# SPRING NEWSLETTER, 2021 VOLUME 22, 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: Eddie Mallonen

Vice President: Lindsay Winkel

Treasurer: Audra Arndt

Secretary: Rich Marshall

Buildings/Grounds: Roland Eisch

Membership: Heidi Helm

Personnel: Brian Wachowiacz

By-Laws/Insurance: Sue Whitaker

Activities: Tammy Pfannerstill

#### Camp Managers:

Grounds Manager: Vince Klitzman

Office Manager: Carol Rochester

#### **Presidents Report**

Hello Fellow Campers and welcome back.

While 2020 was a challenging year for all of us at Camp Delton Club on multiple levels, 2021 is starting off very promising. The Spring weather has cooperated for the first time in years, allowing for an early turn on of the water system. As Sauk County Covid-19 numbers continue to drop and vaccination numbers skyrocket, more of the Dells area attractions are opening with fewer restrictions and so, too, is Camp Delton Club.

There are a few issues we want all members to be informed of.

#### Swimming Pool:



The pool will be returning to regular hours beginning Memorial Day Weekend and pool furniture will be available as usual. We have put one change in place to reduce the clutter around the pool and the damage done by shredded pool noodle bits in the pool filters. The storage bin containing pool toys and noodles has been removed from the pool area. Please use only personal pool toys and noodles. All pool toys and noodles left behind when vacating the pool area will be disposed of.

#### Water Drainage:

The Board is addressing two major drainage issue in camp this Spring, one in the main Wilderness loop and another in Overlook near the stairs to Mirror Lake. At the May Board of Directors Meeting a form will be introduced for members to request investigation of other drainage issues throughout the park. Please keep in mind, we are seeking to address situations involving long-term standing water or locations where the layout of the camp and its roads is creating a consistent singular path for a large volume of water. Standing water that slowly dissipates within a reasonable amount of time after a storm passes is nature's way of dealing with rainfall and does not necessarily constitute a problem.

#### Dells Bathroom/Laundry Building:

The trailer currently serving as the bathroom/laundry facilities in Dells Village is rapidly deteriorating and will not be safe for use for much longer. The Board is currently working to complete a site survey and retain an architect to draw up the plans needed to attain design approval from local inspectors. Once that process is complete, we will request bids for the construction of a permanent building to replace the existing trailer. A referendum will go out to all members later this season and we hope to complete construction in time for the opening of the 2022 season.

Camp Delton is a special place full of special people. Have a wonderful season as we all finally get the chance to reconnect and share this wonderful campground with friends, family and our fellow campers.

Eddie Mallonen Board President

#### Vice President's Report

Happy Spring!

These past winter months have flown by. It is hard to believe that the colder weather is behind us, and it is time to enjoy some warm fresh air, sunshine, and smiling happy faces. For a little housekeeping (I know, I hate saying it and reminding, every year, and I am sure we all look forward to a day when this does not need to be stated):

- Please make sure your contact information is updated in the lodge (i.e. address changes, phone number/email address changes) as well as preferred ways to obtain your voting information.
- 2. Keep an eye to your email/mail in the next few months for board nominations to be sent out and after that voting. We will also place notification that the information was sent on the web and in the lodge.
- 3. Please remember to have your sites cleaned up and maintained throughout the year. Everyone would love to enjoy the pride we have in our happy place and the sights of nature, but not the overgrown weeds, leaves and pine needles from sites not cleaned up, as well as the growth of green on trailers, as well as branches/leaves/pine needles on roofs and sheds. This is not a part of the nature we enjoy seeing. Please take pride in your ownership. If in doubt as to what is needed, please ask in the office. If an office employee is unable to assist, they will contact a board member to help you out. If you are unable to care for these items, please reach out. I am sure there are some people who would help for a fee.
- 4. Please keep your pets leashed. It is more than a camp rule, but also a state law.
- 5. Please clean up after your pets and properly dispose of pet waste.
- 6. Please watch your speed in camp, 10MPH.

