

# Gray Fox Gazette

November/December 2018

Brukner Nature Center



## BNC Board of Trustees

Tom Kleptz, President  
Mary Beth Robertson, 1<sup>st</sup> VP  
Mike Beamish, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP  
Dave Lindeman, Secretary  
Bill Stump, Treasurer  
David Cobb  
Ben Dehus  
Michelle Ireton  
Nancy Johnston  
Terry Lavy  
Glen McMurry  
Jeff Montgomery  
Ben Poeppelman

## BNC Staff

Brian Ayres, Wildlife Educator  
Elaine Bolte, Assistant Wildlife Educator  
Laura Cain, Wildlife Educator  
Becky Crow, Curator of Wildlife  
June Drieling, Director of Education  
Cindy Gigandet, Administrative Assistant  
Tyler Harvey, Janitor  
Susan Kalkbrenner, Grant Writer  
Dylan Long, Intern  
Deb Oexmann, Executive Director  
Lauren Sommers, Intern

Joan C. Heidelberg, Director Emeritus

## Interpretive Center hours:

Monday - Saturday, 9:00am - 5:00pm  
Sunday, 12:30pm - 5:00pm  
Phone: (937) 698-6493

## River's Edge Wildlife Preserve

Located on the corner of Calumet Rd.  
and S.R. 48 north of West Milton  
Open sunrise to sunset only!

Visit us online at  
[www.brugnernaturecenter.com](http://www.brugnernaturecenter.com)  
Like us on Facebook!



## Winter Arts & Crafts Show

Saturday, December 1, 9:00am – 4:00pm

Don't miss Brukner Nature Center's annual Winter Arts & Crafts Show, a Miami Valley holiday tradition for over 30 years! Come discover hundreds of one-of-a-kind handmade items created by talented local artisans! Bring the whole family and explore the wildlife exhibits, take a hike through the woodlands and birdwatch in our 3rd story Tree-top Vista then relax with a cup of bird-friendly coffee and piece of homemade pie!

Embrace the season of giving and support our mission by purchasing raffle tickets for a chance to win a treasure donated by the artisans. Drawings will take place several times throughout the day and you do not need to be present to win. All proceeds from this event benefit our wildlife programs. Free and open to the public! (Please carpool!)



## Winter Party for the Wildlife

Saturday, December 8, 2:00 – 4:00pm



Join us for our annual Winter Party for the Wildlife! Our 50-plus wildlife ambassadors worked hard this year to educate thousands of people, so join us as we celebrate the season with our wildlife friends!

**From 2:00 – 3:00pm:** Enjoy refreshments and games, make a treat for your wild friends and visit with our wildlife ambassadors.

**From 3:00-4:00pm:** Enjoy a winter adventure along BNC's trails.

Admission to the event is a gift from our wish list just for our ambassadors! Check out the wish list in this month's GFG (page 7) or take a tag from our "Wishes for Wildlife" tree located in the main entrance of the Interpretive Building and return with your designated gift!

Hope to see you there and bring the entire family!



## *A Note from the Director...*



Dear Friends...

Today was perfect - a sweatshirt weather day – just right for a sunny morning of spreading mulch! In the downtime between loads, I entertained myself by pulling small honeysuckle plants and listening to bird song. The shrill ‘kyeer!’ of the northern flicker pierced the woods along with the almost imperceptibly high-pitched ‘tsees’ of golden-crowned kinglets. The only sound I was not so thrilled to hear was the sound of not one, but two trees falling somewhere in the distance. The emerald ash borer is taking its toll and the forest will change because of it. (Better keep on that honeysuckle!)

On to some good news... The 2018 Art of Nature was held last month and I can’t thank everyone enough for their support of the event – the tremendous food from Bakehouse Breads (and Haren’s Meat Market), 38 corporate sponsors, 100 silent auction donors, an awesome event committee, supportive Trustees, hard-working staff and the ever awesome Steve Burelison, our featured artist!! Together we raised ~\$30,000 in support of our mission to promote the appreciation and understanding of wildlife conservation through education, preservation and rehabilitation. How cool is that?!

