

Center Focus

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SCHLITZ
Audubon
NATURE
CENTER

Jan/ Feb 2010

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Enjoy Great Cross Country Skiing and Snowshoeing in our Winter Wonderland



Search for Antlers
Special Members Only
FREE Program



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13
See page 11 for more details

Wolf Programs

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20
See page 11 for more details

Family Snowshoe

SATURDAY, JANUARY 30
See page 11 for more details

Open 7 Days a Week

9 AM – 5 PM \$4 Adults
\$2 Children 12 and under
Free Admission to Members
Closed Thanksgiving
Christmas & New Years

www.sanc.org

1111 East Brown Deer Road
Milwaukee, WI 53217
414.352.2880

Sesame Street "gets it"

By Elizabeth Cheek, Executive Director



This past November, Sesame Street celebrated its 40th birthday, and the celebration included an unveiling of a new nature curriculum. "My World Is Green And Growing" is a two-year science initiative with three main goals: to increase positive attitudes towards nature, deepen children's knowledge about the natural world, and encourage behavior that shows respect and care for the environment. For those of us in the nature preschool business, that sounds like a page taken right out of our own playbook.

To plan for this initiative, Sesame Street invited a few national experts on children and nature, among them our own Patti Bailie, our Nature Preschool Director, to come to New York. They provided input on show themes, information on science and young children, and ideas for show segments and for curriculum. Patti also is helping them with curriculum for next year's show series.

This past spring, Sesame Street sent us some drafts of the new shows to have our nature preschoolers critique them. They weren't shy. In one of the shows, when a red bird puppet hopped around saying "peep, peep", our three-year-old critics said disgustedly, "Cardinals don't say 'peep, peep,' they say 'cheer, cheer, birdy, birdy, birdy.'" In another show on tracking, our critics were quick

to point out that raccoon footprints in the show didn't look at all like real raccoon footprints. They couldn't put anything past our kids.



Photo by - Bob Bailie

Schlitz Audubon Nature Center Prechool students review a future nature themed Sesame Street episode in order to offer feedback to the show's writers

Here at the Center, we are very aware of the many benefits that come from connecting children and nature, including confidence, physical development, brain development, improved visual discrimination, and a caring attitude. However, when a well-known show like Sesame Street comes to this

awareness, it bestows a well-deserved level of acknowledgement that is long overdue. This will undoubtedly have a national effect on providing more opportunities for children to spend time in the natural world, with SANC and Sesame Street leading the way.

Save some trees - go online This newsletter is available in its complete form as a PDF on our website. E-mail bbailie@sanc.org to unsubscribe from the paper version.



"Go Wild" at SANC

We have joined the Milwaukee Public Museum and the Milwaukee Central Library for the Big Read (an initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts) to encourage reading for pleasure and enlightenment. This year the featured novel is Jack London's classic, *The Call Of The Wild*. Set during the Yukon Gold Rush, the book relates the harrowing adventures of Buck, a dog stolen from his domestic home and forced to survive in the wild. To enrich your reading of London's book, the Center is offering two wolf programs on Saturday, February 20, one for children and one for adults. We will have some free books, Reader's guides, and Audio guides for attendees. Please see page 11 for details.



Yvette Bauer's acrylic entry of a pair of Wood Ducks was chosen as the Best of Show in the state of Wisconsin. Over 600 entries from 53 schools participated. Bauer is 17 years old and attends Ithaca Public School.



SAVE THE DATE

SPRING HARP CONCERT
SUNDAY, MARCH 21

PANCAKE BREAKFAST
SATURDAY, MARCH 27

DAZZLING DUCKS OF SPRING
TUESDAY, MARCH 30

THE DUCKS ARE COMING TO SANC!

From January 9th through February 26th the winners of the 2009 Wisconsin Junior Duck Stamp Art contest will be on display in the Great Hall. The winning pictures represent the best from over 600 submissions. Students ages range from 7 years old to high school students. The art work is judged in four age classes. The Junior Duck Stamp program is sponsored by the U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service. It is the only art contest sponsored by the federal government. The goals are to teach wetland habitat and waterfowl conservation to America's youth.

You will be amazed at the exquisite detail and true-to-life rendition of the birds.

30% Post Consumer Fiber

Mission Statement

Schlitz Audubon Nature Center connects people with nature and inspires them to become responsible stewards of the natural world.

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Schlitz Audubon Nature Center

Issue No. 1 - 10

Development Updates

By Debby Fulton, Director of Development



Help Make a Difference-Invest Today!

The 2010 Annual Fund Drive is well underway and we hope that you have had a chance to make a difference in the lives of thousands of children, teens, and adults, through a generous gift to this year's campaign.

"Nature-deficit disorder is not a medical condition; it is a description of the human costs of alienation from nature. This alienation damages children and shapes adults, families, and communities," says Richard Louv, child advocacy expert and author of the groundbreaking book Last Child in the Woods, 2005.

For 38 years, SANC has been progressively connecting people of all ages with nature. In order to continue to do this, we need the

help of donors, members, volunteers, and staff. To those of you who have made your gift to the Annual Fund Drive already, a big heartfelt THANKYOU! We really appreciate your support. If you have not made your donation already, we hope that you will do so in the next few days. Making an investment in Schlitz Audubon Nature Center is one investment that will never lose its value.

