
THE LIBRARY PAGE

Demmer Memorial Library, Three Lakes, Wisconsin 54562



Connecting people to the TRANSFORMATIVE power of knowledge by providing opportunities to explore, learn, create, and share.

Dear Patrons,

As we welcome the new year, I want to wish all our patrons a happy and healthy January. A new year brings a fresh start—and the library is a wonderful place to set goals, explore new interests, and discover something unexpected.

Whether your goal is to read more, learn a new skill, get organized, or simply make time for yourself, the library is here to support you. From books and digital resources to programs, technology, and welcoming spaces, we offer tools for every stage of learning and growth.

January is also a great time to try something new. Attend a program, explore a new genre, learn from one of our many free digital classes, borrow something from our Library of Things, or set a personal reading challenge. You never know what new discovery is waiting just beyond the shelves.

Thank you for making the library part of your year. We look forward to learning, growing, and discovering together in the months ahead.

—Jill, Library Director

HOURS

MON/WED 9AM-7PM

TUES/THURS/FRI 9AM-5PM

SAT 9AM-2PM

CONTACT

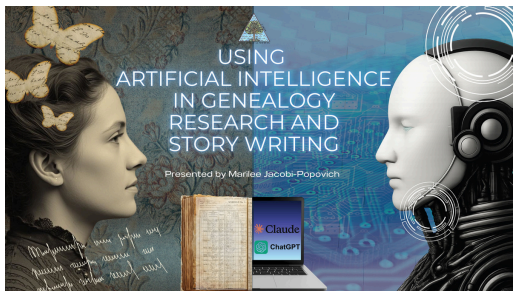
Phone: 715-546-3391

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www.demmerlibrary.org

demmer@demmerlibrary.org

Three Lakes Genealogical Society



Marilee Jacobi-Popovich will present "Using Artificial Intelligence in Genealogy Research and Story Writing" at the Three Lakes Genealogical Society meeting on Monday, January 26, at Demmer Library. Join us at 1:00 p.m. to explore what AI can—and cannot—do for your family history research and storytelling, along with expert tips on crafting effective prompts for AI chatbots. Discover how to harness these powerful tools responsibly to keep your ancestral stories accurate and true!

Every Thursday from 2-4 p.m., in the Local History Room within the library, there is a TLGS member present to help anyone with investigating their family history. Everyone is welcome to come in and have a little one-on-one time with someone who could help. No scheduling required.

TLGS website: www.3lgs.org

TLGS email: familyhistory@demmer.org

We Are Three Lakes: <http://3lgs.org/TNG/index.php>

Three Lake Public Library Foundation



The Three Lakes Public Library Foundation is a non-profit, 501(c)3 corporation. The organization is governed by a board of directors comprised of volunteers dedicated to helping the community through the improvement of the library.

What we do:

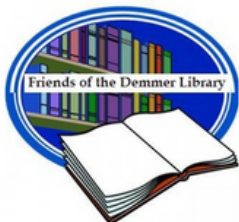
- Initiates funding and endowment opportunities
- Identifies and funds special projects and services
- Inspires community interest and involvement



Purpose

The Foundation selectively supports positive, high quality activities such as adult and children's learning programs, public access computer hardware and software, special collections, library furnishings and continuing education for library staff.

Want to donate? Scan the QR code!



Friends of the Demmer Library

The Friends of the Demmer Library are looking for members to serve on their board. Letters of Interest should be dropped off at the Demmer Library c/o Friends.

The Friends of the Demmer Library is a volunteer organization that wants to promote knowledge & use of the library.

Our used book sale fund-raiser events are used to purchase needed equipment, materials, and support programs for the library.



Monthly Writing Group

ONE MEETINGS THIS MONTH!

Thursday, January 15th @ 1:00pm
Demmer Maple Room

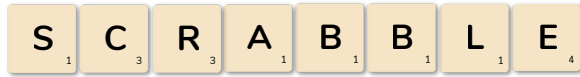
Beginning writers as well as established authors are encouraged to attend, share writing projects, successes, and help each other.



