

**THE WHITE MEMORIAL CONSERVATION CENTER  
CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF DISCOVERING NATURE 1964 - 2014**

# SANCTUARY

Newsletter of the  
White Memorial  
Conservation Center  
Vol. XXXII No. 1  
Winter 2014

**Museum Hours:**

Monday - Saturday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Sunday 12 p.m. - 5 p.m.

**For Information**

Phone: 860-567-0857  
E-Mail: [info@whitememorialcc.org](mailto:info@whitememorialcc.org)  
Website: [www.whitememorialcc.org](http://www.whitememorialcc.org)



*Dashing through the snow! Photo credit: Leo Kulinski, Jr.*

## THE WHITE MEMORIAL CONSERVATION CENTER - The First 50 Years 1964 -2014 By Keith Cudworth, Executive Director, The White Memorial Foundation

Through most of its early decades, White Memorial's mission focused on conservation, recreation, and, to a lesser extent, research. That all changed in 1956. In that year the White Memorial Foundation hired a conservationist, Gordon Loery, and decided to convert part of Whitehall, the Whites' former summer residence, into a "Trailside Museum." This new use for Whitehall was important in the decision to not demolish the building. In disrepair, part of the building was removed and a proposal was made to raze the entire structure. Instead, becoming a museum gave the building a new life.

Over the next few years the interest in the need for environmental education increased, and in 1963 a group, Friends of the White Memorial Foundation, was formed to oversee the new Museum and to involve and interest the public in all that White Memorial had to offer. In that same year, the

Foundation formed a new corporation, The Litchfield Nature Center and Museum (LNCM). This offshoot of the Foundation held its organizational meeting on March 27, 1964, and was formed as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit.

Thus began a new and very exciting time for the Foundation. Nature had much to offer the public, and White Memorial was going to do what it could to educate people about natural history.

The Friends group took over much of the management of the new museum and in 1965 changed their name to The Friends of the Litchfield Nature Center and Museum. In 1966, William Mitchell Van Winkle, President of Foundation Board of Trustees, wrote, "Our decision to turn over to Friends the responsibility for planning and implementing one of the Foundation's most important programs, Education, was based on the feeling

that in this field the contribution, personal and financial, of people, particularly Friends, would be most helpful and useful". The Museum Policy Committee of the Foundation, however, continued to have oversight of the Museum's activities, and as the Friends did not have adequate funds, the Foundation allocated necessary monies for operations and for the hiring of staff. With funds from the Foundation, the Museum's first Director, Grace Palmer, was hired on October 1, 1966.

Those early years of the LNCM saw the

filling a need, and even in 1967, 11,000 people attended LNCM programs or visited the Museum. In 1971 the group purchased several portable classrooms to further educational opportunities, siting them in the area now occupied by the Mott-VanWinkle Center. The first program in these new facilities was called Ecology and Environmental Problems, co-sponsored by the Eastern Connecticut State University and Federated Garden Clubs of Connecticut.

Over the years, the Friends group also

created the Museum's Nature Library and published booklets on trails and the natural areas, as well as the *Outlook*, a newsletter that was the precursor to *Sanctuary*, the current quarterly newsletter. What is now the Annual Family Nature Day began as a two-day Friends Nature Fair. The group also provided funding to support the LNCM.

In 1978, the LNCM changed its name to the White Memorial Conservation Center, Inc. (WMCC). That same year Loery became the Center's Research Director, and Jeffrey Greenwood, who was hired the year before, took over as Assistant Director and Naturalist. Gene F. Marra, Executive Director of the Foundation, served as its Executive Director.

While much remained the same, the Center began looking to the future. A study was initiated that resulted in the development of a Master Plan for the property. The renovations of the Museum and the Carriage House in the early 1980s grew out of this plan. A capital fund drive was also launched to help pay for these renovations, and a joint fundraising program was started with the Friends group. The Center continued to evolve.



establishment of many programs that have continued to this day. In 1964, Gordon Loery, still employed as the Foundation's Conservationist, also became the Director of the Natural History Camp. During those first years the camp served students in grades two through five, and those same programs are still a part of White Memorial's summer offerings.

Education and the operation of the Museum, though the major focuses of LNCM, were not the only ones. Research had been conducted on White Memorial property for years, much of it by the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station. To augment this work, in 1965 White Memorial started a scientific research program.

