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Christopher Alwardt photo



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# THE FLYER



*the norman bird sanctuary newsletter*

## Amphibious Research Projects

*By Fred Orwiler*

Area students for many generations have participated in programs at the Sanctuary. Many of these programs have been research-related, like the bird banding program run years ago by former director Bob Woodruff. This year, we introduced two research related programs that focussed on amphibians, instead of birds. These projects are a new generation of programs. Teachers and NBS education staff work cooperatively to provide students the best opportunities to learn through real research.

### Cover boards and Red Backed Salamanders

Mary Jane Bressette walked into the Sanctuary last year and introduced to us the idea of a coverboard project that the Massachusetts Audubon Society put together. Mary Jane is a third grade school teacher for Aquidneck Island Christian Academy in Newport. She was looking for a suitable site to lay down square boards for a long term terrestrial amphibian study. I reviewed the materials and guidelines provided to her from Massachusetts Audubon and was quite impressed. All of the materials were included: boards, data collection sheets, how to lay out a study site with transects, and background information.

In the Northeast, coverboard transects are especially useful for terrestrial salamanders (redbacks, four toes, red efts), newly metamorphosed vernal pool amphibians (spotted salamanders, Jefferson blue spots, and other

toads and frogs), and small snakes (ringnecks, redbellies, green and garter). For purposes of this study, the focus is on redback salamanders. Redbacks make excellent study subjects, since they are widespread and are presumed to be the dominant vertebrate in northeast forests (based on a study conducted by



Fred Orwiler photo

Burton and Likes in 1975, in the White Mountains in New Hampshire). However, limited studies have been conducted in New England to determine redback salamander densities. A contributing factor making redbacks interesting study organisms is that most populations contain both the striped and unstriped morphs (color variations). However, populations consisting entirely of unstriped morphs are uncommon and occur sporadically throughout the range of redback salamanders. J. Petranksa 1998. The other interesting factor about salamanders is that they are completely terrestrial (all life stages are on land). J. Milam 1999.

The most commonly used methods for monitoring amphibians are visual encounter surveys, pitfall trapping, and drift fencing, breeding call surveys, mark

and recapture, aquatic larval sampling, and coverboards. Coverboards are used to monitor terrestrial amphibians, primarily salamanders, that frequent refuge under surface objects. The advantages of using coverboards as a monitoring technique is that they are non-disruptive to natural habitat, provide a standardized sampling unit, minimize observer bias, and attract species that are difficult to capture in pitfall traps. J. Milam 1999.

In October 2001, Mrs. Bressette's 3rd grade class came out to the Sanctuary and laid out their coverboard transects (in an undisclosed research area). Each transect included two rows of 14 square-foot boards, equally spaced. Each board was labelled with a permanent marker. On this first trip, we assisted the class in identifying the flora and fauna found in the study area. These findings were then recorded on data sheets.

The class visited two more times during the school year, once in November and once in April. On each visit the boards were turned over and any critters found were recorded on data sheets. Now I write critters, because that is the beauty of this project. Laying a plain wooden board on the ground will provide shelter for more than just salamanders. Isopods (rollie-pollies, sow bugs, etc.), worms, crickets, fungus, and plant sprouts are a few of the things found in addition to redbacks. Needless to say, redbacks were found during both visits. During the spring

*Continued on Page 2*



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*Each staff member has an identifying icon. Please follow the guide to identify articles in the newsletter.*



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# Amphibians...

*Continued from Page 1*

visit, both adults and immature redbacks (nymphs) were found. All of the data collected will be shared with the Sanctuary. Moreover, the boards are still at the study sites ready for next year's third grade. Great job, Mary Jane Bressette!

### Visual Encounter and Breeding Call Surveys, "Techie Style"

Gaudet Middle School has participated in the Sanctuary education programs for many years. Starting in 2000, Gail Abromitis, at that time a teacher at Gaudet, now interim principal for J.F. Kennedy Elementary School, and the Sanctuary staff starting working out details for a research project that not only was real science, but incorporated 21st century technology as well.