Neither the Board nor staff find pleasure in having to correct problems, so please follow the rules and regs, and clean up your sites so the camp employees and board will not have to take any corrective measures, be it fines, notifications etc.

Finally, please get involved. Tammy has some great activities planned that will need volunteers as well as various other items in camp. Take part and pride in the campground we all love.

Lindsay Wikel Vice President



#### **Treasurers Report**

#### Camp Maintenance and Improvement Reserves

Our reserve account balances are listed below for reference as of 4/15/2021.

Please contact the office for the reserve account balances.

#### <u>Loans</u>

We currently have two loans outstanding from prior referendums for the electric project and the lodge remodel.

The <u>lodge remodel loan</u> had a beginning balance in 2021 of \$44, 121.90 with interest accrued and an interest rate of 5.75%. We were able to enter into a loan modification in February, 2021, which lowers our annual interest rate to 4%. To move forward with the loan modification, we paid a fee of \$75 and accrued interest of \$753.99.





The <u>electric project loan</u> had a beginning balance in 2021 of \$791,324.85 and had an interest rate of 5.75%. We were able to enter into a loan modification in February, 2021, which lowers our annual interest rate to 4%. To move forward with the loan modification, we paid a fee of \$250 and accrued interest of \$29,705.14.

Commercial loans are required to be refinanced every five years. The lodge remodel loan has a maturity date of 10/25/2023 and will need to be refinanced at that time if it is not yet paid off. The electric project loan has a maturity date of 6/15/2023, and will need to be refinanced at that time.

The annual capital improvement project assessment amount of \$380 per member goes entirely toward payment of these loans. Money from the assessment above and beyond the annual loan payments is planned to be put toward extra principle on the smaller loan to pay it off sooner.

#### Internal Audit

We will be having an internal audit most likely in June of 2021. If you would like to participate in this process, please watch for information about the dates later in the spring.





#### 2021 Finances

The 2021 Budget was passed by the board at the November Board Meeting. The finances of Camp Delton Club are in good shape; however, there are a few areas in which spending is anticipated to be higher than budget.

Building and Grounds - We have had some emergency expenses on drainage repair and water leaks that of course were not planned.

Technology expenses – Expenses have been higher than expected as we had anticipated being able to switch from Frontier to another service and had reduced the technology budget accordingly. There does not appear to be other options at this point in time until more services lay high speed cables onto Xanadu road.

#### Other expenses

In 2021, we have purchased the remaining two new washers and two dryers for Dells Village as budgeted.



Respectfully Submitted, Audra Arndt, Treasurer

#### **Building & Grounds Report**

A member approached me and asked, "why do we have so many water line problems since we are on the city water system now? Well, the answer is... the water lines that go out to each camp site and the shower, restrooms and laundry facilities were laid down in 1968 when the camp was first established. When we went on the city water system, Lake Delton ONLY brought the water in as far as the well pumping stations. From there it is pumped out to the sites and building thru those 1968 water

lines. As we all know NOTHING lasts forever and the water lines are no exception. Vince and his crew are upgrading the lines as they are being repaired. Sometimes the leaks are so extensive that we must bring in the professionals and that is where some major costs are incurred. While we are on the subject of leaks, if you notice a spot in the ground that stays wet all the time, especially around your water spickets, it may be another one of those pesty leaks, please notify the office as soon as possible.

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.

A new shed has been installed down by the piers, if you want to reserve a spot in the shed, please contact the office.



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.

Hope everyone has a great 2021 camping season!
Roland, Building & Grounds Director and Vince, Grounds Manager

#### Membership Report

Hello and welcome back to everyone! I hope the winter months went well for all and everyone is as excited as I am to start another fun filled season at Camp Delton Club.

Some friendly reminders-

- Please submit all complaints in writing on a formal complaint form and be sure to fill it out as completely as possible. You can obtain a complaint form from the office or on our website, <a href="www.campdelton.com">www.campdelton.com</a> (scroll down to quick menu and to forms). The complainant will be contacted within a few days to let him/her know their concerns are going to be investigated/addressed.
- Guests- please remember you are responsible for your guests and they must follow all rules and regulations while in camp. You as the member are subject to fines for violations committed by your guests so be sure to review the rules and regulations with them.

