2020 Annual Report
2020 started out as another incredible year for Hunt Hill. Programs were reaching capacity, we hired Kelsey Probasco as Program Coordinator to run public programs and Sage was updating all of our school programs. Then COVID-19 arrived and our Board made the safe decision to cancel nearly all programs and our groups cancelled their visits. While it was disappointing to cancel activities, the change in schedule allowed us new opportunities.

Instead of hoarding toilet paper or hiding under the covers (no judgement if you did), our staff brainstormed new and innovative programs and activities to engage people in the outdoors in safe ways. On page 4 we share some of the special activities we offered this year. An emphasis was placed on programming that kept people outdoors and socially distanced.

In addition to new programs, the emptied schedule gave us the opportunity to work on a number of maintenance projects that can’t happen when we have a full summer schedule. Many of the buildings got a deep cleaning – we are talking power washer and a LOT of elbow grease deep clean! – along with some reorganization and fresh coats of paint. Be sure to check out page 6 for more facility projects completed this summer and fall.

Although overall participation and financials are down this year, I am proud of all the things we were still able to accomplish, thanks to wonderful volunteers and a great staff. I especially appreciate how our staff stuck with us, even as hours were cut and job descriptions expanded to take on a variety of new tasks.

Stay Safe and Thank You!

Nikki Janisin

A FEW OF MY FAVORITE THINGS FROM 2020:

Discovery Trail
People of all ages, have been enjoying our monthly themed nature hike.
The Discovery Trail, formerly called the Barred Owl Trail, invites people to hike the short loop and look for hidden objects. Themes have included: flamingos, frogs, bugs, snowmen, gnomes and so on. When visitors post their hike on social media, they get entered into the monthly prize drawing.

RGRH Lower Level Completed
This spring we were able to use the remaining funds from Marcia Grand to complete the lower level of the Richard Grand Recreation Hall. The lower level will now serve as our nature display area and day camp room. The room has displays, craft cabinets, utility sink, storage room, bathroom, turtle tanks, reading nook, backpack cubbies and a funky splatter-painted floor.

Halloween at the Hill
Hunt Hill’s first ever Halloween at the Hill invited families to pick their own start time to walk our magical trail while staying outdoors and socially distanced from others. Visitors met some friendly monsters, weaved through a giant spider web and tried witches potion. All kids get a take home bag of varied goodies.
TEN NOTEWORTHY ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2020

1. Discovery Trail
   This new trail, called Barred Owl on the trail map, featured hidden objects that changed monthly. It was a big hit with families and visitors of all ages!

2. Program Coordinator
   We welcomed Kelsey Probasco, who served for 10 months as the Program Coordinator, before moving out of the area. She ran all public programs, social media and marketing efforts.

3. New Roofs
   The Log Cabin, Andrews Cabin and Square Dorm were all able to get new roofs this fall. The work was completed thanks to capital improvement funds.

4. New Programs
   New programs were developed that allowed people to stay outside and socially distanced while still enjoying educational opportunities.

5. Grant Support
   Thanks to the incredible support of the Bosch Community Fund, we received two large grants in 2020. One grant supported our new Program Coordinator position and the rewriting of all school programs, and the second grant supported operations.

6. Prep Work Completed
   Prep work was completed this fall so that improvements could be made next spring to a section of old driveway that is narrow, curved and steep.

7. Website Redesign
   The website was updated and redesigned to make it more visually appealing, incorporate new features and make it easier to navigate.

8. Volunteers
   So many volunteers helped us accomplish so much. But special praise is due to volunteer, Al Bouma, who hand addressed over 1,000 envelopes for mailings this year.

9. Trex Recycling Program
   Hunt Hill became the drop off location for plastic waste. Thanks to many donors, Hunt Hill collected over 500 pounds of plastic, which was sent to Trex to be turned into composite decking.

