Amphitheater
WOW!!!

The progression...

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Storme Nelson-Executive Director

Hunt Hill Office
Storme Nelson, Executive Director
director@hunthill.org
Nikki Nelson, Program Director
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Jan Killian, Office Manager
info@hunthill.org

All board members can be contacted by email at info@hunthill.org.
Please put the board member’s name in the subject line.
Nikki’s Musings

Another great summer has wrapped up here at Hunt Hill! This summer I had the pleasure of working with an amazing crew of dedicated and enthusiastic staff members and volunteers. Thanks to everyone for making it such a wonderful and smooth running summer!

This summer’s educational staff included: Nikki Rukamp, Catie Kriplean, Sam Anderson, Sage Dunham and Kevin Zacharyas. This was Nikki’s third summer on staff! She is now back at UW-Stevens Point where she has changed her major to nursing and plans to transfer to UW-Eau Claire. Catie returned for her second summer, after graduating college at UW-Eau Claire. She is now living in Texas where she is a 4th grade teacher! This was Sam, Sage and Kevin’s first summer on staff. Sam has also graduated college and recently secured a job with a Minnesota nonprofit working with local foods and the environment. Sage was the youngest on staff and had just graduated high school and is now in California attending college. Kevin was the LLPA/Hunt Hill intern and is back in Ohio working to complete his degree. In addition to our education staff, our head cook was Carla Cewe and assistant cook was Kim Stephanites. They did a delicious job keeping our plates and stomachs full through the summer!

We also welcomed on to our maintenance staff, John Hartman. In addition to the important daily maintenance tasks, John has been kind and patient as he worked with me to bring to life my vision of our new amphitheater stage. Thanks to a generous donation we were able to build an all cedar stage that features unique bench seating, a pergola roof, electricity and a beautiful view. This space will be perfect for weddings, summer concerts, educational programming and much more!

Last, but definitely not least, I would like to thank all of our volunteers who made this summer so wonderful! From donating baked goods to helping at Cakes, cleaning up camp during helping hands to junior counselors, gardening work to all the facility and program support, all of these have helped us to be successful. Thank you.

Hunt Hill Facilities News

The Facilities Committee has been a little quiet this summer, resting since the big successful Prairie Fling event back in May. The main project lately has been the new amphitheater deck between Square and Cross Dorms.

With that completed, emphasis now switches to closing the camp down for the winter: turning off water in the Shower house, the Barn Dining Hall and Kitchen, the Andrews Cabin, the dorm bathrooms and the bathroom in the Program Learning Center; and then putting away the lawn furniture and gardens and waterfront equipment. The bog mats have already been pulled, pressure-washed, dried and stored away in the Coop. It’s a busy time of year.

Our Facilities Committee will meet in September to look ahead to other projects for 2013, like the new hard-wired smoke alarm system in the dorms – Beranek Electric, Rice Lake has agreed to help plan the system and get it approved by the state. Next might be re-roofing the Long Dorm or putting a furnace in the Barn Dining Hall to extend our food service season.

Long-term, the biggest item on the agenda for the Facilities Committee and Hunt Hill Board of Directors, as well as the one with the most uncertain timing, is the pursuit of the transfer of ownership of Hunt Hill from the National Audubon Society to our local Friends of Hunt Hill. As priorities evolve for the National Audubon Society, we’ve been assured it’s just a matter of time before the switch in ownership will take place. Local ownership control will expedite further local growth and investment in Hunt Hill. So, it’s also an exciting time.
**Storme’s Executive Director Ramblings**

Please allow me to do a little dreaming.

Hunt Hill has gone through a number of exciting changes over the last several years. It’s tempting to look back at how far we’ve come, but it’s more productive to look ahead and dream. And not just dream, but plan for local ownership of Hunt Hill, more land, a new nature/visitors’ center, more specialized staff, security for wild species, financial security for Hunt Hill and much more.

The strength of Hunt Hill has always been the dedication of its Board, staff and Friends (members) to follow the vision of Frances Andrews. Her hope for a northwest Wisconsin nature center for Wisconsin and Minnesota families and visitors from all over the world has matured into an innovative, friendly, beautiful environmental education facility serving thousands of people every year; but it has also started to meet its limitations.

Looking ahead we see the need for additional land to allow for more visitors, parking and programs; and to protect Frances’ original core Hunt Hill property. Although the small Program Learning Center (garage) is quaint and still being upgraded annually, it’s barely adequate; and future quality programs and nature displays will demand new and better space like an innovative visitors’ center with new educational space and tools. Our exciting program growth also calls for more parking space, safer roads, better heated space for the “shoulder seasons” around our already jam-packed summers. And we’ll need more program resource materials.

