters (Joe's Mom, Rose supplied deserts too)
Dianne Stewart, Mary Kim Johnson and Cindy Kosanke – Prep, set-up, servers, clean-up, and all around super-duper helpers!



Martin and Hans – Our pack mules that hauled all the beer, soda and water down from the lodge

Our office manager Carol who did all the purchasing and wisely ordered the top-notch burgers and hot dogs from the Meat Market.

I can't thank all of you enough. Without you this event would have been a disaster.

We have several events planned and more events/outings to announce in the next few weeks.

Here is what we have on the calendar so far:

Saturday, June 17th – Italian Dinner – Lodge (DETAILS COMING SOON – Advance tickets and reservations recommended)
Saturday, July 1st – Independence Bike Parade/LDFD Fire Truck
Demo/Nacho Bar – Lodge (time to be announced)
Saturday, July 15th – Live Music Night – Cruisin Round – 6-9pm Pavilion
Saturday, July 22nd – Christmas in July

- Breakfast with Santa Lodge (time to be announced)
- Site Decorating Contest

Saturday, September 2nd – Trick or Treat/Site Decorating Contest Sunday, September 3rd – Farwell Luncheon – Pavilion

** Please be aware that any of these events may be cancelled if sufficient volunteers do not step forward to assist with food prep, serving, clean-up, etc. The "meal" events especially require a significant number of volunteers to be successful.

Additional events are being considered and will be announced soon, possibly to include:

Bingo Night * Wine Tasting * Food Trucks * Brewery/Winery tour - Haunted History Tour (These events will be dependent on advance ticket sales.)

Suggestions for additional activities are always welcome, so long as you are willing to participate or volunteer to help make the activity happen.



** Be sure to check out the new community fire pit near the horseshoes, available for use during events, pavilion rentals or preauthorized gatherings. Ask at the lodge for details. If you wish to use the community fire pit for a gathering you must notify the office in advance and extinguish the fire prior to leaving the area using a 5-gallon water bucket (supplied by the office). ** A big thank-you to Dave and Karen Lang for the donation of the stone fire ring!

I look forward to seeing you all back at Camp!

Eddie Mallonen, Activities Director

Camp Delton Club KIDS FISHING DERBY

July 14, 15, and 16



Open fishing starting Friday at 5pm through Sunday at 5pm. Registration forms available in the lodge.

Event is free-donations received will be used to improve the waterfront!

- Fishing can occur anytime during the event and can happen from shore or by boat-Fishing is limited to Mirror Lake beginning Friday after 5PM.
- Casting contests for distance and accuracy will begin at 4:30 Saturday. Meet at lodge.
- Derby is open to ages 3 to 12, with a chaperone over the age of 18.
- Registration forms and catch tracker sheets will be located in the lodge Friday the 14th.
 Completed catch forms are due back to the lodge by 5 pm Sunday. Event is rain or shine.
- Derby volunteers will be at the lakefront to assist with fish and tangles from 10 to 4 Saturday and Sunday as available on both lakefront areas.
- If participants do not have a fishing pole to use please feel free to contact us for assistance with one.
- Prizes will be awarded for multiple categories! Categories and prizes will be available to see at the lodge. One prize per child.
- Full information on the event is available in the Lodge.

Hope to see you there!

Office Manager Report

Hello Members

Welcome back campers! It gets pretty quiet around here in the Winter, and I am so looking forward to the Summer.

The office hours are as follows:

 Sunday
 9 am - 10 pm

 Monday
 9 am - 10 pm

 Tuesday
 9 am - 10 pm

 Wednesday
 9 am - 10 pm

 Thursday
 9 am - 10 pm

 Friday
 9 am - 10 pm

 Saturday
 9 am - 10 pm

The Pool and Game Room hours are 10 am to 10 pm every day.

