

# hinsdale furriers

33 East First Street  
Hinsdale  
Illinois 60521

Telephone: **630 323-1840**  
Facsimile: 630 323-4913  
Email: furs4u2@aol.com  
www.hinsdalefurriers.com

Summer '2000'

Dear Friends

**Hinsdale Furriers has started the new millennium with change.** One of the changes is personalized baby gear in the window! Many of you have stuck your head in and asked if we are still here. The answer is **YES the furs and leathers are still here along with the great service!** We have opened our doors to share space with Monograms and More (they were next door). Those of you from the Hinsdale area know all that is going on regarding the theatre building. To make a long story short: Sharon and Diane lost their lease and could not find anything affordable in town. I hated the idea of Hinsdale losing another small business (since 1/99 we have lost The Digs, Tommy R's, Burlington Coffee and the Little Book Shop to name a few). So, here we are sharing space. It is my belief that **Hinsdale needs small business to keep the quaint friendly atmosphere that makes shopping here so special.** Please visit with Sharon and Diane when you are in and help welcome them to our Hinsdale Furriers Family.

It seems that I always have to talk about the weather in this newsletter. Boy what an incredible spring! The winter was not too bad either. **Please remember you may not have used your coat very much but it still needs to be sent to summer camp.** Our vaults are 45 to 50 degrees and are humidity controlled. We clean our personal garments annually worn or not. The cleaning takes out any dust that zaps the natural oils. I know we have had a few mild winters, but please for the sake of your fur, if you did not have it cleaned last year **do it this year.** Your garment may not look dirty but it needs this conditioning to keep it soft and supple. Cleaning and glazing not only removes dust and dirt, but serves to preserve the pelts natural oils. These oils can not be replaced.

Are you getting tired of the coat or jacket that you have had for the last 10 years? Stop by and talk to me regarding refurbishing your garment! or see our refurbishing section on our Website. I have many ideas from vests to teddy bears!

Visit us at [www.hinsdalefurriers.com](http://www.hinsdalefurriers.com)

Please view our web site at [www.hinsdalefurriers.com](http://www.hinsdalefurriers.com). We have tried to put some very useful information along with beautiful pictures! Please send us an email after you cruise the site and let us know what you think.



**On a more personal note:** Many of you have met my husband Ray. He is the English bloke trying to find his way around town, picking up and delivering your garments. He is wonderful to help me during busy season and those of you who have been customers for awhile know that I like having a family member doing this job. If he seems flustered remember I wrote the directions and he might have been circling a while before landing on your drive. Please give him some encouragement. Last year, I rode side saddle now I am confident he will drive on the American side of the road. So he is out on his own.

Ray's daughter Sue came back from a ten-month stay in Australia and has redesigned our web site! I can't wait to get your feedback on it. Sue is an artist and graphic designer with a specialty in web design. She is now back in England starting up a Web design business there. She is very talented and lucky that she can take her work with her on the laptop with modem. She services her clients in Australia via modem.

We spent two days in my brother-in-law's photo studio in order to have the great photos on the web. As you can tell, I still believe in nepotism.



**Me receiving the JC Penny's Golden Corridor Volunteer of the Year Award.**

### **Fur prices...**

Some of the recent headlines in Fur World (weekly magazine for the fur industry):

Record Sable Prices At Russia Auction  
Spirited bidding at record prices left the shelves bare  
(speaking about the North American Fur Auctions)  
Boom time back in Asia causing Fur prices to rise

**I think you get the idea, the price of fur has risen about 30% for material. I suggest you have your appraisals re-done.**

### **The Customers Always Ask...**

**...It's been warm the last year so I hardly wore my fur. Do I still have to store my fur?**

Worn or not your garment should be stored in a fur vault every summer. Storage is the **most important** aspect of maintaining the long life of your fur. Hinsdale Furriers vaults are specially designed to give your fur the best environment possible. The temperature and humidity are automatically controlled. The airflow is specially designed so that the furs may BREATHE properly. Our vaults are also fireproof and have AAA security alarm certification.