PROVIDING SUPPORT AND RESOURCES FOR OUR VETERANS.

POSTPONED

THIS EVENT IS POSTPONED UNTIL A NEW VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER IS APPOINTED.



Drop In Play

2nd & 4th
Thursdays
1 pm-3 pm
Demmer Fireplace
Area

How many of us miss playing a good game of Scrabble? Stop by the Demmer on the dates and times listed as we bring Scrabble players together.



Hook & Needle Nights

**FOURTH MONDAY OF THE MONTH
5PM-7PM DEMMER FIREPLACE AREA**

A social gathering for knitters, crocheters, and needle workers where people can share their projects, tips, patterns, and enjoy the company of fellow crafters.



Demmer Crafternoon

The 2nd Tuesday of each month
2:30pm
Demmer Libratory

Registration is required.



Story Hour Demmer Library Tuesdays@ 10 am

Story Hour is 30 to 45 minutes of stories, games, songs, and interactive fun.



Lego Club

Monday, January 12 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

@Demmer Maple Room. Lego Club is for children of all ages. Come and free build with your friends or play Lego Creationary.



TEEN LIBRARY COUNCIL **GRADES 6-12**

Every 3rd Monday :
Monday, January 19th
Maple Room
3:30-4:30

- Make decisions about teen spaces, programs and books.
- Earn volunteer hours needed for graduation.
- Participation looks good on college and job applications.
- FOOD & FUN!

POKEMON POP-UP PARTY

CATCH THE FUN!



Date: Friday, January 23rd
12pm-2pm
Where: Demmer Maple Room
Games, Crafts, More



BOOK BITES



More books, more bites!



SOUP AND SOCIAL HOUR

December 17th

5PM-6PM

DEMNER NORTHWOODS ROOM

Bring a pot of soup or a loaf of bread to share and warm up with good company at the library.

2026 Beginning Genealogy Course

When:

2nd and 4th Mondays of each month,
January through April,
9:30am to 12:30pm

Where:

Demmer Library, Three Lakes, WI
in the Maple Room on the lower level.
Also available via Zoom.

Presented by:

Three Lakes Genealogical Society

Your Instructor:

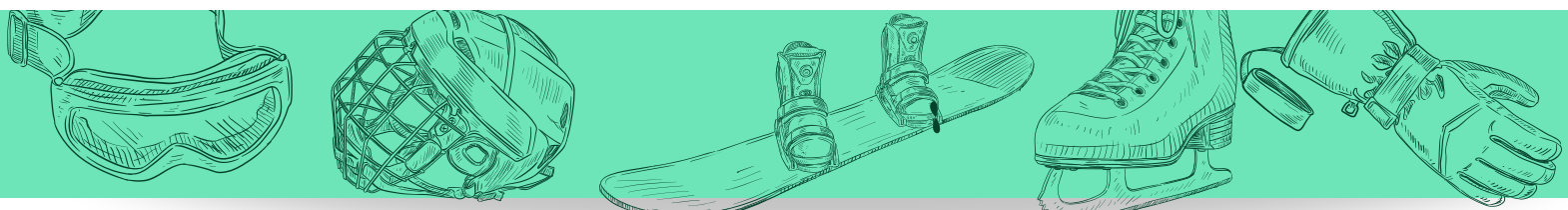
Dottie Winger

Contact Dottie at 608-234-7788 or dwinger67@yahoo.com
with questions or to reserve a seat.



Keep an eye out for our special art projects and events centered around 2026....

WINTER SPORTS



New and Noteworthy

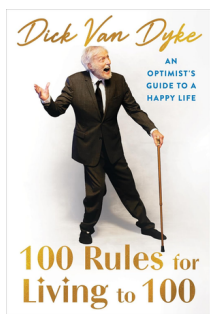
**Don't miss these titles for a cozy holiday read!
Log in or call us to place a hold.**



A human, a dwarf and an elf walk into a bake-off...
Give this cozy fantasy series a try!



