

Rice Creek Associates Newsletter



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RCA members: stop into the field station and ask any staff member for a courtesy car window cling. A promotional sticker to place in a car window, which displays below as white print.



President's Comments

Laurel Artz, RCA President

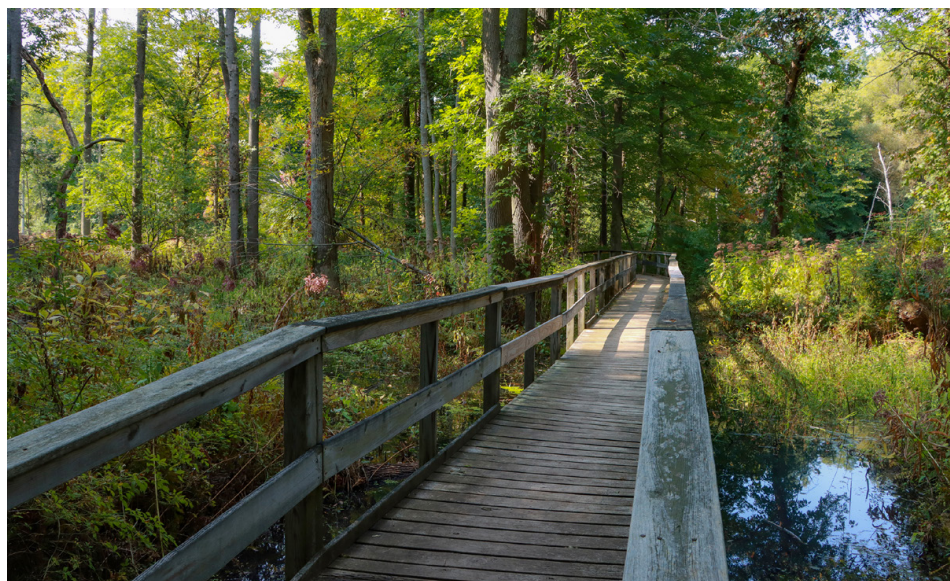
Spring! It has been a long time coming, but the calendar has declared its arrival. Historically it has been stated that March comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb, yet this year it has truly been more like a roller coaster ride, with twists and turns every few days.

Words we frequently hear this time of year include awakening, or rousing from inactivity, and renewal or rebirth. A time to begin again. We see the addition of an hour of daylight, and we gain more and more sunlight as we pass the vernal equinox and move towards the summer solstice.

This year really is an awakening for many as we seem to be getting back to some sense of normalcy. For RCA this includes our being able to offer events like the RCA reflections in person again. If you were not able to attend, these are available for viewing on YouTube. We have had a few presentations already this year, and more interesting reflections talks are planned. You can keep up to date with all planned events on the RCFS website, and the RCFS and RCA Facebook pages.

To me, this time of year is more like New Years. On New Year's Day, many people make resolutions which are typically soon forgotten or set aside. But maybe we should make the resolutions now, for the Spring instead. Think of it as time to renew your nature card. Hopefully you renewed your membership to RCA, and now you can set some resolutions or goals for yourself. Think about getting out on the trails for regular walks, a great way to not only get some exercise and fresh air, but also to clear your head. This time of year, things are changing quickly and if you are not observing closely, you might miss them. Resolve to attend a reflection that is of interest to you, consider signing up for the RC Nature Education Newsletter, or volunteer to help with a project, such as the Canal Forest Restoration Project, or helping with the herb garden. There are always opportunities to volunteer.

See you on the trails! I have to keep my new Spring resolution too!



Director's Report

Butterflies, the Longest Study at Rice Creek Field Station, Gains National and International Recognition

Kamal Mohamed, Director, RCFS

This story began in 1996 as a study by Nickolas Weber sponsored by his dad, Peter Weber, of the Biological Sciences Department in consultation with Michael Holy. After Nicholas graduated high school and moved on to college in 1999, Peter and Michael continued this vital project, providing important uninterrupted records on butterfly data from 1996 until fall of 2008. Peter retired that year and Michael continued the work solo through 2021. He plans to continue this year.

Every year, Michael starts his sampling season as early as April and ends in October, sometimes November, depending on weather. Survey frequency changed from every three or four days to once weekly. While he was collecting his data along the trails and hard to reach areas, Michael always reports to me on the status of our property and if anything needs attention, such as fallen trees across a trail. In many cases he helped with pulling out invasive weeds. He continued to do so even after we started our regular project on invasive weed control at the Field Station.

