

SANCTUARY

Newsletter of
The White Memorial
Conservation Center

Vol. XXXXI No. 2
Spring 2023

Museum Hours:

Tuesday through Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

For Information

Phone: 860-567-0857

E-Mail: info@whitememorialcc.org

Website: www.whitememorialcc.org



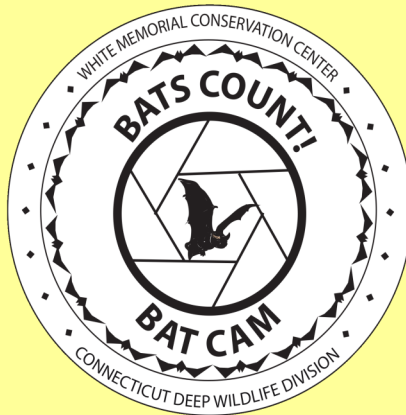
Big Brown Bat Colony

Photo credit: Pete Pattavina, US Fish & Wildlife Service

BATS COUNT! BAT CAM!

**A Partnership between White Memorial and
The Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection
By James Fischer, Research Director, White Memorial Conservation Center**

Curiosity fuels science. I have long wondered what the Big Brown Bats (*Eptesicus fuscus*) do during the days and nights while roosting in White Memorial's Green Barn. They spend most of their time amongst the rafters and only a few hours each night flying. It cannot be only sleep. Do they occupy the highest points inside the barn on cool spring days? Where are they located during the hottest days of summer? Do they huddle to share body heat, or do they wish to be apart? When are the pups born and what do they do when their mothers have left the barn at night? Soon there will be a way to answer these questions with a new collaborative project between CT DEEP Wildlife Division and White Memorial. BatsCount! Bat Cam will be launched on June 16 and consists of web cameras that live stream video and audio of the bats in our own Green Barn. There will be 3 cameras inside the barn and one camera on the outside. Each camera can pan and tilt so that we can position it appropriately. The zoom function will allow us to see the smallest details, and the night vision feature will enhance the image in low light. We will be able to answer many more questions by directly observing the bats while they are inside the barn and as they take flight each evening. This live stream can be viewed by everyone so you can observe them yourself. You can visit the bats during your lunch break or count them as they leave the barn at dusk when you are having dinner.



*Bats Count! Bat Cam Logo
Designed by Maureen Heidtmann*



Big Brown Bats emerging from the Green Barn during the
12th Annual Celebration for Bats, July 23, 2022
Photo credit: Leo Kulinski, Jr.

I have often stood outside the barn counting the bats as they emerge. It is the end of day. The afternoon heat lingers in the air, and you begin to feel the faint suggestion of night's damp chill. Just as the sun drops below the horizon and the day's last light fades, you can hear the bats clammer at their foyer as if forming a queue. Suddenly one of the bats take sflight from the barn's western peak. It flies westerly powered by strong but silent wingbeats. A pair soon follows, one follows the same flight path as the first, then the second curves in a new direction. Several minutes later the number of bats leaving the barn has reached more than 50! You cast your eyes over the fields near the barn and you see bats circling. They often bob and weave so fast that you can't help but

wonder what just happened. Was that its first meal for the day? Was it a moth, a beetle, or a mosquito? Then your mind races with even more questions! Where will they venture tonight? Will they be in the field, the forest, or the wetlands near the lake? Only they know where their jaunt takes them. This ritual occurs each evening when the weather is clear. It is a busy time of day for bats, but it is the end of the day for us. Now you can visit the barn in-person or visit the bats virtually. You can be part of the team and contribute your observations to this long-term monitoring effort.