- When you are in camp please remember everyone must sign in at the lodge. This helps
  us identify who is in camp and ensure only those that have a reason to be in camp are
  inside.
- Facebook page- If you are interested in being a part of this committee, please contact me by email <a href="mailto:Heidih@campdelton.com">Heidih@campdelton.com</a> or by telephone at 715-896-1537. We are planning on setting up a Committee meeting in the near future.
- There are currently no memberships for sale.

Happy camping to all, let's make this a wonderful season!!

Heidi Helm Membership Director

#### Personnel Report

Welcome back and Happy Spring to everyone. I hope everyone is ready for another great season at camp. Thank You to Vince and Carol for working hard all winter to maintain camp and get ready for spring.



I'm happy to report that we are fully staffed at camp and everyone is ready to work and assist you in the lodge and on the grounds crew. Being fully staffed will allow us to keep all the things that we love about camp open and ready for you to enjoy this season.

Please welcome our new employees Jean and Lauren to the Lodge staff and Bobby and Kerry to the Grounds Crew.

We had to come up with a pay scale that better reflects the economy in the Dells area, but we believe our employees are worth every penny. This is an item we will address more at the annual budget meeting.

With the great staff we have assembled, it should be a fun and enjoyable summer. Brian Wachowiacz, Personnel Director

#### By-Laws/Insurance Report

We find ourselves in a new camping year and I say GOOD RIDDENS TO 2020. I am hoping that 2021 puts us back into a somewhat normal camping atmosphere and the members that did not come to camp last year feel OK to return to the camping life here at Camp Delton.

The Rules and Regulations/By-Laws committee will be meeting sometime in June. Our main agenda will be to review the current Rules and Regulations (July 20, 2019) as well as the By-Laws to see if any need updating. The last year has proven to be a challenge and I feel that we need to adjust some of the rules to accommodate any emergency situations that may arise in the future.



We also have several new rules that have been approved over the last year that will be added to the current rules and regs. We hope to have an advance copy out to members in time for the Annual Membership Meeting in July.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone please, please follow the rules. These rules are in place to make sure that everyone that enters the Camp is safe. With that said, a few reminders of the most violated rules from last year:

- 1) Children are to ride in seats of cars and mopeds and not in adult's lap behind the steering wheel or standing with their little hands on the handlebars.
- 2) Only bodily waste, and toilet paper are to be flushed down the toilets.
- 3) Observe all safety in the pool: No glass, stay off the safety rope, beverages not allowed in the pool or at the pool's edge and NO food is allowed in the pool area.
- 4) Quiet time starts at 11 pm. Please be respectful of your fellow campers.
- 5) Campfires must be attended at all times.



Last, but not least, camp sites <u>must</u> be cleaned up no later than <u>the second</u> <u>Saturday in JUNE</u>. Plain and simple, have the leaves cleaned up, downed branches cleared, high weeds cut back, trailers cleaned and not growing moss or mildew and site signs properly placed. No warnings will be given this year, if you are uncertain, feel free to reach out to the lodge or any board member. We will be happy to do a visual prior to that date. If any violations are noted, we can contact you with that information. If you are unable to clean up your site by the second Saturday in June and want to avoid incurring a fined, please contact the office and we can refer you to several people that are willing to clean it up for a nominal fee. These rules are to keep Camp

Delton Club Inc. safe, clean, and enjoyable for all. This clean-up also applies to any boat stored in camp. They must be clean with current registrations and identified with site numbers on either the boat or the trailer.

If you are interested on being on the committee or have any questions and/or concerns, please free to contact me at <a href="mailto:suew@campdelton.com">suew@campdelton.com</a>

Sue Whitaker, Rules, Regulations and Insurance Director

#### **Activities Report**

Hello everyone!!!! I am so excited to be the activities director at Camp Delton Club!! I have lots of things planned for the upcoming season and hope you all enjoy them.

