2013 Winter Soup Lunch Program

A couple of years ago our Membership Committee Chair Carlotta Romsos brought a new idea to us – why not offer a way for Hunt Hill folks and neighbors to get together over the winter for a chance to drink some coffee, maybe enjoy some homemade cooking, socialize a little and learn a little something about nature in our colder months?

That great idea has evolved into our current Winter Soup Lunch program held on the second Tuesday of each month January through April. We gather in the cozy Program Learning Center (same building used for our summertime Cakes-At-the-Lake nature presentations) around the wood-burning furnace. Lunch starts around noon and lasts for 30 – 45 minutes. Cost is only a free-will offering from those attending. Everyone/anyone is invited.

Volunteers offer to bring family-favorite soups to share (each volunteer brings enough to feed a dozen or so people), while others agree to provide snack trays w/crackers and cheese, veggies, chips or desserts. Hunt Hill provides the warm gathering place, coffee/tea/hot chocolate/water for beverages and the presentations.

Then, for those who are interested, there is a short presentation on a nature topic ranging from cold and snow, to bird feeding, to winter activities, to what programs coming to Hunt Hill the next summer, to virtually anything else related to nature about which people might be curious. Ideas are requested and finalized during lunch for the next month’s topic.

Another idea has been to keep the wood-burning furnace going after we clean up a little, so folks can play cards or games; or just sit around a little longer to visit. Please join us – attendance has grown from about a dozen the first few lunches to close to 40 last year.

Thanks for the great idea, Carlotta – it has helped to make our long winter a little more enjoyable.
WELCOME NEW 2013 BOARD MEMBERS FOR THE FRIENDS OF HUNT HILL

Five new Board members and one Board member returning for re-election have agreed to serve on our Board of Directors and been elected at our Annual Meeting for 2013. Many of them will be familiar to our members through their past involvement in our Hunt Hill programs, but here is a brief introduction for you of all of them. Please welcome them and encourage their efforts to promote and protect Hunt Hill, our mission here and all of our activities.

Wayne Sabatke has been re-elected to a second consecutive, fourth overall, three year term on our Board. He is a resident of Birchwood, on the southeast end of Long Lake. Wayne is a retired human resources director for Wisconsin Indianhead Technical College (WITC). He is also currently a Board member of both the Washburn County Lakes & Rivers Association (WCLRA) and the Long Lake Preservation Association (LLPA).

Gary Erickson – is a resident of Stone Lake. Gary is the retired Director of Hennepin County Public Works and the Hiawatha Light Rail Project of Minneapolis, MN. He is a former president of the Sawyer County Habitat for Humanity. He served six years as president of the Stone Lake Shore Owners’ Association and is still a current Board member there.

Deborah Neuheisel-Smith – Deb is a resident of Rice Lake. She is the UW – Barron County Campus Foundation Director. She is also their Adult Student Initiatives Coordinator and an Associate Lecturer in Business for UW-BC.

Katrice Shuler – is a resident of Rice Lake. Katrice is a psychology instructor at WITC, Rice Lake.

Denis Murray - Denis is a resident of Birchwood and is a retired field executive of a large insurance and financial services company. Prior to that he served ten years as an educator.

Larry Tarnow – is a resident of Rochester, MN; retired from IBM senior management; member of the Board of Cascade Meadow Wetlands and Environmental Science Center in Rochester, MN; resident of Rochester, but a frequent year-round visitor to their cabin on Red Cedar Lake and to Hunt Hill.

Website Changes and Updates

Be sure to visit www.hunthill.org to learn more about us and the programs we offer. New programs are being added to the website all the time. Also, please consider leaving feedback about Hunt Hill on www.greatnonprofits.com. To read what other people have to say about us, click on the Top Rated Nonprofit badge on our homepage. We will also be updating information on our new board members, adding details about ongoing research and educational collaborations and adding more information about Hunt Hill as a venue for weddings, retreats, meetings and more.
Feeling a little groggy after the holidays? Nervous about hiking in the winter woods? Need to lose a few of those extra holiday meal pounds you’ve added? Are you craving the peace and quiet of nature? There are great opportunities at Hunt Hill – stop out any time to enjoy some of our unguided winter activities.

**Snowmobiles and ATV’s are not used within the sanctuary.**

Hiking, snowshoeing, ice fishing and x-country skiing are all possible, but there are some things you need to know:

- The buildings at Hunt Hill are basically all closed down for the winter months.
- Campfire circles by the Library and in the lower or east parking lot are accessible for visitors – and there is a good supply of firewood.
- There is an outside porta-potty in the parking lot by the Barn for your use, because the water is turned off in the un-winterized Showerhouse bathrooms.
- Bring your own drinking water or other beverages – again, the water system is shut down over-winter.
- Limited parking is plowed out around the Library and Program Learning Center. The lower or east parking lot is not plowed.
- Access to all of the primitive hiking trail systems at Hunt Hill is possible. All are well-marked, within our sanctuary and fun to explore for tracks and other signs of life of our winter residents.
- Trails are not groomed for x-country skiing or snowshoeing.
- Nighttime hiking during full moons is welcomed; but you’re on your own, so be prepared.
- Ice fishing on the lakes within the Hunt Hill Audubon Sanctuary is welcome – but **PLEASE, NO MOTORIZED ACCESS** – hike in/out quietly and safely please.

