

The Tanager



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Burroughs Audubon Nature Club

c/o John Shaw

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President's Message

By Ellen K. Prill

What do these people have in common?

A person grieving the decline of their spouse. A couple needing a safe place to bring their high-energy children to run around in open space. A stressed employee looking for a quiet place to eat their lunch. Members enjoying a Berry Social. Children lying down in the grass to look up in the sky. Squeals by visitors discovering a snake chilling out inside a building. A trio tending to newly acquired shrubs and trees. Walkers discovering wood ducks, mink, and an animal skeleton. Plant lovers searching for spring wildflowers. High schoolers taking out as many invasive plants and shrubs as possible in two hours. Photographers having a field day finding beauty in water, flora, and fauna. Poets and artists wanting a place to find inspiration. Children finding virgin snow to create snow angels.

They all found their way to 301 Railroad Mills Road. I hope you get to make new memories at our Burroughs Audubon Nature Sanctuary soon too. I know I have.

Blessings to everyone,

Ellen, your 2022 BANC President.



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Published Author to Give a Talk at BANC

By Marigrace Piazza

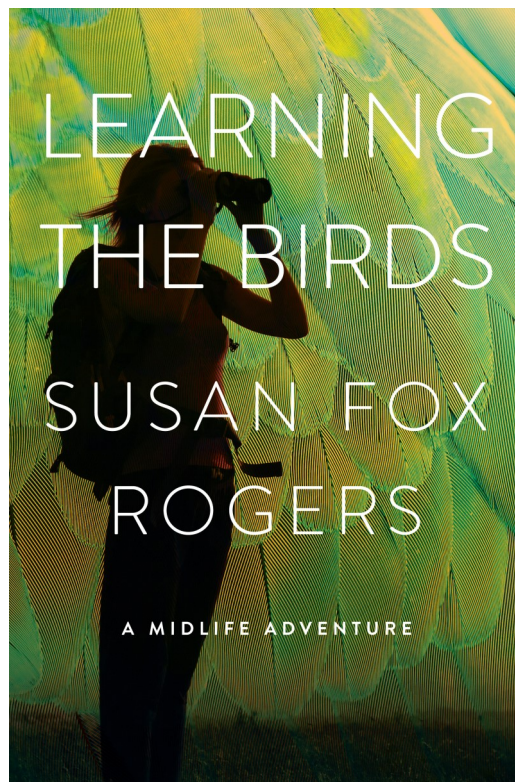
On Wednesday, July 27, 2022 from 6:00 to 8:00 P.M., BANC will have the privilege of hosting nature writer and birder Susan Fox Rogers on our porch. Susan will read from her newly published memoir, *Learning the Birds*, in which she shares the joys and challenges of becoming a birder mid-age. *Learning the Birds* chronicles Rogers' adventures searching for birds, following her birding journey from New York State's Hudson Valley to the Everglades, the Southwest, and Alaska. Rogers will share images of birds, as she talks about the ways she was inspired by the work of early nature writers, John Burroughs in particular. In her memoir, the words of John Burroughs accompany her as she hikes up Slide Mountain in search of the Bicknell's Thrush and as she contemplates the art of seeing birds.

Susan is excited to learn about our Club and share how nature influences her writing. Please come prepared to ask questions about her adventures and her craft. There will be signed books available for purchase. Come before the talk at 5:30 with a brown bag dinner to eat while we enjoy the peaceful sanctuary in full summer glory.

Susan Fox Rogers is the author of *Learning the Birds: A Mid-Life Adventure*, and *My Reach: A Hudson River Memoir*, which explores the Hudson River from the perspective of her kayak. She is the editor of eleven anthologies, including *Solo: On Her Own Adventure*, and *Antarctica: Life on the Ice*, which was created while in Antarctica on a National Science Foundation award for artists and writers. Her most recent collection, *When Birds Are Near: Dispatches from Contemporary Writers* celebrates the birding life.

She has received grants and awards that have allowed her to travel to Alaska, Antarctica, Wyoming, and by ship to the Arctic. "The Other Leopold," a chapter in *Learning the Birds* was selected by Robert Atwan for *Best American Essays 2021*.

Rogers is Writer in Residence at Bard College, where she has taught the creative essay, nature writing and bird-related classes since 2001.



