



**PRAIRIE WOODS
ENVIRONMENTAL LEARNING CENTER**

12718 10th St. NE
Spicer MN 56288
1-320-354-5894
www.prairiewoodselc.org
pwelc@co.kandiyohi.mn.us

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
TWIN CITIES MN
PERMIT NO. 3876

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



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

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.*

PRAIRIE WOODS ENVIRONMENTAL LEARNING CENTER
Annual Membership for 2014/2015

- ☐ New Member
☐ Renewing Member

SUPPORTER'S MEMBERSHIP

- ☐ Individual Membership \$30.00
☐ Family Membership \$45.00
☐ Organization/Business Membership Please call for rates.
☐ I / we are interested in volunteering at Prairie Woods.

BENEFACTOR'S MEMBERSHIP

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

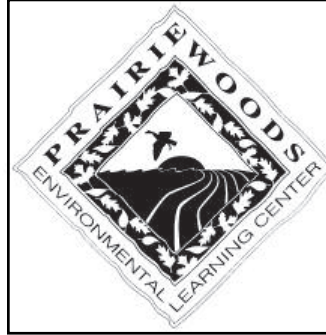
Name(s) _____
Address _____
City/State/ZIP _____

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@co.kandiyohi.mn.us

10



PRAIRIE WOODS

Warbler



VOLUME 24

SUMMER/FALL 2014

ISSUE 2

BOARD MEMBERS 2014

Governing Board

Ron Erpelding- Board Chair
Jeff Danielson- Vice Chair
David Nester- Co-Treasurer
Christina Wordes- Co-Treasurer
Justin Bos- Secretary
Dr. Robert Kaiser
Jim Tetzloff
Jim Butterfield-Kandiyohi
County Commissioner
Richard Larson
Dennis Peterson
Michael O'Brien
Scott Glup
Roger Imdieke-Kandiyohi
County Commissioner

Trustees

Sara Bos
Denise Smith
Dr. Steve Martinka
Dr. Roger and Kay Strand
John and Mary Lindstrom
Paul and Sandra Vollan
Brad Michelson
Dennis & Karen Peterson
Luke & Allison Geiger
Kathryn Kelly
Joel and Cathy Halbritter
Mary Merlin
Beth Anderson
Jennifer Templer
Jay Kieft
Leroy Dahlke
Steve Linder
Bob and Pauline Halvorson

Staff

Dave Pederson,
Executive Director
Kory Klebe, EE Coordinator
Steven Friedlein,
Challenge Course Coordinator
Deb Anderson,
Program Facilitator
Mari Klebe,
Office Manager
Shelli-Kae Foster
YES! Grant Project Leader
Jonathan Morales,
YES! Unit Coordinator,
Building & Grounds Steward
Danny Kulset,
Building & Grounds Assistant

We're getting excited for another Evening Under the Prairie Stars and we want you to join us!!

Tickets are available online at Prairiestars.com or call the Prairie Woods office at 320-354-5894 to reserve an evening of great fun and fundraising in the company of friends of Prairie Woods. This year's event will feature music by Steve Kaul and the Brass Kings, some really fun silent auction items, tasty food and great company under the big tent in the Prairie Woods farm site. Rain or shine, we are sure to have a grand time raising funds to help get kids up off of the couch and into the great outdoors. A hearty thanks goes out to the Prairie Stars Committee chaired by Laura Nelson and to our amazing underwriters: Lakeland Broadcasting, Jennie-O Turkey Store and the Prairie Woods Trustees.

YES! Expansion

With major assistance from the MN Environment and Natural Resource Trust Fund, YES! will expand to serve 40 communities in Greater Minnesota in partnership with Laurentian Environmental Center on the Iron Range, Ney Nature Center on the Minnesota River in Henderson and Central MN Sustainability Project based in St. Cloud.

We now have YES! Coordinators working in four areas of the state and a full-time Program Manager position. Please ask your school if they have a YES! team. Direct them to the YES! website for more information (www.youthenergysummit.org).



Royalton YES! recognized w/ Lieutenant Governor's Red Wagon Award

The Royalton YES! team recently received a 2014 Lieutenant Governor's Red Wagon Award! The Red Wagon Awards recognize groups of young people from across Minnesota who have worked together to increase civic engagement, improve academic achievement, and/or shown exemplary leadership in their community.