The Friends group continued to run most of the day-to-day operations of the LNCM and also looked at increasing their presence as a conservation education center. They were

*Continued on page 2*

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By 1981 the Center Board, though they proposed to expand the work of the Friends group, wanted increasing oversight of the workings of all aspects of WMCC. That same year, the Center started its own membership drive, by which all Friends members automatically become WMCC members, and an Education Committee for the Center was formed.

After careful examination, by the Center staff and the board, it was realized that it would be more efficient for the Center to take over all aspects of running the Museum and its education programs. By 1982 the nearly 20-year relationship with the Friends ended.

By 1984 both the Museum and Carriage House renovations had been completed, and two new buildings had been erected on the site that once housed the portable classrooms. The Carriage House, previously home to the Foundation office and stored equipment, was renovated as a residential facility. With an auditorium for 200 people and dormitories for up to 60, the building was designed to be used year round. The new Mott-Van Winkle Center included a classroom building, a screened-in

structure known as the Meeting Barn, and a fireplace built in memory of University of Connecticut Professor Raymond Kienholz. In addition to being rented out to the public for events, the Mott-Van Winkle Center has been the site of the Center's summer Nature Adventurers program.

By the late 1980s the Center was again looking to the future. Staff, board members, and the public formed a long-range planning committee to review the areas of staffing, equipment, and facilities. The plan, which was presented to the Board in 1988, outlined proposed changes. Much of what has transpired since has been an outgrowth of that plan. Of particular importance was the need to focus on the funding of the organization at higher levels, which resulted in the Center's second capital fund drive. By February 1991, \$480,000 had been raised.

Staffing was a critical issue addressed by the Long Range Planning Committee. Levels in the 1980s were such that the two professional staff members spent a considerable amount of their time manning the gift shop and answering visitor questions. This, of

course, limited the time they could spend on education and research projects. There was an evident need for additional administrative staff, as well as professional educational and research staff. The staff has since grown to fill these needs, from three employees in the 1980s, to the current four full-time and several part-time positions.

Improvements to the Museum itself-- offices, equipment, and the gift shop -- was another need emphasized by the Committee. Much was implemented with an initial renovation in 1991, which led to the major renovation undertaken in 1997- 98. It was determined that the Museum should offer a glimpse of the natural diversity visitors could find outdoors on the White Memorial Foundation's 4,000 acres and what processes were at work to create the land as we now see it. Armed with a script penned by White Memorial's staff, the firm of Harrison Jenkins Design, working with general contractor Frank Fisher and Sons, completed the two year project in 1998.

*Continued on page 4*

## MAKE A DIFFERENCE

In her continuing series, Zoë Greenwood helps you find small ways to help the environment

I don't usually write about something for this article that I haven't tried myself...many times, in fact. This is different. I got the idea from a good, trusted friend named Jamie and he wouldn't steer me wrong. We were talking about alternatives to plastic wrap and he mentioned that he had seen an article/idea on the internet. Beeswax food covers. Apparently, making beeswax covers is easy and fun. I can't honestly say it is true, I haven't done it yet. The covers can be used many, many times and when finally "worn out", can be re-melted and made into new covers. You can't wash them in hot water or microwave them, of course, but you can use them for pretty much anything. You can also make beeswax covered fabric that will reportedly keep a sandwich fresh for more than a day. You can mold the fabric with your hands to make it stay the shape you prefer. Seems like this might be a good rainy day project or make a fine gift for someone you care about. Okay, maybe that is a little far out for you and yours. But, what *can* we use to cover leftovers that is not plastic wrap? In fact how about using no plastic at all? This is not to say that if you already have a horde of plastic food storage containers, you should not use

them. It is to say only that there is *another* way. In fact, there are many other ways. When you have tired of using the aforementioned plastic tubs and have *recycled* them, you can still have decent food storage. Such was the way for many years before the advent of plastic. Heck, I even remember when bleach was sold in brown glass bottles. Yes, I am that old.

Leftover jars from jelly and spaghetti sauce, etc. make wonderful leftover containers. They are free and easy to use. The same is true of canning jars, although they aren't free. You can get them with wide mouths that are even easier to fill. The rings and lids can be used again and again. All kinds of jars are dishwasher safe, including the covers, lids and rings. These all have the added advantage of you being able to see just what is in the container at a glance. I use jars of all sizes and shapes to store foodstuffs in my kitchen cupboards. Everything looks nice and tidy then, as well.

