

SANCTUARY

Newsletter of
The White Memorial
Conservation Center

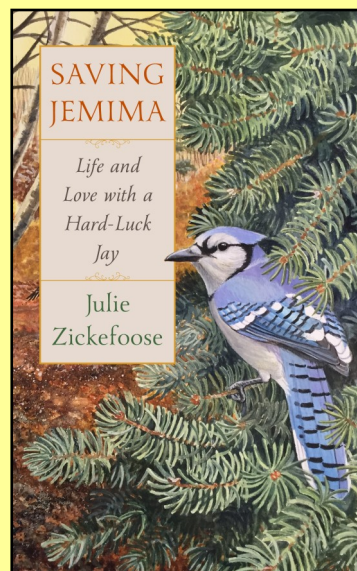
Vol. XXXVIII No. 2
Spring 2020

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



Meet Julie Zickefoose at White Memorial on May 17, 2020

Peg and Me ~ Excerpt from Saving Jemima: Life and Love with a Hard Luck Jay

By Julie Zickefoose www.juliezickefoose.com <http://juliezickefoose.blogspot.com/>

IN THE COURSE of writing Jemima's story, I began to watch and hear jays with an intensity and focus I'd never before granted them. I heard and saw them everywhere I went. I could be in the middle of town, and jays would invariably scream somewhere near. As I drove, jay calls floated in the car window, and my head would snap left and right, looking for the vocalist. It was uncanny how they constantly invaded my consciousness. And I wasn't alone; everyone in my family experienced the same thing. The slightest yawp or tootle from a blue jay brought us all to instant, rapt attention, wherever we went. Never again would I fail to register the call of a blue jay. It's the response of every parent in a crowded mall when a child yells "MOM!" or "DAD!" That's me, hearing a blue jay: instantly alert.

After we released Jemima in mid-June, I watched the jays in my yard, taking hundreds of photographs of individuals, with the goal of slowly and painstakingly discerning one from the other by their facial markings. In truth, I was trying to recognize individual blue jays, so I could get more insight into their lives. It's the first step in any animal behavior study. It's been a deeply absorbing, if rather esoteric, pursuit. And while I was studying the jays in my yard, I gave some thought to another blue jay I'd known before Jemima came along: Peg.

She first appeared to me in November 2013, tottering unsteadily on a branch, fresh bright blood on her cloud-colored underparts, her right leg hanging useless, broken somewhere high in the thigh. Perhaps she was the victim of a

hawk attack, grabbed, clenched quickly in hard talons, and somehow freed again. I didn't know how she'd been injured, just as I didn't know her sex. I just made a guess and assigned one.

I watched her through the last months of 2013 and into 2014. Though there was a rowdy gang of seven blue jays crowding the feeders, Peg was usually on her own.



Peg bathed in golden light. February 12, 2014

She couldn't keep up with their springy, bouncing exits stage left and right, couldn't jostle for position on the feeders, and her landings were clumsy and fluttery. She was a liability to the flock, little more than hawk bait. But little by little, the dried blood wore off her belly feathers and she became a regular at the feeders, balancing unsteadily on one foot. When she was first adjusting to her injury, Peg would often keep herself from falling by throwing out her right wing as a sort of crutch. Slowly, her left leg gained strength, and as she became accustomed to supporting herself, that maneuver was replaced by a stately and measured dignity. Peg considered every change of position and seemed to plan her takeoffs

and landings before executing them. I kept expecting her to disappear, as most seriously compromised birds do, but she never did. She stayed with us until spring 2014, when the Gang of Seven, and presumably Peg, left for their more northerly breeding grounds, or stopped using the feeders. With blue jays, it's hard to know.

Over the hectic spring and summer, I forgot all about Peg. I weeded and mowed and hung clothes out on the line, sweated and ran in shorts, then switched to long pants, then added layers until I was running in wind pants, gloves, and fleece again. And on November 26, 2014, in the season's first light snow, Peg showed up again, picking corn off the ground and sunflower hearts from the deck railing, just as if she hadn't flown north, possibly bred, and flown south in fall again, all with only one leg. I was astounded to see her. I guess I'd written her off.