Laurie Kennedy Joins SANC

I am pleased to announce that Laurie Kennedy has joined SANC in the newly created, part time position of Grant Writer. Laurie brings over 20 years of research, project management, and professional writing skills to the position. We are delighted and fortunate to have found Laurie. Her work in both for profit and non-profit sectors will help us strengthen our corporate and foundation fund raising initiatives.

New Board of Directors

Congratulations and "welcome" to attorneys Timothy Gerend of Northwestern Mutual, and Ali Ruvin of Rebel Green and family court mediator, as the newest members of our board of directors. Many thanks to retiring director Michael Youngman of Northwestern Mutual for more than 7 years of service.



Green Living Tips

By Jackie Keltner, Environmental Educator



Apples and Oats and Mushrooms The Joy of Eating Local

Yippee! Milwaukee now has an indoor Winter Farmers Market! Running Saturday mornings through April 24 ("snow or shine"), local producers are offering local products for sale, including beef, elk, poultry, pancetta, eggs, oats, apples, mushrooms, maple syrup, sorghum (!) and cheese. The market is held at State Fair Park, Tommy Thompson Youth Center, 640 S. 84th Street, 8:00 am- noon, every Saturday (except November 28, December 26, January 2 and April 3).

Now Milwaukee shoppers have an extended local buying season, which gives us more chance to support local farmers, to keep food dollars in the community, and to reduce pollution caused by transportation of food (1,500 miles on average for food items in stores).

More information including a list of vendors and their websites is at www.mcwfm.org. See you at the market!

- C A L E N D A R - c o n t i n u e d

Tracks and Traces

The winter landscape reveals secrets often hidden during other seasons. We will learn to "read" the story left in the snow, through careful observation and clue interpretation. What tracks and traces can the trained eye find? Which animals stay active in the winter and why don't we see groundhog tracks in the snow? We will learn about animal locomotion, adaptations and techniques for surviving winter in Wisconsin.

DATE: SATURDAY, JANUARY 16

TIME: 1:00 - 3:00 PM

*****FEE:** M: ADULT \$10 M: CHILD \$6
NM: ADULT \$12 NM: CHILD \$8

LEVEL: 3RD - 6TH GRADE AND OPEN TO PARENTS

The Last Trip Out West - John James Audubon Lecture and Print Viewing

Join us at the Milwaukee Public Library for a lecture on Audubon's last field trip and print viewing of birds and mammals from his portfolio collections. Jeff Jara, adjunct professor of Art History, will begin with a lecture and provide interpretation of the painting techniques. Mary Milinkovich, curator of the collections, will make a short presentation on their histories. This will be our third and final viewing program.

DATE: TUESDAY, JANUARY 26

TIME: 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

*****FEE:** M: \$32 or Self-Drive \$17 NM: \$35 or Self-Drive \$20
LEVEL: ADULT

Nature Adventures - Winter Wonderland

Join us for winter wonderland adventures and discoveries at the Audubon. Snow, ice, animals in winter, and more! Nature Adventurers meets once a week for 5 weeks. Please have your child eat a snack prior to class and as always, dress for the weather!

DATE: 5 Wednesdays January 27 - March 3 (No class February 17)

TIME: 4:00 - 5:30 PM

*****FEE:** M: \$75 NM: \$85

LEVEL: K5 - 2ND GRADE

Lake Michigan Full Moon Snowshoe

Snowshoe with Don Quintenz in a season whose beauty is known only to a few. Visit the ever-changing ice formations of our Great Lake in the magical light of a full moon and bright stars of the winter sky. We will try our luck at calling in owls and getting close to deer and other wildlife. We will finish with hot drinks in front of our lakeview room's fireplace. Snowshoes provided. If there is no snow, we will hike on foot.

DATE: FRIDAY, JANUARY 29

TIME: 6:30 - 8:30 PM

*****FEE:** M: \$13 NM: \$15

LEVEL: ADULT

January and February Full Moon Family Hike

At Schlitz Audubon Nature Center, the full moon seems to rise right out of the waters of great Lake Michigan! Watch the moonrise over the lake and who knows what else we might see as we hike around after hours! Dress for the weather (cooler by the lake). Families with children of all ages are welcome but children must be accompanied by an adult.

DATE: SATURDAY, JANUARY 30

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28

TIME: 5:30 - 7:30 PM

*****FEE:** M: ADULT \$10 M: CHILD \$6
NM: ADULT \$12 NM: CHILD \$8

LEVEL: FAMILIES

Hangin' with Hyatt: Family Snowshoe

Join Jim Hyatt as he travels the center in search of animal tracks and scat, Pee-yew! Who knows what we'll find? Icecanoes, animal fur, edible plants? Jim's up for anything, you should be too. Don't own snowshoes? No problem, we've got them. Please be aware that the snowshoes will not fit children under 10.

DATE: SATURDAY, JANUARY 30

TIME: 9:00 - 11:00 AM

*****FEE:** M: ADULT \$10 M: CHILD \$7
NM: ADULT \$13 NM: CHILD \$10

LEVEL: FAMILIES

Hangin' with Hyatt: The Great Antler Search

This year we had a huge 8 point buck roaming the Center! Join me as we look for the big guy's antlers. The program will begin with refreshments and an overview of our deer relocation program. Then it's outside to look for antlers. If you find an antler, it's yours! We guarantee that a few lucky people will find antlers! Jim may even put a lucky youngster in one of the deer traps! This is a **FREE program!**, however, donations will be accepted.