I also wanted to update you all on our progress towards our latest goal – to add a dedicated quarantine building to our wildlife rehab campus to isolate and care for waterfowl, bats, and other wildlife suffering from easily transmittable diseases. To date we have raised over \$160,000 thanks to the support of our friends at The Troy Foundation, Vectren Foundation, Virginia Kettering Foundation, G. William Hartzell Charitable Fund, and the Tipp City Foundation, as well as generous contributions from our individual supporters. We still have some fundraising to do but are planning to break ground on October 29 – I’ll keep ya posted!

Thanks so much for your support of this amazing place we call Brukner Nature Center!

Deb

## *Winter Solstice Event* "Wildlife & Wild Places"



**featuring BNC's Photo Contest Exhibit and presentation by Ohio Division of Wildlife Staff  
Thursday, December 20, 7:00pm**

The theme of this season’s event is 'Wildlife & Wild Places'. Come meet our Photo Contest participants and enjoy their amazing photographs that capture the beauty and majesty of wildlife and wild places! Doors will open at 7:00pm and refreshments will include a variety of scrumptious homemade cookies and candies, enjoyed with a mug of hot chocolate or flavored coffee! At 7:15, we’ll settle into our seats for a lecture presented by ODNR Division of Wildlife biologist, Rob Ligas. Each year we get an update on wildlife research, sightings and more!

Admission for this seasonal celebration is just \$5 for BNC Members and \$10 for non-members. All participants in BNC's Photo Contest are admitted free of charge! All proceeds from this event and the sale of the photographs will support BNC's own wildlife research projects. This exhibit will feature the work of both adult and youth participants. The exhibit will also be open to the public during business hours through March 17, 2019.

## *Fall Art Gallery*

**Exhibit runs thru Sunday, December 16**



Featuring the remarkable quilted works of art created by Lisa Hoblit. Lisa uses intuitive and freeform shapes as a means of artistic self-expression, using the natural world as inspiration to create her own designs. Lisa believes in recycling, reusing, and repurposing materials, using unwanted sheets, discontinued upholstery samples, discarded button-down shirts, and leftover scraps from previous projects. While the use of scavenged materials is challenging, it satisfies a need to use available supplies in a productive, creative, and meaningful way. The exhibit is free with paid admission. All sales of the artwork will support our mission of wildlife conservation.



## What we did in August/September...

**Nature Programs:** Approximately 2,967 people participated in BNC programs! PEEP, 69; Honey Harvest, 40; Views from the Vista, 47; Bee School, 13; Rotary Camp, 13; Monarch Celebration, 250; Homeschool Nature Club, 98; Wild Art, 14; Wild Journeys, 20; Autumn Equinox Event, 31.

**Wildlife Rehab, 1,353 patients received so far in 2018! Stats for August/September:** 32 euthanized, 56 pending, 37 released, 103 died, 9 transferred.

**Birds:** American crow, 3 American goldfinches, American kestrel, bald eagle, 2 barn swallows, black and white warbler, brown-headed cowbird, Canada goose, cliff swallow, 3 common night-hawks, Cooper's hawk, downy woodpecker, eastern bluebird, gray catbird, 2 great blue herons, 6 great horned owls, house finch, house wren, 10 mourning doves, 3 northern cardinals, pie-billed grebe, 3 red-tailed hawks, 6 ruby-throated hummingbirds, song sparrow, 2 wild turkeys, yellow-billed cuckoo.

**Mammals:** 3 Big brown bats, 4 eastern chipmunks, 72 eastern cottontails, 69 eastern gray squirrels, 3 fox squirrels, hoary bat, red bat, 3 red squirrels, 19 Virginia opossums & woodchuck. **Herps:** American toad, common snapping turtle, eastern garter snake, gray ratsnake, woodland box turtle.

