

museum bulletin

Inside:

From the Chairman.....2

Spotlight on Staff..... 2

2013-14 Highlights..... 3, 4, 5

Weekend Programs..... 6,7

Special Events.....7,8

Speakers Series..... 9

Adult Programs 10

For Scouts 11

Just For Kids.....11

Members & Donors 12, 13, 14

Volunteers 15

Generations for Nature..... 16

Look for these symbols to identify where an event will be held...



25 Boulevard, Cornwall-on-Hudson, NY
Public hours: Fri. – Sun, 12pm – 4pm
“Meet the Animals” Saturday & Sunday
1pm & 2:30pm
845-534-7781



120 Muser Drive,
Across from 174 Angola Rd.
Cornwall, NY
Office hours: Mon. – Fri. 8:30am – 4pm
Visitor Center Hours:
Weekends 10am – 4pm April 19 – Nov. 16
Phone: 845-534-5506 x204
www.hhnaturemuseum.org

Delightful Dirt by Lisa Mechaley

At the Hudson Highlands Nature Museum’s Earth Day celebration this year, I watched a young naturalist from our preschool run up to garbage and recycling bins to throw out a banana peel. When he got to the bins, he paused, peel in hand clearly looking for the disposal option he has in his class; a compost bin. Our young naturalists know that a banana peel can change over time into a precious substance, dirt.



Photo by Marian Goldin

Young Naturalist Brooke Thorpe and our Compost Bin.

Dirt is the very foundation of life on land. It provides important nutrients needed for plants to grow, acts as a water filter, provides habitat for billions of organisms, and converts waste into nutrients. The first two layers of dirt, the surface litter and humus, are particularly important. Humus is a slow-acting fertilizer that binds with soil particles to form aggregates that hold water. The aggregates also create space for oxygen, allowing aeration of the soil.

New dirt is constantly being formed in the humus and litter layers by our friends the decomposers—a dizzying array of bacteria, fungi and animals like earthworms, sow bugs and millipedes living there. This process takes time. In a wet climate, it can take around 15 years to change a litter layer into half an inch of soil. Composting speeds up the dirt making process. By giving decomposers everything they need to thrive and multiply; food and yard scraps can turn into rich garden fertilizer in a few short years.

Our young naturalists know the benefits of composting first hand. They feed their snack scraps to worms, and compost other organic material in the bins outside each classroom. Through this direct observation of dirt making, our children learn that everyone can have a positive effect on the environment. During the school year, these budding ecologists compare soils to decide which is best suited for the seeds they plant.

In *The Unsettling of America: Culture & Agriculture*, Wendell Berry included a delightful ode to dirt: “The soil is the great connector of lives, the source and destination of all. It is the healer and restorer and resurrector, by which disease passes into health..., age into youth, death into life. Without proper care for it we can have no community, because without proper care for it we can have no life.”

This fall, the museum will be presenting a program called **Delightful Dirt** (see page 6). Join us to learn how to compost at home.

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Morgane Jacob, Katherine Fraine,
Alicia Ocana, Audrey Olney,
Caryn Rakov, Kait Rose

from the JOHN S. BLISS chairman

Dear Members:

Our Nature Museum has enjoyed another spectacular year, reaching more people through more programs than at any time in our history. It is an achievement of which we all -- children, members, staff, parents and volunteers can be proud. It also underscores our role as "the leader in nature education experiences in the Hudson River Valley."

This is also an appropriate time to ask how we stack up against our mission, which is to "create responsible caretakers of the environment." Instead of quoting statistics, I think the best answers are to be found in the words of our young people, starting with Callie Noland. Callie is this year's recipient of our annual Environmental Stewardship Scholarship, chosen by a Museum Committee from nominations of seniors graduating from Cornwall Central High School. Callie summed up her thanks for the Scholarship in these words:

"... My mission in life is to save the world, and this scholarship has only reaffirmed my commitment to that mission. My experiences in Black Rock Forest have inspired me to preserve and protect the few areas of our planet that have remained untouched by the overwhelming impact of humanity. I promise that I will use this scholarship to further understand and appreciate the natural world and the sciences that govern it, and use what I learn to change the way humans impact it."

And now a few words from Young Naturalist parents this year:

"Upon registering my child for Kindergarten, I was told by one of the teachers that she can always tell when a child comes from the Nature Museum because they are more advanced and better prepared. I think that speaks volumes about the program."

"My son has made wonderful friends and gained a strong foundation of nature appreciation through this program, He still uses his insect rescue kit and picks up litter everywhere we go."

At the end of the day, it's outcomes like those cited above, that make us all very proud to support the Hudson Highlands Nature Museum.