TRAILS GRANT REPORT

Shirley Shaw

I imagine most of you are wondering when the construction to renovate and improve our trail system will begin. We're so excited that we have obtained the funding to take care of most needs at one time!

Right now, we are in the preliminary stages of the project. We hope to hire a landscape architect soon, and there are reports and permission for environmental aspects that must be done. All of this takes time, and so the actual construction is in the future. Because the project is being paid for with grant money from your tax dollars and mine, there is an important process in place to make sure the money is spent appropriately. We are fortunate that our area's Regional Grants Administrator is very helpful answering our questions and overseeing the process. We are working methodically to make sure we follow each step in the process correctly. We appreciate your patience! It will be worth the wait!



Next year Isaac Willome will compare his growth with the shrub's growth.

Photo by Donna Willome

Time to renew your membership

You may renew your membership now, either by mail or online. See the form on page 15 (online only), or go to bancny.org/membership.html.



A carpet of blue at the Sanctuary

Photo by Richard Ashworth

New Members

The following new members have joined. We welcome them to BANC:

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| Melike Erkan | Pittsford |
| Geoffrey Gretton | Honeoye Falls |
| Jennifer Rothberg | Pittsford |
| Karen and Marty Smith | Fairport |
| Evelyn Spruill | Pittsford |
| Sean Sheehan | East Rochester |
| Dennis Geiger | Pittsford |
| Karen Vanek | Pittsford |

The Ultimate Puzzle

By Carol Hinkelman

As each new climate change report comes out, the situation sounds more dire and the time to act is growing shorter, but you might not be aware that action on climate change is already happening all around us. The City of Rochester has had a Climate Action Plan since 2017 and Monroe County is working on its own plan. These city and county climate action plans will cut the greenhouse gas emissions coming from their municipal buildings, vehicles, and activities as well as those of their community's residential, industrial and commercial sectors.

Many towns are acting too, doing things like putting in their own solar installations or purchasing clean renewable energy for their residents. Some school districts are purchasing electric school buses. There are several organizations and faith communities locally that are actively working on climate change and many individuals are taking action too.

In 2019 New York State passed the most ambitious and comprehensive climate and clean energy legislation in the country, the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA). It requires NYS to reduce greenhouse gas emissions 40% by 2030 and no less than 85% by 2050 from 1990 levels. The CLCPA created a Climate Action Council to develop a NYS plan to meet these targets. They produced a 350-page draft plan that recently went through a public comment period and will be finalized soon as a blueprint for NYS to combat climate change.

Meeting these climate goals is no easy task. We must eliminate the burning of fossil fuels for cooking, heating buildings and water, running vehicles, and producing electricity. We will need to switch to elec-

tric stoves, water heaters, clothes dryers and either electric or geothermal heating. New buildings will have to be all electric and not have a natural gas hookup. All vehicles will eventually have to be electric, including cars, trucks of all sizes, and buses. Electric vehicle charging stations need to be installed all over the state and all electricity must come from renewable sources. A side benefit of going all elec-

tric however, will be improved public health from eliminating air pollution caused by burning fossil fuels.

There are many difficulties to overcome. The biggest demand for energy is downstate while most of the large scale solar and wind energy is being produced upstate because there is more

land available here. A lot of electricity is lost during transmission over long distances, so it would be better to produce the power near where it is needed, and in some cases the grid can't even handle all the energy that is currently produced upstate. New York is in the process of upgrading its electric grid to better handle this transmission and is also contracting to



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(The Ultimate Puzzle Continued from page 4)

purchase hydropower from Canada for downstate areas.

Developers find it easier to use flat open farmland for big energy projects, but with more droughts in the west and midwest, much of our food will need to be grown here where there is water in the future. It would be better to put solar panels on areas that are brownfields or already developed such as the huge rooftops of big box stores or other industrial and commercial buildings and parking lots. Trees are valuable for storing carbon, but sometimes many trees are cut down to clear land for solar or wind projects. Proper disposal of huge numbers of solar panels and wind turbine blades when they are no longer usable will also be a major problem to solve. The question of whether nuclear power should be part of the energy supply is very controversial.