DATE: SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13

TIME: 9:00 - 11:00 AM

*****FEE:** **THIS IS A MEMBERS ONLY FREE PROGRAM**

LEVEL: FAMILIES

Become a Wolf Pup & Join the Pack

Learn what it is like to be a wolf pup - get your paws, learn how to howl, and discover your scent by finding your wolf pack. Anna Cellar, the Program Coordinator for the Timber Wolf Alliance, will be the alpha female and teach you all you need to know on what it is like being a wolf pup. The program is geared for children from 3 to 10 years of age. Children from 3 to 5 must be accompanied by an adult.

DATE: SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20

TIME: 10:00 - 11:30AM

*****FEE:** M: ADULT \$9 M: CHILD \$6
NM: ADULT \$11 NM: CHILD \$8

LEVEL: FAMILIES

Wolves - The Long Way Back

Wolves, which historically have always lived in the wildness of northern Wisconsin, returned on their own as an off shoot from the Northeastern Minnesota packs. Man and animals are again learning how to coexist with this natural predator. Anna Cellar, Program Coordinator for the Timber Wolf Alliance, will present the amazing story of the return of the wolves. Learn how deer and wolves coexist, how scientists study wolves and the status of the wolf in the United States and Wisconsin.

DATE: SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20

TIME: 2:00 - 3:30PM

*****FEE:** M: \$12 NM: \$15

LEVEL: ADULT

Hand-in-Hand for 2-3 Year Olds

Explore nature together with your young one! We meet every other week for three sessions for hikes, play, art activities and a story. Dress for the weather - we explore rain or shine.

DATES: THURSDAYS, FEBRUARY 25, MARCH 11 and 25

TIME: Session I 9:00 - 10:15AM
Session II 10:30 - 11:45AM

*****FEE:** M: \$30 /Pair NM: \$40/Pair

LEVEL: 2-3 YEAR OLDS
(Each child must be accompanied by an adult)

*** INDICATES THAT PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED, 414-352-2880, EXT. 0 MEMBERS=M NON-MEMBERS=NM

MONTHLY PROGRAM OFFERINGS

Alphabet Hikes For Young Children

Alphabet Hikes combine nature exploration and learning letters the natural way! They are designed for preschoolers and their adult partners. Sign up for each session separately.

A is for Animal Tracks

DATE: THURSDAY, JANUARY 28
TIME: SESSION I 9:00 – 10:15 AM (2-3 YEAR OLDS AND ADULT)
 SESSION II 10:30 – 11:45 AM (2-3 YEAR OLDS AND ADULT)
*****FEE:** M: \$10/PAIR NM: \$14/PAIR
LEVEL: 2-3 YEAR OLDS (EACH CHILD MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT)

DATE: THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4
TIME: SESSION I 9:00 – 10:30 AM (4-5 YEAR OLDS AND ADULT)
 SESSION II 1:00 – 2:30 PM (4-5 YEAR OLDS AND ADULT)
*****FEE:** M: \$10/PAIR NM: \$14/PAIR
LEVEL: 4-5 YEAR OLDS (EACH CHILD MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT)

B is for Birds

DATE: THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11
TIME: SESSION I 9:00 – 10:15 AM (2-3 YEAR OLDS AND ADULT)
 SESSION II 10:30 – 11:45 AM (2-3 YEAR OLDS AND ADULT)
*****FEE:** M: \$10/PAIR NM: \$14/PAIR
LEVEL: 2-3 YEAR OLDS (EACH CHILD MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT)

DATE: THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18
TIME: SESSION I 9:00 – 10:30 AM (4-5 YEAR OLDS AND ADULT)
 SESSION II 1:00 – 2:30 PM (4-5 YEAR OLDS AND ADULT)
*****FEE:** M: \$10/PAIR NM: \$14/PAIR
LEVEL: 4-5 YEAR OLDS (EACH CHILD MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT)

Discover Nature Hiking

Walk along the meadows, woods, wetlands, and lake shore of the Center while Don Quintenz interprets the scenery and helps answer the questions that nature evokes in us. The entire program is taught on the trail. Physically you need to be able to walk any of the loop trails at the Center taking short but frequent stops.

DATES: WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20
 THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11
TIME: 1:30 – 3:00 PM
*****FEE:** M: \$5 NM: \$7
LEVEL: ADULT

SPECIAL PROGRAM OFFERINGS

NEW PROGRAM!-Mindful Parenting

This class will apply the practices of mindfulness to parenting using discussion and practice. Become more in touch with the fullness and potential of each moment and in doing so, decrease stress, bring greater wisdom, open heartedness, joy, and balance into our parenting. Mindful parenting is a way of connecting with our children through a deeper awareness of ourselves. We hope you will find the time to join us for all or part of this course.

DATES: SESSION I TUESDAYS, JANUARY 12, 19, 26
 FEBRUARY 2, 9, 16
 SESSION II WEDNESDAYS, JANUARY 13, 20, 27,
 FEBRUARY 3, 10, 17
TIME: 10:15 – 11:30 AM
*****FEE:** M: \$65 NM: \$75
LEVEL: ADULT

Cancellation by participant up to 14 days before a program will be refunded less a \$10.00 fee. Cancellation by participant less than 14 days before a program will receive no refund. Upon SANC cancellation of a program, a full refund will be given to all registered participants. These policies will not affect the authority of the program leader to make exceptions for special considerations.

