

Center Focus

www.sanc.org 1111 East Brown Deer Road Milwaukee, WI 53217 414.352.2880



SCHLITZ
Audubon
NATURE
CENTER

Geo Coordinates: N 43° 10.498 W 087° 53.110

March/April 2011

It's Maple Sugar Time!

Saturday, March 12
See page 9 for details.

Hangin' with Hyatt: Snake Patrick Day

Thursday, March 17
See page 9 for details.



Pancake Breakfast

Saturday, March 26
See page 6 for details.

Earth Day Celebration

Sunday, April 17
See back page for details.



Growing the Old Brain

By Elizabeth Cheek, Executive Director



People who visit the Center are accustomed to seeing school children of all ages clustered outside around a naturalist, actively learning about plants or animals or geology or Lake Michigan or whatever their teacher signed them up for. The Center is known for teaching 35,000 kids each year. However, a visitor may also see a class of adults grouped around a naturalist. We have a very active and growing adult education program which is not as well known.

A study by the Institute for Learning Innovation found that schools deliver 3% to 7% of a person's education over a lifetime. That means that the other 93% to 97% occurs in everyday life and in informal places of learning, such as our nature center, museums, and others. And though brain research has shown that most of a person's brain growth occurs in the first five years of life, our brains continue to grow (though more slowly) while we continue to learn new things. So you might want to try growing that old brain by learning new things and having fun at some of our adult programs.

There are lots to choose from: outdoor programs at SANC or at other state natural areas, cultural and historical programs, spiritual programs, and environmental innovation programs. Some are not nature-themed but relevant to our mission, such as an upcoming tour of the new "sustainable" Johnson Controls campus. The classes vary from 1 ½ hours to four-day trips, and they take place on weekdays, evenings, or weekends. Some are more physically challenging, while others are accessible to all.

Whether you're interested in visiting Horicon Marsh, or seeing cave art in Dodgeville, or heading to the Chicago Botanic Garden, or discussing the spiritual world of nature in a small group setting with other interested and interesting people, you will find something that tweaks your curiosity. Our many classes are listed in our newsletter, on our Website, and in our adult programs brochure, which we would be happy to mail to you.



We are also offering something new: if your neighborhood group is interested in learning more about the natural history of your local woods or parkways, we can provide a fascinating program on that, as well. Our knowledgeable naturalists are a great resource for the Milwaukee Community. Be sure to check us out!

Schlitz Audubon Nature Center

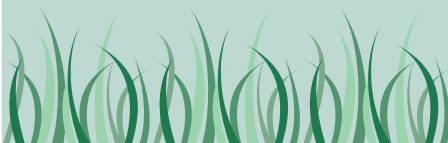
1111 E. Brown Deer Road
Milwaukee, WI 53217
414-352-2880
www.sanc.org

Open 7 Days a Week

9:00am - 5:00pm

\$6 Adults, \$4 Children

Free Admission to Members



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Center Focus is produced by
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Issue No. 2 - 2011

Development Updates

By Debby Fulton, Director of Development

An Unexpected Surprise

Evergreen Society members are those individuals who share our commitment to nature and have either named Schlitz Audubon Nature Center as a beneficiary in their wills or trusts or made a current gift to SANC which pays lifetime income. However, every once in a while we are surprised by a donor's generosity when we are notified of an unexpected planned gift. Recently, this very thing happened and we were thrilled. Unfortunately, we did not have the opportunity to thank the donor, for she had passed away leaving SANC as a beneficiary in her will. For those of you who are planning to leave a legacy through a planned gift or have already made the decision to do so, we'd love to hear from you. Please give us the opportunity to thank you for your generosity and recognize you as an Evergreen Society member.

Matching Gifts

Does your company have a "Matching Gift" program? If you want to double or triple the impact of your contribution to SANC ask the company you work for if they have a "Matching Gift" program. It is a simple way to provide SANC with additional funds that only you can secure for us.

New Board Member

Congratulations and "Welcome" to the newest member of our FOSANC Board of Directors: Jill P. Hall, partner with law firm Gonzalez Saggio & Harlan

SANC PARTNERS WITH PRESENT MUSIC ON BUFFALO NATION PROJECT

SANC recently partnered with Milwaukee's internationally acclaimed music ensemble, *Present Music*, to support a series of public lectures and outreach events that highlight the many stories of the buffalo and the history of the people of the Central Plains. The events lead up to the featured world premiere of *Buffalo Nation (Bison bison)* – a musical performance highlighting the largely untold story of the American bison. The Audubon Center will host a panel discussion on Saturday, April 30, featuring topics regarding ecology and bison management, and the history of buffalo in America. Guest Speakers include Dr. Frank Popper, Dr. Deborah Popper, Fred Dubray, Kathleen Masterson, and Brian Russart. For more information, visit www.presentmusic.org.



SATURDAY, APRIL 30, 10:30AM - 12:30PM
FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC



News From the Raptors...

By Diane Visty, Raptor Manager

The Raptors Say, "Get the Lead Out!"

There has been a growing ground swell of concern about lead and wildlife in our environment. Lead, an identified health hazard, has been taken out of the paints, gasoline and the pesticides we use in our daily lives. In 1991, lead was banned nationally for hunting waterfowl. However, it is still widely used in upland hunting, shooting sports and in fishing tackle. Lead exposure continues to be a significant health problem for 25 species of water birds and 37 non-waterfowl species. It also accounts for 15% of bald eagle deaths in our state.



Lead ammunition ingested by Bald Eagle. Photo courtesy of Wildlife Center of Virginia.

