

THE WARBLER



A Periodic newsletter of The Friends of the Welty Environmental Center
Volume 16, Issue 1

2016 Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the Friends of the Welty Environmental Center, Inc. (FWEC) will take place on Sunday April 24, 2016 starting at 2:00pm at the Big Hill Center, located in Big Hill City Park, 1201 Big Hill Ct., Beloit, WI 53511. Everyone is invited to attend.

The meeting will begin with a very short business meeting focusing on the nomination and election of new members of the Board of Directors. The Nominating Committee will present its slate of candidates. Nominations may be added by any member present. All 2016 members and life members present are entitled to vote.

We are most pleased to announce that our speaker for the day will be Mr. Neil Diboll, the owner of Prairie Nursery in Westfield Wisconsin, a premier source of plants and seed mixtures used for prairie restoration. His topic will be: Five Steps to Successful Prairie Establishment. Neil is an entertaining speaker. He thoroughly explains and illustrates the reasons behind his recommendations. There will be ample time at the end of his presentation for questions from the audience.

Neil appears frequently as a guest on Wisconsin Public Radio on the Friday edition of the Larry Meiller Show. A talk he gave on Prairie Establishment at the Garden Expo in Madison, WI was shown on television two weeks ago on University Place, which is broadcast on Channel 21-2, from Madison. Neil has been a consultant on Prairie Restoration Projects across the United States and abroad.

It is a real privilege to have Neil Deboll speak at our Annual Meeting. Invite all your friends who have an interest in Prairies, environmental preservation or the use of native plants in their home gardens!

APRIL 2016

Spring - Summer 2016 Schedule

Details of these events are located in the articles in this Warbler.

MARCH

- Thu 10 Preschool in the Park (for families)
- Fri 11 School Day Out Drop-in Day
- Sat 12 Super Saturday Day Camp (ages 6-12)
- Wed 16 Maple Sugaring Mania (register by March 14)
- Sat 19 Annual Maple Sugar Festival
- Mon 21 A Sand County Almanac Study (teen to adult)

APRIL

- Thu 7 Preschool in the Park (for families)
- Sat 9 Super Saturday Day Camp – Earth Day
- Mon 18 A Sand County Almanac Study
- Fri 22 Earth Day Candlelight Hike
- Sat 23 Community Earth Day Celebration
- Sat 30 Landscaping for Wildlife Workshop

MAY

- Sat 7 STEM and Nature Day for Scouts
- Fri 13 School Day Out Drop-in Day
- Wed 18 Wildflower Wander (for families)
- Thu 19 Preschool in the Park (families)
- Sat 21 Super Saturday Day Camp – Spring
- Mon 23 A Sand County Almanac Study

Summer Camps – Save the Date!

(Camps for ages 6-12)

June 20-24; July 18-21; August 1-5; August 15-19

Camp for Middle School Students July 11-15

President's Message

By Jim VanDeBogart

A big thank you to Kris Grutzner who has served as the volunteer bookkeeper for Friends of Welty for many years. She has given countless hours of her time and talents to help our organization, and she will be missed.

Also thank you to Kelly Washburn. Kelly has served as our volunteer coordinator and recently has helped with development efforts. She has moved on to new challenges, and she will be missed as well.

In this issue and on our website are the listings of our up-coming events and activities. They range from educating third graders about maple sugar, hosting a pancake feed, running summer day camps and planning our annual meeting. Find a need – something that interests you or your family members and friends and ...PARTICIPATE! Enjoy the spring time, it is finally here!



Our New Home

The Big Hill Center was built more than a decade ago by the Badger Council of the Girl Scouts of America. It was purchased last year by the City of Beloit, which rents about 1/3 of the building to the Friends of the Welty Environmental Center, Inc. We are pleased to call this facility our new home.



The new sign announces Welty's presence at the Big Hill Center, shown in the background.



An inside view of Welty's Environmental Teaching Space at the Big Hill Center.

Open House at the Big Hill Center

Friends of the Welty Environmental Center were pleased to host an open house at the Welty's new location in Big Hill Park. Friends, supporters, and board members past and present were on hand to celebrate the environmental organization's beautiful new location.



If you stop by the center, you can see the beautiful new quilt Alice Roemer (pictured) made to decorate our classroom and programming space!



Will Pollock, Life member and past Board member, Bill Wartmann, benefactor, and Dave Mezger, Life member, (left to right) were among those attending the Open House festivities.