**Volunteers:** 98 Adults contributed 961.50 hours and 31 Junior Volunteers contributed 201.5 hours.

*"The clearest way into the universe is through a forest wilderness." ~ John Muir*



## BNC closed for Thanksgiving!

BNC's Interpretive Building will be closed on Thursday & Friday, November 22 & 23 for Thanksgiving. Our trails, however, will remain open from sunrise to sunset so bundle up and come hike with family and friends!!



## Thanks for your help!

We would like to recognize these August/September volunteers and to express our sincere appreciation for their help: Cindi Baltzer, Mike & Susan Barhorst, Mike Beamish, Cindy Beckstedt, Marlene Borton, Ruth Howell, Vickie Brewer, Anne Butler, Katie Byers, Barbara Caruso, Nick Christensen, Andy Coate, Dave Cobb, Sharon Cooper, Ron Corbett, Aubrey Copeland, Ben Dehus, Jane Delcamp, Karen Dempey, Alisha Dixon, Amorette Dye, Matthew Ewer, Jeff Ferrell, Sharon Fetters, Mark Fuchs, Kay Fulker, Jenny Fuller, Jan Gillespie, Ellen Goldstein, George & Joanie Gutermuth, Jean Hoover, Wendy Houghton, Charlene Hughes, Michelle Ireton, Lynn Johnson, Nancy Johnston, Emily Jones, Molly Kenney, Josh Kessler, John Keys, Tom Kleptz, Carl Knepper, Terry Lavy, Sharon Lemmon, Dave Lindeman, Esther Marko, Caroline Maslowski, Cathy Maurer, Angela & Glen McMurry, Freddy Meyers, Allan Miller, Steve Miller, Don Mitchell, Marian Moeckel, Jeff Montgomery, Mariann Nagy, Samantha Newman, Amber Nichols, Rosie & Raymond Nickol, Christina O'Connell-Carne, Norval & Rita Oexmann, Jill Patzek, Al Pennington, Teresa Peters, Ben Poeppelman, Debbie Ray, Dani Richey, Mary Beth Robertson, Kevin & Alyssia Serey, Leighane Shaffer, Monica Shell, Kris Singleton, Molly Slack, Maggie Solomon, Mollie Sorg, Minda Springer, Annette Stein, Bill Stump, Trent Thompson, Mike & Ruth Treon, Joshua Wackler, Dick Wagar, Brooke Waterman, Ruth Walsh, Jackie Watkins, Susan Weidel, Dottie Wettstone, Jessie Whettstone, Penny Williamson, Donna Wirz, Patricia Youngerman.

**Junior Volunteers:** Heidi & Josiah Allan, Hannah Beidelman, Katalaya Brandenburg, Gretchen Brown, Cora Chapman, Meredith Cook, McKenna Downing, Madison Fisher, Abby Fraley, Isaac Gluck, Jenna Grover, Chloe Howell, Malia Johns, Zoe Lindimore, Mary & Sarah Lins, Michael McKay, Audrey McWhorter, Sean Miller, Owen Plieman, Brayden Schwartz, Trey Singleton, Cailyn Starnes, Maggie & Rachel Stewart, Janessa Stigler, Blake Vanzart, Lillie Warner, Johanna Welborn, Ryan Woods.

## Wildlife questions?



BNC has developed 13 species-specific brochures to help you live with the wildlife in your own backyard - available at [www.bruknernaturecenter.com](http://www.bruknernaturecenter.com).

## Welcome New Members!

Membership dues provide valuable operational support to benefit our mission of wildlife conservation through environmental education. The benefits of membership are many, so please encourage your family and friends to join our family!