The dependence of many countries on fossil fuels has become obvious with the war in Ukraine. The U.S. can be fairly energy self-sufficient because we have abundant oil and gas from fracking, but many countries are dependent on imported gas and oil, much of it from Russia. This fossil fuel dependency makes it difficult to avoid supporting the Russian economy and military budget. Current high prices for gas and oil create a demand for producing more fossil fuels instead of replacing them with renewables.

Wind turbines and solar installations don't produce the same amount of power around the clock and around the year so we will also need storage capacity for electricity so it is available to fill in the gaps. That will require advanced battery technology and the use of a lot of minerals like lithium and rare earths that are not very common. If we can't mine more of them in the U.S we will be dependent on getting them from China and other countries. There has been talk of mining the ocean floor which has not even been thoroughly studied yet.

The approval process for large renewable energy projects was taking several years so NYS decided to streamline the process and fast track it by creating an Office of Renewable Energy Siting (ORES) to take over the cumbersome process. Much of the public comment time and local control over the process have been eliminated to speed things up. Most projects are now quickly approved despite local objections for reasons like serious environmental impacts or inappropriate siting of wind turbines in migratory bird routes or too close to wildlife refuges.

The NYS plan seems to focus mainly on large scale solar and wind power projects. It doesn't mention other options such as energy conservation and more energy efficiency so we don't need as much new energy production. We need to act quickly and effectively to prevent the worst effects of climate change, but our actions must be well thought out so we don't create more problems. We can't afford to destroy nature while we act on climate change, or the planet will still be unlivable for humans. This is a very complicated puzzle and the survival of the human race depends on solving it correctly.



Dame's Rocket (*Hesperis matronalis*)

Photo by Fred Haynes

Coming Events

The following events are planned for the next three months. Please refer to our website, bancny.org, for any changes or additions.

Sunday, June 26, 2022, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Sanctuary, 301 Railroad Mills Road
A Very Merry, Berry Festival
Strawberry Shortcake with homemade biscuits, whipped cream, and organic, local strawberries.

This is for members only. If your membership is up-to-date, wonderful.

If not, please RENEW or become a member at bancny.org/membership.html by June 22nd, or come prepared with cash or a check and become a paid member on the 26th. Membership is \$25 for individuals, \$35 for couples, \$40 for families, or \$75 for supporting.

Registration, by June 22, is required. To register, go to <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0b4caca828a5fe3-averymerry>.

Contact Persons: Ellen Prill 721-4103 and Shirley Shaw 385-3907.

Sunday, July 17, 2022, 12:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Sanctuary, 301 Railroad Mills Road
What's Blooming at BANC and Family Nature Afternoon

Bring the entire family and spend the afternoon at our beautiful sanctuary. Activities will include guided trail walks, nature games & crafts, birdwatching, and relaxing on our porch overlooking the gardens.

Wednesday, July 27, 2022, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Sanctuary Porch, 301 Railroad Mills Road
Published Author to Give a Talk at BANC
(optional brown bag dinner at 5:30)

Nature writer and birder, Susan Fox Rogers, will read from her newly published memoir, *Learning the Birds*, in which she shares the joys and challenges of becoming a birder mid-age. *Learning the Birds* chronicles Rogers' adventures searching for birds, following her birding journey from New York State's Hudson Valley to the Everglades, the Southwest, and

Alaska. Rogers will share images of birds, as she talks about the ways she was inspired by the work of early nature writers, John Burroughs in particular. In her memoir, the words of John Burroughs accompany her as she hikes up Slide Mountain in search of the Bicknell's Thrush and as she contemplates the art of seeing birds.

Friday, August 12, 2022, 8:00 – 10:00 p.m.

Sounds of the Night
Sanctuary, 301 Railroad Mills Road
(optional brown bag dinner at 7:30)

Join Martha Zettel and Bill O'Neill for an evening immersed in the sounds and sights of late summer. This will be a casual event and we will talk about whatever we find including bats, katydids, crickets, and if we are lucky, owls. We will have our bat detection gear, lots of hands on demonstration material, some live katydids and crickets, a moth light, and flashlights. Bring a bagged dinner and some chairs around 7 or just join us at 8 for our journey into the night. Be prepared for mosquitoes. Bill is a retired U of R Professor of neuroscience specializing in the auditory system. Martha is a retired U of R Technical Associate. Both have done research in neural processing of echolocation signals in bats as well as aging in the human auditory system.

