



Lake Erie Islands Nature
and Wildlife Center
www.lakeerieislandswildlife.com

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Nature News

Lake Erie Islands Nature & Wildlife Center

Fall 2020

The mission of the Lake Erie Islands Nature & Wildlife Center is to promote conservation of and education about the flora, fauna, and lands of the Lake Erie Islands ecosystem.

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Building Addition Almost Complete!



After years of fundraising and months of construction, the building addition is almost complete! Our amazing crew has been working hard to complete the construction and only has painting, flooring, and trim left! Led by Richard Gump with the lead crew of Nowak Construction, the building addition has been beautifully constructed, giving the whole building a fresh new look. The work took place throughout the summer and, after a few unfortunate delays, is finally almost finished. See the photos for the incredible progress of this major undertaking. Everyone at the LEINWC is so excited for the new space, especially the new displays we will be installing over the winter including a live animal display, geology display, and wildlife viewing area! Thank you to everyone who has supported this project! We especially appreciate Brad and Zoe Titchener, whose support has been crucial to the success of this exciting new phase for the Nature Center!



Butterfly Basket Raffle Tickets on Sale Now!

\$1 per ticket! Includes: Homemade Crocheted Mandala Blanket by Tracy Burgess, Watercolor Monarch Painting by Tammy Jones, \$20 Forge Gift Certificate, Monarch & Sunflower Print by Sarah Cochran, 2 Kids certificates to the Butterfly House, 2021 LEINWC Monarch Membership, Heineman's Wine, Magnet, Butterfly Garden Décor, Purse, Butterfly Books, Butterfly House & Net, Necklace, Mask & Tissue Pack! Drawing will be on Giving Tuesday, December 1st. Tickets available at LEINWC events, by email leinwc@gmail.com or call Renée at 646-678-1262.



2020 Wildlife Center Events

By Renée Fultz

With the pandemic and being closed for construction, the LEINWC season looked very different this year. Unfortunately, many of our events had to be cancelled or altered to ensure the safety of everyone involved, including the difficult decision to cancel our beloved Stargazing Cruise. However, we still managed to provide some programming and have a fun summer promoting activities in nature! Thanks to the support of our amazing community, we made the best of this challenging year!

Nature Camp

By Katie Stitak, Nature Camp Director

It's safe to say that this year has been a year like no other. Due to the corona virus, our daily routine had to be changed. With everything turning virtual, we decided that nature camp this year had to follow suit. After a lot of thought and discussion, we decided to not have an in-person camp this year. We still wanted island kids to have a camp and learn as much as they could but from the comfort of their own homes. This was the safest way for campers to get outside, learn, and explore the island. Madeline Walker (Nature Camp Coordinator) and I put together a packet of activities that campers could do at home with their families. This year's theme was bugs, so we created different projects focused on that. Some of



those projects included: create a bug hotel, bug headbands, insect word searches, create a spider web and more. Madeline also put together a list of websites that centered around bugs and nature that campers could use for a rainy day! We put together backpacks full of supplies and activities for each camper to use during the week of camp. The backpacks were filled with water bottles, bug insect finders, butterfly nets, notebooks, whistles, island fact packets, and much more! Renee Fultz also played a crucial part in organizing and managing contacts for nature camp this year. We hope that all campers enjoyed the packets and got outside and spent some quality time together with family! Thank you for everyone that participated, and we hope that camp next year will be back to normal!



Virtual Wild Tuesdays

While we were disappointed we could not do in-person Wild Tuesdays, we had a lot of fun with our Wild Tuesday videos! Thanks to Kristin Stanford, Lisa Brohl, and Renee Market, we had some fun educational videos to share with our followers! For these videos and more check out our Facebook and YouTube pages!



Milkweed Plant Sale

Early in the summer we had milkweed plugs for sale grown from seeds collected on South Bass Island. We quickly sold out, which was a success for Monarch butterflies! We still have milkweed seed packets available for \$1, there's still time for a fall planting, or save them for spring!



