

Badwater Ski-ers Water Ski Show Team kicks off summer performance season

Bobbie Samme'

Looking for some free, safe outdoor entertainment this summer? Look no further than Vagabond Park in Spread Eagle, located on the Menominee River Twin Fall Flowage "Badwater",

eight miles east of Florence on US Highway 2.

The Badwater Ski-ers Water Ski Show Team performs waterski shows for the public free of charge on Wednesday and Sunday evenings at 6 p.m., rain or shine

through Sept. 6, with an occasional holiday performance. Donations are welcomed.

Guests are encouraged to bring a lawn chair or a blanket, practice social distancing, and enjoy an exciting evening at Vagabond Park as the award-winning Badwater Ski-Ters Show Team performs exciting barefoot lines, thrilling jumping, trick skiing, swivel skiing, deep water barefoot, wakeboarding, ballet line, sky-ski, strap doubles, the breathtaking pyramid, plus comedy acts designed for your enjoyment.

According to Nicole Martin of Florence, an active skier in the show since she was seven years old, the group is having more fun than ever this year.

"I am a barefoot skier and I ski mostly backwards," she said. "I like the thrill of going fast and also the pressure to perform in the moment."

Now 32 years old, Martin learned how to ski from her father, Jim Martin, who is a co-director of the Ski-ers.

"I got involved because my neighbor was involved at that time," said Nicole. "My dad, who now drives the ski boat, was a three-event skier, doing slalom, trick and long distance jumping, kind of like acrobats in the circus."

Celebrating 56 years of family-oriented water ski entertainment, the Ski-ers placed second in Division II at the Wisconsin State Water Ski show competition in July 2019 in Wisconsin Rapids for jumping and comedy.

The Badwater Ski-ers are the 2017 Wisconsin Jump Team champions, taking first place at the Wisconsin State Water Ski Show Championships in July 2017 in Wisconsin Rapids.

The team also competed in Division II National Competition in August of 2019 in Tomahawk, Wisconsin.

According to Martin, the Ski-ers are taking all the necessary precautions due to COVID-19 before each show.

"We supply cloth masks for our team members and provide tempera-

ture checks before every show," said Martin. "We also encourage our guests to practice social distancing, and we have revised our program to eliminate any mingling with the

audience and also no interaction with people during intermission."



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above the sink. He had a friend pick him up. I'm fairly certain that at this point you could not care less. Just the same, you now have your answer. I finished my degree and eventually got a job, then met a man who I ended up marrying. We're not together anymore, haven't been for nine years. I'm not sure why I'm telling you all this now after these many years. I supposed I'm finally ready to share one of

those secrets I've kept only to myself. Here it is Chase: I've never stopped thinking of you. Yours, Candice."

So now I wonder about many things. Why did it take her so long to reach out? What does she look like now? Does she have children? Most of all I wonder if I can still get a letter out today.

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