Kids Activities at Big Hill



Parents, grandparents and young children learn about the natural world by doing Pre-school in the Park monthly programs. Check this issue's event listings for the spring offerings of pre-school programs.



Preschoolers in class explore the structures, beauty and variety of leaves.



Gaston Elementary School students, pictured here, learn about their school mascot with an outreach program located at Gaston School and offered through the Welty Environmental Center.



Students learning how Maple trees are tapped, get hands-on experience drilling holes in a practice log.

Reflections from our Center Director

By Lena Verkuilen

Winter may look like a time of rest to the outward world, but it is more true to call it a time of dormancy. In the natural world, as in our daily lives, there is really no “time of rest.” Even during our deepest sleep our bodies are healing and transforming. There is change through dormancy all over the natural world. A caterpillar rearranges its entire body to become a butterfly as it rests in its chrysalis. Seeds buried underground use their stored nutrition to become seedlings when the sun warms the spring soil. Maple trees transform stored energy into sweet sap in the warming days of early spring. Bears even give birth while hibernating!



Last year in the late summer and fall the Welty Environmental Center was busy boxing up materials and moving them from Beckman Mill County Park to our new home at the Big Hill Center in Big Hill Park. This winter we have been transforming in our dormant time. As winter gives way to spring look for new opportunities at the Welty Environmental Center. We are partnering with the City of Beloit Leisure Services to provide joint program days at summer camp. We are working with the Roy Chapman Andrews Society to offer programs to School District of Beloit intermediate and high schools that highlight the important role predators play in our local ecosystems. This will lead up to the Distinguished Explorer Award recipient, Alan Rabinowitz Ph.D. speaking in April at Beloit College about his research and conservation work with big cats. And the kids don't get to have all the fun – look for new adult program options as we grow to fit our new site.

Fear not, your favorite programs will not be going away. The month of March is still reserved for teaching school children, scouts and families about the annual tradition of making maple syrup. Our summer day camps will be back, and expanded with a 4th week of day camp this year. You can still look for the Welty Environmental Center at your local library as the summer reading program gets going. This year's theme is all about the upcoming summer Olympic games, so we will offer a program on Amazing Animal Athletes. If you don't see us on the schedule at your local library, be sure to ask the children's librarian to book a date with us.

As winter thaws slowly to spring I hope you awaken from your dormant time with good changes. Spring brings a sense of renewal and vigor to all of us. May it also renew your spirit to live more sustainably each day, and to pass on a sense of stewardship for the land to the next generation.

Sad News

By Stephanie Dobson, External Secretary

Kelly Washburn, our Volunteer Coordinator, moves on. With this loss, the Welty Environmental Center has come to another end of an era, the era of Welty volunteer coordinator, Kelly Washburn. She started in 2008 and has seen us through a couple of rough spots: The leaving of Tanya Zastrow in 2009 our first program director, and the move to Big Hill center last summer. In between she managed the office, oversaw events and created new events such as the Frog Jumpin' Jamborie. She recruited volunteers and created the popular educational series called Welty Whimsies. She often created country style crafts which were given as prizes to pie tasters or sold at fund-raising events such as Holidazzle. She is a creative, reliable, hardworking, and dedicated person. Kelly has taken a significant position at the Beloit Historical Society. She will be program/Development coordinator, a great move for her and not so great for us. She deserves our blessing since she has given so selflessly of her talents all these years. Because she believes in the Welty Mission, she says she will never be a stranger.

Wanted: Some willing, enthusiastic VOLUNTEERS

Are you looking to have a deeper involvement in the Welty Environmental Center? Chances are we have just the volunteer opportunity you are looking for! You may want to assist with an existing program, help prepare materials for programs, or even have a special talent you would like to share by leading a program. Here are some areas where we can use your help this spring:

- Station leader for maple sugar programs throughout the month of March (8:30am-11am or 11:45am-2:15pm)
- Program preparation – work with Lena to prepare materials for upcoming programs. Call 608-361-1377 to set up a time to meet with Lena
- Program leaders for special programs – call 608-361-1377 to meet with Lena
- Adopt the turtle tank – come in once a week to help clean and care for our turtle ambassadors
- Teen volunteers – teenagers needing volunteer hours can meet with Lena to fulfill school requirements in a fun way working with kids and nature. We have lots of opportunities with summer programs coming up!

