

SANCTUARY

Newsletter of
The White Memorial
Conservation Center
Vol. XXXVIII No. 1
Winter 2020

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



Short-tailed Weasel Photo credit: Glen Alexson

“What color coat shall I wear this winter?” A question that all Connecticut weasels face every autumn.

By James Fischer, Research Director, White Memorial Conservation Center

Winter is a tough season to live through. The cold temperatures, lack of liquid water, and exposure to short day-length or lack of sunlight makes it hard to survive. Food resources are depleted as the winter months march on because plants do not produce new growth, fruit, or seeds. Winter is when mortality is at its highest, which means with each passing cycle of the moon there are fewer prey available until spring arrives. Therefore, animals that live in the northern biomes have adapted many successful strategies for surviving the winter months. One strategy that is used by several mammals and at least one bird species is that they undergo a striking change in their appearance every autumn and spring. You may recall a few species: Arctic Fox, Peary Caribou, and Ptarmigan, each having predominantly brown coats in the summer and changing their fur or feathers every autumn to a predominately white color. One key difference between these animals versus the several North American weasel species is that not every weasel will molt their coats to white each winter. Populations that live in northern regions consistently molt into white pelage every winter, while southern populations of the same species molt to a lighter brown pelage for their winter coat. Southern New England weasels are in a transition region between northern and southern populations; some individuals will turn white while neighbors will turn brown. Connecticut is in a region where winter temperature and precipitation is variable; some winters have a consistent blanket of snow while other winters the snow cover thaws soon after it falls. And within the state, the northern region is more consistently covered in snow while areas located near the coast have inconsistent snow cover. This leaves many

naturalists with important questions that explore the factors that contribute to our understanding of what maintains this strategy.



*Dressed for the Weather
Photo credit: Konrad Wothe*

Molting old hairs and replenishing the coat with new hairs replaces fur that is damaged and ultimately ensures that it protects the skin underneath. Molting is a process that requires time and resources. It involves hormones which stimulate new hair follicle development and growth. The hormones that trigger follicle development and hair color are stimulated by day length and food availability and are released by the pituitary gland and reproductive organs. Hair is made of

keratin which are proteins. These proteins are found in the food that weasels eat. Weasels are carnivorous predators and predate birds, amphibians, and small mammals, especially rodents, shrews, and moles. The timing of their molt coincides with reproduction, another activity that demands lots of energy. Weasels copulate in the autumn and soon after fertilization, cell division ceases. The blastocyst rests inside the female's fallopian tubes over the winter and implants in the uterus in the spring. Delayed implantation of the blastocyst in the uterus is a strategy that is useful for conserving energy at different times of the year. The mating behaviors that lead up to copulation occurs in the autumn when food is plentiful and implantation occurs once the spring cohort of small mammals is produced.

Weasels in the northern and southern parts of their range are well adapted to their local climates and are white or brown, respectively, in winter. The transition zone is where both populations interbreed and weasels in Connecticut have genes for both white and brown fur. Winter coat color is coded by many genes that are located on several different chromosomes, including the chromosomes that determine sex. And the persistence of this transition zone is an interaction between the environment and predominant coat color in that environment. White winter coats are best adapted to local environments that have consistent snow cover while brown coats are best suited in environments that have inconsistent snow cover. Winter coat color is not linked to temperatures or autumn weather events but rather associated with a complex interactions of food availability, photoperiod, and other stimuli that drive reproduction and other population characteristics. *(Continued on page 2)*

Nevertheless, it does suggest that winter coat color is an adaptation that is highly variable and is a response to local environments within the transition zone. Therefore, weasels living in northern Connecticut are more often white in winter while those that live near the coast are more often brown.

There must be advantages for weasels to maintain this complexity. The short answer is population survivorship, and that being small can have its advantages and disadvantages. Short-tailed Weasels (*Mustela erminea*) are smaller than



Photo credit: Wikimedia Commons

with Connecticut's variable winter conditions could be an important variable that determines the viability of future weasel populations. But, variable snow cover could also impact their survivorship in other ways. Consistent snow cover has been linked to over-winter survivorship for small mammals that are weasel's prey because the environment under the snow (subnivean) is less exposed to the wide temperature fluctuations that we observe above the snow. Living in a winter with inconsistent snow cover, however exposes small mammals to

these highly variable temperature fluctuations, which could force them to use more fat reserves and force them to locate food that is likely in short supply. Therefore, the fate of Connecticut's weasels could be less certain than we would hope, but only time will tell.