Another easy and foolproof way of covering leftovers is with a simple plate on a bowl. Look in your cupboards and you will probably find at least several mixing bowls. Take them out and size them up with your regular

everyday dishes. Chances are one or more of the bowls will work with one or more of the plates. This is also handy for stacking bowls in the frig.

But, why is this such a big thing? Why am I writing a whole article on alternate methods for food storage? Well, fully 10 per cent of the oil that is produced, about two million barrels a day, goes into the manufacture of plastic. Oil is a limited resource. When it is gone, it is gone. It seems like we might decide to use it in a wiser manner. Roughly four billion plastic bags end up as litter every year causing an unsightly mess as well as sea turtle and other marine animal deaths because the animals mistake the bags for food. Only about 5.7 % of the plastic manufactured is recycled. While not all of it is used to wrap your lunch, some of it is, and it is estimated that it will take 1000 years to biodegrade.

Lastly, because it is a really easy way to *make a difference.*



## 24th Annual Museum Sleep-In

Friday, April 25 5:00 P.M. to Saturday, April 26, 12:00 Noon  
Members \$55.00 Non-Members \$75.00

Call the Museum 860-567-0857 for a registration form or visit our website



## SOMETHING BIG!!! THE 32ND ANNUAL FAMILY NATURE DAY!

Jamie Fischer had a premonition at around 9AM the morning of the 32nd Annual Family Nature Day. "I'm nervous. I think this is going to be huge." But Jamie was spot on. The gates opened at 11AM and the parade began until at 5PM the clicker read 1666, the highest attendance ever in the history of Family Nature Day..far exceeding 2012's record of 1274.

Of course, having the most spectacular day helped our cause. The lawns around the museum buzzed with activities. Twenty-one vendors clogged the Foundation office lawn selling all sorts of wonderful handcrafted items. The craft tent hosted non stop action, the Cedar Room lawn was chock full of interesting tables manned by our sister organizations, the Red-Eye photo booth was a nice new addition to the day. We had llamas. We had alpacas. We had horses, ducks, owls, arthropods, raptors, porcupines, bats, reptiles, and world class music. The Litchfield Lions doled out hot dogs and toasted cheese sandwiches and our coffee vendor, Take This Cup, sold out of baked items a couple of times. All 700 raffle tickets were sold and three happy campers paddled away in gorgeous kayaks!

The Conservation Center Staff and the Education & Activities Committee are deeply grateful to **Northwest Community Bank, Litchfield Bancorp, Krummi Travel LLC, Thomaston Savings Bank Foundation, Walmart, and an anonymous donor** as well as a legion of volunteers for their generous contributions which fueled our monumental event!



*And the band played on.....  
Photo credit: Katherine Griswold*



I prefer winter and fall,  
when you feel the bone  
structure of the landscape.  
Something waits beneath it;  
the whole story doesn't show.

~ Andrew Wyeth



Have you signed up for our  
weekly email newsletter  
The Habitattler?

[info@whitememorialcc.org](mailto:info@whitememorialcc.org)

## WHITE MEMORIAL CONSERVATION CENTER ANNOUNCES ANNUAL YEAR-END APPEAL

2014 marks the 50th Anniversary of The White Memorial Conservation Center. We believe in our hearts that Alain and May White are smiling down on us as we strive daily to fulfill their vision of inspiring children and adults to explore the extraordinary wonders that exist in their own backyards through our research, conservation, and education efforts. We do hope YOU feel the same!

Our 2013 calendar was embellished with some of your old favorites like the Woodcock Cocktail Party, The Celebration for Bats, and moonset sunrise hikes, watercolor classes, star parties, musical coffee houses, and wildlife tracking programs. We really kicked it up a notch for the White Memorial Foundation's 100th Anniversary with the All White Dinner and a visit from a startlingly beautiful Snowy Owl,. The energy on hand at the once in a century BioBlitz should have been bottled! A whimsical boat parade and high tea on Chickadee Bridge was supported by a most enthusiastic crowd. In August a reading of *Through the Looking Glass* which was actually adapted by the

Whites, charmed us to bits and begged for an encore performance at Nature Day! The huge success of The Amazing Race in October secured its place as an annual event! Our beautiful and compelling Braille Trail project was completed. There simply is not enough time in a calendar year for us to pack in what we have up our sleeves for you! If there is something you would like to see on our calendar just give us a call or email: [info@whitememorialcc.org](mailto:info@whitememorialcc.org) !