**Individual:** Graham King, Susan Nartker. **Family:** Ethan & Jennifer Banks, Sarah Bryant, Ian & Allison Camp, Elissa Drummond, Wesley & Janelle Ehninger, Kristen Evans, Cassidy Grimm, Matthew & Jill Guillozet, Heather Lamm, Jenna Lampert, Jenny Lanese, Kara Maynard, Spencer Morgan, Aaron & Holly Musselman, Allison Nix, Judy Oakes, Kevin & Anneli Powell, Lois Presley & Jim Thompson, Jacob & Heather Redmon, Gwen Sobieski, Erin South, Jacob & Shauna Stott, Rachel Struna, James Thomas, Kelly Tobie, Lee & Lauren Truesdale, John & Peggy Turner, Steven & Emily Welker, Darin & Kayleen West, Charles & Elaine Wivell. **Family+1:** Jordan & Maria Peterson, Ted & Malissa Robinette, Ted & Vicki Sendelgbach, Deborah Wissman.

## Room Rentals at BNC



Did you know that we rent our beautiful Heidelberg Auditorium and Meeting Room for special events? For more information, please call Cindy, Monday – Friday, at 937-698-6493.



## Community Rewards

Please register your Kroger Plus Card for the Community Rewards Program and help BNC when you shop. Visit [bruknernaturecenter.com/Support Us/Kroger Rewards](http://bruknernaturecenter.com/Support%20Us/Kroger%20Rewards) for steps on how to sign up! BNC's organization number is IC098.



## Holiday Gift Ideas from BNC...

Nature-related items include field guides, birdhouses and feeders! Looking for stocking stuffers? We have owl pellets, BNC lapel pins, twig pencils, bird whistles, earth balls, magnifying boxes, critter cases, and stuffed animals to name a few items!

BNC memberships for families and individuals, as well as registration to one of our many educational programs for family and friends, also make great gifts! We even have our own signature 'Brukner Blend' bird-friendly coffee, expertly roasted by our friends at Winans Coffee & Chocolates and our new BNC cotton baseball hats are finally here!

BNC offers a wide variety of gift ideas to choose from so you'll be sure to find the perfect gift! And when you've finished shopping, be sure to wind down with a walk along our woodland trails!



## Adopt-a-Release Box

Help us help them! When you participate in the "Adopt-a-Release-Box" program your \$20 contribution will help us to continue to provide hundreds of wildlife rehab patients with the support they need as they return to the wild. The release box simulates a cavity for sleeping, hiding from predators and/or caching food in – all things they depend on in the wild! For many juvenile animals this is their first home when released back into the wild that they can rely on over the next few days – even months!! As a thank you for your support, you will receive a special certificate featuring a photo of one of our Wildlife Ambassadors! How cool is that!!

## BNC Special Interest Groups Meetings

Visitors are welcome to attend these meetings held at Brukner Nature Center.

Brukner Bird Club, 3rd Monday, No meeting in November. December 17 at 6:30pm. Contact Steve Moeckel, 335-6653  
Miami Valley Beekeepers Assoc., 1st Monday, November 5 at 7:00pm. No meeting in December. Contact Robert Dorsten, 623-6562  
Brukner Society of Nature Carvers, 2nd Tuesday, November 13 at 7:00pm & December 11 at 6:30pm. Contact Jim Foster, 773-7314  
Wild Gardens Club, 3rd Monday, No meeting in November or December. Contact Ruth Howell, 216-6855



## Adopt-an-Animal

Are you looking for a gift for the person who has everything? BNC has a great gift idea called Adopt-an-Animal. Your donation helps to pay for the food and husbandry the individual animals needs to survive, from individualized diets to specialized cage improvements and daily enrichments. You will receive a special certificate of adoption suitable for framing featuring a photo of your adopted Wildlife Ambassador. We have gift amounts of varying sizes and forms are available on our website.



## Adopt-a-Tree!

Help us plant native trees at BNC's River's Edge Wildlife Preserve this spring! For a simple \$50 donation, a native tree will be planted, creating a welcoming entrance and future shade for weary hikers! Each donor will receive a certificate of appreciation suitable for framing. Adopt-a-Tree forms are available at the Center or on our website.

## BNC t-shirt makes a great gift !

All sizes are available in the Nature Shop



Have you had a chance to check out our new T-shirt design that is now available in the nature shop? If not, I encourage you to take a look at these cool shirts. Did you know the shirts are made from recycled plastic bottles?!