Photo credit: Konrad Wothe

Eastern Gray Squirrels (*Sciurus carolinensis*) while Long-tailed Weasels (*Mustela frenata*) exhibit an equivalent body size to gray squirrels. Although they are formidable predators, weasels can also fall prey to predators, such as hawks and owls. Therefore, displaying a winter coat color that matches with their local environment would offer greater camouflage and help avoid being killed by a predator. But, being small permits weasels to easily access their prey while be-

ing able to take advantage of cover that their prey utilize to avoid predators.

Connecticut's winter seasons have changed and this might impact the long-term conservation efforts of Connecticut's weasels. Winter total snow fall has increased or remained the same per year over the past 30 years. Average temperatures have also increased or remained nearly the same over that same seasonal dataset, suggesting that Southern New England winters are getting a little more snow but the snow cover may not persist on the ground as long as it once did. This could increase the vulnerability of small mammals to winter. Connecticut's weasel populations may be stressed as a result of these subtle changes to winter weather conditions. Winter coat color interacting



Weasel Kit Photo credit: Lois Melaragno

WHITE MEMORIAL CONSERVATION CENTER ANNOUNCES ANNUAL YEAR-END APPEAL BY GERRI GRISWOLD

I am certain that Alain and May White loved traditions. You only need visit the Museum to see how they used their home for annual ice cream socials and theatrical productions for local children, or al fresco dinners for members of the Sanctum Club that exists to this day. After all, the changing seasons at White Memorial afford us so many opportunities to establish traditions. In spring, it is the Museum Sleep-In. In summer, A Celebration for the Bats. In autumn, Family Nature Day. In winter, Nature Trivia. Perhaps the traditions you create here involve an early morning summer paddle cloaked in mist down the Bantam River, or a cross-country ski jaunt through the heavenly forest canopies of Five Ponds, or a fall foliage hike to witness Nature's neon glow at breathtaking Cat Swamp. Many people enjoy the annual tradition of camping on Bantam Lake at Point Folly.



Photo credit: Leo Kulinski, Jr.

I cannot begin to imagine how our lives would be impacted had the Whites not preserved this property for us to establish our own traditions.

Your tax-deductible donation, no matter how small, to our Annual Year End Appeal supports our devotion to serving your interests. You can donate securely online by stopping by our Facebook page or by visiting our website: <https://whitememorialcc.org/product/donation/>. Be sure to indicate that your donation is for the Annual Appeal.

Carrie, Jamie, Lois, Marlow, and I thank you for your generosity. We hope to inspire White Memorial traditions for your family in 2020. You might be gobbling down lovingly made crimson pie at our 11th Annual Cranberry Pond Hike, dropping off your children at the 30th Annual Museum Sleep-In, catching a horse-drawn wagon ride at the 39th Annual Family Nature Day, or meandering our 40 miles of trails that have been yearning for your footsteps since 1913.

THE 38TH ANNUAL FAMILY NATURE DAY SHATTERS RECORDS!

STORY: GERRI GRISWOLD

PHOTOGRAPHS: MARLOW SHAMI & LEO KULINSKI, JR.

A hefty crowd of 1439 guests ventured up Whitehall Road under a shroud of autumn gold to celebrate the 38th Annual Family Nature Day. It was a perfect early fall day with warm temperatures and a feisty breeze to begin the festivities.

Our program was loaded with a dizzying array of presenters, musicians, vendors, animals, tasty food, and information booths...something for everybody and then some.

Our annual pie sale sold out early. The Silent Auction Table broke records. The Nature Tag Sale was also a huge hit. A Painted Turtle unseated our own Red-eared Slider, Miss Piggy, to win the Annual Turtle Race.

One of the most anticipated moments of the day was the drawing in our Annual Nature Day Raffle. Ticket sales were brisk this year with 990 of 1000 sold. Alycia Isabelle of Litchfield will be traveling to Iceland for a week next June as the first prize winner. Cheyanne Brooks of Torrington will be luxuriating at Winvian for two nights as our second prize winner, and third prize winner Terry Cone Roche



of Harwinton will, with three lucky friends, sleep with the wolves at the Wolf Conservation Center in South Salem, New York.

None of this brilliant day would be possible without the hard work of so many dedicated friends, families, and our dynamic Education Activities Committee.