**Enclosed in this newsletter is a contribution card and envelope. A donation, no matter how small, will indicate that we are serving your interests in the best possible way.**

You can also support the Conservation Center throughout the year with **Planned Giving** and by using **Sterling Planet**. Information is available through our website or call for details!

The Center Staff thanks you for your kind support. We wish you very happy holidays and hope to see you frequently in 2014 as we launch into the 50th Anniversary of The White Memorial Conservation Center!

## THE WHITE MEMORIAL CONSERVATION CENTER - The First 50 Years 1964 -2014

*Continued from page 2*

Much of the interior display area of the building was redesigned, with only the staircase, which dated back to the time of the Whites, and the original Museum hand-painted dioramas, left intact. These outstanding dioramas, which depict actual sites at White Memorial, were painted in 1963 by Perry Wilson, who was assisted by Ruth Billard, a state wildlife biologist. Mr. Wilson is known for his pioneering work on similar displays at the American Museum of Natural History in New York City and the Peabody Museum at Yale. Also, in the 1998 renovation, an addition was built on to the west side of the Museum, and a new education room was constructed. This room is named after Arthur B. Ceder, the Superintendent of the White Memorial Foundation from 1945 to 1969.

With a cost of over one million dollars, this project would not have been possible without the financial support of many. Over 160 individuals and businesses supported the work, and grants were secured from several organizations. A list of the major grantors can be seen on the donor board located inside the Museum's entrance.

Today, the White Memorial Conservation Center, which is 50 years old, continues to do much of what it was originally incorporated to do. A 501(c)(3) Public Charity, the Center's Museum was visited by 6,755 children and adults, and over 7,100 attended one of the Center's education programs in 2011. In addition to Connecticut residents, visitors have come from over 41 other states and 27 countries. An organization such as WMCC could not exist without the help and support of

its members, which, as of 2011, numbered over 1,700. Though most are from Connecticut, the Center's membership also includes residents from 20 other states and the District of Columbia. In addition to financial support, each year well over 100 members volunteer by helping at the Museum, teaching education programs, serving on a committee, or assisting with one or more research projects.

### Challenges and Opportunities in Our 50<sup>th</sup> Year

Over the past 50 years the Center has provided quality programs and a Museum to teach us about our local natural history, with the idea that if we provide the best then people will flock to our doors. They did once, but that seems to be less true in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century where over the past decade we have seen eroding membership, fewer visitors to the Museum, and decreases in education programs: a similar trend seen by many non-profits. So, this year, on the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the White Memorial Conservation Center we are going to take a look at what we are, how we are perceived, and how we might change this trend. People have many options of where to spend their time and who and what to support, and are limiting that support to organizations where they are getting a direct benefit. Often we hear from past members that they didn't renew their membership because their children have grown so they do not need a discount on programs or are not using the trails as much. How do we stress the importance of nature and environmental education and the benefits of

supporting the organization for the greater good? Not an easy task.

On a visit to the White Mountains of New Hampshire a few years ago, I spent a number of nights in the Appalachian Mountain Club's (AMC) hut system. One discussion, over the dining table at Galehead Hut, was with a hiker from the Midwest who was section hiking the Appalachian Trail. He was considering supporting AMC but as he didn't live in the area he was unsure what benefits he would derive by being a member. I asked him to look at it in a different way. I am an AMC member who may visit no more than once a year but still feel it is important to support the organization. Not for what I get out of it but for what AMC does in education, research and trail maintenance that benefits everyone. To me it is important to support what they do for everyone and not just what I can get out of it. He seemed to understand and at the time was planning to become a member.

Over the next year we hope to get our supporters to also look at the Conservation Center in the same way. It is great if you get a direct benefit such as a program or camping discount, but even if you don't please look at what the Center stands for and what it does to "inspire understanding, appreciation and respect for the nature world".

*Note: Much of this article is an excerpt from the book *The White Memorial Foundation The First 100 Years The legacy of Alain and May White*, by Keith Cudworth, 2013. It is available for purchase in the Museum Gift Shop.*

