

# Demarest Nature News



Demarest Nature Center Association,  
Box 41, Demarest, N.J., 07627

[www.demarestnaturecenter.org](http://www.demarestnaturecenter.org)  
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## President's Message

**A blank** page is a scary thing for a writer and since I'm not a writer it's doubly so. This is my fifth president's message since I took on the role in January of 2007. I'm trying to think of what has not been said about the Nature Center and frankly, I'm drawing a blank. A blank....back to that blank page again.

I'll start off with thanks. Thanks to all of you who value the fifty-five acres of the Demarest Nature Center enough to support it with your membership dollars. Your dollars have allowed us to carry on our sponsorship of nature programs at County Road, Luther Lee Emerson and the Demarest Middle School. We've been able to offer a wide variety of activities that include bringing in our local naturalist from the Closter Nature Center, Marc Gussen, for programs from nature walks for the kindergarteners, butterflies talks for the first graders and Lenape Indian classes for the forth graders. We've also been able to fund field trips to Abmas

Farm for the second graders and Green Brook Sanctuary for the third graders. Both the Rainforest Program for the sixth graders and the Bat Program for the seventh graders put on by NJ Batman are always a big hit with the kids.

Our skating parties, Easter Egg Hunts and Breakfast in the Woods could not happen without you.

Your membership dollars also go toward all the improvements in the nature center. We maintain trails to keep them clear of debris and safe for the casual hiker. Our many wood bridges have a finite life span and have to be repaired or replaced when needed. Your dollars have allowed us to purchase dog stations to supply dog owners with refuse bags and a place to put them after use.

I'm happy to say they are being used! We replace the empty bag boxes and carry out the trash bags of droppings three to four times a month. We are in a constant battle to keep the Tenakill Brook clean of debris and obstructions, not only for the obvious esthetic reason but also for public health reasons; it flows into the Oradell Reservoir and eventually comes out of our faucets when we turn the tap to fill a drinking glass or fill a tub to give our kids a bath. That's all for now. It's funny but it's pretty easy to write when you're thanking someone. Since 1973 we've been thankful for your support.

I'm going to take a walk....

*Kevin Riley*

Who says you need  
skates to have fun?



*"Study nature, love nature, stay close to nature. It will never fail you." – Frank Lloyd Wright*

**BEFORE**



*With the able assistance of our Senior Service Volunteers, Brian Benenati and Ephrim Hussin we've been able to maintain the trails of the DNC!*

**AFTER**



## Demarest Nature News

### Nature Walk/Volunteer Day

We had a fantastic turnout on April 25th for our annual Nature Walk and Volunteer Day. Marc Gussen did another amazing job taking the kids and adults on a nature walk in the Nature Center. Following that, the kids and parents stuck around and helped out by cleaning up the Nature Center. We ended up with more than twelve bags of trash, a couple of old tires, a compressor and a mailbox post embedded in cement. We appreciate all the work the kids and parents put in to take care of their Nature Center.



*Marc Gussen waxes eloquent over all things natural!*

### Trustee Positions Open

**The Demarest** Nature Center Association is anticipating a need to fill some trusteeships in 2010 to replace current trustees, whose terms expire this January. If you're a lover of nature and would like to play a part in the activities and preservation of the Demarest Nature Center, please give Kevin Riley a call at 201.403.3183.

### It's Tick Time Again

**The weather's** getting warmer, so along with all of the fun stuff that's going on this summer, we also have to remember that it's tick time. Although a Google search of the phrase "tick info" will bring up 688,000 articles, you might want to start with our Bergen County's site for information at: <http://bergenhealth.org/healthtopics/ticksandlyme.html>. And, let's cut our deer some slack...

Many people know that the deer carries and feeds the tick, but it's the White-footed Mouse that usually gives *B. burgdorferi* (lyme disease) to the tick in the first place and serves as a reservoir in nature for the organism.

