

**FORI Board
Past and Present**

**Current Board*

Chuck Manske	1994
Jeanell Dailey*	1994
Peter Jacobs	1994
Tim Sweet	1994
Margot Wedel	1994
Keith Wickert	1994
Julie Gianni	1994
Colleen Andrews*	1995
Lee McDonald	1995
Tim Jessen	1995
Terry Wyderka	1997
Dan Hansen	2002
Jeannie Hutchins	2002
William Olson	2002
Terry Anderson	2003
Grace Ann Carpenter	2004
Jim Johnston*	2005
Lynn Diebel	2006
Cyndi Lucia	2007
Erik Lucia*	2007
Carol May	2007
Carey Baeten	2009
Kathleen Morris	2009
Randy Spevacek*	2009
Vicki Auble-Simpson*	2011
Tina Jacoby*	2014
Margie O'Connor*	2015
Greg Koelpien*	2017
Salim Zerhouni*	2017

Deceased members are listed in white

Friends of Rock Island

**May - October
(Seasonal Address)**
FORI c/o Rock Island State Park
1924 Indian Point Road
Washington Island, WI 54246

**November - April
(Winter Address)**
FORI c/o Newport State Park
475 County Highway NP
Ellison Bay, WI 54210

Website: [Http://fori.us](http://fori.us)

Facebook Group:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2229540025/>



**Celebrating
25 Years of
Friendship**



**Friends of
Rock Island
&
Rock Island
State Park**

Friends of Rock Island

*Our mission is support the WDNR
in operating and maintaining
Rock Island State Park*



FORI Projects & Events

FORI assists Rock Island State Park with all sorts of projects and volunteer work. This is a list of the projects that have been completed at the park or are in progress since the Friends organization was formed. Projects are funded by the sale of park merchandise and firewood, our annual picnic and silent auction sales, donations and grants. The FORI Board determines how and when to spend the funds that have been raised in conjunction with the DNR Park Manager. Our efforts have helped keep Rock Island State Park operating well since 1994.

Here is a summary of our efforts over the past 25 years:

Lighthouse Museum Operation and Maintenance

- Lighthouse Tours & Live-In Docents (annually since 2004) Donations = \$110,457
- Lighthouse Trim Painted
- Lighthouse Shutters, Gutters & Access Path Repairs
- Lighthouse Museum Restoration including furnishings (2004)
- Restoration of Lighthouse Lantern Room
- Purchase of Replica Fresnel Lens
- Created and Maintained a Lighthouse Garden (annually since 2008)
- Rugs for the Lighthouse
- Replace Lighthouse Summer Kitchen Floor (2008)
- New Lighthouse Summer Kitchen Cupboards (2017)
- New Lighthouse Keeper's Kitchen and Bedroom Curtains (2017)
- Repainted Lighthouse Cliffside Fence (2017)
- Solar Cell Phone Charging Station for Docents (2019)

Boathouse Museum Maintenance

- Thordarson Furniture UV Protection
- Refinished Boathouse Floors, Stairs and Railings
- Organized Thordarson Memorabilia Room in Boathouse
- Created and Maintained Photo Displays in the Boathouse
- Refurbished Thordarson Furniture in Boathouse
- Created standards and cords to protect Thordarson Furniture in Boathouse
- Refurbished Thordarson Barroom in Boathouse (2016)
- Established FORI Merchandise Storeroom in Boathouse (2016)
- Refurbish wood decking and repair masonry around the Boathouse (2019) Donations = \$41,165

Cemetery Maintenance

- Corbin Memorial Cemetery Stone (2009)
- Refurbished Beach Cemetery Fence (2017)

Fundraising

- 338 Memberships (\$64,409)
- Operate park merchandise shops at Lighthouse, Contact Station, Jackson Harbor and at Washington Island Shops Net Sales = \$54,222
- Independence Day Fundraiser Picnic (annually since 2008) Raised: \$23,958
- Karfi Sunset Cruises (2004 & 2005)
- Firewood Concession (2012-2018) Net Sales = \$2,562
- Lighthouse Festival Tours (annually since 2012)
- Sesquicentennial Dinner and Silent Auction Celebration for Pottawatomie Lighthouse (2008)
- Celebration of the Opening of the Pottawatomie Lighthouse Museum (2004)
- 25th Anniversary Karfi Sunset Cruise (2019)

Largest Money Donors

- Bernal T Chomeau Foundation \$20,000
- Brady Corp \$8,331
- Washington Island Ferry Line \$6,100
- Harbor Lights \$6,000
- Great Lakes Lighthouse Festival \$5,203
- Melvin Stamm Memorial \$5,000
- Raibrook Foundation \$1,841
- Washington Island Yacht Club \$1,200
- Mulvey, Gutkowski, Dailey, Koskey, Hannum, Veit, Sweet \$1,000 each
- Veit, Wubben, Baylake Bank, Swedlund >=\$500 each

Ranger Retirement Parties

- Kirby Foss (2011)
- Randy Holm (2016)

Support Park Buildings and Operations

- Jackson Harbor Welcome Shelter (1998)
- Purchase FEMA Trailer for Camp Host (2006)
- Information Kiosk near Park Dock (2008)
- Purchase TV and VCR for Naturalist programs in the Boathouse (2009)
- Refurbish Pit Toilets in Campground (2012)
- Volunteer coverage of park when no park staff available (2016 – 2019)
- Build Roof on Woodlot (2017)
- Carts for Hauling Wood to Campsites (2017)
- Snow Tracks for FORI UTV (2017)
- Refurbish the Stone Stairway from the Lighthouse to North Cliff (2018)
- Add 2 80-gallon Water Storage Tanks to Lighthouse Well (2018)
- Camp Host Cabin (2019)
- Replace gates on Woodlot (2019)
- Replace campsite and dock fire rings (2019)
- Purchase Visitor Enhancement Signs for Jackson Harbor and the Contact Station (2019)
- Park Information on the Kiosk in Jackson Harbor (2019)
- Plan to replace North End Stairs with extension steps (2019)
- Plan to build new Contact Station (2020)

Support Eagle Scout Projects

- Leopold Benches throughout the Park
- Lighthouse Cliffside Fence (2005)
- Lighthouse Flagpole Restoration (2016)
- Lighthouse Solar Well Cover and Storage Battery Housing (2017)
- Algonquin Nature Trail Signs
- Lighthouse Cemetery Fence Restoration (2012)

Maintain Park History

- Restore historical photos from the Thordarson era (2017)
- Create an archive of historical Thordarson negatives from the 1920-30's (2018-2019)

FORI Public Relations and Social Media

- Maintain FORI Website – <http://fori.us>
- Maintain Friends of Rock Island Facebook Group and Organization Page (1024 current members)
- Publish quarterly membership newsletters

Grants

- Knowles Nelson Stewardship Grants
 - * New Contact Station (2020) est \$15,000
 - * Park Orientation Signs at Jackson Harbor and at Rock Island Contact Station (2019) \$1,206
 - * New Campground Fire Rings (2019) \$2,849
 - * Camp Host Cabin (2019) \$7,500
 - * Lighthouse Property Improvement (2002) \$7,941
- DOA Grant to Restore Pottawatomie Lighthouse (2003) ~\$250,000
- DOT Grants
 - * Maritime History Sign near Contact Station