Trustee Beth Noonan, Scholarship Winner Callie Noland, Chairman John Bliss

Spotlight SANDY DIXON on... staff



Fifteen years ago Sandy Dixon answered an ad in the paper that said "Do you believe in a hands-on approach to learning? Do you love the outdoors?" She answered both questions with a resounding "yes" and found her niche at the Hudson Highlands Nature Museum as Director of the Young Naturalist Preschool Program. She had previously been teaching in kindergarten and preschool after receiving her Masters in Early Childhood Education. Sandy quotes Rachel Carson in her book *A Sense of Wonder*: "If a child is to keep alive his inborn sense of wonder, he needs the companionship of at least one adult who can share it, rediscovering with him the joy, excitement and mystery of the world we live in." Sandy says, "I am honored to have the opportunity to be one of those adults."

Annual Report Highlights

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

We are very proud to share the news that the Nature Museum was able to end our fiscal year on February 28th, 2014 in the black for the eighth year in a row. As the graphic below shows, earned income and fundraising events made up a significant portion of our income and we are especially grateful for the hard work of our dedicated staff and committed Board of Trustees.

March 1, 2013 – February 28, 2014

FUND RAISING EVENTS:

- Hike-A-Thon – April 27, 2013 – Our seventh annual Hike-A-Thon was our most successful to date!
- Acorn Society Party – June 30, 2013 – Hosted by Cathy Kuttner and Dick Polich at their home for our valuable sustaining supporters.



Jackie Grant, Chris Buck, Honorees Fred and Anne Osborn, David Redden, John Bliss

- Champagne Brunch and Silent Auction – November 10, 2013 – Honoring The Osborn Family as a “First Family for the Environment in the Hudson Valley.”
- New York City Benefit – February 26, 2014 – Hosted by Blaine and Robert Caravaggi at their restaurant, Swifty’s, in NYC, and honoring environmental journalist Andrew Revkin.



Andy Revkin on the Hudson

MEMBERSHIP

The Museum was supported by 573 household and corporate members this year which represents 10% of our annual budget and includes 59 “Acorn Society” members who commit their annual support for three years. We also implemented

monthly, quarterly and annual automatic renewal payment options for membership.

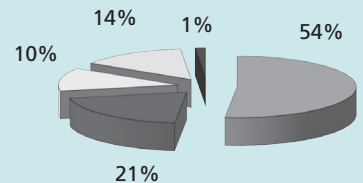
GRANTS AND SPONSORSHIPS

Funds from a “Together Green” grant from Toyota made it possible for the Museum to again work with students from the San Miguel Academy in Newburgh and a TD Bank Foundation Grant funded programs with the Nora Cronin Presentation Academy in Newburgh. “Art in the Wild” A Trailside Exhibit was supported by Orange County Tourism and the County of Orange. We are very grateful to ALL our contributors who made this successful year possible. (See full list on page 15.)

OPERATING REVENUES & EXPENSES FISCAL YEAR 2013-2014*

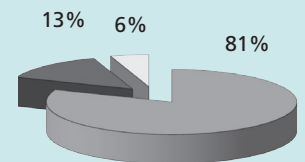
OPERATING REVENUES

Admissions/Sales/Program Fees	\$450,970	54%
Fundraising Events	\$173,964	21%
Grants and Corporate Sponsorships	\$112,787	14%
Membership Donations	\$86,357	10%
Other Donations	\$5,547	1%
Total	\$829,625	100%



OPERATING EXPENSES

Education Program Costs	\$671,664	81%
Administration	\$107,798	13%
Fund Raising	\$49,753	6%
Total	\$829,215	100%



*Not yet audited. The Hudson Highlands Nature Museum is a 501 (c) 3 tax exempt educational organization chartered by the NYS Board of Regents. A copy of the most recent audited statement can be obtained by calling the Museum at 845-534-5506 x 201.

SEE NEXT PAGE FOR PROGRAM

Highlights

Annual Report Highlights

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Hudson Highlands Nature Museum is to create responsible caretakers of the environment. Through quality educational programs for the public that focus on the unique ecology of the Hudson Valley, the Museum promotes knowledge and appreciation of our natural world and the dynamic role of human interaction in its well-being.

March 1, 2013 – February 28, 2014

Total visitor contacts: 38,376

HHNM SCHOLARSHIP FOR ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

The third annual scholarship for a graduating CCHS senior who exemplifies the Museum's mission of creating responsible caretakers of the environment through his or her past actions and future aspirations was awarded in June 2014 to Caldonia Noland.

SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Environmental Education programs for school groups that take place both at the Museum sites and in the Classroom.

4

- Number of different programs offered: 25
- Number presented: 384
- Number of participants: 8268
- Counties served: Orange, Dutchess, Putnam, Rockland, Ulster, Westchester, Manhattan
- 159 of the programs were funded by grants and contributions

Notes of Interest:

- Special contributions allowed us to provide 104 programs so that every third and fourth grade student in the Newburgh School District came to the Wildlife Education Center for either "The World of Frogs" (3rd grade) or "Symbols of NY" (4th grade).
- Grants and contributions made it possible for the Museum to provide science and nature education programs for middle school students from underserved families in the City of Newburgh at the San



Photo: Marian Goldin



Above: Students from the Nora Cronin Presentation Academy at one of their bimonthly science and nature workshops at the Museum's Outdoor Discovery Center.