In his survey, while routinely listing the species of butterflies and the numbers of each, Michael documented the species he

encountered in photos in addition to observing behaviors employed by butterflies when possible. To date, all species recorded on the field station grounds have been photographed multiple times. I have been with Michael on the Field Station grounds and on trips to other natural fields elsewhere around Oswego. I have witnessed firsthand Michael tracking butterflies and his photography techniques. Michael would start by taking photos at a distance and then he moved a step forward with additional photos at each step until he got the close up photo he was looking for. It is not an exaggeration to say butterflies got used to him and they do indeed pose for him to get the ideal shot!

Being a member of the Lepidopterists' Society, Michael regularly attends their meetings, making him an active contributing member of the North American butterfly group. This is where he meets and exchange ideas about his work with others. As a result his long and continuing work is known and of interest to many members in this Society. The data Michael has collected has been requested by Washington State University to be part of the U.S. Geological Survey

study on the status of butterflies in the United States. Similarly, Michael's data will be used in a Pollard Transect project, a protocol designed to standardize the recording of butterfly observations, headed by a key researcher at Georgetown University.

At the international level, Michael's data is requested and shared with researchers at the Universities of Oulu and Helsinki, Finland. In addition to the information Michael collected on butterflies at Rice Creek he also recorded initial morning temperature, qualitative weather conditions, unusual butterfly behavior, nectar sources of individuals used at the time of survey and any other butterfly related observations. Michael is currently writing a book summarizing his and Peter Weber's studies documenting butterfly species encountered in the past 26 years on the Field Station grounds.

I would like to congratulate Michael on his successes and wish him an enjoyable experience writing his book. His patience with butterflies pays off and now his work will be shared with the butterfly community as an important national and international resource. His work is a valuable contribution for the biology and conservation butterflies.



About Rice Creek Field Station

Rice Creek Field Station is a part of the State University of New York at Oswego. While its primary function is to provide facilities for field-oriented research and courses in the natural sciences taught at the college, facilities are also available for public education and recreation.

The field station houses superb collections, field equipment, and laboratories. It is surrounded by several hundred acres of forest, fields, trails and wetlands, including Rice Pond. School children visit the field station and many individuals and groups use the area for hiking and cross-country skiing.

Rice Creek welcomes dogs. However, to protect sensitive natural features and as

a courtesy to other visitors, dogs should be on a six foot leash. Also, please be kind and clean up after your pet. Thank you.

Directions

To get to Rice Creek Field Station take Route 104, turn south on Thompson Rd., located 100 yards west of the College's main entrance. The field station is 1.4 miles on the right.

Hours

Monday to Friday 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Saturday 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Trails are open dawn to dusk daily.

When visiting Rice Creek, please sign in and out at one of the brown registration boxes.

Assistant Director's Update

Kristen Haynes, Assistant Director, RCFS

"Spring is Awakening" was our programming theme for March, and it's not just the living things around us that are awakening. Our public programming is waking up, too, coming back to normal capacity after a long semi-hibernation under COVID restrictions. Or perhaps brumation is a better word: "a state or condition of sluggishness, inactivity." Either way, I am thrilled to welcome you to the following programs. We hope to see you here sometime this spring!

Coordinated Monthly Kids' Programs: Junior Naturalist Walks, the Children's

Museum of Oswego drop-in programs, and the Nature Ed Newsletter

Through our monthly [Nature Ed Newsletter](#), we've been delivering themed educational content to area families and educators since December 2020. These themes have included "Bat Bonanza," "Amazing Amphibians," "Everything Evergreens," and "The Good, the Bad, and the Bugly."

More recently, we've started offering monthly in-person programming also aligned to these themes. The first of these programs is our Junior Naturalist Walks and activities, held at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. at Rice Creek on

the first Saturday of each month, in lieu of our regular guided nature walk. We held the inaugural Junior Naturalist Walk on March 5, with the theme of "Spring is Awakening." The group created a poem as they walked through Rice Creek's fields and forests and observed the first signs of spring.

Junior Naturalist Walks are free and open to all, no registration necessary. Once children attend 10 walks, they are inducted as a "Rice Creek Junior Naturalist"! The next walks will be April 2, with the theme of "Mud Madness" — exploring mud and the critters and plants that call mud home.



▲ Attendees at the inaugural Junior Naturalist Walk on March 5.

