



**PRAIRIE WOODS
ENVIRONMENTAL LEARNING CENTER**

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pwelc@kcmn.us

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PRAIRIE WOODS *Warbler*
www.prairiewoodselc.org 320-354-5894
pwelc@kcmn.us Spicer, Minnesota

10

WHY BE A MEMBER?

- ◆ Know you are supporting programs you believe in at an organization that is important to your community.
- ◆ Receive information and invitations to special events at Prairie Woods.
- ◆ Benefit from discounts on equipment rentals and programs.
- ◆ Continue to receive the *Warbler* newsletter three times a year.

*Thank you for
your support.*

Join Us!
PRAIRIE WOODS ENVIRONMENTAL LEARNING CENTER
Annual Membership for 2020

- ☐ New Member
☐ Renewing Member

SUPPORTER'S MEMBERSHIP

- ☐ Individual Membership \$30.00
☐ Family Membership \$45.00
☐ Donation of _____ amount to the Sustainability Endowment
☐ I / we are interested in volunteering at Prairie Woods.

BENEFACTOR'S MEMBERSHIP

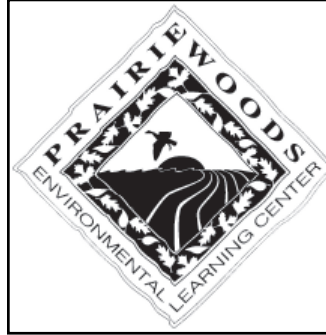
- ☐ \$100 to \$499
☐ \$500 to \$999
☐ \$1000

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Address _____
City/State/ZIP _____
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Please enclose payment to Prairie Woods ELC, and send to:

Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center
12718 10th Street NE
Spicer, Minnesota 56288

Questions or comments? Please call us at 320-354-5894 or e-mail us at pwelc@kcmn.us



PRAIRIE WOODS

Warbler



VOLUME 34

WINTER 2019-20

ISSUE 3

BOARD MEMBERS 2019

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YES! Grant Project Leader
Kathy Hoganson,
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Taylor Templer,
YES! Coordinator
Patsy Russell

THE OPPORTUNITY FUND IN ACTION

PWELC Governing Board established the Opportunity Fund three years ago, as the working arm of the Sustainability Endowment. Since that time, the Opportunity Fund has contributed approximately \$75,000 and leveraged programs and special projects in excess of \$200,000. The Opportunity Fund projects have included: construction of the composting toilet facility at the pavilion site, purchase of the Reese property, installation of a solar array on the pavilion, and construction of the farm house addition. Also, Opportunity Fund contributions have helped to provide matching funds for several grant opportunities.

Each year the PWELC governing board may allocate to the Opportunity Fund up to 5% of the sustainability endowment principle, depending upon market performance for the year. The annual Opportunity Fund potential will continue to grow as the sustainability endowment continues to grow. The endowment is a great and growing gift to the future of PWELC. Thanks to all who have helped to build the PWELC Sustainability Endowment and the Opportunity Fund!



Photo courtesy of MNSolar

**2019 PRAIRIE STARS FUND-A-NEED INVESTS IN A
BRIGHT FUTURE FOR PRAIRIE WOODS ELC**

The 2019 Prairie Stars Fund-A-Need Donors, assisted by the Opportunity Fund, helped PWELC to install a 7.9KW solar array on the roof of the pavilion. The solar panels were installed at a cost of \$25,000 and are projected to produce over \$70,000 worth of electricity over the next 30 years. The solar array will avoid nearly 191 tons of CO2 emissions over thirty years which is the equivalent of CO2 emitted from burning over 21,400 gallons of gasoline. Pre-paid electric bills for the next thirty years and good for the environment- gotta love it! Please make a point of thanking the generous folks on page 7 when you see them out in the community.

Save the Date(s)!