We also thank our generous sponsors who helped make this the most profitable Family Nature Day on record:

**Thomaston Savings Bank Foundation,
Lee Swift, Linda Cooley-Nash,
Gerri Griswold, Catherine Lavoie,
The Family of Raymond Packard,
An Anonymous Donor, The Connecticut
Community Foundation / Give Local,
Northwest Community Bank,
Litchfield Bancorp, Krummi Travel, LLC,
New Morning Market in Woodbury,
and Litchfield Stop & Shop.**

The 39th Annual Family Nature Day will be here before you know it! Mark your calendars: September 26, 2020.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS FOR THE KIDS



Nature's Nursery Series

**First Thursday of Every Month
Ages 3 - 6 years**

4 - 5pm

**Members: \$8/child per session
or \$25 for January - April series**

**Non-members: \$12/child per session
or \$45 for the January-April series**

Every session includes a story, a live animal, and an activity or craft. *Parents, we ask that you stay for the duration of the program. Meet in the Ceder Room.*

After-School Adventures

Grades 1 - 3: Tuesdays in March (except the 31st)

Grades 4 - 6: Wednesdays in March

3:45 - 5pm

**Members: \$9/child per session
or \$30 for the whole series**

**Non-members: \$13/child per session
or \$48 for the whole series**

Go on a new adventure! Learn about local wildlife and have fun at the same time! *Parents are welcome to stay, but it is not necessary. Meet in the Ceder Room.*

"Sense-sational" Spring Break Camp

Tuesday, April 14 - Friday, April 17

Grades 1 - 3: 9:30am-12:30pm

Grades 4 - 6: 1:30pm-4:30pm

Members \$20/session or \$70/week

Non-Members \$35/session or \$120/week

Compare your senses to wild animals while playing games, making crafts, meeting live animals, and exploring WM. *Parents welcome to stay, but not necessary. Meet in the Ceder Room.*



30th Annual Museum Sleep-In

**Friday, April 24, 5:00pm
to Saturday, April 25, 12:00 Noon**

For Kids in Grades 4 - 6

Members \$60/child

Non-Members \$120/child

Take part in a real-life "Night at the Museum!" Go on a night hike, sit by a campfire, meet live animals, and sleep by your favorite exhibit. *Drop-off program! Meet in the Ceder Room.*

Advanced registration is required for all programs. Please call 860-567-0857 or visit www.whitememorialcc.org

A White Christmas

by Siegfried Hornecker Reprinted with kind permission from the author of *ChessBase Chess News*

<https://en.chessbase.com/>

12/29/2018 – The final "Study of the Month" examines the legacy of American composer Alain C. White. Our study guide and expert SIEGFRIED HORNECKER explains how White "was far ahead of his time — half a century or more." In fact, Hornecker is already looking ahead to 2022 when many of White's works are slated to enter the public domain, much to the benefit of chess study fans (and future Study of the Month columns) everywhere.

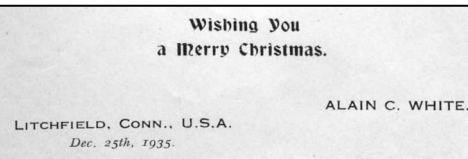


Study of the Month: December 2018

The 25-year old man looked at the lines wishing a merry christmas. The print of the book, dedicated to his sister May, but also to the enthusiast all over the world, was finished, and as he took them, his notebook with the addresses of his friends, and enough money to mail the books, he thought about his life. Born on March 3rd, 1880, in Cannes to parents from the United States, he returned to their home country at the age of five. At 18 he studied at Harvard University, finishing in 1902. The Phi Beta Kappa and his magna cum laude for his graduation in Romance languages from there were fresh in his memory. Just last year, in 1904, he graduated as master from Columbia University. But what was most shaping his life was his father's hobby. For hours his father would sit at a wooden board with 32 pieces, moving them around with friends. Eventually he also learnt that game, "chess," a game coming from ancient times and enjoying a huge fellowship worldwide. At twelve years old, he inherited a collection of 5,000 chess puzzles, all with white to move and checkmate in three moves. White to move indeed, he thought and smiled.

This is one possibility of how a day shortly prior to Christmas 1905 might have been for one individual who eventually settled in Litchfield, Connecticut.

