



Hawthorn Hollow Newsletter

Autumn 2023

www.hawthornhollow.org



A SCOUT IS HELPFUL...

Nate Smith on the renovated North Hollow bridge

As a non-profit organization, Hawthorn Hollow has to find creative ways to improve our grounds and enhance the experiences we try to provide to you. One way we do this is to work with local Boy Scouts who are working on the service project requirement for Eagle Scout, the highest rank in the organization. The project must benefit the community while giving the Scout the opportunity to show their organizational and leadership capabilities.

“Being an Eagle Scout isn’t just something you do, it’s part of who you are” said Hawthorn Hollow Director and Eagle Scout TJ Leveque. “It’s such a huge benefit to Hawthorn Hollow to have Eagle Scouts complete these projects.” Over the years, Leveque has worked with local scout troops to help prospective Eagle Scouts complete a number of projects at Hawthorn Hollow. Past projects include the construction of a number of Leopold-style benches, display cases for the Hyslop Nature Center and the Heritage Farmstead entrance, and restoration of the grave markers at the pet cemetery, just to name a few. “These projects enhance Hawthorn Hollow without the extra time and labor we’d usually have to put into them. It’s truly a win-win.” said Leveque.

This year, two prospective Eagles have based their service projects at Hawthorn Hollow. Nate Smith led members of Troop 505 in an extensive renovation of the bridge on the North Hollow Trail, which itself was re-routed two years ago as part of another Eagle Project because of erosion along the Pike River. As part of the project, a significant amount of wood was replaced, and railings were added to increase safety.



Hannigan & crew on the South Hollow trail

AJ Hannigan focused his project on the South Hollow Trail, known for the “stepping stones” along a portion of the trail. This area is prone to springtime flooding, and mud & silt from the river often make this trail muddy and hard to use. AJ and his crew from Troop 551 raised some of the flagstones that were being buried by the mud, and built a short boardwalk over one of the worst areas, which will help make the trail more passable.

“I am forever grateful to the people who helped me with my Eagle Project back in 1999, and I’m proud that it’s now my turn to help the next generation become Eagle Scouts” said Leveque. “It’s such a positive experience for everyone involved, and every project helps make Hawthorn Hollow just that much more special.” Thank you to Nate, AJ, their troops, and all the other scouts who have helped out at Hawthorn Hollow over the years.

Teaching the Ways of Wood

One of the most exciting developments at Hawthorn Hollow recently is the addition of a series of workshops co-hosted by Overocker Woodworking. Owner/cabinetmaker Tom Overocker is a Lieutenant with the Pleasant Prairie Fire Department (and also an Eagle Scout), but his true passion is woodworking, which he has passed on to his children. When he isn’t serving the community, you can find him and his family in their workshop.

Over the last two years, the Overockers have hosted a series of woodworking workshops at Hawthorn Hollow. “I love seeing people who would have never thought about trying woodworking complete a project” said Overocker. Past builds include Leopold-style benches, coffee mug holders, lanterns, and handmade wooden pens. However, the most popular workshops by far have been his Icicle Ornament turning sessions, which he has

expanded this year for the holiday season, as well as offering four other holiday-themed workshops.

An Icicle Ornament is made by spinning a small block of wood on a lathe, and then using a variety of tools to carve it. “It’s similar to making pottery on a wheel, slowly shaping the piece as you turn it” said Overocker. Participants are able to choose from a variety of



The Overockers



Icicle Ornaments

fine woods, such as oak, walnut, cherry, and maple. “Each type of wood has a different look, a different character. Choosing the wood, and then deciding how you want to carve it as it turns, means every ornament is unique.”

For more information, pricing, and a schedule, please visit our Heritage Workshop page at hawthornhollow.org/heritage-series.

A woodworking workshop

Maintaining the Magic



It takes a lot of work to keep Hawthorn Hollow beautiful. This year, Hawthorn Hollow's staff and volunteers have been working on a variety of projects around the property.

Hawthorn Hollow's historic buildings require extensive maintenance to keep them in good shape. This year, the 1847 Pike River Schoolhouse was painted and had its windows restored,

to add to work on the roof completed in 2022. Next door, a major foundation repair project has begun on the 1859 Somers Town Hall. Thank you to Gladys & Dr. Clifton Peterson for funding the preservation of the 1849 Schoolhouse, and Judy & Norris Richardson for funding the preservation of the Town Hall.

Some of the projects this year were completed by students in Gerrit Tichelaar's Landscape and Horticulture classes at Gateway Technical College. Since last fall, Gateway students have rebuilt a stone staircase at the Pike House, landscaped the front yard of the Teuscher House, and installed an in-ground irrigation system at the Heritage Farmstead. Next, they will work on a landscaping project around the new Tuesday Morning Club Overlook, installing flagstone pavers and a retaining wall.