SPECIAL PROGRAM OFFERINGS

Nature Uncovered

Well, actually, it could be quite covered indeed: with a fresh blanket of snow! 'Tis the season to get outside and explore. Animal life abounds in the wonderful world of winter. Join Education Specialist and all around sleuth Tom Finley as he seeks to unravel just who's been making tracks at the Center. We'll hike the trails in a leisurely fashion seeking out signs of deer, raccoons and other warm blooded critters. After, we'll enjoy hot chocolate inside the building. Don't forget to bring your boots.

DATES: SATURDAY, JANUARY 9
 SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13
TIME: 10:00 – 11:30 AM
*****FEE:** M: ADULT \$7 M: CHILD \$6
 NM: ADULT \$10 NM: CHILD \$8
LEVEL: FAMILIES

Starry Nights of Winter

Join us for two fun evenings of stargazing as we search the heavens from the trails and the top of our 60 foot tower. You'll feel like you can actually touch the sky! Winter is a wonderful time to see favorite constellations such as Orion the Hunter, the Big Dipper, and Taurus the Bull. This is a great program for first-timers and those who just need a little help getting oriented to the night sky. The program begins inside the building and then it's time to hike outside. Be sure to dress for the weather and bring a flashlight and binoculars, if you have them. In case of cloudy skies, an all-indoor program on the solar system will be presented.

DATES: THURSDAY, JANUARY 14
 MONDAY, FEBRUARY 15
TIME: 6:30 – 8:00 PM
*****FEE:** M: ADULT \$7 M: CHILD \$4
 NM: ADULT \$9 NM: CHILD \$6
LEVEL: FAMILIES



The Wonderful Feeling of Winter

Come experience the wonderful season of winter. The program begins inside with a special winter story and visit with a live owl. Then we'll explore the outdoors; noticing the subtle colors of winter, checking out winter flowers, and learning which animals change their coats to blend into their environment. We will use our senses to learn about the winter landscape. Garner a new appreciation for the "cold" season.

DATE: SATURDAY, JANUARY 16
TIME: 10:00 – 11:30 AM
*****FEE:** M: ADULT \$10 M: CHILD \$6
 NM: ADULT \$12 NM: CHILD \$8
LEVEL: FAMILIES



Winter River Snowshoe

Neighborhood parkways often are home for numerous animals that go undetected by the untrained eye. Many parkways are often quite scenic with their winter cover of blue river ice and white snow. Don Quintenz will search out the animals and signs that animals necessarily leave in their journey to find their needs. The ecology of a winter community will be our focus. Snowshoes are provided; no experience is necessary. We will meet at North Lake Park on Brown Deer Road (directions will be sent to you upon registration). If there is no snow we will hike on foot.

DATE: SATURDAY, JANUARY 16
TIME: 1:00 – 3:00 PM
*****FEE:** M: \$17 NM: \$20
LEVEL: ADULT



News From The Raptors...

By Diane Visty, Raptor Educator



Sky Hunters 2010: The Mission – The Experience

The Raptor Program is about inspiring the preservation of birds of prey. We explain how these specialized hunters keep the balance in nature and their importance as indicators to the health of the environment.



Photos by - John Di Clemente

Photographers both pro and amateur "flocked" to our "In Focus" event to get the rare experience of up close raptor photography.

This description of the program sounds very serious and it is. Even as I write -- field biologists are trying to discover why American kestrels have begun to disappear in large numbers from the west coast and the Midwest. This news comes even as peregrine falcon and bald eagle numbers continue to improve. Something has changed in the environment and the decreasing numbers of kestrels is telling us so.

As you see in these photos, the Raptors in Focus photography event brought to the Center both adults and children. Their images can be seen in the Sky Hunters 2010 Calendar, giving us a new view of the birds who work so hard for us. Our family event, Xtreme Raptor Day brought out over 1,100 visitors. They were able to see educational exhibits about raptors and take up the challenge of the 'Talon Quest'. This included hiking our trails to discover these birds in their natural haunts.

In the upcoming year I cannot help but be optimistic for the program and for the very special birds we care for. You will have several new experiences available to be close up with these magnificent birds in an educational setting. This can't help but inspire you, your family and neighbors to appreciate and enjoy these noble birds of prey.



A budding scientist gets "up close" during our Xtreme Raptor event.



Raptor enthusiasts of all ages check the "raptor wheel of fortune" during our Xtreme Raptor event.

Bird Spotlight - Consider Sponsoring Me!

Barley

By Ellen Schneiderman, Raptor Volunteer

Eyes like coal, wings of white; Barley our stunning nine year old Barn Owl embodies the mystery and beauty of her endangered species. Barley arrived at SANC as a human imprint, and cannot be released into the wild. Like all of the birds in our "Sky Hunters" Program, Barley's job is to help educate, enlighten, and inspire. Whether you hear her trilling whistle, or see her impressive twirling behaviors or notice her killer good looks, Barley excels at all. Please consider providing the funding to feed Barley this month by sponsoring this beautiful owl.