**...Can't I just keep my furs at home in a cool space?**

Using air conditioning or a cedar closet will **not** protect your furs from drying out. When fur is not stored in a vault, natural oils dry out. The hair will become brittle and lose its luster. **Remember:** if the pelts dry out, rips and tears may start and these will **not** be able to be adequately repaired. The oils cannot be replaced!

**...I haven't been wearing my coat so why should I clean it?**

We clean our personal furs annually and **recommend annual cleaning** of your furs! **Don't** ever go more than every other year without cleaning. Your garment may not look dirty but it needs this conditioning to keep it soft and supple. Cleaning and glazing not only removes dust and dirt, but serves to preserve the pelts natural oils. (Consider the dust on the floor of your closet after a few months, this same dust permeates the pelts of your luxurious garment.)

**...Won't cleaning shorten the life of my fur?**

Cleaning and glazing will **not** damage your fur. Being a dry process, your garment will **not** shrink, discolor or change shape. Cleaning your fur will make it softer and shinier. Unfortunately, the cleaning process does **not** remove stains from the linings.

**...I want a new coat. What can I do with my old coat?**

Of course you can trade your old coat in toward a new one, but better than that, if the coat is still in good condition we can remodel it into a jacket or make a liner for a cloth coat. This past year we have done many remodels into jackets, swing coats and liners but we also made many vests, teddy bears, fur throws, pillows and more. We are happy to **re-furbish** your fur into something new and wonderful!

**...For those that asked!**

Howard is doing better and still working at Quill Corporation. Even with this sitting job he still has some problems with his feet!

## Calendar of Events

JUNE 17& 18	<b>HINSDALE FINE ARTS FESTIVAL</b> Saturday and Sunday in Burlington Park from 10:00am to 5:00pm.
JUNE 26- OCTOBER 9	<b>FARMERS MARKET</b> Mondays only 8:00am to 1:00pm in the parking lot directly behind our store.
JULY 1-JULY 4	<b>CLOSED FOR THE 4TH OF JULY WEEKEND</b> Have a safe holiday!
JULY 14& 15	<b>HINSDALE'S ANNUAL SIDEWALK SALE</b> We will be on the sidewalk with our new furs and leathers all with HOT prices!
JULY 17	<b>PRE-SEASON FUR AND LEATHER SALE</b>
AUGUST 15	Our new merchandise arrives daily. Stop in and have a look.
SEPTEMBER 2-4	<b>CLOSED FOR LABOR DAY WEEKEND</b> Have a safe holiday!
SEPTEMBER 11-22	<b>REMODEL SALE</b> 20% off read the refurbish article for some ideas or stop in for more!
SEPTEMBER 23	<b>HINSDALE'S ANNUAL MERCHANT GARAGE SALE</b> At the publics work garage from 9:00am - 5:00pm. We will be there with our furs and leathers.
SEPTEMBER 30	<b>CLOSED FOR ROSH HASHANAH</b>
OCTOBER 9	<b>CLOSED FOR YOM KIPPUR</b>
OCTOBER 28	<b>BOLEY FAMILY HALLOWEEN FESTIVAL</b> Costume parade thru downtown Hinsdale registration 12:15pm Parade begins at 1:00pm.
NOVEMBER 1-15	<b>SHEARED MADNESS</b> Take 25% off everything in the store and an additional 10% off sheared furs.
NOVEMBER 24	<b>HINSDALE CHRISTMAS WALK</b> 6:00-9:00pm. Enjoy the holiday cheer! Stop in and say hello. Meet Maggie the Clown and see her wonderful balloon creations or have your face painted.
NOVEMBER 25 - DECEMBER 5	<b>TAKE AN ADDITIONAL 10% DISCOUNT OFF ALL ACCESSORIES</b> (fur ear muffs, head bands, ponytail holders, scarves etc.)

## charity corner...

First I must thank all of you for the support you give me in supporting my favorite charities. Because of your support, I won the JC Penny's Golden Corridor Volunteer of the Year Award. I have now been entered into the national competition.

