



The
NATURALISTS CLUB
 NEWSLETTER

Springfield Science Museum at the Quadrangle, Springfield, Massachusetts

January to March **CALENDAR of EVENTS**

January

- Saturday 8 Winter Forest Bathing Walk and Fire Circle, *Russell*
 Saturday 15 Nature in Winter at Bear Hole, *West Springfield*
 Wednesday 19 JANUARY MEETING: From Mountain Tops to Salt Flats: A Tour of Nevada
 Saturday 29 Nature in Winter Hike, *Somers, Connecticut*

Groundhog Day
 February 2



February

- Saturday 12 Winter Snowshoeing or Hiking at Quabbin, *Belchertown*
 Wednesday 16 FEBRUARY MEETING: The Seymour Planetarium Old and New
 Saturday 26 Life Under the Ice, *Monterey*

March

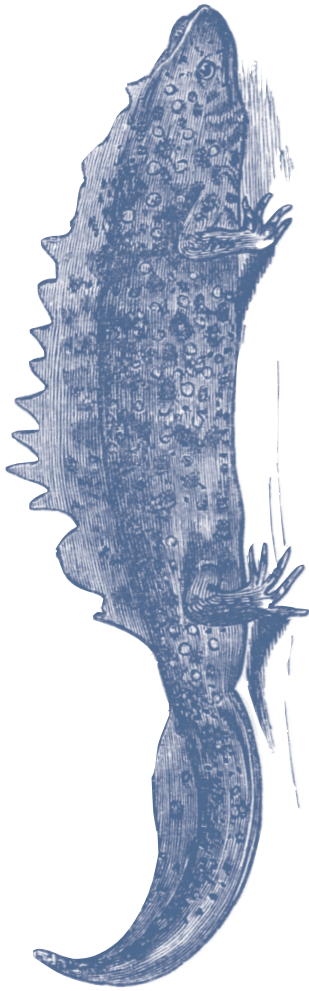
- Sunday 6 How Sweet It Is! Sugaring at Maple Corner Farm, *West Granville*
 Wednesday 16 MARCH MEETING: Learning to Love your Migratory Fish
 Saturday 19 Awake in Spring, *Southwick*
 Saturday 26 Dismal Brook Wildlife Preserve, *Granby, Connecticut*
 Sunday 27 Early Spring Flora at McLean Game Refuge, *Granby, Connecticut*

*O, wind, if winter comes, can spring
 be far behind?
 ~ Percy Shelley*



NATURALIST'S CORNER

Nancy's Looking Glass



Newts belong to the "tailed" amphibian family; Urodela.

Bundled from head to toe, I lay prone on the ice, legs sprawled, ten feet from shore. I hadn't fallen. This is intentional! Fingers, toes, thighs and nose are nearly numb, but I don't care. The breeze is negligible, and the sun tries its best to burn through this overcast February sky. With my mittened hand, I sweep away white fluffy snow to reveal clear, smooth ice and peer through my glass-like window down into the watery world below.

I feel like an overlord – an intruder – peering down on unsuspecting life below. I wonder for a moment if the same is done to us mortals here on Earth. Quickly my thoughts turn to more tangible amazements. I am supported by a ceiling of ice! The unique configuration of the H₂O molecule allows water to be less dense as a solid than as a liquid. Water is densest at 39°F (4°C). As it cools and hits its freezing point, the molecules arrange themselves into an ice lattice, with space enough to allow it to float. If H₂O behaved like other compounds, the solid state would be denser than its liquid state, and ponds, streams, and lakes would instead freeze from the bottom up, making life in that water impossible. Fortunately, this sometimes-snow-covered icy cap I lay on blankets the water from winter winds and, in all but shallow areas, provides aquatic life a liquid medium in which to survive. This ice, from what I can tell, is about six inches thick. Ice must be at least four inches to be safe for a person to walk on. I'm well supported.

I can make out splotches of dark and light under me. Oh, wait. That shadow is moving. It's not a shadow at all. I can make out a fish. Ice anglers know that fish continue to move around under the ice all winter. Fish metabolism slows way down, and they are lethargic, as my lingering fellow below demonstrates. Fish most often congregate near the bottom, where water is warmest. This is where ice anglers put their bait – just a couple feet above the bottom.

