

The Ovenbird

Pfeiffer Nature Center and Foundation

SUMMER, 2012



Make & Take ~ Homemade Soap

@ Lillibridge
July 21

Remarkable Raptors

@ Lillibridge
July 21

Cabin Open House

@ Lillibridge
August 8

Sala'Meander

@ Lillibridge
August 11



Get Out There And Walk!

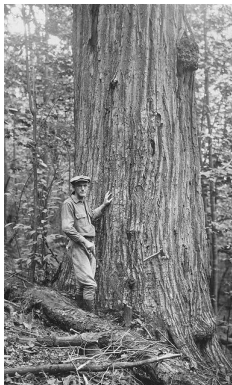
We support our local hiking interests!
You can reach them on Yahoo! Groups.
Olean_Area_Hiking &
Southern_Tier_Greenway_Hiking.

The American Chestnut: King of the Forest

American chestnut trees were once referred to as the "King of the Forest." Over 4 billion trees once covered over 200 million acres and at least 25% of the trees in the central Appalachian Mountains were American Chestnut.

American Chestnut trees were also considered one of the best trees for timber because they grew straight up to a height of 100 feet tall with diameters up to 5 feet. Some were even recorded at 8 to 10 feet diameter. They were considered highly rot-resistant & easily worked as lumber for barn beams, fence posts, railroad ties, fine furniture, & musical instruments. Chestnut timber is decorative, and because of its light brown color and texture, it is sometimes confused with oak. When in a growing stage with very little sapwood, a chestnut tree contains more timber of a durable quality than an oak of the same dimensions. Young chestnut wood has proved more durable than oak for wood that has to be partially in the ground, such as stakes and fence posts. Chestnut is in the same family as oak and its wood contains many tannins that render the wood very durable, give it excellent natural outdoor resistance and saves the need for other protection treatment.

When the American Chestnut reaches maturity it can be distinguished from other varieties by its large single trunk distinguished by the growth of long, ropey strands on the gray bark & smooth twigs. Chinese and Japanese Chestnuts are often multi-leadered & wide spreading. The American Chestnut's bark is smooth and maroon or red-brown when young. With age, the American species' becomes grey and darker, thick and deeply furrowed with the furrows tending to twist around the trunk. It is sometimes reminiscent of a large cable with twisted strands. The oval shaped leaves, which have only a few short hairs,



are 5 to 10 inches long with sharply pointed & widely spaced teeth. American Chestnut flowers follow the leaves, appearing in late spring or early summer, with the ripe pollen carrying a heavy sweet odor. Two or three flowers together form a four-lobed prickly calybum, which ultimately grow completely together to make the brown hull, or husk, covering the fruits.

American Chestnuts were a great food source for wildlife such as turkey, bear, grouse, and other small mammals, as well as people. The nuts from this tree are sweeter than other varieties of chestnut. Chestnut trees produce a better crop when they are subjected to chill temperatures during the dormant period. Frosts & snowfalls are beneficial rather than harmful to these trees making it thrive in the Appalachian Mountains.

Can We Re-Crown the King?

The American Chestnut tree once dominated forests in the Eastern United States, but a blight of Asian fungus destroyed 3.5 billion trees by 1940. Today, several groups are working to restore the tree to its former glory.

Chestnut trees grow all over the world. The tree has a long history and records of its cultivation and use have existed for thousands of years. Chestnuts were common in ancient Greece, Europe & Asia, as well as in North America. Valued for its fruit and timber, the Chestnut has many different varieties, classified by region.

Cankers from Chestnut Blight were first reported in the United States in 1904 on American Chestnut trees. The control attempts of chemical treatments, clearing and burning trees around infection sites were unsuccessful. By 1926 the fungus was reported throughout the native range of American Chestnut, and a major forest tree had been reduced to a multiple-stemmed shrub.



(Continued on page 3)

From the Director

Pfeiffer Nature Center has the most amazing volunteers I've ever had the pleasure of working with. They are unparalleled in their dedication and follow through.