### Youth Shirts

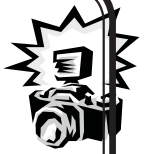
Charcoal Grey  
Sizes: Small - Large

### Adult Shirts

Better Brown  
Small - XXLarge

Cost is only \$15/shirt (cash or check)

## BNC's Annual "...it's about wildlife!" Photo Contest



### Now Accepting Entries!

We hope you've had plenty of time to sort through your favorite photos taken from your backyard or North American travels this year and are ready to enter them into our Annual Photo Contest. We are accepting entries from November 15 through December 10 that showcase wildlife or wild places and support our slogan "Brukner Nature Center... it's about wildlife!". Visit our website or stop by to pick up a brochure with full contest details. This event is open to all photographers of all ages!!

Winners will be announced on December 20 following our Winter Solstice Program and all participants are admitted free of charge to this event. Visit [www.bruknernaturecenter.com](http://www.bruknernaturecenter.com) to download your registration form today!



## Winter Art Gallery

"...it's about wildlife!"

December 20 – March 18, 2018

Brukner Nature Center invites you to join us for the unveiling of our Annual Photo Contest "It's About Wildlife," which will be featured as our winter art exhibit in the Heidelberg Auditorium following the Winter Solstice Program. This exhibit will feature the work of both adult and youth participants that have captured the beauty of wildlife and their wild places! The exhibit will also be open to the public during Interpretive Center hours and will run through Sunday, March 17. A percentage of the sales of these works will support the mission of Brukner Nature Center and our hands-on wildlife programs.

*"Everywhere in life, the true question is not what we gain, but what we do."*

*~ Thomas Carlyle*



## *View from the Vista*

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month

Come discover Brukner Nature Center's vista birdlife and join members of the BNC Bird Club as you learn to identify our feathered friends! So come on out, enjoy the camaraderie in our 3rd story window on wildlife, but be careful 'cause you just might get hooked on the fastest growing hobby in America!! All levels of birders welcome! (Really good binoculars available for use!)

**Sundays, Nov. 18 & Dec. 16, 2:00 – 4:00pm**

Come relax in the Tree-top Vista and enjoy bird-friendly coffee and homemade cookies as you learn about Ohio's native birds! Check out the feeders for our winter finches – pine siskins, purple finches and redpolls!!



## *Wild Journeys*

Come on an armchair adventure and discover the unique flora and fauna on this amazing planet! This program is free for BNC Members! Non-member admission is just \$5 per person and includes refreshments!

### **Alaska: Cruising the Inside Passage**

**Monday, November 19, 7:00pm**

Tom Hissong, retired Education Manager for the Aullwood Audubon Center and Farm, had the opportunity of a lifetime this past summer to visit Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve in Alaska's spectacular Inside Passage. Tom traveled and worked for nine weeks as Guest Alaskan Onboard Naturalist on Holland America's MS Noordam cruise ship. Starting at the Port of Vancouver, Tom traveled north to Alaska through some of the most beautiful waterway passages in the world. Tom observed and photographed a rich diversity of wildlife including bald eagles, humpback and killer whales, moose, Alaskan brown bear, black bear, sea otters, and more. Join Tom when he shares his Alaskan experiences through a colorful PowerPoint presentation and his stories.



## **Brukner Nature Center**

**Wednesday, December 5, 2018**

**11:00am – 9:00pm**

Hickory River Smokehouse will donate 20% of total net sales from purchases made by supporters of Brukner Nature Center. Supporters must present this flyer, mention Brukner Nature Center or show the flyer on their mobile device to the cashier. No coupons, discounts or other offers are valid during the fundraiser event.