Both upland birds and waterfowl pick up lead shot along with gravel to help grind the food in their gizzard. Eagles ingest it when taking fish that have escaped sportsman. A survey taken during the banding of eagle young discovered over 50% of the nests had fish tackle in them.

There is further evidence of the effect of lead on bald eagle populations during the overlap of the gun hunting season when there is a dramatic upswing in mortality rates of the birds. During this time, eagles scavenge the gut piles left by hunters after cleaning their deer or come on carcasses of wounded but unclaimed deer and harvest the meat, bullets and all. Recent X-rays of deer carcasses have shown tiny fragments of shattered lead ammunition scattered throughout the animals muscle tissue that might not be seen by the humans eating the venison. It only takes a piece of lead the size of a grain of sand to sicken a child and the result can be deadly to the birds. In all cases, lead is dissolved by the high acidity in the stomachs of birds and released into their blood streams, resulting in toxicity to major body organs.



Bald Eagle affected with lead poisoning. Photo courtesy of Washington State University College of Veterinary Medicine.

Let's go Lead Free! Please help spread the word about the importance of cleaning the lead out of your fishing and ammo boxes and taking it to the appropriate waste site. Replace it with one of the many non-toxic materials on the market that are being used in making fishing tackle and ammunition. Working together we can make the environment cleaner and safer for all of us!

Bird Spotlight

By Ellen Schneiderman, Raptor Educator

He trills, he purrs, he whinnies... he does not, however, actually screech. Like most of our birds of prey, Screech uses body language to get his point across. The Eastern Screech Owl is a small owl with the heart of a lion! They will fiercely defend their nest and are extremely aggressive hunters. Screech was found near Horicon Marsh with a severely broken wing. The injury prevented his release and he came to SANC as an adult in 1996. A typical owl, Screech likes to wait and watch then POUNCE! This feisty owl will be (at least) sweet 16 this Spring. Raptor sponsorships make wonderful birthday gifts for anyone or any owl!

SCREECH

Eastern Screech Owl



For more information about sponsoring our Raptors, please visit the 'Raptors' section on our Website, www.sanc.org, or call us at 414-352-2880 for sponsorship information.

On the Ground

By Matt Smith, Land Manager

The Value of Thickets in Lake Forest Recovery

With the arrival of the emerald ash borer, we must replace the ash we are losing with carefully - selected plant species. Dense planting of trees and shrubs and care of existing aspen clones and dogwood thickets will be a reliable investment to keep our Lake Forest a forest. If we don't act now, many areas of our landscape will be devoid of a canopy in the future.

Young, establishing forests often begin with a high density of young trees and shrubs; this can create abundant food and desirable habitat for many wildlife species. Dense thickets of native vegetation can also help shade out invasive shrubs like buckthorn.

Our restoration plans for this property are taken from communities that have natural patterns of forest development. We will plant groupings of woody plants that are natural associates, serve specific roles, mature to different height classes, and work together harmoniously. In the Lake Forest, individual white pines have the potential to become super-canopy trees and tower above neighboring trees for hundreds of years. Trembling aspen, bigtooth aspen, red oak, white oak, shagbark hickory, basswood, elm, paper birch, yellow birch, black cherry and white cedar are all traditional components of our Lake Forest canopy, along with sub-canopy trees like ironwood, musclewood, and serviceberry; as well as, understory shrubs like choke cherry, leatherwood, witch hazel, downy arrowwood viburnum, and alternate leaved dogwood. Others like sumac, nannyberry, grey dogwood, red osier dogwood, ninebark and wild plum are right for forest edges and open areas. The visual impact of a thicket is wonderful and it is useful to set in motion the natural process of forest stand development.

Some native clonal species like grey dogwood, sumac and aspen are already present on SANC land and can be kept quite vigorous with proper care. Clonal plants share a common root system; these thickets expand as roots grow. When a healthy well-established clone is cut in the dormant season, the underground roots sprout densely, forming a thick stand of re-growth the following season. You can see this in many areas on the Schlitz landscape, where clonal species like aspen and dogwood are already growing naturally. In many instances ash grows in and around our aspen and dogwood clones. By removing ash and cutting the aspen to the ground in the dormant season, the entire root system of the aspen clone can re-sprout with fresh green growth, which can aid in expanding the thicket. Our management decisions require an understanding of the health of plants, their recent history, proper timing, and the difference between stump and root sprouting species. By emulating natural processes, the recovery of our forest can be fostered by thicket management.



Declining Aspen Stand. Courtesy of BiologyBiozine.com.



Two months after cutting an Aspen Stand.

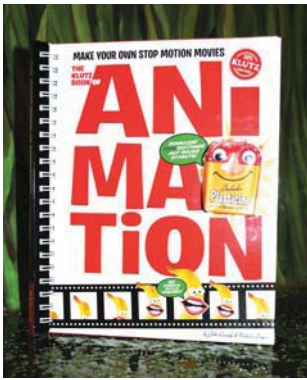


*Aspen root suckers, sharing a common root system.
Courtesy of U.S. Forest Service*



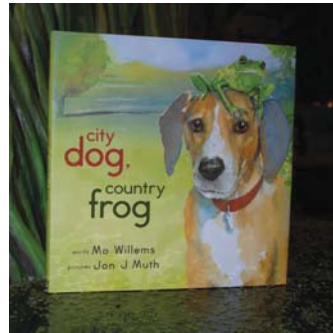
Rejuvenated Stand of Aspen.