(Continued on page 2)

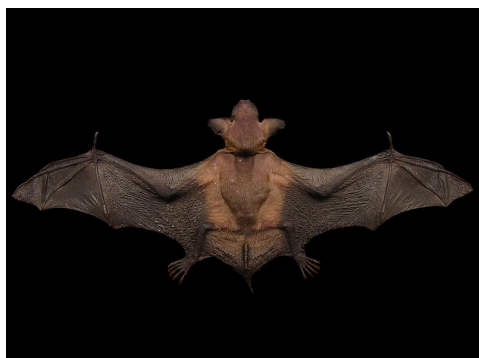
Continued from page 1

Monitoring White Memorial's diverse bat species requires many approaches, and emergence counts are an important way. We want the web cameras to encourage you to participate in the data collection! You can help count the bats as they emerge from the Green Barn each evening. Emergence counts are variable from one night to the next throughout the season. There are nearly 200 bats emerging each evening in spring and after pups are born there could be as many as 300 bats by August! There are many factors that determine emergence patterns at sunset, including the weather, moon phase, aerial insect activity, when females give birth to pups and their development. Fortunately, White Memorial has a weather station that is continuously monitoring several measurements including temperature, relative humidity, barometric pressure, wind speed and direction. The cam-

eras inside the barn will help us monitor the timing of birth and growth patterns of pups. We are in the process of developing this project further and are exploring the feasibility of monitoring other measurements including ambient noise, light levels, and aerial insect activity. We anticipate learning a great deal about this Big Brown Bat colony over the course of this project. We have enough initial funding for 5 years. The funding for this project was awarded through the Endangered Species/Wildlife Income Tax Check-off Fund that is administered by CT DEEP. Connecticut income tax payers can contribute toward this fund by donating when they file their annual income tax forms for the state. Our project team includes biologists from the CT DEEP and White Memorial staff. We have also invited several local educators to be on an Education Curriculum Development Subcommittee, who will create lessons that use

this data in classrooms and engages families.

White Memorial's Green Barn Big Brown Bat colony has long been celebrated as being ambassadors of how living with bats is relatively easy and beneficial to people. Bats consume insects that are often regarded as pests and vectors of pathogens. Bats around the world pollinate many of the foods that we eat. Bat guano is nutrient rich and enhances the soil which benefits plants. Bats also provide us joy, the same way watching wildlife brings a smile to all of our faces. People being outdoors and having the ability to connect with nature benefits our well-being. The world is a better place with bats in it and people are benefited by having them with us. Join us in being part of the scientific community that provides the data we desperately need to protect them!



*A Big Brown Bat pup.
Photo credit: Matt Reinbold*



*Close to 300 Big Brown Bats live in the Green Barn at White Memorial.
Photo credit: US Fish & Wildlife Service*



*The Green Barn at White Memorial.
A majority of the colony exits from the right peak.
Photo credit: Gerri Griswold*



SAVE THE DATE!
Friday, June 16, 2023
BATS COUNT! BAT CAM
RIBBON CUTTING CELEBRATION!

SPEAKERS * FOOD * FUN * MUSIC * BATS!
Watch our website www.whitememorialcc.org



41st Annual Family Nature Day
Upscale Tag Sale Online Auction Seeks Donations!

Since 2020, a main fundraising component of Family Nature Day has been our online auction! You have responded with enthusiastic support, engaged in lively bidding wars, and offered stunning donations of art, antiques, services, and more.

It's once again time to ask for your help in making this year's auction the most exciting and fruitful yet! Bidding runs from September 8 to September 22, 2023. Donations are tax deductible.

If you would like to donate an item or have any questions, please contact Gerri Griswold, gerri@whitememorialcc.org. To peruse the eclectic collection of items we have already amassed and to start planning your bidding strategy, log in here: <https://www.32auctions.com/whitememorial41natureday>

Historian Lee Swift Inventories Collection of Books and Ephemera Owned by Alain and May White
By Gerri Griswold



Records of the Class of 1902
Harvard University

Alain Campbell White writes, "Since 1932 I have continued living in Litchfield, and have kept up the interests outlined in our last Report. I have also become addicted to botany, in particular to a study of the Stapelia tribe of the milkweed family, cactus-like plants from the African deserts, and have published two editions (1933 and 1936) of a book on the subject, compiled jointly with Prof. Boyd L. Sloane, of Pasadena." Address: Litchfield, Conn.