For information on sponsoring our raptors please visit www.sanc.org and click on "Raptors" or call us at 414-352-2880 x 0 and we will mail you



On The Ground

By Michelle Masters, Volunteer Land Steward AKA Sam Spade

The Buckthorn Brigade



Photos by - Bob Barille

The "Buckthorn Brigade" from left: Myra Van Uxem, Tara Beauchine, Helene Gyarmaty, Susan Winecki, Jennea Denner, Valerie Brumder, Karl Gruehn, Marv Olson, Jean Downie

Armed only with loppers, saws and determination, we headed out, undaunted and fearless in the face of what lie ahead. As we rounded the corner, there stood our more than worthy adversary, the dreaded buckthorn. Some stood nearly 30 feet tall, laden with dagger-like sharp thorns. Given the command by our trustee Land Stewards we surged forward. First we would take the females, ripe full with purple berries. One of the seasoned volunteers told me, when you take the female tree you keep it from reproducing and eliminate any potential seedlings. I thought to myself, hummm, just like killing two birds with one stone. But don't let any of these tree huggers catch you thinking about killing a bird. That'll get you a one way ticket to sopranoville. At day's end we were exhausted, numb and proud; though our victory was bittersweet. For we knew even though we had won today's battle, tomorrow was another day, and the war against the buckthorn would continue.



John Justen loads some of the "evil buckthorn" for removal.



Karl Gruehn gets ready to eliminate some really stubborn buckthorn.

It was a day, just like any other January day, cold. Maybe there was snow, maybe there wasn't. It had been a hard weekend, without much sleep. That morning I had stumbled into my office and found a note on my desk, "be at Schlitz Audubon Nature Center, 9:00 am", it was unsigned. Intrigued, I set off, not sure what I'd find. I entered the Great Hall and announced to the bright eyed gal at the front desk, "I was told to be here at nine". "Well then, you must be a volunteer". Puzzled, I wondered, "a volunteer for what". I was directed to join the pack. They called themselves the Monday Marauders and much to my surprise, this was no rag-tag bunch. They knew their enemy well. Their task was arduous, their foes numbers staggering and it was colder than Siberia.

I owe a big thank you to whoever left that note on my desk, because today, I got to be a proud member of the Buckthorn Brigade. I learned how great it feels to volunteer and do something good for my little piece of the world, and..... that I'm a sucker for a dame in flannel lined Carthartts.

— CALENDAR —

January February 2010

MONTHLY PROGRAM OFFERINGS

Hatha Yoga for Health and Wellness

Learn how to reduce stress, increase your flexibility, and enrich your sense of well-being. The first trial class is free!

DATES: EVERY MONDAY & SATURDAY
TIME: 9:15 – 10:30 AM OR 5:45 – 7:00 PM MONDAY
 10:00 – 11:15 AM SATURDAY
*****FEE:** FOR PROGRAM FEES, PLEASE CALL 414-352-2880, x 0
LEVEL: ADULT

Raptor Saturdays!

In this family program, handlers allow a close-up view of falcons, hawks, owls, a turkey vulture, and one of our bald eagles. Sharp talons, curved hooked beaks, binocular vision, and incredible hearing make these raptors specialized birds of prey.

DATE: SATURDAY, JANUARY 2
 SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6
TIME: 1:00 – 2:00 PM
FEE: FREE WITH CENTER ADMISSION
LEVEL: FAMILIES



Sky Hunters: Word with a Bird

Get a beak-to-beak view of one of SANC's feathered ambassadors. A raptor handler will be showcasing one of our many birds of prey. Our falcons, hawks, owls, a vulture, and eagles will appear on a rotating basis. Stop by each weekend to check them out.

DATES: EVERY SATURDAY AND SUNDAY
TIME: 1:00 – 2:00 PM
FEE: FREE WITH CENTER ADMISSION
LEVEL: FAMILIES



Boomers and Beyond

The "Boomers and Beyond" program will continue to be offered the first Thursday of every month. We will start with socializing and coffee and treats, and then we'll head out on the trails to engage in nature's instructive process. January's class will learn about the amazing geometric template of plants. February's class will investigate the appearance of new behavior in squirrels in late winter. In the event of inclement weather we will have an indoor program on the properties of water and how it effects our ecosystem.

DATES: THURSDAY, JANUARY 7
 THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4
TIME: 9:00 – 10:30 AM
*****FEE:** M: \$10 NM: \$12 PER PROGRAM
LEVEL: ADULTS

Fireside Conversations

Join Don Quintenz as we learn as a group through thought-provoking, environmentally-related readings. We meet on the second Monday of each month at 1:30 PM. We will base our discussions for January on Aldo Leopold's "A Taste for Country" and February on "The Upshot", both of which are often included in his book, *Sand County Almanac*. For newcomers, missing the discussions of earlier chapters will not prevent you from participating in and enjoying the current discussions. Light refreshments will be provided

DATES: MONDAY, JANUARY 11
 MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8
TIME: 1:30 – 3:00 PM
*****FEE:** M: \$10 NM: \$12 PER SESSION
LEVEL: ADULT

*** INDICATES THAT PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED, 414-352-2880, EXT. 0 MEMBERS=M NON-MEMBERS=NM

Schlitz Audubon Bird Club

It is time for our winter meetings. We'll talk about all the birding in the winter wonderland around the Center.

DATES: WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13
 WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10
TIME: 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM
FEE: FREE TO MEMBERS AND VOLUNTEERS
LEVEL: ADULTS AND TEENS



The Spiritual World of Nature

The "Spiritual World of Nature" program is a monthly series that strives to make connections between nature and our individual and collective spiritualities. The series is about our spiritual connection to nature, whether that be how nature is a part of and promotes spirituality in a particular religion or tradition, or how we should relate to nature from a spiritual perspective.