I marvel at the ability of any creature to live in water just a few degrees above freezing. As long as they don't freeze, the limiting factor is oxygen. If oxygen runs out, everyone is in trouble. If sunlight can get through the ice allowing aquatic plants to photosynthesize, all is good, but a prolonged blanket of snow slows or stops oxygen production. So, these aquatic creatures have developed ways of minimizing the need for oxygen, hanging on until wind once again stirs the waves and plants photosynthesize again.

I have paddled this pond and remember seeing snapping turtles and painted turtles here. Snapping turtles hunker down for the winter in muddy shallows. They may absorb oxygen directly through exposed skin (probably through the cloaca or linings of the mouth) but how they get enough oxygen to survive is still mystifying. Painted turtles bury themselves in mud – a hard place for oxygen exchange. Painted turtle test subjects have been found to survive with almost no blood oxygen at all for up to three months. The resulting build-up of lactic acid in the blood is neutralized by an accumulation of magnesium, potassium, and calcium.

Frogs and salamanders abound in this pond too. Like the reptiles, these amphibians slow their heartbeat, digestion, metabolism, and body temperature for winter. Aquatic salamanders, like the red-spotted newt, snuggle down in muddy inlets where oxygen-rich water enters the pond, but they can also sluggishly move about under the ice. Frogs too gather at these inlets where water doesn't freeze. They absorb oxygen through their skin, so they don't bury deeply into the mud.

As I feel my own extremities getting colder and colder, a certain frog comes to mind. He's a terrestrial frog so I won't see him down my looking glass, but he's worth mentioning. The wood frog burrows into the leaf litter or under a log for winter. He can freeze solid! If allowed to form, ice crystals can puncture cell membranes and blood vessels, killing an organism handily. With the first sign of freeze, the wood frog floods its cells with glucose, which acts as an anti-freeze. Spaces outside his cells freeze solid, yet his insides stay intact. He thaws out in the spring none the worse. Amazing!

Everything slows down under the icy winter ceiling, but as long as the liquid water below doesn't turn to ice, freezing can be avoided. Minnows, tadpoles and crayfish stay active but are very sluggish. By this time, I'm feeling pretty sluggish myself. I'm getting chilled to the bone out here on the ice. Unlike Alice, I don't fall down the hole or climb through the looking glass to join this alternative universe. Although I've enjoyed looking through my window on the watery world below, I've got to get up and head to my heated abode. That is the way I'll spend the chill of winter.

~ Nancy Condon

Winter Forest Bathing Walk and Fire Circle, Russell

Saturday, January 8, from 10:45 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Leaders: MaryDonna Whyte and Nancy Condon

Registration: Please contact Nancy (413 297-0778;

nancy@paddleforwater.net)

Meeting Place: Upper parking lot, Noble View Outdoor Center, 635 South Quarter Road

Sink into the softness of the forest floor. Sit awhile, and breathe with the trees.

Forest Bathing is a heart-centered guided nature immersion experience inspired by the Japanese practice of Shinrin Yoku — bathing in the atmosphere of the forest. We will begin by the fire, and then mindfully move about via a series of invitations offered by the guide, to immerse our senses in all that the forest has to offer.

We will be moving slowly, so dress in layers. We will come back to the fire between invitations, to warm up. Please bring water, something to sit on (camp chair, blanket or sit pad), a walking stick/pole if needed, a journal if desired, and don't forget your imagination, sense of wonder and curiosity. Come ready to experience the healing effects of nature.

MaryDonna Whyte is a Nature and Forest Therapy Guide, certified by the Association of Nature and Forest Therapy (ANFT), as well as a family nurse practitioner, Reiki Master, and wellness/nutrition coach. See www.marydonnawhyte.com to learn more about forest bathing.

Nancy Condon is a Mindful Outdoor Guide certified by Kripalu School of Mindful Outdoor Leadership. She has 39 years' experience as an Environmental Educator and is an AMC Volunteer on the Stewardship Council at Noble View. She is currently working to self-publish a book on her cross-country canoe expedition.

Nature in Winter at Bear Hole, West Springfield

Saturday, January 15, from 10 a.m. to noon

Leader: Dietrich Schlobohm (413-788-4125)

Registration: Please contact Dietrich.

