



The Newsletter of Sugar Grove Nature Center

Volume 7, Number 3

July/August/September 2011

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HUMMINGBIRD FESTIVAL & POLLINATION CELEBRATION

Saturday, September 3rd, 2011

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Free Admission!



Buzz on over to join us as we celebrate hummingbirds, butterflies, and bees! Learn from local experts about the important pollinators in Funks Grove by participating in programs, seminars, hikes, and more. Enjoy entertainment, food, and fun!

Vernon Kleen, from Springfield, Illinois, is one of the few licensed hummingbird banders in the United States. We are excited to welcome his return for the fifth year of hummingbird banding at Sugar Grove Nature Center. Participants will have a chance to feel the heartbeat of a hummingbird and are invited to "adopt" one of these winged wonders.

Learn all about monarch tagging from McLean County Master Gardeners as well as tips and tricks to attract these beautiful insects to your yard. Wild Birds Unlimited will offer Hummingbird Seminars, resources, & products. Honey bee programs, kids activities, & garden tours are also part of the fun!

Visit www.sugargrovenaturecenter.org for updated program information and a complete schedule of events as the date approaches.

This event is sponsored by the Illinois Audubon Society, Wild Birds Unlimited of Normal, Wendell Niepagen Greenhouses, & Sugar Grove Nature Center.

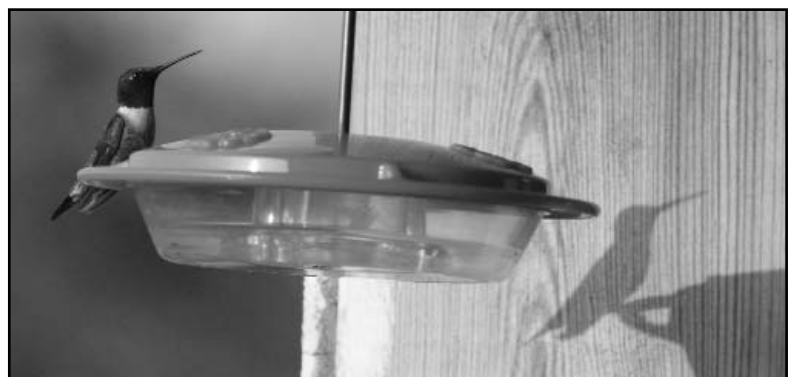


Photo by Bob Finnigan

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— NATURE CENTER HOURS —

April - October

Tuesday - Friday, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Saturday, 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Sunday, 1:00-4:00 p.m.

November - March

Tuesday - Saturday

10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Our grounds, trails, & Imagination Grove
are open daily from dawn until dusk.

— E-MAIL ALERTS —

Would you like to receive e-mail updates that include program reminders, local nature sightings, and nature news? If so, e-mail info@sugargrovenaturecenter.org and include "Nature Alerts" in the subject line.

— HAVE A WILD PARTY AT — THE NATURE CENTER

Sugar Grove Nature Center is a great place to host a birthday party! We provide the space, tables, and an exciting nature program. You provide the decorations, cake, and guests! Reserve the classroom or picnic shelter for three hours---this allows ample time for setup and cleanup; time to eat cake, open gifts, play games, and have an hour of "wild" naturalist-led activities. The fee is \$50/members, \$75/non-members for up to 15 participants and \$5 for each additional person. Maximum group size is 20 for ages 4-6 and 25 for ages 7 and up. You may choose from a variety of party themes. Reservations are required at least one month in advance. Call 309.874.2174 or e-mail jill@sugargrovenaturecenter.org for more information or to schedule your party!

— VISIT US ON THE WEB OR — JOIN US ON FACEBOOK

www.sugargrovenaturecenter.org

The Nature of the Grove is a free quarterly publication of Sugar Grove Nature Center. If you would like to be added to our mailing list, either electronically or by postal service, please call 309.874.2174 or e-mail info@sugargrovenaturecenter.org.