Left: Students from Newburgh's San Miguel Academy created "solar cookers" – and then demonstrated them at the Museum's Earth Day Celebration!

Miguel Academy and the Nora Cronin Presentation Academy.

- 26% of the programs were done in schools, 74% were field trips to the Museum sites or the Kowawese Unique Area on the Hudson River.

YOUNG NATURALIST PRESCHOOL PROGRAM

Now in its 20th year, the program served 83 children in six classes from September to June with seven dedicated teachers and assistants. Program Director, Sandy Dixon, attended the national Nature Preschool Conference Irving Nature Center, MD.

WILDLIFE EDUCATION CENTER

Home of the Museum's live animal collection and interactive nature exhibits, this location welcomes the public on Friday, Saturday and Sunday with a "Meet the Animal" program on weekends. It also houses the adult/child animal series, nature-based birthday parties and welcomes school and camp groups throughout the year.

- General Admission visitors: 4336
- Number of major live animals cared for: 65
- Native species:
 - Migratory Birds: 5, Mammals: 2,
 - Turtles: 12, Snakes: 6, Lizards: 2,

Amphibians: 17, Fish: 10,
Non-native animals used for
education: 13 – 25

- Taxidermy mounts: 15

New for this year:

- Opened our first “StoryWalk” Trail in partnership with the Cornwall Public Library. “Rabbits and Raindrops” by Jim Arnosky

SUMMER NATURE CAMP

Expanded to nine one-week science-based camps for ages 4 – 15
Enrollment – 404

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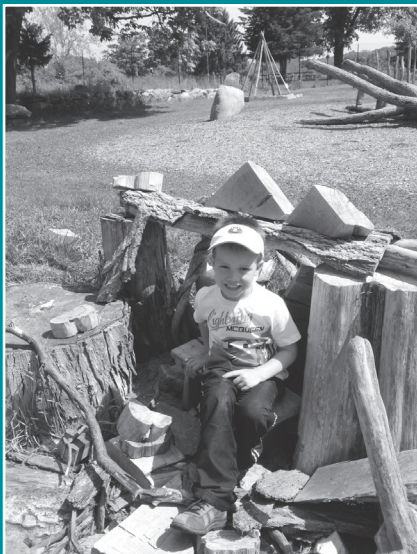
“Animals and Nature Together” - adult/child animal program series
Enrollment – 94 children ages 2-4, each with a caregiver

NATURE STROLLERS

Hiking group for families with babies & toddlers
13 sessions, 60 children and 78 adults

GRASSHOPPER GROVE NATURE PLAY AREA

The first nature play area in the Hudson Valley saw its first full season of weekend visitors numbering 1626. It was also well used by the Young Naturalist Preschool, Summer Camp and visiting pre-schools and



Enjoying the “loose parts” area of Grasshopper Grove

kindergartens. We offered our first Grasshopper Grove Afterschool Club.

WEEKEND NATURE PROGRAMS AND OTHER MUSEUM EVENTS

- 42 Weekend Nature Programs and Events were attended by 1035 people
- Maple Sugar Tours, Family Campouts, Earth Day, I Spy Halloween Trail, Butterfly Weekend and the Native Plant Sale have become signature events
- The ever popular Atka, the Artic Gray Wolf, returned to educate and inspire.

OFF-SITE PUBLIC PROGRAMS

23 programs were presented at Storm King Art Center, Wave Hill, Hubbard Lodge in Fahnstock State Park and at Museum Village.

SCOUT DAYS

- 14 day-long Badge workshops for girl scouts and cub scouts plus four days of Maple Sugar Tours for Scouts. Attendance: 1366

ADULT PROGRAMS

- Evening Speakers Series – lectures held at the Cornwall Presbyterian Fellowship Hall. Number of lectures – 8 Attendance – 256
- Adult programming included special hikes, a campfire kayak tour, canoeing in Constitution Marsh, a Clearwater Sail and a Trail Design workshop by the NYNJ Trail Conference in preparation for building a trail from the Museum’s trails to those in Black Rock Forest.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS HIGHLIGHTS

- Grasshopper Grove, the Museum’s new Nature Play Area opened in April, 2013 at the Outdoor Discovery Center.

Highlights

**OUR
DEDICATED
STAFF**



Weekend Programs



Saturday, September 6
MAJESTIC MONARCHS

Take a guided walk in search of Monarch butterflies and caterpillars. Learn their natural history, the reasons for their decline and how planting a patch of milkweed can help Monarchs survive. Take home milkweed seeds to plant. Rain cancels. Rain date is Sept. 14. Listen for message at 845.534.5506.