Kicksleds at Spicer Winter Fest on Green LakeSaturday, Jan 18th 2:30pm-4:30pm
7th Annual Tommy Swenson Memorial Ice Fishing TournamentSaturday, Feb. 1st 9am-noon
Winter Fun Day and Chili Feed at PWELCSunday, Feb. 9th 11am-4pm
Earth Day and Recycled Outdoor Gear SaleSaturday, April 18th 8am-1pm



*Notes from the Executive Director*

by Dave Pederson, Executive Director

The Thanksgiving, Christmas and Holiday Season is always a great time for reflection and giving thanks for what we have received, and for what we have been able to accomplish. 2019 was another banner year for PWELC and we want to send out a huge thanks to all of you who so generously shared your time, talents and resources to make it all possible.

PWELC has grown over the years to become a regional center for environmental education, outdoor recreation and teambuilding. During 2019, PWELC served approximately 30,000 people through our outreach programs, special events and on-site programs. PWELC staff ranged far and wide, getting kids outdoors with the Yellow Boats Project, mobile climbing wall, the big canoe, xc-skis, snowshoes and kicksleds through partnerships with Wright and Stearns County Parks and other partners throughout the region. The PWELC home-front has been hopping, as well, with customized programs for schools, scouts, 4H, FFA, group homes, youth groups and corporate groups; as well as facility rentals for weddings, meetings, family reunions and retreats.

Additions and improvements to the PWELC campus this year included the purchase of a 14.6 acre parcel from the Reese Family (Reese Ridge), the construction of a 22'x28' Farmhouse addition, a 7.9kw solar array on the pavilion, continuing prairie restoration efforts, and a new mountain bike trail. Each project required a combination of creativity, vision, hard work and generous donors. We can all feel good about the work that has been completed in 2019. It has definitely been a great year of service and a year of sending gifts forward to future generations. Yes, 2019 was a great year. It's time now to enjoy a bit of a break, spend time with family and friends, sharing good food and giving gifts; then let's jump into making 2020 "the best year ever."

We can bemoan the challenges of climate change or we can all jump into doing our small part. We can grumble about "kids these days" spending too much time indoors or we can get busy and offer them experiences that get them turned on and tuned in to the great outdoors. With our short time on this planet let's try to reverse the trend of the past hundred years and leave this place a little better than we found it.

Good things are happening every day at PWELC because good people like you care enough to get involved and support our work. I hope that you can join us for Winter Fun Day, Kicksleds at Spicer WinterFest, the Tommy Swenson Memorial Ice Fishing Tournament or a day out on the xc ski trails.

THANKS!

Dave**LARGE INCREASE IN RADIO-ACTIVITY
PREDICTED FOR PWELC IN JANUARY**

Thanks to Lakeland Broadcasting, PWELC will be featured on two Willmar Radio stations this January thanks to the **Community Spotlight grant program**. PWELC will be featured in January 2020 on **KWLM(1340am 96.3FM)** sponsored by **West Central Sanitation** and also **106.5FM The Train** sponsored by **Anderson Larson Attorneys at Law**. Tune in to KWLM and The Train in January to hear our ads to promote Winter Fun Day and the Tommy Swenson Memorial Ice Fishing Tournament.

Community Spotlight is a great community service provided to area non-profits by Lakeland Broadcasting and generous sponsors like West Central Sanitation and Anderson Larson Attorneys.

*Please remember Prairie Woods in your estate planning and annual giving.***NEEDS AND GIVING OPPORTUNITIES**

-**Mountain bike enthusiasts** needed to help maintain and expand the mountain bike trails.