NEW FOR 2023

WCCH -Free Pick Up of Items Sam @608-434-2719

Women & Children's Center for Health (WCCH) is a non-profit human services organization with our focus in health care, rehab services, education, natural disaster relief and sustainable food sources. The first target location is in Niger, West Africa.

We are currently in the process to build a school, a pharmacy, clinic with a birth and fitness center; each providing financial assistance to impoverished families in the capital city of Niamey.

Items donated so far- bed frames, mattresses, kitchenware, dishes, tables & chairs, freezers, refrigerators, clothing, building materials (sinks, toilets, doors), exercise equipment, flat screen TVs, printer, incontinence items, hospital bed, chalk boards, bicycles, receptionist desk station.

Any items we receive not for these purposes will be sold in Africa to benefit the community and raise funds for the construction. Our goal is to ship a 40 foot container by this October! Your help is greatly appreciated!

Items we <u>cannot accept</u>- hide-a-beds, bulky couches, Lazyboy chairs, old heavy TVs. We are not garbage collectors. All items must be in 100% working order and in good condition.

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I wanted to bring to your attention several points:

- Any storage invoices that are not paid by June 19, 2022, will be removed from that space and you go to the bottom of the waiting list.
- If you no longer wish to keep your canoe/kayak space, please call the office and we will assist you in removing your kayak/canoe/boat.
- We ask everyone to help us keep the Pool area neat and tidy. If you move tables or chairs, please return them to their proper location. Also, when you use the umbrella, close it when leaving.
- Please supervise your children and grandchildren. The pool's safety ropes are not to be hung on. If it breaks, the member will be charged for the repair and the pool will be closed for days or even weeks, until a new rope is installed.
- Please do not follow anyone in from the gate. If the gate comes down and breaks the member will be charged for the repair.
- Did you know you can avoid making one large payment for your dues in April? You can
 make small payments monthly or when it works for you throughout the year. These
 payments will apply to your next year's fees. This is sometime easier than coming up
 with a lump sum when the dues are due. To find out more about budget payments,
 please give us a call at the office.
- Attention Members with canoes/kayaks on the racks at the lake:
 Please fasten both ends of your canoe and/or kayaks. You don't need to lock
 them, but by fastening both ends, the wind won't pick them up and flip them
 over. We have had members who have found them flipped and hanging
 off the end of the rack, often filled with heavy water. This not only
 damages to the racks but can bend or crack your canoe and /or kayak.
 Please make sure your canoes, kayaks and boats have the site number
 listed on them.
- Some of our older gate cards will stop working. If any of your gate cards are not working, please come into the office so we may replace the cards not working. There is no charge to you for the replacement. If you need additional cards, they are \$5.00 each and each membership is only allowed a total of 4 cards. We have quite a few Membership certificates in the office needing members' signatures. We also have some ready for pick up. When you come to camp, please remind the office staff to have you sign or pick up your certificate.
- The mailbox in front of the Lodge is NOT for outgoing mail, it is for after hour drops for the Lodge.
- Please remember that quiet time is at 11:00 pm. No outside work or loud parties should be done between 11 pm and 8 am.

I am looking forward to a wonderful, safe and healthy camping season!

Carol Rochester Office Manager

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Unattended Campfires

As you may be aware, most of the state is under a risk for fire danger due to low humidity, increasing winds from the southwest and dry vegetation like dead grass and leaves that will easily burn.

Already this season, there have been a number of unattended fires. This cannot be tolerated. The camp will give you one written warning and any other would be a write up with a fine. Please review the Rules and Regulations below:

Rules and Regulations, Section 3 – Structures and Grounds, Article 22 states;

No open fires of any kind are permitted on a campsite except within the confines of an above ground fire ring. Placement of fire rings/pits on individual sites must be approved by the grounds manager. All such fires must be attended at all times and thoroughly extinguished upon completion of use. Leaves may not be burned at any time. Fires are permitted from October 15 – April 15 provided the member has a minimum of five gallons of water near the fire.

