



# Hawthorn Hollow Newsletter

Spring 2026

[www.hawthornhollow.org](http://www.hawthornhollow.org)

## CELEBRATE EARTH WEEK!

Spring has sprung, and Earth Week is here! Get involved at your favorite nature sanctuary! Enjoy the fresh air, connect with others, and celebrate the beauty of the natural world.

experience the Lyrid Lightshow, a classic spring meteor shower known for fast-moving meteors and the occasional bright fireball.



**4/19, 2-4 pm: Hike For Hawthorn Hollow:** Kick off with a family-friendly 3.5k(2.21mi) hike through the heart of Hawthorn Hollow!

**4/24 10 am: Arboretum Clean Up:** Lend a hand with spring clean-up in our arboretum!



**4/22 All Day: Earth Day Flora Find:** Stop by the nature center any time on Earth Day and grab a no cost, self-led Flora Find Scavenger hunt to explore the beauty of our spring ephemerals.

**4/24 all day: Traveling Trees:** Join us for an Arbor Day event at Local Kenosha Arboretums! Greenridge Cemetery & Arboretum, Kenosha County Center, and Hawthorn Hollow Nature Sanctuary and Arboretum.

**4/24 7:30 pm: Night Hike:** Come experience the night time sights and sounds of spring as you walk through the woods of Hawthorn Hollow with our Naturalist, Ryan! Learn all about the adaptations nocturnal creatures have developed to survive and thrive when the sun goes down.

**4/25 9 am-12 pm: Garlic Mustard Pull Party and Luncheon:** Join us for a morning of garlic mustard destruction! Afterwards, stick around for a delicious meal made by Hawthorn Hollow Staff highlighting garlic mustard as an ingredient to thank you for the hard work!

**4/22 9 pm or 11:15 pm: Lyrid Lightshow:** Join us at the Heide Observatory to

Earth Week Volunteers

## GARLIC MUSTARD PULL PARTY AND LUNCHEON

*"INVASIVE, BUT DELICIOUS!"*

**APRIL 25 9AM-NOON**

*Join us for a morning of garlic mustard destruction to clear the way for our spring ephemerals with friends, family, and nature enthusiasts alike! Stick around afterward for a delicious meal using garlic mustard as an ingredient made by Hawthorn Hollow staff as a thank you for your hard work!*

[HAWTHORNHOLLOW.ORG](http://HAWTHORNHOLLOW.ORG)

**EARTH WEEK AT HAWTHORN HOLLOW**

## Birds & Plants

A BIRD WALK & PLANT SALE FUNDRAISER  
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE FRIENDS OF HAWTHORN HOLLOW

NATIVE & DECORATIVE PLANTS

BIRD WALKS BY  
HOY AUDUBON SOCIETY  
9 & 10 AM

GUIDED NATURE HIKE  
11 AM

BAKE SALE

### Saturday May 9th 9 - NOON

## Donations Wanted!

PLEASE DIVIDE, POT, LABEL & BRING  
NON-INVASIVE PLANTS BETWEEN MAY 5-8

## A NEW PRESIDENT, A NEW PLAN FOR THE FUTURE

This January the Board of Directors of the Hyslop Foundation, which owns and operates Hawthorn Hollow, elected Dan Lyons as President. Dan is succeeding Susan Andrea-Schlenker, who has served as President since 2022.

Dan has been involved with Hawthorn Hollow for over 25 years, starting as a part-time grounds employee in the late 90's. After attending school in Wyoming and New Mexico, earning a Ph.D in Science Education, Dan worked as a postdoctoral scholar at the University of Chicago. In 2014, with the generous support of the Mary Frost Ashley Charitable Trust and the Brookwood Foundation, he was hired as Hawthorn Hollow's first Director of Education.

At Hawthorn Hollow, Dan developed many of the educational programs still in place today. He had a huge part in bringing the Heide Observatory to Hawthorn Hollow, and developed the Heritage Craftwork series. He is currently an Instructor of Physics and Mathematics at Gateway Technical College.

As President, Dan is focused on finding new ways to connect people to their ecosystems. "Hawthorn Hollow has drawn so many people into its orbit, people who feel connected to nature and to each other in so many ways" he said.

His first task is to spearhead a large-scale site plan. After a considerable evaluation process we chose The Kubalo Washatko Architects, a full-service architecture & planning studio that has worked with the Aldo Leopold Foundation, Schlitz Audubon Nature Center, and the Kohler Arts Center.

"The site plan will incorporate all of Hawthorn Hollow, getting us on track to ensure we have the right facilities to support our staff as they carry out our mission" Dan said.

"I look forward to working to ensure Hawthorn Hollow continues to grow sustainably and to keep this natural space preserved and accessible for future generations." Congratulations Dan and thank you Susan Andrea-Schlenker for your leadership!

*Hyslop President Dan Lyons*

# What a Sweet Season!

As our Maple Sugarin' season for the year comes to an end, we wanted to share a final update and, most importantly, to thank all of our volunteers for the incredible role you played in making it such a success. This season, we generated the highest field trip revenue we've ever recorded. While we were just one group short of our all-time record for number of students reached, it was still an outstanding year. Every day in March was booked with maple sugaring programs. 2026 also saw a record number of volunteers, with 66 registered to collect sap 54 different times!



Above: A frosty collection day.  
Below: Familiar faces in the Sugar Shack

If you're interested in purchasing syrup, feel free to reach out. Bottles are \$15 and are selling quickly. Staff are typically available Tuesday-Friday from 8 am-5 pm. Please call us at 262-552-8196 when you arrive to arrange a sale!

Thanks again to everyone who helped out and made this one of the best seasons ever!



Above: A successful bottling session  
Below: Ginger testing another batch.