The Royalton YES! team was coached by Royalton High School teacher Marty Bratsch and included 23 Royalton students. These students designed and built a solar boat and a solar-powered trailer to haul their solar boat and electric vehicle to events. They also designed, built, and installed benches for their outdoor classroom. In addition, they worked to reduce school lunch waste by recycling milk cartons and separating lunch waste to make it easier for a local hog farmer to feed it to his animals. They also gave back to their community by hosting a fundraiser to support their local senior center and by promoting and maintaining the used motor oil collection site in town. Wow! Say YES! (More on YES! on page 7)



Royalton YES! team w/ teacher Marty Bratsch and
YES! Coordinator Shelli-Kae Foster

SAVE the DATE(s)!!!

Big Canoe at the New London Music FestivalSat. Aug. 16th
PWELC Annual Meeting & Potluck.....Monday, August 18th 5:30pm
An Evening of Music Under the Prairie Stars.....Friday, Sept 5th
Halloween Haunt.....Friday, Oct 31 6-9pm
2nd Annual Sleigh & Ski Festival.....Feb. 14th



*Notes from the Executive Director*

by Dave Pederson, Executive Director

Time flies, whether you are having fun or not. At the end of the day we answer the questions: "Did I live a good life today? Did I accomplish something of value today? Did I do something today that will make a difference in 100 years?"

Although there are days when we wonder, for the most part when we leave Prairie Woods at the end of the day, we can say "yes, I believe what we did today will make a difference in 100 years." If our YES! teams inspire stewardship and leadership in our team members, we can be confident that their impact will be felt and passed along to future generations. If the bus-loads and van-loads of kids that come to Prairie Woods every day return home bolstered by encouragement and respect shown to them by our staff and perhaps connected in even small ways to the wonder of the natural world then we can say "yes, we are making a difference."

If you would like to help make a difference through Prairie Woods, here are a few choices: (1) Post the Prairie Stars poster insert from this newsletter in a prominent location where others will see it. (2) Purchase a Prairie Stars raffle ticket (3) Plan to attend the Prairie Stars Fundraiser (4) Volunteer to help with the Prairie Stars event or the Winter Sleigh and Ski Festival (5) Take a kid outdoors to play (6) Make a point of saying thanks to those who donate to Prairie Woods (7) Consider Prairie Woods in your charitable gift planning.

By giving of your time and talents to help kids get connected with the great outdoors you are helping them learn to care for each other and for the environment that sustains us all. What difference will it make in 100 years? It makes all the difference! The difference between clean air and water or not; the difference between healthy food and soil or not; the difference between respect for self, others and the environment or not. Thanks for making a difference.

Sincerely,

*Dave***NICE THINGS DONE FOR PRAIRIE WOODS BY PEOPLE LIKE YOU!**

- * Jim McCormack donated a boat, motor and trailer for the gear sale
- * Bill and Betty Huff donated a fiberglass boat, 2 motors and a trailer
- * LeRoy Dahlke donated a CLAM pop-up fish house
- * Lee Olson donated a pick-up load of items for the Gear Sale
- * Eunice Buchanan donated a nice wetsuit
- * Gary Kulset donated a woodsplitter and other tools
- * Deb Anderson and Kay Halvorson put on the 10th Annual JJM Victory Run
- * The family of Charles "Chuck" deCathelineau gave a generous memorial gift to Prairie Woods in memory of Chuck's lifelong pursuits as a sportsman and conservationist.
- * Shoppers and donors at the Recycled Outdoor Gear Sale helped to raise over \$2000 for youth programs at Prairie Woods.

THANKS TO ALL WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE ANNUAL SPECIAL HUNT RAFFLE!

This year the special hunt raffle raised \$3000 after prize awards and expenses. All raffle proceeds support youth programs and the annual wheelchair accessible deer hunt. Past proceeds have helped to purchase archery equipment, a shotgun and scope used by the annual hunt and the youth sporting programs, and also helped with site upgrades such as improved lighting and electrical at the farm site as well as a concrete walkway at the barn. Special thanks to all who sold tickets. Rusty Newville took top honors this year for most tickets sold. Thanks Rusty!

