

SANCTUARY

Newsletter of the
White Memorial
Conservation Center

Vol. XXVI No. 3
Summer 2008

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
Website: www.whitememorialcc.org



Velvet Underground: Hibernating Little Brown Bats
Photo Credit: Paul J. Fusco / CT DEP-Wildlife

What is Killing Our Native Bats?

by Jenny Dickson, Supervising Wildlife Biologist, *Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection*

There is a conservation crisis occurring in the Northeast. It snuck up on us quietly and with precious little warning. It's even one that most folks would over look, never quite putting the puzzle pieces together or sorting out how it impacts each of us. What is this crisis? Something called White Nose Syndrome (WNS) and it affects bats. While this problem has been given a name, the questions far outweigh answers.

During surveys of winter sleeping areas for bats (hibernacula) conducted by the New York biologists in 2007, a white fungus was observed on the noses, ears and faces of a small number of bats. Some dead bats were observed and New York alerted neighboring states to check their hibernacula for this odd fungus. Connecticut checked all sites and did not find anything unusual. No other reports were received from the Northeast region. New York biologists visited their hibernacula again in 2008 and were shocked at what they found. Thousands of affected bats, large numbers of dead and dying bats and many more impacted sites than in the previous year were observed. Bat biologists throughout the Northeast quickly began comparing notes and monitoring the hibernacula in their states. Unfortunately, New York's New England neighbors, Vermont,

Massachusetts, and Connecticut all confirmed the presence of this fungus in their hibernating bats.

This mysterious condition was named for the visible white fungus that has served as a noticeable indicator of something that has been responsible for the deaths of tens of thousands of bats in our region. New York, Vermont and Massachusetts have all observed thousands of bats coming out of hibernation in the winter cold, starving, and extremely dehydrated. These bats have made futile daytime attempts to find insects and have tried to lap snow to get some moisture. Few have survived.

While Connecticut did observe the fungus on bats at two hibernacula in Litchfield County, we luckily did not have early emergence of our bats or the high mortality rates seen in neighboring states. Our findings this year are consistent with what New York began observing in 2007 and it is likely that this is the first year of WNS in Connecticut.

So what exactly is it that is killing off the region's bats? Scientists still don't know. Bats that have succumbed to WNS have been examined by wildlife pathologists in many states and at a variety of academic institutions and federal laboratories. Despite these intensive efforts, answers have not been forthcoming. Theories abound

and range from pathogens, pollutants and pesticides to climate change. While laboratory testing continues, wildlife biologists in the region have been closely monitoring remaining bat populations as they emerged from hibernation.

Connecticut, along with other states in the Northeast, collected critical data on bat weights and overall health as they began to disperse for their summer homes. Fortunately, all of the bats examined in Connecticut have been well within normal weight ranges and have been behaving normally. Warm spring weather and the abundant populations of insects should help the bats replenish their fat reserves fairly quickly. So what does this mean for our Connecticut bats? The answer is complicated and the news is not good.

While the impacts observed in Connecticut have not been as severe as what has been observed in our neighboring states, it is important to remember that our wintering bat populations are very small compared to our summer populations. Many of the bats we see during a summer evening in Connecticut actually sleep the winter away in New York, Massachusetts, or Vermont. While our hibernacula have populations that range from a few hundred to a couple thousand

(continued on page 2)

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bats, some New York hibernacula have close to two hundred thousand bats at a single site. New York is estimating 90% mortality at impacted sites. Vermont and Massachusetts are also reporting very high mortality rates and the ripple effect on our summer bat populations could be phenomenal.

This is especially bad news for the federally and state endangered Indiana Bat. A species common to Connecticut until the 1950s, the Indiana Bat had made significant progress toward recovery. New York populations were expanding steadily and neighboring states were benefiting. Connecticut documented the return of small numbers of winter Indiana bats in the mid-1990s. Regional cooperative research projects had confirmed this special bat summering just over our border in New York.