Rules and Regulations, Section 5 – Violations and Fines states; Unattended Camp Fire, burning of leaves and raking leaves off the hill -\$100.00 fine per violation.

Reminders

Laundry Parking – Please do not park your or a guest vehicle in the laundry parking area. If you have no room for your guest to park have them park at the Lodge.

Local Business Listing – The Local Business Listing in the office has been updated. Feel free to stop in the office and get your copy.

Tree Removal – We will **NOT** take out live trees unless they pose a threat to property.

Leaf Burning – Leave burning is **NOT** allowed anywhere on property.

Contractors – If you are having any contractors come to your site, please make sure they come during Office Hours only and if they need keys to your trailer, be sure to call and let us know they are coming.

Dumpster – It is necessary for you to breakdown your boxes when putting them in the dumpster. Absolutely no electronics are allowed in the dumpsters.

Tree Service – Any work order for the Tree Service handed in after the 1st of the year will not be done until next season.

Site Clean Up – All sites need to be cleaned by the second Saturday in June which is June 11, 2023. After that date a \$50.00 fine will issued to non-compliant members.

History of the Camp Delton Club

- 1900 Sheridan S. Squires bought the farmland, which is now Camp Delton Club. It also included the land east of Interstate 90.
- 1920 A 37 room structure called "Mirror Lake Inn" was built on the corner of Burritt Rd. & Xanadu Rd.
- 1927 This land was sold to John H. Daehler. An 18-hole golf course called Dells -Ringling Country Club graced our property. Hole #1 and #18 were located where I-90 now flows. The country club was listed as one of the most scenic and sportiest golf courses in Wisconsin.
- 1932 The "Mirror Lake Inn" destroyed by fire. (Loss estimated at \$75,000)
- 1950 The land was purchased by William & Harriet Hynes. During this time, the land was used for various purposes including a KOA Campground, located on the present Overlook Village. (As a note: Xanadu Rd. was Old Highway 23 and Interstate 90 was built thru this land in 1959.)
- 1955 Part of the land was sold to Douglas Chalmers, who used the area for his business, Air-Seal Windows.
- 1968 Willard (Bill) & Virginia Murphy bought the land and in 1970 the land become Dells Camp Delton Incorporated. The Murphy family opened an award-winning campground, which was the first "deluxe" total facility camping resort in the Illinois/Wisconsin area. It carried the highest ratings available to a campground in Woodall & Ron McNally. To do away with the hopeless problem that plagued campers when they found reservations for camping difficult, The Murphy's idea of carefree relaxed camping was being replaced by frenzied competition and overcrowding. With that in mind, the concept of a membership campground took shape.
- 1975 March 21, 1975 Bill Murphy signed the Articles of Incorporation for Camp Delton Club and that's when our club was born. In May of 1975, the public was able to buy a membership. (Originally, 488 memberships were proposed) By September of 1975, nearly two-thirds of the existing memberships were sold.
- 1977 Part of the land, which is now the cottages in the back of Camp Delton property, were sold to Charles Harris, Mary Jane Winkler, John D. Melter and William R. Melter.

Board Meetings

2023 Board Meeting Dates:

May 20, 2023

June 17, 2023

July 15, 2023 (Membership Meeting)

August 19, 2023

September 16, 2023



Meetings start at 9 am!

All Members Welcome!

All correspondence to be read at meetings need to be received no later that 1 week before the meeting.

Office: 608.254.8361
Meeting Minutes Available on our website:

www.campdelton.com

"Post this on your refrigerator"

Spring Newsletter, 2023 Volume 26, Issue 1







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You, as members, and consumers, are <u>solely responsible</u> for the outcome of any business arrangement made with a company or individual you do business with.

*CAMP DELTON CLUB, INC. <u>HIGHLY RECOMMENDS</u> THAT MEMBER'S CHECK REFERENCES, LICENSE, and INSURANCE!