Musings & Meowings by Daisy Kitty

Dear Readers,

Every three months as *The Nature of the Grove* newsletter is prepared, my staff becomes increasingly concerned as to whether or not my column will be completed in a timely manner. Not to worry, I meow, I would certainly not let my faithful Readers down! Yes, I am a very busy kitty, but my column is of the utmost importance to me, as it is a vital link between me and my fans, and I'd never pro"cat"inate or become distr"cat"ed! As my staff leaves at 5:00, I assure them that my column will be completed upon their return at 9:00 a.m.

In this issue, I'd like to discuss...ooo...a moth just flew by. Moths are so peculiar. They seem to flutter about with no direction. I wonder where it is going. I'd better follow it to find out. I'll be right back!

That moth took me on a wild goose chase throughout the Nature Center! I was hoping to have it as a snack, but just as I was about to snag it, it headed for the rafters. I'd better have some dinner to refuel before working on my column. I can't write with my tummy grumbling!

Now...yawn...back...to.....my.....yawn.....column.....ZZZZZZZZZ.....


Oops! Must have dozed off there for a while. But now I'm fully rested and ready to begin. Like I was saying, in this issue, I'd like to discuss...astronomers! No, I'm not going to discuss astronomers, I did that in the last issue. Some astronomers are here to visit! I'd better say hello to them. It's the polite thing to do. I'm sure they'll want to pet me for a while. Sometimes I think they only use that "looking at the stars" thing as an excuse to visit me.

That was nice. And there is still plenty of time to write my arti....what was that noise? I think it was coming from the back closet. Most probably a mouse. Can't let that varmint in! This will just take a minute. Or two...

Okay, that took quite a bit more time that I had bargained for, but it was well worth the effort. Not only did I get to utilize my cat-like reflexes and stellar hunting techniques, it made for a tasty snack! I left the tail on the floor to let my staff know that I've been hard at work.

Oh, look! The sun is coming up and shining into the Bird Viewing Room. Despite my soft, fur coat, I am a little chilly. I think I'll warm up a bit in the sunshine...makes me sleepy to even think about it.

The jingling of keys and the opening of the door jolted me from a pleasant slumber at 8:55 a.m. *Yawn! Big stretch!* Time to meander into my office area and greet my staff. See? My column is done! Time for breakfast!

Kitty Kisses,
Daisy 



Volunteer Voice

Through the dedication of so many thoughtful and committed volunteers, Sugar Grove Nature Center continues to grow and flourish. So many people help in so many ways by donating their time, talents, expertise, and resources. We would not be able to offer such a warm and friendly facility, beautiful grounds and gardens to explore, and the vast array of successful programs and special events without them!



WHAT DO VOLUNTEERS AT SUGAR GROVE NATURE CENTER DO?

Host the Nature Center on Weekends ✨ Assist With and Lead Programs & Hikes
Make Special Events Happen! ✨ Mow the Lawn & Trails ✨ Manage our Membership Program
Plant Trees and Remove Exotic Species ✨ Help Raise Money and Secure Donations
Maintain & Repair the Buildings ✨ Photograph Wildlife, Events, and Programs
Assist With Care of our Education Animals ✨ Keep Our Gardens Beautiful
Work on Carpentry Projects ✨ Pet Daisy Kitty ✨ Conduct Research ✨ Help Coordinate Volunteers
And, So Much More!!!



SPECIAL EVENT HELP NEEDED

Hummingbird Festival & Pollination Celebration, Saturday, September 3
Autumn Celebration Preparation, October 18-21
Autumn Celebration Event, October 22
Contact Angela if you are able to help with any of these dates.



SUGAR GROVE NATURE CENTER'S VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION EVENT: AN EVENING AT THE GROVE, THURSDAY, JULY 21ST, 7:00 P.M.

To celebrate you and show our gratitude, the staff of Sugar Grove Nature Center would like to invite you to An Evening at the Grove. We hope that you and a guest are able to join us for this casual reception to enjoy drinks, hors d'oeuvres, games, and musical entertainment by James M. Holland.