Meeting Place: Intersection of Morgan Road and Prospect Ave in West Springfield.

Directions: Access Morgan Road directly opposite the Riverdale Shopping Center on Rte. 5. Take Morgan Road until it goes under the Mass Turnpike and comes to an end at Prospect Ave. There are three forks along Morgan Road that require your attention, and the last part of Morgan Road is dirt.

Covid-19 Protocol: Please sign up for this walk only if you are willing to adhere to the following protocols. Participants will be required to wear a mask and to keep at least 6 feet apart from others, including family members. If you are not feeling well, please do not come and let Dietrich know so that the first person on the waiting list can join.

Winter, a time when nature supposedly slows down and creatures large and small seek shelter from the harsh elements. While many animals are less visible, winter provides a unique opportunity to study wildlife from a different perspective. Dietrich Schlobohm, an environmental historian, will lead us on a "journey of winter discovery", especially if Mother Nature blesses us with a blanket of snow.

Depending on weather conditions and the area we visit, there is the possibility of observing a wide variety of animal life, including deer, otter, beaver, fox, coyote, and perhaps even a moose. Our observations will most probably not involve actual sightings, but rather the tracks and other signs these animals leave behind as they engage in their daily struggle for survival.

Be sure to dress for the weather including good footwear. Bring water and a snack.

*Despite all I have seen and experienced, I still get the same simple thrill out of glimpsing a tiny patch of snow
~ Edmund Hillary*



From Mountaintops to Salt Flats: A Tour of Nevada

Wednesday, January 19, starting at 7 p.m.

Tolman Auditorium, Springfield Science Museum

Speaker: Sonya Vickers

When you think of Nevada what comes to mind? Las Vegas, Reno, and a lot of wasteland in-between, perhaps? That "wasteland" is, in reality, very interesting to naturalists and geologists, making Nevada one of the jewels of the West. Here at home, our rivers eventually lead to the sea. We know that the Continental Divide in the Rocky Mountains separates waters flowing to the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. But because Nevada is part of the Great Basin, rain that falls on most of the state never makes it to any ocean at all, creating a situation where distinctive plants and animals have evolved. And because the rocks and mountains are often laid bare, past life in the form of fossils can be found more easily than in the tree-covered hills of New England. This Nevada environment is so varied that I will be able to show you pictures of lush wetlands, brilliantly eroded red rocks, miles of desert, spectacular glacial valleys, salt flats, fossil sites of things as small as the ancient trilobite and as large as a 60 ft. ichthyosaur, and snow-capped mountains more than twice as high as anything in New England. Sound interesting? I was fascinated.

Sonya Vickers has always been enthralled by the outdoors and the workings of nature and life on this planet. She majored in biology at Hartwick College and earned her master's degree. She spent 39 years teaching biology and earth science on Long Island, in Monson, and in the Hampden-Wilbraham School District. Since retiring, she has continued learning through nature journaling and photography. Her specialty is photographing very small things, from snowflakes to bugs' eyes. Comparing the nature of New England to other places has been a passion, and she has traveled to all 50 states, all Canadian provinces, and all 7 continents.

Nature in Winter Hike, Somers, Connecticut

Saturday, January 29, starting at 10 a.m.

Leaders: Dave and Suzy Gallup

Registration: Please call to let us know you are coming, and for directions (413-525-4697)

Join us for a hike on a trail system maintained by the Northern Connecticut Land Trust. Whitaker Woods is a unique 266-acre property in the center of Somers, Connecticut that is pristinely maintained. The land is characterized by a variety of terrains with the network of trails taking you past stone walls, over brooks, through stands of mature white pine and many other species of trees in a young to old growth forest. You will enjoy the diversity of the landscape! Dress for the weather and wear sturdy hiking boots. It is an easy to moderate approximately 3-mile loop hike. Bring a snack or lunch and a warm beverage. Rain or bad weather cancels.

Winter Snowshoeing or Hiking at the Quabbin, Belchertown

Saturday, February 12, starting at 10:30 a.m.