Our sixth annual Woods Walk & Trail Run, held on June 2, was our best yet. Why? Because of volunteers. As the only paid person working on this huge fundraiser, I can assure you that such a feat could never have been accomplished without them. My best estimate is that a small army of volunteers spent a combined total of at least 1,000 hours to pull this off. Volunteers cooked and organized feeding for everyone. They groomed and maintained trails, then marked, and finally unmarked more than 10 miles of trails. Volunteers staffed aid stations and acted as trail guides, ensuring that runners and walkers remained on their courses and were well hydrated. They marked our parking lot and made smooth incoming and outgoing traffic flow. Volunteers wrote press releases and were our photo journalists. They provided for the smoothest flow possible at onsite check in, and made sure that all runners' times were accurately recorded. Volunteers moved tables, chairs, generators, ice, food, signs, tents, T-shirts, and people. They rode tractors, bikes and ATVs, walked and ran, carried stakes, plates, arrows, loppers, and saws. And so much more.

There's no way I can thank everyone individually in this limited space, but I must publicly acknowledge and express my gratitude to the committee chairs. In alphabetical order:

- Communications: Pam Dominsky
- Eastern Grip: Ray Valeri
- Finish Line Arena: Judy Patton & Sue Stevens
- On Site Check In: Sarah Larson
- Publicity: Wendy Brand

- Safety & Aid Stations: Vicki Schmidt
- Sponsors & Ads: Marcia Storch
- Tents & Grounds: Mike Ermer
- Timing: Colleen Kent
- Trails: Chris Piaggi & Carol Bradley

If Woods Walk & Trail Run were the only thing that volunteers had to think about in the spring and summer, that would be wonderful. Unfortunately, that's not the case. In addition to all the work around Woods Walk, volunteers have mowed the lawn, fixed the lawn mower, stuffed envelopes, protected trees, written invitations and thank you notes, and cleaned the cabin. They have prepared food, supplied beverages, and served it all with a smile. They never stop working on how to make the Nature Center better, whether that's by planning programs or figuring out how to fix the cabin, installing trail signs or keeping our meadows mowed. And somehow they manage to do all this pleasantly, seemingly finding a way to balance their paid employment, family life, and dedication to community service. In fact, many of my volunteers offer their services to other local organizations, too.

If you'd like to join us, we can identify distinct volunteer jobs to suit your interests. You can volunteer for one day a year or once a month, choose outdoor activities or office work, or even things you can do from the comfort of your home. Give me a call. We'll chat and find the right mix for you.



With extreme gratitude,

Peg Cherre

Seasonal Stirrings & Nature Notes

July ~ By July, only 10% of Earth's landmass has snow cover. The period around July 20-27 has historically been the time when evaporated water in the atmosphere of the Northern Hemisphere reaches its annual maximum. Water vapor is the most important greenhouse gas because it not only creates much of the weather that we experience but also traps much of the heat radiated & reflected by Earth—It allows our planet to be warm enough for life!

August ~ Only 10% of wild land fires are started by lightning strikes, with the rest attributed to humans. Each year, fires burn about 1.3 million sq. mi. of land & vegetation around the globe. The peak of the North American fire season is generally in early August.

Several conifer trees, including redwoods, depend on fire for reproduction. The heat & dry air allow cones to open, & the cleared ground allows seeds to germinate.

September~ Summer's still air & clear skies make its nights ideal for stargazing. The blue-green planet will be at its closest approach to Earth & its face will be fully illuminated by the Sun. This is the best time to view Uranus. Due to its distance, it will only appear as a tiny blue-green dot in all but the most powerful telescopes.



CONTRARY TO POPULAR BELIEF, THE MALE OF THE SPECIES IS THE ROMANTIC ONE.

Margaret Shulock lives in Friendship, NY. Her "Sticks" cartoons can be seen in the Olean Times Herald.