Lucky winners this year include:

- \$500 Bethany Imdeike,
- \$400 Chuck Raske,
- \$300 Caroline Peterson,
- \$200 Jason Schutz,
- \$100 Tim Swenson

*Prairie Woods- A Natural Choice for Weddings, Receptions, Family Reunions, and Corporate Retreats.***REMEMBER WHEN?****TEN YEARS AGO- 2004**

- * A bequest of \$100,000 from Ruth and Helen Peterson helped to firmly establish the Prairie Woods Endowment Fund.
- * We renovated the barn with the help of many volunteers and a regional impact grant from Southwest Initiative Foundation.
- * Time Travel programs were established with the help of the American Swedish Institute, Kalmarlans Museum of Sweden and a grant from Pioneer Hi-Bred. The first Time Travel programs were coordinated by Becca Conser, PWELC's first Environmental Ed. Coordinator.
- * First Recycled Outdoor Gear Sale

Twenty Years Ago- 1994

- * Dan & Barb Quimet were hired as co-directors of Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center with offices in the WEAC Building in Willmar. Dan and Barb worked tirelessly to help Prairie Woods make the challenging transition from an all volunteer organization to one run by professional staff.

Thirty Years Ago- 1984

- * The first Prairie Woods Learning Center organization is dormant from 1980-1991 due to lack of funding.

Forty Years Ago- 1974

- * First meeting of the Prairie Woods Environmental Education Council, (one of 13 Regional Environmental Education Councils created by the MN Legislature in 1973), which eventually led to the formation in 1977 of Friends of Prairie Woods Learning Center a forerunner of the PWELC we know today.

NOTE: PWELC Trustees Denise Smith and Ron Erpelding are compiling a chronology of Prairie Woods for display in the Education Building. Send us your vote for the top ten milestones for Prairie Woods.



Eben Pederson- Then: photo from 2003 Challenge Course Dedication. Now: U of M Freshman and occasional PWELC challenge course assistant.

10TH ANNUAL JJM VICTORY RUN

Ten classmates and Jesse's Mom (Kay Halvorson) pose for a photo at the 10th Annual JJM Victory Run

The JJM Victory Run was started by friends and family to commemorate the life and friendship of Jesse John Mithaugen. The 10th Annual JJM Victory Run was held on June 21st. Runners and walkers chose from 5k or 1 mile courses through the hills, forest and prairies of Prairie Woods. As in years past, participants included serious competitors as well as relaxed walkers pushing strollers. Approximately 150 people turned out for the run this year. A good time was had by all.

Overall place winners for 2014 were:

1 Mile- Brady Schwinghammer 1st Place;

Levi Anderson 2nd Place; Brian Jacobsen 3rd Place.

5K- Perry Kinzel 1st Place; Carl Spalding 2nd Place; Logan Schwinghammer 3rd Place.

Many thanks to race coordinators Deb Anderson and Kay Halvorson for ten years of dedication to this event.

Thank you to JJM Run Donors!!!

- Chad Mithaugen
- Precise Ice
- Prairie Woods
- Red Onion
- Belgrade Meat Center
- Belgrade Hardware
- Kandiyohi Power Coop
- Bayer Built
- Halvorson Ag
- Country Stop Inc
- Central MN Credit Union
- Joe Borgerding

and all who helped with the race, driving 4 wheelers/golf carts, timing, finish line and registration.



EE Notes -Kory Klebe- EE Coordinator

Spring was great, summer was too, and now it's time to make plans for fall and winter learning adventures with Prairie Woods! Come visit us or we can come to you!

Every year we see thousands of kids that come out with their schools in the spring and fall. We work with hundreds of kids in the summer through programs with Community Education, Green Lake Bible Camp, Sanderson Girl Scout Camp, local sports teams and Forkhorn Camps. February is generally packed with schools coming out for xc skiing, snowshoeing, and winter survival but November thru January can be cold, lonely months at PWELC until we have ski-able snow.

Unpredictable Minnesota winters and questionable driving conditions with a bus loaded with kids are common reasons given by groups for not coming out in the winter. SO.....
 If you can't come to us – Then we will come to you.

