

THE MINNA ANTHONY COMMON NATURE CENTER

NEWSLETTER

Summer Issue

JUNE 20, 2016



Cecelia Madore

A LIFETIME OF STUDY ALONG ITS WAY

This month's article from Minna Anthony Common brings us back to our roots, so to speak. As a female naturalist ahead of her time, she developed and maintained the Rock Ridges Trail adjacent to her Thousand Islands Park summer home.

The one and a half mile jaunt contained educational trail markers designed by Mrs. Common. Visitors, such as families and school children delighted in its scenic views and wild wood. One recent visitor to the Nature Center, reminisced with our director about Minna sitting on her front porch waving to people as they walked toward the trail; engaging and teaching them about what was to come.

The Thousand Islands Park Commission unanimously dedicated the Nature Center in honor of Minna's inspiring work in the field of environmental education on August 4th, 1969. As we prepare for the fiftieth anniversary of the Minna Anthony Common Nature Center, we think back to those who worked so passionately to create this splendid landmark in the first place.

Furthermore, as we redesign and redevelop interactive displays for the next generation of visitors, we stay true to the pioneering spirit of our namesake and to those who worked so hard to make this a wonderful center for our community so long ago.

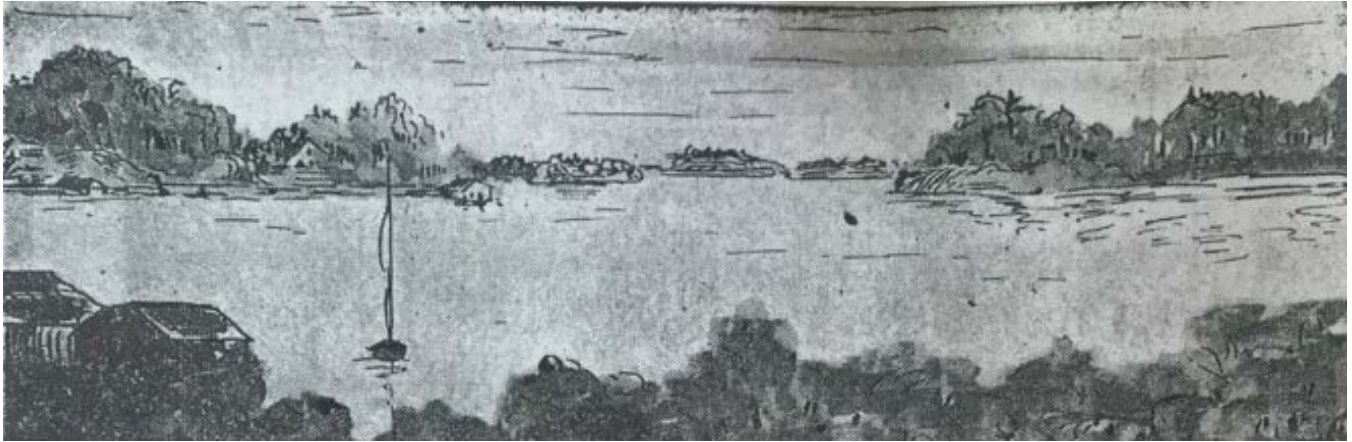
With this in mind, we invite you to attend two great fundraising events. First, a presentation on Saturday, June 25th at 6:30pm by John Farrell of SUNY ESF. The talk will focus on his research from the Thousand Island Biological Station on Governors Island, on the health of the St. Lawrence River. The talk is free, but donations are appreciated.

Second, with great excitement, we feature our "Night for Nature" fundraiser on July 21st at 6pm at the TI Club. The event will introduce our plans and vision for the Nature Center moving forward. It will be a fun night with food, music, and interesting conversation, and it will help meet our campaign goal.

We hope to see you soon at both of these great events, or, of course, out along the trails. Happy Summer!

THE MINNA ANTHONY COMMON NATURE CENTER

THE MINNA ANTHONY COMMON SERIES - ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED AUGUST 7, 1948



The Nature Trail at Thousand Island Park In this Mile and a Half Course Is a wealth of Study Material

**By Mrs. James A. Common
Drawings by the Author**

At Thousand Island Park on the St. Lawrence River is a bona fide nature trail, its windings marked, its trees and plants labeled. It is just a path through the woods along the crest of a hill, down into the valley of a hidden creek, up another hill, across a marshy spot, along some rock ridges to the water garden and down a beech woods to the starting point. The distance is less than a mile and a half as the crow flies, but its windings make it seem much farther.