The Welty Wish List

The Welty Environmental Center is looking for a few items, and perhaps you might have some you can spare. Some may be items you plan to toss in the recycling bin, or take to the Goodwill. We are grateful for all donations that help us connect people with nature!

Egg cartons • Film containers • Baby Wipes
Old button-down shirts to use as smocks • Reusable cold packs

Welty on the Web: Find us on Facebook

Did you know the Welty Environmental Center has a Facebook page? Find us at <https://www.facebook.com/WeltyEnvironmental-Center/> and “like” us today. You’ll get up-to-date information on changes to program schedules, photos from events, cool nature facts, and find out what is happening in the natural world as it happens. We are also in the process of updating our website at www.weltycenter.org. Keep checking in to see our new look and features.

Spring Events

Unless noted otherwise, all programs will take place at the new home of the Welty Environmental Center, in the Big Hill Center at Big Hill Park: 1201 Big Hill Court, Beloit, Wisconsin

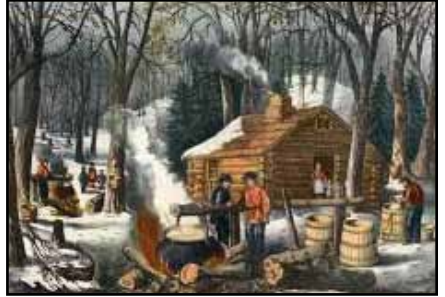
WEC Maple Sugaring Mania

Wednesdays, March 9 and 16

4 p.m.-5:30 p.m.

\$7 per participant

Enjoy an afternoon in the sugar grove learning about how maple syrup is made – from the tree to the table. This hands-on session will look at the biology of maple trees, the history of maple sugaring, and the science and art of cooking sap into syrup. Of course, participants will all get to sample the real maple syrup! This program is perfect for scouts, homeschool associations, other youth groups, or adult groups. Call to reserve your time early – each session is limited to 30 participants. Call 608-361-1377 or email info@weltycenter.org for information and registration by March 7 and 14.



WEC Preschool in the Park - Sugaring Time

Thursday, March 10 from 9 a.m.-11 a.m.

\$5 per child with adult

Calling all pre-K families who want to learn about nature - this program is for you! Come enjoy an interactive story, outdoor activities, nature craft, and a snack with the Welty Environmental Center. This month is all about maple syrup. When the nights are cold but the days are warm the tree sap begins to run up the maple trees. We'll find out why it's such a sweet time of year, watch the trees being tapped, and taste the sap and syrup. This program is open to all children up to 6 years of age, and it's a great chance for parents and grandparents to learn and experience with their youngsters. Call 608-361-1377 or email info@weltycenter.org for information and registration by March 7.

WEC School Day Out Drop-in Day

Friday, March 11 from 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Donations accepted

The School District of Beloit has the day off, so this is a great excuse to enjoy Big Hill Park on a winter day. Bring your outdoor gear to enjoy the trails, your camera to capture nature scenes and moments, and warm up inside with a warm drink and explore the Welty Environmental Center. You can even pick up a scavenger hunt sheet inside to guide your adventures. Stop by and say hello - we'd love to see you.

WEC Super Saturday Day Camp Sugar Camp

Saturday, March 12 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

\$15 per Welty member, \$20 per nonmember

School is back in session, and you might be missing all the fun you had at summer camp. Come enjoy the great outdoors today! March is when people from long ago would go to their sugar camp where the maple trees gave them the only sugar they would get all year. Find out the hard work behind a sweet treat, and try your hand at all the steps. Included in the hands-on nature study will be an afternoon snack and a craft to take home. This camp is open to children ages 6-12 years. Call 608-361-1377 or email info@weltycenter.org for information and register by March 8. Limit: 20 campers

Friends of the WEC Presents Annual Maple Sugar Festival

Saturday, March 19 from 9 a.m.-Noon

Fee for breakfast, festival events are free

Has it been a long winter inside? Pack up the whole family and head to Big Hill Park for Welty Environmental Center's Annual Maple Sugar Festival and Brunch! Your free admission to the festival includes tours of the sugar bush to see maple trees being tapped,



a look at the evaporator as the sap cooks into syrup, and fun games for the kids. For a fee you can enjoy an all-you can enjoy fresh-cooked brunch served with REAL maple syrup. Spend a morning taking part in a tradition as old as the woods! Call (608) 361-1377 or email info@welty-center.org for more information.