Challenge Course Gear Replacement Needs

Climbing Rope – 660' Spool \$650 @ goal (2)
Climbing Harnesses \$60 @ goal (15)
Climbing Helmets \$65 @ goal (10)
TruBlue Autobelay \$2,500

Wish list for EE and Shooting Range

1 doz .22 dummy rounds = \$15
5 pack of Crickets (includes original, hickory smoked, cheesy ranch) = \$15
2 doz minnow pond nets = \$120
6 flint and steel fire starting kits = \$150
Steel shotgun trap shells = \$85/case
Study skin pelts – rabbit, wood chuck, deer, squirrel, opossum (with tail)

**YES! YOUTH ECO SOLUTIONS UPDATES**

-Taylor Templer- West Central YES! Coordinator

YES! kicked off our 13th season on October 9th, with YES! teams from across Minnesota gathering at Prairie Woods ELC for the annual YES! Fall Summit. Over 130 students and coaches were in attendance representing Lac qui Parle Valley, Minnewaska, New London-Spicer, World Learner/Chaska, Rockford, Discovery Woods/Brainerd, Springfield, Royalton, Mankato West, and Sleepy Eye. The goal of the day is for students to connect with other students from around the state who want to improve their local environment, learn from local sustainability experts, participate in team building activities, and gather project ideas. Fall Summit sessions included water quality/canoeing, eco projects, the flying squirrel, and the prairie project. The water quality session focused on the importance of water quality and how to measure water quality. Kory Klebe (PWELC) taught students the basics of canoeing and Kady Krivanek (Sauk River Watershed District) demonstrated how to take a proper water sample and secchi disk reading. Students climbed into canoes to gather water samples from the Lake Florida sloughs to bring back to shore to test for nitrates, phosphates, pH, and more! The Eco Projects Session involved students in learning about 3 topics including local foods, clean energy and energy conservation, and waste reduction. Erin Lucas and Mateo Mackbee, owners/chefs of Model Citizen Restaurant, taught students the importance of local foods. Tom McDougall, retired engineer, architect, and former President of the Weidt Group, presented "All Things Energy", and Jay Baker from Kandiyohi County Recycling and Hazardous Waste quizzed students on how to identify hazardous waste and then educated them on how to properly recycle all types of waste. Scott Glup, with the US Fish and Wildlife Service, Litchfield Wetland Management District, led the Prairie Project, where he took students on a hike through some of the last remaining native prairie in Minnesota. Glup explained the importance of native prairie, why only 1% remains, and how they can be restored. He showed students a section of land that he is currently restoring and gave students prairie seeds, that he had collected, to spread over the area. The students also had the opportunity to do a 40 foot high ropes course element, "the flying squirrel", which is always a student favorite! The students left charged up to meet the challenge of finding solutions to today's ecological challenges in their own communities!

Our next events include winter workshops, regional judging, and finally the state championship award ceremony on May 10th at the Twins game! We currently have 20 teams across the state and 6 in the West Central region including Yellow Medicine East, Lac qui Parle Valley, ROCORI, Minnewaska, New London Spicer Middle School, and New London Spicer High School. If you know someone who would like to start a YES! team please contact taylor@yesmn.org.



Students paddle the Lake Florida sloughs to gather water samples.



Students stand on some of the last native prairie in the state.



A group of students working together to pull their peer into the air!



We Are YES!



We are excited to **welcome Deb Groebner** as our **new Southern YES! Coordinator!** Deb has worked for 20+ years as an educator in formal and recreational learning settings in Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Illinois. Most recently she taught youth and adults about fishing and aquatic resources with the MinnAqua program at the MN Department of Natural Resources. Deb graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point with a master's degree in human dimensions of natural resources and a bachelor's degree in resource management, majoring in biology and environmental education/interpretation. Welcome aboard, Deb!

Major funding for YES! Is provided by the Minnesota Environment and Natural Resource Trust Fund, and the McKnight Foundation.

*Thank you for remembering PWELC in your end-of-year giving and estate planning.*



Time Travel - Mari Klebe

1888 – A time when a tweet was from a bird, a text was a book, hard work made you sweat, and fun was fun!

Two of our favorite Pioneer Cabin programs at PWELC are Game Day and Pioneer Skills. For both activities, children are able to dress as pioneers and experience a few hours of life in 1888.