NATURE STORE NECESSITIES



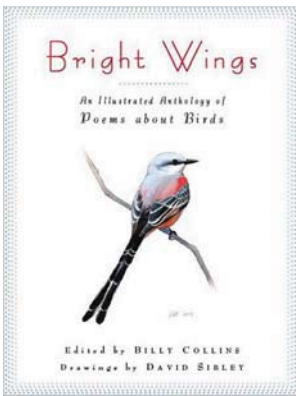
The Klutz Book of Imagination

This book shows you how to make movie magic using stop motion animation. The book gives you software and sound effects; instructions, scripts and ideas; plasticine clay and googly eyes; and punchout props. You'll need a computer and web cam/video cam. Let your imagination run wild and have some fun!



City Dog, Country Frog

Mo Willems and Jan J. Muth team up to present a reflection on the natural course of friendship and life that will resonate with readers of all ages. The two seemingly incompatible animals—a free-range frog and a curious urban dog—teach young readers of the endless possibilities that unfold when we share the best of ourselves with each other.



Bright Wings: An Illustrated Anthology of Poems About Birds

Billy Collins, former U.S. poet laureate, joins David Allen Sibley, America's foremost bird illustrator, to celebrate the winged creatures that have inspired so many poets to sing for centuries. More than 100 contemporary and classic poems are paired with over 60 illustrations. This book presents both verbal and visual interpretations of the natural world around us.



GREEN LIVING TIPS

Kill a Watt or More!

By Moya Mowbray, Environmental Educator

Electricity looms large in our daily lives. It entertains us, warms and cools us, cooks and preserves our food, and helps us keep clean. Early Greek scholars noticed that lightweight objects stuck to amber when rubbed against it, and called this static electricity "elektor," meaning "beaming sun." Other scientists, including Volta, Ampere, Ohm, Edison, Franklin, Westinghouse and Watt, provided the basis for harnessing electricity and modern electrical technology.

Wouldn't these scientists be amazed at the plethora of electronic gadgetry, and its widespread usage in today's world? The U.S. Department of Energy estimates that the average American's annual home electricity consumption is 11,040 kilowatts. That's a whole lot of power, and that doesn't even include power used for business, travel or agriculture.

Where does all this power come from? While most of the earth's electricity originates from the sun, we generally use other energy sources that have solar energy stored within. Most power companies rely on a combination of fuel sources: coal, natural gas, nuclear, petroleum, and renewables. The U.S. Energy Information Administration states that Wisconsin is one of 20 states that generates more than 50% of its electricity from coal, a non-renewable source. In the United States as a whole, only 10% of our electricity generation is from renewable sources. Our ever-increasing use of electricity may outstrip our non-renewable sources if we continue at our current pace. We all need to increase our energy efficiency!

According to Alan Meier, director of the Energy Efficiency Center at the University of California and Editor of *Home Energy Magazine*, recognizing and eliminating energy waste in our homes can make a huge difference. We can do things like insulate, upgrade aging appliances to those with an energy star rating, and increase our knowledge of energy waste in our homes. I used a KILL-A-WATT meter and discovered that my laptop computer used 15 watts hourly, while my desktop used 200 watts per hour. I also discovered my TV, garage-door opener, microwave oven, cell phone charger, and MP3 charger were using energy when plugged in - even if they were not charging anything or being used. SANC has two KILL-A-WATT meters available for members to use. Feel free to borrow a meter from the front desk to help you pinpoint energy wasters in your home.

Early Childhood News

Making Connections through Birding

By Mary Meier, Nature Preschool Teacher

The preschool classes have begun an exciting new birding project that allows children to make important nature connections at home and school while being true citizen scientists. Since school resumed in January, classes have been keeping a daily tally of the birds they see and hear while playing, exploring and hiking, as well as those observed at the feeders surrounding the building. The children keep track of these sightings by posting photo cards of the birds on the "Birds In Our World" bulletin board in the Preschool hallway. These sightings are tallied daily by teachers and submitted to Project Feeder Watch at the Cornell Institute of Ornithology.

Birding provides lots of opportunities for children to engage in their surroundings. Children can experience birds with multiple senses, such as hearing the call of the Chickadee, or seeing the bright red of a Cardinal against a snowy white backdrop, or feeling the soft Wild Turkey feather found along the trail. Birding is also a nice thread that ties together so many other concepts in our curriculum, such as trees and seeds, insects, seasons, and migration. It is also an opportunity for preschoolers to connect with nature in their home environment. Preschool families were encouraged to participate in the National Audubon Society's Great Backyard Bird Count in February.

As spring approaches, it will be fun for the preschoolers to welcome some of our more conspicuous migrants back, such as the Red-Wing Blackbird, Barn Swallows and Hummingbirds. We plan to celebrate their arrival with our first annual Preschool International Migratory Bird Day Celebration. For now, we will enjoy

watching and tallying our winter birds, who have become bright friends to greet every day.

You can learn more about The Great Backyard Bird Count and Project Feeder Watch by visiting ww.birds.audubon.org or www.birdsource.org

7TH ANNUAL PANCAKE BREAKFAST *Benefitting the Nature Preschool*

Saturday, March 26

8:15am, 9:00am and 9:45am

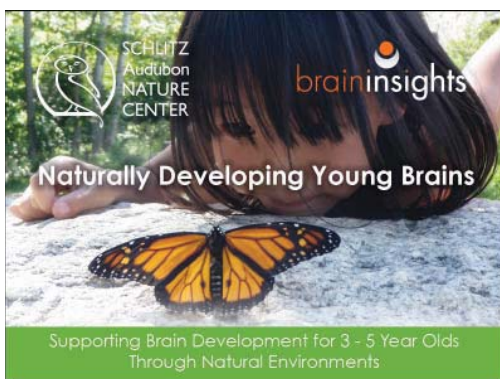
Celebrate maple syrup season with a Pancake Breakfast at the Schlitz Audubon Nature Center! Enjoy pure maple syrup on your pancakes, visit the silent auction, tour the Sugar Shack, and view a preschool maple sugaring slide show.