## Stormwise Project at White Memorial: Winter 2013

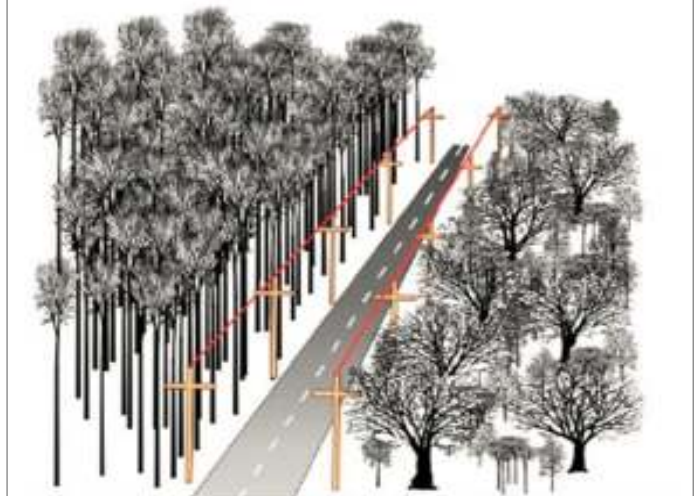
by Lukas Hyder, WMF Forest Superintendent

After the widespread power outages following the major storms (Hurricane Irene and the October snowstorm in 2011 and Hurricane Sandy in 2012), Governor Malloy & Daniel Esty of DEEP formed the Two Storm Panel and the State Vegetation Management Task Force to look at ways to reduce problems like this in the future. One outcome of this panel is described below and White Memorial will play a part.

The State of Connecticut has received a grant from the US Forest Service for a project called **"Stormwise": An innovative approach to forest stewardship, public outreach and stakeholder collaboration at the landscape scale.** The grant will be worked collaboratively by the CT Agricultural Experiment Station (CAES)

and UCONN and has the support of both CT-DEEP Forestry Division and the utility companies. The study will look at ways of creating a "storm resistant" forest along our roadways which support power transmission lines. This will be achieved by a combination of arboriculture and forest management. Trees along the power lines will be pruned, trimmed or cut and an approximately 100' corridor of forest adjacent to the power lines will be managed to increase the tree spacing. The goal will be to end up with a stand of shorter trees with broader crowns and well developed root systems such as trees grown in fields that will withstand storm events.

*Continued on page 5.*



Unmanaged roadside forest with tall trees susceptible to storm damage and with few small trees and shrubs.

"Storm-resistant" forest with trees that have thick trunks and are wide rather than tall; interspersed shrubs and tall trees.

Note: Utilities are shown on both sides of the street for illustrative purposes.

## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

### ELLA KNOX

STORY AND PHOTO BY GERRI GRISWOLD

The Conservation Center has an unbelievable palate of colorful volunteers but the Master of the Arts is Ella Knox. Multi talented Ella has been a fixture on White Memorial's Education and Activities Committee for a dozen years.

On a personal note, she has been a fixture in my life for even longer as the owner of Ella's Limited in Bantam. Ella happens to be not just an incomparable artist..she is ..honestly..the best darned framer on the planet!

Ella Knox moved to Litchfield when she was nine years old. Her parents settled on South Lake Street and here began her love affair with nature and White Memorial. She attended Litchfield High School. Walking to school with her twin brother, Ella would point things out to him in nature. "How do you see these things?", he asked. Knox really enjoys making people see "what they would normally pass by". "I wish more people would take time out to see what they are missing!", says Knox. As a teen Knox would pack a lunch in her backpack and wander the trails of the Foundation alone. One of her very favorite spots is Plunge Pool.

Ella's grandparents nurtured the artist in her at a very early age. When she was just seven Knox began hand crafting Christmas cards for them. Twenty-five cards were produced the first year.

Production became easier when her grandfather presented Ella with a silk screen. Knox has produced her own Christmas cards ever since.

So talented was Ella that in 1976 she was accepted into the prestigious Cooper



*Natural Beauty: Ella Knox*

Union in New York City. At the time those who were accepted into this venerable institution did so at no cost. Those of us who are familiar with Knox's beautiful landscapes will be interested to know that she has evolved into this genre. "Out of college I did characters..very loose...very inspired by Daumier. Figures tend to make a painting very romantic so I took figures out of my landscapes."

Ella is married to Litchfield native Bob Knox who grew up in Litchfield on

Knox Road. Ella and Bob have occupied their home on Maple Street for thirty years "We are blessed to be able to live in this town." They had two daughters, Chelsea and April, and would take their girls in their strollers all over our 4,000

acres, to the Museum Sleep-Ins, to look at pollywogs. One day Education Director Jeff Greenwood called Knox and asked if she would be interested in being on the Education and Activities Committee. Every year we know Ella will teach beautiful workshops and supply the Sleep-In attendees with delicious blueberry muffins! She has been most generous in donating artwork to our Silent Auction table for Family Nature Day and the bidding is always very heated!!!

