

SANCTUARY

Newsletter of
The White Memorial
Conservation Center

Vol. XXXIX No. 2
Spring 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



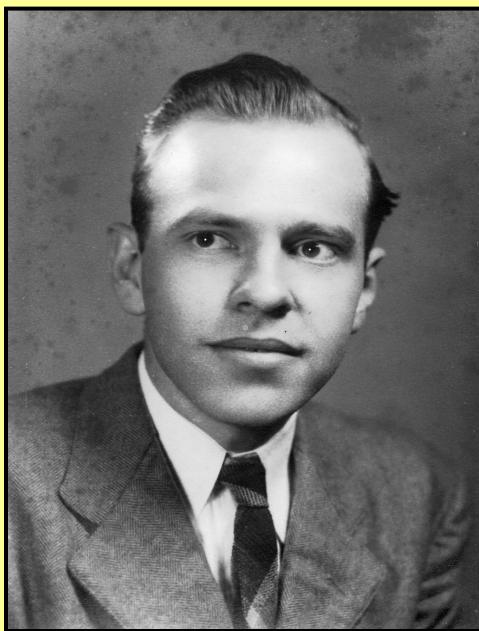
*Three Incomparable Generations of Education Excellence at White Memorial
Education Directors: Gordon Loery (left), Jeff Greenwood (center), Carrie Szwed (right)*

Gordon Loery – He Certainly Left His Mark

by Jeff Greenwood, Retired Education Director, White Memorial Conservation Center

It was 1956. The White Memorial Foundation was 43 years old. WMF founder Alain White had died five years before. By now the Foundation was a well-oiled and progressive machine with a comprehensive forest management program; a woods crew; a sawmill; a carpenter shop supporting cottage repair; rental cottages and summer camps on Bantam Lake; and a landscaped main area. Whitehall, the summer mansion of the White family, and their Carriage House remained, but there was no museum, and the main area probably had little traffic beyond WMF trucks. The world at large was experiencing suburban growth, an increase in consumerism, and construction of the first interstate highway system. Managerial jobs began to outnumber manual workers. Rachel Carson's landmark writing of *Silent Spring* had yet to occur. At this time, the Board of Trustees created a new position on the staff – the position of conservationist – and hired a bright and ambitious young man by the name of Gordon Loery to fill the job. Things were about to change in a big way. The Foundation was already an established conservation organization which also offered varied outdoor recreational activities to many people. Following the wishes of founders Alain and May White, it saw the need to expand its conservation and research programs with a strong educational component. Gordon grew up on Staten Island, NY. After beginning college and then enlisting in the Navy during WWII, he completed his bachelor's degree in biology at Harvard University, followed by his master's degree in conservation at the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Science. He worked

briefly for the Audubon Center in Greenwich, CT, before making his move to White Memorial. The stage was set.



Young Mr. Loery

Gordon hit the ground running. "During my first year here I began organizing field trips and preparing illustrated talks for interested children and adults. I also proposed the establishment of formally designated natural areas, an outdoor research program and a trailside museum in my first report to the Foundation trustees." He took up residence in an old farmhouse owned by White Memorial on Alain White Road. This would become not only his home and the home of his family to follow but a center for housing field study students in those early days and perhaps more importantly, the site of his

bird banding activities and research which would continue for over fifty years.

The importance of sharing pertinent information about nature and ecology was paramount to him. How to go about it? Reach out to the public schools, colleges, universities, and the general public! In 1957, the first of many summer conservation workshops was offered for college credit at WMF. At Gordon's invitation, these were led by Dr. Raymond Kienholz, a forestry professor at the University of Connecticut, at a time when conservation education was gaining a foothold. About the same time Gordon began taking programs that he designed into the local schools. Some of these would become formalized in 1965 into the 6th grade Conservation Education program that later would be sponsored in part by the Litchfield Garden Club. This series is still conducted by WMCC staff, some 55 years later.

As these and other education programs expanded and Gordon's calendar filled up, the thought of having a trailside museum as a headquarters for these activities surfaced. Gordon worked closely with Trustee chairman Mitchell Van Winkle, Jr. The idea took several years to come to fruition as the 50th anniversary of the founding of WMF was on the horizon. It was an exciting time and the actual celebration event in 1963 pulled out all the stops.

A Friends group was formed to serve as a supportive auxiliary with the extensive development that would proceed. At this point, museum exhibits were in the works, particularly the three exquisite dioramas which depicted habitats on the property each in a different season of the year.