This school year, we were able to implement a project with Kerry Sweet's seventh grade cluster that surveyed for particular species of frogs and toads. The study sites were three vernal pools (seasonal ponds that dry up later in the summer or fall) on the Sanctuary property. We had students visit the Sanctuary in March, April, and May. During each of those times, there were target species that we were hoping to hear or see. In March, wood frogs and spotted salamanders were the early movers inspired by the first warm spring rains. In April, we sought spring peepers, American toads, and pickerel frogs. In May, students looked and listened for green frogs, bullfrogs, and grey tree frogs.

Both the Coverboard Project mentioned earlier, and the Visual and Calling Surveys are based on the North American Amphibian Monitoring Program. Like the Coverboard Project, the Visual and Calling Surveys are low-impact surveys. We were careful where we went, so that the research did not do more harm than good. With the Gaudet project, this was particularly tricky, since we wanted to accommodate about 70 participating students. A Visual Encounter Survey includes scanning the perimeter of the study area for egg masses and actual amphibians. The Calling Survey involves playing the particular species sounds and, hopefully, inspiring a response. The project included other tests beyond visual encounters and calling surveys. We had the students record weather conditions, soil moisture, water temperature, pH tests, and dissolved oxygen tests.

Not one piece of paper was used to notate the data collected. Through amazing persistence and grant writing abilities, Ms. Abromitis was able to have 40 Palms (hand held computers) and digital probes for various water quality tests provided to the middle school. The students recorded findings directly on their high-tech Palms, then returned to

the school to upload all of the data on school computers. The data is currently being analyzed and will be posted on a school website. The data will also be shared with the Sanctuary.

What amphibian species were found? Quite a few and some other non-amphibian animals: wood frogs, spring peepers, green frogs, red-backed salamanders, snapping turtle, painted turtle, deer, geese and goslings, and a great horned owl mobbed by crows.

Why are these projects significant? Firstly, the Sanctuary has an obvious interest in learning more about the flora and fauna on its property.

Secondly, there is strong evidence that amphibians indicate the health of an ecosystem. Amphibians have become recognized widely as sensitive indicators of environmental change. Their permeable skin, gills, and eggs easily absorb chemicals from the environment. Unfortunately, this may have contributed to the disappearance of several species, which have become extinct during the past two decades in some parts of the world. Other species, once widespread, are now restricted to a few places. Reasons for the worldwide decline in amphibians are diverse and often local. These reasons are habitat loss and/or alteration; thinning of the ozone layer and increasing levels of ultraviolet radiation, chemical pollution of air and water, and introduction of pathogens, fish and other animals into ecosystems either intentionally or unintentionally. Of these, the most pervasive and widespread cause of amphibian decline is loss of habitat (Mitchell, 2000).

Thirdly, the goal of these projects, no matter the grade level or school, is to bring classroom studies to life by using real science. Furthermore, students will be able to learn and study local amphibian populations, while learning about current conservation issues.

The Sanctuary would like to extend thanks to Kerry Sweet, Gail Abromitis, Mary Jane Bressette, third graders at Aquidneck Island Christian Academy, and Ms. Sweet's cluster of seventh graders at Gaudet Middle School. We are looking forward to next school year and the continuation of these new generation of programs.

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## Director's Notes

### Dear Friends,

We're readying the Sanctuary for the busy summer season with a flurry of activity, mowing the trails, planting the flower beds, freshening up the paint in the classroom before the campers arrive. As we finalized plans for our Annual Meeting, I took a moment to reflect on how far we've come. I spent some time looking through old newsletters chronicling the years of negotiating to acquire the Paradise Farm buildings, doing the strategic and master planning to fine tune where we were going as an organization, and working with our architects to realize our dreams.

Last year we celebrated the realization of some of these dreams with the new library and classroom. What a year it has been! The library has bloomed, beginning with the wonderful art exhibit of the talented and generous artists from the Spring Bull Gallery, followed by exciting and enthusiastically attended lectures and education programs. Remembering the building in its deteriorated state, it was thrilling to see children attentively nestled at the feet of a storyteller in front of a roaring fire at Holly Days. The classroom has been a busy place, with children flooding through the doors enthusiastic about their studies of the environment all year-round.

While we enjoyed these spaces, work has proceeded on the rest of the renovation and adaptive reuse project. The critical work has been the raising of the funds for the project. I am delighted to announce that, with the help of many generous friends, we have raised \$1 million toward the remaining important work: the renovation of the Barn and Ed Shed and the restoration of the farmhouse. Our architects, Michele Foster of Foster Associates and Mauricio Barreto of Urban Design Group, are hard at work on plans for the Environmental Learning Laboratory in the barn, and the classroom and restroom facilities in the Ed Shed.