PWELC Outreach Programs - available November-March

Initiative Games teach communication, creative problem solving, cooperation and critical thinking skills. Activities

illustrate the complexity and interrelatedness of natural systems and provide a fun way to prepare for meeting the challenges of daily life.

Minnesota Mammals

Through studying pelts and skulls, students learn about adaptations among our native mammals. Along the way, we'll learn how animals move, what they eat, where they live, and much more.

Snowshoeing

If you have the snow and space then we have the snowshoes. Students will have the opportunity to try their hand (or feet) at snowshoeing.

These are just three examples of programs that we could bring to you. Give us a call for more information on classes that may be available or to discuss a customized program for your group.



"We deliver!"

Time for a little time travel... Mari Klebe- Time Travel Program Leader

Think all the way back to the spring; snow melting, sun warming things up, flowers opening, birds returning... Oops, no, I mean this spring. Return to the cold, rainy, windy, sometimes hailing spring that we survived. Now picture 50 smiling, excited, second graders hopping off the bus ready for a day as a pioneer in 1888. Despite the weather this spring, over 200 students learned how to clean laundry, beat rugs, dip candles, saw wood, make buzz saws, dance, grind coffee, card wool, plant a garden, and many other pioneer things.

The success of our Time Travel program relies on the help of wonderful staff and volunteers. Every person who works the Time Travel program brings a unique set of skills. Jerry Saetveit, Dean Mortenson, and Jeff Vetsch transform into amazing "Swedish" musicians and have everyone kicking up their heels in dance. Mike Bundy, our fearless woodsman, has brought a new activity to the program. On a day that was just too miserable for cutting wood he developed a rope working station. Susan Mattson has shared her love and knowledge for gardening as she had the students plant flowers, potatoes, and onions. Ilday Sundheim gets the students sprucing everything up as she leads them through the many chores (in a time without running water& electricity). A huge Thank You to all of the Time Travel staff for all of their hard work.

Please contact me if you have an interest in volunteering or working the time travel program or if you have stories from "back in the day." I'd love to hear them. I'll bring the coffee and cookies and we can have a chat.

Please check out our Community Education Classes for the fall or call and reserve a Time Travel pioneer experience for your school class or birthday party. There are several different programs for all ages and all interests. We'd love to have you visit the cabin!



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

Greetings friends! It's been an amazing year so far here at the Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center Challenge Course. People have come from all over Minnesota and even the world to have the chance to experience our ropes course. Every group brings their unique energy and purpose to the course. It is truly a pleasure to coordinate and customize each individual program to meet the expectations of our participants.

The combination of the challenge course itself and the Prairie Woods staff makes this such a special



place. All the PWELC team members care deeply about delivering the best experience possible. Our staff shows up early in the morning to set the course for the day's upcoming program. It's hard to imagine a more beautiful setting for a challenge course. There is a powerful feeling of excitement knowing that the busses will soon show up with people of all ages ready for a day of challenges and pure fun. It's the people that make the challenge course come alive. Every group and every participant arrives with a different experience level. Some have never seen a ropes course, while others have been climbing their whole lives. The Prairie Woods ELC Challenge Course caters to both and is continuously evolving. We've been adding new routes on the rock climbing tower of various difficulties as well as incorporating new initiative games for team building. Also, check out the cargo net and rope climb during your next visit to the indoor climbing wall. The possibilities are endless!

I want to make sure to give a sincere "thank you" to our staff and the visitors who have contributed to Prairie Woods and the Challenge Course this year. It's taken a conscious effort to bring all of us together for a positive experience. Please feel free to contact me here at Prairie Woods if you're interested in visiting the Challenge Course..... Belayers ready! Thank You! ~Steve



Home on the Range - Kory Klebe

This year 67 kids went through firearm safety classes at PWELC. 45 of them participated in our all day field and range days. The remaining 22 took part in our overnight Forkhorn camps. The field and range days are the hands-on component of the MN DNR online firearm safety class. The students first have to take the classroom portion on-line. After successful completion of the online test they can then buy a voucher for the field day. During the field day students are divided into small "hunting groups" of 4 students with 1 instructor. The day starts with a quiz to ensure that the participants have retained the information from the on-line section. Then each participant will load and unload the 5 different firearm actions, demonstrate the 6 firearm carries, and get comfortable with 4 firing positions before heading to the Gary Westby Educational Shooting Range where they will go through 12 different learning stations. These stations include shoot/don't shoot scenarios, zones of fire situations, and two live fire stations with .22 and shotguns.