Sunday, September 7
THE FARM THAT BECAME A MUSEUM

The 177 acre parcel of land now known as the Outdoor Discovery Center has a fascinating history that dates back to pre-Revolutionary War times. Come learn the rich history of the property previously known as Kenridge Farm. This presentation is most appropriate for adults and children over 8.

Saturday, September 13
GEOLOGY HIKE

Learn about more than a billion years of New York State history. After a brief overview of the fascinating geology of our region, take a 2 mile guided hike to visit the site of a 19th century magnetite mine.

Sunday, September 21
DELIGHTFUL DIRT

Discover how easy it is to change leaves, grass clippings and food scraps into valuable fertilizer. Learn about worm composting and view nature's decomposers up close on a short nature hike.



Saturday, September 27
NATURE PHOTOSCAVENGER HUNT

A Photoscavenger Hunt is a fun way to get creative with your photography. Each family will get a list of items they must "scavenge" on our trails. Pictures are taken of the items instead of collecting them. The first family to return with photos of all the items will receive a prize.

Join us for interactive programs about science and nature. Each program begins with a presentation and moves to a guided hike or hands-on activity. Suggested for adults with or without children ages five and up, unless otherwise noted.

All programs begin at 10am at the Outdoor Discovery Center unless otherwise noted.

Admission: \$7 adults, \$5 children,
Members: \$5 adults, \$3 children

Sunday, September 28
GONE TO SEED

Wind, water and hitchhiking on clothing or fur are some of the ways seeds get around. Go on a seed scavenger hunt to collect seeds on a masking tape "bracelet."

Saturday, October 4
**BEAR? NO WOOLLY BEAR!
AT THE WILDLIFE EDUCATION CENTER**

Woolly Bear caterpillars are curious, legendary creatures. What do they turn into? Can they really predict the weather? Learn all about them, help release our caterpillars back to the field and make a Woolly Bear craft.



Saturday, October 11
FALL BIRDS AND WATERFOWL

Catch a glimpse of some beautiful ducks and other waterfowl and migrating birds as they make their way south for the winter. Join well-known birder David Baker for a hike around our ponds.

Sunday, October 12
FALL FOLIAGE HIKE

In the Autumn, our favorite trails become ablaze with vibrant reds, yellows and gold. Join us for a beautiful fall hike and discover what changes cause the spectacular foliage in our region.

Saturday, October 18
NATURE'S COSTUMES

Why do so many animals blend into nature? We will explore the answer to this question through engaging games and activities. Come dressed in brown or green colors to participate in a camouflage hide and seek game.

Sunday, November 2
BEAVERS

Learn more about these large herbivores that are second only to humans in their ability to manipulate their environment. Then take a hike to the pond to look for evidence of beaver chewed wood.



WEEKEND PROGRAMS

WEEKEND PROGRAMS

Saturday, November 8

OWLS AT THE WILDLIFE EDUCATION CENTER

Learn about these nocturnal raptors and their fascinating natural history. Meet a live owl from the Museum's collection.



Sunday, November 16

CLOSING DAY FOR GRASSHOPPER GROVE

Grasshopper Grove will be closing for the winter, but there is still time for one last celebration. Join us for play time in Grasshopper grove, meet an animal and enjoy a special snack.

Saturday, November 22

TURKEY TALES

AT THE WILDLIFE EDUCATION CENTER

Did you know that the turkey was once nominated to become our National Symbol? Learn about the turkey's natural history and interesting adaptations. Make a fun turkey craft.



Saturday, December 6

HOLIDAY GIFTS

Learn to make simple holiday gifts from recycled materials and natural objects. Create a snowman out

of a recycled water bottle, a tree fairy ornament from pinecones and acorns, and a bracelet made from junk mail and paperclips. Pre-registration required

Sunday, December 7

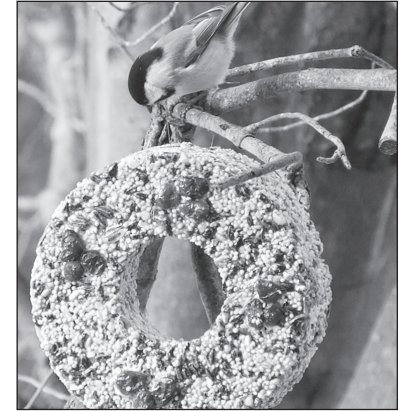
NATURE IN WINTER

Discover the startling beauty and diversity of nature in winter. Take a hike to search for signs of animals and plants that stay green through the winter. Meet one of our local mammals and discover its strategy for surviving the winter.

Saturday, December 13

SEED WREATHS

Learn how to create your own seed wreaths; birds love them and they make great gifts! Each participant will take home a decorated wreath. Adults and children over 7 years.