~Available in large print!~
Janet Evanovich takes you on a global hunt to track down missing masterpieces in this action-packed and steamy follow up to The Recovery Agent. Available in large print!



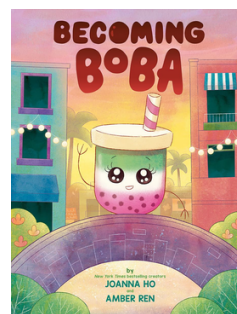
On the eve of his 100th birthday, national treasure Dick Van Dyke brings us this autobiographical collection of stories, reflections, and life advice on how he's maintained a zest for life.



Set amongst the glittering backdrop of London's iconic Savoy hotel, a young woman is forced to confront her troubled past as she uncovers the story of the hotel's first female bartender who has been erased from the history books—"an exhilarating, tender read that will leave you smiling" (Fiona Davis, bestselling author).



A beautifully written, grief-filled tale that's equal parts creepy and heart-wrenching.



From New York Times bestselling creators, Joanna Ho and Amber Ren, comes a sweet, bubbly tale about a young boba tea who learns that being you is being enough!

Books the Other Channel Book Club

Tuesday, January 27th--6:30 PM

in person or via Zoom

Books the Other Channel book discussion group will discuss *The Hate You Give* by Angie Thomas at 6:30 PM.

Meet in person at the library or join online via Zoom. Email demmer@demmerlibrary.org to receive sign-in information if you don't receive it directly from the organizer.

Each book for the group may be checked out at the Demmer. Everyone is welcome!

To register call 715-546-3391 or email librarian@demmerlibrary.org



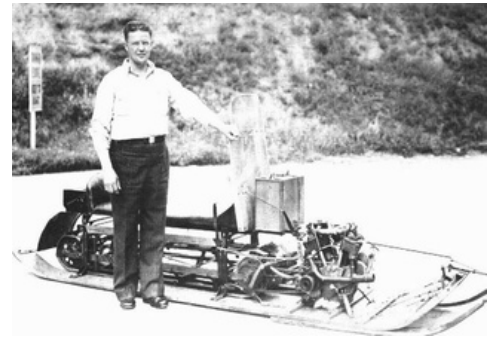
Historical Clippings

Three Lakes Museum

January 2026

We Got Here on a Sled

The “first” snowmobile, or what most resembles the modern version, was built by Carl Eliason in Sayner, Wisconsin in 1924, a motorized toboggan, single-track, one-person machine with a small engine, skis and a rear track that he patented in 1927. Eliason produced 40 machines but sold his idea in 1939 to the FWD Company of Clintonville who produced sleds for military use. They transferred the patent to a Canadian subsidiary.



Snowmobile Hall of Fame St Germain WI
by Charles Pluedamann

Marketing snowmobiles for sport took awhile. In 1959 Tom Halvorson of Halvorson Forest Equipment, Duluth, Minnesota, was delivered, unordered, a Ski-Doo Model K60. Being a distributor for large Bombardier tracked vehicles, this little yellow snowmobile included with the shipment couldn't be sold as a work machine so it sat in his shop. After riding it around though he decided to try to market the Ski-Doo for recreation.

Fred Gates, a Rhinelander boat dealer, became one of the first to receive a shipment of Ski-Doo's from Halvorson. The initial response was disappointing and he spent many weekends on his own time giving free rides and demonstrations at the many ice fishing jamborees and ski hills near Rhinelander - with no success.

In the winter of 1960-61, Gates organized a snowmobile race on Boom Lake. Five racers entered the event, all riding Ski-Doo's with the winner, Herman Lassig, riding a 10-horsepower sled. For winning, Lassig won a bottle of brandy. The event drew spectators who enjoyed the race but enthusiasm for sales still didn't catch on.