Leaders: Dave and Suzy Gallup

Registration: Please call Dave and Suzy if you plan to attend (413-525-4697)

Meeting place: CVS Plaza, near junction of Routes 9 and 202, Belchertown

Join us for a snowshoe — or a hike, if there is no snow in the Quabbin area. Dave has extra pairs of snowshoes, so let us know if you need a pair. We will explore an upland hardwood forest. If there is snow, we may see tracks of deer, coyote, ruffed grouse, weasel, fisher, and many other species of mammals and birds. Learn how these creatures survive in a cold, snow-covered landscape. We will see stone walls and foundations of farms long abandoned. Dress for the conditions, bring snacks or lunch, and don't forget binoculars! Rain or bad weather cancels.



The Seymour Planetarium Old and New

Wednesday February 16, starting at 7 p.m.

Seymour Planetarium, Springfield Science Museum

Speaker: Jack Megias

The Springfield Museum houses the oldest American-made planetarium projector in the world. This year the room that houses the projector has been dramatically renovated. Take a walk among the winter stars (and planets) and learn more about this historic facility.

Our own Jack Megias has been an Astronomy Educator at the Science Museum for over 25 years!

Eighty years ago, Frank Korkosz, with help from his brother, John, and students at Chicopee High School, finished construction of the planetarium projector here at our own Springfield Science Museum. Today, it is the oldest American-made projector in existence.



Life Under the Ice, Monterey

Saturday, February 26, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Leaders: Tom and Nancy Condon

Registration: Please call 413-297-0778 or email nancy@paddleforwater.net to register

Meeting Place: Benedict Pond parking area in Beartown State Forest. Take Route 23 to Blue Hill Road to access Benedict Pond Road.

Have you ever stood along the shore of a frozen pond and thought about what's going on under that ice? If so, have we got a trip for you! We will circumnavigate Benedict Pond, stopping to peer beneath the ice for signs of life, visit a stream whose oxygen-rich waters feed the lake, and ponder what's going on in a beaver lodge. We'll consider the amazing water molecule, with unique properties that allow life to continue underneath a ceiling of ice and snow. And we'll observe how the surrounding forest influences this aquatic ecosystem. Trail length is 1.7 miles. Hike ability is easy to moderate, with little elevation change. The trail may be wet and uneven in places.

Dress appropriately with layers of synthetics or wool blends and comfortable, waterproof boots. Bring a lunch and plenty of water. You might throw in a thermos of hot cocoa, too.

How Sweet It Is! Sugaring Time at Maple Corner Farm, West Granville

Sunday, March 6, starting at 11 a.m.

Leaders: Dave and Suzy Gallup

Registration: Please call if you plan to come (413-525-4697)

Meeting Place: Westfield State University Commuter Parking Lot

It is once again the time of the year when we visit Maple Corner Farm in West Granville. This visit has become a Naturalists' Club tradition. The Ripley Farm has been in the family for over one hundred years. Enjoy breakfast or brunch with maple syrup from the Farm's maple forest. After eating, we will learn about the process and history of maple syrup production. Then, conditions permitting, we will hike to the maple sugarbush (roughly a one-mile round trip) to see how the sap is harvested. For ages 8 and up. Bad weather cancels.

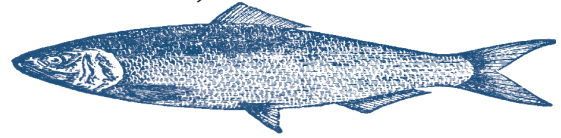
Seeking a social-media enthusiast to help publicize our Club

Do you post on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter? Would you like to post upcoming and past hikes, paddles and fun on The Naturalists' Club pages? The Club needs a person who can manage our posts on social media platforms. It sure would help would-be members find out about the great things we do. To find out more, please email Tom Condon at science15@russellma.net.



Learning to Love your Migratory Fish

Wednesday, March 16, starting at 7 p.m.
 Tolman Auditorium, Springfield Science Museum
 Presenter: Andrew Fisk



Shad - Fish of the herring family, but differing from other herrings in having a longer, deeper body, and notches in the upper jaw. Writers have described a number of species that are more or less widely distributed. All are esteemed for food.

We have made amazing progress over the past decades to clean up our rivers. Now, the work is to make them healthy and full of life! The migratory fish species of the Connecticut River have inspiring life histories and play an incredible role in the health of the entire watershed, from the ocean and along the entire 410 miles of New England's Great River. Come for an engaging presentation about these fish. I'm sure you will leave with a new favorite fish friend!