On January 17, 2022, White Memorial Foundation President and Chief Executive Officer, Ann Borzilleri, White Memorial Foundation Executive Director, Lukas Hyder, Historian, Lee Swift, and White Memorial Conservation Center Director of Development, Gerri Griswold, paid a visit to The Trustee Room in the Carriage House. The room is not open to the public and once served as a stable. Today it houses cases filled with many precious books and papers once owned by Alain and May White.

Swift was unleashed. After 20 hours of work (including dusting every book), she had created 20 meticulous spread sheets for 724 books and their contents (postcards and inscriptions). The library is full of precious mementos.

When asked if she had any expectations of what would be uncovered, Lee responded, "I had no idea - the inscriptions and the books they were reading; complete works of Thomas Carlyle, Euripides, Dante, Elizabeth Barret Browning, Robert Louis Stevenson, Tolstoy. There were books written in Russian! All I could do was write, "7 books in Russian."

"You can tell they read all of these books just by the way some are marked—pages turned down or saved with a postcard. All of the inscriptions were so interesting." Swift's favorite find was a book review May had written. In The Life of John Sterling by Thomas Carlyle, May W. White wrote: "Begun in bed Aug. 3rd, 1901 at Jaques Cottage - Schooner Head, Bar Harbor - a cold damp pouring dreary day" and after a brief critique of the book, she concluded with "Quite interesting but I should not care to read it again."

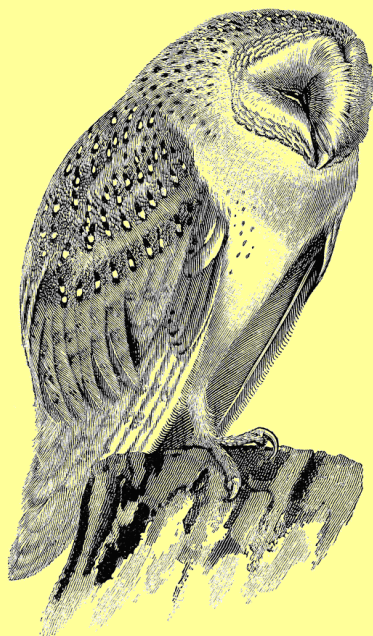


Poems and Ballads of
Robert Louis Stevenson

December 4, 1896
 Inscription to May White,
 "Auntie May from her little boy,
 as a peace and birthday offering."

Also included was a poem written for May:
 "When Auntie moves around,
 Her dresses make a curious sound.
 They travel behind her up the floor,
 And trundle after through the door."

*Photo courtesy of:
 Litchfield Historical Society*



30th Annual Museum Sleep-In!

For 4-6th Graders

April 28 - 29

5pm Friday - 12pm Saturday

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

We'll have a slumber party amongst the exhibits in the Museum. Plus, we'll embark on a night hike, gather around the campfire, make 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. Bring a friend and make new ones too!

Parents, this is a drop-off program, but plenty of adult chaperones from the WMCC Education and Activities Committee will be there. Meet in the Museum. Advanced registration is required. Registration begins on April 1 and must be received by April 22. Upon registration, a confirmation will be sent along with a checklist of items to bring. Space is limited to 25 kids. Please inquire about financial aid as needed. Event will occur rain or shine.

Members: \$60/child, Non-Members: \$120/child
 (covers all materials, snacks, and breakfast)

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

For more information and to register, please visit
www.whitememorialcc.org or call 860-567-0857.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE

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

I love wood heat. How about you? There is really nothing like it at all. Warm and cozy and nice to look at. Good to dry laundry without using the clothes dryer. Nice warm slippers and boots, not to mention hats and mittens. We have been heating with wood for all but two years of our nearly fifty-two-year marriage. That's a lot of chopping and hauling and stacking and wood ashes. Wood ashes. Many people would consider them a waste product. But not me and not us. Wood ash is basically the minerals that remain after wood is burned. But what do you DO with wood ashes?