Game Day at the Pioneer Cabin has children chasing around with tag games, tripping over each other in the three-legged race, strategizing over kubb, working with a partner in graces (a game where each partner has two sticks that they use to throw and catch a small hoop), and finally slowing down with a silent game like pass the pebble. The best comment after a recent program was, “This is more fun than playing Minecraft!”

Pioneer Skills tests the children a bit more. The day starts with “purchases” from the General Store that the pioneer families needed to make in order to survive the trip to Minnesota as early homesteaders. The pioneers then need to make important decisions as they travel through woods and prairie to the Danielson Homestead, perhaps using a compass. Once they get to the Homestead site, their wood working skills are put to the test as they prepare to build their log cabin and begin to prepare for a Minnesota winter. The kids have a great time but most admit they realize that they like living in the 21st Century.

Community Christian School, GRACE Homeschool Co-op and the Litchfield Explorers have visited PWELC recently for a Time Travel experience. Two out of the three even made a pioneer lunch of potato soup, bread, apples, carrots, cheese and hand churned ice cream. No one left hungry.

Many young pioneers (prek-3rd) have enjoyed Story Hour at the Pioneer Cabin. We will continue Story Hour into the winter. Please check out the details in the Community Education section. It’s that time of year when the wood stove will be pumping out heat and the candles and lanterns will be lit at the cabin. A great time of year to experience pioneer life. Give Mari a call to set up a pioneer cabin birthday party or a program for your school!



Story Hour at the Pioneer Cabin



Using the buck saw to make firewood

UNITED WAY OF WEST CENTRAL MINNESOTA has awarded two grants to support PWELC youth programs in 2020. \$12,000 was awarded from United Way for Everyone Outside for Serious Fun! and \$3500 was awarded to help support Youth Eco-Solutions (YES!) teams in our area during 2020. United Way has been a great partner over the years and we are pleased that PWELC can use United Way funding to provide services to many other recipients of United Way funding such as scouts, treatment programs and youth groups in our area. Thanks to all who support the United Way of West Central Minnesota.

KANDIYOHI POWER CHARITABLE TRUST AWARDS \$1000 GRANT TO YES!

A huge thanks to our friends at Kandiyo Power Charitable Trust for helping to support the Youth Eco Solutions (YES!) program with a \$1000 grant. Operation Round Up grants help to support many great projects in our community. We are honored to receive this grant which will further youth-led efforts to strengthen the environmental, social and economic sustainability of our region. Thanks to all Kandiyo Power Co-op members for participating in Operation Round Up.

Please remember Prairie Woods in your estate planning and annual giving.



High Notes from the Challenge Course - Steve Friedlein, CC Coordinator



As the summer and fall seasons come to an end, it’s enjoyable to reflect on all of the amazing experiences we’ve shared. 2019 marked the fifth year of having our mobile rock climbing wall. We’ve had the privilege of attending events like Prairie Pothole and the Kandiyo County Fair every year since. For the last 3 years beginning in 2017, the mobile wall has participated at the Meeker County Fair, Raymond Harvest Fest, Rockin’ Robbins Concert Series in Willmar, and the Viking Sportsman’s Youth Outdoor Activity Day in Alexandria. The familiarity of being involved with these outreach programs on annual basis has been special. Every venue is individually unique as are the people that coordinate and facilitate them. It’s been a pleasure developing relationships with the staff members, volunteers and the participants at each event. It’s at the point now that I feel like I’m visiting an old friend when we arrive on

site. We’ve always been very well received. When the mobile wall is set up at an outreach event, it becomes like a piece of Prairie Woods ELC. It’s an honor for our staff to share the Prairie Woods spirit no matter where we are.

Please remember that indoor challenge course programs such as rock climbing and team building are available during the winter. Feel free to contact me anytime to design an adventure. Climb on!