Now we are asking you, our good and loyal friends, to help us achieve our goal of a vibrant and exciting facility to help future generations learn about and love the natural world. We have \$1 million to raise to allow us to complete the renovation of the Paradise Farm buildings.

We are off to a great start! The Rhode Island Foundation has made a challenge grant of \$25,000. We are asking business leaders in the community to help us to meet this challenge, and raise \$75,000 in new contributions for the campaign to preserve the legacy of Mabel Norman Cerio. We have just received a grant in the amount of \$15,000 from the Vigneron Memorial Fund and the John and Katherine Johnston Foundation for improving handicapped accessibility for the barn and outfitting handicapped accessible restroom facilities.

We have an enthusiastic group of community volunteers, headed by the ever-enthusiastic and supportive Michael Hayes, who are hard at work. They will be writing and calling you in the months ahead. Our goal is to finish our campaign in December 2002. You don't have to wait for a call. Please call or write me to talk about ways you can help us with this important project. I'm looking forward to celebrating our success with you next summer in these wonderful new spaces.

*Betsy de Leiris*  
Betsy de Leiris  
Executive Director

### Whoo's New in the Barn Owl Shop:

Getting ready for camp or a busy season hiking? All the gear you need is here at the Barn Owl Shop.

#### For the Kids:

- Norman Bird Sanctuary hats in wild and wonderful colors.
- Camp tee-shirts.
- All-natural mosquito repellents and sun screens.
- Bug collectors and magnifying glasses.
- Water bottles large and small.
- Wristband compasses.

#### For the Hiker:

- Field guides.
- Hiking guides.
- Compasses.
- Emergency ponchos.

#### For the Birder:

- A wider than ever selection of field guides.
- Optics.
- Books on gardening for wildlife.
- Seeds for the birder's garden.

### Welcome

We would like to welcome a new education specialist to the Sanctuary. Dave Collins is a graduate of Central Missouri State University, with a BS in biology.

Dave worked as a naturalist for both the Missouri and Ohio Departments of Natural Resources, and most recently in the education department of the Kansas City Zoo.

We are sure that Dave, with his love of nature and background in environmental education, will be a valuable addition to the staff.







## Guest Article

### Not Just Honeybees Do It: The Other Pollinators

by Amy Wright

Nature has many wild workers. When watching insect activity around my flowers last spring, I missed the honeybees, but hoped they would come buzzing around. I saw very few because--as I found out later--their population had been devastated by a mite, but as I watched for them, I made a wonderful observation: Plenty of pollinating was still going on. My flowers were blooming, my vegetables fruiting. What was doing it?

I saw many other kinds of bees: Robust hairy bumblebees, small mining bees, and leafcutter bees. Metallic-hued sweat bees, bee-mimicking flies, butterflies and beetles were also hard at work. I began realizing what was happening. Though beekeepers' colonies had been handling pollination, when mites afflicted the honeybees, nature sent in its second-stringers and bountiful harvests still came in.

Pollination, a fortunate by-product of insects' nectar feeding and pollen collecting, is essential to the continued existence of many plants. When insects reach for the sweet juice of flowers that they need for food, they walk all over the flower parts, actively and passively collecting pollen and transporting it to other plants. Pollination is a necessary prerequisite to fertilization; without it, a plant will not set seed or fruit. It occurs when insects move pollen

from the (male) anther of one flower to the (female) stigma of another flower. Two-thirds of all flowering plants depend on pollinating insects for this service. More than 3,800 species of bees exist in the United States, and most of them collect nectar and pollen. All adult bees eat protein-rich pollen and feed it to their young. In addition to insects, some birds, bats, and other mammals pollinate.

Wind and water also transport pollen, but here my focus is on insect pollinators. In recent years, the *Varroa jacobsonii* mite destroyed



honeybee populations in many regions of the Northeast and central Midwest (Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, and Nebraska). Foulbrood, a bacterial infection that kills bees' larvae, and several other diseases and parasites also afflict colonies, despite the worker bees' attempts to remove infested brood in the hive (scientists call this hygienic behavior). When honeybee populations suffer, honey production goes down, and pollination of cultivated crops is in jeopardy.

