



*Open Minds, Open Hearts, and Open Lands*

## SPECIAL EVENTS — *Save the Dates*

### A Reading of A.R. Gurney's *Love Letters*

Friday February 28, 7 - 9 pm

Enjoy a romantic evening with two of our favorite Redding actors, Nancy and Bob Ponturo, as they share A.R. Gurney's classic "Love Letters". Raise a glass of champagne in celebration of our 30th anniversary and theirs. The delightful performance will be followed with coffees and homemade desserts.

*Free of charge thanks to  
The Schroeder Education Fund*



### Fred Newman in Sound and Stories

Saturday March 28, 6-9 pm

A man of prodigious talents, Fred Newman is an actor, voice actor, author, symphonic composer, comedian, storyteller and master listener. Perhaps Fred's most special gift is his connection to the world through sound.

Fred may be best known for his humorous and wide-ranging sound effects work with Garrison Keillor on *A Prairie Home Companion*. Longtime fans will remember him from his work on PBS with Jim Henson and on *Between the Lions*. He was a host of *The New Mickey Mouse Club* which helped to launch the careers of Britney Spears, Justin Timberlake and Cristina Aguilera, among others. Affectionately known as "the mouth sounds guy", Fred and his family are also long time members of New Pond Farm.

To launch New Pond Farm's 30th Anniversary, Fred will share a very special evening with us at the Redding Country Club, transporting us all into a world filled with humor, nature, light-hearted insights and incredible sounds. We invite you to join us!



Date: Saturday March 28, 2015  
 Time: Cocktails and Hors d'oeuvres 6 p.m.,  
 Dinner and Program 7 p.m.  
 Location: The Redding Country Club

Fee: \$100 per member (\$35 is tax deductible)  
 \$125 per non-member (\$60 is tax deductible)



"Connecticut's Bats" on page 2



"Backyard Maple Syruping" on page 3



"Open to Members" on page 4

**To register online,**  
 click on any title or photo  
 or call the office  
 (203) 938-2117

All programs and events,  
 require reservations  
 and prepayment.

*One week cancellation  
 is required for a refund.*

*Park at the  
 Learning Center.*

*Dress for the outdoors.*

**REGISTRATION**

**Winter, Spring  
 2015**

## Adult Programs

### Felting by the Fire

Wednesday February 11, 7 - 8 pm



Learn the fascinating craft of Needle Felting with NPF teacher Sheila Dick. Sit by a cozy fire and work with soft carded wool to make an array of charming projects! All materials will be provided.

Fee: \$20/member, \$25/non-member

### Branches, Buds, and Bark Lecture, Walk, and Luncheon

Wednesday February 25,  
11 am - 1 pm



Bundle up and join NPFEC Board Member, John Campbell, for an invigorating and informative walk along our trails. Learn how to tell a maple from an oak, a beech from a birch, and so much more! John was a director for the Bartlett Arboretum, the past president of the Darien Audubon Society, and past vice-president of the Darien Nature Center. He brings with him a wealth of knowledge and a spirit of great fun! A hearty lunch of homemade bread, soup, and salad will be served.

Fee: Free/member, \$10/non-member

### State of the Birds with Miley Bull

Thursday March 12, 7 - 8 pm



Join well-known ornithologist, raconteur, and Connecticut Audubon Society's Senior Director of Science and Conservation, Miley Bull, for a State of the Birds Report – an assessment of the health of Connecticut's birds. This program is underwritten by *The Schroeder Education Fund*.

Fee: Free/member, \$10/non-member

### Connecticut's Bats with Christina J. Kocer

Thursday March 19, 6:30 - 7:30 pm



Join CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection's Christina J. Kocer for an enlightening evening learning about bats and why they are extremely necessary for and beneficial to our environment. This presentation will provide general information about bats of Connecticut, clear up many misconceptions and provide some information about White-Nose Syndrome and what can be done to help stop its spread. This program is appropriate for ages 10 and up.

Fee: \$15/member, \$20/non-member

### Pysanky Eggs

Saturday March 21, 1 - 3 pm



Join talented NPF member, Chanel Dupare, as she shares this traditional Ukrainian craft. Using a wax resist dyeing method you will learn the delicate meditative art of Pysanky and leave with beautiful creations to enhance your home or to give as unique presents.