Prairie Pothole 2019



Renville County Health and Human Services



Upward Bound CSBSJU



Youth Outdoor Activity Day 2019

SOME OF THE NICE THINGS DONE FOR PRAIRIE WOODS BY PEOPLE LIKE YOU:

- * **Huge thanks to the Prairie Stars Event Committee** - Jim Tetzloff, Mari Klebe, Beth Anderson, Sharon Oleson, Scott Glup, Laura Nelson and Amanda Toutges.
- * **United Way of West Central Minnesota** provided funding support for Everyone Outside!, Serious Fun! & YES!
- * **Kandiyo Power Co-op** for sponsoring the Bakken Museum to perform at Conservation Day.
- * Big thanks to **Paul Rock (AKA Dr. Diesel)** for repair and service of our vehicles and power equipment.
- * **Fresh on 55** donated 50 pumpkins for Halloween Haunt
- * **Cashwise, Cub Foods, Walmart & Walt’s** donated goodies and popcorn for Halloween Haunt
- * **Sunnyside Orchards** donated apples for Halloween Haunt
- * **New London – Spicer High School National Honor Society** donated time and talent to the Great Annual Halloween Haunt.
- * **Sharon Oleson** donated her time at Halloween Haunt.
- * **Brian Gieseke** donated leatherworking tools to the Time Travel program.
- * **Wilson & Barb Salter** donated an electric golf cart.
- * **United Prairie Bank** matched employees’ donations in their Denim for Dollars program.
- * **Joani Easterlund** donated a box of tools and office supplies
- * **Linda Mickelson** donated the book, *Monday Is Wash Day* for the Time travel program.
- * **Scott Glup** continues to fight the good fight to control invasive species in the natural prairie remnant at PWELC.
- * **Mike Oleson, Dave Muetzel and Mark Mertens and dozens of volunteers** helped to put on the 20th Annual PWELC Special Limited Deer Hunt.
- * **Lee Thompson, Chris Sigurson, Jeff Olson, Roy Wookey, Jim Tetzloff, Kevin Ochsendorf, Pat Kelly, Claudia Thompson** facilitated a **Pheasants Forever** mentored youth hunt.
- * Dog handlers and their dogs were Jim Tetzloff/**Pepper**, Kevin Ochsendorf/**Raina** and Pat Kelly/**Rasty**.
- * **PWELC staff** continue to **wow our students and make PWELC a great place to work & visit.**

Thank you for remembering PWELC in your end-of-year giving and estate planning.

*EE Notes* - Kory Klebe

In past newsletters I have written about traditional school groups, our bread and butter, coming out to PWELC to experience the great outdoors through a variety of programs. I have also mentioned the events that we host and participate in such as: Prairie Pothole Day, Conservation Day, Halloween Haunt, Earth Day, outreach programs and the Handicap Accessible Deer Hunt to name a few.

When it comes to writing newsletters it is sometimes tough to come up with the something “new” but this year we did have a couple of “traditional” programs that were a little different.

Foreign Exchange Students- We were pleased to host a group of youth from the Lions International Exchange Camp who represented 22 different countries. They

helped out with several service projects on site and then experienced canoeing, rockclimbing and the flying squirrel.

Mystery Tours- Two different women’s weekend mystery bus tours recently included PWELC into their visits to the New London-Spicer area. One of the groups paddled on Ringo Lake in our 34 foot canoe and the other tried their hand at archery.

From pink buses filled with adventurous women to groups that speak 22 different languages, we’re up for the challenge! Just proving that we have something for everybody. Come check us out.



Indoor Archery



Ready for an adventure in the big canoe

CALLING ALL MEMBERS!

Online Membership renewal is now available through the PWELC website (prairiewoodselc.org). Please renew your membership today and encourage your friends, family and neighbors to join us as well.