This year's Forkhorn camps broke a record in attendance in the number of girls that attended. In the 5 previous years there had only been one girl that attended both Forkhorn I (firearm safety) and also Forkhorn II (bow safety). This year there were 7 girls. They actually outnumbered the boys for the bow safety camp. I now know that if somebody tells you that you "shoot like a girl," consider it a compliment.

The Forkhorn Camps and Firearm Safety programs would not be possible without the support of many conservation groups and individuals. Thank you to MN Deer Hunters Association, Pheasants Forever, MN Darkhouse Anglers, Padua Sportsmans group, Ducks Unlimited, MN DNR, and all the individual firearm safety instructors that donate time and money to make these fun and educational programs happen.

**We are always looking for people interested in making a difference. Please, call if you are interested in becoming a firearm safety instructor!!*

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





NEEDS & GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

- * Volunteers to help organize the Sleigh & Ski Festival
- * Volunteers to help with trail work and small building projects
- * Cool silent auction items for Prairie Stars
- * Donations to help purchase cross-country ski equipment.
- * Help sew and mend Time Travel costumes
- * Homemade soap for Time Travel program
- * Bow fishing equipment
- * Lever action .22 rifle
- * .22 range splatter targets
- * Pond study equipment (nets & scoops)

SITE UPDATES:

On the road again.....Fresh gravel- Thanks Kandiyohi County! The wet spring this year really took its toll on the old farm site driveway. Thanks to many loads of gravel laid down by Kandiyohi County Public Works the road is looking really good.



Paul Hellenschmidt, Marc Reese & Roger Strand

Cabin Renovation- Paul Hellenschmidt and Marc Reese completed some extensive cabin repairs during June and July of 2014. Replacing dove-tailed corner logs in a 140 year old cabin is no task for the faint of heart. Please make a point of thanking Paul & Marc as well as Roger Strand for the recent care taking of the cabin.

PLANNING FOR THE 2ND ANNUAL WINTER SLEIGH & SKI FESTIVAL AT PRAIRIE WOODS.

The Winter Sleigh and Ski Festival at Prairie Woods is a community gathering to celebrate the outdoor life and share winter activities both indoors and outdoors. Last year over 600 people enjoyed sleigh rides, skiing, snowshoeing, a chili feed, great music and exhibitors including the Willmar Curling Club, MN Darkhouse Anglers, woodcarving, MN Waterfowl Association and more.

Festival organizers are already meeting to build on the success of last year's event. If you have a winter hobby or passion to share please give us a call. If you would like to bring horse drawn sleigh to the festival please contact Fred Zwart or Gary Stai. Individuals, businesses and organizations who would like to bring exhibits or help with food, parking, music or activities, please contact Dave or Mari at the PWELC office.



UMM HONORS PWELC W/ GRANT AWARD

We were pleased to receive a letter from University of Minnesota Morris Chancellor Jaqueline Johnson informing us that UMM had selected PWELC to receive a grant from the BIG 10. Upon recommendation by UMM, Prairie Woods has received a gift of \$5733 to support youth programs. The funding became available as a result of a judgement against Penn State by the Big Ten requiring Penn State to forfeit proceeds from athletics and distribute those funds to Big Ten schools. This year the University of MN chose to distribute funds to out-state campuses which in turn distributed funds to non-profits organizations serving youth in their regions. We are very honored and grateful to have been selected by the University of Minnesota as an organization worthy of support.



We are pleased and honored to continue as a partner with United Way of West Central Minnesota. We recently received notice that Prairie Woods has been awarded a \$10,000 grant to support youth programs in 2014-2015. These funds are critical for keeping programs available and affordable for the thousands of kids who participate in our challenge course and environmental education programs each year. Thanks United Way!

THANKS TO KWLM AND 106.5 THE TRAIN!