Updates on my 3 charities:

### **MADD (Mother's Against Drunk Driving)**

I am still speaking monthly for MADD at the Maywood courthouse. I tell the story of my loss to first time DUI offenders. It is emotionally draining but I feel it honors the lives of Linda, Jack, Nicca and Krista. It is hard to believe that this 4<sup>th</sup> of July it will be 3 years since they were killed in an alcohol related crash. Please, in their memory, do not get behind the wheel if you have had a drink. We are still selling Shayna note cards. They are \$2 a package of 8 and the proceeds go to MADD.

### **WINGS (Women In Need Growing Stronger)**

For those of you who are new to the Hinsdale Furriers family WINGS is a transitional housing program for homeless women and their children from the suburbs. Yes, there is homelessness in the suburbs.

I finished my 3<sup>rd</sup> term as president and have stepped down from that enormous job. In the past 12 months, WINGS has grown and developed into more than I could have dreamed. We were given the use of a home in Barrington and opened our new home in Schaumburg. We have expanded our child development and job training programs. We have bought a building in Palatine that will house our resale shop and offices. So drop off your donations. I will have receipts available and be happy to take the items in for you. Our resale shop will open this summer and we are in need of store fixtures and bags. If you know of a store going out-of-business, they may be willing to donate their fixtures, bags or leftover merchandise.

Many of you have asked what I will do, now that I am not president. I will be at work more often and see my husband a little more, and, I am most excited about striving for my dream. The WINGS Board has agreed that there is a lack of Safe Houses for women in the suburbs who need emergency shelter while fleeing a domestic violence situation. I am chairing that committee looking for a building, funding etc. I will keep you informed.

So, I am still busy with all my endeavors. Let me know about yours so I can support your work also!

### **Multiple Sclerosis (Joe Lessman MS Society)**

We are selling nuts and Entertainment Books to raise money to help find the cure. To all of you who purchase both these items at Hinsdale Furriers, thank you. The Joe Lessman group is a fundraising organization with all funds going to The National MS Society.

## Free and Easy Charitable Donations...

If you shop on the web there is an easy way to donate to your favorite charity. Go to the site 4mycommunity.com, search for your favorite charity (if you don't have one WINGS would appreciate becoming yours just search under zip code 60005 and other organizations). Then go into the site you like to shop at through this site and the charity gets approximately 7% of your purchase. The prices are the same no matter if you shop this way or by entering their site directly. I do all my office supply, Dell Computer, flowers, and book shopping this way. It is a great way to help a charity or schools raise funds without costing you an extra cent.

Bulk Rate  
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Permit No. 532

138 FIRST ST. HINSDALE, IL 60521  
hinsdale  
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**Fashion With Flair**

A little of everything is what is out there today. Some things are repeats of years past such as the fitted or princess style coat. Some are done with drawstrings so that they don't always have to be worn like that. Others are made to be always fitted at the waist with flair at the hips and below. As you and I know most people can not wear this style and feel that they look their best. So do not panic they still showed many full and swingy and a few straight-line styles.

Colors and sheared furs are still the rage. This year they have perfected dying techniques to make the fur look marbled, or having a hazy overcast. Designers have also sheared and dyed the long hair wild furs such as coyote or fox. This is a really different look. Come in later in summer or early fall and let us know your opinion.



Reversibles in both coats and jackets are more popular than ever. However, this year I saw many more items that reverse to their own leather. These are light weight, as they don't need a lining.

Fur accessories are being shown from flings and scarves to purses and muffs. Fur as trim on cloth, leather or silk coats and jackets not to mention on hats, gloves, scarves and evening dresses. I am pleased to say that fur has re-emerged as the fashion essential it is meant to be!



As always we carry both the classic and high fashion in fur and leather. Come in and browse, if you don't see what you are looking for just ask us, we may have it at Highland Park (our sister store). By sharing our inventory we are able to have more stock and keep our prices down. We are also happy to custom make most items. There is no extra charge for this service.