PROGRAMS EAST OF THE RIVER
AT HUBBARD LODGE IN
FAHNESTOCK STATE PARK
Sundays at 2pm
Sept. 21- Beavers
Oct. 19- Snakes
Nov. 16 – Black Bear

PROGRAMS IN SOUTHERN
ORANGE COUNTY
AT MUSEUM VILLAGE IN MONROE
Sundays at 2pm
Sept. 14- Black Bear
Oct. 5-Snakes
Nov. 2-Coyotes

PROGRAMS AT STORM KING ART
CENTER
Sundays at 1pm
Sept. 7 – Art and Nature
Sept. 28 – Aquatic Creature Feature
Nov. 9 - Birds

7

Special Events

SEPTEMBER

STORY WALK WEEKEND "GOBBLE, GOBBLE" BY CATHRYN FALWELL

Saturday, Sept. 13 and Sunday, Sept. 14
12pm to 4pm, at the Wildlife Education Center

Read your way through the trails! Enjoy beautiful illustrations and nature references as you follow Jenny's discovery of wonderful Wild Turkeys! This program is presented in partnership with the Cornwall Public Library and The Grail.

- 1:00 and 2:30 Learn about turkeys
 - 1:30 and 3:00 guided walk along our Story Walk Trail
 - Throughout the afternoon - crafts and snacks for the kids
- Included with regular admission of \$3,
Museum members: free



FAMILY CAMP OUT

Friday, Sept. 19 - 6pm to Saturday, Sept. 20 – 8 am
(rain date Sept 20-21)

Bring the family, your tent and sleeping bags for a fun night around the campfire and under the stars. Begin your overnight adventure by setting up your campsite at the Outdoor Discovery Center. Haven't pitched a tent before? We will have camping veterans on hand to help! In addition to your camp out spot, your camping adventure includes:

- "Nature at Night" – activities led by Museum educators
 - Fun crafts for kids
 - Star Gazing (weather permitting)
 - Free play in Grasshopper Grove
 - Campfires, s'mores and a song or two.
 - Light breakfast snack and coffee on Saturday Morning
- Member price: \$17 per person, \$8 children under 5.
Non-member price: \$20 per person, \$12 children under 5.

Pre-paid reservation required to reserve your campsite.
Register online or call 845.534.5506 x204



Special Events

SEPTEMBER



ORIENTEERING MEET

Co-sponsored by Hudson Valley Orienteering
Saturday, September 20

Beginners instruction at 10:30am. Trails open to "start" your orienteering between 11am - 1pm.

Orienteering is an exciting, fun sport that uses map and compass to navigate your way through a course of checkpoints. If you are an orienteering beginner, join us at 10:30am for a short instruction program. Then head out on the trails! There will be 4 levels of difficulty to choose from. Maps included. Limited compasses available for \$1 rent.

Prices: Members include HVO & Museum Members.

Individual Adult: member \$5, nonmember \$10,

Individual Junior (18 & under): member \$4, nonmember

\$5, Family Maximum: member \$10, nonmember \$20,

Group (2people): member \$7, nonmember \$12. Fee

includes two maps. For each additional person, age 8 & over, the cost is an additional \$2, regardless of age or membership. They will also receive their own map.

2ND ANNUAL POETRY TRAIL OPENING CELEBRATION

September 28, 4pm-6pm



The Hudson Highlands Nature Museum is pleased to partner once again with the Hudson Highlands Land Trust to present "River of Words" Poetry. Experience a series of unique, temporary installations celebrating the nature-inspired poetry of local students as you walk along our red trail.



OCTOBER



"I SPY" HALLOWEEN TRAIL

October 25 and 26

11am to 3pm Drop in any time to start your trail.

Let's have some spook-tacular family fun! Can you find all of the objects cleverly hidden along the Halloween Trail? Which ones belong in nature and which ones certainly do not?! Sharpen your observation skills as you search for animal artifacts, like bones and skulls.



Find them all and earn a prize!! Then visit snakes & spiders in the creepy crawlers room and do a Halloween craft or two!

Admission for children ages 2-14: Members \$5, Non-members \$7 Adults are Free

NOVEMBER

CHAMPAGNE BRUNCH

November 9 at 12 noon

The Powelton Club in Newburgh

Save the date for our annual Champagne Brunch and Silent Auction. This year the museum is honoring the Ottaway family as a "First Family for the Environment in the Hudson Valley."

For information, call 845.534.5506 x212

BARNES & NOBLE

Sunday, November 23 – All day. Shop at any Barnes & Noble or shop online and benefit the Museum.

On Nov. 23, do your holiday shopping in a store, or online from Nov. 23 – 28, using Museum Book Fair voucher # 11067741 and a percentage of your purchase will be donated to the Museum!

BONUS!

From 10am – 4pm at Barnes & Noble, 1245 Route 300, Newburgh

• Live Animal Presentations! Museum educators will be in the children's section with live animals. Your children will enjoy the presentation while you shop!