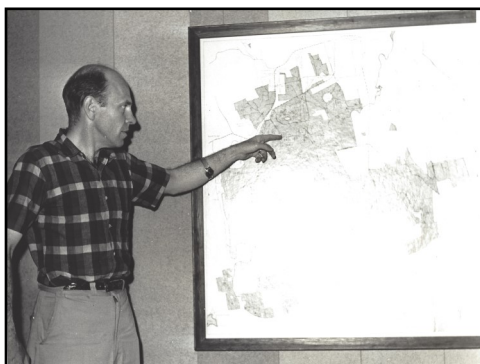
(Continued on page 2)

Continued from page 1

These professionally prepared gems would be the highlights of the museum's nature interpretation for many years. By 1964, the showcase exhibits were complete and the trailside museum was realized – the Litchfield Nature Center and Museum was established and open to the public. In the early 1980s its name would be changed to the White Memorial Conservation Center.

The next few years would see Gordon innovating more changes and growth regarding education. With some guidance from the Trustees and while providing guided nature tours on the property, Gordon pioneered some other initiatives offering more opportunities to children and adults to learn about the natural world and natural resources. The Natural History Day Camp, a summer program for third to sixth graders, got off the ground and continues to this day as the Natural History Explorers. He would also propose the Nature Adventurers summer program for younger children, which also exists to the present. Nature Study Courses for Adults would begin in 1965 with help from Dr. Kienholz. These would be offered in the spring and the fall covering a wide variety of conservation topics. Rarely was Gordon NOT one of the instructors. To promote the blossoming museum, open houses were periodically scheduled and enthusiastically attended.

Gordon sought the fulfillment of conservation by preservation. While the Foundation property was managed for recreational activities (trails; picnic areas; camps for youngsters; swimming and boating access to Bantam Lake; and cottages for rental) and for forestry, there was no formal provision for setting aside areas of particular natural history interest where there would be no management – unique plots where nature could run the show and research could be conducted to learn more about the ecology of these places. With encouragement from Gordon, the Trustees in 1965 designated four permanent "Natural Areas" creating a more balanced conservation program for the 4,000-acre property. He truly valued Catlin Woods and Cranberry Pond as extremely unique and rare environments.

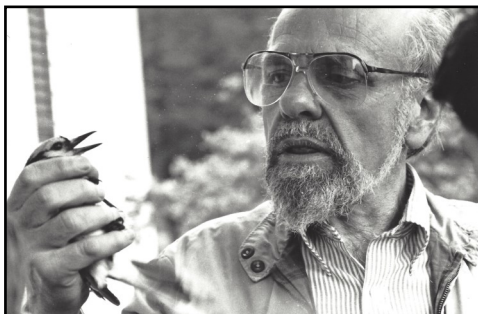


Gordon in the 1960's

Another conservation project was in the works. Several Trustees and Gordon made ornithological observations throughout the seasons for five years beginning in 1960. This culminated in WMF's first comprehensive bird checklist being printed in 1966 and made available for distribution. With its wide variety of

habitats including Bantam Lake, WMF featured feathered diversity which would eventually lead to its designation as an Important Bird Area. Since 1958 a total of 260 species of birds have been found at White Memorial. Such checklists are important research tools enabling the monitoring of, in this case, avian diversity, detection of changes, and possible conservation actions to take.

With so much happening, the Trustees brought in a young woman, Grace Palmer, as the museum's first full-time director in 1966. Her expertise as an educator would take some of the pressure off Gordon allowing him to expand his research activities. When she left two years later, Gordon became acting museum director, thus combining the conservation education and research components of his work at WMF. An assistant director, Robert Danskin, was hired a year later and the programming got another boost. With the first Earth Day in 1970, outreach to students expanded to include public schools which were beyond "local" with some even outside of Litchfield County.



Inspecting a Blue Jay, 1980's

The Center kept growing its exhibitry, on-campus and outreach programming, and research activities. Gordon was named the Center's first research director, acknowledging his past accomplishments as well as the potential for a more comprehensive and coordinated approach to learning more about the Foundation's diverse plant and animal life, noting the changes taking place, and deciding how to preserve the quality of this environment. Some of Gordon's most noteworthy work centered around bird banding research. In 2008, he reached a goal he had set for himself - 50 years of banding. This was significant for several reasons. Not only had he achieved his goal, but the volume of data that had been compiled was scientifically rare – the same researcher carrying out the same work at the same location for not 3 years or 5 years or even 10 years (time frames for most studies) but 50 years! As a result of his efforts and in conjunction with statisticians from the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center and North Carolina State University, three peer-reviewed publications on Black-capped Chickadee population dynamics were printed in *Ecology* and *The Auk*. Beyond the normal circulation of these journals, requests for reprints came literally from around the world.

While one would wonder how he had time, Gordon also participated in or supervised other research programs focusing on mammal, amphibian, and reptile populations involving censusing and monitoring their changes and inter-

actions. WMF flora was also targeted.