10. Andrews Cabin
    Thanks mainly to volunteers, some walls were removed and added to make better use of floor space, electric baseboard heat was installed, the kitchen was remodeled, electrical was upgraded, and the exterior was painted.
By the Numbers

2020 Membership Distribution

We have 537 members in 2020 - 5% less than 2019, per our formula*

78% of members are located in Wisconsin
14% of members are located in Minnesota
8% of members are located in these states

*Formula based on 3 individuals per family, all other membership levels counted as singles.

Budget and Income Overview

Unrestricted Income Sources

As of October 31, 2020
Budget Summary

Assets - Liabilities = Equity
$6,389,656 - $40,027 = $6,349,629

Income - Expenses = Net Income
$263,510 - $296,660 = ($33,150)

Net Restricted Inc.  Net Unrestricted Inc.
$35,100  ($1,950)

Restricted -vs- Unrestricted Income
Restricted income is given for a specific use like an endowment, a specific project, or specific equipment purchase. Unrestricted is for any use.

Total Endowment Funds
We have $3,697,759 in endowment accounts. We are able to withdraw up to 4% from each account as long as the balance doesn’t go below the original amount gifted.

We will withdraw $145,682 in 2020, which is 100% of the money available for withdrawal (we use September totals when deciding on percentage to withdraw.

Year-end audited financials will be available, upon request, after June, 2021

Jim & Pat Jenkins
Members & Program Participants

Our whole family loves coming to Hunt Hill programs! We love the variety of programs and the wide range of ages served from youth to families and adults. We have three generations in our family coming to Hunt Hill programs and our grandkids have grown up going to Hunt Hill. Every time we visit our cabin we go to Hunt Hill, and when our daughter from Washington comes to visit, she always wants to know what’s coming up at the Hill!

This summer we really missed attending events like Cakes at the Lake and Day Camps, but we enjoyed the new programs that Hunt Hill introduced such as 90-Minute Nature and Trivia Night. Our teenage granddaughter especially loved Trivia Night and hopes it becomes an annual event.

Our grandsons really loved the shelter building session at the 90-Minute Nature Survival Day. They thought it was such a great experience to create their own debris shelter with their family and test it out!
A Glance at 2020 Programs and Engagement

349 Views
Average number of video views per Hunt Hill at Home on Facebook Live. (74 videos were produced in 2020)

26 Home School Programs
We offered 26 home school programs in the summer and early fall which were attended by a total of nearly 150 students.

Google Reviews
Hunt Hill Audubon Sanctuary averaged 4.7 stars on Google based on 77 reviews.

Reimagining Programs in 2020
In 2020, we had to get creative and rethink the way that we offered programs. We focused on what we could do even with COVID-19 restrictions in place. We found that the lock-down had rekindled an interest in outdoor recreation for many people in the community, so we found ways to safely continue outdoor programs like hikes and canoeing.

Thanks to support from Mayo Clinic Health System, we were able to put on a free monthly program called Hunt Hill Hike Club. The program attracted an average of 15 people per month, many of whom had never been to Hunt Hill before.

We were also inspired to create and add new COVID-conscious programs to our calendar such as 90-Minute Nature and Halloween at the Hill. Both of the new programs kept household groups socially distant while enjoying fun outdoor activities at stations spread out around camp. The four 90-Minute Nature programs attracted an average of 50 participants per day, and Halloween at the Hill brought in over 190 participants spread out over the course of a day.

Reaching Students Where They Are
While schools were shut down and field trips were cancelled, students were learning from home. To reach them, we created Hunt Hill at Home, a daily video series that students could watch via Facebook Live or YouTube. In all, we created 74 videos, each with a different topic and activity that students could do at home.

Even once schools reopened in the fall, many were unable to resume field trips as usual, so we brought environmental education to the students. We provided a nature club with outdoor and sustainability-related activities through the Spooner High Five after school program. Through this club, we served about 60 students in kindergarten through 8th grade each week from September through December.

Social Media
FCHHAS continues to build its online presence.

