

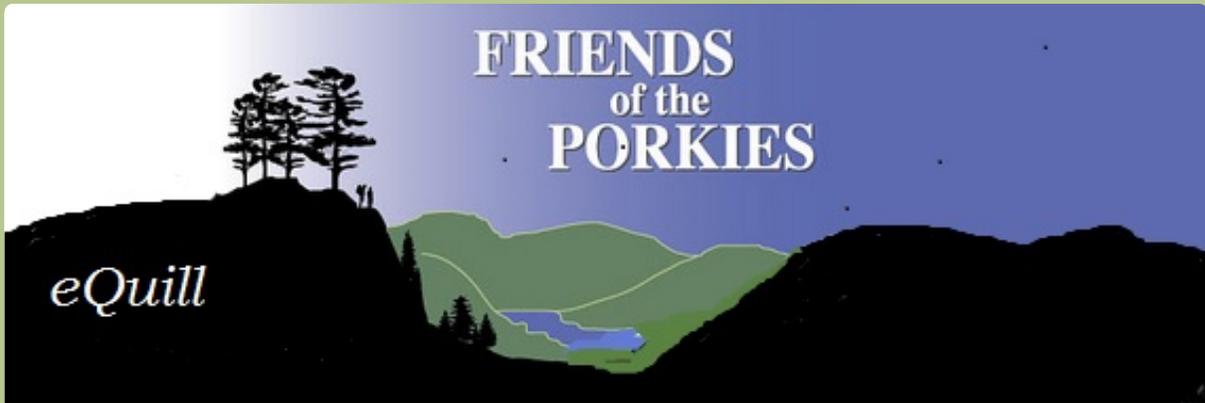
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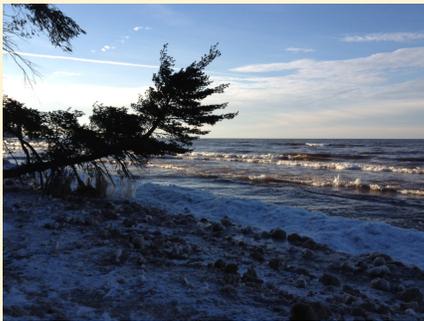
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## January/February 2016



New Years Greetings! Snow finally came in late December and ice is piling up along the Lake Superior shoreline. All in all, winter was slow in coming to the Porkies until an arctic blast brought multiple days of lake effect snow. The late start was a little reprieve from the extreme winters of the past two years and the snow rapidly changed that.

After the flurry of activity to send out the 2015 Quill, we discovered that we had not acknowledged a few donors that newsletter. The Friends Board would like to apologize to donors not included in the Quill. In 2016, we are determined to acknowledge memberships and donations when given. We want to assure you that your donations of goods or funds are truly appreciated!

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## Snowburst February 20, 2016!

This is the Park's premier winter event - Snowburst. Bring family and friends for a day of great winter fun at the Winter Sports Complex. Activities start at 11 a.m. and continue until the day ends with a blazing fireworks display at 7:30 p.m. Inside the Ski Chalet you will find 50/50 raffles, prize drawings, a silent auction, face painting, music from 5 – 7 p.m., and dinner at 6 p.m. from the Ski Hill food service. Starting at 12:30 an afternoon packed with outdoor activities includes sleigh rides, a children's bounce house, the annual Porkies Slalom, and a guided snowshoe hike. Stay tuned because more activities are in the works.



Every year, the Friends support this event by volunteering and donating goods and funds. This year we need volunteers to:

- Raise funds and collect goods to raffle from area merchants and organizations.
- \*Donate something special you make for the auction - artwork, a cutting board, earrings, etc.

- Bake and donate cakes and cookies.

- Donate cash to support the event. This event is funded by donations from individuals and organizations.

Volunteering to help or donating something for Snowburst is a great way to help the Friends help the Park! [Volunteer or Donate Here](#) and use the comment box to identify how you want to volunteer or what you want to donate. We will be contact you with details. Send cash donations to Snowburst Fund, Friends of the Porkies, P.O. Box 221, Ontonagon, MI, 49953.

Remember the profit made this year pays for next year's Snowburst. So come out and enjoy this community event!

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## A New Used Boat for Lake of the Clouds

Last fall a frequent visitor to the Lake of the Clouds Cabin asked the Park if he could help replace the leaky boat at the cabin. The answer was "Yes! And winter would be the best time so we can be haul the boat in across the snow."

The Friends went to work finding funds and a boat that met the Park's needs. We were able to buy a used boat that is in good shape for the Park to haul in this winter. Next summer's cabin users can enjoy dry feet and no bailing water as they enjoy rowing on Lake of the Clouds.

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### Quick Notes:

Artist-in-Residence applications are being accepted through March 31, 2016. Take a look at the updated AIRP web pages and the application [here!](#)

The Friends has helped 45 kid's buy ski helmets and we hope to help more this ski season. This was made possible with the generous support of a Portage Health grant and donations from members.

A Portage Health grant is funding Kidski in 2016. Bringing five kids to the ski hill each Saturday for 10 Saturdays during ski season, giving 50 kids a day on the slopes. Students from the two Ontonagon County school districts sign up to participate in the program, and the Friends select participants on a first come, first served basis.

The Folk School has lined up a very interesting [2016 Class Schedule](#). It is not complete yet but check it out now because when registration opens on February 1st classes will fill up fast! A class would make a great birthday gift, Mother's Day or Father's day gift.

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## Early Membership and Donations Appreciated!

Every organization needs to know their money situation when planning their year and the Friends is no different. Support received early in the year helps in planning what the Friends can do to support the Porkies. So help the Friends, help the park by donating early and renewing your membership [NOW](#).

You can help the Friends grow in 2016 by acting as an ambassador for the Friends. Share the eQuill with friends and neighbors, make our Facebook page a Favorite on your page, and talk up what we do for the Park and the community. Help us grow through your peer to peer contacts.



Little things add up! Use AmazonSmile and choose the Friends of the Porkies when ordering from Amazon. No cost to you, a little boost for the Friends.

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