For not only was Peg limited in mobility, being unable to hop on the ground, but she couldn't process her food like the other jays. Having only one good foot, and that one dedicated solely to perching, she was unable to grip anything in her toes and pound it open. Sunflower seeds and even acorns, a blue jay staple, were off-limits to her. It would be bad enough to be unable to hop on the ground without giving up acorns, too! Peg couldn't eat anything that required a foothold to process, and that's a big problem for a corvid. The more I thought about her infirmity, the more amazed I was that she'd made it through an entire year.

(Continued on page 2)

Continued from page 1



Takeoffs and landings are more of a challenge for a one-legged jay, Peg.

I was only too happy to make life easier for Peg, in this second winter of her disability. I made sure sunflower hearts and the peanut butter/oatmeal/lard mix I call Zick Dough—foods that wouldn't need to be hammered open or otherwise processed—were available for her first thing in the morning, and I'd stand by to make sure she got enough before the rest of her gang swooped in to gobble everything down. Peg seemed to understand why I was lingering at the window, and she braved my presence to feed in peace. I enjoyed watching over her all through the winter of 2014–2015, until a deep snow and ice storm March 3–5, 2015, reduced her to a shivering, bedraggled, ice-caked mess. I saw what looked like a bag of blue rags sitting in a snowy tree, and was horrified to recognize Peg, her feathers weighed down with ice. Though I put out gobs of Zick Dough and sunflower hearts, I never saw Peg at the feeders during the worst weather of the winter. My heart sank. Had I lost my sweet friend? So, when she showed up fit as a fiddle on March 11, 2015, to stuff herself with food as if nothing had happened, I could hardly believe my eyes. It was like seeing a one-legged ghost. Clearly, Peg had survival skills that did not include panhandling from me.



*Zick Dough was an ideal food for Peg as it required no foothold for processing.
March 11, 2015*

The last photo I have of Peg is from April 27, 2015. She is standing on the deck railing, contemplating her morning handout of Zick Dough. The willow leaves are a brilliant green behind her. It's mighty late for migrating. She looks fine. Was she planning to stay for the summer? I'd never know, because I never saw Peg again. But two winters is a fine run for a bird who couldn't hop or open an acorn or a

sunflower seed, who couldn't scratch her head or even preen her feathers. I felt blessed to have known her, even as I worried her through two winters.

While working on this book in the summer of 2017, I not only took hundreds of blue jay photos, but also went through my photo libraries. Searching the four-letter bird bander's code BLJA on my Mac, a whole mess of my labeled jay photos from years past popped up. One in particular stopped me dead. It is dated November 3, 2011, and it depicts a blue jay in profile, standing on our deck railing, about to dive into a fresh pile of crumbled Zick Dough. The bird is perfect in every detail, with creamy-smooth plumage, an unusually pale face, and a pencil-thin line behind its eye and across its breast. It is standing on two strong slate-gray legs. With my newly heightened sensitivity to blue jay facial features, I stared at its face, at the rather delicate bill and the long, fluffy white feathers over its eye. I recognized this bird. It was Peg. Peg, two years before her accident, Peg whole and healthy and beautiful. Peg had been with me all along.



*Peg, perfect, the year she hatched.
November 3, 2011*

It's hard to convey the mixture of awe, ruefulness, and tearful gratitude that passed through me on seeing Peg, alive and whole again, as she'd been on that November day in 2011. With that distinctive combination of facial features, ones that carried through the five years she visited our feeders, I could have been following her all along. Until she showed up with one leg dangling, giving me a marker I couldn't miss, I never singled out Peg from the rest. Now I realized that I could have been studying and learning from her for two more years. From 2017's close observation, I've picked up some insight on the identifying characteristics of blue jay plumage. My feather guru, Bob Mulvihill, ornithologist at the National Aviary, told me that Peg's unbarred primary coverts in the 2011 photo revealed that it was taken the year she hatched. (Barring appears after a bird's first full wing molt, about a year after hatching.) With this information, I was able to determine that Peg was injured at age two and a half and went on to beat the odds for at least two more years with this grave infirmity. What a bird. Never mind those regrets at a lost opportunity for study. Insights arrive when we're ready to receive them, and if we aren't, they simply slip away. The real, lasting gift that Peg has