In 1912 the Plant Quarantine Act was passed to reduce the chances of such widespread catastrophes from recurring. .



trees are needed for seed formation, so sexual reproduction has been drastically reduced.

The U.S. Forest Service, The American Chestnut Foundation (TACF), and the University of

Tennessee have been conducting research and tests to produce a blight-resistant American Chestnut, with aspirations of restoring the species throughout the Southeastern U.S.

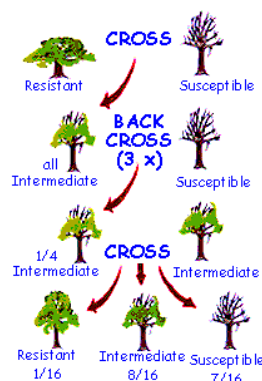
As part of the American chestnut reintroduction research, the few surviving wild, mature trees are the source of pollen or are pollinated to eventually produce blight-resistant nuts. Seedlings that have some Chinese Chestnut genotype in them will be more blight resistant. While they will become infected, they can live with the blight longer than a pure American Chestnut by quickly healing over wounds.

Chestnut blight, or chestnut bark disease, is caused by an introduced fungus. The fungus enters wounds and then grows in and under the bark. It eventually kills the cambium layer of the tree all the way around the twig, branch, or trunk. You may take a hike through the forest & see young chestnut trees growing. These sprouts develop from tissue at the base of the tree which contains dormant embryos. The sprouts grow and eventually become wounded through normal life events. Once wounded they are infected and die and the process starts again.

Pure American chestnut seedlings have very little blight resistance. blight. The blight can attack at any age, but typically does not start to cause problems until the tree has been growing for 5 years or more. Most trees will succumb to the blight after 5 to 10 years, with very few showing some resistance. Some trees live with the blight for a few years through recurrent dieback and sprouting from the root system in the ground, prolonging the tree's life for a few more years.

The blight fungus moves from tree to tree as spores on the feet, fur, and feathers of the many animals & insects that walk across the cankers found on a tree. Sexual spores (ascospores) are shot into the air after rain storms in the fall and are another source of infection. The disease is now throughout the native range of American Chestnut and has moved into some of the places where trees were planted outside the range.

There has been little chance for resistance to evolve in American Chestnut, since the sprouts that grow from roots are often killed by the blight before they become sexually mature. Chestnuts must be cross-pollinated, requiring two flowering



Nuts were collected at TACF's Research Farm in Meadowview,

VA, in autumn 2007, & grown for 1 year at a Georgia Forestry Commission's state nursery. The test plantings represent the first field tests of blight-resistant seedlings of the American Chestnut. .

The hope is to be able to maintain American trees as fruiting

populations. Then if the new resistant hybrids are planted out into test plots, they will cross with native trees, incorporating the enormous genetic diversity that still exists in the forest. The first generation offspring will be intermediate in resistance, but in subsequent generations trees with full resistance will be produced. These will be well adapted to all the regions of the country where such plantings have been made and should compete well. The hope is that Chestnut trees may again become a usable timber resource in the forests of the world

Hardwood forests comprise 28 percent of the Eastern U.S. land base. Restoring the American chestnut will create benefits for wildlife, people, timber, commerce and culture. The American Chestnut was and is hoped to once again be an important component of the ecology & historical culture of the Southern Appalachians. If successful, this Chestnut restoration project could represent one of the most important conservation success stories in the history of the Forest Service, and can provide hope for restoration of other tree species decimated by exotic pests.

The eventual restoration of the American chestnut to its former range will benefit all plant and animal species that were historically associated with it, as well as those that exist today. The seeds from the American chestnut are highly nutritional and provide a more reliable food source for wildlife because the tree blooms later in the year than many other species, rendering it less susceptible to late freezes. The restoration of this tree will contribute to a healthy forest by increasing species diversity and thereby overall diversity of the forest ecosystem.