WEC – A Sand County Almanac Study - The Geese Return

Monday, March 21 at 6 p.m.

Donations accepted

Winter is a great time to curl up with a good book. Whether you are reading A Sand County Almanac for the first time, or revisiting it again like an old friend we'd like to hear your thoughts on the essays. This month's topic is the March essay, The Geese Return. Leopold writes of a time when geese were a very seasonal occurrence, and perhaps that may get you thinking about what you enjoy seasonally, or how all things change with time. Bring your thoughts, begin a journal on phenology, or just have a nice cup of tea or coffee with like-minded people. Please call or email to register so we have enough snacks for the group. This program is geared toward adults, but interested teens are welcome too. Call 608-361-1377 or email info@weltycenter.org for information and registration by March 18.

WEC Full Moon Hike

Wednesday, March 23 at 6 p.m.

Donations accepted

The indigenous people called this the maple moon, as this was when the maple trees gave their sweetness as a gift to those willing to work for it. We'll just enjoy the evening, as the work of sugaring is slowing down. Wear shoes and clothing that is weather-appropriate and the trails may be muddy. Take a deep breath and enjoy an evening bathed in moonlight. No cost for Welty members, though donations are gladly accepted. Call 608-361-1377 or email info@weltycenter.org for information and registration.



WEC Preschool in the Park - Love the Earth

Thursday, April 7 from 9 a.m.-11 a.m.

\$5 per child with adult

Calling all pre-K families that want to learn about nature - this program is for you! Come enjoy an interactive story, outdoor activities, nature craft and a snack with the Welty Environmental Center. April is Earth month, and we're celebrating because it's a great planet. We'll celebrate all the wonderful things we get to experience and feel while we're in nature, and find out how each of us can help the world in return. This program is open to all children up to 6 years of age. This program is a great chance for parents and grandparents to learn and experience with their youngsters. Call 608-361-1377 or email info@weltycenter.org for information and registration by April 4.

WEC Super Saturday Day Camp - Earth Day

Saturday, April 9 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

\$15 per Welty member, \$20 per nonmember



School is back in session, and you might be missing all the fun you had at summer camp. Come enjoy the great outdoors today! April can be warm, cool, wet, windy or perfectly pleasant - we'll see what weather we draw today. Be ready to be outdoors celebrating the natural world, and find out how you can make a difference with what you do every day.

Included in the hands-on nature study will be an afternoon snack and a craft to take home. This camp is open to children ages 6-12 years. Call 608-361-1377 or email info@weltycenter.org for information and register by April 5. Limit: 20 c campers

WEC – A Sand County Almanac Study - April Essays

Monday, April 18 at 6 p.m.

Donations accepted

Help us kick off Earth Week with a good book. Whether you are reading A Sand County Almanac for the first time, or revisiting it again like an old friend, we'd like to hear your thoughts on the essays. This month's topic will be the April essays. They are each short, but powerful. April is a time of transition and Mother Nature lets us know she is in charge. Bring your thoughts, begin a journal on phenology, or just have a nice cup of tea or coffee with like-minded people. Please call or email to register so we have enough snacks for the group. This program is geared toward adults, but interested teens are welcome too. Call 608-361-1377 or email info@weltycenter.org for information and registration by April 15.

Welty Environmental Center and City of Beloit Leisure Services Earth Day Candlelight Hike at Big Hill Park

Friday, April 22 at 6:30 p.m.

Donations accepted

What better way to celebrate Earth Day than to take a hike! The moon will be full so we will be treated to a beautiful site as it rises over the Rock River. Bring everyone out for this family-friendly event. Be sure to dress for the weather. We will meet at the Big Hill Center near the entrance to the park, and then head out onto the trails. Call 608-361-1377 for information.

WEC Community Earth Day Celebration at Big Hill Park

Saturday, April 23 from 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

Free expo - fee for live animal show

Happy Earth Day! Did you know all that is going on in the Beloit area to help everyone live more lightly on the planet? Come out to the Big Hill Center in Big Hill Park to find out. From groups getting people outdoors, libraries sharing resources, and businesses that are using fewer resources your neighbors are doing a lot. Come help us celebrate all the ways that we enjoy and help protect the Earth. Bring the whole family - there will be activities and events for kids and adults. Tickets will be available for the live animal show happening inside the Welty Environmental Center at the event. This event is planned to be outdoors, though we will be inside the center if the weather is not cooperating. Call 608-361-1377 or email info@weltycenter.org for information, or if your group would like booth space.