PWELC is featured on the Community Spotlight throughout the month of August. Community Spotlight is a tremendous service to the non-profit organizations in Kandiyohi County and we are honored to be selected once again as a Community Spotlight grant recipient. Thank you to the Community Spotlight sponsors. We would also like to thank West Central Sanitation and Anderson, Larson Attorneys for being Spotlight sponsors.



YES! Updates - Jonathan Morales and Shelli-Kae Foster

22 YES! Teams accomplished an impressive 110 projects during the 2013-14 season! With the aim to celebrate this success and channel new opportunities, Prairie Wood's Youth Energy Summit program (YES!) put together a series of three Community Conversations over the past weeks in Sleepy Eye, Spicer, and Milan. These Conversations were made possible by the **McKnight Foundation, Southwest Initiative Foundation and the SW/WC Regional Sustainable Development Partnership.** Through these Community Conversations we asked YES! students, coaches and communities questions about the future of YES! including what they value about YES!, how to define and ensure success, and how communities and YES! can support each other. At these events we also handed out this year's **YES! Awards, funded by the Southwest Initiative Foundation.** The 22 teams comprise three regional cohort groups. Awards were given out to the top three teams in each of the three regions:

1st Place Teams(\$1,000 to each team)

- Westbrook-Walnut Grove (WWG) for their extensive work helping their city document energy usage, recycling efforts, and designing/building various solar projects.
- New London-Spicer (NLS) for harvesting and selling homemade and local products, collecting heirloom seeds for a plant sale, hosting a water week, installing bulk milk dispensers in the cafeteria, and helping manage the new passive solar greenhouse.
- Royalton for their work with their outdoor classroom, designing and building a solar boat and trailer and implementing milk carton recycling. They were also awarded the Lieutenant Governor's Red Wagon award for their civic engagement and leadership.

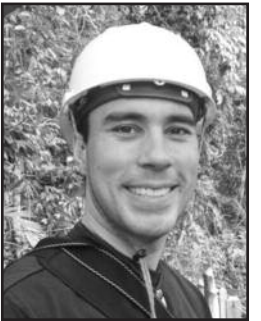
2nd Place Teams(\$750 to each team)

- Mankato West for partnering with Full Circle Organics to bring organics recycling to their school cafeteria and diverting 125,000 tons of organics from the landfill.
- Lac qui Parle worked hard on maximizing their greenhouse. With help from the Betty the Bus Initiative, they were able to get their greenhouse up and running.
- Kennedy Community for their work to bring Organics Recycling to their school.



3rd Place Teams(\$500 to each team)

- Sleepy Eye and Springfield (tie). The Sleepy Eye team collected over 900 pounds of holiday lights from their community and researched energy-saving devices. The Springfield team hosted a YES! week at their school, collected over 600 pounds of holiday lights, provided composting and energy-reduction education to their elementary students, and collaborated with school officials to bring hand dyers and hydration stations to their school.
 - ACGC for their work with their Energy Fair. They also played a key role by helping us present to Legislative Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR), which resulted in funding for the program for the next two years! LCCMR has been a major funder for the past three years, which makes this all the more impressive and important to the future of YES!
 - St. Cloud Apollo for installing 20 new energy-efficient hand dryers, 3 new water-efficient faucets, and 4 more hydration stations. The team also collected used electronics and increased their school's rate of milk carton recycling by 40%!
- This is just a small glimpse into the ongoing hard work being done by these teams of students. Please visit the YES! website youthenergysummit.org for more information about teams and upcoming events.



Back Row: Jonathan Morales, Tom Gjerstad, Tylar Lint, Colton Bendickson, Teresa Copley, Paul Carlson, Tami Bennett-Tait
Front Row: Nayeli Mendoza, Victoria VanZee, Jasmine Nieto, Cheryl Glaeser

PRAIRIE STARS RAFFLE TICKETS Available Now!!!

If you missed the fun of the special hunt raffle you have one more chance to get lucky with the upcoming Prairie Stars Raffle. Tickets (1 for \$10 or 3 for \$20) are available from PWELC board members or contact the Prairie Woods office.

PRAIRIE WOODS ENVIRONMENTAL LEARNING CENTER PRESENTS...