In the late 1930s, Timothy and Eleanor Pfeiffer decided to build a cabin on their property at the top of Lillibridge Road. If they were like most married couples, I expect that they considered a variety of building materials and styles before deciding on a log cabin made of American Chestnut.

The Chestnut blight (see *Chestnut Blight* article on page 3) moved through the area in the teens and 20s, decimating the tree that had once been “Queen of the Forest.” By the 1940s, virtually all Chestnut was standing dead wood, but because it is highly rot resistant, the logs were still very usable. The Pfeiffers contracted with local architect Metcalf Shaffer to design a log cabin on what was at that time an open site with a view of at least 20 miles to the west. Ivory Watters, a builder from Maine who constructed similar log cabins in Blairstown, NJ, came to Portville in 1941 to oversee the building of the Pfeiffer log cabin.

With their primary residence in New York City and a lovely Victorian home in downtown Portville, Timothy and Eleanor primarily used the cabin as a place to connect with nature and really get away from it all. They were happy to let their friends take advantage of their hilltop haven and held some marvelous gatherings on the property. In the 1970s the Pfeiffers built a two-story addition, adding a bedroom and half bath upstairs. By this time there was no more Chestnut available, so the addition was built using standard framing techniques.

Over the years, trees did what trees do when left alone – they grew. They grew in front of the cabin impeding the terrific view. They grew next to the cabin providing shade that keeps it cool, but also dropping leaves and branches that clog gutters, make a habitat for moss on the roof, and cause general water drainage issues.

Everyone who gets inside the cabin falls in love with it. It’s a marvelous building and retains much of the original furnishings, as well as such amazing features as a flagstone fireplace and floor. We’d love to provide more people with the opportunity to appreciate this



The cabin and its surroundings, circa 1945

wonderful resource by increasing its usage. Our Facilities Committee, staffed with a wealth of knowledgeable volunteers (see membership list below), is working on

plans to do just that. In fact, elsewhere in this issue you’ll read about two events that happened this spring and another that’s planned for July.

Since the Nature Center took ownership of the cabin and surrounding property in 1998, we’ve taken steps to clear and retain the view, cut down trees that threatened the cabin, and done general preservation maintenance, all achieved with volunteer labor. We’ve determined that it is now time to replace our roof, and that we must address the water drainage issues this year. Removing and replacing roofing materials on a historic building is best done by professionals, and we are contracting to do just that. We are extremely fortunate to have a volunteer commitment from Ed Reisman, who is very skilled in this area, to remove a few more trees and reshape the hillside behind the cabin to both divert water away from the foundation and open the building for

more sunlight and air movement.

Cost estimates for this first stage of cabin preservation – replacing the roof and addressing the drainage – are in excess of \$10,000. The Nature Center reached out to the Cattaraugus Region Community Foundation and some long-time Pfeiffer friends to lay the foundation for the Cabin Preservation Project. We are thrilled to announce that we have already raised more than half of our goal! The Cattaraugus Region Community Foundation granted us \$2,000 for this project from their Community Fund and \$500 from the Mahar Family Foundation Fund. We’ve received an additional \$2,900 from Anne Dusenbury, Adam & Renate Vaczek, Tom & Ronda Pollock, the Cutco Foundation, Peg Cherre, and Rich & Pat McNeil, and more donations are promised.

We invite you to join us in supporting the Cabin Preservation Project. This multi-stage, multi-year project will ensure that this piece of forest and family history remains viable for generations to come. More than that, it will allow us to invite greater usage of the cabin, making it available for retreats, meetings, and small gatherings. Your dedicated contribution, at any level, will help us to achieve current and future goals. When we receive your check in the blue envelope we’ve provided, we’ll know you’re lending your support specifically to cabin preservation.

If you’d like more information about the cabin, its history, and our plans, call or email us. Then stop by during our open house later this summer (see details on page 5) for a visit and to see our progress to date!