DENNIS HAWK: STONES AND STORIES - LIVING MEDICINE WHEEL

This is the 2nd in a series of Native American teachings about the Medicine Wheel. This time, we turn our eyes to the south, the direction of the wolf, adolescence, our emotional self and understanding our relationships with Creator and creation. (Dennis will be doing a musical performance in the evening as well.)

DATE: Tuesday, January 12
TIME: 1:30-3:00 PM

DENNIS HAWK: VOICES AND SONGS FROM NATIVE COUNTRY

This is a musical performance by Dennis Hawk and members of his band, featuring songs from his up-coming album, *A Warrior's Heart*. Dennis will also be introducing Clinton J. Miller, Stockbridge/Munsee Mohican, who is a phenomenal guitarist, vocalist and song writer. (Dennis will also be presenting the program *Stones and Stories: Living the Medicine Wheel* earlier this day.)

DATE: Tuesday, January 12
TIME: 7:00 – 8:30 PM

SID SYAM: SPIRITUAL UNITY IN NATURE IN THE 21ST CENTURY

Based on his book, *Yoga of the Microcosm*, that promotes a peaceful, non-materialistic outlook centered on "religare," the spiritual connectivity with nature and the cosmos. Sid's journey that began in India, rejects the unbridled pursuit of status, power, and wealth that characterizes society today, and embraces the wisdom of many faiths including Christianity, Taoism, Zen, and Hinduism.

DATE: Tuesday, February 9
TIME: 7:00-8:30 PM

DENNIS MERRIT: THE SACRED IN NATURE

Carl Sagan believed that unless we can develop a sense of the sacred in nature we cannot overcome the forces that are destroying our environment. We can cultivate this sense by revamping our educational system, use science and the arts in new ways, and work with the psyche and our dreams in a more enlightened manner.

DATE: Thursday, February 25
TIME: 1:30-3:00 PM

Light snacks and refreshments will be provided. Please register in advance so we can plan accordingly and notify you in the event there is a program change.

*****FEE:** M:\$10 NM:\$12 PER PROGRAM
LEVEL: Adult

Kathryn H. Amato
Kimberly Anderson Khan
Susie Apple
Kim and Brad Babcock
John Benske
Ryan and Michelle Berenz
Morgan Blockel
Paul Bockhorst
Danine Casper
David Crowley
Nancy and Michael Dunham
Laura and John Emory
Marie and Rick Fessenbecker
Tom and Kate Fitzwilliams
Steven Forst
Jody Furlong
Ellen Gailans
Julie Garvin and Eric Hall
Brian and Bernadette Gauss
Trent and Jackie Graham
Katie Gramoll
John and Patti Gregory
Karen Guszowski
Meica Hatters
Mary S. Henricks
Thomas Herz
David G. Hoerz
Sarah and Matson B.
Holbrook, Jr.
Linda and James Holfield

Sorelle Jennik
Andrea and Asim Khan
Koczela Family
Ethan Lasser
Patricia Lewis
Brie Lindemann
Freddie Lohrmann
Amanda Losinski
Shannon Luckey and
J. Ludwig
Ken and Sam Lutze
Sean and Lisa Mahoney
Bob and Christy Maranan
Jeffrey and Elizabeth Mark
Melissa McCaman
David and Kristal Melbye
Heidi Messer
Janet Minkin
Larry and Judy Moon
Brad and Dianne Murray
Marrio and Dawn Murrell
E. Steve Naum
Cassie Nottoli and Nathan
Lasky
Peterman Family
Thomas J. Phillips
Matt and Tina Prentice
Merrill Ratajczyk
Joseph J. Rauter
Adam and Katie Read

Lennie Richardson
Ari Rubin
Dan and Mary Ruedinger
Amy Sarnowski
Carley Sauter
Sher Schachameyer and
Charlie Simonds
Lorna Schaefer
Truman and Barbara Schultz
Julie and Bill Sellars
Patrick Sharpe
Erika and Jeffrey Siegel
David J. Siler
Jud and Jessica Snyder
Michele Statz
Margaret Stewart
William E. Stoll, Jr.
Rick Strickroot
Holly Tamm
Mike Urban
Kait and Theo van der Velde
Julie E. Vance
James Ventresco
Donna Wagner
Gaylynn Weaver
Scott and Janet Weber
Laura Wells
Lenore Wilkas and Leigh Farrell
Richard and Jennifer Yandow
Raymond Zastrow

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WISH LIST:
... Pop up event tent
... External hard drive

James P. Balding Jr.
Janet Balding
Harlow Bielefeldt
Elizabeth Ryan Douglas
Clive Buckley
Ruth and Bob Siegel
Jean Haltvik
Joe and Paula Balestrieri
Geraldine Hookanson
William and Christine
Youngberg
Monnie Messinger
Cissy Bryson
Barbara Kauth
Carroll Kieckhefer
Martha S. Lovejoy
Ann Becker and David
Muschler
Mr. and Mrs. John W. Post
Mr. George H Uihlein
Kim Trostel
Robert and Barbara Brumder
Elinor C. Foltz
Mr. Thomas J. Hauske, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. James B.
Ingleheart
Mrs. Robert Kasten, Sr.
Eleanor Lee
Anders and Birgit Segerdahl
William and Amy Thaman
Rudolph Zaar
Judy Spencer and John Gray
Lillie M Sullivan
Diane Visty



Raptor Sponsorships
Victor Larson –
(In honor of Stacy Robinson)
Ochre – Eastern Screech Owl

- Big Thanks To:**
- Jack Lawrence and Hanna Goodman for Dell Ultra Sharp flat screen monitor
 - Ann Horwitz for bat houses
 - Mary Krall for 17' aluminum canoe and 3 paddles
 - Chris Leutner for animal carry crate and towels
 - Cindy Palmersheim for case of Yard Guard
 - Wendy Walcott for large selection of trees and shrubs
 - Ken and Barb Wardius for gift certificates for Xtreme Raptor Day and clear acrylic box for the Raptor Department

Nature Store Now!