Sunday, August 21, 2022, 12:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Summer Flower Stroll and Family Nature Afternoon
Sanctuary, 301 Railroad Mills Road

Bring the entire family and spend the afternoon at our beautiful sanctuary. Activities will include guided trail walks, nature games & crafts, birdwatching, and relaxing on our porch overlooking the gardens. At 2:00 P.M. take a walk with Carol Hinkelman to

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(Coming Events - Continued from page 6)

enjoy the abundance of late summer flowers in the sanctuary. We may see some butterflies and other pollinators among the colorful asters, goldenrods, Joe-Pye weed and other flowers that flourish along the trails in August.

Wednesday, August 24, 2022, 10:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Finger Lakes Community College, Muller Field Station

6455 County Road 36, Honeoye, NY 14471. GPS: 42.707373, -77.511735

Field and Stream Trip

Come join us for an outdoor expedition along Honeoye Lake Inlet! Accompanied by Alexandria Esposito, an instructor at the Finger Lakes Community College Muller Field Station, we will observe and learn about the wildlife diversity as we walk the trails or canoe in the stream.

Situated in the valley south of Honeoye Lake, the Muller Field Station serves as a learning and research station for the western finger lakes. The protected land covers diverse habitats revealing many plant and animal species. Naturally, it's a great place for FLCC students, as well as others, to do environmental field and lab work. We'll hear how the property is used for this.

Wear walking shoes, long pants, and be prepared for inclement weather. A camera and binoculars will come in handy. Bring a lunch and we'll enjoy the view while we eat after our excursion.

Registration required. The number of participants is limited. To register, call or email trip coordinator Jutta Dudley at 585-385-2368 (h), juttasd@aol.com by Monday August 22. Leave your name(s) and phone number(s).

Meet at 10:00 a.m. at 6455 County Road 36, Honeoye, NY 14471. GPS: 42.707373, -77.511735. To contact Jutta (during trip only): 585-967-6479 (c)

Saturday, September 17, 2022, 12:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Sanctuary, 301 Railroad Mills Road

Enjoying Nature on Earth at BANC while contemplating the Nature of Mars

Bring the entire family and spend the afternoon at our beautiful sanctuary. Activities will include guided trail walks, nature games & crafts, birdwatching, and relaxing on our porch overlooking the gardens.

At 1:30 P.M. learn about the Martian landscape and environment from NASA-funded research scientist Dr. Timothy McConnochie. He'll share what he and his teammates at the Space Science Institute and Jet Propulsion Lab have been learning from orbital satellites and surface rovers about the soils, dunes, river deltas, and ancient lake-beds. He'll also talk about the weather and climate of Mars. Q&A to follow on all things space and planetary science.

Saturday, September 24, 2022, 4:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Annual Picnic (Potluck) and Afternoon Tree Walk
Sanctuary, 301 Railroad Mills Road

We're having a potluck! Arrive by 4:00 and you will be able to enjoy an enriching tree walk with our very own Frank Crombe. We have a variety of amazing trees at our Sanctuary and Frank is a very knowledgeable and endearing lover of trees. You will learn a lot from Frank and have fun at the same time!

After the walk we will gather on the porch and lawn for a return to our potluck tradition. Bring your favorite dish to pass and don't forget to bring your dinnerware and a beverage. Please try to use local ingredients as a favor to the environment.

Volunteer opportunity: We need a host for this event.

Saturday, October 1, 2022, 10:00 a.m.

Field Trip to Slater Sanctuary

Details will be in the September Tanager and on our website, bancny.org.

New Members of BANC's leadership

In addition to the officers and Executive Council members that are staying in their positions or moving to new positions, two people are joining the Council as officers.

Jane G. Coggshall McConnochie, PhD., has spent much of her career conducting research, evaluation, and policy analysis focused on K-12 teaching and learning. As a Principal Researcher at the American Institutes for Research, she provided technical assistance to states and school districts focused on supporting teachers and teaching systemically, equitably, and effectively. In recent years, she has nursed an abiding interest in trees -- their ecology, biology, culture, and care, and seeks to share that learning with others through high quality educational programming and hands-on habitat restoration projects. She is the new recording secretary of the BANC executive council, is the Science Action coordinator for the Park Road Elementary School PTSA, and recently became a board member for the nonprofit organization A Frog House in Pittsford, NY. She is a mom of two school-aged boys who (sometimes) tolerate regular hikes in the woods and wetlands of the greater Rochester area and beyond.

