



**NEWSLETTER  
VOLUME 6, ISSUE 1  
DECEMBER, 2022**

**WETLAND PARK COMMITTEE**

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THE STONE LAKE COMMUNITY WETLAND PARK IS  
LOCATED ON STATE HIGHWAY 70 IN THE VILLAGE  
OF STONE LAKE, WISCONSIN

**THE EARLY DAYS**

Have you ever wondered as you walk who laid out the trails or who identified the natural features that should be preserved or how the Town could get a grant to develop the Stone Lake Community Wetland Park?

After the park land had been acquired, the Stone Lake Town Board appointed a committee of local residents to figure out the answers to those questions. However, none of the appointees had ever created a park like this before nor had they applied for this type of grant. Fortunately, help was nearby. John Haack was working as the Regional Natural Resource Educator for UW-Extension in Spooner, and guiding citizen projects like this fit within his job description. John loved nature and he loved teaching people how to protect natural resources. He enthusiastically went to work with the Stone Lake Community Wetland Park Committee.

John Haack was the person who pulled the committee together and provided critical guidance in the early days of the Park. He taught the Park Committee project management skills like how to set objectives and goals, estimate costs, and write a grant-worthy project proposal. At the same time, he taught the Committee about the parkland's natural resources. He also helped the Committee think about how to make the Park accessible and interesting to a variety of visitors.

After the Park was developed, John Haack was still an enthusiastic supporter, frequently stopping to visit the Park when he passed through Stone Lake. He was quick to praise the Park and the community effort that created it. He even brought his friend, Tracy Hames (Executive Director of Wisconsin Wetlands) to the Stone Lake Community Wetland Park.

A good friend was lost when John passed away in late 2021, but we are very proud of the way his legacy lives on in Stone Lake.

**A WINTER WONDERLAND!**

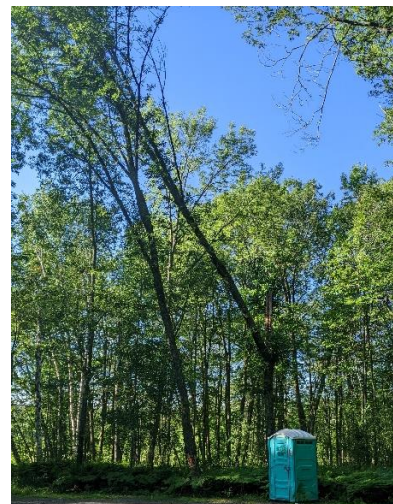
For those of you who live or visit the Stone Lake area in the wintertime, remember that the Wetland Park is open all year round. While not open to snowmobiles or all-terrain vehicles, it is open to cross country skiers, hikers, and those who love to snowshoe. One and a half miles of trails will give you a great variety of scenery; and a trip to the gazebo overlooking the lake will become a special memory. Please come and visit our wonderful Park!

**THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS AND  
DONORS**

In our newsletters, you can see the many ways our volunteers work in our Wetland Park to keep it safe and beautiful. Also, many costs are associated with maintaining the Park, and we thank our donors for their generous cash donations.



LEFT: Volunteers Tom McDonnell and Gary and Cathie Erickson, Wetland Park Committee members, prepare to serve the Cranberry Fest Dinner. In return for this service, the Cranberry Committee makes a much-appreciated donation to the Wetland Park Maintenance Fund. RIGHT: The chef and her helpers who prepared the magnificent meal everyone enjoyed.



A summer storm cracked this tree and left it hanging over the parking lot. A new tree service in town heard about this and had the tree down, cut, and hauled away by that evening. They even cut the tree into pieces for burning and stacked it in the parking lot for those who might need it



Tom McDonnell and Tony Lyne cleaned and re-located all six Wetland Park birdhouses. The Park really could use some help in this department – are there any bird lovers in our membership that would like to help with this project!



Each of the park benches and picnic tables received a brand-new sign this year. Originally, each bench and table were given to the Wetland Park in someone's honor; and each sign describes that person in more detail. A special thank you once again to all who donated these benches and tables.



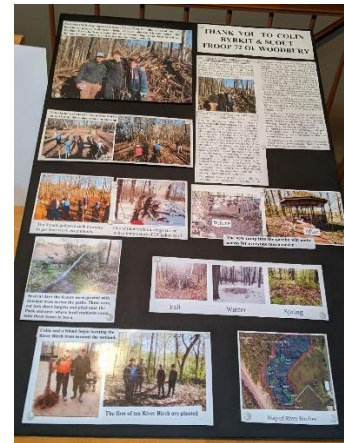
Tony Lyne is shown sanding one of the 14 park benches prior to a much-needed re-staining of all benches which must be done every three to four years.

**SMALL BUSINESS OF THE YEAR**

**CONGRATULATIONS** to the Whistle Punk, recently named the Hayward Area Chamber of Commerce Small Business of the Year! Whistle Punk is a great friend of the Wetland Park, using the Park for numerous physical activities all year round. We thank you for encouraging both local folks and visitors to enjoy everything the Park has to offer.



This new directional sign is seen at the entrance to the Memory Walk, along with a handy can of bug repellent placed there for public use. It took 16 new signs to cover all of the intersections in our 17-acre park!



Colin Brykit, now an Eagle Scout, is featured in photos and articles on the walls of the covered bridge. Colin and his Boy Scout friends spent several months improving our Wetland Park. As Colin worked toward his Eagle Scout designation. Colin, we thank you and your scout friends for the great gift you have given the Wetland Park.



Tony Lyne and Tom McDonnell examine the waterway that runs under the covered bridge to decide if any work is needed. Since it was cleaned at the beginning of summer, it was fine at this inspection.

**MEMBERSHIP NEWS**

“Friends of the Park” now has 222 members, 143 who are Lifetime members. This is impressive for such a small community. THANK YOU SO MUCH!



The new bench (glider) on the mossy path was given to the Wetland Park in honor of “Sis” Moyer. We want to thank all who made this gift possible and challenge those reading this to find the bench. Many folks have told us they have looked but can’t find it. It is there and you will love it!

**IN MEMORIAM**

A very thoughtful gift came to the Stone Lake Community Wetland Park this year. It was a gift from the Mike and Pat Kell family, and came in the form of a memorial gift in honor of Pat Kell who passed on May 3, 2022. The many gifts that came in memory of Pat gave us more than enough to replace the Park’s many signs; and we felt that replacing the worn signs with handsome new signs would give everyone a visible reminder of Pat, her family, and her many friends. Our sincere condolences to Mike and family, and many thanks for your thoughtful gift.

Stone Lake Community Wetland Park  
N5779 Division Avenue  
Stone Lake, WI 54876

### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

I would like to become a member of the Stone Lake Community Wetland Park membership organization.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

- LIFETIME            \$ 100.00
- FAMILY                \$ 20.00/year
- INDIVIDUAL            \$ 5.00/year

Please accept my donation to help with Park maintenance and I understand that my gift will be acknowledged upon receipt.

Mail to: Stone Lake Community Wetland Park  
N5779 Division Avenue  
Stone Lake, WI 54876.

Donations to the Stone Lake Community Wetland Park may be tax deductible

### BRICK PURCHASE APPLICATION

We wish to purchase a brick to be placed in Memory Walk at the Stone Lake Community Wetland Park. Wording on the brick should be as follows (up to three lines, 14 characters per line maximum):

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

MY NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, & ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE (in case of questions): \_\_\_\_\_

My check for \$55 per brick is included, made out to Stone Lake Community Wetland Park. Send to: N5779 Division Avenue, Stone Lake, WI 54876