

Winter 2014-2015

# Horizons

*The Voice of Friends of Havenwoods*

## *From the President*

Our goal of \$10,000 has been met to complete the Acorn Fund with the Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin! Several years ago, the Havenwoods Endowment Acorn Fund was established. Thanks to generous donations from our members, contributions from the Friends of Havenwoods, and funds from members in a CD with Great Lakes Credit Union, the Acorn Fund is now a permanent fund.

### **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](http://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

## *Thank you to Recent Donors*

Christine Buch	Steven R. Schnoll DDS
Bridget Ciurlik	Rozanne Screven
Judy Dollhausen	Al & Betty Siemsen
Michael Eckman	Mary Terranova &
Lee & Leslie Hanrihar	Bruce Bartelt
John Heywood	Annie Salmona &
Rachel Jones	Robert Litzau
Jeff Lemke	Gaylord Yost
James & Rita Neuner	Kathleen Zeiger

Friends of Havenwoods, along with other Friends groups like Friends of Pike Lake and Friends of Kohler-Andre, commit these funds to provide perpetual financial support for places that matter most. Following the initial 12-month initiation period of the Permanent Named Fund, FOH has the option of receiving a distribution of the Fund on an annual basis or keeping it in the Endowment, thereby building the Fund. The Board of FOH approved the final payment into this Endowment to reach the goal of \$10,000 at the annual meeting in October.

This process was started in October of 2012 so within two years we've been able to complete this goal with donations from our members, current and past. Thank you for helping us set up this permanent fund for Havenwoods State Forest.

## *Friends Annual Meeting.*

Carl Schwartz, coordinator of Bird City Wisconsin, gave a very informative presentation at the annual meeting regarding the work of this group throughout Wisconsin to protect our bird populations.

Bird City Wisconsin seeks to encourage communities to implement sound bird conservation practices. To date, 87 communities in the state have agreed to implement the criteria to be designated as a "Bird City". Their website, [www.birdcitywisconsin.org](http://www.birdcitywisconsin.org), has information on the communities and criteria for this designation.



*Nature is a Gift, Use it Often*  
Judy Dollhausen ([jadollh@gmail.com](mailto:jadollh@gmail.com))

# Nature & the Neighborhood

Some words of thanks are due to the donors of funds and food for the Nature and the Neighborhood fall festival held on October 4. Thanks to the generous donations from the following businesses who agreed to partner with Friends and provide food to all who came to this event.

- Aldi's Store, 5301 N. Hopkins Street, Milwaukee
- Pick 'n Save Stores, 76th & Good Hope Rd, Milwaukee and 1735 W. Silver Spring Drive, Glendale
- Mill Road Citgo, 6400 N. 43rd Street, Milwaukee
- Target Store, 8501W. Brown Deer Road, Milwaukee
- Wachtel Tree Science, Merton, Wis.

Special thanks also to Community Liaison Officers, Tracey Geniesse and Carrie Resnick of Milwaukee Police Department District 4, who were able to arrange the distribution of flyers in the Havenwoods area, arrange for a grill to cook the hot dogs, and suggest community organizations who were at the event to provide information on their services to neighbors. The officers met with Havenwoods staff and Friends members to plan the event to reach out to neighbors and assure a successful event. We will be partnering with the officers for future events and resources.



Retired officers with vintage vehicles and uniforms



Despite the rain, kids still enjoyed the frog obstacle course.

## Friends of Havenwoods

### *Board of Directors News*

Terms for Board membership expired in 2014 for members Gaylord Yost, Rachel Jones, George Morrison and Judy Dollhausen. All agreed to continue their election to the Board. The following members were re-elected to another 1-year term as officers of FOH:

President: Judy Dollhausen  
Vice President: Diane Warner  
Secretary: Rachel Jones  
Treasurer: Ron Hayes

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

It was noted in the FOH annual report that 209 volunteers gave a total of 2,030 hours of activity at Havenwoods during 2013. This commitment was in the areas of property maintenance, program services, and fundraising to continue the work on the property to the greater good of all who enjoy this property.

**The next board meeting will be January 13, 2015 at 6:30 pm in the nature center.**



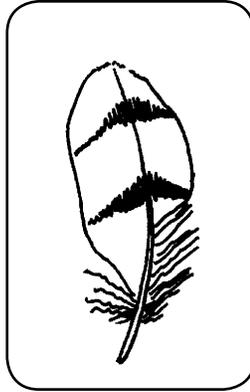
All ages enjoyed singing songs and playing junk band instruments.

# Mystery Photos!

by Beth Mittermaier,  
Conservation Biologist

## Mystery Photo #21 (the new mystery)

I apologize for the lack of a photo for this mystery. It was much harder to take a photo of a feather on the snow than I thought it would be. If you investigate this mystery, you might discover why finding a feather in winter is so challenging.