THANKSGIVING WEEKEND AT THE WILDLIFE EDUCATION CENTER



November 28, 29 and 30 12pm – 4pm

Bring the Family for Post Holiday fun!

Visit with our live animals and enjoy fun crafts for kids.

"Meet the Animal" presentations at 1pm and 2:30pm

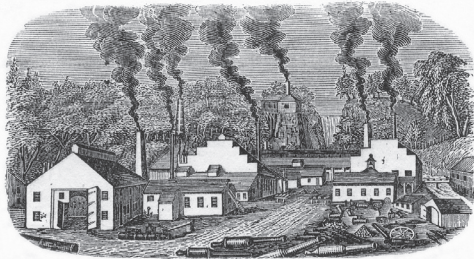
Admission: \$3, Members: Free

Are you seeking a unique and wonderful holiday gift? Sponsor an Animal this holiday season...with a sponsorship, gain a special friend and support its care at the museum. Sponsors receive a personalized certificate with a photo of the new special friend suitable for framing.

Animal Sponsorship packages begin at \$25.

Sponsor your animal on Thanksgiving Weekend or visit our website for full details: www.hnnaturemuseum.org and click under "wildlife."

Evening Speakers Series



Engraving of the West Point Foundry by John Barber (1798 - 1885)
Courtesy of Putnam History Museum

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21

West Point Foundry: 1817 - 1911 and Beyond

West Point Foundry in Cold Spring was one of the first major industrial sites in the United States. At its peak during the Civil War, it manufactured cannons which were crucial to the Union victory. It also manufactured steam locomotives, marine engines, aqueduct pipes, architectural columns, and industrial machinery. Dr. Trudie Grace, curator of the Putnam History Museum and art history instructor at the Fashion Institute of Technology and historian Mark Forlow will share the Foundry's story from its early years to its current status as a preserve and site of archaeological excavations.

This program is funded, in part, by the New York Council for the Humanities.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28

Dutch Influence on the American Kitchen and Life

The Dutch were the first Europeans to settle in the Hudson River Valley. In this talk, Author and Food Historian, Peter G. Rose, examines the Influence of the Dutch on the American Kitchen. She will explore the food ways and food stuffs brought to America by the Dutch more than three centuries ago and how these foods were adapted to the new circumstances. Slides of 17th Dutch art works are part of the lecture by Ms. Rose who has presented at the Smithsonian Institute and the NY Historical Society among many other venues

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4

Nature's Fortress: The Environmental Defense of West Point during the American Revolution

Forced to defend the Hudson River, the Continental Army correctly decided to base their defense at West Point, NY. That said, the combination of a lack of infrastructure, a dearth of trained engineers, and a weak budget forced the defenders to resort to untraditional and untried methods and to use the environmental factors of the area to

Tuesdays at 7:30 pm

The Cornwall Presbyterian Fellowship Hall

222 Hudson Street, Cornwall-on-Hudson

Members \$5, non-members \$7

Refreshments available.

facilitate the defense. In this manner, West Point became the "rock of the Hudson." This lecture by Andrew Forney, Assistant Professor, Dept. of History, US Military Academy, will focus on these developments, their impact, and their legacy.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11

Warm Weather and Heated Debate

Join Spencer R. Weart, noted historian of science and retired director of the Center for the History of Physics of the American Institute of Physics, for an illustrated lecture that will recount the grand intellectual journey by scientists toward understanding how human activities are changing the climate. Dr. Weart will also describe the future climate changes that are expected in the Hudson Highlands. In his NY Times review of Dr. Weart's book, "The Discovery of Global Warming," environmental journalist Andrew C. Revkin said, "It reveals the effort as one of the great exercises in collective sleuthing. It dissects the interwoven threads of research and reveals the political and societal subtexts that colored scientists' views and the public reception their work received." Dr. Weart will be introduced by Andrew Revkin.



FOR ADULTS...

Great opportunities to learn about our region, meet others & get some exercise in the autumn air!

For prepaid registration go to hnnaturemuseum.org or call 845.534.5506 x204.

Wine and Woolly Bears

Saturday, October 4,
5:00pm – 6:30pm



What do wine and woolly bear caterpillars have in common? They will both be in the gazebo in Grasshopper Grove for a late afternoon gathering. Enjoy a selected sampling of wines while learning about the fascinating life cycle of the woolly bear.

Members: \$25 Non-members: \$35.

Art Classes in our Fields

October Sundays
9am – 1pm



Join the Wallkill River School of Painters for Plein Air Art Classes on the beautiful grounds and trails of the Outdoor Discovery Center. Bring your gear to the site at 9am; artist demo from 9:30 – 10, you paint from 10 – 12 with one-on-one help from the demonstrator, group critique and local foods picnic (provided)



from 12 – 1. Loaner materials available. Members: \$20 Non-members: \$25 per program.