First, you need to know that each cord of hardwood produces twenty to twenty-five pounds of wood ashes. If your family burns four cords of wood each year, well, you do the math. That's a lot of wood ashes.

Thankfully, wood ashes have loads and loads of uses. Who knew? Some I was familiar with; some and many others were/are new to me and my hubby. Wood ashes have dozens of uses, some practical and some are frankly quirky. Some I've tried, some I haven't. Let me know how it works out for you!

First, you must be sure to use clean wood only, nothing that has been stained or painted and certainly not pressure treated! Next, you will probably want to wear gloves while working with wood ash as it can be caustic. Make sure that the ashes are cool before you use them.

Winter means cold weather. Wood burning is part of winter life. You can use the wood ashes as a non-toxic ice melt. It works as well as chemical ice melt without the worry of what the chemicals are doing to your plantings or to the feet of your pet. Why not carry a coffee can full of wood ash in your trunk to use if you need get stuck and need a bit more traction? The areas that the ash hits create a sand like surface on ice and help traction.

If you have a wood burning stove that has glass doors, you can use wood ashes to clean the glass. Who would guess that the very substance that caused the dirt and soot could clean it down the road? Add a bit of water to make a paste and use an old rag to let the ashes scrub the soot off the glass. An old sock works well, too. However, do not use on window glass. Much of modern glass is not actually glass at all, but a form of polycarbonate and wood ash will scratch that surface. You can also make a paste to use on car headlights.

Ash can also be used to clean the toilet. It

is actually good for the septic tank, unlike many commercial products that contain bleach or antibacterial ingredients. It keeps the good bacteria healthy which in turn helps to break down solid waste. Just dump a cup or so into the toilet, scrub and flush. It works on porcelain sinks, too. Again, make a paste with a bit of water and use an old rag or an old sock to clean the sink. Camping or have an outhouse? Use wood ashes to cover anything that you leave there. It will help break it up and help cover the smell.

You can use wood ashes to help cover stains on sidewalks and paving. Just dump a small amount on the stain and scrub and scuff with your foot. Wood ashes will also help absorb oil spills in the garage or elsewhere.



Other uses include: polishing silver (again the sock) and scouring dishes. In fact, in many parts of the rural world, such as Africa, India and Southeast Asia, it is a dishwashing standard. Works on glass stovetops, too. Cleaning the grill? You bet. It will also work to absorb odors in the fridge and freezer. Use as you would baking soda.

In many parts of the world, wood ash is used as a leavening agent for baked goods. I must admit that I have not tried this idea yet. Not sure if I will or not. I really like my Arm and Hammer Baking Soda. In parts of Mexico; Central America; Nigeria; China; Norway; and Sweden it is used in many recipes. Native Americans used it, too. Here is a fact for Gerri- you can make Icelandic moss, which is rich in carbohydrates, edible by using wood ash to leach out toxins. Sometimes soft pretzels and bagels have wood ash in the recipe.

Wood ash can be used to preserve fresh eggs; tomatoes; hard cheese and corn, bean and melon seeds.

Wood ashes are also good to use in the garden. While you don't want to use them in areas that will grow blueberries or potatoes, they give tomatoes the extra calcium boost that they need. Just put a quarter cup of wood ashes in the bottom of the hole that you dig and plant the tomatoes. Use wood ashes instead of eggshells or bone meal. The University of Vermont suggests using five gallons per one thousand square feet of garden space. Also works to boost the PH of the lawn.

You can put wood ash in the compost pile, too. It helps keep any odor down and may help marauding animals from helping themselves to your leftovers. Dust plants with a thin layer of wood ashes before an early frost.

Add a layer of wood ashes under the bedding in the chicken coop. Put it in your cat box. Make a poultry dust bath by filling a small wading pool with ashes and let the hens have a party! Add one percent to hen's feed.