There is a lifetime of study along its way. When walking it one sees whatever interests him at the time; if trees, there they are, twenty-six kinds; if birds, few places could furnish more; if mushrooms, or mosses, grasses or sedges, woods flowers or shrubs, butterflies or lichens or rocks and soil formation, the path offers them one and all.

The first ascent is rather steep and leaves little breath to look about. It passes a bed of fat yellow mandrakes just ripening and expanse of the graceful, low growing spreading dogbane rung thickly with dainty pink bells. This part was once an Indian trail, which in the long ago led on across the island.

Near the top of the hill a spur leads to a huge pink rock with blue lichens on its face and blue hairbells in its crevices and with shrubs growing so thickly about its borders that it is like a stage. From it there is a magnificent view across the island dotted river. A little beyond is the registry booth.

Now a space for the trail wins in and out among the trees. Sometimes it is soft with pine needles; again it is littered with acorns or beechnuts, which the squirrels, small boys of the woods, have started gathering while still green. By far the most of the trees are oak, there being four varieties on the trail. Scattered among them are hornbeams, birch, cherry, and maples. Many are white ash; still more are shadbush.

Shadbush never gets to be a large tree. It is known by many names; serviceberry by the early settlers who learned from the Indians to value its fruits for food, making from them the pemmican cakes; and Juneberry from its early ripening fruits, so good in pies; blueberry-tree because the fruit resembles that berry and shadbush because it blossoms about the time the shad commence to "run."

The tree bears airy white flowers all over its twigs and branches before the leaves show any green. There are so many shadbush along the trail they make it a fairyland in May.

Other small trees seen near the path are the hornbeams, or ironwoods, slow-growing and tough. Fifty years or more finds them still in the sapling class for size. One variety is called hop-hornbeam from its seed clusters, the other blue beech from the color and smooth texture of its bark.

Beyond this woodland the path is crowded almost out of sight by an undergrowth of seedlings trees and native shrubs. Once as we snapped off some twigs to help clear the way we were brought to a standstill by a strong whiff of witch-hazel. Not before had we connected in our minds the shrub in our cupboards. Its large leaves resemble those of the basswood tree. In October the whole tree becomes a golden mass when the basal

THE MINNA ANTHONY COMMON NATURE CENTER

turn to bronze and the bare upper branches are clothed with airy yellow bloom.

Near the witch-hazel clump is a dogwood laden with blue-green berries on red stems and a maple leaved viburnum, or dockmackie, one of the Indian tobacco plants. Here too is a hazelnut with long beaks on its seedpods and such sticky prickles over the husk it is hard to brush them off the skin. A bladdernut with puffy seedpods and some sweet gale with leaves like ferns and a great deal of arrow wood are found near by. This latter is a clean and hardy shrub often sold by nurserymen for a hedge plant. In May it bears a wealth of white flowers, which help the shadbush to make the trail attractive. There are many kinds of wild berry bushes along the path among them a strange currant with the interesting odor to its crushed leaves.

In July the most noticeable shrubs are the wild roses. They grow from rock cracks and on steep banks in the most unexpected places and are dotted over their tops with lovely pink flowers. Later their red "whips" will be almost as attractive and will furnish the wild wood folk with food throughout the winter.

Now the path crosses a dry creek bed on whose steep banks evergreen woodfern and polypodies grow thriftily no matter what the weather. Up it goes then through a grove of white oaks and hickories, past the fern dell, where many species of ferns find a home, and comes out at sunset rock from which a view of the western sky and the Canadian shore is superb. The whole top of the hill here is level, made of great-unbroken stretches of igneous rock. This portion of the trail fascinates the geologist and a collection of the rocks of the island are kept here to add interest.

Beyond, a clump of New Jersey tea has taken root, the leaves of which served as a substitute for tea in the Revolutionary times. The blossoms are white and foamy just now.

After winding through a low place where thrifty brakes make a green carpet of beauty and rare rue grow luxuriantly, the trail passes a very large clump of pale green cushion moss which must have taken many years to grow. Steps lead down a rock ledge where dog lichens, Venus' looking glass, bitter-sweet and purple flowering raspberry hold sway and there reaches another series of level rocks.