Oct. 5 – Atmospheric effects with oil with Mary Mugele Sealfon

Oct. 12 – Capturing fall color in pastel with Shawn Dell Joyce

Oct. 19 – Colors of the harvest in oil with Michael Piotrowski

Oct. 26 – Creating a dynamite composition in acrylic with Nancy Reed Jones

Soap Making

Saturday, November 15,
10am-2pm (Bring a bag lunch)
Saturday, November 22,
10am-11:30am



Outdoor Discovery Center

Learn to make natural cold processed soap in this hands-on workshop with our Education Coordinator and soap maker, Megan Hoffman.

On Nov. 15: Learn the history of soap making, the proper use of safety equipment and the properties of essential oils, natural additives, molding and curing. Then, create a batch of soap as a group.

On Nov. 22: Learn how to cut, store, wrap and label your soap, which you will take home.

Members: \$60.00

Non-members: \$75.00

Limited enrollment.

Prepaid registration required by Nov. 4

Prepaid registration required for all programs.

Schunemunk Mountain Hike Sunday, September 14, 10am – 4pm

Enjoy stunning panoramic views and unusual rock formations as you climb to the highest point in Orange County. This is a rigorous 4-6 mile hike, so please be prepared! Wear proper footwear, bring plenty of water, lunch and snacks. Meet at the Otterkill Road parking lot. Full directions will be emailed.

Members \$5.00 Non-members \$7.00

Iona Island Hike Saturday, September 20, 9am – 1pm

Join us for a special opportunity to enter and hike Iona Island with Doc Bayne, a regionally recognized naturalist and historian. Learn all about this nature preserve that includes evidence of Native Americans Colonial life, and a rich military history. Today it supports wildlife including the majestic Bald Eagle. Wear proper footwear, bring lunch and water. Meet at the Iona Island parking area. Full directions will be emailed.

Members \$5.00 Non-members \$7.00

Black Rock Forest Hike Saturday, October, 18, 12pm – 4:00pm Meet at the Outdoor Discovery Center to carpool.

After a lesson on map reading, enjoy a moderately rigorous hike on the Sackett and Stillman trails in Black Rock Forest. Wear proper footwear, bring water and a snack. Directions will be emailed.

Members \$5.00 Non-members \$7.00



JUST FOR KIDS!

Nature Strollers

Every Thursday at 10am
Sept. 18 through Nov. 13
At the Outdoor Discovery Center



A hiking group for families with babies, toddlers and young children

Join a museum educator on our gentle trails for a one-hour hike with the tykes. Learn techniques for introducing your child to the natural world.

Meet at the Outdoor Discovery Center. Sign in at the Visitors Center.

Members: free
Non-members: \$5 per family
If weather is questionable, call 845.534.5506 x204

Grasshopper Grove Clubs



September 22- November 14
Monday, Wednesday and Friday
No Clubs on October 13, November 10

Lunch Club 11:30am-1:30pm
After-school Club 3pm-5pm

The Museum will again offer our popular Grasshopper Grove program for 4 and 5 year olds. Join us to extend your child's outdoor playtime in Grasshopper Grove for up to three sessions a week. If inclement weather brings children inside, the focus is still on learning and playing with natural elements.

Playing outdoors is a wonderful way to develop coordination, practice cooperation, and connect to the environment. Plus, the extended hours help children prepare for the full days of kindergarten.

Check website to see substantial discounts for those who register in advance for all eight weeks, one, two or three days. If space is available, "drop-in" rate will be \$16 for members and \$20 for non-members, if registered before 9am.

For discounts, preregister online at hnnaturemuseum.org

Animals and Nature Together ...ANTS!



Parents and Grandparents! This is for you (or another caregiver) and your children ages 2* - 4, to learn about animals and nature together. Each carefully structured program in the series focuses on one of the museum's live animals and includes a craft, song, story and outdoor walk. It is a great way to prepare your child for preschool!

Four times to choose from - 8-Week Sessions

AT THE WILDLIFE EDUCATION CENTER

Tuesdays: Sept. 30 - Nov. 25
(Snow date, Dec. 2)

9:30am-10:30am (ages 2* & 3)

11am-12am (ages 3 & 4)

Fridays: Oct. 3-Nov. 21

(Snow date, Dec. 5)

9:30am-10:30am (ages 2*-4)

AT THE OUTDOOR DISCOVERY CENTER

Saturdays: Oct. 4 - Nov. 22

(Snow date, Dec. 6)

10:30am-11:30am (ages 2* - 4)

Price per child/adult pair
Members: \$95 Non-members \$120
Prepaid registration required.