Besides honeybees, pollinators include several other bee species, such as: African honeybee (killer

bee), bumblebee, squash bee, leafcutter bee, sweat bee and others who have filled the gap left by dwindling honeybee populations. There are also different kinds of pollinating insects, like hover flies, also called syrphid flies, which look just like bees. In fact that's the key to their protection from predators. Certain species of beetles, butterflies and moths also are common insect pollinators.

The current, but temporary, decline of honeybee populations is a perfect time to learn more about other pollinators, particularly when you view pollinators as one of the first links in the food chain. Whether yours is a fruit, flower, or vegetable garden in a small spot or on many acres, your plants need pollinators. Nature is a dynamic system containing many species, including specialists and generalists, and diversity is an essential part of that system. Because of the decline of the honeybee population, we may find a resurgence of other beneficial insects. They include thousands of species hard at work, drinking, walking, buzzing, and stepping all over the flowers, working to meet their own needs as well as those of many plants - and our own, too.

**Editor's Note:** The preceding is a reprinted excerpt. The full article and Amy's lovely illustrations can be found in their entirety in the June 1997 issue of *National Gardening*.

To learn more about the pollinators, join Amy Wright as she leads a walk on June 21st at the Sanctuary. For more information, turn to page six.



# AUGUST 2002



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	Birds of Prey 2	3
Guided Bird Walk 4	5	The Boston TEE Party 6 Preschool Reading Hour	7	8	Birds of Prey 9	10
Guided Bird Walk 11 Navy Band	Bird Camp -Earth Science 12 Bird Camp -Insect	Preschool Reading Hour 13	14	NOFA 28th Annual Conference 15	Birds of Prey 16 Whale Watch	17 Trustom Pond & South Shore
Guided Bird Walk 18 The Tempest	19	Preschool Reading Hour 20	21	22	23	24
Guided Bird Walk 25	26	Preschool Reading Hour 27	28	29	30	31

# SEPTEMBER 2002

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Guided Bird Walk 1	2	3	4	5	Birds of Prey 6	7
Guided Bird Walk 8	Labor Day 9	10	11	12	Birds of Prey 13	14
Guided Bird Walk 15	16	17	18	19	Birds of Prey 20	21
Guided Bird Walk 22	23	24	25	26	Birds of Prey 27	28
Guided Bird Walk 29 Fall Camp Out	30					



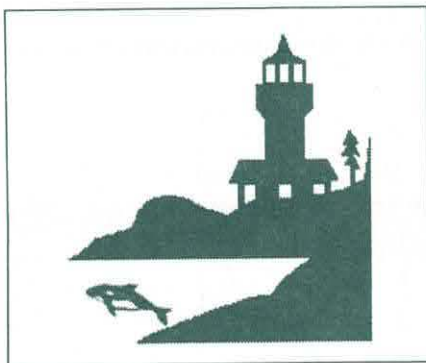
## Educational Programs

### The Pollinators

**Date:** Friday, June 21  
**Time:** 10:00am - 12:00pm  
**Fee:** \$ 8 NM  
 \$ 6 M

#### ADULT PROGRAM

A wide variety of wild plants abound here at the Sanctuary during spring and early summer. The local pollinators cannot resist the sweet nectar, surrounded by rich colors, smells, and textures. Join Amy Wright, local scientific illustrator, naturalist and gardener, as she seeks out the insects that turn flowers into fruit. Please dress for the weather and wear comfortable walking shoes. **Maximum 20.**

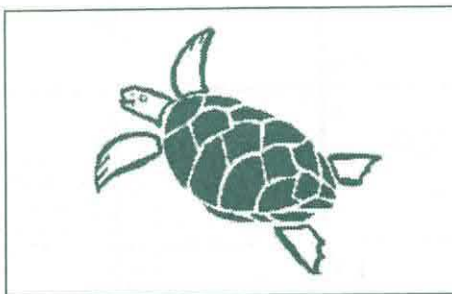


### Seashore Scramble

**Dates:** Wednesday, July 17  
**Time:** 6:00pm - 7:30pm  
**Fee:** Adults: \$6M \$8NM  
 Child: \$4M \$6NM

#### FAMILY PROGRAM

Come with us to the seashore, and learn about a new activity you and your family will greatly enjoy and can all do together. Education Specialist Heather Ford is leading this walk, and her specialty is the seashore. We will walk along the beach, and learn about sand crabs, seaweed, clams, and perhaps even tropical fish, among the many diverse creatures which may be found on the sand during this summer evening walk. **Maximum 20.**