**Voucher is valid for dine-in, carry-out, and drive-thru.**

**Hickory River Smokehouse**

135 S. Garber Dr.

Tipp City, OH 45371

937-669-BBQ1 (2271)

[www.hickoryriver.com](http://www.hickoryriver.com)



## *Winter Bird Count*

**Wednesday, December 12**

**9:00am - 12:00pm**

Come join the BNC staff and Bird Club members for a morning hike as we conduct our annual survey of birds found at BNC. This data provides valuable information on population trends, enabling us to better manage this beautiful nature preserve. Over the past several years we have spotted over 30 species including hermit thrushes, fox sparrows and brown creepers! We'll meet at 9:00am in the Interpretive Building, divide into groups and head out onto the trails. We'll meet back at the center for a hot lunch and to tally our results. Everyone is welcome. Please bring a dish to share for lunch – soup and coffee provided.

*Please register by calling 937-698-6493, in case we have to make changes due to inclement weather.*

## ***Project FeederWatch***

**November – March in the Tree-top Vista!**

Brokner Nature Center staff and volunteers collect data each winter for Project FeederWatch, an international citizen science project under the guidance of the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. Based on nearly a quarter-century of FeederWatch data, scientists document fluctuations in bird populations that could be the result of climate change, habitat destruction, disease or other environmental factors. Project leader David Bonter said, "These are large-scale changes that we would not be able to see without the massive amount of data from participants. Keeping an eye out in your own backyard can make a difference." All levels of birders are welcome, so contact us for a schedule of our FeederWatch dates and get involved with citizen science! Get all the info you need to be a FeederWatcher too, at [www.feederwatch.org](http://www.feederwatch.org)!



## ***Young Birders' Club***

*Geared just for students in grades 6-12 with an interest in birding, membership in the YBC is just \$10/year, plus high quality binoculars and field guides are provided for meetings and field trips, so no additional equipment is needed!*

As our winter bird residents continue to find their way into Ohio and settle in for the long cold weather ahead, we can take advantage of the open sight lines brought about by the trees' loss of leaves to observe some of these species. Join us as we discuss white throated sparrows, dark-eyed juncos, tree sparrows and other common winter species. We also will discuss the importance of and perform our own winter bird count to try and find as many birds as we can on the Brokner property! We also will discuss our upcoming Young Birder's Challenge where the winner will receive a Bushnell spotting scope to take home as their own! For more information on days and times please contact Brian at [brian@bruknernaturecenter.com](mailto:brian@bruknernaturecenter.com).

## ***Wild Art!***

**Sunday, November 18**

**1:00 – 4:00pm**



Please join us for a unique FUNdraising event as we help you paint a portrait of a snow owls on a 16"x20" canvas. A BNC Naturalist will provide an engaging introduction to the natural history of these owls! Lisa Bauer of the Mayflower Arts Center will guide you as you paint. This amazing opportunity is just \$35 per person, (ages 13 – adult), and includes refreshments and all materials. Deadline for registration and payment is Saturday, November 17 by 5:00pm (cash or check only). All proceeds benefit the Brokner Nature Center Wildlife Ambassador program.

## ***Wishlist...***



**Wildlife:** Plain Cheerios, "Special Kitty" moist cat food (chicken or turkey) from Wal-mart, fresh fruit & vegetables, cottonballs, *He* laundry detergent pods, dishwasher detergent pods, bleach, 30 and 33 gallon force flex trash bags, toilet paper, live mealworms, live wax worms, hard-shelled nuts (acorns, walnuts, etc), black oil sunflower seed, mixed seed, gift cards to Meijer, Lowes, PetCo, and Tractor Supply

**Nature Education:** Gift cards for Kroger, Amazon, and Jay & Mary's Book Center, jumbo clear hand soap refill, caution tape, duct tape, jumbo hand sanitizer refill, fabric paint, google eyes, pipe cleaners, copier paper, construction paper (yellow, blue, black, brown), tissues.