The making of soil and progression of plants can here be viewed at first hand. In shallows of the rock surfaces are patches of light gray reindeer moss (really a lichen) which when dry crackles under foot. Where mors soil has collected are beds of dark green hairy cap moss in which we sink as though walking on plush with a six inch nap. Still deeper pockets of soil are filled with blueberry bushes and in the deepest places are stunted pines.

There are flowers too on the rocks, flowers that are different and are not found in many places; dainty corydalis with gray-green leaves and drooping pink flowers tipped with yellow; and bristly sarsaparilla, a plant as fantastic as its name implies, and rare woodbetony which resembles a fern; and gall-of-the-earth, bearing graceful blossom bells.

Many of the pockets are filled with fly-away grass, a grass which must be seen to be appreciated. It is straw-colored, not green, grows about eighteen inches high and forms a thick mass of very fine stalks so that the whole looks like a heaped-up foam. It is too beautiful to be trampled and everyone just naturally walks around it.

And now we come to an old stonewall which was built about a spring in the early days of the Park. For many years it held the water supply for the village, pumped to it from the river. Now it has a pool in its center surrounded by smooth rocks. So something is always in bloom. In spring it is beautiful with wild iris, now there are banks of purple lythrum, brown cattails, sedges, water plantain, while water lilies, a rare water calla and many other things. Later there will be the wild sunflowers in the rock cracks, cardinal flowers along the banks, blue pickerelweed and wild rice in the pool.

And now we have a come to the end of the trail for from the water garden the path leads directly back to its start down a steep hill through a beech woods. We have had a glorious two hours birds have sung to us; we have seen strange things like live walking sticks, praying mantis and land snails that carry their houses on their backs; we have looked at flowers and seen views and breathed the ozone-laden air of the woods; we have held communion with nature at her best.

- Reprinted with permission from the Watertown Daily Times.



THE MINNA ANTHONY COMMON NATURE CENTER

FROM THE DIRECTOR

We are moving! That is probably the biggest news of the season for us. We have been told construction will start on the Nature Center July 11th so we need to completely empty the building by then. Needless to say this is a significant undertaking for us in the midst of the busiest season of the year. We have



been juggling moving with school programs (pictured above is Heather White's Kindergarten class from Sherman Elementary celebrating her final school field trip to the Nature Center as she is retiring in June), spring programs for the public, off-site events we attend annually, training our incoming seasonal staff, and more. All of this work will be well worth the effort though when we move back into our rehabilitated and expanded building. Certainly the ensuing construction project has also incentivized us to jettison a tremendous amount of unnecessary clutter we had collected over the years but really did not need. That is a welcomed task everyone must do from time to time.

For the duration of the construction we will be operating what I have coined the "Satellite Nature Center" out of our maintenance garage located across the parking lot from the actual Nature Center. We are emptying the garage in conjunction with the building so we can use it for programming space. We will have a few interactive displays and some of our live animals in the "Satellite Nature Center" until we move back into our building at a yet

to be determined date. Please come visit us this summer to see how we have transformed what is typically a maintenance garage into a fun-filled Nature Center!

This spring Kim Cullen and I had the opportunity to help plan a regional Interpretive Summit with Peyton Taylor, our new Regional Director. The Summit was designed to introduce park staff unfamiliar with leading interpretation programs in their parks to some of the fundamentals of programming. We were able to showcase what we do at the Nature Center, which is always welcomed, while introducing our fellow NYS Parks employees to the benefits of interpretive programming in parks. Kim and I both thoroughly enjoyed leading activities and presentations at the Summit. It was a new experience for us that will likely be repeated next spring.



I am also very excited to announce that the Marine Service Bureau of NYS Parks purchased six sit-on-top kayaks and a trailer that we can use for our summer kayak programs. Having our own kayaks brings the possibility of eventual collaborative off-site kayak programs. I have already been talking with Indian River Lakes Conservancy about the possibility of leading kayak programs on Grass Lake with them next year.

We hope to see you at our Satellite Nature Center this summer! There will be plenty to do!

- Molly Farrell, Environmental Educator II

THE MINNA ANTHONY COMMON NATURE CENTER

THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS JOINED OR RENEWED THEIR COMMITMENT RECENTLY:

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Skip and Donna Behrhost | Aspen, CO |
| Dr. John Eppolito | Clayton, NY |
| Jim and Kathy Fenn | Wellesley Island, NY |
| Stefanie Kring | Redwood, NY |
| Sue Mahoney | Chaumont, NY |
| Kathleen Morris | Alexandria Bay, NY |
| Maggie and Dan Lort | Wellesley Island, NY |
| Heather and Jonathan White | Watertown, NY |
| Becky and Frederick Wollin | Clinton, NY |
| Bernie Carr | Phoenix, NY |
| Jolynn Fiorentino | Watertown, NY |
| Andrew Kane | Liverpool, NY |
| Kylie Peck | Chaumont, NY |
| Debra Montondo | Redwood, NY |
| Alex Wilson Jr. | Tyrone, PA |
| Valerie Price Cole | Clifford Township, PA |

Thank you for your critical support!



Cecelia Madore

FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION

Although this video focuses on commercial fishing, the principles carry over to our river environment. Catch and release programs have done wonders for fish populations and balancing what we take with what we throw back is critical for a healthy ecosystem. Who knew that “the one that got away” could be a good thing every now and then?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u9YOVuEQugE>

Remember to like us on Facebook for realtime updates and the calendar of events. Look for “Minna Anthony Common Nature Center - Friends.”



The Board of Directors for The Friends of the Nature Center, Inc.

Kerry Roberge

President

Barbara Butts

Vice President

Jonathan White

Treasurer

Jane Arras

Secretary

Nancy Boynton

Sue Johnson

Chase Miller

Lynn Morgan

Joseph Leskoske

Heather White

Matthew Elliott

Barb Eldridge

Andrew Kane

Susan Mahoney

Stefanie Kring

Park Employees

Steve Cline

Park Manager

Marvin Mattingly

Assist. Park Manager

Molly Farrell

Nature Center Director

Kimberly Cullen

Program Coordinator

Friends of the Nature Center Employees

Darlene Sourwine

Volunteer Coordinator

Patty Davis

Bookkeeper

THE MINNA ANTHONY COMMON NATURE CENTER

Summer Volunteer Opportunities

Canoe Training

Thursday, June 23rd & Friday,
June 24th, 9am

Our 36 foot canoe requires a lot of paddling power. Before summer programs start our staff needs to practice steering our 1000 lbs fiberglass canoe and learn the necessary interpretation.

If you like to paddle or are interested in assisting with our summer canoe trips, this training is for you! You do not need to be available to help with canoe programs to participate in this training though. We need 8 paddlers to take the canoe out so even if you just want to add your paddling power to the canoe for one day, your help is appreciated. Preregistration is required.

Front Desk Operations

Ongoing Trainings

If you enjoy talking to people and witnessing nature in action (you never know what will walk in the front door!) then come learn about the ins and outs of our front desk. You are bound to learn more about the Nature Center, be shown plenty of trailside pictures, and learn the answer to the question “what’s the best loop to hike?” if you become one of our volunteer front desk attendees.

This is a much needed and appreciated volunteer position! Please let Darlene know if you are interested in working the front desk and we will set up a time for you to come be trained.

**Please pre-register by
calling the Nature Center at
315-482-2479**

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

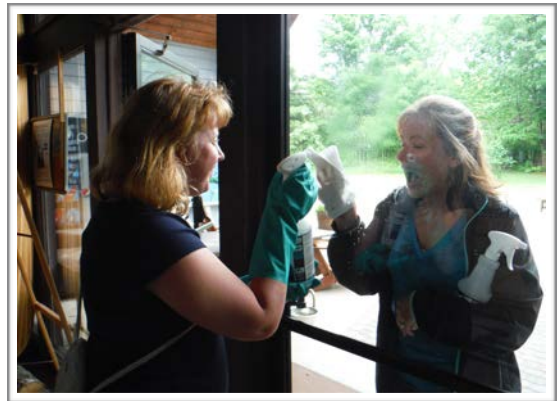
We would like to recognize our “frequent flyer” volunteer groups, who we rely on, as they are a huge help to us. They enjoy volunteering weekly and we are so fortunate they do. They have learned their tasks and now show up and get right to work. Needless

to say, this lightens our workload.

We are lucky to have two groups who actually found us!! First, we happily recognize Tori Gibbs and Shelly Ramos. They started with us back in



October of 2015, and are excellent with their tasks and irreplaceable to us. They dutifully took on the weekly chores of Nature Center maintenance, cleaning the glass in the building, which is pretty much the whole building. Other jobs include keeping the coffee station cleaned and stocked, cleaning the chalkboard, and watering indoor plants. They even have a trail they are responsible to keep cleared. Tori and Shelly are very dedicated volunteers and we are grateful to have them with us as they are a fantastic addition to the Nature Center.



Second, our Jefferson Rehabilitation Center volunteers have proven to be a valuable asset and a real pleasure to have with us at the Nature Center. They are, Zacherey Bidwell, Laura Thompson, Sheri Baker, Daniel Stenard and their two supervisors’, Mansfield (Manny) Jordan and Tammy Albro.

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VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT (CONT'D)

Like Shelly and Tori, they also volunteer weekly and have their own list of tasks to work at. Their tasks include; vacuuming the building, weeding and sweeping the multiple ant hills from our pavers to prevent damage to the walkway. They too have certain assigned trails to maintain, (they just adopted more trails) and a lengthy shoreline cleanup.



The J.R.C. group helps us with other odd jobs such as attaching address labels to our membership forms and making insect hat patterns for the Earth Day Event at the Thompson Park Zoo. We are thrilled to have them with us and hope they enjoy being here as much as we enjoy having them!! The J.R.C. group along with Tori and Shelly are vital to sustaining our Nature Center for today and for future generations to enjoy.



Please call me to volunteer at the Nature Center!

- Darlene Sourwine, Volunteer Coordinator

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST BOARD MEMBER!



Stefanie Kring grew up on the St. Lawrence River at Kring Point, New York. She is currently an assistant professor and lab coordinator at Clarkson University. She received her Master's (2012) and Ph.D. (2014) from Clarkson in the field of Environmental Science and Engineering. At the beginning of Stefanie's graduate career her work focused on studying nutrient and plankton dynamics in the St. Lawrence River and Lake Ontario. Her dissertation focused on the sustainability of algae biodiesel, but she is now turning her focus back to River work. Stefanie currently lives outside of Alexandria Bay with her fiancé Bill, and their young son, Jackson. She enjoys kayaking, painting, photography, and spending time with family.

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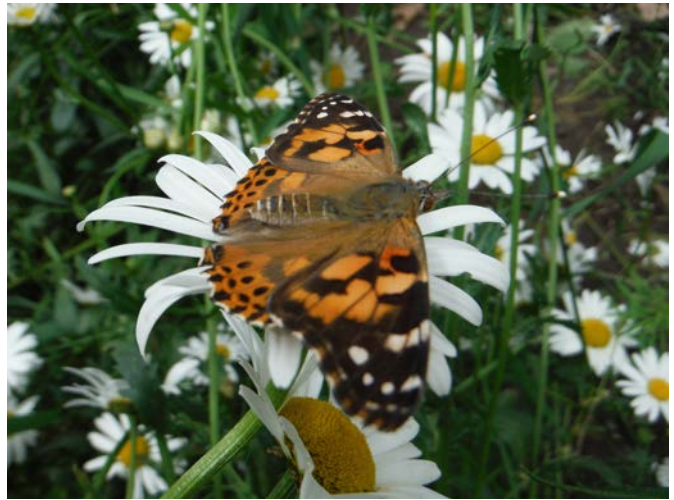
Volunteer Coordinator

Patty Davis

Bookkeeper

THE MINNA ANTHONY COMMON NATURE CENTER

A SPECIAL "THANK YOU" TO OUR GENEROUS FRIENDS



The butterfly house is the highlight for so many visitors to the Nature Center each summer. Last year we embarked on our most ambitious fundraiser to date, in an attempt to replace the aging butterfly netting. Thanks to your overwhelming generosity, we hit our mark and were able to purchase a beautiful new net that is easier to setup, breakdown, and maintain.

The Nature Center relies heavily upon the generosity of the River community and we so value your friendship. As the new construction on the Nature Center takes place, please remember that the butterfly house is still open for your pleasure. So, bring your kids, grandkids, or a special acquaintance to witness the beauty of butterflies up close!



THE MINNA ANTHONY COMMON NATURE CENTER

SCENES FROM AROUND THE CENTER



The photo on the left shows the new home of Joan Collins' memorial garden. We had to move it from its original location in order to save it from construction damage. Joe Leskoske made the beautiful new rock walls and both he and Russ moved all the plants (not an easy task with dry concrete-like soil!).

The two photos on the right are from the I Love My Park Day this May. Diligent Boy Scout Troop 46 from Clayton helped clean trails. Steadfast Kohl's volunteers painted birdhouses and the butterfly house trellis, cleaned the waterfront, and looked fashionable doing it!