Gordon sought help, input, and inspiration by networking with other professionals. As early as 1968 he moderated a seminar entitled "Ethics in Conservation" and ten years later brought scientists together for a "Conference on Developing the Research and Educational Programs of a Nature Center". In various ways these gatherings influenced the evolution of the Center.

Always the driven inquisitive explorer, Gordon engaged in other pursuits to expand his knowledge of natural history. As an enthusiastic naturalist he gained insight into wildlife and conservation through his trips to Europe, East Africa, the Galapagos Islands, the Canadian Rockies and grasslands, and the Pacific offshore islands near Baja, California. Locally he had alliances with the Litchfield Hills Audubon Society (serving a term as president); the CT Audubon Council; the CT Botanical Society; the CT chapter of The Nature Conservancy; the Morris Land Trust; and served as the first chairman of the Morris Conservation Commission. So broad and thorough were his endeavors.

After eleven years at White Memorial, Gordon received the American Motors Corporation Award for dedicated efforts in the field of renewable natural resources. He was one of ten recipients nationwide. In 1975 the Connecticut Wildlife Federation named Gordon "Conservation Educator of the Year". Before his retirement he was recognized by White Memorial with the presentation of the WMF Conservation Award.

Gordon Loery was a visionary for White Memorial and beyond, a guiding force contributing so much in so many ways. Whether seining for water life on the shores of Bantam Lake with the day campers, banding his beloved chickadees, or pondering a research question, he was truly a man for all seasons. Thousands of people through the years were touched, respected, and encouraged by him and his conservation ethics and natural resource ideals. What a truly incredible conservation legacy he leaves for the rest of us to appreciate, support, and nurture.



In Search of the Arethusa Orchid with Suzanna Moorhead, 2015

Author's note: I worked for Gordon for three summers (1971-1973) with the Natural History Day Camp and came to WMCC in 1977 full time. If Gordon had not asked me to apply for the position of assistant director and naturalist which Bob Danskin had vacated by retiring, my 37 year career at WMCC would not have happened. Indeed, Gordon certainly left his mark on my life!

POLLINATOR PATHWAYS

By John Markelon, President, Litchfield Land Trust

'Pollinator Pathways' is an exciting endeavor that challenges us to rethink how we garden and manage our landscapes. There is a growing awareness of the ecological significance of pollinator pathways. Simple changes in gardening choices can provide food and nesting for several pollinating insects. Large mowed lawns are the default landscaping practice and typically minimize these ecological services. These manicured green carpet spaces provide little food and shelter and create fragmented ecological voids. Thoughtful plant choices within these lawns can act as stepping stones between larger habitats. These stepping stones create a pollinator pathway.

Food webs will collapse without diverse pollinator populations. Pollinators are essential in ensuring the survival of a variety of species as they supplement agriculture and contribute to the biodiversity of various habitats, as 90% of flowering plants are in some way dependent on pollinators; furthermore, they pollinate a variety of foods essential in feeding populations, including humans (Canadian Wildlife Confederation). As E.O. Wilson adroitly observed, "If all mankind were to disappear, the world would regenerate back to the rich state of equilibrium that existed ten thousand years ago. If **insects** were to vanish, the environment would collapse into chaos."

Recent studies document a significant global decline in pollinators and birds. These declines are both in biomass and variety. While much attention has been devoted to the honeybee and the Monarch butterfly, there are hundreds of other species less showy and more solitary in habit that are declining as well. A 2017 study in Germany determined a decline of more than 75 percent in total flying insect biomass in protected areas over 27 years. In 2019, two researchers Francisco Sanchez-Bayo and Kris Wyckhus reviewed 73 studies and determined that "40% of insect species could go down the path of extinction within a few decades" and warned of a "catastrophic collapse of nature's ecosystems."

Pollinator pathways, through bridging isolated populations, can aid in promoting genetic diversity and species interaction, which subsequently leads to healthier and increased populations. Moreover, pollinator pathways must be created in order to sustain the population of pollinators, and ultimately, the human population.

The idea of a pollinator pathway was initially targeted to aid pollinators in the urban Seattle area with largely fragmented habitats, so some great spots to put the pathways in these types of areas are rooftops and curbs. Take a walk on the New York highline to understand the original intent. However, in more rural areas, there is a lot more opportunity to implement pathways in any location which connects larger habitats.

Connecticut's Pollinator Pathways project was started in 2017 in Wilton CT. In three years, pathways have been established in over 85 towns in CT and NY. Working together, conservation organizations and private citizens are establishing pollinator-friendly habitats and food sources for bees, butterflies, hummingbirds and other pollinating insects and wildlife along a series of corridors. The median range of most native bees is about 750 meters, so the goal is to connect properties that are no farther apart than that. Without extensive local field data it is difficult to measure the impact on pollinator diversity.