Wood ashes help repel cockroaches; rodents; slugs; snails; ants. Put a ring around your beehives to help ants move along. You can use it as a natural flea treatment for pets. Be sure to give them a bath afterward.

You can use it to put out a fire by smothering the fire, or to bank coals to burn more slowly overnight. Wood ashes act as a desiccant to help absorb moisture and mold. Mix them with kerosene to make a mud slurry. Store in a tight container. Use as a fire starter.

You can use wood ashes for topical skin problems, such as bug bites. Mix with water to make a paste and apply. They have antiseptic tendencies. Clean your teeth as much of the world did before toothpaste was invented- dip a moist finger in wood ashes and rub on your teeth. Use as much as you would a dry shampoo.

Tanning hides? Removing tannins from acorns to make flour? Check. Double check. Wood ashes to the rescue.

Are you a potter? Use ashes as part of the glazing process. Wood ashes help modify color when you are dying natural fibers. Blacksmith? Use for annealing steel. Wood ashes insulate the metal, allowing it to cool more slowly. Ash, vinegar, and milk make a good glue for shoe repair.

So, there you have it. Wood ashes. Who knew? I didn't even give you all the uses that I found! Try some of them and...

Make a difference!

Torrington Savings Foundation Sponsors 2023 "After-School Adventures" Series

For the second consecutive year, the Torrington Savings Foundation has awarded The White Memorial Conservation Center a \$2,500 grant to cover all expenses of the "After-School Adventures" programs for the months of March and October, 2023.

This generous sponsorship offers free admission to all children in grades 1 - 6. After-School Adventures is designed to awaken



curiosity and foster an appreciation for the natural world. Every session brings a new adventure, whether it's exploring a new part of White Memorial property, meeting a live animal, or taking part in an outdoor activity.

The Conservation Center is deeply grateful to the Torrington Savings Foundation for their enthusiastic support in exposing area families to the natural world.

White Memorial Grows with Little Pitch Road Acquisition

In December of 2022, White Memorial grew by 14.07-acres with an acquisition of land along Little Pitch Road in Litchfield and Morris. The new parcel brings the total land now conserved by the White Memorial Foundation to 4,042.7 acres.

This new property was purchased from William Roden and is located on the east portion of the property, between Little Pitch Road and Chestnut Hill Road. The Litchfield/Morris town line runs through the lower portion of the property. The Litchfield portion contains 11.891 acres and the remaining 2.179 acres are in Morris. The land borders White Memorial property to the east and south, is bordered at the north by a brook that feeds the Pitch Reservoir. The southwest border of the property is Little Pitch Road.

With the mild winter condi-

tions the Foundation staff has been able to locate the boundaries, install signs on the property boundaries, and complete a forest inventory of the parcel. The staff noted that it is comprised of a high-quality upland oak hardwood forest with notable features that include rolling terrain with exposed rock outcrops, several vernal pools, as well as a grove of black gum. It is a distinctive property with minimal non-native invasive species present and the potential for wildlife and forest management.

With this addition, WMF now owns an additional 1,400 feet of the abandoned Little Pitch Road and the short-term management goal is to upgrade the eroded old road (which had been abandoned by the Towns) to facilitate improved access for recreation.



Just living is not enough...

One must have
sunshine, freedom,
and a little flower.

~ Hans Christian Andersen



"Sense-sational" Spring Break Camp

Tuesday-Friday, April 11-14

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

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

**Members: \$25/child per session
or \$70/or \$90/child for the whole week
Non-Members: \$40/child per session
or \$150/child for the whole week**

Spend your vacation exploring the wild!

Meet live animals up close, make some awesome crafts, tromp around the woods, and play fun games, all while learning about the amazing senses of our native critters. Snacks and drinks will be served. Parents are welcome to stay, but it is not necessary. Meet in the A.B. Ceder Room. Advanced registration is required. Space is limited! You can sign up by day or for the whole week. Please inquire about financial aid as needed.