Speaking of the Teuscher House, the plaster ceiling of the library had to be restored due to water damage. This, along with the donation of a number of Ruth & Margaret Teuscher's books by Tom & Sue Rasmussen (Tom's father, Glenn, owns the property just to the north of Hawthorn Hollow), have given us the opportunity to reorganize the library to both recognize Ruth & Margaret's legacies as readers & writers, while also providing a valuable reference resource. Thanks to long-time Hawthorn Hollow supporters Judy Richardson & Sandy Halmo for spearheading this effort.



Trail Opening

A Year Full of Events

2023 was quite an eventful year at Hawthorn Hollow. Between the Walk in the Woods Art Fair, the Pike River Benefit Concert Series, and other events like the Bioblitz and the Harvest Hootenanny, it seemed like there was something going on here at the Hollow almost every weekend. In fact, it looks like 2023 will end up being one of the most successful years ever at Hawthorn Hollow in terms of fundraising events.

The 2023 Pike River Benefit Concert Series was presented by our friends at Once Upon A Child and Stein's Aircraft Services, and featured performances by Yves Francois & Rhythm de Vie, Ben Mulwana, and KR Bluegrass. Our August concert with Ben Mulwana turned out to be the third most attended concert ever, and came close to setting fundraising records. While a series of thunderstorms forced us to postpone our July concert, we were able to reschedule it for September, which ended up being a beautiful night (besides the falling acorns).

Our Walk in the Woods Art Fair was held on September 9th, and broke all sorts of records. The number of artists (70) was the highest ever, and it appears that attendance throughout the day may have also been the highest ever. This year, over 15 artists were new to the Art Fair as well, adding some new talent to our already exceptionally gifted roster of participants.



Ben Mulwana



Birds & Plants

While the Concert Series and Art Fair were the main events of the year, other fundraisers like the Friends of Hawthorn Hollow's Birds & Plants sale and the Harvest Hootenanny also saw increased attendance and fundraising as well. Hawthorn Hollow's roster of fall events, known as Hollow-Ween, were also extremely successful, with most events and workshops selling out almost immediately. Thank you to everyone who attended our events for all your support this year!



*Brent Mitchell & Kevin Grissom
playing at the Art Fair*

New Doors

Jeff Lyons, longtime Hawthorn Hollow supporter, has been hard at work renovating the doors on the Hyslop Nature Center. Originally a stable for Ruth & Margaret Teuscher's horses, the nature center now houses the Heide Observatory office, the Two Sisters Boutique, and the Phil Sander Conference Room. This project will make the stable doors much more weatherproof, and will replace the original latches and padlocks with updated coded entry mechanisms. Thanks, Jeff!



HAWTHORN HOLLOW ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Saturday, November 11, 10 AM
Hyslop Nature Center

All Members are Cordially Invited

An Intern's Thoughts...

Hello, my name is Kylar Broesch, and I'm a Ecological Restoration intern at Hawthorn Hollow. I was born and raised in Kenosha, WI and am a senior at Carthage College, where I am majoring in Environmental science and minoring in Geoscience.



Kylar Broesch

I started working at Hawthorn Hollow in September, and plan on being here until winter begins around the end of november. Through this position I have gotten to experience working on numerous exciting projects. These projects include tasks like, invasive species removal, seed collection and dispersal, working on revamping endangered species populations, and aiding in water quality testing. I have even been granted the opportunity to take charge on reconstructing a portion of meadow land here on the property that is struggling in its current state.

So far, I have done tons of research on southeastern Wisconsin prairies and their general soil and plant compositions. With this information I was able to construct a plant list of species that would be best suited to the land. I chose to focus on incorporating plants that attract native pollinators and endangered species in Wisconsin. I cannot wait to continue to move forward with this project and others and see the end result of my work here!

