

The Oakleaf

THE FRIENDS OF HOYT PARK NEWSLETTER

April 2011

FRIENDS OF HOYT PARK, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Janet Washbon
Chairperson
233-0809

Bob Downing
Vice-Chairperson
233-1986

Tim Kessenich
Treasurer
238-7035

Tim Astfalk
Secretary
236-9744

Cindy Hoffland
233-8083

Betsy Lane
238-6864

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

Email: chair@hoytpark.org
Website: www.hoytpark.org

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

SIXTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING

Wednesday, April 27, 2011

6:45 to 9:00 p.m.

Hoyt School Room 13

Please join us for the sixteenth Friends of Hoyt Park annual meeting. In addition to our annual business meeting, we are fortunate to have as our guest speaker Roger Bannerman, storm water researcher for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

Rain Gardens

For over 35 years, Roger directed research projects investigating the solutions to problems caused by urban runoff. His research results have been applied to the development of technical standards, administrative rules, and the calibration of WinSLAMM, a computer program that evaluates nonpoint source pollutant loadings in urban areas using small storm hydrology

Roger spoke at our annual meeting in 2011 and we are happy to have him return and give us more ideas on how we can use rain gardens in our yards to reduce urban runoff.

AGENDA

- 6:45 Registration and Welcome
- 7:00 Introduction
Guest Speaker, Roger Bannerman— "Rain Gardens"
- 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

Spring is coming, and with it, the annual meeting of the Friends of Hoyt Park. With your active participation, FHP has enjoyed a great year--hosting six member events, organizing nine Saturday workdays, working with our Eagle Scout candidate to clear invasive species near the overlook on Owen Parkway, and raising funds to staff the park with our summer ranger.

Your membership and generosity helped to support both our ongoing activities to benefit the park and enabled us to continue to add to the endowment fund for Hoyt Park.

Thank you.

Janet Washbon, Chair

NOTES FROM THE TREASURER

We finished the past year with a bank balance of \$ 11,939.33 on December 31, 2010. Our endowment fund balance at year's end was \$20,817.78, of which we would be able to withdraw \$3,160.57 if needed.

Thank you all!

Tim Kessenich, Treasurer

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

2011 is off to a good start! 125 members have paid dues for this year including six new ones. Last year we had 140 members including 19 who were new.

If your mailing label has an purple dot on it, your membership has expired.

Your contributions are used to for park maintenance including workdays, plantings, controlled burns, and a summer ranger. Thanks again for your support!

Glenn Christians, Membership Committee

PRAIRIE COMMITTEE

The Ready Prairie continues to be one of the highlights of Hoyt Park. In the past year, our summer ranger and volunteers have removed invading woody shrubs and added native plants and seeds. We hope to have a controlled burn this coming spring and have scheduled our annual prairie-planting workday for Saturday May 21.
Tim Kessenich, Prairie Committee



FULL MOON/OWL WALK

On February 18, twenty three Friends of Hoyt Park gathered at the main shelter to watch the large, orange, full moon rise over Hoyt School. Everyone enjoyed Sylvia Marek's owl presentation. Sylvia's enthusiasm, love of owls, and her excellent imitations of their calls inspired us all. We always learn new information. Participants shared reports of where they have seen or heard owls.

We warmed ourselves by John Elliott's tower of fire and we enjoyed cocoa, owl cookies, and owl cupcakes. It was too icy to walk.

Nancy Dott

HOLIDAY PARTY

On Thursday December 9th, 40 hardy party goers braved a snow storm, to join us for our annual Friends of Hoyt Park Holiday Dinner, held at the University Club.

We were entertained by member Ron Harris, (accompanied by John Elliot, Jean MacCubbin, and Tim Astfalk), with an insightful biographical sketch about the life of John Olin.

Afterwards, members had the opportunity to browse and bid on delightful items ranging from gift baskets to historical photos graciously donated by Jean MacCubbin, Nancy and Robert Dott, Tim Kessenich, Deborah Lawson, Janet Washbon, Bob Downing, and Helen Baldwin.

We then adjourned to the dining room, and feasted on a wonderful meal. Together we raised approximately \$900 for Friends of Hoyt Park. Thanks to all who attended!