Program Attendance

Note: We did not offer Day Camps or Cakes at the Lake programs in 2020 due to COVID-19 concerns. Additionally, many school field trips and contracted programs canceled in order to meet their school or organization’s COVID-19 policies.
At the beginning of 2020, we received a $13,520 grant from Bosch to improve our curriculum for school field trips. By the end of the project, we had created a set of four activity plans for each grade from kindergarten to sixth grade: a total of 28 plans. All activity plans are aligned to WI State Standards in their corresponding grade levels. Below are the steps we took to complete this project.

**January**

**Hired An Additional Staff Member**
Kelsey Probasco was hired as the Program Coordinator to allow Sage Dunham more time to focus on the project.

**February-March**

**Interviewed Teachers**
Sage visited three school districts and interviewed teachers in each grade level to learn what schools are looking for in a field trip.

**April-July**

**Wrote Activity Plans**
There were 28 lesson plans created for grades K through 6 that are developmentally appropriate and aligned with WI state standards.

**August-September**

**Tested Activity Plans**
Homeschool students visited Hunt Hill to test out the activity plans. Afterward, each student and parent provided feedback via a survey.

**October-November 2021**

**Created Promotional Materials**
A Field Trip Planning Packet and three grade level brochures were created to promote the new curriculum.

**Promote to Schools**
COVID-19 delayed our plans to promote our new curriculum. We plan to meet with schools districts in 2021 to promote field trips.

Want to see the Field Trip Planning Packet and other promotional materials? Visit www.hunthill.org, click on Programs > School Programs.
2020's FUNdraisers

Popular fundraisers: Hit for the Hill, Hop for the Hill and Ladies Night Out were cancelled, but that didn't stop people from supporting Hunt Hill in other ways!

Art Sale + Flamingos
An online art sale and travelling flamingos raised funds
$1,150 Net Raised

Raffle
200 raffle tickets were sold and the majority of prize money was donated back to Hunt Hill!
$4,725 Net Raised

Talk with the Animals
A stay-at-home fundraiser
$6,812 Net Raised

Other Major Support

- $25,520 in Bosch grants supported staffing, new programs and COVID relief
- $50,000 from Marcia Grand supported general operations
- $3,049 raised on Facebook during Giving Tuesday on December 1
Facilities in 2020

Thanks to the hard work of many volunteers and our staff, we made the best out of our empty buildings this summer by completing a number of improvements.

- **Lower Level of Richard Grand Recreation Hall Completed**: floors splatter painted, drywall installed, storage room and bathroom added, cubbies for backpacks, display shelves and cupboards installed
- **Trail Work**: Routered, painted and installed final trail signs, refreshed trail blazes, removed poison ivy encroaching on the trail
- **Painting**: Outside of Andrews Cabin, dorm bathrooms, & Barn kitchen
- **Deep Clean**: Power washed and sealed the floors in the lower level of the barn, and a top to bottom deep clean of the Log Cabin
- **Shower House**: Removed all fixtures to scrub walls, sealed concrete floor, installed new wall board in men's toilet stalls
- **Educational Signage**: With the help of artist Ruth King and graphic design by Sheri Snowbank, rain garden signs were created and installed
- **Directional Signs**: A new sign was installed to direct traffic into camp
- **Andrews Cabin**: Electric upgrades, kitchen remodel, lighting in the screen porch, new shingles, electric baseboard heat added
- **Screen Porch Improvements**: fresh coats of paint, floor sanded and refinished, space organized for volunteer and visitor supplies
- **Prairie Work**: brush mowed and cleared trees for prairie restoration
- **Safety**: Powder-coated handrails added to Library and RG Rec Hall
- **New Donation boxes** were built by volunteers and installed on all information kiosks around camp
Green Initiatives

Our 2020 Goals:

- Share methods to reduce waste
- Practice waste reduction in programs
- Practice waste reduction as a staff

Plastic Bag Recycling

Through Trex's Recycling Program, Hunt Hill became a drop off location for plastic bags. From May - October, almost 600 pounds of plastic was collected. That plastic was given to Trex where it has been recycled into composite decking material. As a reward for collection, Trex is donating a bench to Hunt Hill!