Showcasing the newest items in the bookstore and gift shop

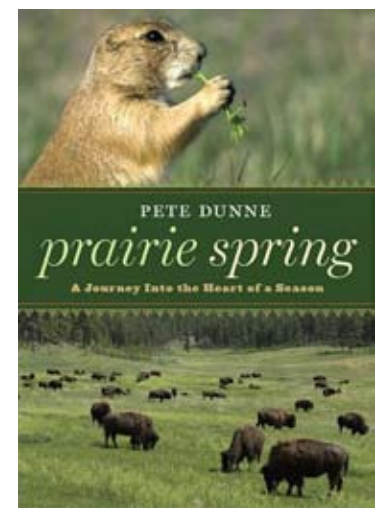
Adult Books



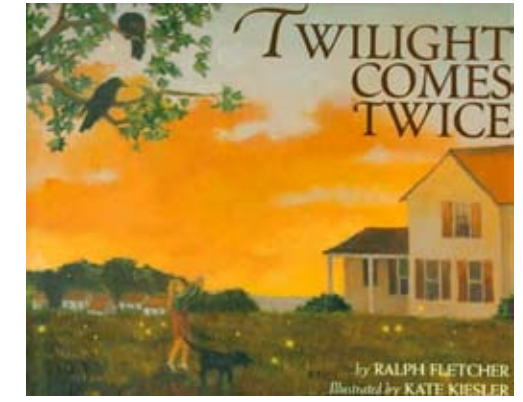
Falconer on the Edge by Rachel Dickinson - This is the compelling tale of Steve Chindgren, a master manipulator who teaches falcons-compact, effective killing machines- to fulfill their destiny. The author reveals falconry's irresistible allure-the unpredictable nature of the hunt, the soaring exhilaration of success-as well as its heartbreak. Dickinson's riveting account illuminates a world both ancient and modern, fierce and tender, and we can't help but be touched by the personalities who dwell there.

Prairie Spring – A Journey into the Heart of a Season by Pete Dunne

The author has devoted his life to connecting people with nature. His main interest has been birds. He now ventures to the prairie. Spring on the prairie is where half a million migrating cranes' conjoined cries fill the air, and where storms as black as prairie earth darken the sky. He brilliantly depicts both the glorious prairie spring and the colorful people he meets there.

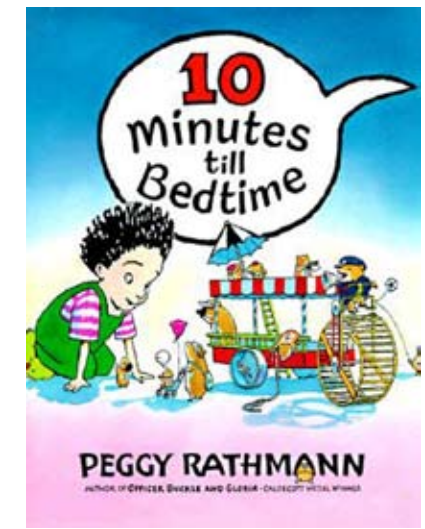
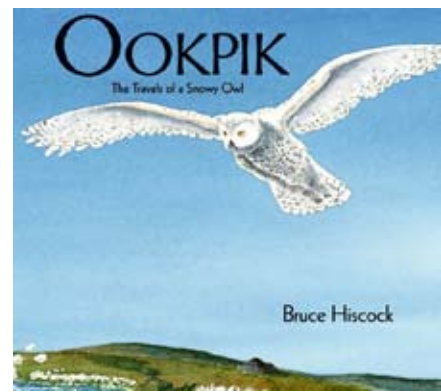


Childrens Books



Twilight Comes Twice by Ralph Fletcher - In the morning twilight arrives as dawn and in the evening it falls as dusk. The author's eloquent text and Kate Kiesler's lush paintings evoke magic that passes ever so briefly each day-a treat for the senses if you stop to look and listen.

Oopik by Bruce Hiscock - Here is the story of a snowy owl's first year and its struggle to survive. With vivid watercolor illustration, the author depicts the changing landscape, from the treeless Arctic of Baffin Island to the dairy country of eastern New York.



10 Minutes till Bedtime by Peggy Rathmann- Only ten minutes left before bedtime and there's still so much to do. But with the help of the hamsters' 10-Minute Bedtime Tour, bathing, brushing, dressing, and reading are all done- just in the nick of time. This book should enchant any child who has listened to a similar countdown to lights out.