Our second monthly program aligned with our newsletter theme is our **pop-up program at the Children's Museum of Oswego** on Fridays at 10 a.m. Our programs have included indoor scavenger hunts, creative projects, guided play using tree seeds, dancing, sensory activities, "mammal track mysteries" (pictured in the images below, from February) and more. To find out when Rice Creek will be at the Children's Museum, you can visit facebook.com/ChildrensMuseumofOswego (and look at the programming calendar pinned at the top of the page).

We invite you to join us for one or more of these in-person programs, and encourage you to dive deeper into the topics by subscribing to our Nature Ed Newsletter. You can view issues and subscribe by visiting linktr.ee/ricecreek.



◀ Rice Creek intern Aidan Owen helps young visitors make air-dry clay mammal tracks (left). Rice Creek intern and Curatorial Assistant Alyssa Kleppinger shows visitors the mammals behind the tracks (right).

CFRP Arbor Day Webinar Series

For the third year in a row, members of the campus community and general public are invited to celebrate National Arbor Day throughout April with the Canal Forest Restoration Project (CFRP) team at Rice Creek Field Station, via a free online webinar series.

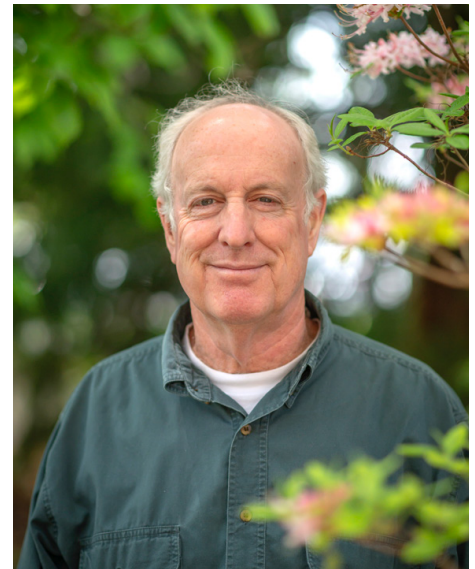
The series lineup includes five lunchtime webinars, with one offered every Friday in April from noon to 1 p.m. The last webinar takes place on National Arbor Day itself: Friday, April 29, 2022.

Interested participants can join the webinars live by visiting the webinar series website (bit.ly/OzArborDay) where Zoom links are available. Recordings will be posted to this same webpage one week after each live webinar for those unable to join the live events.

The series lineup includes:

- **April 1:** New York State Hemlock Initiative, by Caroline A. Marschner
- **April 8:** ESF's Wildflower Restoration Project, by Dr. Gregory McGee
- **April 15** (in-person and online): The Centennial Arboretum and a Campus Tree Project Recap for 2021, by the SUNY Oswego Office of Sustainability and Rice Creek Field Station
- **April 22:** Book Talk: "The Nature of Oaks" by New York Times bestselling author Doug Tallamy
- **April 29:** New York State Climate Change Forestry, by Bryan Ellis

We hope you will join us to honor trees, Earth Month, and National Arbor Day!



▲ New York Times bestselling author of "The Nature of Oaks," Dr. Douglas Tallamy, will be speaking on April 22.



Celebrate Snow

Thanks in large part to the support and on-the-ground efforts of the RCA Board, our Celebrate Snow winter festival was a huge success! Over 120 visitors stopped by for outdoor snow-themed activities on Sunday, Feb 20. We also want to thank the Children's Museum of Oswego, Oswego Public Library, the SUNY Oswego Zoo Club, and Rice Creek's interns and volunteers for their hard work.



Professor Michael Peres's Reflection on "[Photographing the Best Snowflakes](#)" was also well-attended, despite blizzard conditions on Saturday, February 19. A recording of his fascinating and beautifully-illustrated talk is available on the Rice Creek Field Station Facebook page.



The program for our oldest age group, "Exploring Nature Leadership," empowers teens to hone their natural history skills and learn to share their knowledge with others.

The regular program runs from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. For the first time, we'll be offering free lunch and free after-care (from 2-5:30 p.m.), sponsored by the Barbara Shineman Scholars endowed fund. Registration is set to open in early April. Full and partial scholarships are available to offset program fees. For more information, please visit oswego.edu/exploringnature. To see all summer camp opportunities at SUNY Oswego, please visit oswego.edu/summercamps.



Save the Date: Exploring Nature 2022

Rice Creek's popular summer nature camp will run July 11-15 and 18-22 this year, for children and young adults ages 5-16. Exploring Nature is designed to encourage young people's curiosity about their world through habitat exploration, nature walks, learning games, and science and creative activities.