Facilities Committee

Carol Bradley
Leon Buckwalter
Larry Dominsky
Roy Dorfmeister
Tim Houseknecht
Bob & Becky Johnstone
Sarah Larson
Jeff McMullen
Ronda Pollock
Ed Reisman
Chris Scott
Sue Stevens
Nick Vaczek



Bob Weber, Colleen Kent, Peg Cherre, Karen Buchheit, P& Pam Dominsky in front of the cabin

Terrific Summer Evenings

Pop quiz: What does this list of things have in common?

Business After Hours
Sunset at the Cabin
Celebratory Open House
Meditation gathering
Birthday parties

Answer: They're spring and summer activities and events taking place at Pfeiffer Nature Center's cabin or pavilion between May & August, 2012.



On May 23, 92 members of the Greater Olean Area Chamber of Commerce converged on the Nature Center for the end-of-season Business After Hours (BAH)

gathering. After filling up our parking lot and driveway to the pavilion, cars were parked up and down Lillibridge Road for quite a distance. Unconfirmed reports are that this was the largest gathering at the Nature Center in several years. More than half of the visitors had never visited the Nature Center before, but most will definitely return.

Visitors were able to enjoy both the cabin and the pavilion while they sampled small batch wines from local vintners, Cattaraugus County microbrews, and wood-fired pizza. They were treated to a falconry exhibit that didn't turn out exactly as planned. Like a naughty child, once flying free the usually well-behaved falcon refused to return to his owner and handler for many minutes.

Following quickly on the heels of BAH, on June 5 the Nature Center held

Sunset at the Cabin. The weather cooperated again, and more than 40 volunteers and guests watched the orange orb settle behind the distant hills. Scattered clouds did prevent us from seeing Venus's transit across the sun, despite a high-powered telescope with a polarized lens joining us for a time. Homemade snacks and delicious beverages enhanced the enjoyment of the evening.

Our historic American Chestnut cabin is a real gem, and one that should be enjoyed by many. **The Nature Center is holding an open house at the cabin from 1:00-4:00PM on Wednesday, August 8.**

Although the cabin is a young 60+ years old, the open house is being held during Portville's 175th anniversary celebration. We'll have people on hand who can share some of the history of the cabin and the Pfeiffer family. We'll also offer short guided hikes at 1:00, 2:00, and 3:00PM. You'll be treated to chilled cucumber water (we're becoming locally famous for it) or herbal tea – hot or cold depending on the weather. This is just one of many we'll pursue to make the cabin more available to the public. (See related article on page 4)

Our pavilion is already rented and reserved for six days this summer, plus our own programs. If you're planning your family reunion, anniversary party, or other gathering, don't wait to fill out and return your rental forms!



Pfeiffer Nature Center

Administrative Office:

14 S. Main St. Portville NY 14770

Mailing Address:

PO Box 802 Portville NY 14770
716.933.0187

www.PfeifferNatureCenter.org
info@PfeifferNatureCenter.org

Staff

Margaret Cherre, Director
Reann Ehman, Naturalist

Board of Directors

President: Sarah Larson

Vice President: Colleen Kent

Secretary: Rob Walk

Treasurer: Bob Weber

Board Members

Carol Bradley Pam Dominsky

Mike Ermer Ted Georgian

Steve Potter Ed Reisman

Chris Scott Ray Valeri

Tim Houseknecht

Have a Drink

"All the water that will ever be is, right now." *National Geographic, October 1993*



Water has inspired songs, provided food for millions, and spurred wars. Bodies of water are the stuff of lazy childhood summers and scary Hollywood movies. Water comprises more than 75% of our bodies but occupies less than a few minutes per day of thought for most of us. It has been widely stated that water will be more important than oil in the foreseeable future.

Everyone can agree that ensuring that our water supply remains clean and healthy is not only desirable, it is essential. Monitoring water quality can be helpful in ensuring that your water supply, whether municipal or private, is uncontaminated. Pfeiffer Nature Center can help you do just that.