given me, other than a great respect for a jay's tough adaptability, is knowing that the distinctive facial features of a blue jay will carry throughout its lifetime. I couldn't have received this gift if not for Jemima, who got me looking closely at jays in the first place. And I couldn't have used this gift if I'd never bothered to label and date my photos. Louis Pasteur said, "Chance favors the prepared mind." This is a dictum—no, a mantra!—that guides me as I sit at my worktable, gazing out the studio window. It may not look like I'm working, but I am. Watching birds, with serendipity in the lead, is my favorite calling. Unless I'd stopped to settle in and watch; unless I'd kept a photographic record so I could connect the dots, looking might never have progressed to watching. That precious connection with an individual bird, the one that has given me insight into all their lives, would never have been forged. To this day, I search the face of every jay that comes to my yard, hoping to find some identifying characteristic I can latch onto, not knowing whether ours will be a one-time encounter or a relationship lasting years. My camera records each one who settles long enough to allow it. I cache the images away like a jay caches nuts, figuring I might need them at some point. One could do worse than scrutinize blue jays.



~JULIE ZICKEFOOSE~ SAVING JEMIMA

Talk in the Carriage House
Sunday, May 17, 2020
2:00 p.m.

Book signing and reception
following in the Museum

FREE ADMISSION

Please pre-register by calling
860-567-0857 or register online:
[https://whitememorialcc.org/
product/saving-jemima/](https://whitememorialcc.org/product/saving-jemima/)

Butterfly and Moth Surveys Take Flight at White Memorial This Spring!

By James Fischer, Research Director, White Memorial Conservation Center

Pollinators provide an ecosystem service that ultimately provides food for humans and wildlife alike. White Memorial partnered with Kimberly Stoner and Tracy Zarrillo at the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station in 2012 and have documented a total of 52 bee species (Order Hymenoptera). This project has opened our eyes to the other pollinator taxa that need to be inventoried and monitored. Therefore, we are expanding and focusing our efforts onto butterflies and moths (Order Lepidoptera).



Hemlock Looper
Lambdina fiscellaria

Butterflies and moths have complex life histories involving several life stages, each with their own anatomy and physiology that have adapted to different environmental factors. The youngest life stages: egg, caterpillar, and pupae are often quite cryptic and difficult to observe. These life stages focus most of their activities toward feeding, growth, and development. Generally, the early life stages are herbivorous, while many specialize on specific plants; this makes butterflies and moths good indicators of specific critical habitats or if the conditions are changing. Caterpillars are also important prey for many insectivorous birds, mammals, and amphibians. The adult life stage is highly visible for most species because they are attracting mates and producing the next generation. The adult life stage makes them easy to observe and hopefully start a project where we tally the species that inhabit White Memorial's critical habitats.

Butterfly surveys will be conducted



Harnessed Tiger Moth
Apantesis phalerata

from March to November while walking trails and through open areas. Binoculars are the best tool for this survey, while sometimes a picture will be quickly snapped on our smartphones for future reference and documentation. Butterflies are active when the sun is high in the sky and while relative humidity is drier. The goals for the next few years are to create a species list and possibly a phenology of the activity throughout the property.



Bristly Cutworm
Lacinipolia renigera

Moth surveys are a little more complicated because most species are nocturnal and are attracted to lights. We have experimented with this technique during the summer of 2019 and documented at least 25 species during one single evening's survey at three sites with special lights and white sheets draped onto walls and clotheslines. Moths become more active as it gets darker each evening and when there is little to no wind. The scene is surreal; UV and white-light glow could be seen from a long distance away while all sorts of nocturnal insects are flying

around the white sheets. We walked from one site to the next, stopping at each and finding new species with every stop. We were taking lots of pictures so that we could identify them with field guides and *iNaturalist*. We had photos of at least an additional 25 species. Nearly 50 species observed in just 4 hours is a pretty good return for the time investment!



Toothed Brown Carpet
Xanthorhoe lacustrata

We are looking for a few volunteers who are interested in helping us with either of these projects. Dressing for the conditions is very important. Butterfly surveys are sometimes conducted during hot temperatures. Nocturnal moth surveys have other insects present like mosquitos. Wearing protective clothing is important. Both surveys require appropriate footwear for walking along muddy trails and through grass that is covered in dew. White Memorial can loan you a pair of binoculars for the butterfly surveys but you should bring a flashlight for moth surveys. If you are interested in helping with either or both of these surveys please contact me: james@whitememorialcc.org.