To ensure an accurate count for food and drinks, we ask that you RSVP no later than Monday, July 18th by calling 309.874.2174 or emailing Angela at angela@sugargrovenaturecenter.org.

We look forward to seeing and celebrating you!



WANT TO JOIN THE FAMILY?

Become a part of the Sugar Grove family today by visiting our website to download an application at <http://www.sugargrovenaturecenter.org/volunteering.htm> or call the Nature Center at 309.874.2174 to have one mailed to you. Once we receive your application we will contact you to schedule a time to meet and discuss your interests, availability, and the many opportunities available!



Volunteer Voice

IN YOUR WORDS - JANET BEACH DAVIS

Why do you volunteer at SGNC?

I volunteer at Sugar Grove professionally and privately. Professionally, I work at Heartland Community College, and we have a very good partnership with SGNC. We are always happy to use our staff and faculty to support community learning whenever possible. The college and the Science Department especially have a solid commitment to outreach. The venue at Sugar Grove Nature Center helps us to reach our future students and keep that love of learning and passion for science alive.

Privately, I volunteer at SGNC because my joy of teaching and working outside is too much for a 9-5 job. I love working with all ages, not just college students, and this gives me the chance to do that. I use my volunteer hours as part of the Illinois Master Naturalist program, but I volunteer far beyond the requirements for the program, so it must truly be love. And it gives me a chance to hang out with people who feel the same way I do about nature.

Why do you support SGNC though membership/why are you a SGNC member?

I'm a member of SGNC because I'm lucky enough to have a bit to give. It wasn't always that way, and even when budgets are tight, I think supporting what you believe in is more important than a \$4 cup of coffee. I give both my time and my money to Sugar Grove Nature Center because you can't pay the bills with time and you can't take kids hiking with money. Without memberships there wouldn't be seed in the feeders, animals in the cages, a well-fed daisy on the couch, or anything that makes Sugar Grove the place you want to come visit.

NEW & IMPROVED

With the help of volunteer, Janet Rasmussen, we have been working hard to create a volunteer manual and new volunteer application and agreement forms. We would appreciate your help in making sure all forms are updated. We can mail or email you a form or fill one out the next time you stop in.



TRACKING HOURS

Keeping track of volunteer hours is VERY important! It helps us with grant applications and other funding opportunities. Please help us out by keeping track of your volunteer hours. If you need a refresher course on tracking your hours just let us know.



EAGLE SCOUTS- ANOTHER KIND OF VOLUNTEER

This year we have six area scouts completing their Eagle Scout Project at the Nature Center. From trail establishment and improvement to building benches, bird houses, and a firewood shelter, these young men along with their work crews make a difference at Sugar Grove!



We make a living by what we do, but we make a life by what we give.

~Winston Churchill



Meet the Interns

LINDSAY DRENNER

Hey there! My name is Lindsay Drenner. I am currently living in Bloomington, Illinois while in school, but I am originally from Frankfort, IL. I live there with my mom, dad, older sister, and wheaten terrier. I like to do a wide range of things in my free time. It all depends on what mood I'm in. I am usually up for almost anything. I will be a senior Environmental Studies major this fall at Illinois Wesleyan University. I am not yet sure what I want to do with my life. This is one of the reasons I sought out an internship. When I heard that Sugar Grove Nature Center had opportunities, I knew getting an internship there would be amazing and I was right! I love all the people here. Jill, Randy, and Angela have really made me feel at home and I am loving every minute of it. It is a lot of work, but I really enjoy doing all of it. This has been a great experience so far and I am glad I have gotten this opportunity.



LIZ KOLACINSKI

Hello! I'm Liz Kolacinski and I am thoroughly enjoying my internship here at Sugar Grove Nature Center. I am a senior Biology major at Illinois Wesleyan University. I first visited Sugar Grove during one of my classes and have been in love with its beauty ever since. In my free time I love hiking, reading, and painting.