◀ RCA President Laurel Artz and RCA Secretary Don Artz greeted visitors to the winter festival (top). Cathryn McVeary of Oswego Public Library leads outdoor Story Time around the campfire (center). Exploring Nature 2021 participants (bottom).

A Rice Creek Collaboration — *Biological Regionalism: Oswego River and Lake Ontario*

Submitted by Michael Flanagan, Director, Tyler Art Gallery

Collaboration between Rice Creek, the Biological Sciences Department and Tyler Art Gallery for the exhibition *Biological Regionalism: Oswego River and Lake Ontario*, Central New York, USA Alberto Rey has been extensive. In addition to providing subjects for some of Alberto's artworks and lending display items, Rice Creek Director Kamal Mohamed, Assistant Director Kristen Haynes and Biology Professor Eric Hellquist all contributed original essays for the exhibition's catalog.

Additional project community events are upcoming. For more information and to register for community programs, contact Michael Flanagan at michael.flanagan@oswego.edu.

Along with the main exhibition, through April 2nd a display of educational banners from NY Sea Grant about invasive species, shipwrecks, and historical lighthouses of the Great Lakes region can be seen in Tyler Hall lobby (viewable whenever building is open)

April 2: 10 a.m. Children's Gyotaku Fish Printing (H. Lee White Maritime Museum)

Join printmaker Suzanne Beason to create your own fish print using this traditional Japanese technique. Experiment with vinyl fish replicas and learn about species found in Lake Ontario. Ages 6-17.

April 2: 2 p.m. Biological Regionalism: Oswego River & Lake Ontario Curator's Tour (Tyler Art Gallery)

Co-curators Michael Flanagan and Miranda Traudt will lead a tour of *Biological Regionalism: Oswego River & Lake Ontario* and discuss the process of creating the exhibition.

April 9: 10 a.m. (children) & 1 p.m. (adults) Bird Drawing Workshops (Rice Creek Field Station)

Join Cazenovia College art professor and life-long birder Anita Welych for a chance to learn about and depict a local shore bird in pencil and watercolor. Ages 10 and up recommended for the children's session. Some prior drawing experience is recommended.

April 9: 11 a.m. Guided Nature Walk by Rice Creek Naturalist (Rice Creek Field Station)

Rice Creek's naturalists will be your guides as you explore the forests, fields, wetlands, and waterways of Rice Creek Field Station, a 350-acre wildlife preserve. Suitable for all ages.

April 9: 12 p.m. Storytelling Activity by Rice Creek Naturalist (Rice Creek Field Station)

Join us as we share tales of nature, animals' wild ways, and how we relate to our world around us. These programs are designed for elementary-aged children, though all are welcome.

April 9: 9:30 a.m - 3:30 p.m. Interactive Nature Trail by Oswego County Soil and Water Conservation District (Rice Creek Field Station)

Staff from Oswego County Soil and Water Conservation District will be on-site with a fun and interactive self-guided nature trail! It will feature 25+ items to view that are related to the environment and outdoors. All items have a correlating question and answer on a printed sign.
(will be indoors if weather necessitates)



Artist Anita Welych will lead a shorebird drawing workshops at RCFS for children and adults on Saturday, April 9th.

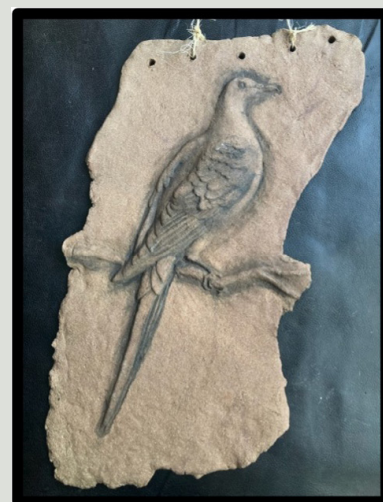
Rice Creek Celebrates Family and Friends Weekend: October 21st and 22nd

Rice Creek will once again celebrate Family & Friends Weekend with open hours Friday, October 21st, 2-5pm and Saturday, October 22nd, 1-5pm.

A silent auction of a variety of donated artworks with the theme "Inspired by Nature" will be a new feature this year. A variety of artistic media and creative interpretations will be represented. Though written bids must be recorded on-site during event hours, previewing of online artworks will be available several days prior to the event.