Register for one of the three seating times at SANC's main desk or call 414-352-2880 ext. 0.

Members: Adults \$9, Children (ages 3-12) \$6
Non-Members: Adult \$10, Children (ages 3-12) \$7
(Children 2 and under are free.)

Tickets may be purchased at the door, based on availability, for one dollar more per ticket.
Pre-registration is strongly encouraged.



Nature-Based Brain Development Cards

This newly created product, developed and produced by Braininsights and Schlitz Audubon Nature Center, is a great tool for building healthy brains while experiencing the natural world. The activity cards provide information to parents and teachers about corresponding brain development and promote interactive learning for children. The photos and activities featured are from the Preschool here at SANC. Now available in our Nature Gift Store!



PLANET VOLUNTEER

By Laurie Haig, Volunteer Coordinator

Spring is by far the busiest time for volunteering at the Center. We have a handful of events that will entice you to grab your jacket and head on over here! Dress for whatever weather and trail conditions come your way and enjoy a walk when you finish your task.

Saturday, March 26 Preschool Pancake Breakfast

Embrace the stickiness as you serve pancakes, sausages and juice to preschool aged children and their families. Cook sausages at 6:30am if you're an early riser. Favorite spot for volunteers? Helping kids decorate their pancakes! This is a morning event, and you'll be done by 11:00am.

Saturday, April 30 Garlic Mustard Day

Dive right in and yank out some garlic mustard! This invasive plant does a lot of damage around here, and is probably in

your yard, too. It inhibits native plants from growing and spreading. We'll hand out recipes, so you'll have a purpose for pulling it. Our staff likes the Garlic Mustard Pesto on crackers. This volunteer opportunity is great for kids from age 6 and up. We'd love to see Scout troops, church groups, neighbors, families and YOU getting in on good conversation, a healthy workout, and curious recipes, all from 9:30am to noon. Let me know if you are coming, in case unfavorable conditions require us to cancel or postpone this event.

Friday, June 3 Spring Gala

This is our largest fundraiser. At this point, we need daytime help the week of the event getting centerpieces and other things put together, and we need help the evening of the event. Volunteers enjoy good camaraderie with staff, good food, and a good reason to bid on silent auction items!

Weekdays in the Summer

Our summer camps are upon us. Almost every one of our 80 or so camps needs a volunteer to help the teachers. This is a very popular program for middle and high school students. If you are on the mail list already, or helped last year, you'll receive information shortly. If not, jump on this! Spots fill quickly. Camps are four or five days each week.



Volunteer Internships

For this summer, we are looking for three volunteer interns to help around the Center. We need two to help teachers for summer camps for either preschool aged children, or children aged 7 to 14. Also, we are looking for an intern to help in areas besides summer camps. It's a great way to get to know how non-profit nature centers function as you help with the admissions booth, the land stewards, and the marketing department. If you are a Jack/Jill of all trades, this is for you! Please e-mail your resume to Laurie Haig, the Volunteer Coordinator at lhaig@sanc.org, and indicate the internship in which you are interested.

For all your volunteer information, please contact Laurie Haig at lhaig@sanc.org or 414-352-2880 ext. 144.



Join us to volunteer for the Pancake Breakfast on March 26.

New Members

Marcia Bannink	Ellen Guiseppi and Michael Markovits	Lane and Craig Pierce
Nora S. Barry	Jim Harwood	Helene Pizzi
Michael Beukema and Jean Leininger	Tom and Katie Hofman	Scott and Jodi Polender
Patti Starrett Blumenfeld	Barbara Hricousky	Michael Pulliam
Jessica and Matthew Braeger	Barb Hughes	Ramsey Radakovich
Sarah Brindley	Chris Ivens	Stephanie and Jay Radtke
Kay and Wayne Brogelman	Pat Jach	Maureen Rice
Joe Carmichael and Missy Wegner	Julia Jensen	Sean, Kelly, Riley and Nora Ronayne
Mary Elizabeth Clemens	Lucy Judy	Jan and Michele Schneider
Laura Cooper Nenz	Ken Knier	Pamela Sharpe
Sandy and Jean Custer	Paul and Kathy Kosidowski	James Shearer
Leah Darling	Alexis Lofy and Family	Scott and Emily Silverson
Mike Dayton	Mike and Niki Maher	Ellen Sullivan
Deirdre Dempsey	Jennifer and Dennis Mastricola	Chad and Alyssa Tessmer
Nicolette Deveneau and Ryan Newton	Kevin Mathews	Milton and Sue Thompson-Mitchell
Doug Dickinson	Paul Mathews	Barbara Tillman
Mike Duehring	Dan and Shelly Mayer	Lori Tune-Whyte
Peter and Laureanna Duvernell	Susan McCabe	Pat and Tom Van Alyea
Amanda and Brett Egelseer	Angie McMonigal	Steve and Paula Vielmetti
Jennifer and Paul Felker	Peter Melchior	Roy and Ginny Wagner
John and Deborah Fenelon	Ronald Moering	Robert A. Warren
Mr. and Mrs. John and Mary Gauss	Tom and Kathi Mortenson	Brian Weis
	Todd Murray and Janice Wendland	Sarah and Michael Weiss
	Rich and Kate Newman	Timothy and Marilyn White
	Megan Ollman and Michael Savatski	Sid and Holly Williamson