Generous Birthday Girl



Millie R., 4th from the right, celebrated her birthday at Sugar Grove Nature Center, and requested that her guests bring donations for the Nature Center instead of gifts. Thanks, Millie! Happy Birthday!

July, August, & September Programs

Your interest may be the deciding factor to run a program! Most programs require advanced registration. Please try to register at least 7 days in advance. Waiting until the last minute may result in a program being canceled due to low enrollment or missing out because it is full. Please register by e-mailing register@sugargrovenaturecenter.org or by calling 309.874.2174.

KIDS

Little Wonders: Little Campers

Ages 3-5 with an adult chaperone

Wednesday, July 20; 10:00-11:30 a.m. or 1:00-2:30 p.m.

Fee: \$5/child members, \$7/child non-members, registration required.

Join us for a fun "pretend" indoor campout, complete with stars, night sounds, a craft, and s'mores!

Little Wonders: Little Nature Center on the Prairie

Ages 3-5 with an adult chaperone

Wednesday, August 17; 10:00-11:30 a.m. or 1:00-2:30 p.m.

Fee: \$5/child members, \$7/child non-members, registration required.

Explore the plants and animals of the prairie using all five senses! You'll also create a fun prairie craft, listen to a story, and enjoy a yummy prairie snack.

Little Wonders: Nature's Inventions

Ages 3-5 with an adult chaperone

Wednesday, September 21; 10:00-11:30 a.m. or 1:00-2:30 p.m.

Fee: \$5/child members, \$7/child non-members, registration required.

Many of the things we use today, such as the velcro on your shoes and the paper we write on, were found in nature long before we ever thought of them! Make a craft, listen to a story, and have a snack while learning which ideas were inspired by Mother Nature.

Homeschool: Inventions Inspired by Nature

Ages 6+

Friday, September 23; 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Fee: \$10/child members, \$12/child non-members, registration required.

From helicopters to solar panels, many of our best ideas were inspired by Mother Nature. Explore inventions made by man that were first found in nature, and maybe even create your own!

Boy Scout Merit Badge Day - Nature & Science in the Grove

Saturday, September 24; 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Fee: \$10/scout

Plan to join us for our annual Merit Badge Day. Earn up to two Merit Badges at this popular event! All classes will be taught by certified merit badge counselors and upon completion of the program, participating scouts will earn their merit badge. Both individual scouts and troops are invited to take advantage of this opportunity. This program is for scouts only (no parents or siblings). Troop leaders are welcome to attend. Service project opportunities and camping are also available. Space is limited, so be sure to visit our website, www.sugargrovenaturecenter.org, beginning August 1st for complete information and registration instructions.

Continued on page 8.

E-mail register@sugargrovenaturecenter.org or call 309.874.2174 to register.



July, August, & September Programs

Continued from page 7.

ALL AGES

Family Nature Exploration Days

Saturday, August 6, 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Saturday, September 3, 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Saturday, October 1, 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Free, no registration required.

Bring the family out for a day of fun at the Nature Center! A guided hike will take place at 11:00 a.m., stop inside to create a make-and-take craft at any time, and don't miss animal feeding time at 1:00 p.m. Bring a picnic lunch and make a day of it!

Twin City Amateur Astronomers Public Viewing Session: Vesta Fiesta

Saturday, August 6, 8:30 - 10:30 p.m.

Free; no registration required.

The Twin City Amateur Astronomers (TCAA) will host a Vesta Fiesta to celebrate the beginning of the NASA Dawn mission's year-long visit to the large asteroid Vesta. The Vesta Fiesta will feature a presentation about the Dawn mission, a laser guided sky tour and observing Vesta and a variety of other celestial objects through telescopes. Please join us for a fun-filled educational experience.

The program may be cancelled in the event of a cloudy sky. Phone Carl at 309.830.4085 or Lee at 309.324.2804 to confirm if you are unsure. For additional information, visit www.tcaa.us.

Imagination Grove Fun Day

Thursday, August 11; 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Free, although a donation such as birdseed, sugar (for hummingbirds), toilet paper, or paper towels is suggested. See our website for complete wish list. No registration required.

While Imagination Grove, our nature play area, is open daily, we have designated this special day for you to meet other like-minded families that enjoy and appreciate nature-based play. Bring a nature item from home to trade at the Nature Trading Post: shells, nuts, rocks, or anything else you would like to trade. We will supply lemonade and snacks, you bring energy and imagination!

Blacksmith Demonstration

Saturday, August 20, 9:00 a.m.-noon

Free, no registration required.

Observe members of the Illinois Valley Blacksmith's Association as they work at the Sugar Grove Forge across the parking lot from the Nature Center.

Acoustic Irish Music Jam Session

Saturday, August 20; 10:00 a.m. - noon

Saturday, September 17; 10:00 a.m. - noon

Free, no registration required.

Acoustic musicians of all levels are invited to join an Irish-music jam session at the Nature Center on the 3rd Saturday of every month. Experienced players will be on hand to lead beginners through a couple of tunes at a slow pace to start, then will progress to an up-to-speed session of traditional Irish tunes. Listeners (and players) are welcome to come-and-go as they enjoy all of the other activities at Sugar Grove Nature Center. For more details, contact Martha Tyner at mtyner@iwu.edu.

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July, August, & September Programs

Continued from page 8.

ALL AGES, CONTINUED

Leopold Bench Building Workshop

Saturday, August 27; 10:00 or 11:00 a.m.

Fee: \$40/bench members, \$50/bench non-members, one bench kit per family, registration and pre-payment required, form available at www.sugargrovenaturecenter.org/registernow.pdf. Please indicate your start-time preference on form.

Join us to make your very own Leopold Bench, the perfect addition to any yard, garden, porch, or trail. See page 12 for complete information.

Twin City Amateur Astronomers Public Viewing Session: Phases of the Moon

Saturday, September 3, 7:30 - 9:30 p.m.

Free; no registration required.

Earth's monthly companion is involved with many processes on Earth. We look at the phases of the Moon, eclipses and tides to explore how the Moon influences the Earth. The presentation will be followed by a sky tour using a laser pointer and telescope viewing. The program may be cancelled in the event of a cloudy sky. Phone Carl at 309.830.4085 or Lee at 309.324.2804 to confirm if you are unsure. For additional information, visit www.tcaa.us.

Campfire & S'mores Program: Inventions Inspired by Nature

Friday, September 23; 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Fee: Free/members, \$3/person non-members, registration required.

Many of the things we use today, such as the velcro on your shoes and the paper we write on, were found in nature long before we ever thought of them! After learning about nature's inventions, we'll create a fun craft, then head out to the campfire for s'mores and lemonade!

ADULTS

Nature Photography Workshop

Ages: 16+

Saturday, July 23, 8:30-11:30 a.m.

Fee: \$15/members, \$20/non-members, registration required. Class size is limited to 10.

Explore the art of nature photography with photography instructor John Tobias! Learn to use the features of your camera while creating gorgeous photographs of the natural world. If you haven't already started taking photos for our Nature Photography Contest, now is the perfect time to start. Most of the time will be spent outdoors fine-tuning your skills, so dress to be outside! Bring your camera, gear, extra batteries, and a large memory card (or two).

Butterflies of Central Illinois

Saturday, August 13; 10:00 a.m.-noon

Fee: Free/members, \$5/person non-members; registration required.

Learn how to identify more than 30 species of butterflies that are common in central Illinois, followed by a walk to search for and identify butterflies in the field. We will also discuss their natural history, host plants, and caterpillar characteristics for some species.

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E-mail register@sugargrovenaturecenter.org or call 309.874.2174 to register.

July, August, & September Programs

Continued from page 9.

ADULTS, CONTINUED

Stewardship Work Days

Saturday, August 20; 8:00-10:00 a.m.

Saturdays, September 3 & 17; 9:00-11:00 a.m.

Saturday, October 1, 15, & 29; 9:00-11:00 a.m.

Free, No registration required for individuals. Groups interested in helping must contact the Nature Center at least one week prior to the workday to determine whether the planned activity is suitable.

Don Schmidt leads a faithful group of volunteers in a variety of stewardship activities every other Saturday. Stop out on occasion or join the group on a regular basis to assist with exotic species removal, seed collection, and other projects. Work days include learning about Illinois' natural history first-hand, while spending a nice morning with friends who believe in the importance of being stewards of the environment.

Beginning Blacksmith Classes by the Illinois Valley Blacksmith Association

Ages: 16+

Saturday, September 17 or October 15; 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Fee: \$35/members of Sugar Grove Nature Center or the Illinois Valley Blacksmith Association, \$45/non-members; registration & prepayment required by September 1, form available at www.sugargrovenaturecenter.org/registernow.pdf. Limited to 8 students per class. Lunch will be provided.

Try your hand at blacksmithing at the forge located across the parking lot from Sugar Grove Nature Center! The Illinois Valley Blacksmith Association's mission is to help people realize their dreams and aspirations of constructive and creative metalworking through participation in their many blacksmithing demonstrations, education, and training programs. Please wear a long-sleeved shirt and long pants made of cotton or wool (no nylon) and closed-toe shoes. Safety glasses must be worn and will be provided if needed. For additional information, contact Bill Kauffman at 309.208.2505.

Leopold Education Project

Wednesday, September 28; 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Fee: \$45, registration and prepayment required.

See page 12 for complete information.

Fall in Love with Watercolors[®] with Cynthia Kukla

Saturday, October 1; 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Fee: \$35/members, \$40/non-members, registration and prepayment required, form available at www.sugargrovenaturecenter.org/registernow.pdf. Supply list will be sent upon registration.

Once one understands watercolors, they really are easy, spontaneous, rich, and varied. In the first half of the program, Cynthia will introduce basic wash techniques and basic color mixing in the classroom for students to get started. Then, we will work outside on site, especially to capture the glorious colors in the Grove. It is a richer painting experience to work from life rather than work from photographs.[®] The last half-hour will be a casual critique. Bring a lunch, or snacks will be available.

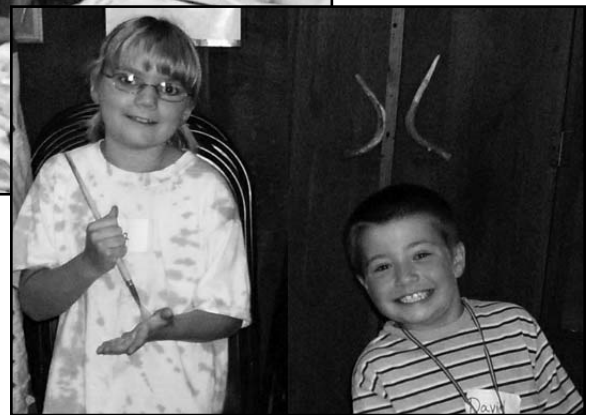
Save the Date: Our annual **Autumn Celebration** will be held on Saturday, October 22, 2011.

Details will be posted in the next issue of The Nature of the Grove.



E-mail register@sugargrovenaturecenter.org or call 309.874.2174 to register.

Summer Fun!



Aldo Leopold Programs

"The objective is to teach the student to see the land, to understand what he sees, and to enjoy what he understands. I say land rather than wildlife, because wildlife cannot be understood without understanding the landscape as a whole."

-Aldo Leopold

LEOPOLD EDUCATION PROJECT - EDUCATOR WORKSHOP

Wednesday, September 28; 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Fee: \$45, registration and prepayment required by September 20. Registration forms can be downloaded at www.sugargrovenaturecenter.org/registernow.pdf. Space is limited to 15. Continuing Education Credit or 5 CPDU's available. Lunch and snacks provided.

The Leopold Education Project (LEP) curriculum materials are designed for use by interpreters, naturalists, zoo educators, teachers, and youth group leaders, as well as private citizens. Each lesson is based on the essays found in Aldo Leopold's classic, *A Sand County Almanac*, and provides students with direct experiences to the natural world outside the classroom by making greater use of the outdoors as a learning laboratory. Lessons are presented in an easy to use format. The workshop will be facilitated by Debbie Ruff, Illinois LEP State Coordinator.

Leopold's writings are both sound science and excellent literature, making them an outstanding tool for meaningful environmental education. This curriculum encourages flexibility, creativity, and experimentation in using the lessons in a variety of subject matter areas. It uses hands-on critical thinking activities to not only teach students about nature and conservation but to instill what Leopold called a "land ethic", an appreciation of and respect for the land. Participants will receive *Lessons in a Land Ethic Teacher's Manual* and a copy of Aldo Leopold's, *A Sand County Almanac*.

The Leopold Education Project is Pheasants Forever's Land Ethic Curriculum. This workshop is sponsored by your local McLean County Chapter of Pheasants Forever.



LEOPOLD BENCH BUILDING WORKSHOP

Saturday, August 27; 10:00 or 11:00 a.m.

Fee: \$40/bench members, \$50/bench non-members, one bench kit per family, registration and prepayment required, form available at www.sugargrovenaturecenter.org/registernow.pdf.

Please indicate your start-time preference on form.

Join us to make your very own Leopold Bench, the perfect addition to any yard, garden, porch, or trail. Joe Ramholz, woodworker and Nature Center volunteer, has created pre-cut bench kits for assembly by individuals and families. No carpentry skill are needed. The benches are 48" long and are made of treated yellow pine. All participants will also receive a copy of Aldo Leopold's classic, *A Sand County Almanac*. This workshop is sponsored by your local McLean County Chapter of Pheasants Forever.



Nature Partners

As we embark on our 2011 Nature Partner Campaign, we would like to recognize the following Nature Partners for their previous support. To learn more about how you can become a Nature Partner, contact Angela Funk at 309.874.2174 or visit our website for more information.

The Nature Partner Program is a special way for businesses, agencies, organizations, and clubs to help us provide nature enjoyment and education opportunities for many years to come!

Donations of money, goods, and services help support our quality environmental education programs, special events, restoration and stewardship projects, visitor center enhancement endeavors, and much more!

A.B. Hatchery & Garden Center, <http://www.abhatcherygarden.com/>
Adam & Valerie Funk, www.dbc-llp.com
Adventures Benefiting Children (ABC) Run Club
Country Gingham, www.countryinghamonline.com
Daniel Deneen Law Office, www.ilaw202.com
Darnall Printing & Sign Making, www.darnallprinting.com
Don Owens Tire & Auto Service
Emiquon Audubon Society, <http://sciencespot.net/eas>
Environmental Studies Program at Illinois Wesleyan University, ajahiel@iwu.edu
Erickson's Auto Service, 1805 Morrissey Dr., Blm, IL 309.662.5542
Funks Grove Pure Maple Sirup, www.funkspuremaplesirup.com
Funks Grove Cemetery Association, www.funksgrove.org
Hermes Service & Sales, www.hermesservice.com
Illinois Prairie Community Foundation - Zimmerman Family Donor Advised Fund
Java Jo'z Coffee, Smoothies & More, 1525 Fort Jesse Rd., Nrml, IL 309.838.7150
Jim Hanlin, james.hanlin@countryfinancial.com
John Wesley Powell Audubon, <http://jwp-audubon.org/>
McLean County Barn Keepers, www.barnkeepers.org
McLean County Sportsmen's Association, www.mcleancountysportsmen.org
The Prairie Oak Veterinary Center, 207B Landmark Dr., Nrml, IL 309.454.8606
Running N Heels Photography
Treasured Images by Sara Photography
Twin City Amateur Astronomers, www.tcaa.us
VanGundy Insurance, www.vangundy.com
Wheatley Trucking, 510 Woodrig Rd., Blm, IL 309.824.3458
Wendell Niepagen's Greenhouses & Garden Center, www.niepagens.com
Wild Birds Unlimited of Normal, <http://normal.wbu.com/>



THANK YOU

A special thank you to the **Paul A. Funk Foundation** and **Hazel Funk Homes Trust** for their continued generous support of Sugar Grove Nature Center. And to all of the people who have helped make the development of Sugar Grove Nature Center a reality.