Marie Heerkens:

Artist. Mycologist. Illustrator. Birder. Hiker. Camper. Sounds like a Renaissance woman? This is Marie Heerkens.

Marie spent her childhood in an old farmhouse on Turk Hill Road, with barns, woods and a cornfield out back. She grew up enjoying outdoors and loved hiking and camping out with the family, fishing and skating on local ponds in the winter. Later the family moved to Fishers, where Marie remembers a hike with Sheldon Fisher exploring local history.

At an early age she started drawing and painting – a vocation that has lasted all her life. After studying art at Nazareth College and SUNY Geneseo, Marie intended to work in scientific illustration with a leaning toward archeology. However, her career took a diversion for a while: picture framing. She also learned computer graphics while working in an internship after graduating college in 1985.

For many years Marie's primary job was in picture framing at local businesses, and then working for a few different newspapers designing advertisements. Now she works part time at Ontario Mall Antiques in Farmington. She undertakes commissioned fine artwork and has painted large murals in private homes.

Marie's father enjoyed birdwatching, and she recalls a wonderful experience of a warbler fallout at Thousand Acre Swamp in Penfield. However, her major passion in nature is mushrooms. She started by photographing them and, wanting to identify and learn more about them, she joined the Rochester Area Mycological Association in 1990. She attended meetings and forays and learned from Bob Cooper and Steven Daniel among others. Marie delights in discovering the variety of fungus species in local woodlands; some of her favorite destinations are Powder Mills Park, the Auburn Trail, and Mendon Ponds Park. She has led various hikes and served as a site monitor for the Nature Conservancy at Bentley Woods and coordinated hikes for the Thousand Acre Swamp.

Participation in regional and national forays has taken her to many different locations in search of mushrooms, including Maine, California and Washington State, where she conducted a workshop for Puget Sound Mycological Society, one of the largest associations in the country.

Over the years Marie has created an impressive collection of mushroom illustrations, which have been sought after for diverse publications. In 2003 she provided all the photographs and drawings for the new edition of "The Field Guide to Mushrooms" by William S. Thomas, a classic guide which (although now out of print) is still available as used copies.

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(BANC Leadership - Continued from page 8)

Marie's particular and unique contribution to mycology art is the application of pyrography (wood burning) techniques to the depiction of mushrooms and other nature subjects on dried shelf fungus. You can see examples of this artwork, as well as some of her drawings and photographs, on the web at www.americanmushrooms.com/heerkens.

Marie first joined BANC back in 1994. She has led field trips for the Club and has been visiting the Sanctuary. Although the habitat there is not conducive to the more spectacular mushrooms, there are some wonderful wildflowers and bird watching!

Originally written by Richard Ashworth, 2018

(edited by Marie Heerkens, 2022)



Pictures from the RBA/BANC joint field trip

Photos by Richard Ashworth

Habitat Restoration/Clean-up Day

By Julie Clayton

On Sunday, May 1st, sixteen caring individuals came out to the Clubhouse/Sanctuary to help clear the Sanctuary ground of invasive species, and Sanctuary Building Housekeeping Chairperson, Jutta Dudley, spruced up the indoors. There is always so much to do! We are a volunteer organization and much volunteer effort is required to hold everything together!

We were fortunate to have five high school students from the Victor Key Club help with the privet-pulling. That is a big job and privet plants are plentiful! It even helps to pull small ones before they grow to be more of a problem! Joe Hurley directed the folks who helped with the privet detail and did lots of work, as well.

Shirley Shaw led the group who helped pull the garlic mustard. Pulling the garlic mustard is a challenge for BANC. It seems to be everywhere!

Ellen Prill was in charge of the trail mulching group and whatever else the President put her mind to!

A big THANK YOU goes to all of our members (and friends) who showed up and gave their time and effort to help restore the natural habitat of our Sanctuary grounds.