In conjunction with Portville Heritage Days, on Saturday, July 14, we're offering a free water conductivity test. We'll be in front of the Library with our testing supplies from 10:00AM-2:00PM, and can test your water in less than a minute.

Conductivity tests are certainly not all-inclusive, and are only one measure of water quality. Conductivity tests measure how well your water conducts electricity. Whether your water comes through shale or clay will affect conductivity. So will the presence or absence of pollutants such as nitrates and heavy metals.

The test we offer will give you just a single reading. Consider it your baseline. Future tests can help you determine if your water is becoming cleaner or more contaminated. Taken together, a series of conductivity tests can provide you with helpful information. Taken together, a series of conductivity tests can provide you with helpful information about your water quality.

If you'd like your water tested, simply bring a sample to us on July 14 – no appointment necessary. Wash a glass jar in hot, soapy water & rinse well. Fill with at least a cup of your water. Use a plastic lid, or cover the jar with plastic wrap before sealing with a metal lid. That's it. No special equipment or difficult procedures required. Dr. Ted Georgian, biology professor at St. Bonaventure University, will test it while you wait.

"Filthy water cannot be washed." *West African proverb*

Thank You To Our Financial Supporters

Thank You & Welcome to New & Renewing Members

March 21 – June 20, 2012

Kathy Alleman
Anonymous
Tim Baird
Mark & Joy Baker
Arthur Beck
Don & Lucy Benson
Helen Caya
Ted & Darcy Branch
Mike & Joyce Ermer
Tony & Carol Gallo
Darlene Goetzman & Mike
Blumenthal
Virginia Hemmerly
Hilda & Helmuth Jacobi
Howard Jaekle
Mary Ann & Jim Kirkpatrick
Walter & Patricia Lyons
Mike & Judy Patton
Bill Penoyer
Hannah Potter
Joe & Theresa Schueckler
David & Mary Sue Shemeld
Chan & Karen Whitford

A Heartfelt Thanks to Our Generous Donors

Acme Business Machines
Allegany Eye Associates
Allegheny Regional Bone &
Joint Surgery
Anonymous - Laurie Branch
Beef & Barrel Restaurant
BlueCross BlueShield of
Western New York
BugBand
CARES
Daniel Carter
Casey, Halwig & Hartle
Caya's Canopies
CCB
Peg Cherre
Citizen Printing House
Crandall's Memorials
Dana Boser
Dan Horn Pharmacy
Darn Tough Socks
DBP Realty
DiCerbo & Palumbo
Duggan & Duggan
John & Carol Dwaileebe
Eagle Dreams
First Presbyterian Church of
Portville
Fox Financial Services
Greater Olean Chamber of
Commerce
Guenther Funeral Home
Health Now
Hedley Brook Agency
Holiday Inn Express-

Salamanca
Holiday Valley
M. Mark Howden
Hunter Agency
Yogini Kathari
Kinley Corporation
Mark & Barbara Langenhan
Sarah Larson
LC Whitford
Leki
Mallory's Auto Body
Medved
Napoleon Engineering
Olean Class Cars
Olean Family YMCA
Olean Medical Group
On The Side Liquor
Orthodontist Associates
Park & Shop Service Stores
Physical Therapy
Professionals
Hannah Potter
Hanley Insurance
The Paper Factory
Portville Dental
Prizel's Pharmacy
Proto & Loskey
River's Edge
Joe & Theresa Schueckler
Smartshield
The Sports Locker
Sprague's Maple Farms
Marcia & Hank Storch
Third Street Studio
Tops
Upper Allegheny Health
Systems
Whitetail Country Sports
World
Ward & Greta Wilday
Worth W. Smith
YogaBetsy
Senator Cathy Young

*We are grateful for your
generosity and support! Kind
acts and thoughtful gifts such
as these assist us in fulfilling
our Mission. If we have
inadvertently omitted your
gift from these lists, please
bring it to our attention and
we will happily correct our
oversight.*

Create a Lasting Tribute

You can honor your family
and friends in ways that will
have lasting impacts on
Pfeiffer Nature Center and
therefore the local
community. Gifts can be
either memorials or tributes

to the accomplishments of
someone still with us, and all
gifts will be acknowledged in
this newsletter.