Pig Roast



Pig Roast drive-through pick up at the Goat with awesome volunteers.

Our 8th annual Pig Roast at the Goat on August 5th was very different this year. We had to do take out and delivery meals and an online auction; nevertheless, it was a huge success! Rob Hard slow cooked his mouth-watering pork, we had delicious cheesy potatoes donated by the Goat and corn donated by Bench Farms and cooked by Russ Brohl for sides, and amazing desserts from Pauline Garsteck! The BBQ sauce was donated by Joe's Bar and packaging by



Phoebe Borman donating Canoe Bob painting.



Tina Larson receiving cake by Sandy Funtal, which she won in the auction.



Christi Ontko donating products from her shop, Freshwater Remedies.

Frosty's, Roundhouse, and Lisa Brohl. Thank you so much for all of these donations and to Scotty and Caroline Jackson for allowing us to do pick ups at the Goat! We sold out of meals and received great feedback on the food and smoothness of pick up and delivery. And a huge thank you to the volunteers who helped make this event run so smoothly: Lisa Brohl, Peggy Leopold, Kristin Stanford, Courtney Blumensaadt, Marsha Collett, Martyn Drabik-Hamshare, Sarah Cochran, Russ Brohl, Christa Helbing, Lois Gonzales, Keara Stan, Autumn Taylor, and Lucas Guy. As for our online auction, we were unsure how this would work as a replacement for our usual raffle baskets, but we were blown away by the success of the virtual event, which raised \$3,700! We are so grateful to everyone who donated and supported this event, we had so many amazing items to auction off and we could not have had such success without our wonderful community!

Monarch Tagging



We had a wonderfully successful event tagging monarch butterflies on Saturday, September 12th. It was a gorgeous day and perfect with the monarchs flying through on the start of their southern migration. With the help of Tyler McClain and Mariah Sherer from the Kelleys Island Field Station, we tagged almost 50 monarch butterflies. Each one was adopted as part of a fundraiser for the LEINWC. We had a great number of visitors who came by to help us catch the butterflies and watch and learn about the tagging process. All the kids who came had so much fun catching butterflies and then adopting the ones they caught. Hopefully some will be recaptured so we can see how far and how fast

our butterflies made it south! Thank you to our volunteers who helped with the event: Kristin Stanford, Courtney Blumensaadt, Lisa Brohl, Jessica Reidner, Jody Frimel, and Susan Hildebrandt. We really appreciated everyone staying safe by wearing masks and social distancing!





#EatAMayfly

A fun new virtual challenge took place this summer daring our followers to post a video eating a mayfly and/or donate to the Nature & Wildlife Center, all to be entered to win a prize (congrats to Steff Paul for winning!). At different levels of funds raised, members of our team had to eat a mayfly, culminating with our director having to eat one at \$1000. We ended up raising \$520 and thanks to that Martyn, Lisa, and Kristin had to eat mayflies! Watch the videos on our Facebook page!



Yard Sales

Thanks to the efforts of board member Sarah Cochran, we held several successful yard sales in late summer featuring our gift shop items. We also participated in the island-wide yard sale day, which was hugely successful! Thank you to everyone who stopped by to support us and thank you to our volunteers who helped run the tables: Sarah Cochran, Tammy Jones, Peggy Leopold, Lisa Brohl, and Stacy Clink!



Road Scholar by Martyn Drabik-Hamshare

As everyone is aware, the impacts of COVID-19 have been felt around the globe. Road Scholar, the travel company with which we partner to provide educational programs on the Lake Erie Islands, has also been affected. They have had to cancel all programs from mid-March through to at least the end of 2020. To ensure the success of Road Scholar moving forward, Road Scholar made the difficult decision to cancel programs permanently. Of the two programs that we have been running annually for several years, our "Spirit of the Lake Erie Islands" program will unfortunately no longer be taking place. The good news is that our "Birding the Islands and Shores"

program is still active, and will hopefully be as successful as normal! We hope to bring dozens of birdwatching Road Scholars to the Lake Erie Islands in the spring of 2021 to witness the spring migration and experience the wonderful Lake Erie. We will adapt our programs according to updated guidelines by Road Scholar, and provide further updates as we move closer to May 2021.