Plans were in place to search suitable habitats along the border this summer in an effort to document the



Little Brown Bat with White Nose Syndrome (left)
Photo Credit: Paul J. Fusco / CT DEP-Wildlife

return of this endangered species to its historic summer home in Connecticut. The question now facing wildlife biologists is how many of these bats were able to simply survive.

The complexity and scope of this

conservation challenge is astounding. Bats are directly impacted and the ecosystem impacts have yet to be fully assessed. As the single largest predator of night-flying insects, bats have a tremendous ecological impact. They consume vast numbers of insects that are agricultural pests or that are negatively impacting forest health, not to mention some of the insects that annoy people on warm summer evenings. Connecticut will continue to work with other state wildlife agencies, the US Fish and Wildlife Service, the US Geological Survey, several major universities, and conservation organizations such as Bat Conservation International and the Northeastern Cave Conservancy to solve the WNS mystery. The future of many of the bat species found in the Northeast and the health of the ecosystems they live in is at stake.

Make a Difference

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

As I sit here writing this piece, it is raining. It's a long awaited rain. We have had none for a couple of weeks, and things were really beginning to dry out. It's too bad that we couldn't have stored some of the overabundance of rain that we got in early spring somehow. Remember, when your basement was flooded?

At the end of one of our downspouts, we have two fifty gallon wooden whiskey barrels, joined by a small piece of two inch hose. We have another set of barrels collecting water from the workshop roof. It is not uncommon for these barrels to fill during an average spring or summer storm. You will be amazed how fast the containers fill up. At the bottom of the barrels we have a short length of hose with a hook on the end. The hook is clipped to the top of the barrel when we want to hold the water in the barrel. When the hook is in the down position, we fill watering cans and buckets by gravity. We can hold two hundred gallons of water for use in the garden, never using water from our well, never having the pump run.

When our kids were small, we had a

less sophisticated system: we used an 18 inch deep children's pool. We covered the end of the downspout with a piece of old panty hose to keep roof debris out of the water. Happy hours and memories were spent in "nature's waterfall". In the late fall, don't forget to reconnect the downspout to the drain system so you don't have a problem with ice buildup.

The subject of rain barrels naturally leads me to gardens. It is a rare home that does not have at least a few annuals growing somewhere on the property. Perhaps you are not "into" veggie gardening. That's okay, because many veggies make excellent additions to the flower patch. Lettuce makes a wonderful edging plant. Basil is a terrific green or purple plant *and* has pretty flowers. Pole beans are easy to train on a trellis or deck railing. Tomato, pepper and cucumber plants make wonderful container plants. With a little creative thinking, you can add organic, home grown vegetables to your summer menu. What better way to make a difference than not having to go to the store for a tomato and lettuce for tonight's salad?

No gas, no lines, no hassle.

Knowing just how your food was grown and where it came from is a real plus.

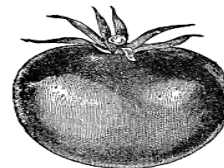
Of course, if you want to go all out, a vegetable garden is a wonderful addition to any home. It is a great place to teach children about life cycles and how nature works. No place is easier to teach them where their food comes from. Seeing "baby" beans take shape from flowers is a wonder, at any age.

You needn't plow up the south forty; a relatively small plot will produce a LOT of vegetables. Talk to your neighbors and agree to garden together, both of you growing different things. That way, you won't both be overloaded with tomatoes and zucchini.

Remember, many local organizations will take your excess vegetables. Don't forget area residential camps. We always bring a basket of fresh veggies to church.

Make a difference.

It is easier than you think.