Waste-Free Wednesdays

Zero-waste strategies, recycling in our county, and how to repair and reuse clothing were covered in this winter series.

Recycling Made Easy

Easy to identify recycling cans were put out around camp to help visitors get their waste into the appropriate can.

BYO (Bring Your Own)

Program attendees were encouraged to bring their own mugs and even dishes (pre-covid) so that we could reduce our waste production. It was inspiring to see how many of our visitors participated!
Donations (11/1/19 - 10/31/20)

Kent and Elaine Adams
Advanced Laser
William and Kathy Albright
Lori Allard
Nick Allen
Vickiham and Margaret Allen
Amazon Smile
Tom and Gail Anderson
Arnold and Linda Angeloni
Lyle and Mary Babcock
De and Laurie Balkum
Rocky and Chris Bank
Dick & Karla Barrett
Allan and Jodie Barta
Mary & Dianna Bohner
Laurie Behrends
Fred and Renee Bellum
John & Nora Bennett
David Bihlre and Michele Byrom
Pat and Kathy Binford
Byron & Janet Binstock
Tom & Jeri Blenley
Blair’s Farm & Fleet
John & Sandy Bonnville
Bosch Community Fund
Al and Barb Bouma
Brickyard Pottery
Cecilia Brierly
Ron and Jeanne Brown
Louise Buchmann
Bill and Kris Busch
Business & Estate Advisors
Margaret Butterfield
Stephen and Gloria Carlson
Robyn and Tom Castagneri
Dave and Jeannine Chamberlain
Dr. Paul Chase
Donald and Joann Clemens
David and Carolyn Cleveland
Ronald Cish and Maureen O’Brien
Keith Collis and Maureen Borelli
Bette Colville
Yvonne Colville
Theran Colwell
Kevan and Amy Cronk
Byron and Pamela Crouser
Christine Cundall
Gary and Ards Davis
Patrick Di Bartolomeo and Sharon Decker
Terry Dorsey
Roger Drescher
Mary Dresser
Alice Droste
Bob Dubois
Timothy Dulac
George and Dorothy Dumontier
Rex Duncan and June Masters
Jeff and Dede Dunham
Kip Dunham
Sage Dunham
Gary Dunsmoor
TJ and Elizabeth Edwards
Doug and Pat Edwardsen
Barb Emerson
Michael Emerson
Gary Enzstrah
Diane and Jim Erdnman
Gary and Cathie Erickson
Chad Evenson
Jerry and Kathy Fabert
Edwin and Alexi Fisher
Rick and Bobbie Freitag
Jim and Maggie Garey
Dr. John and Annette Geiollner
Marcia Grand
Richard Grand Foundation
Alan and Mary Grau
Raymond and Karen Graziano
Carol Gresser
James Groenberg
Dan and Katherine Gullaksen
Lee Haight
Jay Hands and Jan Bliss
Dale and Kathy Hanson
Sam and Judy Haroldson
DJ and Karla Hartran
June Harvey
Michael Harvey and Vicky Ondell
Teri Heath
Nancy Heidlund
Jim Heim
Bob Hilbert
Diane Heinrich
Bob Hilbert
Shirley Hile
Carl Hill
James Hill
Julie and Jennifer Hooten
Ed and Bonnie Hurley
Era and Lois Jackson
H. Jacobsen