Masters Dart
Feltia herilis



MAKE A DIFFERENCE

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

So, how much is too much?

I recently helped a young friend move from a toxic relationship to a more stable living situation. Of course, that involved a lot of moving and a lot of stuff. In fact, she really didn't even know just how much stuff she had. Certainly, she had clothing and household items and kitchenware and books and treasures and keepsakes. She had photos and stuffed animals and stationary and gift wrapping materials. She had cosmetics and hair products and cleaning supplies and dishes and sheets and towels. She really didn't have much more stuff than the average 30 somethings have. But, it was a lot...a whole lot.

It got me thinking as I helped her pack and organize and tote stuff to the local donation center. She got rid of many, many totes worth of stuff. I wondered just how much stuff we all have and how much do we really need?

The average American throws away or donates eighty one pounds of textiles every year, textiles being clothing and bedding and towels. That is over twenty six billion pounds of textiles. Only .1% gets donated or recycled. People think that only perfect items of clothing and textiles can be donated, but that's not the

case. Things that are stained or holey can be donated, too. Those things are often sold for rags or even for insulation. Textiles sent to landfill areas produce toxic gas as they decompose. Some synthetic fibers take hundreds of years to decompose.

People wear their clothing an average of seven times...an average! Lots of people wear things only once because they don't want to appear on social media in the same outfit twice. Hmmmm. What are we thinking, people? Is looking good in every photo worth the environmental impact? Do we care more about the thoughts of how other people view us than we do about the world we all inhabit?

Textile waste is the second largest industrial pollutant in the world. And the amount of waste has doubled in the last twenty years. It takes 1800 gallons of water to produce a pair of jeans from the ground up. That's a lot of water.

And it is not just textiles. America has 3.1 per cent of the world's children and they own 40% of the toys. The average ten year old owns 238 toys and plays with twelve on a daily basis. More than 90% of teenage girls rank shopping as their favorite thing to do. 25% of

people with two car garages don't have room to park cars inside and 32% only have room for one car. The average size of American homes has nearly tripled in size in the last 50 years. I guess we need to have a place to put all the stuff that we own.

So, we all need to make a difference and stop spending money and time buying more and more stuff. You can only wear one outfit a day and the longest month only has 31 days. Bigger houses mean spending more to heat and clean and more for taxes. We need to think more and care more and shop less. We need to shop thrift stores and tag sales and be sure to donate when we are finished with something. We need to reexamine our lives and what message we want to send to our friends and let them know that we ***make a difference*** by wearing the same outfit on social media for maybe thirty times! Make it your new statement. Darn it, tell people that you are doing it and why. Otherwise, we all just might be buried by the excess stuff that we have.



April prepares her green traffic light and the world thinks Go.

~ Christopher Morley



This program is conducted by the Conservation Center's Education and Activities Committee.

30th Annual Museum Sleep-In

April 24-25, 2020 5:00 p.m. Friday to 12:00 noon Saturday

Kids in Grades 4-6, join us for a real-life "Night at the Museum" experience!

In addition to having a slumber party amongst the exhibits in the Museum, we'll embark on a night hike, gather around a campfire for stories and songs, make some special crafts, explore Ongley Pond, and so much more.

In the morning, you'll be treated to breakfast and a special program featuring live animals! Drop-off program!

Bring a friend and make new ones too.

**Cost: \$60/member, \$120/non-member
(Covers all materials, snacks, and breakfast)**

Registrations must be received by April 17.

First come, first served.

DON'T DELAY! This program is limited to 25 participants. Confirmation will be sent along with a checklist of items to bring. Event will occur rain or shine.

For more information, please call us at 860-567-0857 or visit us at

www.whitememorialcc.org

River Mussels

By David K. Leff
Illustration by Adelaide Tyrol

*The name of a thing may easily
be more than the thing itself to me.
H. D. Thoreau*

Blind, sedentary and soundless, the names
of these living rocks evidence the music
of human imagination, evoke
primal wonder in wild creatures.

*heelsplitter, tidewater mucket, shinyrayed
pocketbook, oval pigtoe, wartryback,
sheepnose*

Jeweled in glossy amber to greenish brown,
these ovoid cobbles are inscribed with concentric
calcium rings hidden beneath currents.

Lodged in gravel and sand, they siphon
and filter detritus and bacteria, stabilize
streambeds, feed muskrats, herons, and otters.

*triangle floater, fat threeridge, purple
bankclimber, monkey face, elephant ear,
pistolgrip*

Secret sentinels of clean water invisible
beneath the flow, we smother them
with poisoned sediments, drown them with dams,
confident that what we don't see can't help us.



“Sense”sational Spring Break Camp

Tuesday-Friday, April 14-17

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

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

Members: \$20/child per session

or \$70/child for the whole week

Non-Members: \$35/child per session

or \$120/child for the whole week



Kids in Grades 1-6: Looking for a great way to spend your spring
break? Why not spend it in the classroom— the **OUTDOOR**
classroom that is! Compare your senses to those of wild animals
while playing games, making crafts, and most importantly,
getting outside! Meet live animals too.

Snacks will be served between adventures.

Parents are welcome to stay, but it is not required.

Meet in the Ceder Room.

Advanced registration is required.

GIVE LOCAL

APRIL 21-22, 2020

Greater Waterbury
and Litchfield Hills



Connecticut Community Foundation

givelocalCCF.org

***The Connecticut Community Foundation Give Local
Greater Waterbury & Litchfield Hills*** is a 36-hour online
community giving event that encourages donors to lend their sup-
port to the nonprofit organizations that work every day to make
our community stronger.

Every dollar donated to the Conservation Center from 7 a.m. on
April 21st to 7 p.m. on April 22nd will help defray the cost of the
38th Annual Family Nature Day, which takes place **September
26, 2020!** Your donations will be stretched with bonus funds pro-
vided by the *Connecticut Community Foundation* and generous
Give Local sponsors.

We are also eligible to win amazing cash prizes during the event!

Watch our website www.whitememorialcc.org or read your
Habitattler for more details on how you can donate,
or visit our personal ***Give Local*** page :

[https://www.givelocalccf.org/organizations/white-memorial-
conservation-center](https://www.givelocalccf.org/organizations/white-memorial-conservation-center)

Summer Nature Camp

Wee Discoverers

Weekly 2-hour programs for children ages 4-5 featuring
stories, songs, crafts, and outdoor adventures. Sign up by session
or for all five. Dates: Tuesdays, July 7, 14, 21, 28, and Aug. 4

Nature Adventurers

Week-long sessions featuring outdoor discovery, games, books,
songs, and crafts that help kids learn about the natural world
around them. For children entering grades 1-2. Sign up by week
or for all 3 weeks. Dates: July 6-24

Natural History Explorers

Week-long sessions for children entering grades 3-9 that immerse
them in nature. All-day outdoor adventures both on and off
White Memorial property. Dates: July 6-August 7
(dates dependent on grade level)

More details coming soon.

**Registration begins March 15 for members
and April 1 for non-members.**

To register for these programs, please call 860-567-0857 or visit www.whitememorialcc.org

Spring Calendar of Events

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

APRIL

2 **Nature's Nursery** Call 860-567-0857 or register online: www.whitememorialcc.org

4 **CT DEEP CARE Family Freshwater Fishing Class**
A. B. Cedar Room & Ongley Pond
10:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m.
Pre-register: 860-567-0857 or online at:
www.whitememorialcc.org



4 **Road Trip! Riverside Reptiles Education Center**
See page 7 for details.



10 **Good Friday**
Museum Closed



11 **Whose Feather is It? Feather ID Workshop with Kristi Dranginis**
See page 7 for details.



11 **An Early Spring Hike through Catlin Woods with Steve Troop**
10:00 a.m., Meet in the Museum.

11 **Spring Wildflowers in Connecticut with Peter and Barbara Rzas**
2:00 p.m., A. B. Cedar Room



12 **Easter Sunday**
Museum Closed



April 14, May 12, June 9 Monthly Bird Walk with Kristi Dranginis



Join Kristi www.BirdMentor.com on the second Tuesday of each month to explore the diverse habitats and bird species on our property. 8:00 - 10:00 a.m., Meet in front of the A. B. Cedar Room.

14 - 17 **"Sense"ational Spring Break Camp**
See page 5 for details!

April 17, May 15, June 19 Star Party!

Astronomy program with stargazing to follow. 8:00 p.m., A. B. Cedar Room



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

20 - 26 **Museum Kids Free Week**
In Memory of Louise W. Willson *

21 / 22 **GIVE LOCAL! A Day of Giving!**
See page 5 for details!

24/ 25 **30th Annual Museum Sleep-In**
See page 4 for details.



25 **Poetry for a Greener World Celebrating the 50th Anniversary of Earth Day**

Museum Open House ~ 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Poetry Rambles at 2:00 p.m. & 4:00 p.m.
Pre-registration is required.

Picnic & Conversation 5:30 p.m. - 6:45 p.m.

Poetry Reading: Toward a Greener World
7:00 p.m. in The Carriage House with Connecticut Poet Laureate Margaret Gibson and Poet-in-Residence for the New England Trail, David K. Leff

Pre-registration is required.
Call 860-567-0857 or register online:
www.whitememorialcc.org

MAY

1 **WMCC Annual Meeting** 3:30 p.m., Office

2 **Bobbing for Bobolinks: Hiking Apple Hill & Topsmead with Gerri Griswold**
8:00 a.m., Meet in the A. B. Cedar Room.



2 **Wild Edible Plants with Andy Dobos**
See page 7 for details.



9 **The Full Mattatuck Trail in White Memorial**
Six mile hike! 8:00 a.m., Pre-register a MUST!
For more information call 860-567-0857 or visit www.whitememorialcc.org

11 - 17 **Museum Kids Free Week**
Courtesy of Tara and Arthur Diedrick *

14 **Nature's Nursery** Call 860-567-0857 or register online: www.whitememorialcc.org

16 **A Private Tour of the Ripley Waterfowl Conservancy**
See page 7 for details.



16 **Dive into Spring's Awe with Marlow Shami**
See page 7 for details.



17 **Saving Jemima: Life & Love with a Hard-Luck Jay**
An Afternoon with Author, Artist, Naturalist: Julie Zickefoose



2:00 p.m., Carriage House
Please pre-register by calling 860-567-0857 or register online:
www.whitememorialcc.org

23 **Painting on Feathers with Pat Morris**
See page 7 for details.



25 **Memorial Day**
Museum Closed



25 - 31 **Museum Kids Free Week**
Honoring Helen Ryan Donnelly *

30 **Dawn Chorus with Fran Zygmunt**
4:00 a.m., Meet at the A. B. Cedar Room.
Pre-register by calling 860-567-0857 or register online: www.whitememorialcc.org

30 **Spring Mushroom Foray with Mushroom Marlene**
See page 7 for details.



JUNE

3, 10, 17, 24 **Yoga in the Garden**
8:00 a.m., In the garden behind the Museum
\$10.00, For more information: 860-309-9489

6 **Museum Open House**
Celebrate Connecticut Trails Day!

6 **Celebrate Connecticut Trails Day! Five Ponds Geology with James Fischer**
10:00 a.m., Meet at the trailhead at the intersection of RT's 63 & 61 in Morris.

6 **Celebrate Connecticut Trails Day! Amphibian Amble**
2:30 p.m., Meet in the A. B. Cedar Room.

8 - 14 **Museum Kids Free Week**
In Memory of Louise W. Willson *

11 **Nature's Nursery** Call 860-567-0857 or register online: www.whitememorialcc.org

13 **Wandering through the Cathedrals and Schermerhorn Hill with Steve Troop**
2:00 p.m., Meet in the A. B. Cedar Room.

13 **An Evening with the Hartford Classical Guitar Ensemble**
See page 7 for details.



14 **Litchfield Hills Road Race**
Museum Closed



20 **Remembering Robyn Dinda Bantam River Paddle with Paul Edwards**
10:00 a.m., Meet at the boat launch after the bridge on Whites Woods Road.

27 **Wild Edible Plants with Andy Dobos**
See page 7 for details.



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

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

SPRING 2020 WORKSHOP REGISTRATION FORM

YOU CAN NOW REGISTER ONLINE: WWW.WHITEMEMORIALCC.ORG



April 4 Road Trip to The Riverside Reptiles Education Center

Meet in the Museum parking lot at 9:45 a.m.
All Tickets: \$20.00 Limited to 13!

Hop aboard the Conservation Center van with Carrie Szwed and snake your way up to Enfield, Connecticut for a private tour of this fantastic new center owned and operated by our favorite herp expert, Brian Kleinman. Bring a lunch or buy at the Center's Snack Bar! Admission is included.