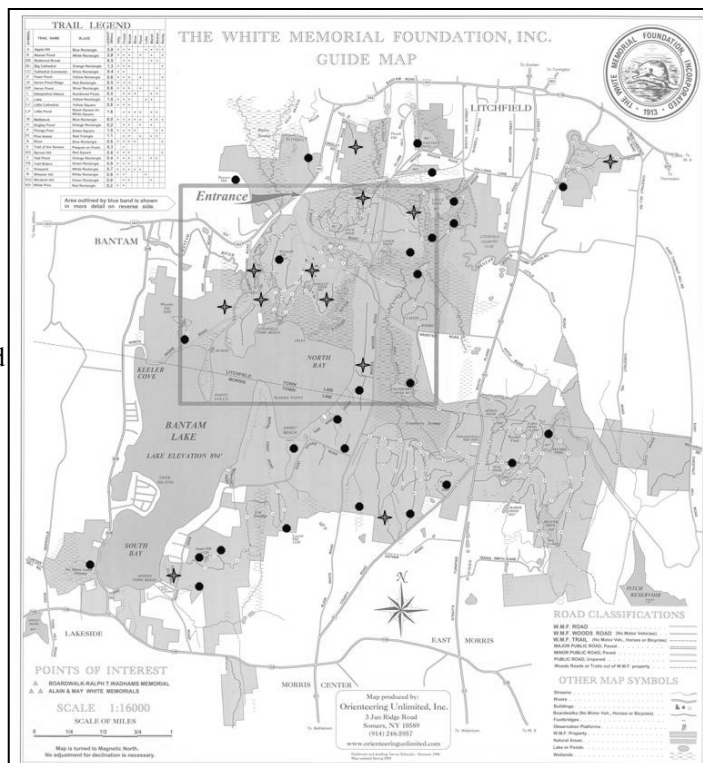


RESEARCH FORUM

by James Fischer, Wildlife Research Biologist

Jenny Dickson's cover story illustrates how an emerging conservation problem was recognized through long term monitoring projects and addressed by regional cooperation between government agencies. Bat mortality in general raises an alarm because bat populations take longer to rebound from disturbances than most other small mammals due to their long life spans and low reproductive rates. The cause or mechanism that spreads this mortality agent (White Nose Syndrome) has not been identified yet. Nevertheless, we know that any mortality in hibernacula could spell dire consequences for bat populations throughout the Northeast because bats travel long distances to use these isolated spots on the landscape. I applaud these conservation biologists' efforts and encourage all of you to do your part to conserve bats. Although White Memorial does not have property that serves as bat hibernacula, we initiated a project this past year to encourage bat populations that are directly impacted by White Nose Syndrome.

Bats use daytime roosts for raising pups, as refuge when bats are emerging after/before winter hibernation, or while migrating to/from their traditional breeding areas. White Memorial is constructing and installing several bat houses throughout the property. This conservation strategy ensures an optimal number of bat houses to raise pups in close proximity to appropriate habitat. We select open habitats so that the bat houses can receive enough sunlight and paint the houses black to raise the houses' inside temperatures to foster bats in this northerly climate. We install bat houses within 1/2 mile of water to provide adequate insects for food and fresh water to drink. Fortunately, White Memorial has several locations that meet these requirements. To date, 12 bat houses have been installed out of approximately 40 locations that have been identified as feasible sites for bat houses. We have also identified eight buildings that serve as viable bat roosts on or near the property. Of course many others could exist that we are not aware of, so please inform us of any other bat roosts. Evidence of bat usage has been observed in several of the bat houses, so the next phase needs to be initiated. We need to count the emergence of bats from bat houses that were installed while we continue installing more bat houses. The future of this project relies greatly on volunteers. We wish to encourage folks who want to count the emergence of bats from these structures (bat houses and buildings) to contact us so that we can provide you with directions and data sheets to record your observations.



Bat house locations on White Memorial Foundation property.
 (+) installed bat houses (•) sites deemed feasible for bat house

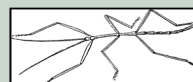
Emergence counts are conducted for approximately an hour at dusk and a final tally of bat usage is calculated to assess the productivity of this conservation strategy.

The installation of bat houses is a simple technique that more of us could utilize to encourage these misunderstood and underappreciated animals. If you are interested in installing bat houses in your yard please consult the CT DEP Wildlife Division website for the *Wildlife in Connecticut* Factsheet on *Bats* (www.ct.gov/dep) or Bat Conservation International's website (www.batcon.org). It is important to follow the directions carefully to ensure bats use your bat house, so if you have any questions please feel free to contact White Memorial or CT DEP, Wildlife Diversity Unit at Sessions Woods W.M.A. in Burlington.



