

The Oakleaf

THE FRIENDS OF HOYT PARK NEWSLETTER

April 2010

FRIENDS OF HOYT PARK, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Cindy Hoffland
Chairperson
233-8083

Janet Washbon
Vice-Chairperson
233-0809

Jean MacCubbin
Treasurer
238-4863

Tim Astfalk
Co-Secretary
236-9744

Betsy Lane
Co-Secretary
238-6864

Bob Downing
233-1986

Kristin Girvin Redman
231-9147

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

FIFTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING

Wednesday, April 21, 2010

6:45 to 9:00 p.m.

Hoyt School Room 13

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 Andy Paulios, Coordinator for the Wisconsin Bird Conservation Initiative (WBCI – www.wisconsinbirds.org).

Protecting Wisconsin's Migratory Birds.

Andy will give an overview of the WBCI effort to conserve migratory birds through the life story of a Baltimore Oriole. In a single year, a Baltimore Oriole may travel from Wisconsin to Costa Rica and back again. Along the way, orioles are susceptible to not only loss of habitat, but also collisions with windows and towers, severe weather events, feral predators, and a number of other risk factors. WBCI is a statewide partnership of 160+ organizations dedicated to the conservation of migratory birds across the western hemisphere.

AGENDA

- 6:45 Registration and Welcome
- 7:00 Introduction
Guest Speaker, Andy Paulios – “Protecting Wisconsin’s Migratory Birds”
- 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

FHP RECIEVES AWARD

At the Volunteer Recognition event sponsored by the Madison Parks Division on March 1, FHP received an award for Volunteer Group of the Year. The picture on page 1 shows board members with the award at our March 11 meeting.

FIFTEEN YEARS!

Fifteen Years! It's hard to imagine that FHP has been in existence for 15 years; from Bill Tishler's newspaper article on the sad state of the maintenance-starved and underutilized Park in the mid-1990's and the subsequent formation of FHP, to the vibrant and much-used Park it is today. It's hard to remember all of the wonderful improvements we've all made over the last 15 years but, you need to know that every member, past and present, has made a difference in the successful and continuing transformation of Hoyt Park.

We are still finalizing some events to celebrate. Look for notices in the mail and online and come join us in our celebrations.

NOTES FROM THE TREASURER

Again, FHP ended the year of 2009 in good financial shape thanks to our long-time members and additional contributions.

Income – \$6,100 in member dues and other contributions. Total income \$11,603.95

Expenses – \$11,639.73 spent.

Ranger Fund – FHP is still the only

city park with its own summer ranger paid by private contributions! The ranger expenses were \$7,747.96.

Fundraising – The annual dinner has been the biggest fund-raising activity that FHP has embarked UNTIL the commission of the Shelter Painting, its auction, and sale of note cards with the digitized image of the painting. The sale of the painting brought in \$500, another \$300+ was raised by sale of the note cards. We raised about \$700 from the holiday dinner. Another \$800 was raised by the silent auction. KUDOS to Deborah Lawson for doing a wonderful job on the dinner, program, and silent auction!

MCF – Last year we reported the losses in our endowment fund; we are pleased to note that even though you contributed \$780 in 2009, we are steadily gaining back our losses; not yet at our all-time high of \$20,000, but close!

Memorials/Other Contributions – The Larson family have been consistent major contributors to FHP; we thank them for their gracious and on-going support! The Karen Bloom Memorial Fund is our current memorial fund receiving contributions.

Fiscal Year – Thanks to a bylaws change in 2009, our fiscal year is the same as the calendar year; this helps with IRS and member reporting. The above numbers for 2009 cover 9 months.

Thank you all!
Jean MacCubbin, Treasurer

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

We had 105 paid member households for 2009; down from a high of 163 in 2008. The good news, however, is that we already have 80 member households who have paid their 2010 dues. This has gotten us off to a great start for 2010.

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 and encourage them to support the Friends of Hoyt Park!
Janet Washbon, Membership Committee

PRAIRIE COMMITTEE

Thanks to the hard work and generosity of our members, the Audrey Ready Prairie continues to be one of the beauty spots of Hoyt Park. Last spring we contracted for a controlled burn. Volunteers planted seeds and plants, and cleared woody plants from the prairie. Our ranger, Ariel, also worked hard to control woody invasive plants. Please join us again for our prairie-planting day on Saturday May 15, 2010. We have several flats of plants from the UW Arboretum and a very generous supply of seeds provided by Wayne Pauly of Dane County Parks.