### Trustom Pond & South Shore

**Date:** Saturday, August 17  
**Time:** 8:00am - 1:00pm  
**Fee:** \$ 10 NM  
 \$ 8 M

#### ADULT PROGRAM

Join Larry Taft, RI Audubon's Properties Director, for a day of birdwatching at some of RI's most pristine wildlife habitats. Hawk migration (the front end) and shore migration should make this an exciting adventure for everyone. This hike often tromps through wet areas, so be prepared with appropriate clothing. **Maximum 12.**

### Weekly Programs July 1-August 23

#### Preschool Reading Hour

**Tuesdays**

**10:30am - 11:30am**

Spend an hour listening to stories, and then go for a short walk. Parents, please come with your child. **Maximum: 15**

#### Birds of Prey

**Fridays**

**10:30am - 11:00am**

Learn about the various birds of prey that live in our area and their adaptations for survival. Also, see a live red-tailed hawk handled by our education staff.

#### Guided Bird Walks

**Sundays**

**8:00am**

Birding has become a new hobby for many. Every Sunday morning, well

into fall, we are leading walks, listening and looking for various bird species. Birders of all levels are welcome to participate.

### Whale Watch

**Friday, July 12th & August 16th**  
**7:45am - 8:45pm**

**Members Non-Members**

**Adults:** \$40 \$45  
**Child:** \$35 \$40

#### FAMILY PROGRAM

Search for the Humpback, Minke, Finback, Blue and Right Whale on a research vessel, with the Center for Coastal Studies out of Provincetown, MA. During this four hour boat trip, whales will be spotted on their northern feeding grounds. A Sanctuary staff member will accompany the group and drive everyone out to the Cape. Our plan is to arrive early in Provincetown for a bite to eat, before we load the boat at 12:45. For the return trip, the Sanctuary will provide snacks and refreshments. Participants should dress appropriately for the weather. We suggest bringing binoculars, cameras, sweaters, and sunscreen. **Maximum 12.**



### NOFA 28th Annual Summer Conference

**August 9th -11th**

**Hampshire College, Amherst, MA**

The Northeast Organic Farming Association's conference also includes a children's and teen's conference. Please call NBS for registration information, additional information available from [nofareg@juno.com](mailto:nofareg@juno.com).

*Please Note: Preregistration is required for programs.*





## Educational Programs

### Bag It!

**Saturday, September 21st**

Come and participate in a world wide coastal clean-up event. Obviously, keeping our coastlines clean and free of litter is the responsibility of everyone. Please call for more information about how you can be a part of this day.



### The Boston TEE Party

**August 6-10**

**Boston Park Plaza Hotel, Boston, MA**

This is the 31st annual Environmental Education conference sponsored by the North American Association for Environmental Education. The theme of the conference is Total Environmental Education (TEE): the celebration of a rich, multifaceted, life-long environmental education, that encompasses a diversity of concepts, mediums, formats, methodologies, and approaches. For details and registration instructions: <http://www.naaee.org/conference/index.php>

### Shakespeare's "The Tempest"

**Date: Sunday, August 18**

**Time: 4:30pm**

**Fee: Free**

Trinity Rep's highly acclaimed Summer Shakespeare Project, now in its fifth year, will be performing The

Tempest, here at the Sanctuary. The Tempest tells the tale of an exiled magician, his daughter and their chance meeting of shipwrecked travelers on a tropical island. Come join us for a mystical ride on an unforgettable voyage. Appropriate for all ages.