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



Greater Waterbury and Litchfield Hills

April 25-26, 2023



www.GiveLocalCCF.org

Connecticut Community Foundation
Timeless Impact*

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 25th to 7 p.m. on April 26th will help defray the cost of virtual programming through 2023 and line the coffers of the **41st Annual Family Nature Day**, which takes place **September 23, 2023!** 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 *Habitat* 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 Summer Nature Camp

Wonder Camp

Weekly 2-hour programs for children ages 4-5 featuring stories, songs, crafts, and outdoor adventures. Sign up by session or all 5 sessions. Tuesdays, July 11, 18, 25, Aug. 1 and 8

Discovery Camp

Week-long sessions featuring outdoor discovery, games, books, songs, and crafts that help kids learn about the natural world. For children entering grades 1-2. Sign up by week or all 3 weeks. July 10-14, 17-21, and/or 24-28

Exploration Camp

Week-long sessions for children entering grades 3-9. All-day outdoor adventures await, both on White Memorial property and in many other natural places throughout northwest Connecticut. July 10-14 and/or 17-21 for 3rd and 4th grades, July 24-28 and/or July 31-Aug. 4 for 5th and 6th grades, Aug. 7-11 for 7th-9th grades

More details on whitememorialccf.org. Registration begins April 1 for members and April 15 for non-members.

Spring Calendar of *Virtual and In-Person Events

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

APRIL

1 ***The Pandemic Pantry
Crazy About Coconut**
12:00 p.m.,
ZOOM & Facebook Live
For the Zoom link, visit
www.whitememorialcc.org



2, 16 **Guided Museum Tour
with Tom Saunders**
2:00 p.m.

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



6 - 12 Museum Children Free Week +

7 **Good Friday**
Offices and Museum Closed



8 ***Jaisalmer: India's Golden City
with Gerri Griswold and Arjun Singh**
See page 7 for details.



9 **Easter Sunday**
Museum Closed



April 11 - 14
**"Sense-sational"
Spring Break Camp**
See page 5 for details!



15 **Bats! Earth's Allies**
See page 7 for details.



20 - 26 Museum Children Free Week +

20 **Babies in Backpacks**
Pre-registration is required:
www.whitememorialcc.org

21 **Star Party!**
Astronomy program with star-gazing to follow,
weather permitting, 8:00 p.m.,
A. B. Ceder Room



22 **Woodcock Cocktail Party**
See page 7 for details.



25 / 26 **GIVE LOCAL! A Day of Giving!**
See page 5 for details!

27- May 3 Museum Children Free Week +

28 / 29 **30th Annual Museum Sleep-In
For Grades 4 - 6**
See page 3 for details



29 **Animal Adaptations
with Gerri Griswold**
See page 7 for details.



MAY

4 **Nature's Nursery**
Pre-registration is required:
www.whitememorialcc.org



6 **Etuaptmunk: Two-Eyed Seeing with the
Institute for American Indian Studies**
See page 7 for details.



6 ***The Natural History & Ecology of
New England Ants with Dr. Nick Gotelli**
See page 7 for details.



7, 21 **Guided Museum Tour
with Tom Saunders**
2:00 p.m.

11 - 17 Museum Children Free Week +

13 **Bobbing for Bobolinks
at Apple Hill and Topsmead State Forest
with Gerri Griswold**
8:00 a.m., Meet at the Apple Hill Trail Head
off East Shore Road. Limited to 15.
Pre-register by calling 860-567-0857
or register online: www.whitememorialcc.org

13 **Nature Tag Sale**
Activity Shed
11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.



18 **Babies in Backpacks**
Pre-registration is required:
www.whitememorialcc.org

19 **Star Party!**
Astronomy program with star-gazing to fol-
low, weather permitting, 8:00 p.m.,
A. B. Ceder Room



20 **Hitting White Memorial's Peaks
with Gerri Griswold**
10:00 a.m., Meet in the A. B. Ceder Room.
Pre-register: www.whitememorialcc.org

25 - 31 Museum Children Free Week +

27 **Edible Plant Walk with Andy Dobos**
See page 7 for details.