Bantam Fuel * The Litchfield Inn * C&L Plumbing
 First National Bank of Litchfield * Northwest Corner Electric
 Litchfield Hills Audubon Society * Woods Pit BBQ
 Litchfield Ford * Frank E. Fisher & Sons, LLC
 * Litchfield Bancorp * Ericson Insurance Services, LLC
 S.H. Smith & Company * Webster Bank * White Flower Farm
 Towne & Aurell, Inc. * True Value Hardware of Litchfield
 Torrington Savings Bank

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Summer Calendar of Events

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

JUNE

- 28 **Nowhere is a Place: Chilean Patagonia**
Gerri Griswold takes you to one of the last great wildernesses on our planet. 10 A.M. A.B. Ceder Room

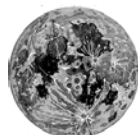
29-July 5 **Museum Kids Free Week***
In Memory of Louise W. Willson

JULY

- 4 **INDEPENDENCE DAY**
Museum Closed



- 5 **Take a Hike! with Desiree Fontaine from WTNH, News Channel 8...** The third installment of our "No Child Left Inside" series, Desiree will lead hikers to the top of Apple Hill on a nature scavenger hunt. Pre-registration required. Meet at 10 A.M. in the Museum lobby.



Mattatuck Astronomical Society will be holding public observing sessions at the observatory behind the WMCC Museum on the following dates: July 5, 12, August 2, 9, 16, and September 6 and 13. Arrive just before sundown! For information call 203-575-8236 or visit their website www.mastransit.org

- 6 - 12 **Museum Kids Free Week***
Courtesy of the J. Denis O'Toole Family honoring Helen Ryan Donnelly

- 12 **Introduction to Recreational Kayaking...with Dave Faber, Owner, Connecticut Outdoors, LLC...** Learn all the basics from one of the best! Afterwards head down to Bantam River with Dave and try one out!! Ages 10 and up. 10 A.M. , A.B. Ceder Room

- 18 **Adult Workshop: Night Hunters Bats of CT...** see page 7 for details

- 19 **Foraging for Wild Edible Mushrooms with Dianna Smith....** from the CT-Westchester Mycological Association see page 7 for details...



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

- 20 **Adult Workshop: Wildflowers in Watercolors...** see page 7 for details

- 26 **Handmade Felt Workshop with Artist and Puppeteer Robin McCahill** see page 7 for details



AUGUST

- 2 **Take a Hike! with Allison Demers from Lite 100.5 WRCH...** The fourth installment of our "No Child Left Inside" series. Allison will lead hikers through Catlin Woods on a nature scavenger hunt. Pre-registration required. Meet at 10 A.M. in the Museum lobby.

- 2 **Invasive Aquatic Plants** with George Knoecklein, PhD., Consultant for the Bantam Lake Protective Association. Learn about invasive plants which are choking Bantam Lake and other Connecticut waters. 2 P.M., A.B. Ceder Room.

- 3 - 9 **Museum Kids Free Week ***
Courtesy of Joan and Jack Benham honoring Brianna R. Parcell

- 9 **Whoooooo are You?** Dave Rosgen and Shakespeare (a Barred Owl) introduce you to the sights and sounds of Connecticut's owls. 1 P.M., A.B. Ceder Room



- 16 **Wood Carving Workshop with Ozzie Leonard and Dick Cioto from Mystic Wood Carvers Club...** Learn to make a Black-capped Chickadee from cutouts (provided). Bring your own carving knife (not a jackknife). Pre-registration required. 10 A.M. - 1 P.M., A.B. Ceder Room, Ages 12 and Up

- 17 - 23 **Museum Kids Free Week ***
Courtesy of Tara and Arthur Diedrick honoring Ann and Arthur Diedrick

- 23 **Bats: Earth's Allies....** They're Backkkkkkk! Your last opportunity this year to explore the remarkable world of Bats with Bruce, Sonic, and their sidekick, Gerri Griswold. Pre registration required 10 A.M. A.B. Ceder Room Ages 8 to Adult.