In addition to building needs, our native northern Wisconsin habitats here at the Hunt Hill Sanctuary are being negatively impacted by deer (understory plants) and several invasive plants (spotted knapweed, tansy, daisies, thistles, reed canary grass). So the land itself needs help.

Our Board and Facilities Committee must face these challenges while still waiting and hoping for the transfer of ownership from National Audubon to our Friends group. Then we will be able to proceed more directly and effectively with local supporters.

We must remember at all times and in all projects to keep Frances Andrews’ wishes in mind and recognize our own conflicting goals. For example, “For the land should not be over-run with humans...” becomes more difficult as we seek to educate and serve more families from across the region. And while doing all these things, we must recognize the need for sustainability and responsible “green” development.

It’s an exciting and challenging future. Let’s go meet it. Storme

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**Prairie Fling 2013.....**

Yes it is happening again on May 11th!!

Want to be part of this fun and exciting day? Call 715-635-6543 or program@hunthill.org
Through the summer of 2012, there were several notable developments at Hunt Hill.

### Passing of long-time Board member William “Chip” Wood.

He and his wife, Jan, had been wintering out in California a couple of years ago, intending to return again to their home here in northern Wisconsin. He never made it back. Chip got sick, had successful surgery and was thought to be on the road to recovery when a nicked bowel and subsequent infection showed up. He had been fighting that ever since and finally lost the battle. He will be fondly remembered by all of us here at Hunt Hill for his youthful spirit, his friendliness, his willingness to help out on any project, his interest in wilderness and clean water and his dedication to Hunt Hill.

### Anonymous donation makes new amphitheater deck possible - this summer!

Staff and volunteers at Hunt Hill have been busy under the guidance of our assistant maintenance man John Hartman (a semi-retired professional building contractor), and with detailed plans drawn up by Program Director Nikki Nelson, for our new cedar deck at the new amphitheater back between Cross and Square Dorms (see photo on front page). The donor wishes no formal recognition for his gift, but has agreed to let his identity be known publicly at a later date. He acknowledged the peaceful beauty of the amphitheater and the wonderful vision of this deck adding so much to the programming at Hunt Hill that he wanted to see it done as soon as possible.

### New Board members being sought for 2013.

Term limits for Hunt Hill Board members and the passing of Chip Wood mean that there will be several Board member positions up for election this fall/winter. Terms run for three years each and start in January. Board members can be active for two consecutive terms (6 years total), but then they have to take at least one year off to open the Board for new ideas and leadership. If you’d like to be considered for election to the Board, in the future, please contact any current Board member or staff person for more information.

### Strategic Planning.

The Board periodically, about every 3 – 5 years, conducts an orientation for new Board members and a re-evaluation of the strategic plan in place for the Friends of Hunt Hill. September 28 – 29 was the most recent planning session for the Board and staff. Of primary focus was staying true to the wishes of donor Frances Andrews, planning for staff retirement transitions over the next couple of years, new program ideas, facility needs, relationship with National Audubon and fundraising.

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### A Very BIG THANK YOU to those who made Donations to Hunt Hill in 2012!

- Sue Menzel for Bee Hive donations
- Jerry Sigmund for donated Adirondack Chairs
- Larry / Janice Tarnow, Schmitz Family, Ron/Jeannede Brown, John Bolles, Jeff/Dexie Dunham, Carol Gainer. Jan Killian, Ken Swenson, Greg Hill, Anne Busses, Linda Thompson, Keith Veldhuizen, Linda Kewith for donating Leopold benches or Adirondack Chairs
- Mark Beise and the Rice Lake Conservation Club for the donation of the new trail marker signs which were engraved by the Shell Lake High School shop.
- Lou and Fresh Start by donating time to cut bench pieces for our Leopold Benches
- ABC Lumber for discounted lumber for Leopold Benches
- All of the Prairie Fling sponsors
- Betty Dreis for donating 2 American Flags
- Jack Nessen for donation of redwood
- Keith Veldhuizen for donating Purple Martin CD’s
- Dennis Murray for 2 Terrill Knaack Remarqued Prints
- Richard Hamilton Smith for 24 donated books
- Gary Dunsmoore for donated hides, fans and furs
- Jim and Kathy Shattuck for snacks at the Yurt program
- All who donated time and food for the Winter Soup Lunch
- Jan Killian for flower donation around farmhouse and barn

If you have donated in 2012 and we have overlooked your name here, we greatly apologize, but sincerely appreciate your donation! Please let us know so we can include you in our next newsletter.