"In Full Bloom" by Betsy Rogers-Knox
<https://www.rogersknoxart.com/>

After being approached by the Connecticut Pollinator Pathway program, White Memorial's Director of Research James Fisher and myself rallied a core group of interested participants through four webinars. In the midst of the COVID pandemic, our friends and neighbors needed a purposeful, safe outdoor activity to stay connected and engaged with the community. Of course, defining community was extended to our pollinator food chains. Participants used a phone app to help document local pollinator habitats. They assessed area pollinator sites for size and provided a rough estimate of the pollinator species composition. These volunteers along with some area high school students – have analyzed this data, where pollinators are and where they are not, with an eye towards education and advocacy about expanding pollinator habitats. Although the app and the project just launched last July, there has been an overwhelming interest and they have already

mapped nearly 400 pollinator habitat sites around the town of Litchfield. While this is not a peer reviewed study, this project can educate and heighten awareness among the public of the decline in pollinator populations. We are open to spreading this initiative further throughout the county and the state and building on it in various ways.

Research shows that plants native to the area will provide superior food resources to pollinators. 'Providing wildflower-rich habitat is the most significant action you can take to support pollinators. Adult bees, butterflies, and other pollinators require nectar as their primary food source, and female bees collect pollen as food for their offspring. Native plants, which are adapted to local soils and climates, are usually the best sources of nectar and pollen for pollinators. Incorporating native wildflowers, shrubs, and trees into any landscape promotes local biological diversity and provides shelter and food for a diversity of wildlife. Most natives require minimal irrigation, flourish without fertilizers, and are unlikely to become weedy.' <https://xerces.org/publications/plant-lists/pollinator-plants-northeast-region>

Be skeptical of native plant cultivars and labelling. Annie White from the University of Vermont demonstrated that cultivars can sometimes yield beautiful blooms with little accessible pollen. Oftentimes 'native' plants are sourced from populations over a thousand miles away. Truly "local" native plants are sourced from our 'ecoregion.' The genetics of these seeds were collected in this place. Local provenance enables plants to be more resilient and better adapted to our local climate. Trained botanists collect a small percent of seed from wild populations. These seeds are amplified by large scale horticultural growers. Later this spring White Memorial, collaborating with the Litchfield Land Trust will be selling a variety of native ecotype wildflowers. This fundraiser will help us with our conservation work. The conservation work of both our organizations extends beyond our property boundaries. These wildflower starter kits will enable gardeners to further patch the gaps along the pollinator pathway.

There are many benefits to pollinator pathways. Landscapes with native plantings will require no nutrient fertilizers which if used incorrectly can flow into surface water causing algae blooms. If the goal is pollinator diversity, then it is intuitive that no pesticides will be used, because these compounds are designed to kill pollinators. As you rethink your lawn as an area rug and not wall to wall carpeting, less mowing will emit less Carbon and noise. Participating gardeners will shift their goals to help preserve biodiversity. Let's remember Dr Doug Tallamy's credo that we should "garden as if life depends on it", because it does."



MAKE A DIFFERENCE

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

Well, here we are, a year later. The virus is still with us, unfortunately. Some lucky eligible people have managed to get the vaccine. Yeah for them! Other eligible people like hubby and me are still waiting, checking the websites multiple times a day and trying to be patient. Not an easy thing, which I am sure you know. Lots of things have changed, been cancelled and rescheduled. Some of our very favorite places are still on hold, our beloved museum among them.

One thing that has changed, probably forever, is the restaurant business. Some have closed for the winter; some are on reduced hours, some have shuttered their doors forever, unfortunately. Tough times for hard working people, to be sure. Some restaurants have adopted new take out opportunities, sometimes with all new menus. It is not the same, of course, as eating out in a restaurant. It's not the same as having someone bring you the food and take away the dirty dishes, where you never see them again, until the next time. Take out food is perhaps a way of helping your favorite places and keeping them in business. Which got me thinking...

For years I have been telling you to reduce your waste- buy at thrift shops and tag sales; use cloth napkins; make a compost pile; build rain barrels and on and on. But what about all the extra waste created in take out food? What can we do to help there? The food service industry produces tons of garbage per year, from your uneaten dinner roll to the outer leaves of cabbage and carrot and onion peels.

It can't be helped- making food produces garbage. Nobody wants to eat onion skins. That's why you have a compost pile at home. Some lucky people have a household compost section at the local landfill as well.