CALL FOR EXHIBITORS- WINTER FUN DAY AND HOBBY SHARE

Give us a call if you would like to share a winter hobby, sport or craft at the Winter Fun Day on Sunday, Feb. 9th. Past exhibits have included fly-tying, fat tire bikes, darkhouse angling, woodworking, soapmaking, woodcarving, curling, beekeeping, cider press, home brewing, xc skiing and more. Show your stuff and help others lighten up their winter with healthy sports and hobbies. Give Dave or Mari a call at 320-354-5894 if you have a hobby to share.

XC Ski PWELC- Remember, PWELC grooms seven miles of cross-country ski trail and we rent xc skis, snowshoes & Kicksleds! Ski, snowshoe and kicksled rental just \$5 for students and PWELC members.

A NICE ADDITION TO PWELC

Thanks to major support from the PWELC Opportunity Fund, Myron & Carol Van de Ven, and Kandiyohi County, a 22’x28’ addition to the farm house will be ready for this winter. Contractors assisting with the project included Verlon Caskey, Matt Haats Masonary, Swenson & Sons Excavation, B&J Lake Region Electric, Chappell Central, Joe Burch sheetrock and Wayne Sjoberg taping and finishing. Big thanks to Don Schmitzerle for volunteering his time and talents, Andrew and Ali Lien for donating tile for the mudroom, and Jerry Olson for donating seven gallons of paint. All-star volunteer, Myron Van de Ven painted the interior, set tile in the mudroom and will return to install trim and wainscoting which he had milled from cedar trees harvested from PWELC. Thanks to Verlon Caskey for helping to coordinate work on the project.

Please remember Prairie Woods in your estate planning and annual giving.

**2019 MUSIC UNDER THE PRAIRIE STARS**

A sold out crowd of 250 enjoyed a great night in the Pavilion on Friday Sept. 6, 2019, listening to the Harrison Street Blues Band, savoring some mighty tasty foods prepared by Chef Monte of the Willmar Conference Center, and bidding on dozens of unique items on the silent auction.

The event raised over \$40,000 to support programs and projects at PWELC. The group raised \$20,000 in approximately 10 minutes during the live fund-a-need auction, for the new solar array, led by volunteer auctioneer, Mark Ziemer. Wow!! We love our Prairie Stars. Please check out the list of sponsors, silent auction donors and fund-a-need donors and make a special point of thanking these special people when you see them in the community.

Be sure to join us next year on Friday, Sept 11, 2020.

UNDERWRITERS - \$2500

Lakeland Broadcasting

Lakeland Broadcasting**ECO-SPONSORS - \$1000**

Carris Health

Jeff and Sue Danielson

DeeDee Johnson – In Memory of

Bill Johnson

Terry Myllenbeck & Jeanie Wickham

Pioneer Heritage Insurance

PRAIRIE PARTNER SPONSORS - \$500

Harvest Bank

Heritage Bank

Lake Region Bank

John & Mary Lindstrom

Dennis & Karen Peterson

James Rieth &

Theresa Lippert Rieth

Dr. Roger & Kay Strand

Louise Thoma – In Memory of

Ben Thoma

West Central Chapter of MN

Darkhouse & Angling Association

VOYAGER SPONSORS - \$250

Bremer Bank

Chappell Central

Conway, Deuth & Schmiesing,

PLLP

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Dennis & Ruthanne Neeser

Northern Factory Sales

Northern State Supply

Dave Pederson & Ruth Fairchild

Barb & Wilson Salter

Trish Perry & Dave Schneider

Denise & Tim Smith

West Central Tribune

West Central Sanitation

SILENT AUCTION DONORS

2018

Alley on Ash

Aqua Lilly Pad

Barb Salter

Blue Apron

Brave new Workshop

Brian Benson

Burning Brothers Brewing

Casey’s General Store

Coleman Co.