Fee: \$15/member, \$20/non-member

### Wildlife Action Plan with Julie Victoria

Wednesday March 25, 7 - 8:30 pm



Come listen to wildlife biologist Julie Victoria explain the DEEP's wildlife and wildlife habitat conservation efforts. The DEEP's plan is being revised and will provide a framework for conserving wildlife and habitats over the next ten years.

Fee: Free/member, \$10/non-member

## Birthday Parties!!



Did you know that our staff offers fun and educational birthday parties for NPF Family Members?

Please visit our website for more details:

[http://www.newpondfarm.org/birthday\\_parties](http://www.newpondfarm.org/birthday_parties)



## Family Programs

### Winter Farm Chores Saturday January 31, 2:30 – 3:30 pm



Bundle up and assist Farmer Mike with afternoon chores. Help care for the cows, calves, sheep, and chickens.

**Members Only!** Fee: \$10/family

### Backyard Bird Feeding for Families Saturday February 7, 11 am – 12 pm



2015 is the 18th anniversary of the Great Backyard Bird Count – an online citizen-science project to collect data on wild birds. Join us on the 7th to learn more about the GBBC, how to participate, and how to set up a backyard bird watching and feeding station. We are also setting up feeding stations at our learning center for people to participate. Participation instructions, tips for spotting and identifying birds, and additional materials will be provided.

Fee: \$10/member family,  
\$15/non-member family

### Great Backyard Bird Count for Families

**February 13 - 16, 10 am - 2 pm**

The Great Backyard Bird Count is led by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and National Audubon Society. Join us and participate in this four-day event counting birds to help create a real-time snapshot of bird populations in our area. Come to the farm and use our new bird watching and feeder stations or create your own in your backyard! We will be holding a photo contest of the best backyard shot. Please submit all photos to the office by February 20. The winners will be picked and prizes distributed on February 22. This program is underwritten by *The Schroeder Education Fund*.

*This is a Free Program*

### Backyard Maple Syruping Sunday February 8, 1:30 - 2:30 pm



Have you ever wanted to make your own maple syrup? Let Pete Lopuch teach you each step in this sweet process and review the materials needed for backyard production. Dress for the outdoors!

Fee: \$8/member family,  
\$10/non-member family

### Winter Farm Chores Sunday February 15, 2:30 - 3:30 pm



Bundle up and assist Farmer Jeff with afternoon chores. Help care for the cows, calves, sheep, and chickens.

**Members Only!** Fee: \$10/family

### Maple Syruping with Farmer Mike

**Saturday February 21, 1 - 2 pm**



Come spend some time in our sugarhouse learning about the history and process of making maple syrup. Learn how the sap is collected, boiled and turned into maple syrup.

Fee: \$8/member family,  
\$10/non-member family

### Winter Astronomy Saturday February 21, 6:30 pm

Join our team of volunteer astronomers at our Observatory and learn more about the planets and constellations. Dress warmly. Farm fresh hot chocolate will be served. Park at the Learning Center and bring a flashlight for the walk out to Astronomy Hill. If the skies look cloudy, please call the farm after 3:30 p.m. (203.938.2117) or check the homepage on our website.

Fee: \$4/member (\$16 max. per family)  
\$6/non-member (\$24 max per family)

### Maple Syruping and Pancake Breakfast Saturday March 7, Seatings: 8:30, 9, 9:30, and 10 am



Start your winter morning with a breakfast of bacon and homemade pancakes topped with farm fresh maple syrup. After breakfast head down to the sugar shed to see how your syrup was made.

**Members Only!**

Fee: \$8/ person, 3 and under free

## Frog Watch USA Volunteer Training

**Friday March 20, 6:30 - 8 pm**

Join us as Jim Sirch, Coordinator of Public Education at Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History, speaks on behalf of FrogWatch USA - a citizen-science program of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) that provides individuals, groups, and families with an opportunity to learn about wetlands in their communities and report data on the calls of local frogs and toads. Volunteers collect data during evenings throughout the spring and summer. Join us for an evening of training and to become a certified Frog Watcher!

