



Eagle Creek Park Volunteer News

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has.”

—Margaret Mead

Volume 13, Issue 4

News from Furkan



By Furkan Keskin Amonett, Volunteer Coordinator—I am sadly writing my last article to you for the Newsletter. The first week of August will be my last as the Volunteer Coordinator at Eagle Creek Park.

I have thoroughly enjoyed working here and meeting with all of you. It is certainly memorable for me having worked here. I am so glad that I was able to give a presentation about Cappadocia and inform you of the natural wonders of that region. I plan to be connected to our wonderful Eagle Creek Park either by visiting on my leisure or being a volunteer. I am sure I will see you at coffee talks or other events or stop by to see you at the Nature Centers.

Thank you so much for bearing with me and making my job fun!

Left: Furkan Keskin Amonett talks about Cappadocia, Turkey, at the July Coffee Talk

Volunteer Docent Training

By Jennifer Boyce, Naturalist—If you are interested in engaging children and families, sharing information about animals and displays at the Earth Discovery Center, scooping at the pond, and more please join me for a volunteer training session **on Saturday, August 15 from 1 to 3 pm**. We will meet at the EDC and review program ideas, look at props, and talk about how to facilitate family programs.

Volunteer trainings do count towards your yearly volunteer hours and this will be a fun, interactive way to learn more about the EDC. Please email in advance if you plan to attend. If you have interest in attending but are not available, please let me know and a future training can be scheduled.

Volunteer Opportunities Bringing people and nature together!

- Nature Guide—Training, August 15, 1-3
- Run/walk events
- Art shows—Images of Nature, September 12-20
- Gardening
- Indoor maintenance
- Outdoor maintenance
- Rubbish Busters
- Earth Discovery Center weekend staffing
- Historians
- Bulletin boards
- Team leaders
- Coffee Talks—first Wednesdays
- Project organizers
- Newsletter production
- Special events—Family Campout, August 1-2; Volunteer Retreat, August 14

“[Nature]...is the one place where miracles not only happen, but happen all the time.”

—Thomas Wolfe

Ornithology Center News August 2015

By Maggie Jaicomo, Naturalist—We are happy to welcome a new part-time naturalist, Jenna Nawrocki to the OC staff. Jenna grew up in Greenwood, Indiana, and recently graduated from IU Bloomington with her masters in environmental science. She has been birding with her family from a very young age and is excited to learn about raptor care with us. She has a background in biology and fish and wildlife management, including research and environmental education. Her hobbies include painting, singing, and playing piano.



We had a busy summer with several camps for kids ages 4-11. Children got to enjoy new activities such as tree climbing, canoeing, archery, and fishing along with many avian adventures. This was our first year



with a full-time counselor, Jenna Parks, who was an invaluable asset, due to her previous experience as both an Ornithology Center volunteer and camp counselor. We look forward to an even more successful year in 2016!

Be sure to check out the improvements in front of the Ornithology Center. We have added a river, mountains, and even Monument Circle. Thanks to the generosity of Cummins and the hard work of about 100 of their volunteers, our dream of a permanent migration game is becoming a reality. Rainy days and storms have delayed the final phase of construction, but all should be complete by the time school groups begin coming for field trips in the fall.

Rubbish Busters

By Sandy DeLong, Rubbish Busters—Again thank you to all who have been continually striving to keep the park in good shape even with the diligence of the raccoons and their foraging habits. It appears the human visitors are getting better at placing trash in receptacles, thinking seeing others picking up trash is an incentive. Would there be an interest in having a meeting after the September coffee talk to brainstorm any ideas for making this task even more productive? An e-mail will be sent to all registered RBs in August so those unable to attend the morning meeting can send back any suggestions they are thinking of. All input is greatly appreciated as all good works need tweaking from time to time.

Summer Concert Series

6:30 pm Wednesdays at the Marina

Bring a lawn chair or blanket and enjoy a live folk or jazz music performance right next to the beautiful scenery of Eagle Creek Reservoir.

In Concert with Nature

August 5—The Halfstep Sisters

August 19—Emily Ann Thomson

Jazz on the Point

August 12—Betty Souza

August 26—Mitch Shiner

August 2015

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

Perseid Meteor Shower
August 12, 10 pm-midnight
Meet at the soccer fields by Eagle's Crest on the west side of the reservoir.