Andrew Fisk, Ph.D. has served as Executive Director of the Connecticut River Conservancy since 2011. He formerly served as Director of the Land and Water Quality Bureau at the Maine Department of Environmental Protection and held other positions in state government. Andrew is currently Chair of the Connecticut River Atlantic Salmon Commission and sits on the Advisory Board of the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority. He has served as President of the Association of State and Interstate Water Pollution Control Agencies and Chair of the New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission.

Awake in Spring, Southwick

Saturday, March 19, from 9 a.m. to noon
 Leader: Tom and Nancy Condon
 Registration: Please contact Nancy (413-297-0778 or nancy@paddleforwater.net)
 Meeting Place: Southwick Wildlife Management Area, 117-119 South Longyard Road

A day or two after our hike, spring will come and with it the return of lost or hidden animals. Our spring migrants will begin to pass through the area, but one of the most unusual animals will reemerge from its long winter nap. The Southwick Wildlife Management Area has been the epicenter for the reestablishment of the eastern spadefoot toad in Western Massachusetts. Students from Westfield State have worked with Mass Wildlife to create vernal pools for this endangered species. The toad spends nearly its entire life underground, emerging only during the warm rains of early spring to breed and then returning to subterranean life. We'll explore the vernal pools in this WMA to look for signs of early spring emergence. It might be too early, but this is a great place to visit and revisit as spring progresses.

Bring along binoculars or a camera and some water and a snack. Walking is easy as the land is mostly flat. Dress for the weather.



Spadefoot Toad - Scaphiopus holbrookii. Illustration of the American spadefoot toad, native to Canada, the United States, and Mexico. It is a roundish toad with large, protruding eyes.

Dismal Brook Wildlife Preserve, Granby, Connecticut

Saturday, March 26, in the morning
 Leader: Carole Dupont
 Registration: Please call or email Carole (413-0896-0124; carole0136@gmail.com) for meeting place and time

As we hike Dismal Brook, we will visit one of Granby's oldest cemeteries, which marks the final resting place of members of the Day Family, who farmed this land for four generations, from 1771 through 1887. They initially operated a cider mill here, then a sawmill. We will be able to view some of the original gravestone markers.

In 1930, Robert C. Glazier purchased the Day property to use as a summer retreat. The Glazier Cabin is still in use, and we will be able to enjoy the many rocking chairs on the front porch as we watch activity on Creamer Pond. After a brief rest on the porch, we will walk over to the dam for a closer look at Creamer Pond, then continue exploring more wonderful trails in this well-diversified, 210-acre habitat. We will cover a total of about 2 1/2 miles of flat, easy terrain, with a couple inclines and declines.

Bring your binoculars, water, snacks, good hiking boots, hiking poles and dress according to the weather conditions.

Early Spring Flora at McLean Game Refuge, Granby, Connecticut

Sunday, March 27, from 1 to 3 p.m.
 Leader: Dave Lovejoy
 Meeting Place: McLean parking lot on Route 202
 Registration: Not required.

Global climate change is certainly real, but this does not ensure early spring flowers in any particular year at any particular location! Late March should provide some views of the "spring ephemerals", so let's hope to see more than skunk cabbage. At any rate, we can at least hope for good weather and a pleasant walk.

By March, the worst of the winter would be over. The snow would thaw, the rivers begin to run and the world would wake into itself again.

~ Neil Gaiman

RECAPS and OTHER ITEMS from 2021

October talk by Dave Bloniarz

The Science Behind a Tree's Value. . . Explained in Plain Language, for the Rest of Us

20 October 2021

Attendance – 40

Recap by Carole Dupont

Special thanks to our October speaker, Dr. Dave Bloniarz, for his enlightening discussion of the value of trees, especially those in our own neighborhoods and yards. The web address for the **i-Tree** website that Dave recommended is itreetools.org. Enjoy learning about pollution removal, human health impact, carbon sequestration and storage and so much more using this important app.

By understanding the local ecosystem services that trees provide, **i-Tree** users links forest management activities with environmental quality and community livability. Whether your interest is a single tree or an entire forest, **i-Tree** provides data that you can use to assess value and set priorities for more effective decision-making. Dave invites us all to explore this site to learn more about how **i-Tree** can make a difference in your community or forest. One red maple tree can remove 3,100 pounds of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and mitigate the emissions of 5,500 pounds of carbon dioxide and 30 pounds of air pollution from a power plant!

November talk by Richard Sanderson: Light and Color in the Earth's Atmosphere

17 November 2021

Attendance – 35

Recap by Dave Lovejoy

*Every tiniest thing glittered rosy toward
the sun and pale blue toward the sky,
and all along every blade of grass ran
rainbow sparkles.*

~ Laura Ingalls Wilder

Dr. Richard Sanderson was introduced as “Richard the Scientist” by Dave Gallup, who referred to him as his astronomy mentor and friend of over 30 years.

Richard announced that his talk was not to be about the heavens or the earth, but about the space in between, and that although astronomers usually hate clouds, this presentation would feature them. He showed many images, several taken locally on his cell phone, of phenomena, many of them quite common, that are often overlooked. These included halos and sundogs, both caused by ice crystals in the atmosphere, and rainbows, which require atmospheric liquid water. Among the unusual phenomena mentioned were third- and fourth-order rainbows, first photographed in 2011. Richard has attempted, unsuccessfully as yet, to replicate these with the spray from a garden hose. Also included were pictures of cloud iridescence, sunsets, and other topics all clearly explained using terms like *refraction* and *diffraction*, well understood by “Richard the Scientist” but generally confusing to this reporter. An excellent presentation from start to finish.

December Holiday Meeting Presentations by a Quartet of Naturalists' Club Members

15 December 2021

Attendance – 25

Recap by Dave Lovejoy

As is traditional for the holiday meeting, Nancy Condon was in charge and introduced each member for their brief presentation. Throughout the evening, presentations were interspersed with holiday or winter poetry.

Sonya Vickers spoke on her June trip “Climbing Wheeler Peak” in Nevada’s Great Basin. She did not manage to conquer all 13,000 feet of the state’s highest mountain, but certainly captured some beautiful images of the trail and of some habitats that look very little like what we expect to see in Nevada.

Doris Dittmer took us to Cape Cod with its 600 miles of beaches (who knew?) in an informative presentation featuring the horseshoe crab, a useful, exploited, and very old species often cited as a “living fossil” (my term, not hers).

Tom Condon spoke about a dozen or so visits to Upper Spectacle Pond, assisted by a companion who sees the world through her nose. Tom’s video of a beaver munching on spatterdock was especially charming. His presentation reminded me of one of my favorite books by another New England naturalist — [A Walk Through the Year](#) by Edwin Way Teale.

Kevin Kopchynski concluded the program with a montage of local scenes and wildlife, entitled “Nature’s Gifts from 2021”, set to music (as usual) and serving as a reminder, though most of us were already aware, of Kevin’s expertise in both natural history and photography.

No food and drink was allowed to conclude the festivities this year, but the presentations themselves were treats enough.

Book Review

Kiss the Ground by Josh Tickell

Scientists, billionaires, politicians, world leaders, and industrialists gather together to discuss rising atmospheric CO₂ and its impact on our climate and way of life. Josh Tickell presents practical solutions for reversing climate change in less than three decades. He feels that soil enthusiasts will save the earth through regenerative farming. We would produce more food at a lower cost by eliminating costly tillage and chemical applications, which only lead to desertification, lack of food, and people dying from starvation.

Kiss the Ground reveals how we could restore equilibrium in our soil, prevent erosion, and rebuild healthy nutritious soil. Tickell discusses the need for a balance between livestock and crops in order to build soil humus, a complex mixture of partially oxidized vegetable and animal matter, along with the bacterial and fungi produced chemicals that break down the waste. Phytoplankton produce 50% of our O₂. CO₂ released into the atmosphere is readily absorbed by our oceans, acidifying them and killing phytoplankton.

The bold, radical idea is biosequestration: using plants, microbes, worms and fungi to store CO₂ in the soil. This approach would also help eliminate many of the poisonous chemicals we consume through food, harming our bodies and making us sick. Aggressive agricultural reform and emphasis on no-till organic regenerative farming would sequester most of the CO₂ emitted by humanity. The big moneymakers of herbicides, pesticides, GMO corn, wheat, and soybean, monocropping, confined animal feedlots all would have to be abandoned. Can this be achieved? Tickell quotes Albert Einstein, who said, "We cannot solve our problems with the same level of thinking that caused them."

This is a must-read book for everyone, especially for parents and grandparents hoping to leave a better world to their children and grandkids. ~ Review by Carole Dupont

Events Sponsored by MassAudubon

Laughing Brook Wildlife Sanctuary is at 789 Main St., Hamden. For more information on these programs, please visit massaudubon.org

Tracking Animal Signs at Laughing Brook

Saturday, January 15, from 10 to 11:30 a.m.

Take a family hike while looking for tracks and signs of wildlife. This program is suitable for both adults and children who are at least 5 years old. Cost is \$6 for members of MassAudubon and \$8 for nonmembers.

The Wonder of Winter, Online

Thursday, February 10, from 7 to 8 p.m.

Leader: Doug Lowry, MassAudubon Adult Learning Specialist

Observing the winter night sky connects us to wonder, humility, and humanity. We'll study winter constellations and explore their stories, connecting cultures, generations, and intersections of science and spirituality. Members of MassAudubon: \$15; nonmembers: \$20. Please register at MassAudubon.org.

Spring Flower Shows

At press time, annual spring flower shows schedules were unavailable. Please use the information below to check for any updates.

The Amherst Orchid Society Annual Show and Sale, Northampton

Typically occurs the third weekend in February. For more information: <https://www.amherstorchidsociety.org>

Mount Holyoke Annual Spring Flower Show, South Hadley

Typically starts the first Saturday of March. For more information: https://www.mtholyoke.edu/botanic/flower_show

Smith College Bulb and Chrysanthemum Show, Northampton

Typically starts the first Saturday in March. <http://www.smith.edu/coronavirus/> or call (413-585-2740).

Club Elections

Naturalists' Club elections were held at the November Meeting. Results are as follows.

- President — Dave Gallup
- Vice President — Nancy Condon
- Treasurer — Tom Condon
- Corresponding Secretary — Sue Gallup
- Recording Secretary — Dave Lovejoy
- Directors — Carole Dupont, Jack Megas, Dietrich Schlobohm, Sonya Vickers

Renewal checks, changes of address and such should now be sent to our new Treasurer, Tom Condon, at 80 General Knox Road, Russell, MA 01071. If you have questions regarding membership, please contact Tom (413-564-0895; science@condon.net).



The NATURALISTS' CLUB

FROM THE TREASURER

Those with a date of "21-22" (or later) on your newsletter mailing label have paid for this year. Otherwise, your dues are owed for the year that started in September 2021. You may renew by sending a check (payable to The Naturalists' Club) to

Tom Condon,
80 General Knox Road,
Russell, MA 01071

Note: If your contact information has not changed, the form below need not be completed. We would, however, like to have your email address if you haven't sent it previously.

Please direct changes or inquiries to Tom Condon, who maintains our mailing list. And please let Tom know if you would like to receive your newsletter electronically.



MEMBERSHIP LEVELS

\$20 per year for Individual or Family Membership
\$30 per year for Supporting Membership
\$50 per year for Sustaining Membership
\$300 for Lifetime Membership

Renew your membership

Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____ Email _____

Do you opt for electronic delivery of the Naturalists' Club Newsletter? Yes _____ No _____

Requests for programs/trips: Please send information per the above to: Club Treasurer, Tom Condon
80 General Knox Road, Russell, MA 01071



The NATURALISTS' CLUB was founded in 1969 for the purpose of actively promoting knowledge, appreciation, and preservation of our natural environment.

It is an all-volunteer non-profit organization.

Education is a main focus of The NATURALISTS' CLUB.

Programming, with an emphasis on local natural history, is designed to create camaraderie among people of diverse interests through experiences deepening their appreciation of nature.

Activities are geared to acquaint the layperson with the natural world, mostly through field trips. Monthly meetings are held at the Science Museum at the Quadrangle in Springfield, Mass. Most field trips and programs are free.

2022 JANUARY to MARCH

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