Gifts to the **Kay Pfeiffer
Gerkin Endowment Fund**
are maintained and managed
separately from our operating
funds. The principle in this
fund is retained exclusively for
investments and income
generation, with only interest
and dividends available to
support our ongoing activities.
Check with your financial or
legal advisor to name Pfeiffer
Nature Center in your estate
planning.

Gifts may be made specifically
to our sugar bush expansion
project. We will plant sugar
maples on our Eshelman
property annually. While
donors will not be able to
identify "their" tree, they will
have the benefit of knowing
that their gifts provided a
source of ongoing income.
Maple seedlings are \$35 each.

Gifts of any size may be made
to the Nature Center to honor
or memorialize relatives,
friends, or pets. With no
minimum donation, this
option provides giving
opportunities for all.

**We hope you'll make a
gift soon!**

Many Thanks to Our Dedicated Volunteers

Joe Schueckler led an amazing
although chilly Pruning
101 workshop. Nineteen
participants enjoyed a hands-
on workshop full of infor-
mation on how to best prune
a variety of trees and shrubs.

The Eshelman property is
always full of birds in May.
Thanks to Jeff Reed for lead-
ing Cattaraugus County Bird
Club bird walks every Satur-
day in May. Many guests
enjoyed learning about birds
and getting a chance to see a
few of their own.

This year saw an increase in
the number of schools who
chose to visit our Lillibridge
Property as part of the Adopt
-a-Tree Program. A big
thanks to Kathy Ross, Vicki
Schmidt, Marcia Storch, Ted
Georgian, and Michael
Grosso for helping to lead
stations and take pictures
during our four days of field-
trips.

Our sugar grove on Route
305 received a little tender
loving care from Joe
Schueckler, Mike and Judy
Patton, and Robert Taylor.

Thanks to Barbara Johnson,
Vicki Schmidt, & Velma Tan-
ner for helping with office
work, Ovenbird mailings, &
Woods Walk mailings.

Pfeiffer Nature Center Mission

- To preserve the integrity of the old-growth forest
- To provide an area for scientific research
- To promote community-based nature study programs for grade school, high school, college and adult students
- To further natural resource stewardship

Membership Levels and Benefits

All members receive a subscription to *The Ovenbird*, our quarterly newsletter, delivered to your home.

Student/senior	\$10	1 \$5 off program admission coupons
Individual	\$25	1 \$5 off program admission coupons
Family	\$35	3 \$5 off program admission coupons
Steward	\$50	4 \$5 off program admission coupons
Conservator	\$100	4 free family program admissions
Patron	\$250	Same as Conservator, invitation to wine & cheese reception, 1 tree planted
Guardian	\$500	Same as Patron, plus 1 decorated fir holiday wreath
Benefactor	\$1,000	Same as Guardian, plus unlimited free program admissions
Additional Donation	\$_____	

All members also receive discounted admissions and gift shop purchases at many other nature centers.
Your contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowable by NYS Tax Law.

NAME: _____

STREET ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____ E-MAIL: _____

MEMBERSHIP LEVEL: _____ Is this a _____ new or _____ renewing membership? (Check one)

May we contact you about volunteering? _____ Yes _____ No, thank you.

Adopt-a-Tree: Trees ~ Our Priceless Treasure

To exist as a nation, to prosper as a state, & to live as a people, we must have trees."

~ President Theodore Roosevelt

This years Adopt A Tree theme was "Trees: Our Priceless Treasure." Using this revised program from previous years, the nature center conducted classroom & field experiences for 236 young visitors from sixteen different groups.

In partnership with Time Warner, Inc., their learning initiative, & our many generous sponsors, our programs incorporated principles of science, technology, engineering &/or math (STEM).