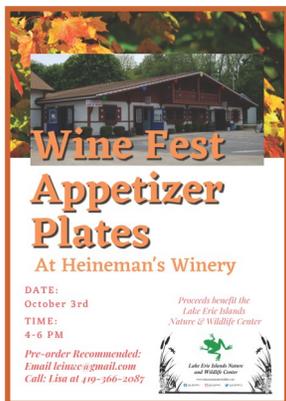
Lake Erie: Birding the Islands & Shores (#12641)
3 Programs: May 2-7; 9-14; 16-21

To learn more about our programs, read Road Scholar newsletters, or research other programs, visit the Road Scholar website at roadscholar.org

Upcoming Events

Wine Fest at Heineman's Winery

On Saturday, October 3, we will be selling plates of delicious appetizers during Wine Fest at Heineman's Winery to enjoy with a bottle of wine on the beautiful Winery grounds or to take to watch the sunset. Pick up orders will be available from 4-6pm at Heineman's winery where LEINWC gift shop items will be for sale as well. \$10 per plate. Pre-order is highly recommended. To reserve your plate call Lisa at 419-366-2087 or email at leinwc@gmail.com



Open-Air Holiday Bazaar

The Lake Erie Islands Nature & Wildlife Center presents the Open-Air Holiday Bazaar to be held at the Goat on Saturday, October 17 (rain date Sunday the 18th) 2-6pm. Start your holiday shopping early to get unique gifts while supporting local small businesses and artisans. Island vendors will be selling a wide variety of items that are sure to cover gifts for everyone on your list! Stop in to the Biergarten for a beer to quench your thirst while you shop! For interested vendors: \$10 per space (please bring your own table if you have one or contact LEINWC for table availability). Call 419-285-4448 to reserve your spot.



Giving Tuesday

We always enjoy our Giving Tuesday event with the owl banding with Tom Bartlett. Unfortunately, due to the pandemic we may not be able to have a similar event this year. We are working to plan some sort of event to celebrate the day of giving, and perhaps give people a sneak peek inside the Nature & Wildlife Center! Stay tuned, more details to come as soon as we have them!



Thank You to All Our Volunteers and Donors!

This year more than ever we have been in need of the help of our community, and you have not disappointed us! We know everyone is struggling this year, so each donation is even more appreciated. We thank everyone who has donated, whether monetary, a donated item, or time donated as a volunteer, we appreciate you all more than we can say!

Volunteers

Sarah Cochran
Kristin Stanford
Kit Knaser
Peggy Leopold
Lisa Brohl
Courtney Blumen-
saadt

Marsha Collett
Sue Bixler
Lucas Guy
Russ Brohl
Lois Gonzales
Keara Stan
Autumn Taylor
Christa Helbing

Tyler McClain
Mariah Sherer
Jessica Reidner
Jody Frimel
Susan Hildebrandt
Zora Andristplourde
Tammy Jones
Stacy Clink



A special thank you to Lorenzo Amato, Shaylee Olbes, & Kaicen Olbes for running a lemonade stand in July to benefit the Nature & Wildlife Center! They safely raised and donated an amazing \$215!

Sponsors & Donors

Your support is invaluable to us. Thank you for believing in our mission.