Tours of Rice Creek Field Station, live music and refreshments will also be provided.

Funds raised by the art auction will be used to purchase a permanent outdoor sculpture to be installed on grounds of Rice Creek. Three advanced SUNY Oswego art students, under the guidance of Professor Benjamin Entner, will each develop an outdoor sculpture proposal that includes design sketches and a scale model for selection of the finished artwork



Passenger Pigeon Wall-plaque, a 19"x20" ceramic piece by Anita Welych, is one of the Family and Friends Weekend silent art auction items available.

Hepatica: A Sure Sign of Spring

Paul Knittel

One warm early April morning I was working at a nature center that had a wonderful spring woodland wildflower garden. I was taking a walk through the garden to see what might be blooming. Not many woodland wildflowers bloom in April, but one of the first to do so is my all-time favorite—hepatica.

Hepatica stays close to the ground. The flowers on their leafless stalks get only about six inches tall. It likes loamy, moist, well-drained soils and are often found on rocky hillsides. It retains its brown lobed liver-shaped leaves from the previous season while blooming. It will change out its leaves to a deeper green as the season progresses.

In the garden that day I found my hepatica and lucky me, it was blooming. The delicate-looking flowers come in a variety of colors including blue, purple, pink and white. Hepatica is always a welcome sight to see after a long cold, snowy winter. After spending a little time with the hepatica, I

started meandering through other parts of the garden when I suddenly saw a woman hurrying up the path. She was wearing a white uniform and sturdy, comfortable-looking walking shoes. She was walking with a sense of purpose. She went straight to the hepatica. She stood there taking in a deep breath and then slowly letting it out with a sigh. A smile appeared on her face. Then she knelt down closer to the flower and appeared lost in her thoughts. Just as quickly as she came in, she up and started to leave the garden. We crossed paths and I inquired as to how her morning was going so far. “Oh, I’m doing fine now that I have seen the hepatica,” she said. “I must see it every year. It’s my favorite.” I told her it was my favorite too, and she gave me a big smile.

When you can share something precious, something special with another – even if you can’t hold or possess it, there can be a sense of commoderie. She said she couldn’t stay because she was in a hurry. She was on her way to work in the local school’s cafeteria

but needed to check on the hepatica before she went to work. I could relate. I seek it out every spring as well.

I’ve learned that I am not alone in having a favorite woodland wildflower and there are many to choose from at Rice Creek. There is bloodroot, trout lily, the dainty spring beauty and, of course, red and white trilliums, both popular favorites. And many more. Fortunately for me, hepatica is found right here at Rice Creek. There are many to see, but you can’t wait too long. Most only bloom for a week or two. They all will disappear by the time the trees leaf-out and the woodland floor is covered in shade. So don’t hesitate to get out there and enjoy their natural beauty.

Below is a link to the spring wildflowers of Rice Creek Field Station:

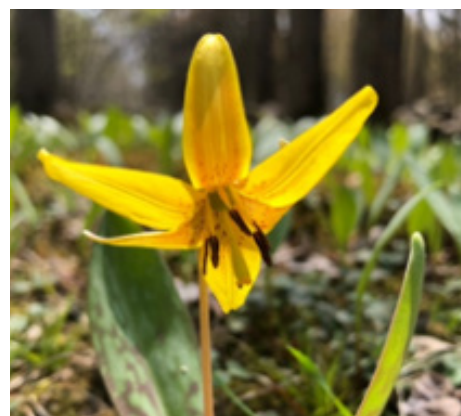
https://www.oswego.edu/academics/opportunities/rice_creek_field_station/biology/plants/digital_illustrated_flora/Flora/spring.html



Spring Beauty



White Trillium



Trout Lily



Hepatica



Hepatica



Hepatica

Photographing Snowflakes

Mike Holy

On Saturday, February 19, Professor Michael Peres from Rochester University presented a Rice Creek Reflection on photographing the best snowflakes. Learning by trial and error, he has been photographing snowflakes and has accumulated over 1100 photos across 19 years.

He photographs anywhere between November and April whenever snow is present and the temperature ranges between 15 and 25 degrees. Only flakes flying in the air are sought.

Michael must work quickly, as there is usually just a two-minute window between catching flakes on a glass plate and taking the photo before the crystals begin to change. He uses a fiber optic light source for his microscope and found that blue light produces the best images.