*We've added lots more ideas to our Amazon wish list!! Login to Amazon, go to the upper right of the screen and click on the Wish List menu. Scroll down to "find a wish list". Enter our main e-mail address – [info@bruknernaturecenter.com](mailto:info@bruknernaturecenter.com). Then simply click "add to cart" to add an item to your shopping cart! If you have any questions please call us at 937-698-6493!*

## Homeschool Nature Club

9:30 - 11:30am and 2:00 - 4:00pm

3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month  
(September – May)



Sign-up your 5 – 12 year-old homeschooled student for a morning or afternoon of discovery! Staff naturalists have developed hands-on educational and awe-inspiring lesson plans, using live wildlife and outdoor exploration! The fee for these innovative programs is only \$2.50 for BNC Members and \$5 for non-members (cash or check). Payment is due at time of registration. Deadline is 5:00pm on the Monday before each program.



### Turkey Talk

**Wednesday, November 21**

Snood, dewlap, caruncles, beard, and spur— what do all these words have in common?

Why, they are all parts of a turkey! You will learn all these parts and more when you come join us as we investigate the wild turkey! Children will learn the natural history of these amazing birds, the interesting calls they make, pretend to be a turkey, and even how to make the call of the turkey themselves! Gobble gobble!

### Nature Games

**Wednesday, December 19**



Did you know that a skunk can accurately spray up to fifteen feet with their back to their target, or that a cougar can leap 30 feet at one time?! Join us this month as we use games to test our abilities against native Ohio wildlife to compare how their adaptations allow them to best survive in their environment. Maybe we will find someone that can hold their breath over 50 minutes like a snapping turtle!



### AmazonSmile

BNC will receive .5% of the purchase price of all eligible items. Just go to "smile.amazon.com" for all your usual Amazon shopping. Select your charity (Brukner Nature Center) and your shopping experience stays the same. Easy peasy!

## Girl Scout Overnights



### Brownie's Fall Overnight Adventure! Friday, Nov. 9, 7pm to 9am Saturday, Nov. 10

Come join us for a fun and educational overnight adventure for your troop! You'll discover the awesome and unique adaptations of Ohio's wildlife as you encounter BNC's wildlife ambassadors! This program is just \$25/scout and \$20/leader, and is filled with nature games and lessons, as well as a late night snack, night hike, cool craft and continental breakfast! "Camp out" in the comfort of the Heidelberg Auditorium and create lasting memories during this overnight adventure.

*Deadline for registration and payment is 5:00pm on Monday, November 5. Pre-register and pay by Monday, October 29 and get a wildlife field guide for your troop! Girl Scout troops may now pay by cash, check or credit card!*

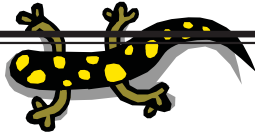
---

### Junior's Fall Overnight Adventure! Friday, Nov. 16, 7pm to 9am Saturday, Nov. 17

Come learn about conservation during this fun and educational overnight adventure for your troop! You'll meet BNC's Wildlife Ambassadors and discover what makes them especially sensitive to pollution. This program is just \$25/scout and \$20/leader, and is filled with nature games and lessons, as well as a late night snack, night hike, cool craft and continental breakfast! "Camp out" in the comfort of the Heidelberg Auditorium and create lasting memories during this overnight adventure!

*Deadline for registration and payment is 5:00pm on Monday, November 12. Pre-register and pay by Monday, November 5 and get a wildlife field guide for your troop! Girl Scout troops may now pay by cash, check or credit card!*



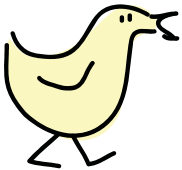


## ***Birthday Parties at BNC!***

Our "Bug Box" classroom is available for you to decorate, have cake and ice cream and play games, plus you'll be treated to a 30 minute live wildlife program for a maximum of 15 kids! A second party option is also available for groups larger than 20 people. For party details, please call Monday-Friday at 937-698-6493.