MONARCH BUTTERFLY

Ray & Marsha Collett

L.E. WATERSNAKE

Joe & Judy Janicki

BALD EAGLE

Rick & Linda Price
John & Patricia Fisher
Joseph & Maria Link

GENERAL FUND

Mary Kessler
Lindsey Myers
John & Patricia Fisher
Shannon McDonald
Sally Duffy
Diane Fultz
Paislee Thompson
Lisa Brohl
Kristin Stanford
Barb Hunter
Paula & Rick Ziebarth
Dave & Barb Nostrant
Joseph & Maria Link

Kim L Brasher-Muszynski

Janicki Family: Lorenzo Amato, Shaylee & Kaicen Olbes

#EatAMayfly Donations:

Jessica Mace
Steff Paul
Paula Lauer
Dustin Shaffer
Colleen Forge
Sue Prahst
Martyn Drabik-Hamshare
Lindsey Myers
Katherine Gauthier
Wanda Guy
Becky Cantu
Daniel Charington

NATURE CAMP FUND

Lisa Brohl
Kristin Stanford

BUILDING FUND

Ohio Ornithological Society Grant for Wildlife Window
Kate Ptak
Brad & Zoe Titchener

ADOPTIONS

John & Patricia Fisher
Joseph & Maria Link
William & Mary Ann Market Foundation

Note: this list reflects donations made since July 2020

AmeriCorps Intern Report by Lisa Brohl

We were happy to have Olive O'Rourke Scherf as our AmeriCorps intern shared by our Nature and Wildlife Center, Lake Erie Islands Conservancy, and Put-in-Bay Township Park District this summer. Time goes fast and we wish Olive good luck with her studies at St. Mary's College in South Bend, Indiana this fall! We enjoyed working with her and she will continue to help with some projects during her winter break.



Membership

Notice:

All 2020 memberships are good through 2021!

How can you help?

With the difficulties of the Covid-19 pandemic, **we need your help more than ever!**
There are lots of ways to support the LEINWC, choose what works best for you!

Wishlist:

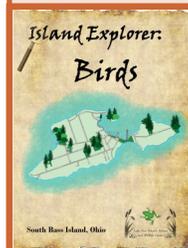
Sponsor Expenses or Donate Needed Items

Trash Pickup (Lake Disposal).....\$205	Spectrum (Phone, Internet).....\$840
Website Redesign.....\$835	Utilities (electric, water).....\$1800
Microsoft Software.....\$100	Water Bottle Fill Station.....\$1200
OE Meyer Propane.....\$500	Furnishings for Remodeled areas
Newsletter Printing.....\$500	Rocking Chairs for Back Porch
Newsletter Postage.....\$450	Large Clear Plastic Bins (64 qts)
	Pond Rug for Kids Corner
	Small Refrigerator
	Microwave
	High Quality Bird Seed
	Thank you note writer

Thank you so much Diane Fultz for sponsoring our Newsletter Postage!!



Island Explorer Packs



The LEINWC presents: **Island Explorer Packs!** Go on a fun & educational adventure around South Bass Island! Follow the map to complete challenges, then send a photo with your completed Pack to receive a prize! Packs include: Explorer booklet, explorer gear (binoculars, compass, flashlight, & magnifying glass), colored pencils, & more, all in a reusable tote bag for only \$15! The Bird-themed pack is available now, coming soon: Geology and Pollinators! To purchase, call or go to lakeerieislandswildlife.com/shop

Traditional Donation

Send check or donate on our website through PayPal. Donations of \$500+: your name on a scale of our Donor Fox Snake, Lifetime Membership, & credit towards an adoption!



Sponsor Part of Our New Geology Display

Item	Cost
Interactive Animated Film on Creation of Islands	\$3,000
Touch Screen Monitor for Film	\$475
Acrylic Boxes for Rock Samples	\$1,086
Wall Mounted Illustrated Sign	\$2,500
AV Equipment (for geology display & other programs)	\$1,000
TOTAL	\$ 8,061

Adopt a LEINWC Display Animal

- ◆ Your name will be displayed on a plaque with your adopted animal
- ◆ You get a LIFETIME membership to the Nature Center (NEW!)
- ◆ Your name will go on a scale of our Fox Snake on the back porch
- ◆ Great present for Christmas, Birthdays, etc.
- ◆ Adoptable animals are divided into three levels:



LEVEL ONE \$500	LEVEL TWO \$1,000	LEVEL THREE \$2,500
50 Animals from Grey Fox to Wood Duck	22 Animals from Badger to Wolverine	11 Animals from White-tailed Doe to Grizzly Bear

For a full list of animals available for adoption, visit our website: lakeerieislandswildlife.com

Become a Member!