Thanks to Our Supporters

WELCOME TO OUR NEW & RENEWING MEMBERS!

SENIOR/STUDENT

Harry & Mary Campbell ✨ Dorothy Deany ✨ Vernon & Amy Gehlbach ✨ Karen Gottlieb ✨ John Horton
Vicky Kramer ✨ Joyce A. Manard ✨ Christine Tyler ✨ Dee Volle ✨ Muriel R. Walker ✨ Bob Williams
James & Barbara Johnson ✨ Ashley Mervis ✨ Andrew Mervis

SUGAR MAPLE

Evelyn & Elizabeth Arquette ✨ Laurie Bell ✨ The Tricia Braid Family ✨ Randy & Shelly Brooks
Charlotte Brown ✨ Wayne & Bev Carmichael ✨ Marsha Clark ✨ Lynne Conder ✨ The Crumbaugh Family
Don & Helen Doty ✨ Devanda Fox ✨ Luke & Angie Funfar ✨ The Gilbert Family ✨ The Carol Hahn Family
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IN MEMORIAM

Our thoughts and deepest sympathies go out to the friends and families of Norman Carmichael, Ralph Dunbar, Jean Fox, and Bob Rehtmeyer, . Thank you to those who chose Sugar Grove Nature Center for their memorials. Contributions received in their memories will be so helpful in enabling us to continue sharing nature and touching lives. We hope this will be of some comfort to those left mourning and healing.

MEMORIAL GIFTS & BEQUESTS

We hope you will consider Sugar Grove Nature Center in your estate planning. Memorial gifts and bequests are an important way you can make a lasting contribution to the preservation and maintenance of this important natural area and environmental education center. If you wish to make a provision in your will, the following general form is suggested: "I give Sugar Grove Foundation, an Illinois not-for-profit 501(c)3 organization (37-1338932), which receives mail at 4532 N 725 East Road, McLean, Illinois 61754, the sum of \$_____ or _____ percent of the residue of my estate (or specifically described property) for Sugar Grove Nature Center." If you have already named Sugar Grove Nature Center in your plans, we would like to acknowledge your meaningful gift. Please contact Angela Funk, Director, at 309.874.2174.



Sugar Grove Nature Center Membership

Become a member of Sugar Grove Nature Center! Your membership supports quality environmental education programs, land stewardship, research opportunities, and so much more! Sugar Grove Foundation is a non-profit organization that receives no tax support. Memberships, program fees, private gifts, and corporate and foundation grant support are the lifeblood of our organization.

All Membership Levels, including **Student/Senior (\$15)**, **Sugar Maple (\$25)**, and **Paw Paw (\$50)**, receive:

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- ✿ **Black Walnut (\$500)**
All of the above benefits plus a nature photograph featuring the flora & fauna of Funks Grove
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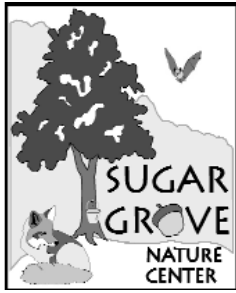
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Nature Center Hours

April - October
Tuesday - Friday, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Saturday, 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
Sunday, 1:00-4:00 p.m.

November - March
Tuesday - Saturday
10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Grounds, trails, & Imagination Grove open daily dawn to dusk.

Contact us at:

Sugar Grove Nature Center
4532 N 725 East Road
McLean, IL 61754
309.874.2174

info@sugargrovenaturecenter.org
www.sugargrovenaturecenter.org

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