

SANCTUARY

Newsletter of
The White Memorial
Conservation Center
Vol. XXXIX No. 1
Winter 2021

Museum Hours:

The Nature Museum is closed
until further notice.

For Information

Phone: 860-567-0857

E-Mail: info@whitememorialcc.org

Website: www.whitememorialcc.org



*American Mastodon (Mammuth americanus) painted exclusively for
The White Memorial Conservation Center by Jón Baldur Hlíðberg www.fauna.is*

Connecticut at the End of the Last Ice Age: The Farmington Mastodon and First Human Settlers

By Dr. Sarah P. Sportman, Connecticut State Archaeologist

In the late summer of 1913, a group of Italian workmen digging a trench to drain a swamp on the Hill-Stead estate in Farmington encountered a set of massive, well-preserved bones (Figure 1).



Figure 1: Photograph of the partially excavated Farmington mastodon's mandible (jaw bone) in 1913.

The remains lay in the bottom of a peat bog at the base of Farmington Mountain (Figure 2).

Allen B. Cook, the estate's Superintendent, quickly recognized the significance of the find and alerted his employer, Ms. Theodate Pope. She arranged to have specialists from Yale, led by the paleontologist Charles Schuchert, come to Hill-Stead to examine and excavate the bones. The scientists identified the remains as an American mastodon (*Mammuth americanus*), and as the excavations progressed, it was clear that it was a remarkably complete skeleton (Schuchert and Hull 1914). Hugh Gibb, a Peabody Museum preparator, directed the careful excavation of the mastodon with the assistance of museum staff and five of the laborers involved in the initial find.

The Farmington or Pope mastodon, as it came to be known, was not the first specimen found in Connecticut. In 1828, two mastodon finds were reported in the state: the first, reportedly found in Sharon, is lost to history and the second was a mastodon molar discovered near Cheshire during construction of the Farmington Canal. A few years later in 1833, excavation of a canal in New Britain resulted in the discovery of a nearly complete mastodon vertebra. In 1852 another more complete mastodon skeleton, this one including a few limb bones, ribs, and teeth, was recovered in New Britain. The mastodon found at Hill-Stead in 1913 was by far the most intact. Only a few of the small foot and leg bones, the caudal or tail vertebrae, and one tusk were missing. The mastodon skeleton appeared to have suffered only minor disturbance in the thousands of years it lay buried in the bog. Much of the skeleton was found in its nat-

ural anatomical arrangement, although a scattering of individual bones and one tusk were found several feet away (Figure 3; Schuchert and Hull 1914), possibly separated from the carcass by scavenging animals or geological processes.

Following the excavation, the Farmington mastodon bones were taken to the Yale Peabody Museum for conservation. For the next several decades, the mastodon was stored in a variety of locations including Avon Old Farms School, the Connecticut Geological and Natural History Survey, and Yale. In 1979 the mastodon was finally put on display at the American Indian Archaeological Institute (now the Institute for American Indian Studies (IAIS) in Washington (Figure 4), Connecticut, but in 1989, it was disassembled and sent to the Connecticut State Museum of Natural History at the University of Connecticut.

(Continued on page 2)

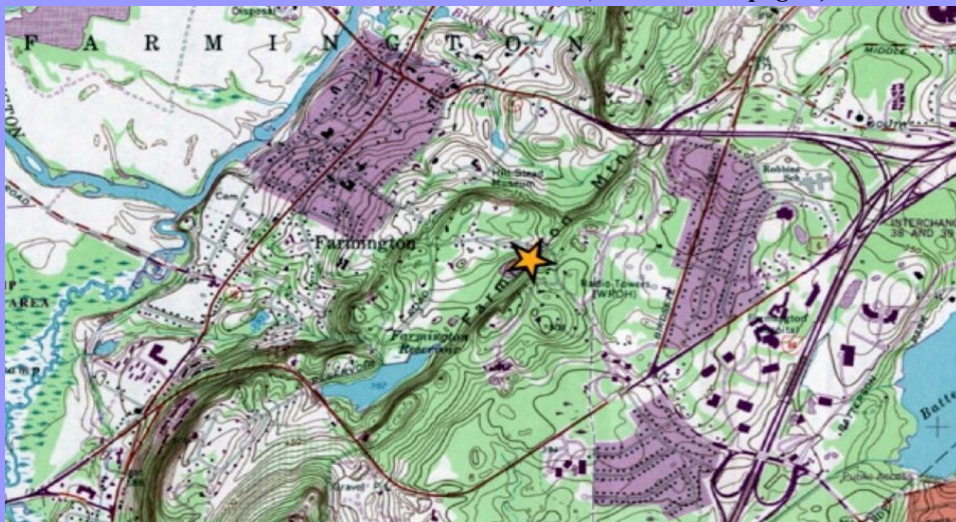


Figure 2: Topographic map showing the approximate location of the mastodon find.

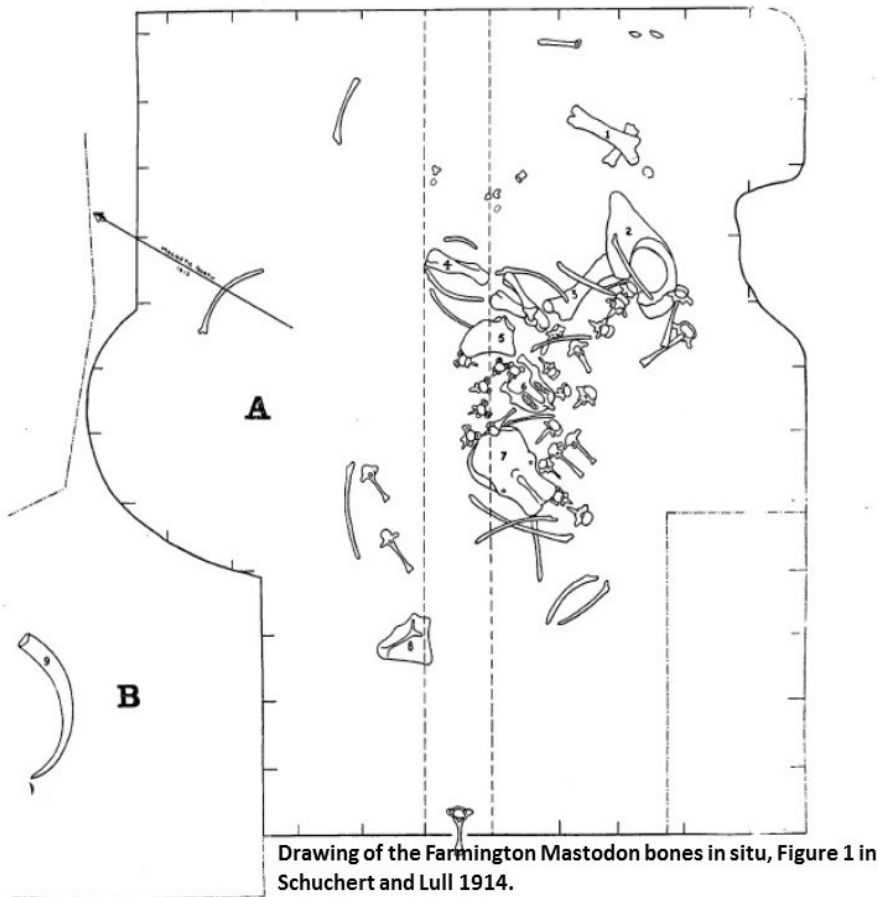


Figure 3: Drawing of the mastodon bones as they were found in 1913, from Schuchert and Lull 1914.

In 2015, the mastodon was once again put on display at IAIS. That year, the late Connecticut State Archaeologist Brian Jones arranged to have the Farmington mastodon directly radiocarbon dated using accelerator mass spectrometry (AMS). The results indicated that the mastodon lived between 14,870 and 14,210 years before present (BP) (Boulanger and Jones 2016). A fragment from the 1852 New Britain mastodon was also recently dated, returning a date range of 13,100–12,984 years BP (Boulanger 2015).

The presence of mastodons in Connecticut more than 14,000 years ago provides information about the local environment and has important implications regarding earliest possible human habitation of our area. Based on dated skeletal remains from New York and New England, mastodons arrived in our region on the heels of the boreal forests (Fiedel et al 2019). Following the retreat of the glaciers between 17 and 18,000 years ago, the environment began to change, with especially rapid environmental shifts between 15 and 11,000 years ago. A warming event known as the Bøllering-Allerød interstadial, which occurred near the end of the last glacial period (around 14,600 BP), facilitated the expansion of boreal forest vegetation into the northeastern U.S.



Continued on page 3

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

That 2020 has been a challenge is probably the greatest understatement of all time. Whether you have experienced the loss of a loved one, are juggling home schooling and career, are grappling to keep your business afloat, or are just plain lonely, Covid-19 has spared no one. The Conservation Center had to close in March. Our heads were reeling! With a huge loss of income, but more importantly, our inability to reach out to you in person, how could we remain relevant during this crisis? Thousands flooded our trails, retreating to Nature, but The Conservation Center remained closed. I kept repeating a quote from Charles Darwin, “In the long history of humankind (and animal kind, too) those who learned to collaborate and improvise most effectively have prevailed.”

Since March, the Conservation Center, through ZOOM and Facebook Live, has educated over 14,000 children and adults, even in places such as India, Iceland, Japan, Canada, Chile, The Nether-

lands, France, and Malaysia. From Maine to California, Wisconsin to Texas, our

We have prevailed...virtually.



Photo credit: Matt Balnis

programs have spanned our nation and the globe. Imagine what Alain and May White would be thinking! We’ve developed a lecture series for assisted living facilities...enrichment for the most vulnerable. We’ve collaborated with libraries. We’ve taught schoolchildren. We’ve been on television and radio.

Your tax-deductible donation, no matter how small, to our Annual Year End Appeal supports our devotion to serving your interests. You can also 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, and I thank you for your generosity during these difficult times. We really miss you. Until we are able to meet again, please join us on this virtual magic carpet ride. We are heading to Egypt to visit animal mummies and Costa Rica to meet the most colorful and diminutive frogs. You’ll encounter an American Mastodon with Connecticut roots and learn how to cook a comforting chicken and apple dish from France...Poulet à la Normande! I hope, in some small way, The Conservation Center is helping you and your family prevail.

Connecticut at the End of the Last Ice Age: The Farmington Mastodon and First Human Settlers

Continued from page 2

While boreal forests are dominated by conifers, they also support a range of other plants, including scattered deciduous trees, shrubs, mosses, herbs, and berries. The development of this vegetation rendered the area habitable for mastodons and other species like caribou, bears, wolves, and a variety of smaller mammals.

The establishment of this flora and fauna opened up the region for human settlement, as well. The first people to live in what is now Connecticut are known to archaeologists as Paleoindians. To date, the earliest documented human habitation sites in Connecticut are the Brian D. Jones Site in Avon, which is dated to about 12,500 years BP (Leslie et al. 2019), and the Templeton Site in Washington, which was occupied about 12,000 years BP (Singer 2017), but given what we know about the local environmental conditions, it is possible that people were here even earlier, by about 13,000 years BP. Archaeological data from the Jones and Templeton sites indicates that groups of people traveled across the region hunting, fishing, gathering plants foods, and visiting known quarry locations to obtain high-quality stone to make their tools. They camped along rivers, in upland areas, and on the edges of wetlands, and probably returned seasonally to the best camp sites. The Farmington River Valley appears to have been an important area for the first groups of people in Connecticut. To date, six

Paleoindian period projectile spots have been found within a 5-mile radius of the Brian D. Jones Site (Leslie 2020; Bellantoni 1995).

Archaeological excavations at the Jones Site, which were conducted in 2019 by Archaeological and Historical Services, Inc., yielded a wealth of new information about Paleoindian lifeways and shed light on the local environment. The archaeological investigation recovered thousands of stone artifacts, a drilled stone pendant fragment, and grinding stones for processing plant foods. Archaeologists also found cultural features like hearths and the remains of wooden posts that likely supported tents or drying racks for meat and hides. Charred plant remains from some of the hearths included cattail, pin cherry, strawberry, acorn, sumac, water lily, and dogwood, as well as a few burned bones from a small animal (Sportman and Leslie 2020; Leslie and Sportman 2019).

People and mastodons almost certainly interacted in Connecticut. Mastodons thrived in the region until the onset of the Younger Dryas, a cold period ranging from about 12,900 to 11,700 years ago that interrupted the warming trend of the last few thousand years. To date, there is no direct evidence that humans hunted the animals in Connecticut, but mastodons and mammoths have been found in association with human-made tools in other parts of the country (Fiedel et al 2019). Many

researchers theorize that humans played a role in the animals' extinction possibly through hunting, but also due to the overall impacts that people had on the environment.

There is currently a boom in Paleoindian research in Connecticut, and new data will surely shed more light on the composition of local environments and human interactions with plants and animals in the region. Researchers in Connecticut are actively working on coring peat bogs and river adjacent sediments to better understand the conditions that preserve early archaeological sites and to study the environmental resources and landscape features that attracted both animals and human settlers to the region after the glaciers retreated. To learn more about the possible relationship between humans and mastodons, another goal of this research should be to try and get the other surviving mastodon specimens dated.

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- Sportman Sarah P. and David E. Leslie 2020** 12,500-Year-Old Paleoindian Site Discovered. *Connecticut Explored* 18(2): 46-48.

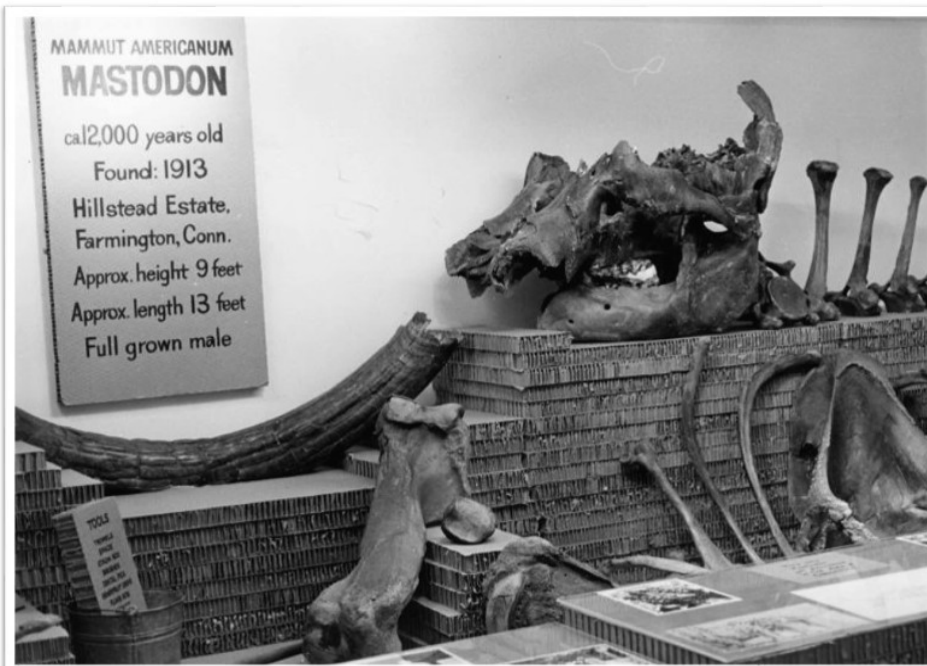


Figure 4: The Farmington mastodon on display at the American Indian Archaeological Institute in Washington, Connecticut, 1979.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE

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

Well, here we are at nearly the end of 2020. I don't know about you, but nothing in my life has ever prepared me for something like this pandemic. I think the thing I miss most is the ability to visit with friends in a closed area; going out to dinner; having a dinner party. Nothing really big, just things that make life a bit richer.

It's kind of hard to come up with new ideas for this column given the circumstances that we currently share. Nobody is going out much, so speaking to what you can do in that venue doesn't reach as many people, me thinks.

One of the many things that was hard to come by in the early days of this pandemic was boxes of tissues. Toilet paper and paper towels for sure, but we've already addressed them in earlier articles. Nobody really gave a thought to tissues until they reached for them in the store and came up empty. I'm not saying that the Greenwood family does not use tissues. We do. We just mostly save them for bad colds or when we are sick. Throwing away germ filled pieces of paper seems like a good idea in cases like that. Burning them in the wood stove makes even more sense. No sense asking for more trouble.

What about you? What do you use when

your nose gets drippy? Tissues, right? Most people do. Then you have to throw them away, buy more and store them on a shelf in your pantry or somewhere. No big deal, I guess. Until you think of the costs, the real costs.

My Dad used a cloth handkerchief. My uncles used cloth handkerchiefs. My grandmother, aunts, cousins and mother used cloth handkerchiefs. Our pastor uses a hankie. Hubby uses a handkerchief. I have one in my purse and one in each coat pocket.

I remember a time when you put on clean socks and underwear every day and put a clean hankie in your pocket. It was as natural as combing your hair or brushing your teeth. It was just what you did. Tissues were not used in America until after WWI. Kimberly Clark had developed a product that could be used for sterile wound dressings during the first world war. After the war, they had to find other uses for this product, so they began searching for additional uses for a refined paper product. They came up with Kleenex and advertised them as disposable handkerchiefs. Seems like a good idea on the surface. Until you rethink the environmental costs. But what about the true costs of making tissues?

Americans use upward of 255,000,000 tissues per year. Yup, you read that right. Most paper comes from trees, even recycled paper came from trees in the beginning. Harvesting those trees costs money. Transporting them to the pulp mill costs. Making paper takes a LOT of water, so manufacturing plants are typically placed near waterways. Factories use electricity and other fuels. Finished tissues need to be boxed or wrapped in plastic. Those packages need to be put into bigger packages for shipping. Transportation to move the boxes to the warehouse. Transportation to move those boxes to the stores. Transportation to move those boxes from the store to your home and more transportation to move the used product to the landfill. That's just the costs of emissions and fuel.

So, what can you do? Well, bandanas work just fine for drippy noses and in a pinch can be used as a washcloth or napkin. Hobby Lobby sells them for 99 cents. Walmart sells a package of thirteen men's white handkerchiefs, online, for about ten dollars. Ladies hankies are a bit more, but they are also fancier with lace or printed flowers, birds and butterflies.

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UPCOMING PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN

Virtual Nature's Nursery Series

**First Thursday of Every Month, Jan.–April
(Jan. 7, Feb. 4, Mar. 4, Apr. 1)**

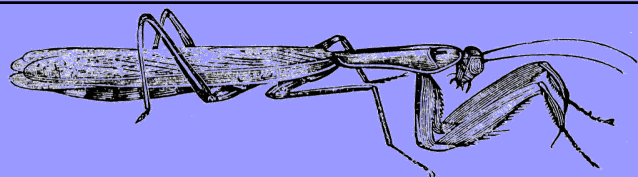
Ages 3–6 years

2-2:30pm (note time change from previous series!)

**Members: \$5/child per session
or \$15 for whole series (4 sessions)
Non-members: \$8/child per session
or \$25 for whole series (4 sessions)**

This Series is designed *just* for your young nature lovers! Every session will include a story featuring wild animals and then an up-close encounter with a live animal!

Sign up by session or for the whole series. Before each program, you will receive an email with the Zoom link. *We ask that an adult accompanies your little one(s) at the computer for the duration of each virtual program.*



After-School Adventures *

**Grades 1-3: Tuesdays in March
Grades 4-6: Wednesdays in March
3:45-5pm**

**Members: \$9/child per session
or \$40 for the whole series (5 sessions)
Non-members: \$13/child per session
or \$60 for the whole series (5 sessions)**

These programs are designed to awaken curiosity and foster an appreciation for the natural world in your school-aged children. Every session brings a new adventure, whether it's exploring a new nook and cranny, meeting a live animal, or taking part in a fun activity. It's all about experiential learning in the outdoors! Sign up by session or for the whole series. Parents/Guardians are welcome to stay, but it is not necessary.

**If health conditions allow, we will hold these sessions in-person at White Memorial, entirely outdoors or in the Activity Shed (with one entire wall open for ventilation). Masks will be required for everyone. Otherwise, we will make these sessions virtual and send Zoom links.*

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

MAKE A DIFFERENCE CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

144 count Kleenex brand sells for about \$1.50. Hubby has handkerchiefs that are at least twenty years old. When he is done using them, they become rags. A number of years ago, I made dollhouse bedding out of handkerchiefs. Handkerchiefs and bandanas in our house have been used as napkins; Halloween costumes; ice packs; temporary slings; washcloths; rags; snowman scarfs; decorations and to wipe drippy noses.

What do you say? How about trying handkerchiefs? You are home, anyway, and no one can see you, except for your housemates. So that gives you time to try them and to remember to put one in your pocket. If you do it now, before the world opens back up, it will be a new habit. One that you did to *make a difference*. Because, really, isn't that what it's all about anyway?



HAPPY BIRTHDAY, ALAIN! ONLINE AUCTION ~ MARCH 1-14, 2021

We celebrate the 141st birthday of Alain White (March 3, 1880) with an online auction that includes an abundance of treasures from new to lightly used to antique to wonderful services. Bidding will begin March 1 and end March 14, 2021.

You can sponsor a child to go to Summer Camp. You can bid on a Meet and Greet with Shakespeare the Barred Owl and a personal Owl Prowl with Fran Zygmunt followed by breakfast at Patty's! How about a summer evening of Champagne, Nibbles, and Bat Counting with Gerri Griswold or a Bird Walk and Ice Cream Treat with Carrie Szwed? A picnic provided by Gerri Griswold and music courtesy of our beloved local troubadour Ian Campbell atop Apple Hill? SIGN ME UP! Paddle the Bantam River in a four person Old Town canoe! We can just picture you rocking in that beautiful hand-stenciled nature-themed rocking chair! The Foundation is donating an official White Memorial picnic table and Leopold Bench made from wood harvested right here on our property!

Also on offer are beautiful hand made ceramics, wool blankets, and a tasty food hamper from Arethusa Farms. One feature in the antiques department is a large hand crafted toy sail boat from the 1930's. Also offered for your consideration is a Russian Lomono-

sov pottery Otter and a set of Van Briggie Squirrel bookends in the most precious shade of blue!

Proceeds from the auction will help defray The Conservation Center's operating expenses. Our income resources have been gravely affected by Covid-19. We hope you will find a trifle or simply wish to make a donation. Thank you!

Visit www.whitememorialcc.org for more information and happy bidding! If you would like to donate an item or a special service, (gift cards supporting local establishments are greatly appreciated), please email Gerri Griswold:

gerri@whitememorialcc.org

Your donations are tax deductible.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, ALAIN!



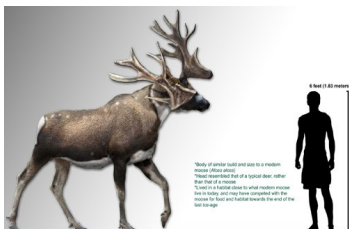
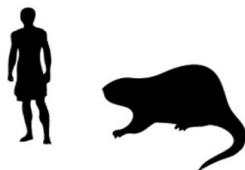
A SAMPLING ~PLEISTOCENE MEGAFAUNA OF THE NORTHEAST

REFERENCE: [HTTP://TCPERMACULTURE.COM/SITE/2014/06/28/GIANTS-OF-THE-NORTH-AMERICAN-SAVANNAS/](http://TCPERMACULTURE.COM/SITE/2014/06/28/GIANTS-OF-THE-NORTH-AMERICAN-SAVANNAS/)

There is still much debate over the cause for the disappearance of our Ice Age Megafauna. Undoubtedly their demise came not from one cause but a combination of climate change and in some cases, human predation. While that debate rolls on, what is certain is that evidence exists of the following species (and many more), once roaming the Northeast. We hope this little primer will ignite interest in your continued pursuit for information about these truly extraordinary creatures.

Giant Beaver (*Castoroides*)

This huge rodent resembled our modern day beaver but weighed in at 130 to 220 pounds and was over eight feet long.

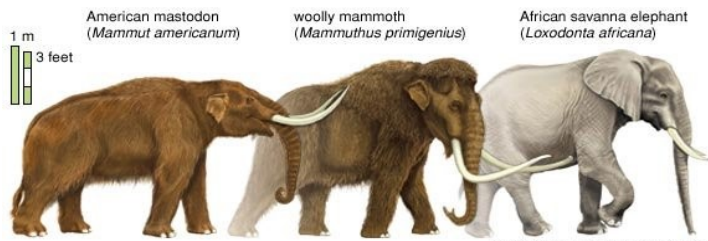
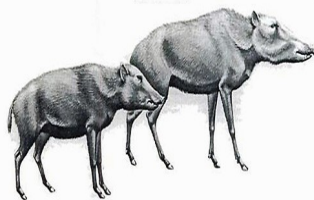


Stag-Moose (*Cervalces scotti*)

The Stag-Moose had characteristics of both a deer and a moose. It grew to over 8 feet tall and weighed over 1,500 pounds. It was a bit larger than a modern Moose, but with the antlers of a deer or elk.

Peccaries

There were several species of peccaries in North America. They resemble pigs. The most notable extinct peccaries are the Flat-Headed Peccary (*Platygonus* genus), which was about 3 feet long and 100 pounds and the Long-Nose Peccary (*Mylohyus*) which was a bit larger weighing 150 pounds.



© 2006 Encyclopedia Britannica, Inc.

Mastodon (*Mammot*): The Mastadons were smaller, stouter, more muscled elephant-like animals that appeared to live more in the forest than in the grasslands. They grew to over 9 feet at the shoulder and weighed over 5 tons. **Mammoth (*Mammuthus* genus):** There were a number of Mammoth species that roamed North America. The largest grew to over 13 feet at the shoulder and weighed over 9 tons.

Woodland Muskox (*Bootherium bombifrons*)

This was a very widespread bovid in North America. It was similar in appearance to the living Tundra Muskox, but it was a warmer-climate species.



Bison: Although the four extinct species did resemble bison of today, *Bison antiquus* was about 25% larger than a modern bison. *Bison latifrons* grew to over 8 feet at the shoulder and weighed over 4,400 pounds.



Winter Virtual Calendar of Events

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

JANUARY

- 1 **HAPPY NEW YEAR!**
Office Closed 2021!
- 2 **Famous Animals in History**
with Gerri Griswold
Many wild and domesticated animals are attached to some of the most famous humans in history! Meet Martha, Rebecca, Grip, Stubby, Traveler, Dan and more!
2:00 p.m. ZOOM & Facebook Live!
Register: www.whitememorialcc.org

January 5, 12, 19, 26
Contemplative Yoga with
Judith Ehrman-Shapiro
4:30 – 5:30 p.m., \$10.00
A portion of the proceeds is donated to WMCC.
ZOOM!
For more information:
www.whitememorialcc.org

7 **Nature's Nursery Series: See page 4**

- 9 **The Pandemic Pantry with Gerri Griswold**
Homage to the Apple!
It's our very own cooking show!
12:00 p.m., ZOOM & Facebook Live!
Register:
www.whitememorialcc.org



- 9 **Stories That Snowflakes Tell**
with Tom Alena
See page 7 for details and registration



- 16 **Animals in Medicine and Magic in**
Ancient Egypt with Dr. Sofia Aziz
See page 7 for details
and registration.



- 18 **Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**
Office Closed

- 21 **Nature's Not So Cuddly**
with Carrie Szwed
To know them is to love them! Meet a snake and salamander and hear tips on how you can be a hero to these "unhuggables"!
2:00 p.m., ZOOM & Facebook Live!
Register: www.whitememorialcc.org



- 23 **Beautiful, Beneficial,**
Blameless Bats
with Maureen Heidtmann
See page 7 for details
and registration.



- 30 **In Search of Lost Frogs**
with Twan Leenders
See page 7 for details
and registration.



FEBRUARY

February 2, 9, 16, 23
Contemplative Yoga with
Judith Ehrman-Shapiro
4:30 – 5:30 p.m., \$10.00
A portion of the proceeds is donated to WMCC. **ZOOM!**
For more information:
www.whitememorialcc.org

4 **Nature's Nursery Series: See page 4**

- 5 **Virtual Star Party!**
An informative talk presented by the star-studded members of the Litchfield Hills Amateur Astronomy Club!
7:00 p.m., Zoom & Facebook Live!
Register: www.whitememorialcc.org



- 6 **The Pandemic Pantry with Gerri Griswold**
What a Friend We Have in Cheeses!
It's our very own cooking show!
12:00 p.m., ZOOM & Facebook Live!
Register:
www.whitememorialcc.org



- 11 **Become a Backyard Bird Counter**
(Virtual) with Carrie Szwed
A family-friendly lesson on identifying and recording the visitors in your back yard!
2:00 p.m. on Zoom and Facebook Live!
Register: www.whitememorialcc.org

- 13 **Ducks in Love!**
with Dr. Colleen Peters
Ripley Waterfowl Conservancy
See page 7 for details and registration.



- 15 **Presidents Day**
Office Closed



- 20 **Live from Iceland**
A Cozy Virtual Concert
with Svavar Knutur
See page 7 for details
and registration.



- 27 **Magic Light Show**
The Science & Beauty
of the Aurora Borealis with Tom Alena
See page 7 for details and registration.



MARCH

- 1 - 14 **HAPPY BIRTHDAY ALAIN!**
ONLINE AUCTION

We celebrate the 141st birthday of Alain White (March 3, 1880) with an online auction that includes an abundance of treasures from new to lightly used to antique to wonderful services. Visit page 5 or www.whitememorialcc.org.

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After School Adventures!!!!
Tuesdays and Wednesdays in March
See page 4 for details.



4 **Nature's Nursery Series: See page 4**

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Register: www.whitememorialcc.org

- 6 **The Pandemic Pantry**
with Gerri Griswold
There's Something About Salmon!
It's our very own cooking show!
12:00 p.m., ZOOM & Facebook Live!
Register:
www.whitememorialcc.org



- 13 **Virtual**
NATURE TRIVIA NIGHT!
See page 7 for details
and registration.



- 18 **What's That Wild Neighbor?**
with Carrie Szwed
Get to know the wild animals that live in our midst by playing a fun, interactive guessing game! 2:00 p.m. Zoom & Facebook Live! Register:
www.whitememorialcc.org



- 20 **Meeting with Monsters**
A Guide to
the Beasts of Iceland
with Jón Baldur Hlíðberg
See page 7 for details
and registration.



- 27 **An Ice Age Odyssey:**
The Pope Mastodon's Epic Journey
Through Life, Death, Storage Crates and
Museums with Dr. Sarah Sportman,
Connecticut State Archaeologist
See page 7 for details and registration.

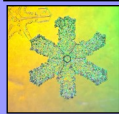


- April 1 **Nature's Nursery Series**
See page 4.



Adult VIRTUAL Nature Study Workshops and Saturday Workshops: Winter 2021

Please pre-register online for these programs: www.whitememorialcc.org



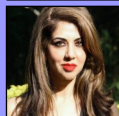
Stories That Snowflakes Tell with Tom Alena

Saturday, January 9, 2021

3:00 p.m., ZOOM, A link will be emailed to you on January 8.

Member: FREE Non Members: \$10.00

This program details how the snow crystal forms in the air above us and why it takes on the variety of shapes we observe. You'll learn how to capture and photograph snow crystals and have tons of fun cutting out actual paper models of real snow crystals.



Animals in Medicine & Magic in Ancient Egypt with Dr. Sofia Aziz

Saturday, January 16, 2021

2:00 p.m., ZOOM, A link will be emailed to you on January 15.

Members: FREE Non Members: \$10.00

Veterinary medicine in ancient Egypt probably formed side by side with human medicine. Evidence suggests that the rudiments of biomedical science were gleaned from observing animal dissections through ritual sacrificing. Animal deities emerged which were invoked to assist in the well being of humans



Beautiful, Beneficial Blameless Bats with Maureen Heidtmann

Saturday, January 23, 2021

2:00 p.m., ZOOM, A link will be emailed to you on January 22.

Members: FREE Non Members: \$10.00

This wonderful program is an overview of the roles that bats play to ensure a healthy planet, and the perils bats face in their struggle for survival – including being wrongfully blamed for the current pandemic. Fact: Wild animals, including bats, are not to blame: humans are.



In Search of Lost Frogs with Twan Leenders

Saturday, January 30, 2021

2:00 p.m., ZOOM, A link will be emailed to you on January 29.

Members: FREE Non-Members: \$10.00

Join Twan Leenders from the Roger Tory Peterson Institute of Natural History on a mid-winter virtual journey to tropical places and enjoy some of the fascinating creatures he has encountered along the way. Twan's photography is known around the world. What a treat!



Ducks in Love! Dr. Colleen Peters, Ripley Waterfowl Conservancy

Saturday, February 13, 2021

2:00 p.m., ZOOM, A link will be emailed to you on February 12.

Members: FREE Non-Members: \$10.00

Love is in the air! Join us for this unique Valentine's program on the topic of love in the waterfowl world. Led by Dr. Colleen Peters, Ripley's Director of Education, this program explores the topics of breeding displays, mate selection, and family structure. Don't let the chill of winter fool you, in the avian world things are heating up!



Live from Iceland ~ A Cozy Virtual Concert with Svavar Knutur

Saturday, February 20, 2021

2:00 p.m., ZOOM, A link will be emailed to you on February 19.

Members: FREE Non Members: \$10.00

A native of the rugged north of Iceland, troubadour and storyteller Svavar Knútur has dedicated his life to exploring the human condition through the lens of his country's dark and often tragic history and unique melodies and narrative style. You'll laugh. You'll cry. This gifted singer / songwriter is a wonder. <https://www.svavarknutur.com/>



Magic Light Show ~ The Science & Beauty of the Aurora Borealis

Saturday, February 27, 2021

3:00 p.m., ZOOM, A link will be emailed to you on February 26.

Members: FREE Non Members: \$10.00

Learn about one of nature's most striking and compelling phenomena, The Northern Lights with Tom Alena. Tom will demonstrate several easy-to-set-up experiments dealing with electricity and magnetism. This program is illustrated with breathtaking photographs by Keeper of the Northern Lights, Olgeir Andresson www.olgeir.com



Virtual Nature Trivia Night!

Saturday, March 13, 2021

7:00 p.m., ZOOM, A link will be emailed to you on March 12.

Members: \$5.00 Non Members: \$10.00

Come on, Brainiacs! It may only be virtual this year and we can't feed you either but CERTAINLY you will rise to the occasion! This trivia night will be facilitated via Zoom using Breakout Rooms. It will be a team event, however you will register individually. Visit our website: www.whitememorialcc.org for minutiae!



Meeting with Monsters ~ Beasts of Iceland with Jón Baldur Hlíðberg

Saturday, March 20, 2021

2:00 p.m., ZOOM, A link will be emailed to you on March 19.

Member: FREE Non Member: \$10.00

Folk legends of monsters from in or around Iceland are recounted from oral and written sources. The monsters and their peculiarities are described in detail along with the locations where they have been spotted. Jon's illustrations shed light on this facet of Icelandic folklore.



An Ice Age Odyssey: The Pope Mastodon's Epic Journey

Saturday, March 27, 2021

2:00 p.m., ZOOM, A link will be emailed to you on March 26.

Members: FREE Non Members: \$10.00

In August of 1913, workmen digging a ditch on the Hill-Stead estate of A.A. Pope in Farmington uncovered the remains of a mastodon. Connecticut State Archaeologist, Dr. Sarah Sportman summarizes the Pope Mastodon's epic journey and his (or her) continuing importance to understanding Connecticut's ancient environment and history.

The Stories That Snowflakes Tell

Member: FREE Non Member: \$10.00

Animals in Medicine & Magic in Egypt

Member: FREE Non Member: \$10.00

Beautiful, Beneficial, Blameless Bats

Member: FREE Non Member: \$10.00

In Search of Lost Frogs

Member: FREE Non Member: \$10.00

Ducks in Love!

Member: FREE Non Member: \$10.00

A Cozy Concert with Svavar Knutur

Member: FREE Non Member: \$10.00

Magic Light Show with Tom Alena

Member: FREE Non Member: \$10.00

Virtual Nature Trivia

Member: \$5.00 Non Member: \$10.00

Meeting with Monsters

Member: FREE Non Member: \$10.00

An Ice Age Odyssey: The Pope Mastodon

Member: FREE Non Member: \$10.00

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Libraries, Teachers, and Group Leaders,

White Memorial Conservation Center continues to provide a wide array of quality education programming despite the challenges of the pandemic. We offer over a dozen programs designed for virtual learning, as well as a dozen more that can be presented either virtually *or* in an outdoor space (masks required).

Here is just a sampling of our program possibilities...

Adventures in Chilean Patagonia (virtual only)

Amazing Adaptations

Bats are Good Guys (virtual only)

Climate Change, CT, and You (virtual only)

Creature Features

CT's Native Wildlife

Iceland Through My Heart (virtual only)

Radical Raptors

Take a Hike

The Sounds of (Nature's) Music

White Memorial Through the Seasons (virtual only)

Who's a Herp?: Reptiles and Amphibians

...and so many more!



Visit whitememorialcc.org for more information and a complete list of programs with detailed descriptions. We are also happy to design a program that caters to your needs. Just ask!

Call 860-567-0857 or email carrie@whitememorialcc.org to book your next program with White Memorial!

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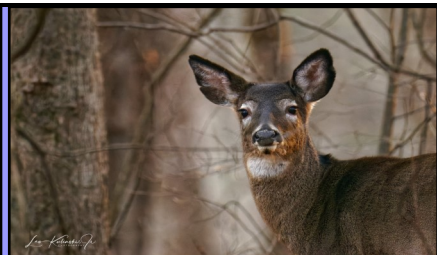
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Have you signed up for our weekly email newsletter, *The Habitattler*?

Calendar of Events

Notable Sightings

The Tail End Video

Happy Picture of the Day and more!

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