HONORARIUMS

Lorna Cadmus

Robert and Nancy Cadmus

Dayle Dieffenbach

Kenneth R. Dieffenbach

Dr. James Frank and

Dr. William Rice

Staff at Lakeside Animal Hospital

Edyn Herbert (*To be added to the Bryce Ethan Herbert Education Development Fund*)

Todd and Jody Herbert
Scott and Naomi Stein

Jill Ritterbusch and Lee Beitzel

Jeremiah Beitzel

Marie Squire

Erica Kieffer

Jackie Weber

Marjorie Sutton

THANK YOU

Fast Signs

Coroplast for Raptor Event

Meg Kinney

Red Cedar for projects at
the Raptor Building

Jill Wesloski

Jewelry display for SANC's Gift Shop

REI

Snowshoes for Winter Carnival

RAPTOR SPONSORSHIPS

Michael Franks and Julie Wojcik

Marilyn Hauer

R.T. (SANC's Red Tailed Hawk)

Keith Walsh

MEMORIALS

Rudolph Baack Marjorie Merrell Mandel Schwarz Jacquelyn Wolf

Todd and Jody Herbert (*To be added to the Bryce Ethan Herbert Education Development Fund*)

James P. Balding Janet Balding

Una Becker

Civic Theater of Greater Lafayette
Martin and Cindy Kummer
Lafayette Symphony, Inc.
Long Center for the Performing Arts
Connie Schmidt Becker

Sara Mae Bingen

Gary and Linda Ahlen
Bruce Blecken
Richard and Esther Frazier
Sylvia Kete and Marcela Gatica
Geri and Marvin Olson
Dennis and Klover Schafer
Stephen Zimmerman

Frederick (SANC's Bald Eagle)

Barb and Ken Wardius

Kessie (SANC's American Kestrel)

Barb and Ken Wardius

Pauline Kopmeier

Dory Vallier

Marie Patin

Geri and Marvin Olson

Dorothy Singer

Catherine Singer

Wish List

- Industrial Wood Chipper
- 4 x 4 Tractor
- Canoe Trailer

CALENDAR

March & April 2011

Hatha Yoga for Health and Wellness

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

DATES: Every Monday & Saturday
TIME: 9:15am -10:30am or 5:45pm-7:00pm
 Monday
 10:00am-11:15am Saturday
*****FEE:** For program fees, please call (414)352-2880 ext. 0
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. SANC's falcons, hawks, owls, vulture, and an eagle will appear on a rotating basis. Stop by each weekend to check them out. Please note there will be no program on Saturday, Feb. 12 & Sunday, Feb 13 due to a special event at the Center. There will also be no program on Saturday, March 12 & Sunday, March 13. Visit our birds at the Milwaukee Sports Show that weekend.

DATES: Every Saturday & Sunday
TIME: 1:00pm-2:00 pm
FEE: Free with Center Admission
LEVEL: Families



Boomers and Beyond

The "Boomers and Beyond" program is offered the first Thursday of every month. We begin with socializing, coffee and treats, and then we'll head out on the trails, if favorable conditions exist, to engage in nature's instructive process. In March, the Center's secondary education manager Jim Hyatt will teach us how to find hidden caches on the Center grounds through the art of geocaching. April's class will discover the bizarre life forms that lurk in the watery worlds of our ponds and lakes. The striking differences between these and the ones we see in our everyday life will dramatically illustrate the adaptations that are necessary for underwater life.

DATES: Thursday, March 3
 Thursday, April 7
TIME: 9:00am -10:30am
*****FEE:** M: Adult \$10, NM: Adult \$12
LEVEL: Adults



Raptor Saturday!**

In this family program, handlers allow a close-up view of our many birds of prey. In **March**, join the Sky Hunter's volunteers for an action packed presentation about how a few of our resident birds of a prey attract their mates. The worldwide sport of falconry will be highlighted during our **April** program. Learn more about this century old practice of using trained raptors to hunt with humans.

DATES: Saturday, March 5
 Saturday, April 2
TIME: 1:00pm – 2:00pm
FEE: Free with Center Admission
LEVEL: Families

Schlitz Audubon Bird Club

Be sure to bring your binoculars! We don't want to miss the arrival of the beautiful spring migrants. If we are lucky, we may spot American Woodcocks and get to see their beautiful aerial courtship displays.

DATES: Wednesday, March 9
 Wednesday, April 13
TIME: 6:30pm – 8:30pm
FEE: Free to Members & Volunteers
LEVEL: Adults and Teens

It's Maple Sugar Time!

The month is March...here comes the melting snow, muddy shoes and MAPLE SUGAR! Bring your big boots and sweet tooth, and we'll do the rest! Join your Audubon Teachers as we travel through the stages of making maple syrup, from tapping trees to boiling sap and eating pickles and pancakes. We will begin inside with a story about the serendipitous discovery of maple syrup, followed by a sensational slideshow all about the magic of maple sugar. Then it's outside as we visit the Schlitz Sugarbush and Evaporator! We'll top it all off with REAL maple syrup over silver dollar pancakes! Families with children of all ages are welcome, but children should be able to sit still.

DATE: Saturday, March 12
TIME: 10:00am – 12:00pm
 1:00pm – 3:00pm
*****FEE:** M: Child \$6, Adult \$10
 NM: Child \$8, Adult \$12
LEVEL: Families

Repamphibiantile Sunday**

I know. I know. You can't wait. I can't wait until I hear the calls of the frogs also. And on this day I've got you covered! In addition to holding snakes, smiling at salamanders, wondering how Jim stays employed, you will learn the calls of our local frogs so that you will be prepared when you hear those marvelous sounds! You'll impress your friends! You'll impress your enemies! But you will know what you're talking about. As for Jim, hmmm.

