

Web report

6/11/2025

In late March 2025, HSLI's web provider, Dreamhost, ran an account audit and noticed that we had both Wordpress and website files outside of the Wordpress framework. The account type we were on is intended for Wordpress only. Our Wordpress installation is in a non-standard directory, so the standard audit didn't pick up the last modified date to notice that we were using Wordpress. The provider determined that we were not using Wordpress, deleted our Wordpress database, and moved us to a different plan. There was no change in cost.

The provider did not back up the Wordpress database before it was deleted. The database included the text of all posts and pages for the past 2 years of the website and Newsletter.

I did not have a recent database backup, because I honestly did not expect the provider to delete our database. I have backups of our files, but not the database itself. Under normal circumstances Dreamhost would be able to revert a deletion. When Dreamhost deletes the database this is not possible.

I have restored the site to where it was in February 2023, which was the most recent backup available. Unfortunately, several of our pages were created after February 2023. Internet Archive did a full capture of pages on the HSLI site on March 16, 2025, so I was able to re-create pages up to March 16, 2025.

Internet Archive did not capture all posts. As noted in the Newsletter Committee report, many posts were lost. I recreated all posts for HSLI-sponsored events that I could find in the Internet Archive.

There is now a nightly backup of the database that is stored in UpdraftPlus.

The quality of data provided by Google Analytics for pageviews continues to degrade and it is no longer reliable enough to report. Analytics seems to be recording visits from automated sources rather than people, and there is no way to filter the noise from the data. There were possibly 600 unique visitors to the HSLI site from June 2024 to June 2025. Analytics reports 5,790 sessions for the same period.