We will be holding more of these days, and it is very important that our members come out and help – more hands make light work!

Photos by Julie Clayton



Carol Hinkelman picks up sticks on Habitat Restoration/Clean-Up Day



Derek Pulhamus using privet popper



More Pictures from Habitat Restoration/Clean-up Day

Photos by Julie Clayton

Babes-in-the-Woods

By Ellen Prill

Our “babes” are 25 bare-root twigs, all native shrubs and trees to our area: Pussy Willow, Wetland Rose, Ninebark, Winterberry, and Red Oak.

The Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has an erosion control program known as Trees-for-Tribs, AKA Buffer-in-a-Bag. The program has existed for 15 years; this year we applied for and received the shrubs and trees.

In all, seven BANC members volunteered their knowledge and sweat-equity determining placement of the plantings, measuring and cutting wire for deer-exclusion cages, digging and planting with use of a dibble bar (something new for me) and shovel, obtaining and pounding in stakes and landscape staples, setting up a sustainable watering system including a watering schedule, and weeding.

Mary Moore, Jane McConnochie, Ellen Prill, Frank Crombe, Steve Melcher, Dean Clayton, and Carol Southby were all involved in bringing this project to fruition. A special thanks to Mary Moore who put in countless hours, support, commitment to the project, and continues to do so.

A Very Merry, Berry Festival

By Ellen Prill

On June 26, 1:00 – 4:00 pm, rain or shine, an event for members (paid, life, and fellows).

We will have strawberry shortcake with homemade biscuits, whipped cream, and organic, local strawberries. You may choose from traditional, plant-based, or gluten-free biscuits, whipped cream, and ice cream.

If your membership is up-to-date, wonderful, see you the 26th. If not, please RENEW or become a member at <http://bancny.org/membership.html> by June 22nd. You can also come prepared with cash or a check and become a paid member on the 26th. The membership is \$25 for individuals, \$35 for couples, \$40 for families, and \$75 for supporting. We will have a list of paid members at the festival.

There will be guided strolls and music for your listening pleasure. Live music performed by our very own Julie Clayton and Steve Melcher.

It is also necessary for all attending to REGISTER ON-LINE at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0b4caca828a5fe3-averymerry> by June 22nd.



Planting the Trees for Tribs

Photos by Ellen Prill



Paul Brach and Fred Haynes enjoying the flowers at the BANC Sanctuary

Photos by Paul Brach and Fred Haynes



OFFICERS AND COUNCIL 2022



Ellen Prill
President



Marie Heerkens
Vice-President



John Shaw
Treasurer



Jane McConnochie
Recording Secretary



Marigrace Piazza
Corresponding Secretary



Frank Crombe
Financial Trustee



Joe Hurley
Financial Trustee



Julie Clayton
Trustee



Lura Kelley
Trustee



Carol Klinger
Trustee



Steve Melcher
Trustee



Mary Moore
Trustee



Shirley Shaw
Trustee

Photographs and composite by Richard Ashworth

BURROUGHS AUDUBON NATURE CLUB (BANC) 2022 MEMBERSHIP FORM

Membership runs from January 1st through December 31st. Please send your check, payable to BANC, along with this form, to:

BANC
 c/o John Shaw, Treasurer
 374 Cromwell Drive
 Rochester, NY 14610

Or, to pay online by credit card, use the form at bancny.org/membership.html.

Name(s) _____

Children's Ages (optional) _____

Street Address _____

City, State, ZIP _____ Phone _____

Email _____ Date _____

How did you learn of us? _____ Birth Month (Optional) _____

Check one: New Member _____ Renewal _____

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY	DUES	AMOUNT PAID
Individual	\$25	\$
Couple	\$35	\$
Family, including children under 18	\$40	\$
Supporting Membership	\$75	\$
Life Membership	\$500	\$
Add \$10.00 for Tanager hardcopy mailed	\$10	\$
Add \$4.00 for outside restroom key	\$4	\$
Extra Donation Appreciated	\$	\$
		Total \$



yellow iris
(Iris pseudacorus)



mouse-eared hawkweed
(Hieracium pilosella)



golden alexanders
(Zizia aurea)

Photos by Fred Haynes

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Program details are on pages 6 and 7.

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