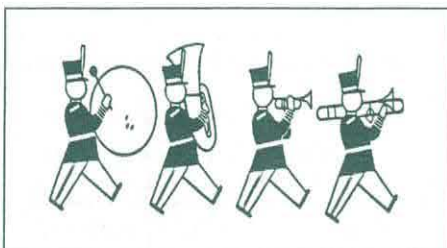
### Navy Band Concert

**Date: Sunday, August 11**

**Time: 4:00 - 6:00pm**

**Fee: Free**

The ever-popular Navy Band Northeast will perform a variety of American musical styles including Swing, Blues, Big Band jazz and other family favorites. Recognized as one of the nation's premiere military bands, the Navy Band Northeast's concerts are enjoyed by all ages. Each concert will be held on the picturesque Paradise Farm lawn at the Norman Bird Sanctuary. Concert-goers are encouraged to bring blankets or lawn chairs and picnic dinners.



### Fall Camp-out

**Saturday - Sunday  
September 28th-29th**

**Fee: Members Non-Members**

**Adults: \$16 \$19**

**Child: \$13 \$16**

**FAMILY PROGRAM**

Meet at 4:30pm to set up camp and

meet everyone else (bring your own tent; if you need to rent a tent, we do have a few). Then we will cook a hot meal over a fire - s'mores for dessert. Following dinner, go on a night hike and star gaze with our staff. After the hike, regroup around the fire for songs and stories (non-scary). Finally, snuggle in your sleeping bag under a starry sky. Call for more details.

**Maximum: 14**



### Mushroom Walk

**Saturday, September 28**

**1:00pm-3:00pm**

**\$ 8 NM**

**\$ 6 M**

**FAMILY PROGRAM**

Mushroom identification can be fun, but is often very confusing. Join Dr. Roger Goos, URI mycologist and long time Mushroom Walk guide, to learn about how to identify the many different types of mushrooms and fungi found locally, and the important role they play in our ecosystem. **Maximum 20.**



Join us for our  
**Sunday Morning Bird Walks**  
**March 31 - Nov. 10, 8:00AM**

• Check us out on the Web!

[www.normanbirdsantuary.org](http://www.normanbirdsantuary.org)

*Please Note: Preregistration is required for programs.*

# JUNE 2002



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2 Guided Bird Walk	3	4	5 Preschoolers w/Parents Session 2	6	7	8
9 Guided Bird Walk	10	11 Annual Meeting	12 Preschoolers w/Parents Session 2	13	14 Flag Day	15 Father's Day Campout
16 Guided Bird Walk Father's Day Campout	17	18	19	20	21 The Pollinators Summer Solstice	22
23 Guided Bird Walk	24 Bird Camp -Animal Kingdom	25	26	27	28	29
30 Guided Bird Walk						

# JULY 2002

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Preschool Reading Hour Bird Camp -Native American	2	3	4	5 Birds of Prey	6
7 Guided Bird Walk	8 Bird Camp -Reptile	9 Preschool Reading Hour	10	11	12 Whale Watch Birds of Prey	13
14 Guided Bird Walk	15 Bird Camp -Nature & Arts	16 Preschool Reading Hour	17 Seashore Scramble	18	19 Birds of Prey	20
21 Guided Bird Walk	22 Bird Camp -Bird Brain	23 Preschool Reading Hour	24	25	26 Birds of Prey	27
28 Guided Bird Walk	29 Bird Camp -Amphibians	30 Preschool Reading Hour				





## Trails & Tails

### New Boardwalk

By Veronica Hinds

The trail maintenance weekend was a big success. The Appalachian Mountain Club trails committee with help from NBS volunteers installed the first 100 feet of boardwalk for our handicapped accessible trail!

We started the weekend on Friday night with a barbecue and an instructional video on how to install boardwalks. Then tents were set up on the farm house lawn and snoozing began. Saturday morning six am coffee was made as the recycled lumber was being cut. Once cut, we hauled lumber and tools down to the site and began the installation process. It was a great day and we made a great boardwalk. I can't thank the AMC enough for all their hard work and guidance.