Over a century later, chess composers still only hold the highest regards for the endeavour starting then and ending in 1936 after 44 books. This legendary exploration of chess composition themes is known as the "Christmas Series" of his, the publisher, Alain C. White.



Alain C. White's dedication "Wishing you a Merry Christmas" from the helpmate book "Conspiracy", 1935

When I do some research on articles, I expect my sources to be reports in chess magazines, books, on websites, by people who are enthusiasts, who have had their own share of life experiences. What, however, is unique, is that this month I can quote from someone who despite being very young at the time of writing, and still very youthful now, has shown a great deal of research and enthusiasm. One is reminded of William Shatner who remarks in... not Star Trek, but another TV show he hosts: "It's a weird world... and I love it!" It speaks a lot for White that, even as of 2010, there are articles about him, showing deep admiration for his work, even if outside of chess, one of which by Spencer Musselman in the Litchfield County Times ("Admiring Alain C. White," 11 March 2010)^[1] was written by a fifth-grader but filled with rich details not found in my other sources, starting with the line "The person I admire most in Connecticut history is Mr. Alain C. White." From what I can collect about the author of said admiration article, his love of the nature in Connecticut is unbroken, dedicating his spare time to preserve environmental and natural resources — a love shared by his family.

Indeed, the botanist, the park founder Alain C. White lives on in those deeds, as an inspiration still to today's youth in Connecticut. Oh, but how much more was his chess work an inspiration also for me! How much more is it still regarded as maybe the most powerful series of chess composition books, annually bringing joy to his close friends — and of course the closest of all, his beloved sister — at first, but then to chess composers all over the world! May it be that I grew up in a time when protecting nature was shown to be an important thing in the comics around Donald Duck and his nephews I read, in

one of them they even ventured into the very interior of a plant to keep the secret of chlorophyll production away from industrial use, but even without enjoying nature to me the importance of preserving it has become clear. Alain C. White in this regard was far ahead of his time — half a century or more.

Buying land from all around him, preserving it eventually with his sister May in 1913 into the still existing White Memorial Foundation — named in memory of their parents — White is widely thought to be the founder of the Connecticut State Park system. 4,000 acres of land to be preserved are in the proud possession of the foundation, serving as a wildlife sanctuary.



Not stopping there, he also donated land to many other parks. Maybe this love for nature stemmed from his father, owner of a Victorian mansion in Litchfield, where he moved to in 1863, and builder of lawns and gardens there. Following in those footsteps, May and Alain White bought land in the Bantam Lake and River area, saving the Wood Duck in the process of building their foundation's area. And yet, this man hailed as the greatest individual in the preservation of wildlife in Connecticut by Donald Matthews, former Director of the Connecticut State Parks, had an even more important contribution to his second lifetime love: Chess. Watching his father play — and, as John Jay White also was an avid solver as White writes in *Memories of My Chess Board* (1909), likely solve problems — Alain developed a keen interest in the game and in building puzzles, chess problems, for it. Naturally, it helped him to break the German Naval Code in World War I which used chess problems in its code. At that time, his greatest contribution to chess was already in full force.

(continued on page 5)



MAKE A DIFFERENCE

IN HER CONTINUING SERIES, ZOË GREENWOOD HELPS YOU FIND SMALL WAYS TO HELP THE ENVIRONMENT

Every fall for more than sixty years, I have gathered colored leaves on my autumn walks and taken them home to press between sheets of newspaper or old magazines. When they are dry, I put them on the dining room table in and around whatever I have decided to decorate with for the fall. It is my tradition.

After the first significant snowfall, I always make a snowman and snowlady. The scarfs and hat that they will each wear are stored in the closet with our own winter things. I look forward to making snowpeople every winter. That is another of my traditions.

I spring clean. I decorate for each season, sometimes for each holiday. More traditions. Apple and pumpkin pies for Thanksgiving; special coffee cake for

Christmas morning; colored jelly beans and bunnies; nasturtiums in an old B and M baked bean brown jar; honey on biscuits; real maple syrup...all more traditions. I could go on and on, but you get the idea.

Alain White had a tradition of ice cream socials in the summer for the area children as well as hosting elaborate theatre events. Picnics in the tea house near Beaver Pond was another White Family tradition.

You have them, too. Anytime you do the same thing that you have "always done," year after year, you are creating your own traditions. Traditions are part of the substance that give life its meaning and its flow. Without them we feel out of sorts or lost, like something is missing. When you create a special meal for a

particular event and it is the same year in and year out, you have another tradition.