What does she do in her spare time? "I do love my business and love working with people and their amazing art." Ella also takes what little time she has to hike in White's Woods, "For me, that's peace." Every September for the past 32 years, the Knox Family retreats to Maine...in the beginning Booth Bay but for many years now to Acadia.

The Conservation Center thanks you, Ella for your dedication and for the pure joy and beauty you share with the world through your art and through who you are: a living, breathing masterpiece.



## Stormwise Project

*Continued from page 4*

As part of the grant, the CAES will implement eight demonstration sites throughout the state, one per county. White Memorial will be the Litchfield County site and the first demonstration area. The site is located east of Route 63 in Morris, north of the Beaver Pond trail and west of the Heron Pond foot trail, and was chosen because of its visibility and accessibility. As trees can reach heights in excess of 100', the management area will extend at least that far from the power lines. A mature forest in the Northeast typically has 60-100 upper canopy trees per acre, and within the study area, the numbers will be reduced to 30-40 trees per acre. The remaining trees will be well spaced to encourage broad crowns, shorter heights, and well developed root systems with a shrub understory.

In November of 2013 CAES and WMF staff will inventory the site to get pre-treatment data. Then the site will be marked for harvest.

During the winter, the WMF crew will harvest the marked trees creating the "Stormwise" demonstration area. There will be a post treatment inventory and monitoring, and the site will then be used to educate landowners as well as utilities and municipalities, to show what can be done to create a forest that is aesthetically pleasing, yields Connecticut Grown forest products, protects the power lines, and creates income.

As you travel the highways and byways this winter and beyond, you will know what is going on in one small corner of White Memorial. For further information see the following recently created website <http://www.stormwise.uconn.edu/index.htm>.





# Winter Calendar of Events

For more information on any of our programs, please call us at 860-567-0857

## JANUARY

1 **HAPPY NEW YEAR!**  
Museum Closed

2014!

4 **Nature as Healer**

Marlow Shami teaches you about the challenges and rewards of connecting with nature as an adult! 2:00 P.M., A. B. Cedar Room



5 **Wildlife Tracking at White Memorial**

Three Red Trees School of Natural Living instructors, Andrew Dobos and Deneen Bernier take you wildlife tracking through the winter woods. Meet at the Museum. 10:00 A.M.



11 **Family Ice Fishing Workshop**

CT DEEP Fisheries experts teach you everything about water, fish & fishing, how to think like a fish and have some safe fun! An outstanding opportunity to learn from the best in the classroom and on the ice! Bring a lunch and dress for the weather! **FREE admission.** Pre-registration required. 10:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

A. B. Cedar Room and Ongley Pond



11 **Owl Prowl with Fran Zygmunt**

Talk and walk! Limited to 20 participants ages 12 and up. 7:00 P.M., A. B. Cedar Room. Pre-register by calling 860-567-0857.



12 - 18 **Museum Children Free Week\***

Courtesy of Mr. & Mrs. John Morosani  
In Memory of Remy Edmund Morosani

17 **Museum Cleaning Party**

Many hands make lighter work  
Dinner Bribe! 6:00 P.M.  
Call 860-567-0857 to volunteer.



18 **Winter Tree Identification with WMF Forest Superintendent Lukas Hyder**

Meet in the Museum parking lot. 10:00 A.M.

18 **White Birds: The Gyr Falcon and Snowy Owl with Brian Bradley**  
See page 7  
for details and registration.



18 / 19 **Winter Wildlife Tracking Class**  
See page 7  
for details and registration.



20 **Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**  
Museum Closed

\* Free admission to Children ages 12 and under when accompanied by an adult.

25 **Cut It Out! The Local History and Practice of Ice Harvesting**

Ice once harvested from Bantam Lake was used throughout the year! Visit the Museum display on ice harvesting, walk to the old ice house ruins, and watch Jeff Greenwood and James Fischer demonstrate ice cutting the old fashioned way! **Dress for the weather!** Please pre-register. 11:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M., Meet in the Museum.

26 **Cross Country Ski Trip to Cranberry Pond and the Cathedrals with Robyn Dinda**  
10:30 A.M., Meet at Webster Road. For more information call Robyn at 860-567-0738.

## FEBRUARY

1 **Wildlife Tracking at White Memorial**

Three Red Trees School of Natural Living instructors, Andrew Dobos and Deneen Bernier take you wildlife tracking through the winter woods. Meet in the Museum. 10:00 A.M.