29 **Memorial Day**
Offices Closed



JUNE

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



3 **Connecticut Trails Day!**
**Exploring the Lake & Butternut Brook
Trails with Kelly Orr & Mike Berry**
10:00 a.m., Meet in the A. B. Ceder Room

June 7, 14 21, 28
Yoga in the Garden
with Judith Erhman-Shapiro
8:00 a.m., \$10.00 a session
In the garden behind the Museum
A portion of the fee is donated to WMCC.
For more information or to register call:
860-309-9489

10 **Amphibian Amble with Pam Velez**
2:00 p.m., Meet in the A. B. Ceder Room.



11 **Litchfield Hills Road Race**
Museum Closed



15 **Babies in Backpacks**
Pre-registration is required:
www.whitememorialcc.org

16 **BATS COUNT BAT CAM
Ribbon Cutting Celebration!**
Speakers * Food * Music * Fun * BATS!
Check out our website:
www.whitememorialcc.org
as this great event evolves!

16 **Star Party!**
Astronomy program with star-gazing to follow,
weather permitting, 8:00 p.m.,
A. B. Ceder Room

17 **Iceland Through My Heart
with Gerri Griswold**
See page 7 for details.

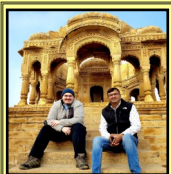
17 ***Rocks Around the Ring Road:
Iceland's Geology with Tom Alena**
See page 7 for details.

24 **The Fungus Among Us
Mushroom Identification with Dave Paton**
See page 7 for details.

+ Free admission to children under the age of
twelve when accompanied by an adult.

SPRING 2023 VIRTUAL & IN PERSON WORKSHOP REGISTRATION FORM

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



April 8 Jaisalmer ~ India's Golden City

10:00 a.m., ZOOM

Members: FREE Non-Members: \$10.00

Join Gerri Griswold and Arjun Singh on a virtual journey to Jaisalmer, India during the famous Desert Festival. What in the world is Camel Beautification?

See Gerri's friend Tom grab third prize in the Festival's Turban Tying Contest! Meet the beautiful people and visit the stunning places that define India's Golden City!



May 6 The Natural History and Ecology of New England Ants with Dr. Nick Gotelli

2:00 p.m., ZOOM

Members: FREE Non-Members: \$10.00

Ants are seemingly familiar animals, but few people appreciate their amazing life histories and evolutionary success as colonies of "super-organisms." This talk explains those details as well as how ants feature as model organisms in the study of animal behavior and responses to climate change.



April 15 Bats: Earth's Allies with Gerri Griswold

2:00 p.m., A. B. Cedar Room

Members: \$5.00 Non-Members: \$10.00

Join Gerri Griswold for a lavishly illustrated talk that touches on the basics of one of the most beneficial and maligned animals on our planet—the bat. How many species of bats are there? Where do they live?

Why are they so important to us? What is harming them? What can we do to help them...and so much more will be addressed. Meet a live Big Brown Bat ambassador!



May 27 Edible Plant Walk with Andy Dobos

10:00 a.m., Meet in the A. B. Cedar Room

Members: \$15.00 Non-Members: \$25.00

Andy Dobos will help you learn some common, easily identifiable edible wild plants and how to responsibly harvest and prepare them. Walk through field, forest, and wetland edge as Andy identifies, gathers, and gives tips for preparation. Bring a notebook, camera, and dress for the weather! *Andy has special permission to forage on WMF property.*



April 22 Woodcock Cocktail Party!

6:00 p.m., A. B. Cedar Room

Members: \$10.00 Non-Members: \$20.00

Learn about the comical little woodland bird also known as the Timberdoodle. After a brief talk over hors d'oeuvres and non-alcoholic libations, Gerri Griswold will lead you on a search for the woodcock during its mating display, one of ornithology's greatest treats!