Early Childhood News

By Patti Bailie, Preschool Director

Preschool Registration

Registration materials for the 2010-2011 school year will be available beginning January 4, 2010. We will have an open house on January 23, 2010, from 9:30 – 11:30am for anyone interested in touring the preschool rooms. Registration dates are January 25 for returning families, February 1 for members, and February 8 for non-members. Contact Laurie Lukaszewicz at 352-2880 x154 to request registration packets or if you are interested in observing the preschool.



Photos by - Bob Bailie

How to Dress for Winter Success at SANC Preschool



One of our rugged preschoolers shows off her "elbow mittens", available in wide variety of colors for sale in our Nature Store.

The old adage "There's no such thing as bad weather—only bad clothes" has become our winter motto in the preschool. Veteran parents know the score and never even ask, "Are they going outside today?" They know the answer is always the same, "Of course! Why wouldn't we?!"

This kind of dedication to outdoor play doesn't come without challenge and at times, some

inconvenience. As adults, we plan for our own outdoor comfort by going through mental checklists—how many layers will I need? Are my boots waterproof? Do I really need my long underwear? These fashion decisions are doubly important when you're a parent of a nature preschooler and need to anticipate not only the weather, but how your child behaves in

that weather. Rain boots are great, but what happens when they get stuck in the "boot sucking mud" at Mystery Lake? And what about that beautiful pink down coat that turns a permanent shade of mud after making snow angels in the late March thaw? Now, if they only made nature preschool-proof laundry detergent...

So Kudos to our families that keep coming dressed for whatever the weather, day in and day out. We wouldn't have it any other way.

"You need a winter jacket, snowpants, boots and...green goblin gloves!"

--Jackson Knox age 5, on how to dress for winter



NEW PROGRAM!-Mindful Parenting

This class will apply the practices of mindfulness to parenting using discussion and practice. Become more in touch with the fullness and potential of each moment and in doing so, decrease stress, bring greater wisdom, open heartedness, joy, and balance into our parenting. Mindful parenting is a way of connecting with our children through a deeper awareness of ourselves. We hope you will find the time to join us for all or part of this course.

DATES: SESSION I TUESDAYS, JANUARY 12, 19, 26
FEBRUARY 2, 9, 16

DATES: SESSION II WEDNESDAYS, JANUARY 13, 20, 27,
FEBRUARY 3, 10, 17

TIME: 10:15 – 11:30 AM

FEE: M: \$65 NM: \$75 (pre registration required)

LEVEL: ADULT

For other preschool age appropriate programs see **Alphabet Hike** (page 10) and **Hand in Hand** (page 11)

Planet Volunteer

By Laurie Haig, Volunteer Coordinator

Thanks to Kohl's and Brookfield Academy

We extend our thanks to Kohl's Department Store and Brookfield Academy high school students for volunteering in October.

We've had a very successful year of volunteering in 2009. More than ever, people are looking to the Audubon Nature Center as a place to contribute to the community. Here's a spotlight on two front desk volunteers.

Featured Volunteers



Ann Lederman started volunteering here in 1996 after retiring as a 4th grade teacher at Clara Barton School in Milwaukee. She knew so much about the center because of bringing her classes here on field trips. You'll see Ann in purple every Tuesday morning, ready to take on

visitors, phone calls and the computer cash register. She learned how to use a computer in her teaching days. Besides the front desk, Ann helps us at the Bayside picnic, and Earth Day, when she is back from Florida in time. Ann grew up in Milwaukee and has lived in Bayside for 32 years with her husband Warren. Her son went to Nicolet, and when he took the car to school, Ann would just walk over here to volunteer. Now she gets to visit her son, daughter-in-law and grandkids, 2 and 4 years old, in Silver Spring, MD a few times a year.

In her spare time, Ann is an avid golfer and will be the president of the Brown Deer Nine Hole Women's Club this year. Also this year, she and her husband started tutoring adults in reading and math through the Milwaukee County Library literacy program. When she's not walking the dog, she tackles the crossword puzzle and Sudoku in the paper.

Ann is a classic example of many retired volunteers. They lead busy lives and make time to do the things they like to do. Of all the areas where she could help us; Ann found that she likes the challenges of the front desk and the occasional commitment of yearly events.

Piper Plummer walked in the door here in February of 2007. She was several months pregnant and wanted to volunteer. Before she finished her first sentence of "I recently moved to town," the slight southern accent gave it away. She was born and raised in Kentucky. But after having met her husband in Chicago, she came up here where he was born and raised. Piper found the Audubon Center when searching for opportunities on VolunteerMilwaukee.org. Because she is a hiker and runner, and liked kids, she thought this would be a perfect match. It was. Her strong retail background, including Past Baskets in Bayside, was helpful in training her for the front desk. We lost Piper for a few months when she gave birth to her daughter Tess, but were very happy to have her back for her second and fourth Tuesday afternoon shift. She even hires a sitter for the days she is here!



In her spare time, Piper also likes to knit, and is on the board of the Friends of Milwaukee Public Television. You can see her during the TV auction week in March. She struggles with Wisconsin winter weather, and visits Kentucky right in the middle of it, but informs me she has loaded up on winter weather gear for this season. Now that she has given up her consulting job to focus on Tess, she will be among the first to sign her up for our preschool.

Piper loves working with people and is finding places to meet them in her new city. Being able to combine her interests with our center is a win-win for both of us.

For more information about volunteering, contact Laurie Haig, at (414) 352-2880 x144, or lhaig@sanc.org.