Betsy Lane

GRAFFITI AND VANDALISM

As you may have noticed, Hoyt Park continues to be targeted by vandals leaving graffiti tags on the park shelter, informational signs, the Overlook, and park benches. Having our ranger in the park in the summer time helps to cut down on this activity, but tagging happens nearly all year round. The Madison Parks Department is reaching out to groups like the Friends of Hoyt Park to be additional eyes at the park.

If you see anyone vandalizing the park, please call the police at 266-4275 to report it. Please also call Madison Parks at 266-4711 to report:

- Broken play equipment or other park amenities
- Graffiti
 1. Take a picture, if you can, and email it to parks@cityofmadison.com
 2. Call the main office to report the graffiti
 3. Provide them with information concerning the graffiti including the location of the graffiti within the park and type of surface (on a wooden picnic table, on plastic play equipment, on concrete basketball court, etc.)

To learn more about the graffiti issue in Madison, you might also want to

T-SHIRTS

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

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

check out this website
<http://www.cityofmadison.com/residents/graffiti/index.cfm>

Madison Parks also has a Parks Watch program that provides training for those who want to play a more active role in deterring vandalism in city parks. The next training dates for 2011 are:

- April 12, 2011 – 7p.m. at the Warner Park Community Recreation Center, 1625 Northport Drive
- April 13, 2011 – 7p.m. at the West Police District, 1710 McKenna Blvd.

NOTE CARDS

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

- Package of 6 cards - \$10



NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Friends of Hoyt Park (FHP) are seeking nominations for individuals who are interested in serving a two-year term on the FHP Board. If you are interested in joining the FHP Board, please contact Janet Washbon at 233-0809 by April 20

Won't you consider being the representative from the Radio Park-Sunset Hills or Regent Neighborhood? Please contact a board member for details.

Neighborhood Representatives:

- VanChaMaShe – Braden Kerwin
- Radio Park-Sunset Hills – vacant
- Regent – vacant
- Sunset Village – Jean MacCubbin

Janet Washbon, Tim Astfalk, and Betsy Lane, Nominating Committee

NEIGHBORING NEWS

Hoyt Park Area Joint Neighborhood Plan Wins \$50,000 City Grant. Great news—the Hoyt Park Area Joint Neighborhood Plan has won the big City of Madison neighborhood grant for 2011, for \$50,000. Work on the Plan began in November 2010 by a group of representatives from Sunset Village, Sunset Hills (Radio Park), VanChaMaShe, Hilldale Row, and unaffiliated areas. The Plan area is bounded by University Avenue to the north, Mineral Point Road to the south, Midvale Boulevard to the west, and Franklin Avenue to the east.

Steps in the process have included monthly meetings, review of other Madison neighborhood plans, distribution of an informational flyer followed by a Neighborhood Survey, and the writing and submission of the grant.

The Plan Committee is reviewing the more than 300 surveys submitted and is creating sub-committees.

Volunteers for the sub-committees are welcome and encouraged. Please come to meetings held at Sequoia Library on the 3rd Mondays from 6:45 to 8:45.

To learn more about the Plan visit <http://sites.google.com/site/hoytarea> plan/ or contact co-chair Jason Valerius at jasonvalerius@gmail.com.

Friends of the Arboretum Plant Sale on Saturday, May 7, 2011 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/>.

WORK PARTIES & COMING EVENTS:

Please join us at one of our upcoming events.

ANNUAL MEETING

Wednesday, April 27,
6:45 – 9:00 p.m.
Hoyt School Room 13

EARTH DAY 2011

Saturday, April 23,
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

Sunday, June 26,
12:00 – 3:00 p.m.
Main shelter

WORK DAYS

10:00-12:00 a.m.
April 23 – Earth Day pick-up
May 21 – prairie planting
June 18 – woodland invasives
July 16 – prairie maintenance
Aug 20 – buckthorn removal
Sept 17 – plant at overlook
Oct 15 – mulch trees
Nov 19 – 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

May 12
June 9
July 14
September 8
October 13
November 10



FRIENDS OF HOYT PARK, INC.

P O Box 5542
Madison WI 53705



Detach and mail with your check

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES

Annual dues for calendar year 2011. If your mailing label has an purple dot on it, your membership has expired.

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