Betsy de Leiris photo

*The Appalachian Mountain Club trails committee with help from NBS volunteers hard at work installing the boardwalk for our handicapped accessible trail.*

### Birds & Breakfast May 19th 2002

Thanks to all the bird walk leaders; Bill Saslow, Rey Larsen, Arliss Ryan, Jay Manning, Sue Kieronski, Fred Orwiler, Bob Weaver, Stephanie Bongiovanni, Christopher LaMonica, and Betsy de Leiris. It was a great day of birding and the results are in:

#### Bird Sightings:

Eastern Kingbird  
Tree Swallow  
Barn Swallow  
Catbird  
Mourning Dove  
Wood Thrush  
Northern Cardinal  
Black-capped Chickadee  
Song Sparrow

*Avid birdwatchers about to set out for the trails at Birds & Breakfast.*



Ethan Handle photo

House Sparrow  
Herring Gull  
Coopers Hawk  
Yellow Warbler  
American Goldfinch  
Bobolink  
Golden Pheasant  
Tufted Titmouse  
Red-winged Blackbird  
Brown-headed Cowbird  
Blue Jay  
Glossy Ibis  
Chimney Swift  
Northern Harrier  
Sharp-shinned Hawk  
Northern Parula  
Magnolia Warbler

Yellow-rumped Warbler  
Grackle  
American Crow  
Northern Flicker  
Green Heron  
Canada Geese  
Turkey Vulture  
House Wren  
Great White Egret  
Ruby-throated Hummingbird  
White-eyed Vireo  
Red-tailed Hawk  
Downy Woodpecker  
Hairy Woodpecker  
Great crested Flycatcher  
Red-shouldered Hawk  
Black and white Warbler





## Volunteers & Events

### Birds & Breakfast 2002

Another wonderful Birds & Breakfast morning took place on Sunday, May 19th, here at the Sanctuary. Our sincere thanks to all of those volunteers who made this event a great success once again. We were overwhelmed with the generosity of local restaurants, bakeries and caterers, who kindly donated items for our breakfast in the wake of what has been a slow business year. Families and friends enjoyed great food, Peter Piltz's live guitar music, guided bird walks and three lively performances by the Newport Children's Theatre throughout the morning. Please join us in thanking the following establishments for their donations to Birds & Breakfast:

**Canfield House • Carl & Dave's Catering • Harvest Natural Foods Hyatt Regency Newport • Marriott Hotel • The Green Bean Bagel Boys • Cafe Zelda •**

**Cappucino's • Fatulli's Gourmet Bakery & Deli • Frasci Confectioner Glen Farm Polo Productions • IHOP Island Garden Shop • Kathleen's Fantastic Foods • Katrina's Bakery La Forge • The Market-Newport Gourmet • The Mooring • Ocean Breeze Cafe • Sardella's • Shaws Stop 'n Shop • Tommy's Diner**



*Fred Orwiler photo*

*Volunteers preparing pancakes, pictured left to right are: Laura Hart, Debra Huntington, Ginny Hinds, and Lisa Pritchard.*

### Meet Education Specialist Dave Collins

My passion for the out-of-doors was nurtured by my father and my maternal grandmother. My father would take my brothers and me camping and canoeing in the oak hickory forests, prairies, and Ozark streams of Missouri.

My grandmother, who was half Creek Indian, would tell me stories about the spirit of nature. She helped me to experience nature in a way that captured my imagination and fueled a deep sense of connectedness, mystery, and sacredness for the Wheel of Life.

So, it seemed only natural that I would major in biology in college. I graduated from Central Missouri State University in 1981 with a BS in biology (emphasis in wildlife biology). While in college and upon

graduation, I worked as a naturalist for the Missouri Department of Natural Resources and also for the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. As these jobs ended, I entered the world of industrial hazardous waste and water quality testing. But my heart was still calling me to return to my first love, environmental education.

My most recent position prior to the Norman Bird Sanctuary was working in the education department at the Kansas City Zoo, until that position ended in April 2001. In November 2001, my wife Amy and I moved to Rhode Island to be close to her family, and in March 2002, I became an Education Specialist for the Norman Bird Sanctuary.

### The Norman Bird Sanctuary is wishing for...

*People to fill the following volunteer positions:*

- Office volunteers – to help out for three hours on weekends and Mondays.