*"If a child is to keep his inborn sense of wonder, he needs the companionship of at least one adult."*

*~Rachel Carson*



## ***PEEP Winter Session I*** **January 8 - February 15**

Winter often makes us think it's time to hibernate along with the ground hogs! Winter is, in fact, a great time to continue that sense of wonder that all preschoolers possess and encourage them to use their senses to explore. Using fox ears we'll listen to the birds singing, our keen hawk eyes will allow us to find squirrel and bird nests high in the trees, and our sense of smell might just help us find a mouse hiding in the meadow. Did you know that foxes can smell and hear mice moving under the snow?! BNC's Preschool Environmental Education Program (PEEP) offers a unique opportunity for children, ages 3-5 years old, to learn through nature hikes, crafts and storytime and winter is a great time to get outside and explore! Registration opens Sunday, November 11 at 12:30pm and runs the week of January 8 through the week of February 15. Classes are held for six weeks and are offered one day a week, on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 9:30 – 11:30am. An additional afternoon class is offered on Friday from 12:30 – 2:30pm. The fee is just \$55 for BNC Members and \$75 for non-members. All fees are due upon registration. Class size is limited to just 12 children!

## ***Winter Vacation Camps***

**Friday, December 21**

### ***"Animals Surviving Winter"***

**Kids in grades K-5th**

**Half day: 9:00am - 12:00pm**

**Full day: 9:00am - 3:00pm**



When the air turns frigid and the frost settles on the windows, children fill with anticipation of winter vacation. Sign your child up for a half day or whole day of exploration and fill their new found free time with fun and learning. This year, we will be exploring how mammals and birds survive the chilling winter! What is a mammal going to use to protect itself from the cold? How is a bird going to find its food? Meet several of our animal ambassadors and learn what it takes to survive winter!

***Half day (9:00am - 12:00pm)***

*\$15 for BNC Members • \$20 for non-members*

***Full day (9:00am - 3:00pm)***

*\$20 for BNC Members • \$25 for non-members  
(cash or check)*

*Deadline: Monday, December 17*



### ***"Winter Adventure"***

**Preschoolers 3-5 yrs. old**

**9:00am - 12:00pm**

Winter is the time of year when groundhogs are curled up hibernating, snakes are tangled in a mass underground and our winter birds are puffing out their feathers for added insulation! Don't let your kids hibernate this winter - keep them active and exploring this wonderful season! And sign them up to join Miss June for a special one day winter program. We will bundle up and head outdoors to explore!

**Winter Camp registration is open!**

***Half day (9:00am - 12:00pm)***

*\$15 for BNC Members • \$20 for non-members  
(cash or check)*

*Deadline: Monday, December 17*



# Brokner Nature Center

5995 Horseshoe Bend Rd., Troy, OH 45373

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Troy, OH  
Permit No. 263

RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED



Printed on recycled paper



## BNC Holiday Hours

BNC's Interpretive Building will be closed from December 24 through January 1. Our trails will be open from sunrise to sunset each day so come on out for a winter hike during the holiday season!

Save us from becoming paper!  
Get your GFG as a pdf!



*Brokner Nature Center is a non-profit, privately-funded organization promoting the appreciation and understanding of wildlife conservation through preservation, education, and rehabilitation.*



*-Adopted January 18, 2012, by the BNC Board of Trustees*

## Looking ahead to November...



- Brownies Fall Overnighter, Friday, November 9, 7:00pm to 9:00am, Saturday, November 10.
- Adult Volunteer Orientation, Tuesday, November 13, 1:30pm & 7:30pm. We simply could not accomplish our goals without our wonderful volunteers!
- Juniors Fall Overnighter, Friday, November 16, 7:00pm to 9:00am, Saturday, November 17.
- Wild Art, Sunday, November 18, 1:00-4:00pm. \$35/person. Ages 13 - adult.
- View from the Vista, Sunday, November 18, 2:00 – 4:00pm. Learn to ID cool birds with the BNC Bird Club!
- Wild Journeys, Monday, November 19, 7:00pm. Come on an armchair adventure to Alaska!
- Homeschool Nature Club, Wednesday, November 21. For kids ages 5 - 11 years old.
- BNC Interpretive Building closed, Thursday & Friday, November 22 & 23 for Thanksgiving. Come take a hike!