Story Time on the Reservoir
 Each Thursday in August, 10-10:45 am
For ages 3-6 with an adult

1 1:30 Nat Disc
 2 Feathered Fun
 7 Family Camp Out

<p>2 9 Birdwalk 1:30 FeedingTime 2 Feathered Fun</p>	<p>3 BEACH CLOSED FOR SEASON</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5 8:30 Coffee 9:30 Gardeners 4 Raptors 6:30 Concert</p>	<p>6 10 Story time</p>	<p>7 4 Meet a Raptor</p>	<p>8 9 Invasives 1:30 Nat D—Bats 2 Feathered Fun</p>
<p>9 9 Birdwalk 1:30 FeedingTime 2 Feathered Fun</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12 9:30 Gardn 4 Rapt 6:30 Conc 10 Meteor Show</p>	<p>13 10 Story time</p>	<p>14 4 Meet a Raptor 5 Vol Retreat</p>	<p>15 11 EDC/OC 1 Vol training 1:30 NatD 2 FF</p>
<p>16 9 Birdwalk 1:30 FeedingTime 2 Feathered Fun</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19 9:30 Gardn 4 Meet a Raptor 6:30 Concert</p>	<p>20 10 Story time</p>	<p>21 4 Meet a Raptor</p>	<p>22 11 EDC/OC 1:30 Nat Disc 2 Feathered Fun</p>
<p>23 9 Birdwalk 1:30 FeedingTime 2 Feathered Fun</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26 9:30 Gardn 4 Meet a Raptor 6:30 Concert</p>	<p>27 10 Story time</p>	<p>28 4 Meet a Raptor</p>	<p>29 1:30 Nat Disc—Monarchs 2 Feathered Fun</p>
<p>30 9 Birdwalk 1:30 FeedingTime 2 Feathered Fun</p>	<p>31</p>	<p>Triathlons—Saturdays August 15 and 22 <i>Park access restricted until 10:30 am</i> <i>EDC & OC open at 11 am</i></p>				

Coffee Talk
August 5, 8:30 am, EDC
 Colletta Kosiba & Heather Schmiedicke

ECP Volunteer Retreat
 Friday, August 14
 5-8 pm

September 2015

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

		1	2 8:30 Coffee 9:30 Gardeners 4 Meet a Raptor	3	4 4 Meet a Raptor	5 9 Images 10 Story Time 1:30 Nat Disc 2 FFun-Vultures
6 9 Birdwalk 1:30 Feeding 2 Feathered Fun	7 LABOR DAY EDC & OC CLOSED	8	9 9:30 Gardeners 4 Meet a Raptor	10	11 4 Meet a Raptor 6 Images Reception	12 9 Images 9 Invasives 1:30 Nat Disc 2 Feathered Fun
13 9 Birdwalk 1 Images 1:30 Feed 2 FFun	14 9 Images	15 9 Images	16 9 Images 9:30 Gardeners 4 Meet a Raptor	17 9 Images	18 9 Images 4 Meet a Raptor	19 9 Images 1:30 Nat Disc 2 Feathered Fun
20 9 Birdwalk 1 Images 1:30 Feed 2 FFun	21	22	23 9:30 Gardeners 4 Meet a Raptor	24	25 4 Meet a Raptor	26 1:30 Nat Disc 2 Feathered Fun
27 9 Birdwalk 1:30 Feeding-Time 2 Feathered Fun	28	29	30 9:30 Gardeners 4 Meet a Raptor			

Coffee Talk

Wednesday, September 2, 8:30 am, EDC
Gerhard Gennrich, State Museum volunteer
"Mastadons in Indiana"

October 7 Coffee Talk

John Thieme, "Insects In Winter"

This talk will highlight the unique ways that many of our six-legged friends actually pass the winter here in Indiana. Come discover how insects survive the most difficult months of the year!

New Nature Trail!

By John Thieme, Volunteer—Near the entrance of the EDC there is now a new educational nature trail called the “Discovery Trail.” This scenic trail runs primarily in a northeasterly direction from the EDC for about a thousand feet to join the existing “Pin Oak Trail.” The trail travels down over an intermittent creek bed then follows the rim of a deep gorge showcasing a variety of interesting plants and animals. Many native plants are still being added, along with other improvements to help make it even more interesting, educational, and enjoyable for everyone. The new trail was made possible largely with the help of Scott Cozart, Russ Himes, Ned Lewis, and John Thieme. Lately, Boy Scouts have shown in interest in helping establish more native plants along the trail. Come on out and enjoy it!