WEC Landscaping for Wildlife Workshop for Homeowners

Saturday, April 30 from 1 p.m.-4 p.m.

\$25 per person

Do you want to attract more wildlife to your yard? Find out how you can do more than just toss up a bird feeder or two. We'll go over plantings, light construction projects, bee and bird houses, and water options. You will leave armed with knowledge to take on the home improvement store, or raid the shed in the yard. Light refreshments, information sheets and landscaping journals will be provided. This program is for adults and teens. Call 608-361-1377 or email info@weltycenter.org for information and registration by April 25. Limit: 15 participants



WEC – STEM and Nature Day for Scouts

Saturday, May 7 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

\$15 per participant

Do you love the outdoors, or math or science? Well, today is for you! We will be exploring the natural world



they way professional scientists do. Be ready to collect and interpret data, and get dirty while you do it. Did you know that water bugs can tell you about the health of our water, or that measuring trees can let you know about the climate? This program is designed for scouts, but any interested person is welcome. This program is best for ages 10-15 years of age. Participants will need to dress for the weather and bring a lunch. Get ready to do some serious science! Call 608-361-1377 or email info@weltycenter.org for information and registration by May 3. Limit: 20 participants.

WEC School Day Out Drop-in Day

Friday, May 13 from 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Donations accepted

The School District of Beloit has the day off, so this is a great excuse to enjoy Big Hill Park on a winter day. Bring your outdoor gear to enjoy the trails, bring your camera to capture spring scenes and moments, and come inside for a cool drink and explore the Welty Environmental Center. You can even pick up a scavenger hunt sheet inside to guide your adventures. Stop by and say hello - we'd love to see you.

WEC Wildflower Wander

Wednesday, May 18 at 5:30 p.m.

Donations accepted



Meet at the Big Hill Center just inside the entrance to Big Hill Park. We'll go over what flowers are blooming inside the Welt Environmental Center before hitting the trails of Big Hill Park to see them in living color. Some rare flowers bloom here in the park, and they have to take advantage of early spring to get their sunlight before the trees leaf out too much. Wear sturdy hiking shoes as the trails can be challenging. Bring your camera to catch shots of these spring beauties before they're gone! All are welcome at this family-friendly event. No charge, but donations are gladly accepted. Call 608-361-1377 or email info@weltycenter.org for information and registration.

WEC Preschool in the Park - Marvelous May

Thursday, May 19 from 9 a.m.-11 a.m.

\$5 per child with adult

Calling all pre-K families who want to learn about nature - this program is for you! Come enjoy an interactive story, outdoor activities, nature craft and a snack with the Welty Environmental Center. In May Mother Nature seems to be at her best. The weather is warm, flowers are blooming, and the birds are back and full of song. Find out some special things about spring, and then find them for yourself in the park! This program is open to all children up to 6 years of age. This program is a great chance for parents and grandparents to learn and experience with their youngsters. Call 608-361-1377 or email info@weltycenter.org for information and registration by May 16.



WEC Super Saturday Day Camp - Spring has Sprung

Saturday, May 21

10 a.m.-3 p.m.

\$15 per Welty member

\$20 per nonmember

School is back in session, and you might be missing all the fun you had at summer camp. Come enjoy the great outdoors today! Spring has officially

been here since March, but it really feels like it in May! You can almost taste summer coming. Celebrate our last Saturday Camp before summer with games, scavenger hunts, and outdoor challenges. Included in the hands-on nature study will be an afternoon snack and a craft to take home. This camp is open to children ages 6-12 years. Call 608-361-1377 or email info@weltycenter.org for information and register by May 17. Limit: 20 campers

**WEC - A Sand County
Almanac Study - Back
From the Argentine**
Monday, May 23 at 6 p.m.
Donations accepted

Enjoy the warm spring weather with a good book. Whether you are reading A Sand County Almanac for the first time, or revisiting it again like an old friend we'd

like to hear your thoughts on the essays. This month's topic is Back From the Argentine. Our neo-tropical migratory birds are back and full of song. It is a race of time for them to mate, raise their young, and migrate again to their wintering grounds. It is good to appreciate the challenges we all face in the natural world. Bring your thoughts, begin a journal on phenology, or just have a nice cup of tea or coffee with like-minded people. Please call or email to register so we have enough snacks for the group. This program is geared toward adults, but interested teens are welcome too. Call 608-361-1377 or email info@wely-center.org for information and registration by May 20.