SUMMER PROGRAMS 2016

Westy's Birds of Prey

Friday, July 1st, 1pm

Friday, July 22nd, 6pm

Friday, August 19th, 10am

Rick West will be returning this summer with his live birds of prey. Programs will be held outside if possible or inside the Nature Center in case of inclement weather.

Haas the Great Blue Heron

Thursday, July 7th, 10am

Come listen to this delightful story about a parent waiting for the egg to hatch! Children will engage in activities that bring the book to life: how heavy is a heron? Stand eye to eye with a heron model and much more! Children will make their own story poster and take a short hike to learn where a heron looks for food!

Spider's Fishing Programs

*Saturdays, June 11th, July 2nd, August 13th,
September 3rd, & October 1st*

Two programs are offered each day:

**Basic Fishing from 11:00am to 1:00pm
and**

**Basics of Fly Fishing from 1:30pm to
3:30pm**

Join Spider on the Nature Center dock as he shares his knowledge and love of fishing. Spider brings a limited number of fishing poles, hooks, bobbers, and worms. If you can bring your own tackle, it will allow for more participation in the program. This is a free program but donations are appreciated to defray the cost of this and other programs. All of Spider's programs are sponsored by Sampo.



THE MINNA ANTHONY COMMON NATURE CENTER

SUMMER PROGRAMS 2016

315-482-2479

Yoga on the Lawn

Thursdays, June 30th, July 14th, July 28th, August 11th, & August 25th
10am

Come join Barb Eldridge for a gentle yoga class on the side lawn of the Nature Center! Yogis of all abilities are welcome. Bring a mat if you have one! We will have a few spares.

Summer Splash Bash at Keewaydin State Park

Saturday, July 2nd, 10am-3pm

Join us at the Keewaydin pool to celebrate opening day! Stay for all the races and compete to be the 2016 Noodle Race Champion! Prizes will be awarded to top finishers!

Lynn Morgan- The Great Storyteller

Fridays, July 8th & 15th, & August 12th & 19th, 1pm

Professional storyteller, Lynn Morgan, tells traditional folktales from around the world. Many stories incorporate songs or other audience participation techniques. Fun for all ages!

Emerald Ash Borer Workshop

Friday, July 15th
9am-1pm

Come learn how the emerald ash borer infects ash trees and the consequences the loss of ash trees will have on our forests and industry.

Thousand Island Woodturners

Saturday, July 16th
8am-3pm

Come watch a demonstration by the TI Woodturners. They will be at the Nature Center all day demonstrating the fundamentals of woodturning. You can go home with a handmade pencil and more!

Goose Control

Thursday, July 14th, 11am
Thursday, July 28th, 10am
Friday, August 5th, 10am

Come learn how we use border collies to manage Canada goose populations in the park! You will get to meet the dogs and their trainer!

Discovering Wild Mushrooms-Hike and Discussion

Saturday, July 23rd, 1pm

Jean Fahey, President of the Central New York Mycological Society, will be at the Nature Center to teach people about the many species of wild mushrooms that grow on Wellesley Island. The program will include a brief talk where she introduces people to the different forms of mushrooms and explains a little about their life cycle. She will then lead the group on a hike to search for mushrooms along our trails. If you are at all interested in wild mushrooms then this program is not to be missed! Call the Nature Center for more information or to preregister.

Boater Safety Course

Sunday, July 24th 8-4pm
Sunday, August 21st, 8-4pm

The course will be held at the Nature Center. Adult and children are welcome to participate. There is no charge for the course but you will be expected to pay the \$7 day use fee to enter Wellesley Island State Park. If you are 18 or older there is a \$10 fee payable to NYS OPRHP for your certificate. Please call Gary Kocher at 315-486-5230 to pre-register. Pre-register is required and space is limited.

The Very Hungry Caterpillar

Thursday, August 4th, 10am

This beloved story written and illustrated by Eric Carle comes alive at the Nature Center! Children will listen to this story and participate in story activities: make a hat, and make story telling kit to bring home. They will take a short hike to the butterfly house where they can learn about these beautiful creatures.

Summer Concert on the Lawn – THE BUSKERS

Friday, August 12th, 4-6pm

Join local musician, Kathy Sommer and her band *The Buskers* for a midsummer concert at the Nature Center. Bring a lawn chair and enjoy some good music with friends! There is no fee for the concert but donations are appreciated to offset expenses.