DATE: Sunday, March 13
TIME: 12:00pm – 1:00pm
FEE: Free with Center Admission
LEVEL: Families



Fireside Conversations

This monthly series brings the opportunity to learn the collective wisdom we can generate around thought-provoking, environmentally-related readings. Our discussions will be led by Don Quintenz and are enriched with the variety of perspectives and experiences that invariably emerge from the group members. We will base our discussions on Thoreau's *Walden*, with March's reading from "Baker Farm" through "Former Inhabitants..." and April from "Winter Animals" through "Conclusion". For newcomers, missing the discussions of earlier chapters will not prevent you from participating in the current discussions. Light refreshments will be provided.



DATE: Monday, March 14
 Monday, April 11
TIME: 1:30pm – 3:00pm
*****FEE:** M: Adult \$10, NM: Adult \$12
LEVEL: Adults

Hangin' with Hyatt: Snake Patrick Day**

Who's up for some family fun? Jim is bringing his cuddly friends out for a party. Touch snakes, call like a frog, hold turtles! We'll eat some green cake, munch on green cookies, and wash it down with green juice. Celebrate Snake Patrick Day with your family!

DATE: Thursday, March 17
TIME: 6:00pm – 7:00pm
*****FEE:** M: Child \$4, Adult \$6
 NM: Child \$6, Adult \$8
LEVEL: Families



Spring Equinox Evening Hike

Are you ready for Spring? Join Jessy Knox for an evening hike at Audubon to celebrate the Spring Equinox, the start of Spring. An equinox occurs twice a year, when the tilt of the Earth's axis is inclined neither away from nor towards the Sun, accounting for nearly equal hours of night and hours of daylight. Who will be out and about at Audubon on this special evening? Come and search for signs of the spring season. Families with children of all ages are welcome, but children should be able to sit still.

DATE: Sunday, March 20
TIME: 6:30pm – 8:30pm
*****FEE:** M: Child \$6, Adult \$10
NM: Child \$8, Adult \$12
LEVEL: Families

Discovery Nature Hiking

Have you often wished you could do your daily walk in a beautiful, natural setting and learn about the amazing things that you're passing by? We will 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: Tuesday, March 22
Monday, April 18
TIME: 1:30pm-3:00pm
*****FEE:** M: Adult \$5, NM: Adult \$7
LEVEL: Adult

Johnson Control Visit**

Johnson Control has been awarded LEED Platinum certification by the U.S. Green Building Council, for its efforts to make the Glendale corporate campus a model of energy efficiency and sustainability. Learn from their staff the techniques of photovoltaic and thermal solar energy, geothermal wells, rainwater management, green roofs, material re-use and integrated building management. Meet at SANC; transportation provided.

DATES: Thursday, March 24
TIME: 9:00am-11:00am
*****FEE:** M: Adult \$19, NM: Adult \$22
LEVEL: Adult

Preschool Pancake Breakfast

Saturday, March 26
See page 6 for details!

National Forests of the U.S.**

Interested in knowing more about the National Forests of the United States and the federal agency that runs them? Please join us to learn about the U.S. Forest Service, and its role in providing conservation services and leadership to the nation for the past 100 years. Kent Connaughton, Regional Forester responsible for the 17 National Forest units in the 20 northeastern states, will be our speaker. Come and learn about Wisconsin's own Chequamegon and Nicolet forests.

DATE: Sunday, March 27
TIME: 2:00pm – 3:30pm
*****FEE:** M: Child \$5, Adult \$8
NM: Child \$7, Adult \$10
LEVEL: Adults & Children 10 and older

Starry Nights of Spring

Do you enjoy seeking out stars, planets and constellations? Then join us for a fun evening 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! Spring constellations such as Leo the Lion, the Big Dipper and Gemini the Twins are sure to delight. I'm also told it will be crystal clear. 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 possible.

DATE: Monday, March 28
TIME: 7:00 – 8:30 pm
*****FEE:** M: Child \$4, Adult \$7
NM: Child \$6, Adult \$9
LEVEL: Families

Dazzling Ducks of Spring

Known to only a few are the beautiful and diverse waterfowl that migrate north before most people get near the wetlands to see them. We intend to change that by inviting you to tour some of the secret hot spots that birders use to look for them. This late March outing also has the added bonus of seeing winter ducks which are still around. The tour will be led by Jean Strelka. This year we will explore Milwaukee and Ozaukee county wetlands. We will stop for lunch at a local restaurant, so bring along some money. Transportation provided.



DATE: Thursday, March 31
(Cold/Rain Date: Tuesday, April 5)
TIME: 9:00am – 4:00pm
*****FEE:** M: Adult \$52, NM: Adult \$60
LEVEL: Adults

Sky Dance of the American Woodcock

Join us on an evening search for one of our most interesting birds—the American Woodcock. We'll spend a brief time indoors learning about the woodcock's unique survival adaptations and its fantastic courtship flight. Then, just before sunset, we'll head outside hoping to catch the male woodcock performing its evening "sky dance."

DATE: Monday, April 4
TIME: 7:00pm – 8:30 pm
*****FEE:** M: Child \$5, Adults \$8
NM: Child \$6, Adult \$9
LEVEL: Adults & Children 10 and older

Nature Adventurers: Spring is Here!

Come explore the Audubon as nature awakens from its winter slumber. Welcome back birds, wake up toads and turtles, hello again turkeys and deer. Exploring, ponding, learning, hiking and playing all will be a part of our time together.

Nature Adventurers meets once a week for 5 weeks. Please have your child eat a snack prior to class and dress for the weather!

DATE: Wednesdays, April 6- May 11
(No session April 27- Spring Break)
TIME: 4:00pm – 5:30pm
*****FEE:** M: Child \$75, NM: Child \$85
LEVEL: K5 – 1st grade

Nature Explorers: Spring Season

Tiny buds, rain showers, muddy puddles, the return of animals from near and far and the warming sun all set the stage for experiencing and exploring the Nature Center in the spring. Who will we see in the woods? Anyone swimming in the pond? Has the ice all melted along the shoreline? Come join us for hiking and adventuring fun!

Nature Explorers meets once a week for 5 weeks. Please have your child eat a snack prior to class and dress for the weather!

DATE: Wednesdays, April 6- May 11
(No session April 27- Spring Break)
TIME: 4:00pm – 5:30pm
*****FEE:** M: Child \$75, NM: Child \$85
LEVEL: 2nd – 4th grade

Hiking the Ice Age Trail

This discovery hike led by Don Quintenz is guaranteed to expose an incredible diversity of spring's living creatures and plant communities. The particular trail we will explore will be the segment immediately north of the Waterford segment near Holy Hill. The high quality woods at the start will be certain to impress you botanically, as well as geologically, and ephemeral frog ponds should be active with song. You will need to be able to walk up and down hills. Transportation and interpretation provided. We will eat lunch at the Sawmill Inn.

DATE: Tuesday, April 12
TIME: 9:00am – 4:00pm
*****FEE:** M: Adult \$48, NM: Adult \$55
LEVEL: Adults

A Day at Retzer Nature Center

Retzer's senior naturalist Larry Kascht will inform us about the programs, history and objectives of Retzer, as well as show us through their exhibit hall. Later he will take us out on the trails for a look at the wonderful prairies and geology of the Center. Retzer's planetarium director, Dave DeRemer, will give an hour long astronomy program in their planetarium. We will tour some of the other habitats at Retzer with our own naturalist Don Quintenz. Bring a bag lunch.

DATE: Thursday, April 21
TIME: 9:00am – 4:00pm
*****FEE:** M: Adult \$51, NM: Adult \$58
Self-drive: M: Adult \$41, NM: Adult \$48
LEVEL: Adults

Bird Identification Workshop

Are you one of those many people who often wish they could identify what birds they are seeing, especially if they have a limited look at them? This three session workshop will give you new identification tools, as well as sharpen your previous skills. You will learn to use more than size and coloring – posture, flying and wing beat patterns, foraging and avoidance behaviors, bobbing and tail wagging, habitat, flocking tendency and synchrony, seasonal abundance, and many other diagnostic clues are extremely helpful. This class will be hosted by Don Quintenz on three consecutive weeks just before and during peak migration. Each day we will start out with a bird hike followed by learning new techniques during classroom studies.

DATE: Tuesdays, April 26, May 3, & May 10
TIME: 7:30am – 10:00am
*****FEE:** M: Adult \$36, NM: Adult \$41
LEVEL: Adults



Hangin' with Hyatt: Spring Break Treasure Hunt

Who needs something to do over spring break? How about a treasure hunt with GPS units? Jim will give you the basics on how to use a GPS unit. Don't worry, Jim is supplying them. After you know the basics, you'll be sent out to the trails to find your first waypoint. At every waypoint will be a puzzle piece and the coordinates for your next waypoint. Once you get all seven puzzle pieces, rush to the building and put the puzzle together to win! Now, some people do have a little trouble working with a GPS unit, so you need to have someone 16 years or older to help.

DATE: Tuesday, April 26
TIME: 10:00am – 12:00pm
*****FEE:** M: Child \$6, Adult \$10
NM: Child \$8, Adult \$12
LEVEL: Families

Spring Fling!

Yeah, spring break is here at long last! Then warm weather must be just around the corner, right? Join Tom Finley for some fun as we head out on the trails to observe signs of spring: frogs in the ponds, flowers in bloom and sleepy critters waking up from hibernation. We'll also meet our live animal friend Maria the rosy boa. Don't sit at home watching nature on the tube when you can get out and see nature's beauty first-hand! Sign up for one of the two times.

DATE: Thursday, April 28
TIME: 9:00 – 11:30am or 12:30 – 3:00pm
*****FEE:** M: Child \$12, NM: Child \$16
LEVEL: Children ages 6 – 12

The Spiritual World of Nature**

This series seeks to help us all connect more intimately with nature by getting in touch with the powerful spiritual side of the natural world. Pre-registration is encouraged and all programs are geared for adults. Light snacks and refreshments will be provided for all classes.

*****FEE: M: \$10, NM: \$12 (for each program)**

CELEBRATING SPRING WITH DENNIS HAWK

Spring, as in Autumn, is a transition season where we look to the tree nations for our spiritual cues. Trees come alive from the frozen earth during March to participate in the pinnacle ceremony of the woodland tribes, the making of Maple Syrup. More than something to eat, the making of maple syrup was the spiritual equivalent to Easter for Christians, the rising to new life. As the sap rose in the trees, so hope rises in us. No matter how hard the winter, the maple syrup came to show that there are always new possibilities

DATE: Tuesday, March 8
TIME: 1:30pm – 3:00pm

DENNIS HAWK: NATIVE AMERICAN MUSIC & STORY

Native American, musician, composer and story teller Dennis Hawk fulfills his calling to share Native American wisdom and spirit through music and story. Guest musicians may surprise you, the spirit will move you, and audience percussion is welcome.