8 **New England Snowscape in Watercolor with Betsy Rogers-Knox**  
See page 7 for details and registration.



8 **Wildlife Tracking at White Memorial**

Three Red Trees School of Natural Living instructors, Andrew Dobos and Deneen Bernier take you wildlife tracking through the winter woods. Meet in the Museum. 10:00 A.M.



15 **Connecticut Reptiles with Brian Kleinman**  
See page 7 for details and registration.

16-22 **Museum Children Free Week\***  
Courtesy of The Laurel Ridge Foundation  
In Memory of Francesca M. Thompson, M.D.

17 **Presidents Day**  
Museum Closed

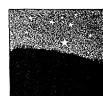


18 **School Vacation Day Programs**  
Call the Museum in mid-January  
for details 860-567-0857.

22 **Discovering the Bewitching Witch Hazel with David K. Leff**  
See page 7 for details and registration.



28 **Star Party!**  
Program and star gazing.  
7:00 P.M., A. B. Cedar Room.



## MARCH

1 **Wildlife Tracking at White Memorial**



Three Red Trees School of Natural Living instructors, Andrew Dobos and Deneen Bernier take you wildlife tracking through the winter woods. Meet in the Museum. 10:00 A.M.

1 **"A Night at the Museum"**  
An Evening Celebrating  
The 50th Anniversary  
of The White Memorial Conservation Center  
With Jeff Greenwood and Randy Gilman  
See page 7 for details and registration.

2 - 8 **Museum Children Free Week\***

Courtesy of Arthur and Tara Stacom Diedrick  
in Honor of Claire and Matthew Stacom

8 **Wildlife Tracking at White Memorial**



Three Red Trees School of Natural Living instructors, Andrew Dobos and Deneen Bernier take you wildlife tracking through the winter woods. Meet in the Museum. 10:00 A.M.

15 **EARLY Owl Prowl with Fran Zygmunt**



Limited to 20 brave souls  
ages 12 and up. 5:30 A.M.,  
Meet at the A. B. Cedar Room  
Pre-register by calling 860-567-0857.

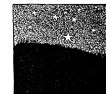
15 **How Sweet it Is! Road Trip to a Local Sugarhouse with Gerri Griswold**  
Details in January!



22 **Early Spring Walk to the Cathedrals**  
Gerri Griswold leads the way!  
2:00 P.M. Meet in the Museum.

23-29 **Museum Children Free Week\***  
In Memory of Louise W. Willson

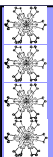
28 **Star Party!**  
Program and star gazing.  
7:00 P.M., A. B. Cedar Room.



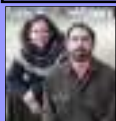
29 **Early Spring Walk to Apple Hill and Cat Swamp with Gerri Griswold**  
2:00 P.M. Meet in the Museum.



"Are ye the ghosts of fallen leaves,  
O flakes of snow, For which, through  
naked trees, the winds A-mourning go?  
~ John B. Tabb



## Adult Nature Study Workshops and Saturday Workshops: Winter 2014



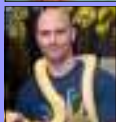
**Winter Wildlife Tracking Class**  
Saturday, January 18, 2014, 6:00 P.M., A. B. Cedar Room  
Sunday, January 19, 2014, 10:00 A.M.  
Registration Fee: Members: \$45.00 Non-Members: \$55.00



**White Birds: The Gyrfalcon and Snowy Owl**  
Saturday, January 18 2014  
12:00 P.M., A. B. Cedar Room  
Registration Fee: Members: \$20.00 Non-Members: \$25.00



**New England Snowscape in Watercolor with Betsy Rogers-Knox**  
Saturday, February 8, 2014  
1:30 P.M. - 4:00 P.M. A. B. Cedar Room  
Registration Fee: Members: \$35.00 Non-Members: \$45.00



**Connecticut Reptiles: Snaking Their Way into Your Heart**  
Saturday, February 15, 2014  
2:00 P.M., A. B. Cedar Room  
Registration Fee: Members: \$15.00 Non-Members: \$20.00



**Discovering the Bewitching Witch Hazel: A Healing Wonder**  
Saturday, February 22, 2014,  
1:00 P.M., A. B. Cedar Room **INCLUDES LUNCH!**  
Registration Fee: Members: \$20.00 Non-Members: \$25.00



**Night at the Museum: Celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the WMCC**  
Saturday, March 1, 2014  
7:00 P.M., A. B. Cedar Room, **DINNER INCLUDED!**  
Registration Fee: Members: \$50.00 Non-Members: \$75.00

Andy Dobos and Deneen Bernier from Three Red Trees School of Natural Living present this two part program. Begin Saturday with a slideshow which will give you basic understanding of tracking wildlife. On Sunday you'll take to the trails in search of track and sign.