Transferring a snow crystal from the glass plate to a microscope slide is a delicate process. That said, the instrument used to

perform that process consists of a sewing needle attached to the end of a pencil! The needle must be positioned carefully under the crystal, delicately lifted and placed onto the microscope slide. Oftentimes the crystal is damaged and he must repeat the process with another candidate.

Clear crystals make the best subjects; white ones do not provide satisfactory results as his light source is below the crystal and cannot provide a satisfactory image.

There are many types of snow. Ninety percent of snow is granular. All crystals begin with the formation of a hexagonal plate. From that formation the snow crystal can form as a column (straw-like) or needle snow. Some crystals are afflicted with rime, that is, they are frost covered. There are also dendritic crystals, crystals that spread out from the initial hexagonal formation.

Snow crystals are affected by temperature, humidity, magnetic field, altitude and

time in the air. The colder the temperature, the more hexagonal and clear the crystals are. The path of the crystal determines the unique difference of each crystal, as it experiences many factors during its formation.

The idea that no two snowflakes are identical may be true, but identical crystals can be produced if grown in the laboratory.

In all, this Reflection presentation was a unique and very informative talk.



◀ Michael Peres

Nature Photography with Susan DiCriscio

Mike Holy

On Saturday, March 19, a Rice Creek Reflections session featured Susan DiCriscio sharing her experiences photographing all things nature.



Although Susan has attended a few photography workshops, she is principally a self-taught photographer. A birder since childhood, she began taking pictures with a brownie camera. Her first “real” camera was a Minolta.

One thought she shared with her audience was one in which I myself have proffered for years: “When out for a nature walk, stop and take a look all around. You’ll discover much more than simply walking through.” She further illustrated this mode of nature study when she commented that she would one day like to come back as a bird because of what they are able to see (in flight as well as perching).

Susan’s presentation consisted of four sections: non raptors, raptors, landscapes, and wildlife. All photos she shared were nothing less than stunning.

Throughout her presentation she shared a number of interesting experiences and facts. Among this multitude of comments were:

- When discussing a photo of a Mountain Bluebird male (seen in the illustration above), if you carefully study a bird’s behavior before taking a picture, you will find that birds will often come back.
- A Prothonotary Warbler she photographed at Sterling Nature Center documented the first one seen this far north in their range.
- In the Ruby-throated Hummingbird, its red color changes by the angle of light hitting it (This is actually attributed to the structural nature of those feathers.). Also, its short feet/legs prevent it from walking across twigs or branches. This is why one often sees a resting hummingbird remaining in place until flying away.
- Observing behavior enables a photographer to get the best photos. For instance, Sandhill Cranes lean forward just before taking flight. One can then ready a camera to get a shot of the takeoff.
- In photography, a “money shot” is a best picture of a subject.

• Susan takes so many photos that she stores them on an external hard drive (with a backup) rather than her computer, the multitude of which would “destroy” her computer (This is advice I seriously need to follow!).

- When photographing waterfalls, Susan uses a several-second exposure to capture the water’s motion.
- A Flamingo’s pink/red color is due to its shrimp diet.
- A moose or bear “jam” is defined as a group of photographers flocking together (bird pun intended!) to take shots of these or other animals at the same time.

After answering questions from the attendees, Susan took time to explain the equipment she uses, many of which she had on display.

Most of her bird and wildlife illustrations captured their actual behavior rather than simply a still portrait. I would have loved to share some of her pictures here, but I could not in clear conscience take photos of her magnificent work. She has certainly earned that respect. Interested in viewing a recording of the program? Go to <https://youtu.be/gsgMlfUDeZE> and experience it for yourself. You will not be disappointed.

Students

- Show commitment of support for public environmental education
- Fund any educational or environmental projects
- Join a community of individuals who care about nature and the environment
- Reduced rates on merchandise and field guides

Join now for just \$5!

Call us at 315-312-6677 or email rca@oswego.edu with any questions.



The Value of a Photograph

Mike Holy

Among the resources I employ while walking my transects for butterflies is a digital camera. Purchased in the early 2000s, my Nikon is a dinosaur compared to what is offered in the market today. As obsolete as it is, I still find it useful to document butterflies during my studies.

Butterflies are not always the most cooperative of photography subjects. Depending on the species and their agenda at the moment, they can be well into flight, fluttering while taking nectar at flowers, in constant movement from flower to flower, easily startled, or resting in an ideal position but either out of reach or obstructed by surrounding vegetation. Take into consideration other factors such as wind velocity and swarms of hungry mosquitoes or deer flies and you soon realize that taking a good photo has its challenges.