*Free thanks to  
The Schroeder Education Fund*

## Spring Farm Chores

**Saturday March 21, 2:30 - 3:30 pm**

Bundle up and assist Farmer Mike with afternoon chores. Help care for the cows, calves, sheep, and chickens.

*Members Only! Fee: \$10/family*

## Old Fashioned Easter Egg Hunt

**Saturday March 28, 11 am  
(Rain date: April 4, 11 am)**



Bundle up for one of the most egg-citing events on the farm! Children from toddlers to teens will "hunt" our beautiful pastures and gardens for hand-dyed eggs. Different areas for each age group and great prizes for all. Sign up early, space is limited.

*Members Only! Fee: \$15/child*

## Spring Astronomy

**Saturday April 4, 8 pm**



Join our team of volunteer astronomers at our Observatory and learn more about the

planets and constellations. Dress warmly. Farm fresh hot chocolate will be served. Park at the Learning Center and bring a flashlight for the walk out to Astronomy Hill. If the skies look cloudy, please call the farm after 3:30 p.m. (203.938.2117) or check the homepage on our website.

*Fee: \$4/member (\$16 max. per family)*

*\$6/non-member (\$24 max per family)*

## Peep Patrols

**Friday April 10 or Saturday**

**April 11, 7 - 8:30 pm**



Put on your boots and grab your flashlights - we are going in search of amphibians. This annual event is great fun for the whole family. We will explore the pond, marsh and surrounding wetlands for a variety of species. Please wear boots and bring a flashlight (with new batteries!)

*Members Only! Fee: \$15/family*

## We're Open to Members



Our members are welcomed to enjoy the property; winter hours are from 10 am to 4 pm. We invite you to hike the trails, cross country ski/snow shoe around the pastures, or sled down Astronomy Hill. **NO SKATING!!** Please park at the Indoor Learning Center and walk out to the pastures. Children under 12 must be accompanied by a parent. Please call to let us know you are coming, we ask that you leave your dogs at home.

## Spring Farm Chores

**Sunday April 12, 2:30 - 3:30 pm**

Bundle up and assist Farmer Jeff with afternoon chores. Help care for the cows, calves, sheep, and chickens.

*Members Only! Fee: \$10/family*

## 6-12 Yr. Old Programs

**\$6/member child; \$8/non-member child**

**All programs, unless otherwise specified, meet from 4 - 5 pm**

## Valentine's Day Cookies and Animal Treats

**Saturday February 14, 2 - 3 pm**

Join us for a fun afternoon of baking and decorating cookies to bring home for Valentine's Day! We will also make some special treats for our animals! Farm fresh ingredients will be used.

*Fee: \$8/member child,  
\$10/non-member child*

## School is Out Totally Turtles

**Monday February 16, 1 - 2 pm**

We have three different turtle species for you to meet, feed and learn about, followed by a turtle craft for you to take home.

## Winter Break Nature Day

**Tuesday February 17, 10 am - 1 pm**

We'll spend the morning learning about the strategies plants and animals use to survive during the winter, discover who is hibernating and who is awake and take a hike on our trails. While hiking we will examine trees and roll over logs to see who may be living underneath. We'll then read a nature themed story, create a nature-based craft and then have lunch and farm fresh hot chocolate. Bring a bagged lunch to be eaten at 12:30!

*Fee: \$20/member child,  
\$25/non-member child*

## Winter Animal Tracking

**Saturday February 21, 2 - 3 pm**



Although winter can be very cold and snowy, our woodland residents are still out finding food and shelter. We will take a walk and detect signs of their activity. Wear your boots!



## Native American Legends and Craft

Monday March 16



Storytelling played a vital role with maintaining the oral traditions of Native American. Come spend an afternoon listening to legends and make a fun craft to bring home.

## Pysanky Eggs

Saturday March 21, 10 am – 12 pm

Learn the art and craft of an old Ukrainian decorating tradition. Using a wax resist dyeing method you will learn the delicate meditative craft of Pysanky and take home beautiful eggs to decorate your home.

*Fee: \$10/member child,  
\$15/non-member child*

## Nature Scavenger Hunt

Monday March 23



Winter is a great time to get outside and see some of the art and beauty of nature! Sharpen your observation skills and join us for an afternoon scavenger hunt.