A 1964 collaboration between John Alward of Eagle River and Walt Goldsworthy of Three Lakes led to the first snowmobile rally on Dollar Lake. Their goal was to attract winter tourists and they were surprised when over 100 racers and several thousand spectators showed up for the event. The day included a variety of activities with the main race won by thirteen year old Stan Hayes on a 9 horsepower sled.



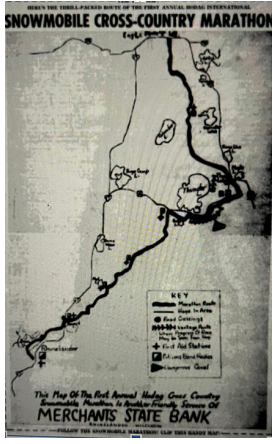
from an 8 mm movie - Allen Welch

The spectators loved the race which circled the lake, ran up a hill, through the woods and back to the lake but these race conditions still couldn't convince buyers that the machines would perform in the swamps and forests of northern Wisconsin where no trails existed.



Vilas News Review

After the second race in 1965 the Eagle River Lions took over and trademarked the term *"World Championship Snowmobile Derby"*



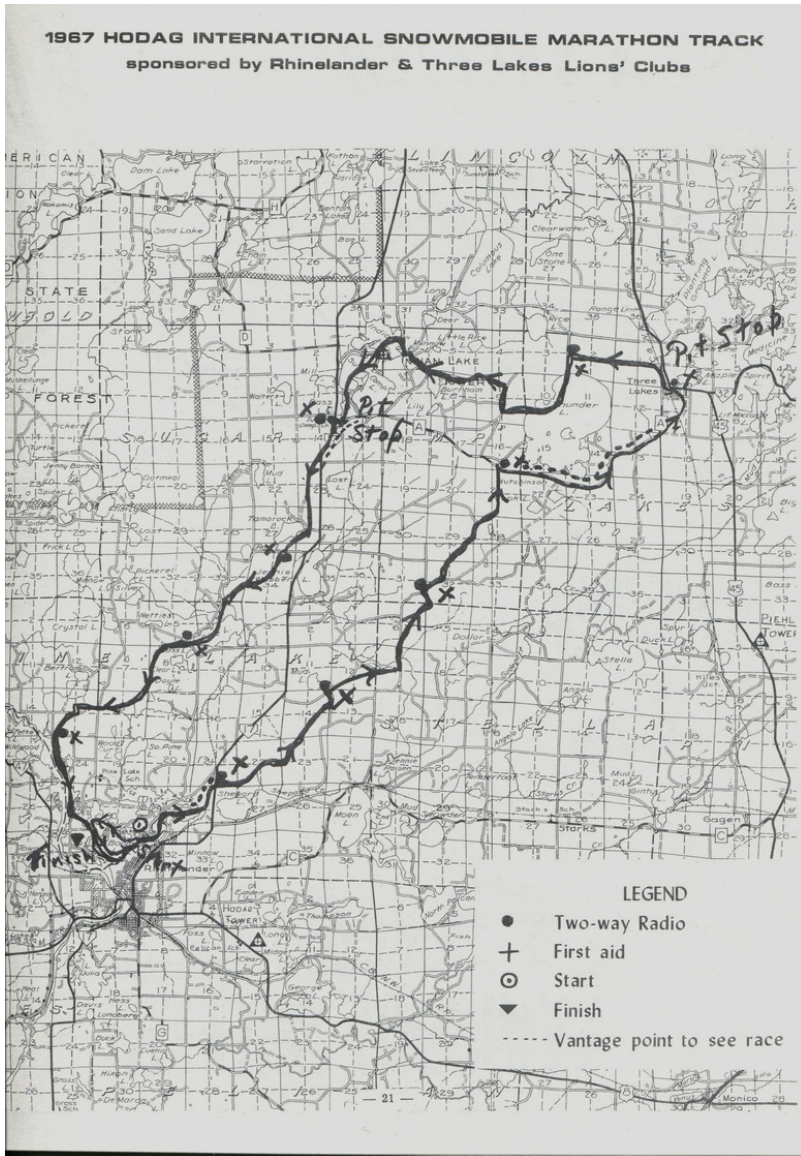
Gates, encouraged by the success at Dollar Lake, decided to try again in Rhinelander. In 1965, working with Goldsworthy, they planned the first Hodag cross-country snow race, but unlike Eagle River's race, this was an endurance marathon. A 35 mile course was mapped out starting in downtown Rhinelander, going overland to Three Lakes, and from there to the finish line in Eagle River.