Brian Bradley soars into the Conservation Center with two of his most beautiful birds of prey! What characteristics define these two winter hunters? Wallow in the extraordinary experience of getting up close and personal with this great man and his amazing birds!

Shake off the winter blues! Learn to paint a winter scene in watercolor with internationally celebrated botanical artist Betsy Rogers-Knox. Step-by-step instructions, all levels welcome, ages 12 and up. Supplies included!

Brian Kleinman owner of *Riverside Reptiles* presents his latest DVD *Connecticut Reptiles* and introduces you to some of our native species in this two hour program. Show our most underappreciated yet greatly beneficial residents some love this Valentine's Day!

Author and environmentalist, David K. Leff exposes the secrets of this small tree which blooms with golden stars in the autumn. The plant's medicinal properties were handed down from Native Americans. Visit some Witch Hazel plants on our property and enjoy a delicious luncheon to boot!

Join WMCC Education Director Jeff Greenwood and artist Randy Gilman for cocktails in the Museum and learn all sorts of Museum trivia from Greenwood's 37 year service. Afterwards, celebrate the Conservation Center with a gala dinner prepared by Chef / Sommelier / Adventurer Horst Antosch and good old Gerri Griswold. Fancy dress optional!

Clip & Mail

\_\_\_ **Winter Wildlife Tracking Class**.....Member: \$45.00 Non Member:\$55.00  
\_\_\_ **White Birds**.....Member: \$20.00 Non Member: \$25.00  
\_\_\_ **New England Snowscape in Watercolor**.....Member: \$35.00 Non Member: \$45.00  
\_\_\_ **Connecticut Reptiles**.....Member: \$15.00 Non Member: \$20.00  
\_\_\_ **Discovering the Bewitching Witch Hazel**.....Member: \$20.00 Non Member: \$25.00  
\_\_\_ **Night at the Museum: 50th Anniversary Dinner**....Member: \$50.00 Non Member: \$75.00

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Please circle one: member non-member

Payment enclosed: Program fee: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Membership fee:\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Become a member of the White Memorial Conservation Center and take advantage of the member discount, along with free admission to the Nature Museum, a discount in the Gift Shop, and receipt of the quarterly newsletter and calendar of events. Your tax-deductible fee will help sponsor programs like these. A family membership is \$50.00 per year and individual is \$35.00.

**Make Check Payable to WMCC**  
**Mail to: WMCC**  
**P.O. Box 368, Litchfield, CT 06759**

**For more information call 860-567-0857.**



Nature now, like an athlete, begins to strip herself in earnest for her contest with her great antagonist Winter. In the bare trees and twigs what a display of muscle

~Henry David Thoreau



A Planned Gift  
can make a  
difference in your  
future  
and ours.

**www.whitememorialcc.org**

## **MUSEUM OPEN HOUSE**

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2013**

**6:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.**

**STROLL THROUGH THE MUSEUM.  
SIP MULLED CIDER. NIBBLE SWEET TREATS.  
WRAP UP YOUR HOLIDAY SHOPPING.  
TAKE 10% OFF ALL PURCHASES!**

### **OPEN HOUSE SPECIAL**

**BUY A NEW MEMBERSHIP FOR YOURSELF OR A LOVED ONE AND RECEIVE A FREE WMCC TOTE!**



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## **AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS**

### **The Great Outdoors**

**Grades 3 & 4:**

**Tuesdays, March 4, 11, 18, & 25**

**Grades 1 & 2:**

**Wednesdays, March 5, 12, 19, & 26**

**3:45 - 5:15 P.M.**

Details available in mid-February.  
Call the Museum for more information 860-567-0857  
Or visit us at [www.whitememorialcc.org](http://www.whitememorialcc.org)

This Holiday Season  
Give the Gift of Nature  
To Yourself or a Loved One.

Become a Member of  
White Memorial  
Conservation Center.



Individual Membership: \$35.00  
Family Membership: \$50.00

Call 860-567-0857  
or

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