It sometimes takes years of photographing one species to get an ideal picture. Oh, and did I mention the wing condition of the subject? Although pristine specimens are desired, I have also regarded photos of well-worn and tattered subjects very special. Some day I'd like to write an extensive treatise on these senior citizen butterflies to give them the respect they deserve for surviving the many dangers that they encounter.

There have been occasions where, in my "haste" to get a good photo I miss what the story behind encountering a butterfly performing a certain behavior. A case in point would be a female Black Swallowtail that I was photographing on 3 August 2021. This insect was visiting the flower of Queen Anne's Lace, also known as wild carrot. I was able to take a few snapshots before it took off for search of other nectar sources. I duly recorded its location at the creek edge behind the field station, noting that it was securing nectar from the flower.

As a matter of routine, when I digitize the data taken into the field, I correlate the photo to the specimen for proper documentation. As I looked closer at the photo, I noticed that the swallowtail had curved its abdomen. It was not sipping nectar as I had originally thought but was instead depositing eggs on the flower head. Without taking this picture that behavior would have gone unnoticed and unrecorded. It makes me wonder how many other significant behaviors I have missed during all these years of study!



▲ Female Black Swallowtail depositing eggs on Queen Anne's Lace. Notice the curvature of its abdomen, a typical behavior in egg-laying female butterflies.

— Items for Sale —

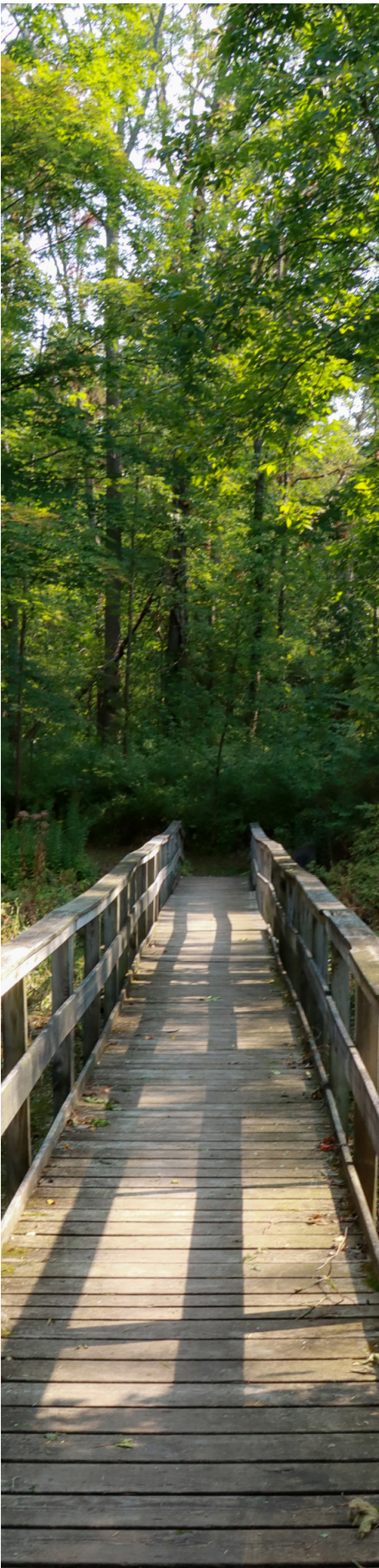
	NON-MEMBER PRICING	RCA MEMBER PRICING
<u>Books</u>		
Field Guide: Butterflies at RCFS	\$3.50	\$3.00
Field Guide: Invasive Plants at RCFS	\$7.00	\$5.50
Field Guide: Mammals at RCFS	\$8.00	\$6.00
Field Guide: Insects at RCFS	\$8.00	\$6.00
Field Guide: Birds at RCFS	- coming soon -	
Coloring Book: The Flora and Fauna of Rice Creek	\$2.00	\$1.00
Rite in the Rain Notebook	\$5.00	\$3.50
<u>Rice Creek Field Station Promotional Items</u>		
Ceramic Mug	\$5.00	\$3.50
Coaster (one of three designs, or set of three)		
Individual.....	\$5.00	\$3.50
Set of 3.....	\$12.00	\$9.00
<u>Honorary Items</u>		
<i>(available Monday- Friday when RCFS front desk staff is available or at RCA event)</i>		
Ruth Sachidanandan Oswego Tea Note Card and Envelope (each).....	\$1.00	\$0.50
John Weeks Note Card and Envelope (each).....	\$5.00	\$3.50
John Weeks Art Prints (each, not matted & not framed)	\$20.00	\$15.00

Exact change is appreciated when paying by cash

— or —

checks payable to: Oswego College Foundation/RCA

Thank you!