Classes were first visited in their classroom & learned about trees. Grades K-1, explored what is a tree, the tree life cycle & forest inhabitants. Grades 2-3 explored the characteristics of an old-growth forest & Grades 4-5 learned the functions & uses of trees, as well as their different parts.

While visiting our Lillibridge Property, each class had a

chance to work their way through various stations on the water cycle, insects, & local mammals. The highlight for each class was to visit their adopted tree & have a chance to look at it closely & learn more about it. They spent time figuring out how old their tree was & what its place in the forest was.



The classes also spent time learning about the water cycle through an interactive game where they became a water molecule & traveled through the water cycle. At the end of the game each student had a beaded bracelet to show their own journey through the water cycle.

Students also enjoyed catching & learning about insects in the field. It was great to see the insects up close. Some

classes also spent time in the historic chestnut cabin studying pelts, paw prints, & scat from local animals. It was a great time of hands-on learning!

Each grade presentation was designed to provide interactive experiences in the classroom & field, incorporate fun learning games, & weaving math, science, & language into each lesson.

Pfeiffer Nature Center and
Foundation

PO Box 802
Portville, NY 14770

Phone: 716.933.0187
Email: info@PfeifferNatureCenter.org
Twitter: PfeifferNature
Facebook : Pfeiffer Nature Center



**Pfeiffer Nature Center—
where science, art, and
nature come together!**

Non Profit Org.
US Postage
PAID
Permit #18
Olean, NY
14760

Or Current Resident



Hours of Operation

**Office, 14 S. Main St.
Portville:**

Generally Tue-Wed, 8am to 3pm;
other times by chance or
appointment

Lillibridge Road Property:

Trails open to non-motorized
usage dawn to dusk, 7 days a
week, year round.

Yubadam Road Property:

Trails open to non-motorized
usage dawn to dusk, 7 days a
week, year round EXCEPT *during
hunting season Oct —Dec , when
all trails are closed.*

Staff is available for questions,
tours, and programs as scheduled
or by prior arrangement.

~~~~~  
Check our website or call for the  
most up-to-date information and  
upcoming programs:

**[www.PfeifferNatureCenter.org](http://www.PfeifferNatureCenter.org)  
716-933-0187**

## Let's Make ~ Homemade Soap

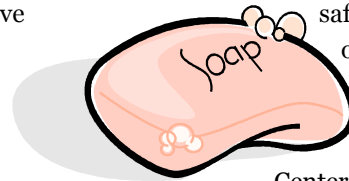
Are you looking for way to get clean  
while using natural ingredients? Then  
look no further!

Come and join Pfeiffer Nature Center, as  
Mike Johnson shows you how to make  
your own soap using native plants.  
These native plants have  
wonderful healing  
qualities. While here  
you will learn about  
making soap by the  
cold process method and  
will discuss different aspects of the soap  
making process. We will work as a  
group to make some jewel weed juice  
and some birch leaf oil to take home to  
make your own natural soothing soap.  
You will leave with the knowledge to

make your own soap and a sample of  
Castile (olive oil) soap.

This program will be held Saturday, July  
21 at the Lillibridge Property. It will start  
at 10:30 am and run until 2:30 pm. You  
will need to bring your own lunch. For  
safety reasons there will be a limit  
of 12 participants for this  
program.

Please contact Pfeiffer Nature  
Center to get involved. Call (716) 933-  
0187 or email  
[Naturalist@PfeifferNatureCenter.org](mailto:Naturalist@PfeifferNatureCenter.org)  
to register. The deadline for registration is  
July 19th. The cost is \$40 for non-  
members and \$35 for PNC Members.  
The cost includes the materials to make  
your own soap.



Be sure you don't miss out on any of our exciting programs! Simply write  
[programs@PfeifferNatureCenter.org](mailto:programs@PfeifferNatureCenter.org) with the subject line **Count Me In** and we'll add you to our e-mail  
distribution list.