**Please note: your child MUST be 2 years of age to enroll. This is a special time for adults/toddlers. Kindly make other arrangements for siblings over 9 months.*



AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS WITH CARL HEITMULLER



FORESTS, FORTS AND FUN

For Grades K-2

Mondays: Sept. 29 - Nov. 3
(No program Oct. 13)

At the Outdoor Discovery Center
3:45pm - 5pm

Head off the beaten path to destinations of discovery! Make a home of your own in the woods as we build forts, play in the forests and have FUN!

Members: \$60 Nonmembers: \$75
Prepaid registration required.

SCHOOL BREAK MINI-CAMP AT THE WILDLIFE EDUCATION CENTER

NEW* FULL DAY MINI-CAMPS

December 29, 30, and 31 Sign up for one, two, or all three days!

9am-3pm (Ages 6-9)

Enjoy a great day of fun and learning. Meet a different live animal each day, and learn how animals survive the cold.

Enjoy engaging hands-on activities, crafts, games, and hikes.

Museum members \$42.00 per day

Non-members \$48.00 per day

Pre-paid registration required.

For prepaid registration go to hnnaturemuseum.org or call 845.534.5506 x204.

Scout Badge Workshops



Bring your troop or den for a special afternoon of learning and fun beginning at 11:45 at the Outdoor Discovery Center. Each scout receives a museum fun patch and a certificate of completion for badges or awards earned. Bring water & a snack. Dress appropriately to be outdoors on our trails. Light refreshments available for purchase. \$15 per scout, adult leaders free. A \$50 deposit will hold your reservation. Payment in full is due 2 weeks prior to event. No refunds day of event for no-shows. Register online at hnnaturemuseum.org or call 845.534.5506 x211

WEBELOS DAYS

Saturday, October 18
Naturalist

CUB SCOUT DAYS LOOP AND PIN

Sunday, October 12
Wildlife Conservation

Saturday, November 1
Map and Compass

Saturday, November 8
Geology

GIRL SCOUT JOURNEY DAYS

Saturday, October 11
Daisies: Earth & Sky

Sunday, October 19
Brownies: Wonders of Water

Sunday, November 2
Juniors: Get Moving

Sunday, November 9
Cadette: Breathe

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(We make every attempt to be accurate with our listings. Please contact Jackie Grant at 845.534.5506 x204 with any questions.)

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The "Museum Advocates" are a circle of friends who have demonstrated their appreciation for the importance of the mission of the Museum and its value to the community. Advocates have contributed (by giving their time, talent and/or financial support) to the Museum's strength and vitality in ways that are "above and beyond," and they assist on a regular basis. Thank you, Museum Advocates!

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VOLUNTEERS

Our thanks go out to the following volunteers who have helped the museum in many ways between July 1, 2013 and July 1, 2014. A special thank you to the **Board Members of the Museum**, who are not listed here, but who constantly volunteer their valuable time and talent.



Volunteers building the new trail from the Museum to the trails in Black Rock Forest

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GOODS & SERVICES

The Museum is very grateful to the following people and organizations for donations of goods and services for Earth Day, our Silent Auction, the Mastodon Exhibit and other valuable projects.

Russ Astrab
David & Sharon Baker
Tom & Tosh Barron
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Annual Report Bulletin ■ Fall 2014

20th Anniversary of the
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CONNECT KIDS WITH NATURE FOR GENERATIONS!

Generations for Nature is the Museum's Planned Giving Circle. It is made up of friends who have named the Museum in their estate plans. Their gifts take many forms but they have one thing in common: their generosity will enable the Museum to fulfill its mission far into the future. Our gratitude goes out to this list of founding members of Generations for Nature:

Anonymous
John & Sue Bliss
Mr. & Mrs. George D. Cornell*
Edward Hoyt
Joseph & Susan Maloney
Bonnie Mangiaracina

George Muser
Frederick Osborn III
Howard & Deborah Protter
Jeannette & David Redden
*deceased

To join or to learn more, contact the Museum's Executive Director, Jackie Grant at 845. 534. 5506, x203, or jgrant@hhnaturemuseum.org.

The Mission of the Museum is to create responsible caretakers of our environment. Through quality educational programs for the public that focus on the unique ecology of the Hudson Valley, the Museum promotes knowledge and appreciation of our natural world and the dynamic role of human interaction in its well-being.

www.hhnaturemuseum.org

Wildlife Education Center

25 Boulevard, Cornwall-on-Hudson
845.534.7781

Open year round:

Friday – Sunday from 12 - 4

Admission: \$3.00 for ages 3 & up.

Members free.

- Live Animals · Interactive Exhibits
- Short family-friendly trails
- "Meet the Animals" at 1pm & 2:30pm every Saturday and Sunday

Outdoor Discovery Center

120 Muser Drive (entrance across from 174 Angola Rd.) Cornwall, NY

845.534.5506 x204

Open mid-April to mid-Nov.

Weekends from 10am-4pm

- Trails: Free, Quest Guidebooks \$5
- Grasshopper Grove: Admission \$3, Members – Free

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