

Summer 2015

Horizons

The Voice of Friends of Havenwoods

From the President

Friends invites you to support the children's gardening program at Havenwoods. Buds 'n Sprouts, a weekly summer garden program, has been a partnership between Havenwoods, UW-Extension, Garden Clubs, and Master Gardeners for 20 years. In order to continue the program this summer, funds are needed to cover the garden coordinator's salary, plants, and materials.

At our April meeting, the FOH Board voted to conduct fundraising efforts. We submitted a grant proposal for a Friends of Wisconsin State Parks (FWSP) Grant and received a \$1,000 matching grant. Our match for the \$1,000 is \$500 cash from FOH and \$500 of in-kind volunteer help.

We also have initiated a crowdfunding effort to seek donations online. Go to <http://igg.me/at/budsnsprouts> to check out the site, learn about the program, and select a "perks" level of donation. The site will be active



Friends of Havenwoods

Board of Directors

President: Judy Dollhausen

Vice President: Diane Warner

Secretary: Rachel Jones

Treasurer: Ron Hayes

Board Members: Cathy Harrison, Dennis Kaehny,
George Morrison, Lorraine Schlut, Gaylord Yost

New Members

We welcome Laura L. Bender, Esther Demerdash,
Kim Gleffe, Sharon Jordan, and Cory Liebmann.

until June 12 to accept donations. Many thanks to Laura Spencer and Alex Boyes for creating the video and to Gaylord Yost, the FOH Board spokesman.

Please consider supporting this summer program for children from day care centers and youth groups to plant and tend a garden, work as a team, and eat nutritious vegetables from the gardens. We also need volunteers to complete the \$500 in-kind volunteer time so please consider spending volunteer time in the garden. Call Judy Klippel or Laura Spencer (414-527-0232) for dates and times to assist in getting the garden ready for planting.

Nature is a Gift, Use it Often
Judy Dollhausen (jadollh@gmail.com)

Listening Sessions

The staff and Friends Board want to get more community members helping us to chart Havenwoods' future. To move in that direction, FOH and the Havenwoods Economic Development Corporation (HEDC) hosted three community listening sessions in March. About 90 individuals from nonprofit organizations, businesses, community organizations, volunteers, park users, local officials, and Madison DNR staff attended the sessions.



Participants were given a brief overview of the Friends organization, Stephanie Harling, executive director, talked about the role of the HEDC, and Superintendent Judy Klippel discussed the history of the property and activities and resources available to the public at HSF. Melissa Cook, Trail Manager at Hank Aaron State Trail, then facilitated the sessions by asking the participants to vision what activities they would like to see occurring at Havenwoods in the year 2025. Over 300 suggestions were submitted and then organized into four "themes".

A followup meeting was held in which participants were asked to create action plans for each of the four themes: Marketing & Outreach, Programming, Stewardship & Volunteers, and Funding. The themes will provide fresh ideas and plans as we move forward to establish partnerships and increase the value to the community it serves.

Happy hiking, birding, camping in the warm months ahead . . . Judy Dollhausen

Gardening with Kids

by Judy Klippel, Superintendent

This will be our twenty-first year of providing Buds 'n Sprouts. I have always loved this program for the opportunities it gives children and the ways it affects them.



Four groups of city kids will be here once a week all summer to learn to garden and to explore nature in the gardens. This is the only program we have in which kids return numerous times to build on what they are learning. Having a weekly program helps them increase their familiarity and comfort level with nature, their confidence in exploring nature, and their *sense of place*. This is *their* place, and they take care of *their* plants.

Way too often, city kids don't have any close up experiences with nature. They don't know what it's like to let caterpillars walk across their hands, to plant seeds in soil, or to catch ladybugs. They don't know what fun they are missing. In the gardens, as kids get close to the earth, all kinds of surprises greet them. Even if the kids aren't so sure what they are getting into at first, part way through the summer they begin to look forward to what's happening in the garden.