Some of you readers live in or near New York City, which produces an estimated 414 million pounds yearly of trash- 414 million pounds, a year. But, if you live in New York City or nearby, you are also lucky because you can patronize restaurants that belong to "Deliver Zero". Deliver Zero takes back the used take out containers and reuses them.



After you eat, you return them to the delivery person or to another restaurant that participates in the program. They are then washed and sterilized and used again, much like regular dinnerware from a restaurant. This saves lots of money for restaurants because they don't have to purchase disposable take out dishes and it saves for the consumer, too, because they don't contribute to the 414 million pounds. Not to mention minimizing the guilt. This program is completely sustainable, too, because everything is used again and again. Apparently, other services and other service areas are coming. Can't wait.

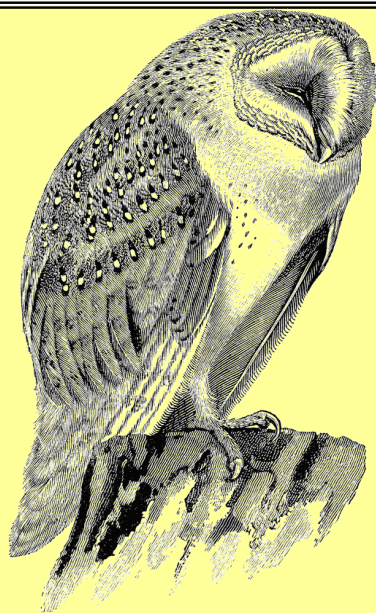
But what about the rest of us? What if we don't live in an area that has anything like Deliver Zero? What are we supposed to do? Well, for starters, frequent restaurants which give you your take out food in compostable or recyclable containers. Then, be sure to compost or recycle them! When ordering, be sure to ask the restaurant NOT TO include paper napkins or plastic silverware. Use the plastic single use bag the food comes in as a wastebasket or cat litter pan liner. Reuse the plastic "deli type" containers for leftovers or wash and recycle. If you've ordered drinks and they come in Mason jars, reuse those jars for canning or crafts or storage or as drink glasses and vases. Don't need or do any of those things? Then offer the jars to a neighbor who can excess garden produce. At the very least, recycle them, although it *does* pain me to type those words.

We don't know how or when this whole thing is going to end. We don't know what life will look like after it is over. We don't know how soon people will be able to get vaccinated. But, we DO KNOW that what we do *every* day can make a difference. Our choices matter. The way we choose to live matters. This Earth matters. I've said before, making a difference is really just a mind set- choosing to purchase milk that comes in a recyclable plastic jug rather than the paper carton which our area doesn't recycle. So, keep on keeping on. Spring is coming! ***Make a difference*** today and everyday! It's really not that hard.



"may my heart always be open to little birds who are the secrets of living..."

~ e. e. cummings



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

Introducing "Nature Break-out Night" for 4-6th Graders!

Friday, April 30 from 7-10pm

**In just 3 hours, we'll pack in a Campfire, a Night Hike,
a Live Animal Show, and a Craft-Making Session!**

We know your children have been longing for some quality time with their peers in a safe, fun environment. This program will do just that, while giving them a unique opportunity to connect with nature...at night!

Kids will be divided into groups of 10 and rotated through stations throughout the evening. All activities will take place either outdoors or in our Activity Shed, with barn doors open on all sides. Masks are required for all participants. Social distancing will be enforced.

Event will occur rain or shine.

Cost: \$30/child for members, \$50/child for non-members

Please inquire about financial aid if needed. Registrations begin on April 5.
Limited Space. Pre-registration and pre-payment are required.

**For more information, please call us at 860-567-0857
or visit www.whitememorialcc.org.**

**Litchfield Land Trust &
The White Memorial
Conservation Center
Native Plants for Pollinators Sale**



We've selected pollinator-friendly plants that provide flower blooms throughout the growing season. Our pollinator kits provide food for caterpillars and adults butterflies, bees, flower flies, hummingbirds, and many more. No more guesswork, just install the correct sized kit for your growing conditions and let the power of the plants do the rest. You'll see pollinators in your yard that you have never seen before!