Conway, Dueth & Schmiesing

Corner Stone Coffee

Country Stop/A&W

Custom Comfort Bed

Dacotah Golf

Essentials by Design

Famous Footwear

Glacial Ridge Winery

Goat Ridge Brewery

Grand Stay

Great Lake Aquarium

Green Lake Cruises

Green Lake Nursery

Hampton Inn

Happy Sol

Heritage Bank

Jackpot Junction

Jim Tetzloff

Joe Bee Honey

John & Mary Lindstrom

Kandiyohi County Area YMCA

Karla Nelson

Kay’s Naturals

KDJS

Kerfoot Canopy Tour

Little Crow Country Club

Luminaries

Mall of America

Marcus Construction

MN Landscape Arboretum

MN Orchestra

MN Timberwolves

MN Zoo

Model Citizen

Modist Brewing

Mr. B’s Chocolates

My Pillow

Myron Van de Ven

Pam Melander

Pat & Mary Laib

Pete’s Surplus

Pheasants Forever

Pioneer Heritage Insurance

Powder Ridge

Roger Swenson

Science Museum of MN

Smitty Luschens

Snap Fitness

Sock Club

Spicer Super Stop

Spurs Grill

St. Paul Saints

Stacy’s Nursery

Stages Theatre Co.

The Barn Theatre

The Guthrie Theatre

The Twins Organization

Three Sisters Furnishings

Thrive Market

Time Worn

Tin Whiskers brewing

ToYour Health

Urban Escapes

Utepils Brewing

Vertical Endeavors

Walt’s

Wayne & Linda Nelson

Westside Liquors

Westwood Café

Wild Mountain Water Park

PWELC PAVILION SOLAR**PANEL DONORS**

\$2,000 - \$5,000

Louise Thoma in memory of

Ben Thoma

Steve & Nancy Linder

\$1,000

Betty Larson in memory of

Dick Larson

John & Mary Lindstrom

Stacey & Rick Nass

Jim Michels &

Colleen Thompson-Michels

Paul and Sandra Vollan

\$500

Ron & Dee Erpelding

Country Stop C Store, LLC

Ella Meyerson

Myron & Carol Van de Ven

\$200-\$250

Robert & Patti Dols

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Craig & Lori Holmgren

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Jeff & Cheryl Johnson

Denise & Tim Smith

Jennifer & Troy Engbretson

Ron & Kay Halvorson

\$100

Mark Ziemer

Roland & Judy Wohlin

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Robert Bliss

Carrie & Ardie Hjelle

Annette & Art Benson

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Betty Rustad

James & Barb Swenson

Bob & Pauline Halvorson

Kevin & Melanie Crowley

Roger & Judy Imdieke

Charles & Marilyn Magnuson

Randy & Deb Klein

David Moody & Mary Catherinewood

Up To \$50

Steven Ahmann

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Joel Schmidt & Amanda Raetzman

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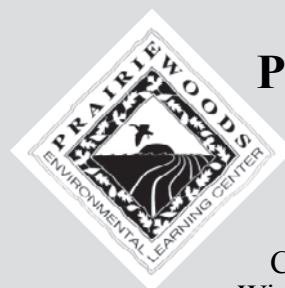
Alan & Lori Dietz

Claire Buzicky

Thank you for remembering PWELC in your end-of-year giving and estate planning.

Winter Fun Day

at Prairie Woods ELC



Sun. February 9, 2020 11:00 am to 4:00pm

Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center

12718 10th St NE - Spicer, MN

320-354-5894 www.prairiewoodselc.org

Join us for a day of winter fun!
Chili Feed (11a -1p), Live Music,
Winter Hobby, Craft Exhibits & More.
FREE

Climbing, Skiing, Snowshoeing,
Kicksledding \$5/person,
\$15max/family





Seventh Annual

**Tommy Swenson Memorial
Ice Fishing Tournament**

On Green Lake • Spicer, MN





**Saturday
February 1, 2020
9am to Noon**

Lunch @ 12:30pm

**Register @ Spicer American Legion
7:30 – 8:30 am**

Ticket \$25
includes
Chicken Dinner

Please bring a non-perishable
food item for the food shelf

Proceeds go to local area charities

**Questions:
320-295-9531**



PWELC COMMUNITY EDUCATION OFFERINGS WINTER/SPRING 2020

*****MUST PRE-REGISTER FOR ALL CLASSES*****

INTRO TO CROSS COUNTRY SKIING*grades 2 and older*

Don't let the snow keep you inside all winter long. Come learn the basics of cross country skiing. Then hit the trails to practice your new skills. Instruction and equipment provided. (Meet at main building)