Jim and Debby Jacobsen
Sally Jacobsen
Dan and Nikki Janis
Ed and Mary Jo Janis
Bonnie Johnson
Deb Johnson
Ken Johnson
Marg and Barbara Johnson
Charlie Johnson
Rick Kahl and Laurie Yahra
Mike and Pat Kell
Carol Kettner
Bruce and Kris Kiefer
Ray and Paula Kodesh
Dr. Linda Krach and Robert Kriel
Randy and Sandy Krauthramer
Biff Kummer
Doug and Cindy LeMoine
Bill and Linda LeNox
Mike and Jake Linton
John and Jane Lokken
Joyce Mack
Ryan Magana
John and Char Magee
Dick and Linda Martens
Jeff Matz and Peggy Jones Matz
Jim and Karen McConkey
Wendell and Mary McDonough
Joe and Marianna Menkl
Sue Menke
Microsoft
Lisa Mink
Minneapolis Foundation
Minnesota River Valley Audubon
Rachel Murphy
Denis Murray
Natural Resources Foundation of WI
Elaine Nelson
Mary Nelson
Tom and Debra Nelson
Lawrence Nestle
Shawl Nelson
Roger Nelson and Vicki See-Trelf
Jason and Brenda Niemi
North Country Independent Living
Northwest Realty Team, Inc.
Eric and Kathy Nuebel
Greg Olson
Jo Anne Olson
Jean Olund
Carol Oosterhuis
Don and Carol Ott
Nick O’Connor
Palisade Asset Management
Mary Patrick
Dr. Gary Pearson
Perlick Distillery
Tom and Christine Perlick
Kent Persinger
Mike and Pat Pesko
John Peter and Carol Ketner
Heidi and Mike Popenla
Randy and Linda Pozansky
William Presslaw and Kristine Deehler
Bruce and Sara Quade
Red Cross Pharmacy
Ed and Cheryl Reed
Maureen Revak
Jane Reynolds
Rice Lake Weighing
Jim Riener
Eugene and Carlotta Romans
Alan and Charlotte Ross
Rebecca Rudy
Wayne and Barb Sabatke
Marjorie Barton Savage
Jo Ann Schmidt
Jim and Susan Schmitz
Mike and Sue Schroeder
Amy Schult
Gene and Sue Schult
Bob and Sally Schwartz
Jonathan Schuck Photography
Debra Sehmer
John and Candy Severson
Jim and Kathy Shatuck
Shell Lake State Bank
Mike Smith and Deborah Neuhoff
Denny and Jenny Snarski
Dennis & Mary Ann Solie
Lindsay Soper
Jeff Southern and Linda Thompson
Slooper Ace Hardware
Roger and Kristen St. George
Amy Stabenow
State Farm Foundation
Julie Stein
Mary Stenberg
Bill & Kathy Stewart
Susan Strate
Tom Terhorst
Ralph and Carol Thompson
Donald and Virginia Thompson
Jenny Thornton
Mary Thostenson
Dan and Sarah Todd
Town of Madge
Town of Sarona
Mark and Mary Ellen Ufners
Bambi Urich
Keith Veldhuizen and Vicki Collins
Marilyn Vig
Tom and Gloria Vires
Patty Wack
John and Gail Wadron
Lori Walljasper
Joanne Wartewog
Maggie Welch
Hockey and Carolyn West
Larry and Ginny White
Lois Whitehorn
Allen Wilcham
Billy Wilson
Uncle Scrooge
Priscilla Capelle-Haehn
Craig and Kathy Wood
David Worthman
Patricia Zemaitis
Dave and Wanda Zeug