## Answer to Last Issue's Mystery

In fall, the mystery photo showed a goldenrod plant that looked as if it had swallowed a marble. I'm hoping that you found and opened one to see the surprise inside. If you haven't had a chance to do that yet, here are some things to look for.

As with all circles of life, there is rarely a perfect place to start. So, we will begin with an egg.

In late spring, a female gall fly finds a goldenrod plant and lays an egg at the tip of the growing plant.

The larva hatches and burrows down the plant stem. There are a couple of theories concerning why the goldenrod plant goes a little crazy and produces the spherical gall. One theory is the splinter theory. The larva is an irritant—a foreign body—and the plant is trying to protect itself from the irritant. Another theory is that the larva produces hormones similar to plant growth hormones. Either way, the larva finds itself surrounded by a food-filled fortress.

It eats and grows. By the way, when you open a gall, the dark dusty stuff you see inside is larva poop. Obviously, the wonderful fortress has a few drawbacks!



Goldenrod gall flies are small with mottled wings. Females (shown here) have a relatively large ovipositor for laying eggs inside the plant stems.

In fall, the larva gets ready for winter and the next stage of its life. First, it eats a tunnel to the outside of the gall, leaving only a thin layer of plant cells. Then it produces natural antifreeze (glycerol and sorbitol) so it can be frozen alive over the winter.

When spring comes, it pupates. The adult fly emerges about two weeks later.

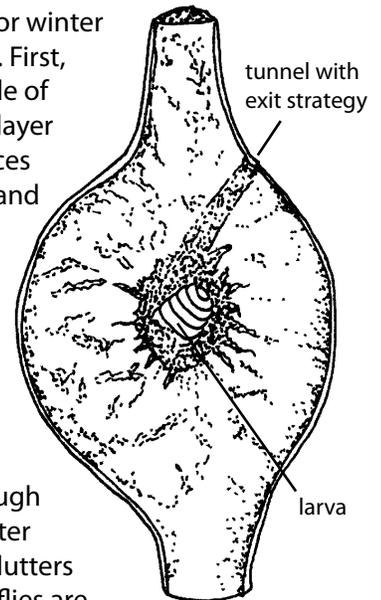
The fly climbs to the end of the tunnel and pushes through the little window of cells. After allowing its wings to dry it flutters off to mate. Goldenrod gall flies are not great fliers, and they don't live very long as adults. Maybe that is why you often see many goldenrod galls in a small area. The female finds a goldenrod plant, lays an egg, and continues the circle of life.

This all sounds like the perfect plan until you open a few goldenrod galls and discover all the things that can go wrong! Here are just a few:

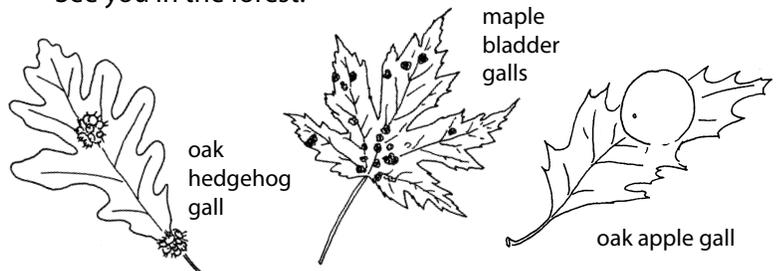
- Ice anglers harvest the larvae to use as bait.
- A certain kind of wasp lays an egg in the gall. When the wasp larva hatches, it eats the goldenrod gall fly larva.
- The larva fails to make the tunnel correctly, and the adult is trapped inside the gall.
- A particular species of beetle burrows into the galls to eat the larvae.

Galls are fascinating things to explore. The tumorous growths can appear on stems, leaves, flowers, fruits, and roots. Insects cause most of the familiar galls, but mites, fungi, and bacteria are also culprits. Some galls are harmful to the plant, some result in reduced growth or seed production, and some are beneficial to the irritant and the host. Keep exploring. While some galls come in bizarre shapes and colors, others are well-hidden.

See you in the forest!



Chickadees and woodpeckers peck holes in the galls and eat the larvae.



FOH depends on

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## Do you have a story?

Are you a writer with a story about spending time at Havenwoods or enjoying nature? Send it to FOH, and it might be in the next issue of Horizons!



If you're at Havenwoods on a Saturday in January and February enjoying winter activities, stop by the nature center and enjoy a cup of hot chocolate or tea.



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

Friends of Havenwoods

# Membership

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Membership Levels

- \_\_\_ Family.....\$15
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- \_\_\_ Life.....\$200 (member 19 years or less)
- \_\_\_ Life.....\$100 (member 20 or more years)



Please send your membership check to:

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