Images of Nature Photography Exhibit and Competition

September 12-20 at the EDC Monday-Saturday 9 am-5 pm, Sundays 1 pm-5 pm

September 11, 6 pm-8 pm, Artist Reception at the EDC

Images of Nature is sponsored by the [Eagle Creek Park Foundation](#) and presented by the [Riviera Camera Club](#), and is open to all amateur and professional photographers who reside in Indiana. All entries must be "nature only"- no domestic plants or animals, roads, buildings, humans, etc.

The [Eagle Creek Earth Discovery Center](#) hosts three art shows a year that focus on nature-themed art work, as well as an "Artist of the Month" on display in the Earth Discovery Center hallways. All art shows are free with park admission. Many of the pieces are for sale, with a percentage of sales going to support the Eagle Creek Park Foundation. For more information about Art Shows or Artist of the

ECP Foundation Kids Fishing Derby 2015

By Colletta Kosiba, Indiana Master Naturalist, long time Eagle Creek Volunteer and “Fishing Guide for the day”—June 6 was cloudy, 70 degrees, a perfect day to go fishing. A host of children and their parents came to try their hands. Early in the morning, a mother Mallard duck swam by with her five babies in tow, to the delight of young and old. A father walked toward me with a four-year-old boy trailing. The youngster stopped to examine a plant, pick up a stick, and point out a bird; the tyke reminded me of a puppy exploring his world.

A family arrived with three adults and five kids ages 9-12. They looked at me and asked, “Can you help us? We have never fished.” I was delighted to teach them. The kids were very polite, tried very hard to grasp all the instructions. They all manage to throw their lines out; unfortunately they had little patience for the fish to bite and the fish did not cooperate very well either. The girl did catch a hand-sized blue gill. We took a look at the fish and I explained all about him to the kids.

After the third line tangle, I made them untangle the line themselves. Towards the end of the day, I said, “I am a girl and I can put a worm on; I think one of you *big guys* should put your worm on too.” One young man began putting a worm on, but when the squishy stuff came out, that was all he could take.

The family was pleased, had fun and learned all about fishing.

Eagle Creek

5901 Delong Rd.

Earth Discovery Center Phone: 317-327-7148
Ornithology Center Phone: 317-327-BIRD (2473)
EDC Hours: Mon-Sat 9-5, Sun 1-5

More. Outdoors... Naturally.



MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to educate and inspire our community to actively participate with our natural environment.

Eagle Creek Park Staff

Brittany Davis Swinford, Senior Manager
Dawn Van Deman, Manager, EDC
Kevin Carlsen, Manager, OC
Shilah Larison, Mgr, Beach/Boat Ramp/Gates
Joe Schmid, Manager, Trails
Jennifer Boyce, Naturalist
Jake Brinkman, Naturalist
Anne Cecere, Naturalist
Leah Frenzel, Naturalist
Maggie Jaicomo, Naturalist
Jenna Nawrocki, Naturalist
Furkan Keskin Amonett, Vol Coordinator

ECP Shop at the EDC

Volunteers get 20% off!



View Newsletter online

at: <http://www.eaglecreekdiscovery.org/home/volunteers/newsletter>

Deadline for Next Issue: Sept 18

(must print by September 25)

Natalie Nicholls, Newsletter Editor

Happy Birthday to:

August 4—Pam Burkhart

August 8—Lauren Apple

August 10—Betty Burns,
Bridget Greaves

August 12—Dennis Pieper

August 13—Brad Burton,
Bonnie Grimble,
Carla Sullivan

August 15—Susan Gerhart

August 16—Teresa Sherow

August 17—Nancy Herrin,
Therese Staublin

August 18—James Kite

August 21—Tim Hills

August 22—David Adams

August 24—Bill Thomas

August 27—Jennifer Boyce

August 29—Timothy Gondola

August 30—Doug Hostrawser,
Cindy Phillips

August 31—Gina Kerr

September 1—Michael Regan

September 3—Heather Schmiedicke

September 5—Ned Lewis, Ed Locke

September 7—Randy Meeks,
Amanda Novko

September 9—Judith Houser

September 11—Joni Reeves

September 12—Chuck Anders,
Teresa Gucwa

September 14—Ellie Burton,
Gina Walsh

September 16—Carol Ann Smith

September 18—Linda Pieper

September 19—Morgan Hoshaw

September 20—Russ Himes,
Mary Johnson,

Rick Johnson

September 22—Joel Freed

September 23—Kitty O'Dohe,
Rodger Pierce

September 29—Janet Bay