MUSIC UNDER THE *Prairie Stars*

AN EARTH CONSCIOUS BENEFIT FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION OF OUR YOUTH

FRIDAY
SEPT. 5TH
2014
5:30PM

PRAIRIE
WOODS
ELC
SPICER, MN

JOIN US FOR OUR
7TH ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

- * COCKTAILS
- * LOCALLY GROWN DINNER UNDER THE STARS
- * "GREEN" SILENT AUCTION
- * AN EVENING OF ENTERTAINMENT

GET YOUR TICKETS TODAY:
ONLY \$50 EACH

CALL: 320-354-5894

SURF: WWW.PRAIRIESTARS.COM

VISIT: PRAIRIE WOODS ELC
12718 10TH ST NE SPICER, MN 56288

LIVE MUSIC BY
STEVE KAUL &
THE BRASS KINGS

RAFFLE DRAWING - CASH PRIZES UP TO \$1000

RAFFLE TICKETS - 3 FOR \$20
PURCHASE AT PRAIRIE WOODS ELC

THIS EVENT GENEROUSLY UNDERWRITTEN BY:



PRAIRIE WOODS ELC BOARD OF TRUSTEES



COMMUNITY EDUCATION PROGRAMS

AFTER SCHOOL ARCHERY CLUB....

Grades: 4 and up

It is lots of fun learning and practicing the skill of archery. We will be using compound bows to improve our skills. We will play games, shoot 3-d targets, do Olympic style archery, use the Native American atl-atl's, all while aiming to have a great time.

Equipment will be provided. (meet at the barn)

Date: Tuesdays, September 9,16,23

Time: 4:00-5:30pm

Cost: \$30/person

NIGHT HIKE....

Grade: 4 and up

Find out what goes bump in the night. During the hike we will learn how animals, including people, rely on their senses in the dark. We will also cover other topics that come up...like the stars(hopefully). (meet at the barn)

Date: Friday, September 26

Time: 7:30-9:00PM

Cost: \$5

HALLOWEEN HAUNT....

Grades: K-5

Talk with the creatures on the enchanted trail, carve a jack-o-lantern, and have a creepy critter painted on your face. Climb the Wall in costume. This Halloween party is most fun of the year! Children must be accompanied by an adult. (main building)

Date: Friday, October 31

Time: 6:00-9:00pm

Cost: \$8

CHALLENGE COURSE....

Grades: 1-6

We are going nuts at Prairie Woods ELC, so we need Squirrels...Flying Squirrels. Come join us at PWELC and get your chance to try the ride that lets you swing through the treetops like a Flying Squirrel. We will also learn something about team work, safety and trying our best.

Date: Thursday, September 18

Time: 3:30-5:00pm

Cost: \$10



~TIME TRAVEL PROGRAMS~

GAME DAY AT THE PIONEER CABIN....

Ages: 3rd-6th Grade

Who's up for some friendly competition? After dressing as a pioneer, unplug for an afternoon of blind man's buff, a three legged race, graces (hoop and sticks), and many more pioneer games. If it's raining out we'll see how you do at jacks, pick up sticks, and card games.

Date: Thursday, Sept. 25

Time: 4:00 – 5:30 pm

Cost \$6

STORY HOUR AT THE PIONEER CABIN

Ages: K-3rd

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. Kids, ask your parents if they want to come too!

Date: Thursday, Oct. 23

Time: 4:00- 5:15 pm

Cost: \$5 per child (adults free)

ORNAMENTS FOR KIDS....

Ages: 3rd – 6th Grade

Get in the holiday spirit by visiting the Pioneer Cabin. During your visit you can dress as a pioneer, get creative while making holiday decorations, and warm up with some hot cider.

Date: Tuesday, Nov. 18

Time: 4:00- 5:30 pm

Cost: \$8

ORNAMENTS FOR ADULTS....

Ages: Adults / Families

Get in the holiday spirit by visiting the Pioneer Cabin. Pictures this; a cozy 1870's cabin with a fire in the wood burning stove, the smell of hot cider filling the small room, and using your creativity to design your own straw ornaments, a Scandinavian tradition.

Date: Thursday, Dec. 4

Time: 6:30- 8:00 pm

Cost: \$10