Other various winter outdoor activities are conducted each winter season at or through Hunt Hill – check our website at [www.hunthill.org](http://www.hunthill.org) for the latest Program Guide and activities schedule.

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**WINTER BIRD SIGHTINGS FROM HUNT HILL MEMBERS**

Are you watching your feeders closely? Several unusual bird sightings have already been reported this winter.

Here are many of the usual visitors around here: chickadees, juncos, white-breasted nuthatches, goldfinches, blue jays, hairy and downy woodpeckers, mourning doves, starlings, purple or house finches, wild turkeys.

Here are some of the rarer or more special birds this time of year – feel fortunate if you have seen: cardinals, red polls, pine siskins, red-bellied woodpeckers, piliated woodpeckers, snow buntings, robins (yes, that’s right - robins), pheasants, crows, red-breasted nuthatch, horned larks, cedar waxwings.

Feel especially blessed if you, like several of our Friends of Hunt Hill, have seen any of these: golden-crowned kinglets, crossbills, evening grosbeaks, pine grosbeaks, snowy owls, great gray owls, northern hawk owls, screech owls, boreal owls, northern shrikes, brown creepers, black-backed woodpeckers, varied thrushes, gray jays, boreal chickadees, Bohemian waxwings, kestrels and __________?? Please let us know what you’re seeing – thanks.
2013 Weddings – How to sign up, Dates already booked, Packets, etc.

With the recent completion of our beautiful all-cedar amphitheater stage with stone terrace seating, we now offer another unique location for an outdoor wedding ceremony. In addition, our dining hall is perfect for the dinner and our barn loft makes for an excellent reception hall. Overnight accommodations include tent sites, dormitories and rustic cabins. Our weekends fill quickly, so if you or someone you know is looking for a special spot for their special day, consider Hunt Hill! Wedding packets can be mailed out to those interested in learning more. Simply contact Nikki (715 635 6543 or program@hunthill.org) to request your packet. Packets include: cost sheet, terms of use, photos, building dimensions, a cabin brochure as well as history and information about Hunt Hill.

Cabin Rentals – The New Sign-Up Procedures/Changes, Dates Booked (or Still Available?)

Enjoy a peaceful and serene visit to Hunt Hill this winter as you enjoy a retreat to our log cabin. The log cabin is available for rent year round and offers a field stone fireplace, thermostat controlled heat, queen bed in single bedroom, living room area with hide-a-bed, full kitchen, indoor bathroom and small sleeping loft. May - September guests can also enjoy staying in the Andrews cabin which is a bit larger but does not have thermostat controlled heat. To learn more about the cabins, check out www.hunthill.org or call 715 635 6543. New this fall, Hunt Hill now allows renters to bring their dog to stay. To learn more about our pet policy, please call.
HUNT HILL’S WINTER OFFICE HOURS

The quiet season at Hunt Hill, basically through the winter from November until April, is a great time to visit us. The bigger crowds are gone, the different winter creatures which reside here leave easy-to-spot tracks and sign of their activities – it’s very peaceful.

Our office hours are generally weekdays from 9:00 am until 4 or 4:30 pm. Occasionally the office will be closed over the holidays, or as staff attend meetings in surrounding communities, or when they take well-earned vacation time. Parking is provided for visitors in the plowed parking lots by the Library and the Program Learning Center.

Some weekend activities may be going on with small groups – but you’re always welcome at Hunt Hill. Please respect others.

If you know when you’ll be coming out and want some help for anything, please call ahead to let us know your plans. We’ll be happy to answer any questions you might have about your nature observations or where to hike to see the latest bird or animal activity.

Hunt Hill Calendar 2013

January
Tuesday, 8th, 12-1pm Winter Soup Lunch
Saturday, 26th, 7-9pm Full Moon Snowshoeing*

February
Tuesday, 12th, 12-1pm Winter Soup Lunch

March
Tuesday, 12th, 12-1pm Winter Soup Lunch
Saturday, 16th, 9-11am Maple Syruping*
Saturday, 23rd, 9-11am Native American Food, Medicine and History*
Saturday, 23rd, 1-4pm Stained Glass Bird*
Saturday, 23rd, 8-9pm Full Moon Owl Program*

*Preregistration is needed, please check the website hunthill.org, call 715-635-6543 or email info@hunthill.org for more information and to sign up.

Nature Store

Our Nature Store is closed for the winter season. We will have items available for sale during our programs.
Contact Jan at 715-635-6543 or info@hunthill.org

Office Hours

Monday-Friday——9am-4pm
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

Hunt Hill Audubon Sanctuary 2013 Membership Form

Date:___________
Name:__________________________________________
Permanent ____________________________ Summer ____________________________
Address:______________________________________________________________________
Address:______________________________________________________________________
Phone Number:__________________________________________ Dates when at this address: ________to________
Email:________________________________________________________________________

Membership Fees & Extra Contributions

Check Membership Level:
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 $_____________

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 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.

(Hunt Hill does not share email addresses)

Date:___________ Name:__________________________________________ Permanent ______________________________________
Address:___________________________________ Phone Number: __________________________________

(Hunt Hill does not share email addresses)

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(Hunt Hill does not share email addresses)