With 100 entries and 88 finishers, it was a success. The winner took home a \$200 prize and everyone was ready to see the Hodag continue.


The Rhinelander and Three Lakes Lion's Clubs took over as organizers, and the race became a phenomenon.



STARTING LINE — The first group of racers in the 1966 Hodag Cross-Country Marathon took off from the starting gate on Boom lake at Hodag Park. (Daily News Photo)



January 1967, the third annual race, registered 336 sleds to compete in a 50 mile marathon for over \$7,500 in prizes. Events ran from January 7 to January 14 and on the 15th shifted to Eagle River for the Derby activities.



SNOWMOBILE MARATHON and WINTER CARNIVAL DAYS

Schedule of Events

JANUARY 7—Grand opening and ribbon cutting of the Three Lakes, Rhinelander Hodag Trail Association trails. Synchronized ribbon cutting at Rhinelander, Three Lakes and Sugar Camp with guided trail tours from each community towards a central location for an old-fashioned cook-out, near the Roosevelt spur on old Thunder Lake Narrow Gauge right-of-way.

JANUARY 8—Guided tour leaving Rhinelander at 10 A.M. Sunday to Three Lakes on Thunder Lake; thence to Sugar Camp Fishing Jamboree, on Indian Lake and return to Rhinelander. Approximately 25 miles.

JANUARY 9-10-11—Guided Trail tours leaving at 10 o'clock each morning. All Trail guides are experienced Forestry Personnel.

JANUARY 10—6 o'clock P. M. Grand Opening of the First National All-Snowmobile Show. Memorial Building in Rhinelander. Exhibits, entertainment, etc.

JANUARY 11—1 o'clock P. M. through -- o'clock P.M., National Snowmobile Show.

JANUARY 12—1 o'clock P.M. through 11 o'clock P.M., National Snowmobile Show.

JANUARY 13—1 o'clock through 11 o'clock P.M., National Snowmobile Show.

3 o'clock P.M. Friday — Drivers briefing at Memorial Building.

7:30 o'clock P.M. Friday — Grand Parade. Downtown Rhinelander.

9 o'clock P.M.—Snowmobile Ball at Sugar Camp Town Hall—(North of Rhinelander on Hwy. 17, approximately 10 miles.)

JANUARY 14—7:30 A.M. Pancake breakfast for all drivers, courtesy of Rhinelander Service Clubs. Visitors may purchase tickets at Registration desk in Memorial Building.

10:30 Sharp. Ceremonies at Hodag Park and start of famous "Lion's Hodag Cross-Country Marathon". All day exhibitions in a carnival atmosphere located on Boom Lake in the North side of Rhinelander.

7:00 o'clock P. M. "Victory Banquet". Awarding of trophies and prizes. Registration desk at Memorial Building opens January 7, will be open daily all week, for visitors, information, housing, etc.

JANUARY 15—The scene shifts to Eagle River, Wisconsin for World's Championship Snowmobile Derby.

JANUARY 22—Three Lakes Annual Ice Fishing Jamboree.

The grueling nature of the 50, to some years 60+, mile cross-country course tested the limits of early snowmobiles and promoted rapid advancements in all aspects of product development. As a testing ground, the Hodag Marathon had no equal. Every year manufacturers entered prototypes of machines for evaluation and continued to improve features buyers found on new models. The Hodag Marathon's legacy lies in its role as an event that shaped the future of the sport, both competitive and recreational, boosting local economies and leading to the sport we know today.