We're social!



Find us on Facebook at:

Rice Creek Field Station
facebook.com/ozricecreek

Rice Creek Associates
facebook.com/rice.creek.92



Find us on Instagram at:

Rice Creek Field Station
instagram.com/ozricecreek/?hl=en



Find us on YouTube at:

Rice Creek Field Station
youtube.com/channel/UCvyF3fZP9dmZP1Nr5rIU0iA



Current RCA Board Members

The operational policies of Rice Creek Associates are managed by its Board of Directors. Directors are elected from the general membership and serve three-year terms.

Laurel Artz, President

Pat Jones, Co-Vice President

Sheri Morey, Co-Vice President

Wendy Fragale, Treasurer

Don Artz, Secretary

Michael Holy, Newsletter Editor

Nicholas DiFrancisco

Michael Flanagan

Paul Knittel

Andrew McElwain

Luke DeLand, Student Representative

Brooke Goodman, Student Representative

Gabrielle Waters, Student Representative

Rice Creek Field Station Staff

Kamal Mohamed, Director

Kristen Haynes, Assistant Director

Wendy Fragale, Secretary

Alan Harris, Groundskeeper

Make a Gift

Visit oswego.edu/rice-creek/about-rice-creek/rice-creek-associates to make your gift. If you wish your donation to go toward a specific project or cause, please let us know by phone or email (315.312.6677 or rcfs@oswego.edu)

1. Under 'area of support' choose "Other or Multiple"
2. Type in Rice Creek in the search box
3. Click RCA under "Scholarships& Funds"

Your Gift

Gift Amount * \$

PLEASE SELECT YOUR AREA OF SUPPORT: *

☐ Where the need is greatest

1. ☒ Other or Multiple

If we have any questions about where you wish to restrict your gift we will contact you to clarify your designation.

Areas of Support

2.

Choose the area(s) you would like to support. If the designation(s) you are seeking is(are) not listed please CHECK "OTHER" and click "CONTINUE" below, where you'll then be able to specify in the text box provided.

1 Selected

3. **Scholarships & Funds**

☒ Rice Creek Associates

☐ Rice Creek Endowment Fund

Membership Renewal Reminder

Our yearly membership runs from March 1 to February 28 to prevent renewals from coinciding with the Christmas season. Renewal category rates have not changed, despite our ever-increasing costs. If you have any questions concerning your current RCA membership, contact Mike at fordlep@yahoo.com or 315-622-1774 (leave message).

We consider all member information confidential and will not share it with any other groups or businesses.

Please notify us of any changes to your address, email, phone or name. We strive to send our newsletter and event notifications to you in a timely manner. Contact Mike at fordlep@yahoo.com to update your contact information.

Our Board of Directors thanks you for your support and looks forward to bringing you the best that Rice Creek has to offer.

Membership renewal can now be done online!

To renew and/or donate online, go to alumni.oswego.edu/RCAmembership

To members who donate through SUNY system payroll:

Thank you to our members who donate through SUNY system payroll deductions. In the past these donations have been directly applied to RCA general funds. If you wish your donation to be applied to your annual membership or any other RCA specific program please email us at rca@oswego.edu

Join/renew RCA membership

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Date _____

ALL MEMBERSHIPS ARE MARCH 1 – FEBRUARY 28

☐ New Membership ☐ Membership renewal

Share name in newsletters? ☐ Yes ☐ No

LEVEL:

☐ Student (\$5.00) ☐ Individual (\$10.00) ☐ Family/Couple (\$15.00) ☐ Contributing (\$25.00)
☐ Sustaining (\$50.00) ☐ Life (\$250.00) ☐ Corporate (\$500.00)

I/We would like to make a tax-deductible contribution in addition to membership fees to the

☐ General Fund ☐ Trail improvement ☐ Exploring Nature Program for Children ☐ Small Grants Program

in the amount of \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED (membership + contribution): \$ _____ Date _____

Please make checks payable to: Oswego College Foundation/RCA

Return to: Rice Creek Field Station
193 Thompson Road | RCFS #23
Oswego, New York 13126



Rice Creek Associates
RCFS #23
Oswego, New York 13126

T0: