



# Friends' Focus Summer 2014



## Friends of the Ansonia Nature Center, Inc. (FANCI)

The Friends of the Ansonia Nature Center, Inc. (FANCI) exists to support the staff, the programs, and the vision of the Ansonia Nature Center.

**THANK YOU! Monetary donations:** Rich Carlson, Devine Family, Deborah Dutko, Girl Scout Troop 60595, Patricia Hewston, Sandra Jemioto, Mary Kriksciun, Donna Lindgren, Jillian & Donna McGrew, Carol McHugh, Laura & Geoff O'Neill, Edward Rzasas, Bill Velms, George Waters, and all those who participated in the Antonio's restaurant fundraiser. **Great Give donations:** Joan Bettencourt, Venisa Riebe, Patricia Tarasovic, Joseph Warichar.

**Other donations & services:** Jaime Aulet, Jaime's Barefoot Books (Easter basket for Maple Fest raffle); Michelle Avenia (suet cakes); Lisa Dickal (toys & food for small mammals); Matt Edwards, Eagle Scout (pine tree planting on Benz St.); Jessica Goodwin (suet cakes); Jocelyn Hallet (animal supplies); Natalie Rugar (incubator); South of Haven Inc. (black oil sunflower seed); Joan Sweet (recycled bags); Patricia Tarasovic, United Way (organizing corporation projects); Maclaren Tobin, Eagle Scout (construction of stairs to playground & donation for Native & Woodland garden planting); Kyle & Lisa Turoczi, Earthtones (bioswale design & native plantings).

**Special thanks to:** Maple Festival volunteers & exhibitors; Earth Day volunteers & exhibitors; the Ansonia river cleanup crew; Hilltop Hose for cleaning Pavilion #1; and the Ansonia and Derby fire departments for quick response to the woodland fire.

**Spring 2014 program presenters:** Reinaldo Cruz (Permaculture Workshop, Apr. 5, May 3, June 7), Dennis Waring (From Trash to Tunes, Apr. 13), Maria Stockmal (New Haven Bird Club Walk, Apr. 19), Eileen Garcia (Family Organic Gardening, May-Sept.), Viola Waldo (Family Movie Night, May 2), Russ Zelanin and CT DEEP volunteers (Family Fishing Day, May 3), Kevin Zak & Sondra Harman ("Welcome to the New Age," May 9), the Wolf Conservation Center & Atka (Wolf Program, May 17), Western CT Orienteering Club (Spring Orienteering Meet, May 25), CT Forest & Park Assn. (CT Trails Day, June 7), Christine Cummings & Todd Secki—A Place Called Hope, Inc. (Raptors, June 8), CT Outdoors (Kayaking on the Naugatuck River, June 14), and of course Nature Center staff members for presenting many programs.

**Birthday party presenters:** Pat Evans, Michelle Piombino, Dawn Sotir, Rich Wade; and also Anne Smith for party prep.

**Spring 2014 Calendar of Events mailing crew:** Donna Lindgren, Corinne Lydem, Linda Madison, Norma Jean Moore, Millie Sholtys, Anne Smith, Rich Wade.

**Administrative assistance:** Kari Doering, Carol Henshaw, Donna Lindgren, Corinne Lydem, N. J. Moore, Michelle Piombino, Pauline Sholtys, Frances Turecek.

**Reception desk duty:** Donna Giusto, Carol Henshaw, Donna Lindgren, Corinne Lydem, Norma Jean Moore, Pauline Sholtys, Frances Turecek, Rich Wade.

**Trail work, shoveling, cleaning, & litter patrols:** James Fourtin, Mike Karolkowski, Martin Wigglesworth, and Spring Cleanup & Planting Day volunteers.

**Wild animal rescue & transport to other rehabbers:** Stefanie Reyher, Alison Rubelmann, Wendy Sabol, Dawn Sotir.

**Thanks for wonderful volunteer care provided to our scaly, furry, & feathered animals by:** Bonnie Alexander; Gary Cohen; Marcia Cohen; Jami Condon; Corin Danielecki; Lisa Dickal; Kari Doering; Jordan Hamuka; Mike Karolkowski; A Place Called Hope; Lois Rosenberg; Steven Schmidt; Joy Tait; Rich Wade; Susan Wilson; & AHS Life Skills students & mentors. Also many, many thanks to Katharine Jackson, DVM, & Bethany Veterinary Hospital (humane animal services); James Micinilio, DVM, & Countryside Veterinary Hospital; & Shary Parker, DVM (support & care of our wildlife and helpful animal ambassadors).

**Thanks to the Ansonia Public Works Dept. for keeping our lights on and our pond flowing, landscaping and trail work, and much more!**

**And a heartfelt thanks from the Redwing Pond House Preschool to our parents, families and friends for their incredible contributions to our 3rd Annual Spring Fair on May 17.** The event was a great success thanks to all of them, as well as countless local businesses, individuals, and organizations they inspired to generously donate, make appearances, and support our fair! Ace Begonias (Woodbridge); American Martial Arts Academy (Shelton); Andie's Bounce Barn (Seymour); Ansonia Community Gardeners; Ansonia Nature & Recreation Center; Ansonia Public Works Department; Barefoot Books; Bridgeport Sound Tigers; Bridgeport Bluefish; Bushi Ban Martial Arts & Fitness (Seymour); The Cookie Workshop (Trumbull); Costco (Milford); Al Decant; Dig Trees

(Orange); Duck Duck Goose (Milford); F.A.N.C.I. members; Giggling Pig Art & Party Studio (Shelton); Glendale Farms (Milford); Grandma Josie's (Monroe); Griffin Hospital; Henry's Nails (Ansonia); Hilltop Gardens (Ansonia); Honor Society Students (Ansonia & Derby High Schools); The Ice Cream Shoppe (Shelton); Mansfield Photography; Jemmanimals; Chris Lengyel; Material Girls (Orange); Mathnasium (Milford); Milford Police Benevolent Association; Milford Police K9 Unit; Milford Police Union; Scentsy Candles; Shop Rite (Derby); Dr. Jared Skowron; Southern Connecticut State University Bookstore; Sports Center of Connecticut (Shelton); Sunnypatch Soapworks (Derby); Sweet Cupcasions (Milford); Tickled Pink Shoppe (Seymour).



**New Members:** Catalina Acevedo, Lina Ascazubi, Nicolette Aynat-Nolan, Karen Battaglino, Michelle Borona, Ashley Caron, Angela Chernesky, Drakonakis Family, Khachane Family, Mary Kriksciun & Michael Kember, Tiffany LaBella & Paul Cedeño, Jacqueline Lema, Keri Maciog, Denyse Miller, Miranda Family, Edward O'Keefe, Tracie & Adam Rakus, Schiavone Family, Michele Spitz, Tume Family, West Haven Interagency Network for Children, Elinor Withington, Joe & Laura Yenko, Mariela & Michael Zietek.

### Friends' Membership Form Summer 2014

New  Renewal  I'd like to volunteer

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send everything to me by e-mail.  
 Please send me a paper copy of the quarterly Calendar, and everything else by e-mail.

\$15 Individual  \$100 Class/Troop  
 \$25 Family  \$150 Individual Life  
 \$35 Sponsor  \$250 Family Life  
 \$100 Business/Organization

**Dues unpaid for a year past renewal date will result in canceled membership.**

Checks Payable to:  
Friends of the Ansonia Nature Center, Inc. (FANCI)  
10 Deerfield Lane, Ansonia, CT 06401

### Gift Form (no membership included) Summer 2014

Check #: \_\_\_\_\_  Animal Care  
Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Checks Payable to: Friends of the Ansonia Nature Center, Inc. (FANCI), 10 Deerfield Lane, Ansonia, CT 06401

**General Mailing List Update (Summer 2014)**

Help us save trees, reduce landfill, eliminate junk mail and update our mailing list! Please fill in this form and mail it to us at Ansonia Nature & Recreation Center, 10 Deerfield Lane, Ansonia, CT 06401 to let us know if you wish to remain on our mailing list.\*



**This notice does not apply to FANCI members or active volunteers.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

( ) Please KEEP ME ON your mailing list (check label for any corrections needed)

( ) Please REMOVE my name from your mailing list.

\*OR call us: 203-736-1053, or e-mail: ansnaturectr@ansoniac.org (use subject Mailing List). If you'd rather have e-mail notices when we update our calendar and newsletter, let us know that too! Thank you!!!

The Friends of the Ansonia Nature Center meet at the Nature Center on the second Wednesday of each month at 5:30 pm. All members of FANCI and interested folks are invited to attend.



**ANSONIA NATURE AND RECREATION CENTER STAFF**

*Director:* Alison Rubelmann; *Assistant Director:* Wendy Sabol;

*Rangers:* Michael Karolkowski, Dawn Sotir, Jessica Sulkowski,

Martin Wigglesworth; *Custodian:* Jami Condon.

**TELEPHONE NUMBER:** 203-736-1053

The Redwing Pond House Preschool celebrated another fabulous school year at its 3rd Annual Spring Fair on May 17. Families and friends gathered together, enjoying sunshine, great food, entertainment, plant and bake sales, local vendors, a visit from Wendy & ET (the ANC's ball python), raffle prizes, K9 dog demonstrations, a bounce house, face painting, crafts and more!! This parent-run event was a great success and a fun-filled day for all!!



It has been an incredible year, and we have wonderful memories of growing and exploring alongside our fabulous children, and wish them all the best as many of them move on to Kindergarten!

We are looking forward to seeing familiar faces at our summer camp in late July and early August, and seeing our returning students, and greeting many new smiling faces, in the Fall!

Have a Happy and Safe Summer!!  
Jacqueline Lema, Director/Head Teacher  
Redwing Pond House Preschool



**PARTY WITH THE ANIMALS** and the Friends of the Ansonia Nature Center, Inc. Five educational birthday party themes to choose from:

**AWESOME AMPHIBIANS (SPRING & SUMMER ONLY)**

- BIRD BRAINS**
- INCREDIBLE INSECTS**
- REPTILES RULE**
- WE LOVE MAMMALS**



2 hour party includes: 15 minute set up (parent/FANCI)  
45 minute educational program (FANCI)  
45 minute cake / presents (provided by parent)  
15 minute cleanup (parent/FANCI)

Fee for family-level members \$150.00, non-members \$175.00  
For more information please call (203) 736-1053.



**Nature Center Wish List:** • Heavy Duty Weedwhacker for Trail Work • Crosscut Shredder • Boardwalk Extension • Suet Cakes • Black Oil Sunflower Seeds • Natural History Lecture Series for Adults • Nature Days Scholarships for Ansonia Students • Outdoor Classroom & Viewing Deck • Bird Feeder Repairs • Food Processor • Tool Box • Metal Leaf Rakes • Good Quality Hand Pruners and Loppers • Gift Certificates to Petland, Staples, and Art Supply Stores • and **VOLUNTEERS** for Filling & Monitoring Bird Feeders • Co-Leading Natural History Walks • Spring Garden Grooming • Nature Trail Monitoring • Critter Care • Adopt-A-Trail Groups • Invasive Plant Species Management • Poster Design & Distribution • Reception Desk Duty • Nature Shop Cleaning & Sales • Playscape Restoration • Publicity Duties • **Presenting FANCI Birthday Party Fundraisers!!!**

**Redwing Pond House Wish List:** • Large Art/Drawing Paper • Microscopes • Tempera Powder Paints • Copy Machine Paper • Bird Seed • Epson Printer Ink Cartridges 126 & 127 (Black & 3-Color) • Garden/Yard Tools • Children's Books • Nature Guides • Prisms, Crystals, Geodes, etc.

The Friends' Focus is published seasonally by the Friends of the Ansonia Nature Center, Inc. (FANCI) as an information link between FANCI and its members.

Editors: Alison Rubelmann, Pauline Sholtys.  
Mailing: Carol Henshaw, Rich Wade.