- 30 **Tree Identification Walk with WMF Forest Superintendent, Lukas Hyder,** 10 A.M. Meet in the parking lot.

- 30 **Purple Loosestrife? Meet the Beetles!** James Fisher, Research Biologist, along with Lukas Hyder and Dave Rosgen, explain how leaf beetles are used to control a terrible beauty. 2 P.M. A.B. Ceder Room

SEPTEMBER

- 1 **LABOR DAY**
Museum Closed



- 6 **Take a Hike! with Teresa LaBarbera from WFSB Channel 3...** The fifth installment of our "No Child Left Inside" series. Teresa will lead hikers up Wheeler Hill on a nature scavenger hunt. Pre-registration required. Meet at 10 A.M. in the Museum lobby.

- 13 **Take a Hike! with Rachel Lutzker from FOX 61 and 105.9 The River...** The sixth installment of our "No Child Left Inside" series. Rachel will lead hikers to Plunge Pool and Memorial Rock on a nature scavenger hunt. Pre-registration required. Meet at 10 A.M. in the Museum lobby.

- 14 - 20 **Museum Kids Free Week***
In Memory of Louise W. Willson

- 20 **Autumn Migration Bird Walk with Dave Rosgen...** Meet in the Museum Parking lot at 10 A.M.

September 27, 2008
27th Annual

Family Nature Day
Sirius Coyote, Wind Over Wings, Riverside Reptiles, Mortal Beasts and Deities
See back page for information!



- 28-Oct. 4 **Museum Kids Free Week ***
Courtesy of Joan and Jack Benham honoring Wesley D. Parcell

OCTOBER

- 4 **Take a Hike! with Diane Smith, from WTIC Newstalk 1080 and "Positively Connecticut"** The final installment of our "No Child Left Inside" series. Diane will lead hikers along the Little Pond boardwalk on a nature scavenger hunt. Pre-registration required. Meet at 10 AM. in the Museum lobby.

Community Service at White Memorial

by Lukas Hyder, WMF
Forest Superintendent

Since last fall there has been a lot of volunteer activity at White Memorial. Non-native invasive plant control has been a large focus for many of the groups. In August, two high school students from Litchfield, Sam Terhaar and Brad Osborne, removed invasive plants from a forested area near the Boardwalk. In October fourteen middle school-aged students from Washington Montessori removed a large clump of invasive plants from the area between the garage and the Activity Shed. Taft School also provided a small group of four students and two leaders. They released the apple trees at the base of Apple Hill from invasive plants such as bittersweet, multiflora rose, honeysuckle and barberry. In November, Cub Scout Pack 30 from Bristol removed a large clump of invasive plants by the old sawmill area releasing several native shrubs and trees. More recently, Troop 102 from Naugatuck cleaned up the Windmill Hill

Campground during the last weekend in April.

Wamogo VoAg students were the most regular workers, as they continue to visit us one Wednesday a month with a group of about 30 students. Their jobs have been varied but included removal of a large invasive clump below the Activity Shed, cutting another large clump near Ongley Pond, as well as removing honeysuckle from the hillside behind the Carriage House. Several of those areas have just been replanted with native shrubs.

We hosted one Eagle Scout Project in September. Nicholas Marcucci completed his project which consisted of maintenance to the two Pine Grove camping sites. He and his volunteers stained both outhouses, applied a clear wood preservative to both of the Pine Grove Adirondack shelters, leveled the outhouses, added gravel to muddy areas, and cleaned out fire rings.

As always, we are grateful to all these hard workers for their efforts. As you travel around White Memorial you will see their handiwork.



"...when the last individual of a race of living things breathes no more, another Heaven and another Earth must pass before such a one can be again."

-William Beebe



WHITE MEMORIAL CONSERVATION CENTER, INC. ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES MAY 2, 2008

The Annual Meeting of the White Memorial Conservation Center, Inc. was called to order by President Diedrick at 3:32 pm., on May 2, 2008 at the White Memorial Foundation office.

The minutes of the May 4, 2007 Annual Meeting were approved upon motion of Mr. Samponaro and second by Ms. Skilton.

Mr. Samponaro presented the report of the Nominating Committee. For Members of the Board of Directors for terms of three years expiring in 2011: Hugh Schoelzel and Mary W. Skilton.

For Members of the Education and Activities Committee for terms of

three years expiring in 2011: Gail Berglund, Stephen Clark, Lisa Cook, Liz Funk, Paul Johnson, and Beverly Wawer.

Upon motion of Ms. Pollock and second by Mr. Ching, the Secretary was authorized to cast one ballot for the slate as presented.

Center staff Gerri Griswold, James Fischer, and Jeffrey Greenwood reported on accomplishments for 2007 and plans for 2008.

As there was no further business, upon motion of Ms. Skilton and second by Mr. Schoelzel, the meeting was adjourned at 3:54 pm.

Volunteer Spotlight: Deane Spangenberg

Photo and Story by Gerri Griswold, Director of Development

White Memorial would be a very empty place indeed if not for its glorious network of faithful volunteers.

Beginning with this issue of *Sanctuary*, you are invited to celebrate one of the many unsung heroes who give so much to keep this big wheel turning.

Deane Spangenberg has been volunteering for eight years. Deane is a Waterbury native and a graduate of Wilby High School. Originally, Deane's job was the care and maintenance of bird-feeders. His eyes, however, were on a much bigger prize: animal care. Three days a week, in all kinds of weather, Deane keeps a watchful eye over our reptiles and birds of prey.

In these times of high gas prices, I am deeply touched by Deane's commitment to White Memorial. Traveling up from Waterbury three times a week is quite a financial burden. Not too long ago, I asked this quiet man if he would like to give up one of his days to another volunteer to save money. His silence said it all. Deane's passion is working with animals. We are so grateful to Rocky, DC, Guthrie, Navar, Shakespeare, Grandma, and Veronica for fueling that passion.



Hawkeye: Veronica patiently awaits Deane Spangenberg (and a mouse).

To learn more about volunteer opportunities at White Memorial, please call Gerri at 567-0857

White Memorial is the largest nature center in the State of Connecticut. With that said you would assume we are at the forefront of all things "GREEN". Well, yes and no.

Yes, we recycle just about everything that it is possible to recycle, we compost food scraps, we've upgraded to low flow water fixtures and upgraded virtually all our lighting to compact fluorescent and other fluorescent bulbs, we use programmable thermostats, we generally purchase only **Energy Star** rated items, and we have signed up all our electrical accounts with **Sterling Planet** to support renewable energy. Recently we have also instituted a program to only use environmentally friendly cleaning supplies. Recycling, energy conservation and environmentally friendly living are also stressed within the 100s of education programs we give each year.

Even while maintaining the property we have made changes in how we do things. We do not fertilize nor use any other chemicals on our lawns, herbicides are used only sparingly, and we have begun the use of biolubes in our equipment. White Memorial also has a policy to reduce the presence of invasive plants on the property and we only replant with non-invasive native species.

How can we improve?

Improvements we need to make are as simple as wrapping hot water pipes and duct work to the more costly replacements of windows and heating and air conditioning systems. We must look

The Greening of White Memorial

by Keith Cudworth
Executive Director

into alternative systems for electrical, heating and cooling. Building insulation also needs to be improved.

What are we proposing to do?

Over the next couple of years, after making a number of improvements so we can begin walking the talk, we hope to be a location for people to visit and see what options are out there to conserve energy. Initial plans call for installing photovoltaic electrical panels on the Museum in 2009 as well as replacing windows in several of our buildings. Each



following year will show more changes. We will be considering the use of geothermal for heating and cooling at the Museum and look at demonstration units for wind and hydro energy and possibly the installation of a small fuel cell.

It is increasingly important that we all conserve energy and lead an

environmentally friendly lifestyle. White Memorial is in the perfect position to help foster this with our members and the greater public.

STERLING PLANET

Sterling Planet is licensed by the Connecticut Department of Utility Control under their CT Clean Energy Program to provide energy from renewable sources. By choosing one of the companies in this program the consumer supports energy production that produces less pollution, helps decrease our dependence on foreign oil, and supports sustainable economic development. White Memorial signed up all its accounts with Sterling Planet last year. We signed up with their 100% option where we support energy generated by 33% wind power, 33% by Connecticut hydroelectric plants and 33% by landfill gas. A small premium of \$0.015 per kilowatt hour is paid to support production of cleaner power generated by these renewable energy resources.

If you are interested in signing up with or learning more about renewable energy and Sterling Planet, please call them at 1-877-457-2306 or check their web site at www.sterlingplanet.com. If you sign up with their program please mention you were referred by White Memorial. As part of their non-profit program we will receive a rebate for all those who sign up. This is another way to support White Memorial and at the same time support the production of renewable energy.



LEADER OF THE PACK: DALE JONES FROM FM 97.3 WZBG LAUNCHES "TAKE A HIKE" SERIES!

Story and Photo by Gerri Griswold, Director of Development

An intrepid group turned out May 10 for a hike to Bantam Lake with Dale Jones (pictured far left with wife Diana). The host of "*Morning Live*" was presented with a personalized handmade walking stick from WMCC Gift Shop Manager, Lois Melaragno, which he used to lead friends along the trails (some not exactly on the agenda) while participating in a nature scavenger hunt. The "Take a Hike" series is inspired by Governor M. Jodi Rell and the CT DEP's "No Child Left Inside" initiative. The series continues through the summer and early fall with hikes led by Mark the Shark from WVIT NBC 30 and 96.5 TIC FM, Desiree Fontaine from WTNH News Channel 8, Allison Demers from Lite 100.5 WRCH, Teresa LaBarbera from WFSB, Rachel Lutzker from WTIC FOX 61 and 105.9 The River, and Diane Smith from WTIC Newstalk 1080 and *Positively Connecticut* on CPTV. See our calendar or call the Museum for dates, times, and pre-registration. Hikes are free!

Adult Nature Study Workshops and Saturday Workshops: Summer 2008



Night Hunters: An Introduction to the Bats of Connecticut

July 18 6:00 PM to ?? Dinner served at 6:30 PM!

Registration Fee: Members: \$30.00 Non-Members: \$55.00 Limited to 20 participants so register early!

Learn about our flying nocturnal neighbors with Gerri Griswold "The Bat Lady" and Geoff Krukar from CT DEP Wildlife Division. Gerri is a bat rehabilitator and bat conservation educator for 17 years in Connecticut. She has taught thousands of people about the importance of bats with the help of her ambassadors "Sonic" and "Bruce", Little Brown and Big Brown Bats respectively. Geoff Krukar, CT DEP Wildlife Division, has been part of the state's bat monitoring program for the last 10 years. Geoff explores caves, mines, and every haunt known for bats to perform research that aids in the conservation of bats in this region. Geoff will demonstrate how he captures and handles bats so that participants can observe the bats inhabiting White Memorial. Dinner will be served! Participants should wear sturdy footwear, bring a flashlight, and dress for biting insects. Class meets in the A.B. Ceder Classroom at the Museum.



Foraging for Wild Edible Mushrooms

July 19 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Registration Fee: Members: \$8.00 Non Members: \$10.00 Children 12 and Under: \$5.00

Dianna Smith from the CT-Westchester Mycological Association introduces you to the increasingly popular hobby of collecting wild edible mushrooms. Learn about the many species that can be found in our region of the country and the importance of learning to differentiate them from poisonous look-a-likes. Smith will address the surprising essential functions fungi serve in ensuring the health of the planet as well as the well being of humans. A walk in search of wild mushrooms follows. Class meets in the A.B. Ceder Classroom at the Museum.