## Maple Sugarin' 2026

### BY THE NUMBERS...

- 1500 Gallons of Sap Collected
- 33 Gallons of Syrup Produced
- 526 Bottles Bottled
- 66 Volunteers
- 54 Sap Collection Shifts
- 115 Gallons in a Single Collection



## Dr Clifton Peterson 1927-2026

Hawthorn Hollow is sad to share that long time Hyslop Foundation Board Member and Hawthorn Hollow supporter Dr. Clifton Peterson passed away earlier this year. Dr Peterson, a renowned orthopedic surgeon who was trained at the Mayo Clinic, knew Ruth & Margaret Teuscher, founders of Hawthorn Hollow, well and even performed house calls at the Teuscher House. Dr. Peterson served on the Board of Directors of the Hyslop Foundation for several decades, recently as an Emeritus member. He also has generously sponsored the 1847 one-room schoolhouse's maintenance since 1996.

Dr. Peterson also was a member of the Rotary Club, the Masonic Lodge, Kenosha Public Library, the Kenosha Public Museum, the Danish Brotherhood, and numerous professional and medical organizations & associations.

The Hyslop Foundation thanks Dr. Peterson and his wife Gladys for their generous support & guidance.



Gladys & Dr. Clifton Peterson

## Michael Schumacher 1950-2025



Michael Schumacher

We regret to relate author and Kenosha mainstay Michael Schumacher passed away late last year. Schumacher had been a supporter of Hawthorn Hollow for many years, including authoring Just Wild Land, the story of the Teuscher Sisters and Hawthorn Hollow (available for purchase in the Two Sister's Boutique).

Michael also spent many years volunteering at the Walk in the Woods Art Fair, helping with parking and at the info tent.

Schumacher wrote a number of well-regarded books about Great Lakes shipwrecks as well as renowned biographies of Phil Ochs, Eric Clapton, Francis Ford Coppola, and many others. Dharma Lion, his 1992 biography of Beat poet Allan Ginsberg, is considered his definitive work, and led to Schumacher editing a number of volumes of Ginsberg's journals and correspondence. He was a force of nature and will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

# Volunteer Spotlight

## Tom Grubb

This spring, our volunteer spotlight shines on Tom Grubb. A familiar face all across Hawthorn Hollow, Tom is famous for getting his hands dirty.



Tom roasting chestnuts at the Holiday Boutique

Tom's work as a geologist and in the water treatment industry has taken him all across the country, but for the last 28 years he has called Somers home, along with his wife, Friends of Hawthorn Hollow President Pam Grubb. "We discovered HH when we moved to Somers 28 years ago" Tom, said. "It's one of the most unique spaces in all of southeast Wisconsin!"

Tom finds it particularly rewarding to volunteer with the educational programs, saying "you gotta love the inquisitive minds of those school groups". He also enjoys helping out at events like the upcoming Birds & Plants sale on May 9, the Walk in the Woods Art Fair, Spooky Hollow, and the Pike River Benefit Concert Series. Tom is especially famous for roasting chestnuts at the Holiday Boutique on the first weekend of December.

"The Hollow is a hidden gem few seem to know about" says Tom. One of his favorite things about Hawthorn Hollow is watching the change of the seasons and how it affects the different ecosystems. "I love the spring pond frogs, summer prairie flowers, fall colors with the salmon run, and peaceful white winters along the frozen Pike Creek" he says.

In the end, it's the many different people who make Hawthorn Hollow truly special for Tom. "Staff and volunteers at HH are the best, they are like our second family" he said. The secret to success is to get involved. "Everyone should join the Friends of Hawthorn Hollow volunteer family and experience the camaraderie!" Thank you for all your support, Tom!

## 30 Years of Memorial Pavers

Hawthorn Hollow's Memorial Paver Brick program is turning 30 years old in 2026! Started as a Friends of Hawthorn Hollow project to restore the entrance to the Nature Center, the Paver Project has memorialized events like births, weddings, graduations, and deaths. For more info or to purchase a brick, please visit our website at [hawthornhollow.org/memorials](http://hawthornhollow.org/memorials).



Laying out the bricks, 1996

**HAWTHORN HOLLOW'S Pike River Benefit CONCERT SERIES**

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH FRIENDS OF HAWTHORN HOLLOW

**TRIP** Friday June 12

**EMPTY BOTTLE BOYS And ONE SHOT JANE** Friday July 10

**BEN and the MULWANA VILLAGE** Friday August 7

**ONE WAY OUT** A Tribute to the Allman Bros. Band Friday Sept. 25

**Crane Plumbing Services, LLC.**

**festivals** www.festfoods.com

**Alpaca Art** alpacaart.com

**impact** www.impactbybit.com

**MINDFUL YOGA** www.yogainmind.com

**KESSLERS CLOCK CO.** KESSLERSCLOCK.COM

**ECOHAUL WISCONSIN LLC** www.ecohaullc.com

**EQUINOX** www.equinox.com

**Design Partners INCORPORATED** www.designpartners.com

**DANIELS CONSULTING** www.daniels.com

**HAWTHORN HOLLOW NATURE SANCTUARY AND ARBORETUM**

ALL SHOWS 6PM TO 9PM  
ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT HAWTHORN HOLLOW  
\$15/PERSON AT GATE (CASH ONLY, PLEASE)  
FOOD & BEVERAGES AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE  
NO CARRY-INS

**The Shanty**

HAWTHORN HOLLOW'S

**Inspired by Nature CAMPAIGN**

JOIN OUR INSPIRED BY NATURE CAMPAIGN! USE THIS CODE TO DONATE!

SCAN ME!

**Join the Friends of Hawthorn Hollow Today!**

FRIENDS OF HAWTHORN HOLLOW