Tim Kessenich, Prairie Committee

SUMMER RANGER

No layoffs at FHP again!

We are extremely fortunate that Ariel DeBroux is coming back as our summer ranger for 2010. Her Park knowledge gives her a head start on her ranger activities.



FULL MOON/OWL WALK

On February 27, the Friends of Hoyt Park held their annual Full Moon/Owl Walk. Thirty-four people attended. For once, the weather was not bitter cold. Diane Dempsey, an UW Arboretum naturalist, enchanted the younger set with owl information and showed a stuffed Great Horned

T-SHIRTS

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

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

Owl. We all enjoyed the fire, refreshments, and a short walk with Diane. We saw the beautiful full moon, but no owls.

Nancy Dott

HOLIDAY PARTY

The annual Holiday Party was once again a success! The dinner at the University Club was excellent, the silent auction was fun, our speaker was interesting, and a good time was had by all. As a bonus we were able to raise over \$1200 for our Park!

This year we had an exceptional silent auction item—an original painting of the Main Shelter in the Park, painted by local artist Ann Rutecki. It shows the Shelter in a snowy winter setting (also showing the large Norway Maple which has since been cut down). Congratulations to auction winner Terry Bloom.

Won't you consider being the representative from the VanChaMaShe Neighborhood? Please contact a board member for details.

Neighborhood Representatives:

- VanChaMaShe – vacant
- Radio Park-Sunset Hills – Glenn Christians
- Regent – Ariel DeBroux
- Sunset Village – Brent McCown

Cindy Hoffland, Tim Astfalk, and Jean MacCubbin, Nominating Committee

NEIGHBORING NEWS

Hoyt School Stormwater Project.

As some of you may have heard, the Madison School District is constructing a stormwater detention pond in the back of Hoyt School.

WORK PARTIES & COMING EVENTS:

Please join us at one of our upcoming events.

ANNUAL MEETING

Wednesday, April 21,
6:45 – 9:00 p.m.
Hoyt School Room 13

EARTH DAY 2010

Saturday, April 24,
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 26,
12:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Main shelter

WORK DAYS

10:00-12:00 a.m.

April 24 – Earth Day pick-up
May 15 – prairie planting
June 19 – woodland invasives
July 17 – prairie maintenance
Aug 21 – buckthorn removal
Sept 18 – plant at overlook
Oct 16 – mulch trees
Nov 20 – 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 8

May 13

June 10

July 8

September 9

October 14

November 11

NOTE CARDS

FHP note cards will be available at the Annual Meeting, Century House, and Parks Division.

- Package of 6 cards ~ \$10



Ann Rutecki, the artist, was also our featured speaker. She said she has been a frequent visitor to the Park, and spoke about how she thinks about painting and then goes about creating a painting.

Deborah Lawson

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The following have agreed to serve on the board for another two-year term: Tim Astfalk, Cindy Hoffland, Betsy Lane, and Janet Washbon.

Jean MacCubbin is leaving the board this year and Ron Harris moved from the VanChaMaShe Neighborhood. Both have given years of dedicated service.

We nominate Tim Kessenich as Board member candidate for the election at the April annual meeting. Tim served from 2004-2008 and we are happy to have him back.

This summer, they will be digging out the asphalt parking lot behind the school and replacing it with grassy detention pond and a pedestrian woodchip path along the back fence-line.

The Dudgeon-Monroe Neighborhood Association Park & Garden Committee applied for a grant from the Fruit Tree Planting Foundation to establish an orchard in Wingra Park that is dependent upon votes. You can help by voting at <http://www.communitiestakeroot.com/>. Read more at <http://www.dmna.org/>.

Friends of the Arboretum Plant Sale on Saturday, May 8, 2010 from 9am to 2pm provides over 100 species of native grasses, prairie plants, ferns, woodland flowers, shrubs, vines and all native to the area. Read more at <http://uwarboretum.org/foa/>.



FRIENDS OF HOYT PARK, INC.

P O Box 5542
Madison WI 53705



Detach and mail with your check



FRIENDS OF HOYT PARK, INC.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES

Annual dues for calendar year 2010

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip Code: _____

Day Phone: _____ Evening Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Please check appropriate boxes:

- Please contact me to volunteer by phone or email
- Please email newsletters to me instead of sending a paper copy
- Individual Membership \$15 Ranger Fund \$_____
- Household membership \$25 Endowment Fund \$_____
- General Fund \$_____

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 are tax-deductible. Please send and make checks payable to:

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