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SUMMER PROGRAMS 2016

315-482-2479

Pottery Class with the TI Arts Center

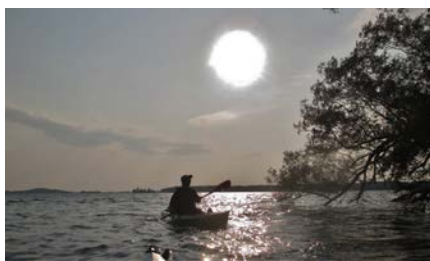
Saturday, August 20th, 1pm

Join Potter Serena Buchanan from the Thousand Islands Arts Center and make impressions with natural objects to create a beautiful clay piece you can take home. A \$25 fee covers the costs of all supplies.

Voyageur Canoe Program

**Weekdays beginning Tuesday, June 28th,
9am-11am**

\$4 for adults and \$2 for children under 13. Come and spend a few hours helping to paddle our 36 foot Voyageur Canoe while learning about the history of the Voyageurs and the ecology of the St. Lawrence River. If staffing permits, we may be having one evening canoe tour per week. Preregistration is required. Call the Nature Center at (315)-482-2479 to register or for additional information.



Evening Kayak Tour

Saturdays in July and August from 6-8pm

This is typically on Saturdays but we have to have the first program Friday, July 1st because of the Splash Bash the next day. Participate in an American Canoe Association (ACA) Smartstart Kayaking class, look for signs of wildlife, and learn about River ecology as we paddle along the shorelines. The ACA's Smartstart paddler orientation is perfect for anyone new to kayaking and will reiterate proper paddling technique for more experienced paddlers. Feel free to bring your own kayak, but if you need to rent a kayak please call the Nature Center. We have three

kayaks available for use and additional kayaks can be rented from Boomerang Kayak (\$20/single; \$25/tandem). Our kayaks will be assigned on a first come, first serve basis.

Please call 315-482-2479 for additional information.

\$5 per person

MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION FORM



**Parks, Recreation
and Historic Preservation**

Thank you supporting the Minna Anthony Common Nature Center by becoming a member of our Friends organization or by making a donation. We hope to see you soon!

Name: _____

Street: _____

City: _____ State/Prov: _____

Zip/Code: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

☐ I would prefer to receive our newsletter via email.

☐ I would be interested in volunteering at the Nature Center.

Alternate mailing address? _____

Yes, I want to help....

This is a:

☐ New Membership ☐ Renewal

☐ Donation

General Donation amount: _____

Membership Level:

☐ Birch (\$25) ☐ Maple (\$75)

☐ Oak (\$150) ☐ Hickory (\$250)

Please make checks payable to "Friends of the Nature Center". We cannot accept credit cards at this time.

THE MINNA ANTHONY COMMON NATURE CENTER

PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

Aquatic Research in the Upper St. Lawrence River: Long-term Studies in a Changing Environment

***A presentation by John Farrell,
SUNY ESF Professor and
Director of the Thousand Island
Biological Station***

*Saturday, June 25th
6:30 PM at the Nature Center*

Donations Appreciated

Take the opportunity to learn how the health of the river can impact your summer home or favorite vacation spot by coming to John's presentation. Learn his perspectives on the river as a dynamic system strongly influenced by invasive species and other human-induced factors. Explore past and current research and management initiatives at the SUNY-ESF Thousand Islands Biological Station, focusing on fish populations and aquatic ecology.

A Night for Nature

*Thursday, July 21st
6pm at the TI Club*

The Friends of the Nature Center cordially invite you to a night of great food, fun and friends. Find out more about the great improvements coming to the Nature Center and support the cause!

- Free raffle for all upon entry
- Open bar from 6-7 pm
- Silent Auction
- Heavy Hors D'oeuvres Stations
- Music by David Knapp

\$75 Dollars per person

All are welcome!



Please RSVP to
Heather White at
(315) 778-9867

**MY
NATURE
CENTER**

Goal: \$300,000

Raised: \$22,592

The Interior
Improvement and
Educational Display
Campaign is Under Way..

Please Support the
Nature Center Today!

Friends of the Nature Center, Inc.
Minna Anthony Common Nature Center
Wellesley Island State Park
44927 Cross Island Road
Fineview, NY 13640

Hours of Operation:
Museum 8am-4pm
Trails open sunrise to sunset



**Parks, Recreation
and Historic Preservation**