Woodland Shade or Sunny Meadow Kits

- Mailbox Garden (16 plants of 4 species)
- Veggie Garden Booster (32 plants of 5 species)
- Pollinator Powerhouse (48 plants of 6 species, plus a free Pollinator Pathway Medallion)
- Pollinator Pathway Medallion (6 inch metal placard that tells your neighbors that your yard is pollinator-friendly)

Visit www.whitememorialccf.org
to learn more and to see all of the plants

May 14 Pre-Order Deadline

May 22 Pick Up Your Kits

PRESENTING SPONSOR

GIVE LOCAL
Greater Waterbury and Litchfield Hills

April 20-21, 2021

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 support 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 20th to 7 p.m. on April 21st will help defray the cost of the **39th Annual Family Nature Day**, which takes place **September 25, 2021!** Your donations will be stretched with bonus funds provided 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.whitememorialccf.org, 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>

White Memorial's Spring Nature Camp

Tuesday-Friday, April 13-16

Grades 1-3: 9:30am-12:00pm

Grades 4-6: 1:30-4:00pm

**Members: \$20/child per session
or \$70/child for the whole week**

**Non-Members: \$30/child per session
or \$110/child for the whole week**



Spring is here and we need to get outside and celebrate! Sessions will be held in-person, taking place outdoors or in the open-air Activity Shed. Masks are required for everyone. No snacks or drinks will be served, so please bring your own. Parents are welcome to stay, but it is not necessary. Meet on the lawn between the Main Parking Area and the Museum.

Advanced registration is required. Space is limited!

Please inquire about financial aid as needed.

To register, please call 860-567-0857 or visit
www.whitememorialccf.org.

Summer Nature Camp

While subject to change, we are planning an in-person summer camp for 2021. The following adjustments will need to be made:

- 1) The camp day will run from 9:30am-1:30pm for grades 1 and up and 9:30-11:30am for 4 & 5-year-olds.
- 2) There will be no traveling to other destinations off White Memorial property.
- 3) Activities will take place outdoors or in open-air buildings.
- 4) All other COVID safety protocols will be followed as outlined by the State of CT guidelines.
- 5) Masks are required for all participants.

CAMP DATES:

Four & Five-year-olds: Tuesdays, July 13, 20, 27, Aug. 3 and 10
Entering grades 1 and 2: July 12-16, July 19-23, and/or July 26-30

Entering grades 3 and 4: July 12-16 and/or 19-23

Entering grades 5 and 6: July 26-30 and/or Aug. 2-6

Entering grades 7, 8, or 9: Aug. 9-13

More details coming soon.

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

Spring Calendar of Virtual Events

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

APRIL

- 1 **Virtual Nature's Nursery**
Via ZOOM! Pre-registration is required:
www.whitememorialcc.org

- 2 **Good Friday**
Offices Closed



- 2 **Virtual Star Party!**
Astronomy program via ZOOM
& Facebook Live! 7:00 p.m., Zoom viewers
register: www.whitememorialcc.org



- 3 **The Pandemic Pantry**
From Russia with Love!
Our very own cooking show. 12:00 p.m.,
ZOOM and Facebook Live! Zoom viewers
register: www.whitememorialcc.org



- 4 **Easter Sunday**



- April 6, 13, 20, 27**
Contemplative Yoga
with Judith Erhman-Shapiro
4:30 p.m., ZOOM, \$10.00
A portion of the fee is donated to WMCC.
Register: www.whitememorialcc.org

- 10 **OTTERLY Fascinating!**
A Look into an Otter's World
with Nicole Morin, The WILD Center
www.wildcenter.org
See page 7 for details.



- 10 **Spring Wildflowers in Connecticut**
with Peter and Barbara Rzas
2:00 p.m., ZOOM & Facebook Live!
ZOOM viewers register:
www.whitememorialcc.org



- April 13 - 16**
White Memorial's
Spring Nature Camp
See page 5 for details!



- 17 **Orkney and The Ness of Brodgar:**
A 5000 Year Old Enigma
See page 7 for details.



- 20 / 21 **GIVE LOCAL! A Day of Giving!**
See page 5 for details!

- 24 **Poetry for a Greener World**
Celebrating Earth Day
Join Connecticut Poet Laureate
Margaret Gibson for a day of virtual
poetry events to celebrate the earth in a
time of climate crisis.
Details at: www.whitememorialcc.org

- 30 **NATURE BREAK-OUT NIGHT**
For Grades 4 - 6
See page 4 for details.



MAY

- Litchfield Land Trust &**
The White Memorial
Conservation Center
Native Plants for Pollinators Sale
Visit www.whitememorialcc.org for details.



- 1 **The Pandemic Pantry**
Cooking with Herbs
Our very own cooking show. 12:00 p.m.,
ZOOM and Facebook Live! Zoom viewers
register: www.whitememorialcc.org



- May 4, 11, 18, 25**
Contemplative Yoga
with Judith Erhman-Shapiro
4:30 p.m., ZOOM, \$10.00
A portion of the fee is donated to WMCC.
Register: www.whitememorialcc.org

- 6 **Virtual Nature's Nursery**
Via ZOOM! Pre-registration is required:
www.whitememorialcc.org

- 7 **Hike Ongley Pond from Home**
via Facebook Live!
Walk one of our most beautiful trails
from the comfort of your couch!
Carrie Szwed leads the way! 10:00 a.m.

- 7 **Virtual Star Party!**
Astronomy program via ZOOM
& Facebook Live! 7:00 p.m., Zoom viewers
register: www.whitememorialcc.org



- 8 **The New Cave Wall**
with Scottish Naturalist
Bernie Lundie
See page 7 for details.



- 15 **The Old Leatherman**
with Shirley Sutton
See page 7 for details.



- 22 **TORNADOS!**
With Tom Alena
See page 7 for details.



- 29 **Knick of Time:**
DDT, The Chemical Al Capone
Gerri Griswold discusses the history of an
insecticide that nearly wiped out raptor
populations. 2:00 p.m., ZOOM and Face-
book Live! ZOOM viewers register here:
www.whitememorialcc.org

- 31 **Memorial Day**
Offices Closed



JUNE

- June 1, 8, 15, 22, 29**
Contemplative Yoga
with Judith Erhman-Shapiro
4:30 p.m., ZOOM, \$10.00
A portion of the fee is donated to WMCC.
Register: www.whitememorialcc.org

- 3 **Virtual Nature's Nursery**
Via ZOOM! Pre-registration is required:
www.whitememorialcc.org

- 4 **Virtual Star Party!**
7:00 p.m., Zoom & Facebook Live! Zoom
viewers register: www.whitememorialcc.org

- 5 **The Pandemic Pantry**
In Praise of the Sweet Potato
Our very own cooking show. 12:00 p.m.,
ZOOM and Facebook Live! Zoom viewers
register: www.whitememorialcc.org

- 12 **Think Spring! Teralyn LaChance,**
Riverside Reptiles Education Center
Learn about baby animals and their life cycles!
10:00 a.m., ZOOM & Facebook Live!
ZOOM participants register:
www.whitememorialcc.org



- 12 **A Cozy Virtual Concert with**
Icelandic Recording Artist, Lay Low
See page 7 for details.



- 19 **Weird and Wonderful:**
The Lives of Bats with Maureen Heidtmann
See page 7 for details.



- 26 **Rock Around the Ring Road:**
Tom Alena and Gerri Griswold
Laughing While Learning
About the Geology of Iceland
See page 7 for details.



SPRING 2021 VIRTUAL WORKSHOP REGISTRATION FORM

CALL 860-567-0857 OR REGISTER ONLINE: WWW.WHITEMEMORIALCC.ORG



**April 10 OTTERLY FASCINATING:
A Look into the Lives of Otters with Nicole Morin**
12:00 p.m., ZOOM
Members: FREE Non-Members: \$10.00

Join Wild Center biologist Nicole Morin at Otter Falls to examine the unique adaptations and lifestyle of North American River Otters. Learn about the history of otters and their incredible comeback in the Northeast, and The Wild Center's journey of rehabilitating and releasing two otter pups in 2020.



**April 17 Orkney and the Ness of Brodgar
with Scottish Archaeologist Nick Card**
2:00 p.m., ZOOM
Members: FREE Non-Members: \$10.00

Today you will embark on an incredible journey to Scotland's remote Orkney Islands. The most significant Neolithic monuments in Western Europe can be found on the Orkneys. You will be introduced to the most recent, spectacular find, The Ness of Brodgar by none other than the archaeologist in charge of its excavation, Nick Card.



**May 8 The New Cave Wall
with Scottish Naturalist, Bernie Lundie**
2:00 p.m., ZOOM
Members: FREE Non-Members: \$10.00

As people grow increasingly disconnected from Nature, the exposure we do have is increasingly in an online form. Social media is laden with content of pets and other animals, but what does this tell us about our changing relationship with nature and what effect does our online consumption have on the natural world? Join Bernie for an exploration of animals on the Internet, from keyboard playing cats to the dark underbelly of the wildlife trade.



May 15 The Old Leatherman with Shirley Sutton
2:00 p.m., ZOOM
Members: FREE Non-Members: \$10.00

In the 1800's there was a mysterious wanderer who hiked through our area. Dressed in a leather suit, he communicated his needs with hand gestures. He frightened residents at first but as they came to expect his visits, his simple needs were met.



May 22 TORNADOS! with Tom Alena
3:00 p.m., ZOOM
Members: FREE Non-Members: \$10.00

Tornados are one of Nature's most violent and sudden atmospheric phenomena. How they form, what conditions are necessary for their development, and how they are forecast will be a focus of this presentation.

Tom will take you back to the deadly Springfield, MA tornado of June 1, 2011 as well as highlight the 1989 Bantam, CT tornado.



**June 12 A Cozy Virtual Concert
with Icelandic Recording Artist Lay Low**
2:00 p.m., ZOOM
Members: FREE Non-Members: \$10.00

She is a little country, a little folk, a little rock and roll. She has inspired international superstars "Of Monsters and Men". She plays arenas and parlor concerts. Lay Low warms your heart and keeps your feet tapping with music that has made her an icon in Iceland and loved worldwide.



**June 19 Weird and Wondrous: The Lives of
Bats with Maureen Heidtmann**
2:00 p.m., ZOOM
Members: FREE Non-Members: \$10.00

Join Maureen for an overview of bats of the world, with an emphasis on our local species. It will cover the persisting myths and misconceptions about these fascinating creatures, the many roles bats play to ensure a healthy planet, the perils bats face in their struggle for survival, their amazing resilience, and what we can do to help.



**June 26 Rock Around the Ring Road with Tom
Alena and Gerri Griswold**
3:00 p.m., ZOOM
Members: FREE Non-Members: \$10.00

Tom and Gerri have collaborated three times escorting well-mannered adults who behave like children around Iceland's Ring Road. Along the way, Alena interprets geology while Griswold controls the candy bag. Join them as they take a geological and photographic trip down memory lane recapping their tours in 2012, 2015, and 2017.

Clip & Mail

_____ OTTERLY FASCINATING.....	Member: FREE	Non-Member: \$10.00
_____ Orkney & The Ness of Brodgar.....	Member: FREE	Non-Member: \$10.00
_____ The New Cave Wall.....	Member: FREE	Non-Member: \$10.00
_____ The Old Leatherman	Member: FREE	Non-Member: \$10.00
_____ TORNADOS!.....	Member: FREE	Non-Member: \$10.00
_____ A Cozy Concert with Lay Low.....	Member: FREE	Non-Member: \$10.00
_____ Weird and Wondrous: The Lives of Bats.....	Member: FREE	Non-Member: \$10.00
_____ Rock Around the Ring Road.....	Member: FREE	Non-Member: \$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:
P.O. Box 368
Litchfield, CT 06759



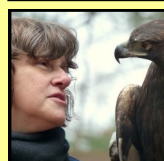
MARK YOUR CALENDAR THE 39TH ANNUAL FAMILY NATURE DAY

SEPTEMBER 25TH, 2021

FEATURING

SKY HUNTERS IN FLIGHT * RIVERSIDE REPTILES
HORIZON WINGS RAPTOR REHABILITATION & EDUCATION
FERNCROFT WILDLIFE RESCUE: OPOSSUM!
HAND WING BAT REHABILITATION
BUNNELL FARMS HORSE DRAWN WAGON RIDES

MUSIC BY ~ ANDES MANTA
WIN A TRIP FOR TWO TO ICELAND IN OUR RAFFLE!



What's Inside This Edition of SANCTUARY

Pollinator Pathways.....	3
Make a Difference.....	4
Nature Break-Out Night...	4
Plant Sale.....	5
Give Local!.....	5
Children's Programs.....	5
Calendar of Events.....	6
Virtual Workshops.....	7

Northwest Conservation District

Earth Day Plant Sale

Annual native plant sale in support of
the Northwest Conservation District.

PRE - ORDERS ONLY
Our website for online orders will be live
soon!

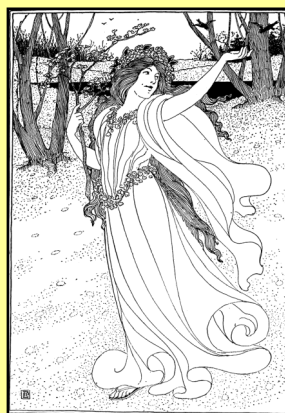
For questions, contact our office at
860-626-7222 or info@nwcd.org

THE MUSEUM GIFT SHOP

SHOP ONLINE!

FIND THE
PERFECT GIFT FOR
MOM, DAD, AND
GRAD!

WE FEATURE UNIQUE
GIFTS
HANDCRAFTED
IN CONNECTICUT!

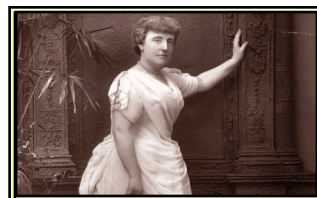


A Planned Gift can make a
difference in your future
and ours.



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

info@whitememorialcc.org
www.whitememorialcc.org



"Is the spring coming?" he said. "What is it like?"...
"It is the sun shining on the rain and the rain falling on the sunshine..."

~ Frances Hodgson Burnett, The Secret Garden

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
TORRINGTON, CT
06790
PERMIT NO. 313

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