Thank you - thank you - Thank you - Thank you - Thank you - Thank you - Thank you - Thank you - Thank you - Thank you - Thank you - Thank you - Thank you - Thank you - Thank you - Thank you
Volunteers:

Thanks to our new and returning volunteers, we’ve had a number of successful programs and made a variety of improvements to facilities throughout the year. Volunteers assisted with set-up for large programs such as the Luminary Snowshoe Hike, Trivia Night, and Halloween at the Hill. Others donated their time as an educator on naturalized hikes or 90-Minute Nature programs.

Volunteers insured the grounds looked beautiful for all of our guests by planting flower pots, maintaining garden beds, assembling patio furniture, and refreshing the screen porch. Others took to deep cleaning the interior of facilities and updating the historic cabins. Talented woodworkers accomplished projects such as building new donation boxes, routing and painting new trail signs, and installing trail posts. There were also a number of volunteers who got to enjoy the nearly 600 acre while giving their time. These volunteers checked bluebird boxes, brush mowed the prairie, and acted as trail guardians.

With the help of our fantastic volunteers, Hunt Hill was able to make many improvements and offer programs for the community. Thank you to all!

Jean Accola
Tammy Adler
Rob Adler
Nick Allen
Roddy Bank
Sally Bartz
Briana Bateman
Cameron Beebe
Jean Bednar
Steve Betchka
Barbara Bouna
Ali Bouma
Deb Bouma
Christa Byrnes
Robyn Casagrande
Tom Casagrande
Nancy Christel
Carole Cleveland
Byron Crouse
Gary Dunswoor
Doug Edwardsen
Fat Edwardsen
Katherine Elchert
Gary Erickson
Stephanie Erickson
Meg Erbe
Steff Fiedler
Edwin Fischer
Akie Mi Fischer
Anne Gallagher
Judie Genereaux
Thom Gerst
Katie Goin
Jason Griswold
Bev Grodie
John Haack
Val Haack
Jenice Haessig
David Haessig
Jim Halverson
Kathy Hanson
Mike Harvey
Heidi Olson Hong
Lois Jackson
Johnnie Johnson
Larry Johnson
Pat Keller
Ruth King
Paula Kadesch
Ray Kadesch
Koch’s Department Store
Randy Krautframer
Mike Linton
Sue Luedtke
Tavis Lynch
Jamie Nast
David Nelson
Randy Nelson
Storme Nelson
Tom Nelson
Jack Nessen
Levi Olson
Steve Olson
Vicky Ondell
Claire Parish
Ed Reed
Jim Riener
Eugene Romlos
Caronna Romlos
Carrie Romlos
Charlotte Ross
Nolan Rowe
Larry Sanbon
Julie Sauer
Mark Sauer
Jim Schmitz
Susie Schmitz
Jeff Southern
Sheri Snowbank
Pam Stefan
Katherine Stewart
Bev Stewart
Bill Stewart
Phil Sylla
Linda Thompson
Mary Thostenson
Mary Ellen Ulfers
Keith Veldhuizen
Tom Vorazek
Craig Walke
Kim Wheeler
Janet Wilson-Binnstock
Billy Wilson
Adrian Young
Braden Young
Jordan Zahurance
Bob Zientara

Thank you and sorry if we missed your name.

Staff
Cabin Coordinator: Deb Bouma
Executive Director: Nikkii Jenisin
Maintenance: Mark Sauer
Maintenance: Larry Piske
Office Manager: Sally Bartz
Program Coordinator: Kelsey Probasco
Program Director: Sage Dunham

Board of Directors
President: Mike Harvey
Vice President: Tom Nelson
Secretary: Bill Stewart
Treasurer/Finance Chair: Tom Vorazek
Facilities Chair: Mike Harvey
Fundraising Chair: Deb Bouma
Membership Chair: Heidi O. Hong
Program Chair: Gary Dunswoor
Also:
Nick Allen
Christa Byrnes
Doug Edwardsen
Paula Kadesch
Caronna Romlos
Jim Schmitz

Event Sponsors
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Gorilla Glue
Hauck Power Sports
Hayward Marine
Indiana American Credit Union
Intruder, Inc.
Jacobson Advanced Eye Care
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Marsh Insurance
Mayo Clinic Foundation
Monarch Paving
Krist Nelson
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Northwoods Country Store
Northwoods Country Store
Packaging Sales
Partick Distillery
FMI LLC
Tim Reddy Insurance
Royal Credit Union
S&S Sales
Schmitz’s EconoMart
Shell Lake State Bank
Scooper Ace Hardware
Scooper Rodeo Committee
Attorney Katherine Stewart
Stresslab Laboratory, Inc.
Synergy Cooperative
Travel Designer/Travel Leader
Casey Waters Real Estate
Wakefield Heritage Museum

Thank you - Thank you - Thank you - Thank you - Thank you - Thank you - Thank you - Thank you - Thank you - Thank you - Thank you - Thank you - Thank you - Thank you - Thank you - Thank you - Thank you - Thank you - Thank you - Thank you - Thank you.