Save the Date: Summer Camps

Camp for ages 6-12 years of age:

June 20-24

July 18-21

August 1-5

August 15-19

Special camp for middle school students with Roy Chapman Andrews Society will be July 11-15

More details for the camps will be finalized in April.

**A NEW TAX LAW provides for
TAX-FREE CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS
from Traditional IRAs,
by Taxpayers over the age of 70-1/2.**

Everyone over the age of 70-1/2 with tax-deferred assets in a Traditional (pre-tax) IRA can donate a portion, or all, of those assets to a 501(c)(3) organization, such as the Friends of the Welty Environmental Center, without owing any tax on the amount donated. This type of donation, known as a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD), is the best and most tax-efficient way to make a charitable gift. If this situation applies to you, or soon will, you need to understand the issues discussed below. You might also wish to discuss this matter with your accountant or income tax preparer as you plan for 2016.

Ordinarily, the way to avoid paying income tax on a charitable donation has been to itemize all your deductions, including the charitable donation. However this method has two serious disadvantages for seniors. 1: Whenever you itemize deductions, you lose the Standard Deduction. 2: Increasing your Adjusted Gross Income may cause a greater portion of your Social Security benefit to be taxed.

The QCD allows you to make a charitable donation, up to a maximum of \$100,000.00, directly from your pre-tax IRA without increasing your taxable income. Furthermore a QCD can count toward meeting your Required Minimum Distribution. You cannot, of course, make a QCD and also claim the QCD amount as an itemized deduction, since that would be "double-dipping", and is prohibited. The QCD has been around for a number of years, but only in 2015 was it made a permanent part of the tax law, allowing it to be used reliably for charitable gift planning.

Dave Dobson
Vice President of FWEC, and a retired EA

2015 Donors and Members

Donations were made in Memory of:

Mary K. Clay • Shirley Eckholm • Virginia Knutson
Betty Rockwell • Carl & Susan Welty

Donations were made in Honor of:

Dave & Stephanie Dobson Richard Newsome

Donors of \$1,000 or more

Catherine Anderson John & EunYung Boardman
Eric Berridge David Mezger
Kirk Berridge Loni Powers

Donors of \$250 - \$999

Gillian & Mark Batterman Darin & Melinda Ludlum
David & Jean Bradford Maribeth Miller & Family
Ivan Eckholm Ken & Lois O'Tool
Sylvia Welty Geer Gary & Teresa Sommers
William & Missy Henderson Brock & Barbara Spencer
Nancy Johnson & Jim VanDeBogart Martin & Nancy Stabb
Jan & Dave Knutson John Watrous & Natalie Gummer

Donors of \$100 - \$249

Larry & Karen Arft Fran & Jacquelyn Patch
Norman & Carol Aulabaugh Will Pollock
Bobbi & Mike Buchko Elsa A, Rockwell
Erik & Lisa Chamberlain Ray & Joan Schultz
Annie Collins Bob & Carol Schwaegler
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Roger Dutcher Joseph & Dawn Stadelman
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Marty & Marlene Howe Pablo Toral
Robert Hunter Gene & Connie Van Galder
Tom & Penny Kennedy Russel & Mary Van Zandt
Charles & Helen Mortensen Steve Vavrus & Sue Swanson
Darlene Nelson Scott Welty
Dick & Joan Niemiec Henry Woodard
Lloyd Page Tanya Zastrow

Other Gifts & Membership Renewals:

Aaron & Stephanie Aegerter
Lois & Robert Allen
Heidi & Richard Andre
R. Alan & Jessica S. Bates
David & Barbara Bendlin
Nancy & Chuck Benedict
Al Bennett & Nancy Hansen-Bennett
Ruth M. Beyer
Roy Bossingham & Carol Wickersham
Sharon Bowman
Carolyn Brandeen
Paul Campbell & Melanie Schneider
Dave Carlson
John & Margie Carroll
Mary Anne Carroll & Family
George Clay
James & Karel Cripe
Bonnie Cunningham
Shirley DiFrancesco
George & Barbara Dilling
Paul & Jenn Dionne
Jim & Sheri Disrud
Allen and Nancy Dix
David & Jodie Dvorak & Family
Lynn Eichman
Michael & Deborah Fallon
Lee & Marilyn Fasett
Susan Furukawa
Tom & Nancy Garrett
Mathew Geer
Wayne & Lois Gilmore
Eileen & Don Ginter
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Mary Alice Harris
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Connie Matusiak
Carl Mendelson &
Carol Mankiewicz
Robert & Maureen Mirabile
The Newman Family
Douglas & Janet Nicoll
Mary Norman
Richard Ott
Dean & Jayne Paynter
Lisa Peterson
Carol Rochester
Karl & Joan Salzberg
Mae Sanford
Mary & Larry Schendel
Stephen Schmaeng
Curt & Kathy Schroder
Philip Selgren
June Stellberg
Dwight Swacina
Janna Tamminga
Edna M. Thorp
Kaaren Torkelson
Katie & Andy Udell
Matt Vadnais
Sandra Voie
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Samuel L. Watkins III
Beth A. Welty
Fred Welty
Daniel Youd & Tamara Ketabgian
Larry & Barbara Zastrow
Robert Zeek Jr.
Mary Ann Zelmanski

Search, Shop, and Support the Welty Environmental Center

Did you know that supporting the Welty Environmental Center is as easy as a click of the mouse – and this comes at no cost to you?

Thanks to **GoodSearch**, a product of Yahoo.com, you can donate to the Welty Environmental Center, while you conduct your ordinary normal online searches.

Here's how:

1. Log on to www.goodsearch.com and click on learn more >>
2. On their home page, look for a line that offers you a chance to support a non-profit of your choice.
Type in or select: **WELTY ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER.**
3. Once Welty is selected, GoodSearch will donate a fixed amount to Welty each time you use their search engine.

Thanks to **Amazon**, you can also donate to the Welty Environmental Center while you shop at Amazon. Here's How:

1. Log on to www.smile.amazon.com. To learn more, just click on "About Amazon Smile" at the bottom of the home page. Or click on "Your Account", then click on "Change Your Charity"
2. Search for WELTY ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER, and when it shows up Select it.
3. Now each time you log on to www.smile.amazon.com, Amazon will donate a portion of your purchase price to Welty, with no added cost to you.

Both sites donate to the Friends of the Welty Environmental Center, Inc. without costing you anything!
Thanks as always for your support – we depend on you
This simple means of modest support from individuals can amount to significant income through the action of many loyal supporters.

***Welty Environmental Center Staff
and Friends of Welty Center
Board Members***

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Jim Van De Bogart, President
Dave Dobson, Vice President
Marty Howe, Treasurer
Stephanie Dobson, External Secretary
John Watrous, Internal Secretary

AT-LARGE DIRECTORS

Heidi Andre
John Boardman
Holly Nehls
Brenda Plakans
Spencer, Brock
Mark Spreitzer
Pablo Toral
Lynn Vollbrecht

Welty Center Director

Lena Verkuilen

Mission Statement

To provide leadership in environmental and ecological education to students, teachers and individuals of all ages, so that the residents of this region can make informed decisions leading to respect for and the enjoyment, preservation and sustainable use of our natural resources.

Vision Statement

Friends of the Welty Environmental Center Board of Directors approved the following vision statement, which is how we see Welty in five years time:

THE WELTY ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER WILL BECOME REGIONALLY KNOWN FOR PROVIDING ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERSHIP AND EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES FOR DIVERSE LEARNERS.

THE WELTY CENTER WILL EXEMPLIFY SUSTAINABLE USE OF OUR NATURAL RESOURCES.

Please renew your Membership to the Friends of the Welty Environmental Center, Inc.

Help support environmental education and programming in our region. Friends of welty members receive issues of this newsletter and information about programming and events. We have 501(c)(3) tax exempt status and are solely a private, non-profit educational organization. Dues and contributions may be tax-deductible.

Membership Dues for Calendar Year 2016

- Family or Couple\$40
- Individual\$25
- Senior Individual
or Student.....\$20
- Organization\$100
- Lifetime\$1000

I prefer to receive my Warbler by

- U.S. Mail
- Internet (email reminder)

*Please send me email information
about upcoming events.*

- Yes No

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Total (dues and contributions) _____

Please make checks payable to:
Friends of the Welty Environmental Center, Inc.
P. O. Box 131, Beloit, WI 53512

*Please check your membership status on your address label. Out of date or not a member?
Please join today! Incorrect? Please email dobsond@beloit.edu*