Too many kids don't know where their food comes from. In the gardens, they find out. They water and weed their plants each week until they can harvest and eat the produce. They discover vegetables they have never eaten before. They find out how good they taste and how good they are for their bodies.

We're helping kids develop a love of nature and skills in gardening that we hope will grow along with them. That's why I am so committed to Buds 'n Sprouts.

Mystery Photos!

by Beth Mittermaier, Conservation Biologist

Mystery Photo #23 (the new mystery)



This is a mystery you can help solve! We want to know how many kinds of frogs live at Havenwoods? Would you like to visit Havenwoods one evening each week to listen for frogs this summer? Call 414.527.0232 to volunteer ASAP! Otherwise, wait for the next issue for more information about this spotted mystery.

Answer to Last Issue's Mystery

Even though winter is my favorite season, woodland wildflowers are a treat that I look forward to each spring. Bloodroot, wood anemone, and hepatica begin to emerge from the soil as soon as the frost leaves. Unlike me, they are not procrastinators! They must complete their entire life cycle before the trees leaf out and steal away the sun's light and warmth.



Our mystery flowers, spring beauties, bloom early, too. Their five pale pink petals form star-like flowers with pink veins and pink anthers. They are wonderful to find. But, as I warned you in the last issue, you must not procrastinate!

The flowers only open when it's

warm and sunny in early spring, closing at night and on cloudy days. Each bloom only lasts a couple of days. Fortunately, each tiny plant produces many flowers.

These early-blooming flowers have many strategies to survive in a tight window of time. Last spring, after flowering was complete, the leaves remained active. They produced and stored food energy in swollen underground stems called corms. This spring, the plants drew on that stored energy to quickly grow and flower. After the flowers have faded and the seeds have dispersed, the leaves will continue to grow and make food, storing away energy in the corms for next spring. By late spring, the leaves turn yellow and disappear. If you wait too long to look for them, they will be gone!



Since spring beauties flower before many insects are active, the flowers must work extra hard to attract pollinators. The pink stripes on the flower petals are "nectar guides," directing bees and flies to a generous supply of nectar. In addition, the filaments holding the anthers reflect ultraviolet light. We can't see UV light, but insects can. And, unlike some early bloomers, spring beauties smell good.

After a long winter, small mammals such as mice are hungry for fresh food. The seeds of early-blooming wildflowers would be a tasty treat! But some of these wildflowers have evolved a solution to this problem, too. Each seed of the spring beauty has a small fatty structure attached to it. Ants—which are also hungry—are attracted to the fatty tissue. They collect the seeds and carry them to their underground nests. Here, ants eat the fatty parts and discard the tough-coated seeds in their trash rooms. Surrounded by ant poop, dead ant bodies, and other decaying organic matter, the seeds are "planted" and fertilized by the ants. They are also safe from hungry animals!

There are two ways to enjoy the fleeting beauty of spring beauties. You can hope to find them in time to bend down and breathe in their pleasant scent or you can dig deeper and discover their amazing adaptations. I, personally, enjoy spring beauties both ways.

Friends on Facebook

Did you know that Friends has a Facebook page? Check it out for recent happenings at Havenwoods.

www.Facebook.com/HavenwoodsStateForest

337 people have "liked" us and 787 people have checked it out.



FOH depends on

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Havenwoods State Forest

Endowment Fund

FOH has joined other state parks friends groups in establishing endowment funds with the Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin. To learn more about the Wisconsin Conservation Endowment, visit <www.wisconservation.org>.

Please consider a contribution with a gift of cash and/or other assets. Send your contribution to:

Friends of Havenwoods, Inc.
6141 N. Hopkins Street
Milwaukee, WI 53209-3565

Friends of Havenwoods

Membership

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Email _____

Amount \$ _____

Membership Levels

- Family.....\$15
- Single\$10
- Senior/Student..\$ 8
- Corporate.....\$50
- Life.....\$200 (member 19 years or less)
- Life.....\$100 (member 20 or more years)

Please send your membership check to:

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