DATE: Tuesday, March 8
TIME: 7:00pm – 8:30pm

REV. TONEN O'CONNOR: BUDDHIST TRADITION

Inherent in Buddhist philosophy is an all-encompassing respect for life and peaceful coexistence with all living things. All humans have the potential to be enlightened, to be awakened, and to live with intention, peace, and harmony with creation. You may be surprised that the Buddhist philosophy doesn't contradict with other Western faith traditions.

DATE: Tuesday, April 12
TIME: 7:00pm – 8:30pm

MARCIA KAMINSKI'S MEMOIR DISCUSSION

Share in our discussion about author Marcia Kaminski's memoir *God Never Hurries*. Walk with her and a Shepherd/Husky named Bear into the natural world where she took problems surrounding her aging parents' care needs and where she found courage, comfort and nature's timeless wisdom. Join the discussion whether or not you have read the book, which is available at the Audubon Center's gift shop or at www.godneverhurries.com

DATE: Tuesday, April 26
TIME: 1:30pm – 3:00pm

HAND-IN-HAND

Explore nature with your little one! We will hike, play, do art activities and listen to a story. Dress for the weather, because best of all, we will go outside rain or shine. Several time slots are available for the same class. Please choose one for each topic.



It's Maple Sugar Time!

It's Maple Syrup Time and it is the trees that give us this delicious gift. Celebrate these trees with us in this age-appropriate program.

DATE: Thursday, Feb. 24 or Thursday, Mar. 1
TIME: Session I: Feb. 24 at 9:00am-10:15am
Session II: Feb. 24 at 10:30am-11:45am
Session III: Mar. 1 at 9:00am-10:15am
*****FEE:** M: \$12/pair, NM: \$15/pair
LEVEL: 2-4 year olds (Each child must be accompanied by an adult)

Winter Birds

This is a great time to look for a little color in our world and do some bird-watching. Discover more about these wonderful creatures of the sky in an age-appropriate program.

DATE: Thursday, Mar. 24 or Thursday, Mar. 31
TIME: Session I: Mar. 24 at 9:00am-10:15am
Session II: Mar. 24 at 10:30am-11:45am
Session III: Mar. 31 at 9:00am-10:15am
*****FEE:** M: \$12/pair, NM: \$15/pair
LEVEL: 2-4 year olds (Each child must be accompanied by an adult)

Welcome, Spring!

Let's look for some signs of our changing seasons – tiny buds on the trees, early spring flowers and clues that animals have been out and about.

DATE: Thursday, Apr. 7 or Thursday, Apr. 14
TIME: Session I: Apr. 7 at 9:00am-10:15am
Session II: Apr. 7 at 10:30am-11:45am
Session III: Apr. 14 at 9:00am-10:15am
*****FEE:** M: \$12/pair, NM: \$15/pair
LEVEL: 2-4 year olds (Each child must be accompanied by an adult)

Ponds Alive!

Our ponds come alive with all sorts of new little creatures. Join us as we discover pond life.

DATE: Thursday, Apr. 21 or Thursday, May 5
TIME: Session I: Apr. 21 at 9:00am - 10:15am
Session II: Apr. 21 at 10:30am-11:45am
Session III: May 5 at 9:00am-10:15am
*****FEE:** M: \$12/pair, NM: \$15/pair
LEVEL: 2-4 year olds (Each child must be accompanied by an adult)

11th Annual Amphibian Search at Kettle Moraine State Forest

Hey folks! It's that time of the year again. The frogs are back and so is the search for them. Join SANC's amigo of the anurans (frogs) and chum of the chelonians (turtles), Jim Hyatt, as we put on hip waders and stroll through special breeding ponds. We'll use strainers and nets to catch frogs, toads, salamanders, and tadpoles. Jim will give us the in's and out's for all of the species that we find. We will meet at the Nature Center in the southern Kettle Moraine State Forest at 9:00am. There is no state park fee if you stay around the nature center. If you decide to explore other areas in the state forest, a day fee will have to be paid. The fees are \$7 for a resident and \$10 for a non-resident. SANC will provide the waders. A map and list of things to bring will be mailed upon enrollment.

DATE: Saturday, May 7
TIME: 9:00am – 12:00pm
*****FEE:** M: Child \$8, Adult \$12
NM: Child \$10, Adult \$15
LEVEL: Families

SAVE THE DATE!

11th Annual Amphibian Search
Saturday, May 7

Full Moon Hike
Tuesday, May 17

Horicon Marsh Day Trip
Thursday, May 19

Door County Getaway
Tuesday, May 31 – Friday, June 3

Annual Gala
Friday, June 3

Chicago Botanical Garden
Tuesday, June 28

Cancellation by participants up to 14 days before a program will be refunded less a \$10.00 fee. After that time, no refunds will be given. Upon SANC cancellation of a program, a full refund will be given.

EARTH DAY CELEBRATION

Sunday, April 17
12:00pm - 4:00pm
\$5/car

SANC's 2011 Earth Day commemoration is here! What better way to celebrate our wonderful planet, and the coming of spring, than spending a day outside at the Center? You'll have the chance to canoe on Mystery Lake, search for frogs and other critters at Boardwalk Pond, beach-comb along the majestic shores of Lake Michigan and take a guided hike of the forest. You'll come face-to-face with some incredible live animals: owls, hawks, snakes, turtles and more. It's the season of rebirth and renewal so we hope your family will spend some quality time enjoying the majesty of nature with us.



Mission Statement

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