- ◆ Now is the perfect time to get your 2021 LEINWC Membership!
- ◆ Choose from individual, family, business, or life memberships.
- ◆ See donation form on the last page for more details of all the amazing benefits of memberships!
- ◆ Makes a great gift for any nature lover!



Square Meter of LEINWC Grounds

- ◆ Receive a unique piece of the Nature Center property for only \$50!
- ◆ You can acquire adjacent squares.
- ◆ Call or visit our website to "close the deal."



Online Gift Shop & LEINWC Merchandise

Our gift shop is now online! Go to lakeerieislandswildlife.com/shop for all the great LEINWC items! Choose "Local pickup" for curbside pickup!



Check out our Spreadshirt Shop for cool LEINWC merchandise shop.spreadshirt.com/lei-nature-wildlife-center
A portion of each purchase goes to LEINWC



Other ways to Help

◆ Kroger Community Rewards

It's easy with your Kroger Plus Card! Sign in or create an account at Kroger.com, then enroll/update your Community Rewards in Account Settings. You save, Kroger gives back!



◆ Amazon Smile

shop at smile.amazon.com and register the Lake Erie Islands Nature & Wildlife Center as your charity and Amazon will donate a portion of what you spend!



◆ Create a Facebook Fundraiser

For your birthday or just because!



◆ Follow us on Social Media!

For news, updates, and fun activities!

◆ Follow us on YouTube!

Lake Erie Islands Nature & Wildlife Center

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Fun Fall Activity Ideas

- ◆ Visit an apple orchard.
- ◆ Build a scarecrow stuffed with newspaper
- ◆ Create leaf rubbings.
- ◆ Collect and identify leaves.
- ◆ Press leaves into a photo album.
- ◆ Visit a pick-your-own pumpkin patch.
- ◆ Have a pumpkin-carving party.
- ◆ Visit a park and bring along a tree or bird guidebook to identify what you see.

Visit our website for more resources and fun activity ideas!

www.LakeErieIslandsWildlife.com

Thank you so much to all of our Business Sponsors!

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Put-in-Bay, OH 43456

2020-2021 LEINWC Donation Form

I would like to donate to:

General Fund Donation

\$ _____ for LEINWC operating costs

Building Addition Fund

\$ _____ for furnishings & displays.

Animal Adoption

_____ I would like more information.

Square Meter

\$ _____ for _____ Square Meters (\$50 ea.)

Nature Camp Fund

\$ _____ for expenses and equipment.

2021 Membership registration

_____ **Black Squirrel \$15.00 Individual Member:** LEINWC Season Pass

_____ **Monarch Butterfly \$25.00 Family Member:** Season Pass, 5% Nature Camp Discount

_____ **Lake Erie Water Snake \$100 Business Member:** Season Pass, Ad in Newsletters, Website, Social Media Promotion, 10% Nature Camp Discount

_____ **Bald Eagle \$500 Life Member:** Lifetime Pass, 25% Discount on sponsored events: Stargazing Cruise, Pig Roast, & Nature Camp, Name on a Scale of the Eastern Fox Snake on the back porch, \$500 Credit towards Animal Adoption ***Limited Time Only: FREE LEINWC reusable shopping bag & hat with Membership!***

Name: _____ Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ E-Mail: _____

*Please make checks payable to LEINWC, send to: **PO Box 871, Put-in-Bay, Ohio 43456** Donations are tax deductible.
Thank You!*