NEW FRIENDS OF HAWTHORN HOLLOW MEMBERS

Todd & Robin Ingrouille

Bonnie Schultz

Penny Haney

William Michiels

Dee Ann Pollard

Mary Celeste Walker

Shirley Kroeger

Gerrit Tichelaar

Elizabeth Borger

Jeffrey Albertson

Wade & Paula West

Rene O'Connor

Lynn Passino

Janet Hermann

Heather Sczygielski

Carol Rannow

Cliff Schmidt

Emma Reed

Susie Brock

Shelly & Steve Nelson



Wreath Making Workshop

Saturday, Dec 9th
10 am

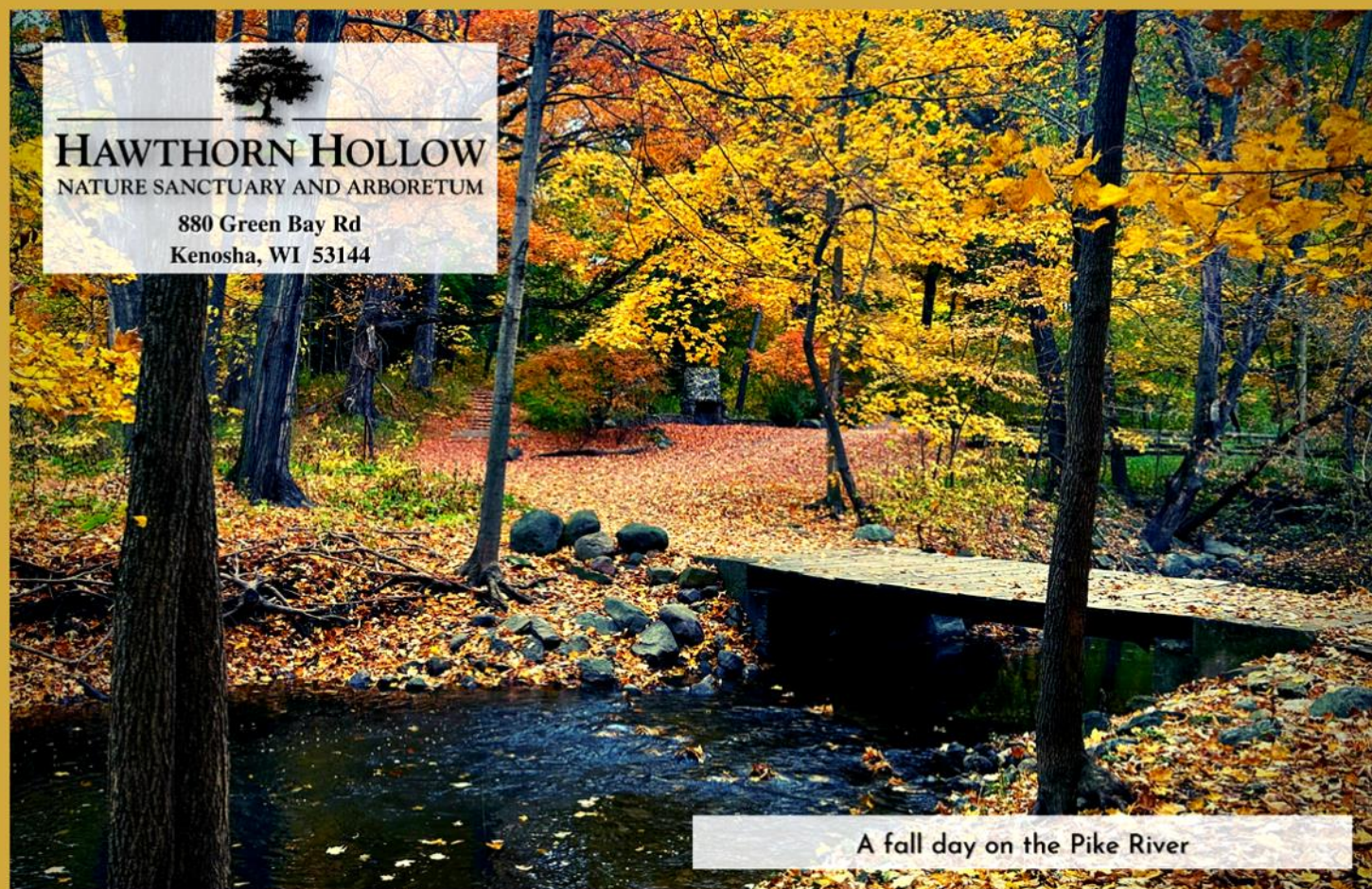




HAWTHORN HOLLOW

NATURE SANCTUARY AND ARBORETUM

880 Green Bay Rd
Kenosha, WI 53144



A fall day on the Pike River

HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE and Bakery

MEET
SANTA CLAUS!
10 AM - 1 PM

CHESTNUTS
ROASTING ON AN
OPEN FIRE!

Saturday, December 2nd
9 am - 3 pm

Hand-Crafted Wreaths & Sprays
Fresh-Cut Greens
Baked Goods
Holiday Gifts



HAWTHORN HOLLOW
NATURE SANCTUARY AND ARBORETUM

LATE FALL EVENTS

November

11/4 Buckthorn Volunteer Day.....10:00 am

December

12/2 Holiday Boutique.....10:00 am

12/8 Night Hike*.....6:00 pm

12/9 Wreath Making Workshop*.....10 :00 am

Please visit hawthornhollow.org/heritage-series for
information and registration for our holiday
workshops with Overocker Woodworking

Hawthorn Hollow is Closed
Dec 23rd to Feb 28th.

The Heide Observatory will still be
open for programs & special events!

*Registration Required

WWW.HAWTHORNHOLLOW.ORG