## Make Your Own Easter Egg Trees

Tuesday March 31, 4 - 5 pm

Create your own beautiful tree as you decorate hand-blown eggs. A perfect spring table decoration for your family.

*Fee: \$12/member, \$16/non-member*

## 4-5 Yr. Old Programs with an Adult

\$6/member child; \$8/non-member child

All programs, unless otherwise specified, meet on Mondays from 2 - 2:45 pm

## Valentine's Day Cookies and Animal Treats

Saturday February 14,

11 am - 12 pm

Join us for a fun morning of baking and decorating cookies to bring home for Valentine's Day! We will also make some special treats for our animals! Farm fresh ingredients will be used.

*Fee: \$8/member child,  
\$10/non-member child*

## School is Out Totally Turtles

Monday February 16,

10 - 10:45 am



We have three different turtle species for you to meet, feed and learn about, followed by a turtle craft for you to take home.

## Winter Animal Tracking

Saturday February 21,

11 am - 12 pm

Although winter can be very cold and snowy, our woodland residents are still out finding food and shelter. We will take a walk and detect signs of their activity. Wear your boots!

## Native American Legends and Craft

Monday March 16

Storytelling played a vital role with maintaining the oral traditions of Native American. Come spend an afternoon listening to legends and make a fun craft to bring home.

## Nature Scavenger Hunt

Monday March 23

Winter is a great time to get outside and see some of the art and beauty of nature! Sharpen your observation skills and join us for an afternoon scavenger hunt.

## Save the Dates:

NPF's 30th Birthday Party ~  
Founders' May Fair  
Sat. May 16th (rain date 17th)

Farm to Canvas Preview Party  
Fri. May 29th

Farm to Canvas Art Show  
Sat. May 30-Sat. June 13th

For the Love of Gardening  
Garden Tour, co-sponsored with  
the Redding Garden Club,  
Sat. June 13th

## Calling All Volunteers!

Join in on the fun!

We would love helping hands for:

\*NPF's Run for the Cows  
sponsored by goneforarun.com

Sunday May 3rd (this is a great  
one for early-bird volunteers!)

\*Founders' May Fair on Saturday  
May 16th

\*Afterschool help in our  
Wildlife Room

Please contact Ann Taylor for  
more information:  
ann@newpondfarm.org

## Membership...the perfect gift!

The majority of our operating budget is dependent on memberships, program revenues and private grants.

We welcome your support! Please make your contribution payable to New Pond Farm Education Center and send it to:  
New Pond Farm Education Center; Box 116;  
West Redding, CT 06896.

To have a gift card mailed, please call the office!

As members you will have the opportunity to:

- Hike, cross country ski and explore on our spectacular private 102-acre property
- Receive discounts on programs
- Enjoy many Members-Only programs — like Junior Staff, Summer Camp, Pancake Breakfasts, Caroling with the Animals & evening amphibian programs
- Receive seasonal Newsletters and Calendars in advance so that you may be first to sign up for our classes
- Participate in educational and unique birthday parties for your children
- Enjoy an ongoing series of adult workshops and outdoor activities throughout the year
- Discover the fascinating plant and animal communities of the Redding area in our hands-on classes
- Support one of the last working farms in Fairfield County — celebrating our connection to the land and the origins of our food
- Support environmental programs that plant the seeds of conservation, encouraging students of all ages to become responsible stewards of the land
- Support a summer camp that brings together children from the inner city and children from surrounding areas in a personal atmosphere, fostering new understandings and friendships

### Membership Categories:

- |   |      |                                     |       |                                   |         |
|---|------|-------------------------------------|-------|-----------------------------------|---------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual Adult | \$50 | <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting | \$100 | <input type="checkbox"/> Patron   | \$500   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family           | \$75 | <input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining | \$300 | <input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor  | \$1,000 |
|   |      |                                     |       | <input type="checkbox"/> Guardian | \$5,000 |

Name(s) of family members: \_\_\_\_\_

### Mailing Address Information:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_ City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_

New Pond Farm Education Center is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) public foundation. Memberships are tax deductible to the fullest extent provided by law.



Box 116 • 101 Marchant Road • West Redding, CT 06896