May 16 Dive into Spring's Awe with Marlow Shami

10:00 a.m., Meet in the A. B. Cedar Room.
Members: FREE Non-members: \$5.00

We don't have to be witness to great art or eye-popping natural beauty to experience awe. Awe awakens when we remember through experience; we are a part of nature, not apart from it. You will experience guided meditations and a beautiful outdoor walk and nature-based activity designed to enliven the awe within you.



April 11 Whose Feather is It?? Feather ID Workshop with Kristi Dranginis

10:00 a.m., A. B. Cedar Room
Members: \$15.00 Non-members: \$30.00

Can you tell the difference between an owl, hawk & turkey feather? Would you like to? It's relatively easy, actually ... with the right tools! Join Kristi Dranginis, founder of *BirdMentor.com* to learn the key features to unlocking the mystery of the bird feathers you find. If we are lucky, we may even receive a visit from a live feather ambassador!



May 23 Painting on Feathers with Pat Morris

2:00 p.m., A. B. Cedar Room.
Members: \$25.00 Non-members: \$50.00

Multi-talented nature artist Pat Morris <https://www.patmorrisartist.com/> will teach you a very simple technique of painting on feathers. You can bring your own photo or a prop or use taxidermy specimens provided by the Museum as your subject. The workshop is open to all ages and skill levels. All materials are included. Pat promises you'll walk out of her class with your very own feather masterpiece!



May 2 & June 27 Wild Edible Plants with Andy Dobos

10:00 a.m., Meet in front of the Museum.
Members: \$15.00 Non-members: \$30.00

In this 3 hour workshop, Andy Dobos will help you learn some common, easily identifiable edible wild plants and how to responsibly harvest and prepare them. We will walk through field, forest and wetland edge, all almost within sight of each other.



May 30 Spring Mushroom Foray with Mushroom Marlene

10:00 a.m., A. B. Cedar Room
Members: \$15.00 Non-members: \$30.00

Spend time with popular mycologist Marlene Snecinski, aka Mushroom Marlene, as she leads you on a lovely foray to collect and identify edible mushrooms. It is morel season so keep your fingers crossed! Return to the Cedar Room with your treasures. A presentation and mushroom tasting will follow the walk!



May 16 A Private Tour of the Ripley Waterfowl Conservancy

Meet in the Museum parking lot at 9:45 a.m.
Members: \$15.00 Non-members: \$20.00

The Ripley Waterfowl Conservancy is dedicated to the protection of waterfowl and wetlands through research, education, and conservation. The Conservancy maintains a diverse collection of live waterfowl from around the world with an active breeding program! Don't forget to pack your camera!



June 13 The Hartford Classical Guitar Ensemble

7:00 p.m., Activity Shed
All Tickets: \$10.00

The ensemble was formed in 2011 by a group of classical guitar enthusiasts and is now conducted by award-winning classical guitarist Christopher Ladd, Chair of the Hartt School Guitar and Harp Program. Bring a picnic! BYOB!

Clip & Mail

_____ Riverside Reptiles Road Trip.....ALL TICKETS: \$20.00
_____ Feather ID Workshop with Kristi Dranginis.....Member: \$15.00 Non member: \$30.00
_____ Wild Edible Plants with Andy Dobos...May 2 ___ June 27 ___Member: \$15.00 Non-member: \$30.00
_____ A Private Tour of the Ripley Waterfowl ConservancyMember: \$15.00 Non-member: \$20.00
_____ Dive into Spring's Awe with Marlow Shami.....Member: FREE Non-member: \$5.00
_____ Painting on Feathers with Pat Morris.....Member: \$25.00 Non-member: \$50.00
_____ Spring Mushroom Foray with Mushroom Marlene.....Member: \$15.00 Non-member: \$30.00
_____ Hartford Classical Guitar EnsembleALL TICKETS: \$10.00

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 \$60.00 per year and individual is \$40.00.

Make check payable to WMCC and mail to:
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SEPTEMBER 26TH, 2020

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HAND WING BAT REHABILITATION

BUNNELL FARMS HORSE DRAWN WAGON RIDES

MUSIC BY ~ ANDES MANTA



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I suppose the best kind of spring morning is the best weather God has to offer.

~ Dodie Smith, I Capture the Castle

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