Thank you!!!
Volunteers:
This year:
- All of our Leopold bench builders
- Christopher and Tonya Jahnke for doing the radio ad for Prairie Fling
- Carolyn and Dave Cleveland as Program Ambassadors at the evening owl program with Chris Cold
- All the Crane counters for the Midwest Crane Count
- Volunteer educators Tony Diehl & Beverly Stencil
- Kay Harness and Nancy Hedlund as volunteer representatives at the Spooner Family Fest
- All involved in making Ladies Night Out a success
- Carolyn Cleveland for all her help in the Nature Store
- All of our Cakes at the Lake volunteers
- All of our Helping Hands volunteers
- Steve Parliament for presenting at our Yurt Program
- Jim and Kathy Shattuck for inviting, arranging and leading our Yurt program.
- All of our Jr. Counselors, Emily Jackson, Alyssa King, Emmanuel Vives & Josiah Gregg
- Laura Erickson for donating her time and expertise for Northwoods Birding Camp
- Carolyn Cleveland and Linda Angeloni for volunteering at the Hunt Hill booth at the Country Lane Pantry Farmers Market
- Our volunteer bakers, Cecilia Brierton, Kay Harness, Marsha VanBuskirk, Jan Killian, Anita Drost, Jan Tarnow & Nancy Hedlund
- Winter Soup Lunch makers
- Ruth King and family for the dog sledding program
- ALL of the AWESOME volunteers from Prairie Fling
- Amazing Prairie Fling committee
- Sharon Tarras for leading the Gardening for Nature program
- Jim & Linda Farrell for willingness to host Evening for Hunt Hill
- Board and committee members
- Dave Tomesh, L&L Excavating for preparing & leveling deck site
- Tom Terhorst & George Seever for Bluebird trail monitoring

A HUGE THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO HAS HELPED IN 2012!!!

Hunt Hill Calendar 2012

October-
- Saturday, October 13: 9am-2pm
  Going Back Series: Going Nuts for Nuts
  (preregistration due 10/5)
- Saturday, October 20: 9am-5pm
  Going Back Series: Advanced Beekeeping
  (Preregistration due 10/18)

November-
- Saturday, November 3: 9am-3pm
  Going Back Series: Knitting
  (Preregistration due 10/26)

Nature Store

Our Nature Store is open during office hours for a limited time. We will soon be closing for the season.

Please stop in the office so we can assist you!

We have T-shirts, books, stationary, games, jewelry, cards……and lots more!

Not only will you have fun shopping, but what a great way to support Hunt Hill!

Contact Jan at 715-635-6543 or info@hunthill.org

Office Hours

Monday-Friday——9am-4pm

Office will be closed on Thanksgiving, 11/22 and for Christmas 12/24 &25.
**Hunt Hill Audubon Sanctuary 2013 Membership Form**

**Date:**

**Name:**

**Permanent Address:**

**Summer Address:**

**Phone Number:**

**Email:**

(Hunt Hill does not share email addresses)

Please complete the form and send your check payable to: **Friends of Hunt Hill Audubon Sanctuary**

N2384 Hunt Hill Road, Sarona, WI 54870 Or visit www.hunthill.org to pay online using a Credit Card or PayPal

For more information, call 715-635-6543 or info@hunthill.org

**Membership Fees & Extra Contributions**

- **Senior-Student (per person)……...$20**
- **Individual…………………………..$30**
- **Family……………………………….$60**

#Adults in Family
#Youth in Family
#Youth 12 & under

**Total Membership Fees**

**Extra Contribution**

**Total Enclosed**

Membership fees cover Jan 1-Dec 31
Your membership & Extra Contributions are 100% tax deductible.
Friends of Hunt Hill is a 501-C3 non-profit corporation.
To receive information on Hunt Hill’s Planned Giving Program check here________
Our quarterly newsletters are available at www.hunthill.org.
If you would like to receive these by mail, please check here________

Extra Contributions will be used for Program Support, Facility Improvements & Upkeep.

We wish we had…

**MACHINERY**
- Skid steer/bobcat
- Electric golf cart
- John Deere Yard Tractor

**BUILDINGS**
- New 9V batteries
- *Compact fluorescent bulbs (75 or 100 watts)*
- New/new condition area rugs- 6x9 or 9x12
- Name of person who can repair hand cranked Victrola
- Heavy duty extension cords

**PROGRAM SUPPLIES**
- Kayaks—1 & 2 person
- Snowshoes—assorted sizes
- Adult & children Lifejackets
- Telephone poles or landscape timbers, 4x4s, 4x6s
- Clean animal pelts and skulls
- Taxidermy mounts
- Cedar or pine planks for bird houses

**OFFICE**
- Postage Stamps

**KITCHEN**
- Full size sheet pans
- Extra large grill for pancake breakfasts
- Sources for unbleached paper products
- Food Processor—large
- 100 cup coffee maker
- Food warming stands w/sterno holders

**TOOLS**
- Loppers, pruning shears
- Deepwell sockets
- Tin snips
- Wood clamps
- Pipe clamps
- Backpack blower
- Drywall square
- Rubber mallet
- Heavy tined garden rakes
- Table saw
- Hole saws—all sizes
- 18V battery operated drill