

The Oakleaf

THE FRIENDS OF HOYT PARK NEWSLETTER

April 2009

FRIENDS OF HOYT PARK, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Cindy Hoffland
Chairperson
233-8083

Janet Washbon
Vice-Chairperson
233-0809

Jean MacCubbin
Treasurer
238-4863

Kathie Zaremba
Secretary
233-1576

Tim Astfalk
236-9744

Betsy Lane
238-6864

Perri Liebl
231-3105

This board meets monthly to discuss issues concerning Hoyt Park. We welcome your input.

Email: hoytpark@chorus.net
Website: <http://userpages.chorus.net/hoytpark>

All donations support your park and are tax deductible.
What a bargain! Thanks!

Mail to:
Friends of Hoyt Park, Inc.
P O Box 5542
Madison WI 53705-0542

FOURTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING

Thursday, April 23, 2009

6:45 to 9:00 p.m.
Hoyt School Gym

Please join us for the fourteenth Friends of Hoyt Park annual meeting. In addition to our annual business meeting, we are fortunate to have as our guest speaker Daniel Einstein, Program Manager for the UW Lakeshore Preserve (see <http://www.lakeshorepreserve.wisc.edu>).

UW-Madison's Lakeshore Nature Preserve: 13,000 years of picnics and campfires on the shores of Lake Mendota.

Daniel will share stories about the people who have shaped the Lake Mendota landscape, ever since the retreat of the glaciers some 13,000 years ago.

Drawing upon rarely seen archival photographs and maps, he will discuss the cultural landscapes created by Native Americans with their effigy mounds and the European-American settlers with their farmsteads, country estates, and pleasure drives.

AGENDA

- 6:45 Registration and Welcome
- 7:00 Introduction
Guest Speaker, Daniel Einstein – “Cultural History of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve”
- 8:00 Break for refreshments
courtesy of Whole Foods
- 8:15 Business Meeting
Board Member Elections
- 8:30 Questions & Answers –
general discussion
- 9:00 Adjourn



News and Activities

BOARD CHAIR

2008 and 2009 are transition years for the FHP Board. We have and will have quite a few new board members learning all the duties and responsibilities required to run the Friends of Hoyt Park (FHP). This creates an environment for new ideas and solutions. And we are also fortunate that many former board members and active volunteers work closely with the board who advise us on the history of FHP. To me this is an exciting mix that can only benefit our organization. As always, we encourage members to attend board meetings; help us in our mission to make Hoyt Park better for everyone.

A few years ago, Master Gardener Pam Mather created a perennial garden next to the bathroom/storage building. This year we are introducing new plants paid for with a generous donation from Pam.

New tax laws for non-profit organizations went in to effect this year. These laws required us to send letters in January to all members notifying them of the amount they contributed to FHP in 2008. Please advise us of any errors in your letter.

You may notice that we burned the prairie and some woodland areas this spring (scheduled for April 10).

This will help keep the plants we want in the prairie and keep out the plants we don't want (invasives) in the woodland.

Cindy Hoffland, Chairperson

TREASURY

The calendar year 2008 was a good year for new memberships as well as additional monetary contribution to the FHP. We collected over \$3,500 in dues from members near and far; it's so surprising when a prior resident of the area thinks of FHP in their annual giving!

About \$2,500 was given directly to the ranger fund to pay our summer ranger's salary. Contributions to the general fund increased too this year and thanks to the very generous contributions from the Larson family in memory of founding member Ed Larson; we had over \$3,200 in contributions. We are still raising funds for a Karen Bloom tree memorial and always consider similar memorials.

Although like most investments, our Madison Community Foundation (MCF) fund did not have a stellar year, but we deposited \$2,400 in new donations.

So as of 12/31/08 we had \$11,443.27 in our bank accounts and \$15,357.46 in our MCF fund.

Thank you all!

Jean MacCubbin, Treasurer

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

We have 163 paid member households for 2008!

We welcome all of our new members and appreciate the renewals of present and past members. Please bring your friends and neighbors to the annual meeting.

Cindy Hoffland, Membership Committee

PRAIRIE COMMITTEE

This spring we are planning a controlled burn of the Ready Prairie and a portion of the woods between the main shelter and the overlook. This will help control invasive woody shrubs, especially honeysuckle and buckthorn. It will also make it easier to add new plants and seeds to the prairie in May (see workday schedule). As in years past, we've ordered two flats of prairie plants from the UW Arboretum plant sale and we've received a good supply of prairie seeds from Wayne Pauly of Dane County Parks.

Tim Kessenich, Prairie Committee



SUMMER RANGER

No layoffs at FHP!

We are extremely fortunate that Ariel DeBroux is coming back as our summer ranger for 2009. Moreover, Ariel is now the Regent Neighborhood Representative on our Board.