Date: Tuesday, January 28th

Time: 4:00-5:30

Or

Date: Saturday, February 15th

Time: 2:00-3:30

Cost: \$8/session

INDOOR ROCK CLIMBING GYM*All ages*

Climbing offers a chance to challenge yourself both physically and mentally at your own pace. Rock climbing is a true adventure sport. Beginners can learn about the sport, exercise, and have fun! Experienced climbers can come train and refine their skills. The Prairie Woods ELC instructors are here to help every climber reach new heights! Equipment will be provided. Meet at the PWELC Main Building. **Pre-Registration required*

Dates:

Thursday, February 6th 2020

Thursday, March 5th 2020

Thursday, April 2nd 2020

Time: 4:00pm-5:30pm

Cost: \$10 per climber for each class

PIONEER WINTER SURVIVAL*Ages: 3rd – 6th Grade*

Do you have what it takes to survive a Minnesota winter pioneer style? Come to the 1888 cabin, dress as a pioneer, help saw wood, make candles, learn how to build a fire with flint and steel, try snow shoeing & Scandinavian kicksledding and warm up by the fire with some hot apple cider. (Meet at Farmsite)

Date: Thursday, February 13th

Time: 4:00 – 6:00 pm

Cost: \$10

STORY HOUR AT THE PIONEER CABIN*grades prek-3*

Come to the Pioneer Cabin at Prairie Woods! Dress as a pioneer and listen to a story about the Ingalls family and what pioneer life was like. We will take a page out of the book and do an activity that Laura did. There will be a different story each session. Kids, ask your parents if they want to come too! (Meet at Pioneer Cabin on the Farm Site)

Date: Thursday, December 12th

Tuesday, February 4th

Thursday, March 12th

Time: 4:00- 5:15 pm

Cost: \$5 per child/per session (adults free)

Time: 6:00-9:00pm

Cost: \$8

WINTER FUN DAY*Everyone*

Let it snow, Let it snow, Let it snow. Celebrate winter at PWELC with fun outdoor activities for everyone in the family including snowshoeing, cross country skiing, and Scandinavian kicksleds. Indoors warm up by the fire, eat some chili, learn about winter hobbies, listen to live music, and try your hand at the climbing wall. No Pre-Registration Necessary.

Date: Sunday, February 9th

Time: 11:00-4:00 pm

Cost: \$5 per person, \$15 max per family (for use of skis, snowshoes, and climbing wall)

PWELC EXTRAVAGANZA*Grades 1 and older*

NO SCHOOL TODAY-WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?

Get outside and explore this winter! Hit the trails and have an adventure on the skinny skis or Scandinavian kicksleds. Learn some winter survival skills. We'll finish the day at the indoor climbing wall. Meet at main building.

Date: Monday, January 20th

Monday, February 17th

Time: 8:00-4:00pm

Cost: \$25/person

EARTH DAY CELEBRATION & RECYCLED OUTDOOR

GEAR SALE*Everyone*

Open to all. Come CELEBRATE the 50th Anniversary of EARTH DAY, a fun and educational experience for the whole family.

Booths, exhibits, and activities offer information about water quality, energy efficiency, land management, and much more.

Pancake and sausage breakfast from 8-10am (free will donation).

4H snacks and lunch available for purchase.

Enjoy food, entertainment, kid activities and information about “greening” your life.

No pre-registration necessary.

Date: Saturday, April 18th

Time: 8:00-1:00pm

Cost: Free



\$5 ski rentals for youth (up to 18years old) and Prairie Woods ELC members