- Gardeners

- Weeders

*...and the following items of EQUIPMENT for our Hope Wildlife Rehabilitation Laboratory:*

- Clothes dryer

- Towels

- Dog crates, pet carriers

- Glass aquariums

- Heating Pads

- Shop lights (dome type)

- Puppy and Kitten milk replacement formula

- Non sugared dried cereals: oatmeal, wheat flakes, corn flakes or corn meal

- Paper towels

### Growers & Bakers Get Ready!

The 2002 Harvest Fair is looking for your prized produce, flowers and kitchen creations for the Home & Garden Competition. Start planting those seeds and perfecting those recipes for entry in the following categories:

#### Produce:

- Best Single Fruit • Best Single Vegetable

- Best Collection • Biggest Pumpkin

- Most Unusual Vegetable/Edible Plant

- Young Grower-Best Produce

- Jack-o'-Lantern Contest

#### Flowers:

- Best Single Rose

- Best Single Dahlia

- Best Fresh Arrangement

- Best Dried Arrangement

- Best Sunflower

- Biggest Sunflower Face

- Young Grower-Best Arrangement

#### Kitchen Creations:

- Best Apple Pie

- Best Pesto • Best Salsa

- Best Savory Relish/Preserve

- Best Jam/Jelly

- Best Quick Bread/Muffin

- Best Cookies/Dessert Bars

- Young Baker-Baked Goods





## Norman's Activity Page

### Cock-a-doodle-doo, Boys and Girls!



Welcome to Norman's Activity Page. I'm Norman and I'm a Rhode Island Red Rooster. This page has been designed just for you. It has activities to teach you about the joys of nature. Hope you enjoy!

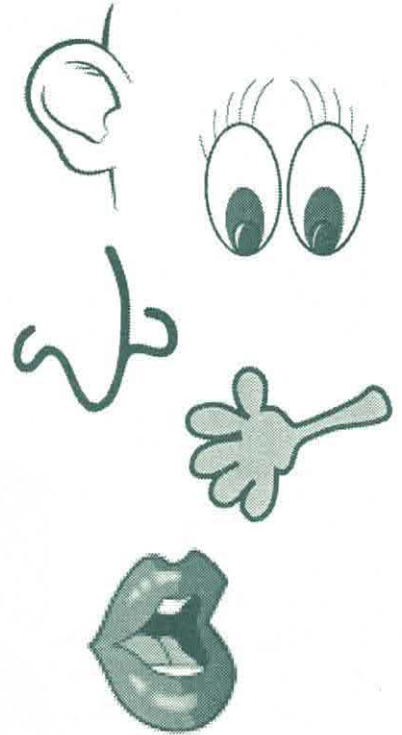


Everyone loves rainbows. Cut out the circle below. Decorate it with the colors of the rainbow. Push a pencil tip through the center and spin it like a top. What color do you see? Why?

What animal group does Norman belong to? \_\_\_\_\_ (Hint: The animals in this group all have wings and most fly.) This group is unique from all other groups of animals because they have \_\_\_\_\_ (Hint: Rymes with weather.) and they have hollow bones.

If you have a question for Norman, a joke you would like to share or just a suggestion, please e-mail: [hford@normanbirdsanctuary.org](mailto:hford@normanbirdsanctuary.org)

### Can You Name Your Five Senses?



Next time you're out hiking, try using all your senses, not just your eyes to see. Smell the flowers, close your eyes and just listen to nature. Try to find at least one thing that feels:

- Soft
- Bumpy
- Hard
- Smooth
- Fuzzy
- Pointy
- Scratchy

#### Answers:

birds, feathers  
seeing, hearing, touching, smell-  
ing, tasting  
white, because the colors of the  
rainbow make up white light



**Norman Bird Sanctuary**  
**583 Third Beach Road**  
**Middletown, RI 02842**

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
Newport, RI 02840  
**Permit No. 43**

**TO CURRENT RESIDENT OR:**

**NOTE:** Your feedback is most welcome, please share your thoughts about the Pull-out Calendar, the Newsletter, scheduled events and programs...in short, anything to do with making the Sanctuary a better place. Please see below for our address, phone number and website information.

## ***Become A Member Today***

*Members enjoy free access to the trails, 10% discount in our store, a subscription to our newsletter and discounts on our programs.*

- Student \$15    • Individual \$25    • Family \$40    • Contributing \$50
- Sustaining \$80    • Institution \$125    • Patron \$125
- Supporting \$250    • Benefactor \$500    • Angel \$1000
- Check    • Visa/Mastercard # \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

*Please check the membership category of your choice and mail with a check or credit card information to:*

**The Norman Bird Sanctuary, 583 Third Beach Rd., Middletown, RI 02842**

*www.normanbirdsanctuary.org • (401) 846.2577*