T -SHIRTS

FHP t-shirts will be available at the Annual Meeting.

- Adult long-sleeve - \$20
- Adult short-sleeve - \$16
- Children short-sleeve - \$12

FULL MOON/OWL WALK

UW Arboretum naturalist Diane Dempsey gave an enjoyable presentation on owls at our Full Moon/Owl Walk on February 8. Although no owls were heard on the walk, 27 people enjoyed the talk, hot chocolate, and cookies by the fire.

GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT 2009

Thank you to the Hoyt Park volunteers who participated in the Great Backyard Bird Count on February 14th. The Great Backyard Bird Count is an annual four-day event where bird watchers of all ages count birds to create a real-time snapshot of where the birds are across the continent.

We spent about an hour observing in Hoyt Park where we counted 52 individual birds including 13 different species. Our checklist was one of more than 93,000 submitted from across North America.

To explore the 2009 results and learn how scientists use this data go to www.birdcount.org.

Perri Liebl

FHP COMMISSIONS PAINTING

Next December, you will be able to bid on a painting by local artist Ann Rutecki at the FHP Holiday Party and Silent Auction. It's a wonderful winter scene of the Main Shelter in winter. You can preview the painting now as it is hanging up in Madeleine's Patisserie (corner of Speedway and Glenway). We also hope to have note cards available for purchase starting this fall. Watch for further information about the sale of the cards and the auction in the fall newsletter, or contact Deborah Lawson at dlawson@restainohomes.com.

HOLIDAY PARTY

We had a record number of people attending our 2009 Holiday Party on December 11 at the University Club! Madison's new Parks Superintendent Kevin Briski spoke to us about his thoughts on Madison Parks and Hoyt Park. We had many wonderful items submitted by Friends for our gardening themed silent auction from two hours worth of weeding, to garden gnomes, to dinner parties using garden produce.

The dinner and auction were successful financially, raising \$1,500 for our summer ranger's salary, and was, very importantly, a wonderful way to spend an evening with Friends.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Perri Liebl, Kathy Zaremba, and Jean MacCubbin are leaving the board this year, but will continue to participate in various FHP activities. Each have given years of dedicated service.

The nomination committee doesn't have recommended candidates in time for the newsletter and will announce their recommendations at the annual meeting. As always, we also accept nominations from the floor.

In addition, we need a neighborhood representative for the Radio Park-Sunset Hills neighborhood.

Neighborhood Representatives:

- Vanchamasshe – Ron Harris
- Radio Park-Sunset Hills – vacant
- Regent – Ariel DeBroux
- Sunset Village – Brent McCown

*Cindy Hoffland, Ron Harris, Betsy Lane,
Nominating Committee*

WORK PARTIES & COMING EVENTS:

Please join us at one of our upcoming events.

ANNUAL MEETING

Thursday, April 23,
6:45 – 9:00 p.m.
Hoyt School gym

EARTH DAY 2009

Saturday, April 18,
10:00 – 12:00 a.m.
Main parking lot

We will remove trash and pull garlic mustard. Bring gloves to protect your hands.

SUMMER PICNIC

Saturday, June 27,
12:00 – 3:00 p.m.
Main shelter

WORK DAYS

10:00-12:00 a.m.

April 18 – Earth Day pick-up
May 16 – prairie planting
June 20 – woodland invasives
July 18 – prairie maintenance
Aug 15 – buckthorn at overlook
Sept 19 – plant at overlook
Oct 17 – mulch trees
Nov 14 – weather permitting

NATURE WALKS

Wednesday mornings,
8:00 a.m. as weather permits
Main parking lot

BOARD MEETINGS

Second Thursday of the month, 6:45-9:00 p.m.

Sequoia Library

April 9

May 14

June 11

July 9

September 10

October 8

November 12



FRIENDS OF HOYT PARK, INC.

P O Box 5542
Madison WI 53705

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Detach and mail with your check



FRIENDS OF HOYT PARK, INC.

Thank you for becoming a member of Friends of Hoyt Park, Inc. All paid memberships are voting members. The FHP is a non-profit organization.

Donations above membership dues are tax-deductible. Please send and make checks payable to:

Friends of Hoyt Park, Inc.
P O Box 5542
Madison, WI 53705

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES

Annual dues cover one year's membership running from April to April

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip Code: _____

Day Phone: _____ Evening Phone: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Please check appropriate boxes:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Please contact me to volunteer by phone or email | <input type="checkbox"/> Ranger Fund \$_____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual Membership \$15 | <input type="checkbox"/> Endowment Fund \$_____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Household membership \$25 | <input type="checkbox"/> General Fund \$_____ |