Perhaps one of your traditions is to walk on the Boardwalk or up Apple Hill or around Ongley Pond or to the Ice House. Perhaps you attend the Cut it Out Ice Harvest or the Cranberry Pond Trail Hike or Nature Day or Tree ID or a Star Party or Yoga in the Garden every year. All of these are traditions. It is not always necessary to do new and different things. Sometimes, it is the tried and true that gives life balance.

So, *make a difference* in your family this year and continue or start your own traditions out of doors.



A White Christmas

Continued from page 4

Chess Lyrics. A collection of chess problems by A. F. Mackenzie 1887-1905 and Roi acculé aux angles by A.C. White were the first two books to be featured in the Christmas Series, both being in time for Christmas 1905. Rare today, the books, sent annually, were a welcome present to White's friends. Oftentimes featuring an assortment of chess problems with little commentary, their high production value (with the typical red covers) by today's standard would not be mirrored by the content, but in the times when databases were not available and collections of chess problems were a rarity, those must have been of the highest value. Each of them featured a short note at the beginning, akin to "Wishing you a Merry Christmas. -A.C. White" (see the dedication on page 4, taken from 1935's Alain C. White book, edited by George Hume, *Conspiracy. A Selection of Help-Mate Problems*).

The 44 books, sent out until 1936, held a variety of themes, and soon turned into

masterful anthologies, such as 1907's *Les mille et un mats inverses* with a whopping 1001(!) selfmates, overshadowing the highly interesting *200 Bauernumwandlungs-Schachaufgaben* in the same year, both compiled by White himself, the latter with his namesake Max Weiss ("Weiss" meaning "White" in German, the book's language). There followed collections of works of single authors, and eventually in 1931 even a collection of problems by White's friends. Many times, other authors joined the venture, sometimes creating full books of their own that they dedicated to the Christmas Series.

Sadly the 1936 book *A Genius of the Two-Mover. A Selection of Problems by Comins Mansfield* was the final one in this annual tradition, after half the years as squares on a chessboard — 32 — had been conquered. White by now lived with his sister in his mansion, staying unmarried, his life dedicated to chess and biology.

On 23 April 1951, Alain

C. White died. That is, his physical hull died, but his spirit continued to live on in his numerous works, in his foundation, in his contributions to biology and chess, having left a mark on the world that still is shaping Connecticut today. The greatness of his work does not leave enough space to go into every single book of his Christmas Series in detail, but interested readers can find a list easily online. However, there is a final (late) Christmas gift coming up in 2021, or rather on January 1st 2022, with White's books entering the Public Domain due to the expiration of their copyright in the Berne Agreement countries, which include Europe and the U.S.

For this time, our Christmas gift consists of five unrelated endgame studies which however all show neat geometrical motifs and are among the favourites of your author who repeats Alain C. White's words: "Wishing you a Merry Christmas!"



Stoats & Weasels

~ Graham Jenkinson

What's the difference between a stoat and a weasel

My grandson once asked me
I looked at him and told him it
was simple as can be
He gazed at me with big brown
eyes and said please do tell
I looked at him and smiled and
said here is how

A weasel is weasly recognized
A stoat is stoatally different



Winter Calendar of Events

For more information on any of our programs, please call us at 860-567-0857 or register online: www.whitememorialcc.org.

JANUARY

1 **HAPPY NEW YEAR!**
Museum Closed **2020!**

2 **Nature's Nursery Series: See page 3**

4 **Winter's Quiet Meditation & Mystery Walk with Marlow Shami**
10:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m., A. B. Cedar Room
Members FREE, Non-members: \$5.00
Pre-register by calling 860-567-0857 or register online: www.whitememorialcc.org

11 **Winter Wildlife Tracking with Andy Dobos, The Forest Wolf**
See page 7 for details and registration.



11 **Nowhere is a Place ~ Travels in Chilean Patagonia with Gerri Griswold**
2:00 p.m., A. B. Cedar Room
Members FREE, Non-members: \$5.00
Pre-register by calling 860-567-0857 or register online: www.whitememorialcc.org

12 - 18 **Museum Children Free Week***
Courtesy of Mr. & Mrs. John Morosani
In Memory of Remy Edmund Morosani

14 **Monthly Bird Walk with Kristi Dranginis**
9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
Meet in front of the A. B. Cedar Room.

18 **Whose Feather is It? Feather ID Workshop with Kristi Dranginis**
See page 7 for details and registration



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

25 **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. Register online or call 860-567-0857. 10:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m. A. B. Cedar Room and Bantam Lake



25 **Trees in Winter Watercolor Workshop with Betsy Rogers-Knox**
See page 7 for details and registration.



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

FEBRUARY

1 **Wildlife in Winter with Carrie Szwed**
For kids & adults! Learn about clever strategies animal use to get through winter!
11:00 a.m., A. B. Cedar Room

6 **Nature's Nursery Series: See page 3**

8 **Cut It Out! The Local History and Practice of Ice Harvesting**
Ice once harvested from Bantam Lake was used throughout the year! Enjoy a presentation featuring old tools of the trade, then watch Jeff Greenwood and James Fischer demonstrate ice cutting the old fashioned way! Gerri Griswold mans the canteen! **Dress for the weather!**
Please pre-register. 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., Meet in the A. B. Cedar Room.



8 **Winter Wildlife Tracking with Andy Dobos, The Forest Wolf**
See page 7 for details and registration.



15 **O-possumly Adorable! with Pam & Bill Lefferts**
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



21 **Star Party!**
Program and star gazing.
7:00 p.m., A. B. Cedar Room.



22 **Thorablot ~ Iceland's Mid-Winter Celebration with Gerri Griswold**
See page 7 for details and registration.



29 **Leap Year Luncheon & Winter Pursuits at Ongley Pond!**
See page 7 for details and registration.



MARCH

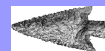
2 - 8 **Museum Children Free Week***
Courtesy of Arthur and Tara Stacom Diedrick
in Honor of Claire and Matthew Stacom

After School Adventures!!!!
Tuesdays and Wednesdays in March
See page 3 for details.



5 **Nature's Nursery Series: See page 3**

7 **Ancient America Fifty Archaeological Sites to See for Yourself with Dr. Kenneth Feder**
See page 7 for details and registration.



7 **A Musical Evening with Ian Campbell**
See page 7 for details and registration.



8 **Crack O' Dawn Owl Prowl with Fran Zygmunt**
5:00 a.m., A. B. Cedar Room
Pre-register 567-0857 or register online www.whitememorialcc.org

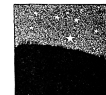


10 **Monthly Bird Walk with Kristi Dranginis**
9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
Meet in front of the A. B. Cedar Room.

14 **4th Annual NATURE TRIVIA NIGHT!**
See page 7 for details and registration.



20 **Star Party!**
Program and star gazing.
7:00 p.m., A. B. Cedar Room.



21 **Winter Tree Identification with Lukas Hyder**
10:00 a.m., Meet in the Museum parking lot.

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

28 **Bats ~ Earth's Allies**
2:00 p.m., A. B. Cedar Room
Members FREE, Non-members: \$5.00
Pre-register by calling 860-567-0857 or register online: www.whitememorialcc.org



The way a crow
Shook down on me
The dust of snow
From a hemlock tree

Has given my heart
A change of mood
And saved some part
Of a day I had rued.

~ Robert Frost

Adult Nature Study Workshops and Saturday Workshops: Winter 2020

You can now register online for these programs: www.whitememorialcc.org



Winter Wildlife Tracking with Andy Dobos
Saturdays, January 11 & February 8, 2020
10:00 a.m., Meet in the Museum.
Price per session: Members: \$10.00 Non-Members: \$15.00

Andy Dobos takes you on a wildlife tracking walk through the winter woods. There are always clues left behind by the animals for us to decipher, telling a story of their habits and lives. Get to know our beloved wildlife that much better. Children should be accompanied by an adult and all should dress extra warm and wear good boots!



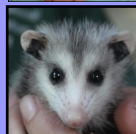
Whose Feather is It? Feather ID Workshop
Saturday, January 18, 2020
2:00 p.m., A. B. Ceder Room
Members: \$15.00 Non-Members: \$30.00

Kristi Dranginis is BirdMentor.com! Can you tell the difference between an owl, hawk, or turkey feather? In this two hour hands-on class you'll learn: The 5 shapes of bird wings and their role in identification, the 4 primary functions of feathers, what sets the wing, tail, and body feathers apart, and fancy terms like emargination and camber!



Trees in Winter Watercolor Workshop
Saturday, January 25, 2020
1:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m., A. B. Ceder Room
Registration Fee: Members: \$40.00 Non-Members: \$65.00

Let acclaimed botanical artist Betsy Rogers-Knox help you to create a winter scene depicting trees in a snowy field. Follow along in this simple step-by-step workshop with lots of individual attention! All levels welcome. All materials are included. For ages 12 and up.



O-Possumly Adorable & Important to Boot!
with Pam & Bill Lefferts, Ferncroft Wildlife Rescue
Saturday, February 15, 2020
2:00 p.m., A. B. Ceder Room
Members: \$10.00 Non-Members: \$15.00

Meet Lavender the Virginia Opossum and her friends Pam and Bill! Learn fascinating fun facts about North America's only marsupial during a one-hour presentation that will also address the rescue center's work in wildlife rehabilitation and how you can make your backyard into a wildlife sanctuary.



Thorrablot ~ Iceland's Mid-Winter Celebration
Saturday, February 22, 2020
6:00 p.m., A. B. Ceder Room
Members: \$20.00 Non-Members: \$35.00

Today's Thorrablot is celebrated with traditional Viking foods that are so unappetizing they will make your toes curl! A delicious Icelandic dinner precedes a presentation by Gerri Griswold. You will be treated to photographs taken in Iceland in winter. The photographs will be coupled with Icelandic poetry that YOU will be asked to read!



Leap Year Luncheon and Winter Pursuits at Ongley Pond
Saturday, February 29, 2020
1:00 p.m., Ongley Pond
Members: \$5.00 Non-Members: \$10.00

Strap on your ice skates, pop your saucer or sled into the car, and come out to Ongley Pond for a couple of hours of winter enjoyment. Thermoses of corn chowder, home-made herb and onion bread, and some tasty bar cookies will be on hand to fortify your winter-loving self! Bring your own place setting and a hot beverage!



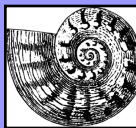
Ancient America ~ Fifty Archaeological Sites to See for Yourself! With Dr. Kenneth Feder
Saturday, March 7, 2020
2:00 p.m., A. B. Ceder Room
Members: \$10.00 Non-Members: \$15.00

Dr. Kenneth Feder's book, *Ancient America: Fifty Archaeological Sites to See for Yourself* isn't just a travel guide: it's a "time-travel" guide. Inspiring your journey through time by visiting these sites is his goal, both in his book as well as in this presentation.



A Musical Evening with Ian Campbell
Saturday, March 7 2020
7:00 p.m., A. B. Ceder Room
All Tickets: \$15.00 Cake & Coffee will be served!

Ian grew up in Connecticut with seventeen entertaining and musical brothers and sisters. Outrageous family dinner time jam sessions gave Ian a love for music and performance. Songs of love, growth, journey, killing, lost innocence, learning... It's all in there! BYOB!



4th Annual Nature Trivia Night!
Saturday, March 14, 2020...DINNER INCLUDED
7:00 p.m., A. B. Ceder Room
Members: \$10.00 Non-Members: \$25.00

Teams of up to six will compete for a "valuable" prize. A chili supper will be served. BYOB and your own place setting! Form teams beforehand, or register individually and we'll put you on a team when you arrive. Come on, Brainiacs! Accept the challenge! WE DARE YOU! Team costumes are HIGHLY encouraged!

Winter Wildlife Tracking Jan 11 Feb 8

Member: \$10.00 Non Member: \$15.00

Whose Feather is It?

Member: \$15.00 Non Member: \$30.00

Trees in Winter Watercolor Workshop

Member: \$40.00 Non Member: \$65.00

O-Possumly Adorable!

Member: \$10.00 Non Member: \$15.00

Thorrablot!

Member: \$20.00 Non Member: \$35.00

Clip & Mail

Leap Year Luncheon at Ongley Pond

Member: \$5.00 Non Member: \$10.00

Ancient America: 50 Archaeological Sites

Member: \$10.00 Non Member: \$15.00

Musical Evening with Ian Campbell

All Tickets: \$15.00

4th Annual Nature Trivia!

Members: \$10.00 Non Members: \$25.00

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ e-mail _____

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

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Your tax-deductible fee



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White Memorial Conservation Center has established a tradition of providing quality environmental education programming since 1964. Let us help you incorporate environmental education into your curriculum or enhance your current studies.

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

Calendar of Events
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