Make sure to stop by the lodge and check out the raffle baskets. Tickets are available in the lodge during regular lodge hours. Winning tickets will be drawn Memorial Day weekend!!! I am planning on doing at least one more round of baskets this summer. If you have new items that you would like to donate, please drop items off in the lodge or contact me directly. Thank you to those of you who have already donated!

Vince did an amazing job building two "little free libraries" for camp. They will be installed and filled soon. Take a book, leave a book!!



Pickleball is here!!! A net and paddle set will be available for use during the season. Lines will be drawn onto the basketball court early in the season.

Memorial Day weekend will be fun filled with a welcome back breakfast, a painting project along with other fun activities.

4<sup>th</sup> of July festivities are being planned and taking shape!! Lots of fun things in the works!!!

Keep watching for activity sign ups!!

Nothing could be done without the help of volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact me or sign up in the lodge!! It is a great way to meet your fellow campers and have some fun. If you have any suggestions for activities, please let me know, I want everyone to enjoy time in camp!



I can't wait to meet many of you and lets all enjoy a great season!!!

Tammy Pfannerstill Activities Director

#### 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 from now until May 27, 2012 is as follows:

 $\begin{array}{lll} \text{Sunday} & 9 \text{ am} - 4 \text{ pm} \\ \text{Monday} & 9 \text{ am} - 4 \text{ pm} \\ \text{Tuesday} & 9 \text{ am} - 1 \text{ pm} \\ \text{Wednesday} & 9 \text{ am} - 1 \text{ pm} \\ \text{Thursday} & 9 \text{ am} - 4 \text{ pm} \\ \text{Friday} & 9 \text{ am} - 8 \text{ pm} \\ \text{Saturday} & 9 \text{ am} - 5 \text{ pm} \end{array}$ 

Starting Friday, May 28, 2021 the office hours and game room hours will be 9 am to 10 pm every day. The pool hours will be 10 am to 10 pm every day.

#### I wanted to bring to your attention several points:

- Our new email address is <a href="mailto:campoffice@campdelton.com">campoffice@campdelton.com</a>. Please update your devices with this new email address.
- The gate card inventory is still an ongoing project. I found a few members with more than four cards. I ask that you review your cards, and in the Spring bring them to me so we can have updated and accurate records.

- 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.



- If your gate cards are not working and the office is closed, please call the emergency phone number which is 608-432-1590.
- 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.

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

Carol Rochester, Office Manager

#### **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.

Menards does sell covers for your campfire pits at around \$30. We have a beautiful camp here and please do not put it at risk of fire by leaving your campfires unattended.

#### 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.

**Wood Purchases –** Due to the lack of wood in the Camp, we will be selling wood in the office only during office hours. We will no longer be making the wood deliveries. The wood is \$5.00 a bushel. You will need to come into the office and get the crate and key and haul it to your car. If you wish to purchase a larger amount of wood to be delivered you can contact one of the following vendors:

B & K Tree Service	608-548-3062	Ed Harding's Tree Service	608-432-9141
Hack-Away Forest Products	608-356-8215	Joe Nelson	608-434-1916
Mittlesteadt Handyman	608-415-7878		

**Bug Tussel Meet & Greet –** Amy Talty, Business Development Manager, Bug Tussel Wireless, will be holding a Meet and Greet on **Friday**, **June 18**, **2021** from 12:00 Noon to 5 p.m. in the Pavilion. A number of the campers use this service for their internet needs.

**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.

#### 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**



#### 2021 Board Meeting Dates:

May 22, 2021

June 19, 2021

July 17, 2021 (Membership Meeting)

August 21, 2021

**September 18, 2021** 

#### 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"

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Inclusion of advertisements in our newsletter is not meant to imply recommendation or endorsement of any company, contractor, or individual.

Camp Delton Club is not liable for any work, payment, or ensuring work is completed in a timely manner.

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!