June 17 Iceland Through My Heart

12:00 p.m., A. B. Cedar Room

Members: \$5.00 Non-Members: \$10.00

Gerri Griswold takes you on a pictorial journey through Iceland's rugged, romantic, and often otherworldly landscapes. Meet the people who define the nation that captivated Griswold over 20 years ago. You'll learn many secrets the armchair tourist is clueless about...Like how to pronounce BREIDAMERKURSANDUR! Family Nature Day Raffle Tickets go on sale today! You could win a trip for two to Iceland in June 2024!



April 29 Animal Adaptations with Gerri Griswold

2:00 p.m., A. B. Cedar Room

Members: \$5.00 Non-Members: \$10.00

Why is a vulture's head bald? Why are porcupines so slow? Why does an Opossum play possum? The answers will be revealed in an hour-long program using natural props, animal mounts, and some surprise

guests! Learn how structural and behavioral adaptations help animals survive! A fun program for children and adults!

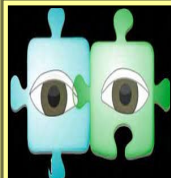


June 17 Rocks Around Iceland's Ring Road: Geology with Tom Alena!

3:00 p.m., ZOOM

Members: FREE Non-Members: \$10.00

Join Tom Alena as he discusses the magnificent and varied geology of Iceland. Alena has led geology tours to Iceland since 2012. Today he'll share his knowledge of the Land of Fire and Ice with you through photos and his uncanny ability to make physical science make sense!



May 6 Two-Eyed Seeing: Darlene Kacak & Susan Scherf: Institute for American Indian Studies

10:00 a.m., A. B. Cedar Room

Members: \$5.00 Non-Members: \$10.00

Two-Eyed Seeing is a way of bringing together science and Traditional Knowledge to understand the world better and acknowledge the importance of Indigenous perspectives in science. This concept of Two-Eyed Seeing, as applied in modern times, can lead to powerful transcultural and collaborative work with the goal of leaving the world a better place for future generations.



June 24 The Fungus Among Us with Dave Paton

10:00 a.m., Meet in the A. B. Cedar Room.

Members: \$15.00 Non-Members: \$30.00

Dave Paton is just plain giddy about mushrooms and wants to share his enthusiasm with you! Spend a couple of hours in the forest with Dave learning do's and don'ts, basic identification, and stories behind all of the fungus among us! The program begins with a brief introduction in the Cedar Room to view some specimens. *Foraging is not allowed on WMF property! Dave received special permission for this program.*



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. An individual membership is \$40.00 per year.





MARK YOUR CALENDAR THE 41ST ANNUAL FAMILY NATURE DAY

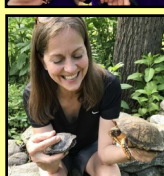
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FEATURING

SKY HUNTERS IN FLIGHT + RIVERSIDE REPTILES
HORIZON WINGS RAPTOR REHABILITATION & EDUCATION
FERNCROFT WILDLIFE RESCUE: OPOSSUMS!
EDIBLE INSECTS! + THE BAT LADY + THE TURTLE'S BACK
BUNNELL FARM WAGON RIDES + PIE SALE + VENDORS

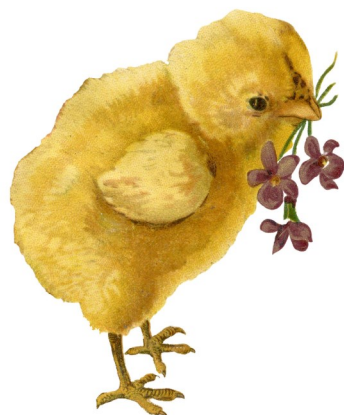
MUSIC BY ~ BOG HOLLOW

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To find the universal elements enough; to find the air and the water exhilarating;
to be refreshed by a morning walk or an evening saunter...
to be thrilled by the stars at night; to be elated over a bird's nest or a wildflower in spring -
these are some of the rewards of the simple life.

~ John Burroughs



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