Handmade Felt Workshop with Robin McCahill

July 26 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Registration Fee: Members: \$10.00 Non Members: \$15.00 Children 12 and Under: \$8.00

Create a 3-D flower to adorn a sweater, hat, pocket, or purse and make any outfit special. Create a creature as you manipulate wool into a felted finger or glove puppet and give your character a "voice". Learn the basics of wet felting with pre-dyed Merino wool. Let your imagination soar as you learn to make 2-D and 3-D objects d'arte. Start with color choices and end with an object you've fabricated with this ancient and simple (or you can make it complex!) technique. Class meets in the A.B. Ceder Classroom at the Museum.



Wildflowers in Watercolors with Betsy Rogers-Knox, Botanical Artist, Lilly Hill Studio

July 20, 2008 9:30 AM to 2:30 PM

Registration Fee: Members: \$40.00 Non-Members \$65.00

Betsy Rogers-Knox will introduce participants to elements of field sketching and watercolor media towards illustrating wildflowers. Betsy has been a botanical illustrator for ten years. She often leads nature art courses at the Bellamy-Ferriday House and Garden in Bethlehem. Betsy recently illustrated one of our rare plant species that inhabits White Memorial. The illustration will be submitted to an international exhibit titled "Losing Paradise? Endangered Plant Species Here and Around the World" which is organized by the American Society of Botanical Artists. Please register early to insure that you have a seat in this course! Betsy will contact participants before the course so that participants can acquire the materials needed for this course. Class meets in the A. B. Ceder Classroom at the Museum.

Clip & Mail

☐ **Night Hunters**..... Member: \$30 Non Member: \$55
☐ **Foraging for Mushrooms**.....Member: \$ 8.00 Non Member: \$ 10.00 Child: \$5.00
☐ **Wildflowers in Watercolors**..... Member: \$40 Non Member: \$65
☐ **Handmade Felt Workshop**.....Member: \$10.00 Non Member: \$15.00 Child: \$8.00

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ e-mail _____

Please circle one: member non-member

Payment enclosed:

Program fee: \$ _____ Membership fee: \$ _____ Total \$ _____

Make check payable to White Memorial Conservation Center and mail to:
White Memorial, P.O. Box 368, Litchfield CT 06759.

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 \$45.00 per year and individual is \$30.00.

CEUs available



For more information call 860-567-0857

The White Memorial Conservation Center
P.O. Box 368
Litchfield, CT 06759

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There is still time to
register your child for
Summer Programs.



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website.

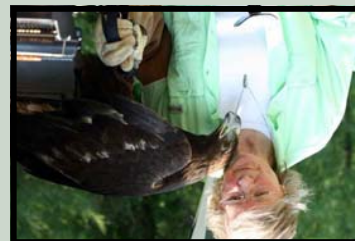
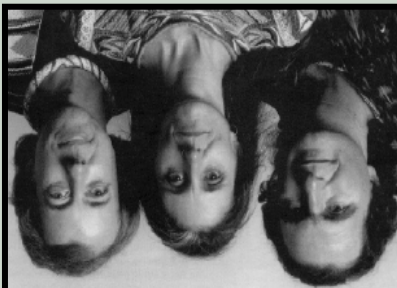
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27TH ANNUAL FAMILY NATURE DAY SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 27 2008 11:00 AM - 5:00 P.M. FEATURING

WIND OVER WINGS
WITH FIVE STUNNING BIRDS
OF PREY



SIRIUS COYOTE
SPONSORED BY
NORTHWEST COMMUNITY
BANK
AND LITCHFIELD BANCORP



STILT WALKERS
MORTAL BEASTS
AND DEITIES
BRIAN KLEINMAN
RIVERSIDE
REPTILES



PLUS!!!!!!

GUIDED NATURE
WALKS

NATURE CRAFTS
FOR KIDS

BOOTHS AND
EXHIBITS

BOOK SALE

CRAFT FAIR

FOOD

HORSE DRAWN
WAGON RIDES