# Demarest Nature News

## 29 YEARS AND COUNTING: Help Us Find The Bunny!

**We had** another successful Easter Egg hunt this April. Marianne Bolduc, our town council liaison, was exceptional as our new Easter Bunny. Help us with the Demarest Nature Center "Bunny Hall of Fame". We seem to have a few vacant moments in our collective memory regarding just who has worn the: Bunny Suit of Honor. We, who have not worn that hallowed suit of polyester fur, can only imagine what it must be like to - as bunny veterans are apt to say - "walk in the fur". If you have any information please feel free to email Kevin Riley at [Kevin@demarestnaturecenter.org](mailto:Kevin@demarestnaturecenter.org).

A few wild cards that we don't have years for:  
 Melissa Goldsmith (year?)  
 Francie Earle (year?)  
 Wendy Johnson (year?)

???????	1991
???????	1992
Karen Johnson	1993
???????	1994
???????	1995
???????	1996
???????	1997
???????	1998
Laura Neville	1999
Tom Birch	2000
Tom Birch	2001
Jean Wilson	2002
Jean Wilson	2003
Billie Stewart	2004
Lourdes Francisco	2005
Anita Gonzalez	2006
Anita Gonzalez	2007
Naomi Epstein	2008
Marianne Bolduc	2009

### HALL OF FAME:

Marie Lendino	1980
Marie Lendino	1981
Sharon (last name?)	1982
???????	1983
???????	1984
???????	1985
Alberta Vadala	1986
???????	1987
???????	1988
???????	1989
???????	1990



*The bunny greets her fans.*



*The bunny helps the hunter.*



*Demarest Patrolman Joseph Del Greco protecting the bunny!*

# What's Happening This Summer And Fall!

## 2009 Board of Trustees

Kevin Riley  
*President / Newsletter Editor*

Rich Van Buren  
*Vice-President*

Peter Coy  
*Treasurer*

Marianna Simpson  
*Recording Secretary*

Ray Cywinski  
*Corresponding Secretary*

Jonathan Regan  
*School Liaison*

Mariane Bolduc  
*Borough Liaison*

Irfan Akdag  
Toni Dolan

Dave Emerson

Mark Mernia

Ted Piltzecker

Ed Pittaluga

William Stegmayer

Kwang Suk Kim

We're on the Web!

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

Email:

[info@demarestnaturecenter.org](mailto:info@demarestnaturecenter.org)

### ► June 13<sup>th</sup>

#### "Breakfast in the Woods!"

9am to 11am. Join the Trustees and "Friends of the DNC" as they prepare a nourishing breakfast, for free. Made to order omelets, bagels, OJ, etc. All are welcome. Live music, announcement of Photo Contest winners plus a live animal show. Rain date June 14<sup>th</sup>.

### ► September 19<sup>th</sup>

#### "Trial of the Trails!"

**1-Mile Trail Fun Run (9am) 5K Trail Run (9:15am)** Enjoy the beauty of the Nature Center as you navigate the twists and turns (and roots) of our trails. The times to beat? 7:49 for the Trail Fun Run and 20:43 for the 5k Trail Run. To see the maps of both races click the "Maps and Trails" link on our homepage and choose "Trail Map".

### ► October 10<sup>th</sup>

#### "Oktoberfest!"

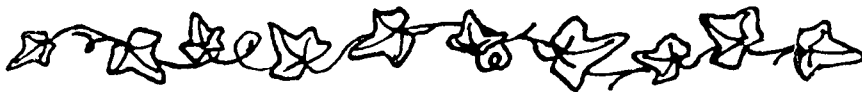
The happiest day of the year in Demarest! At the Duck Pond 10am to 5pm. Excellent handmade crafts for sale, German and Korean food, canoes, inflatable rides, a bake table, 50-50 Raffle, Alpine Folk Music and lots of very happy people. Interested crafters can visit the Oktoberfest page at our website.

## Our Maintainers!

**We just** want to send out a thank you to the individuals and organizations that support the Nature Center with their "sweat equity". With our busy schedules these days it takes a lot to get out onto the trail and do some muscle work. Picking up trash, clearing trails, clearing downed trees, repairing bridges, and cutting back the overgrowth are all part of the job...and fun.

Trail Name	Maintainer
Nine Bridges Trail	Cub Scout Troop 270
Gus Stumpp Trail	Boy Scout Troop 101
Log Road Trail	NVRHS at Demarest Earth Club
Tenakill Brook Trail	Demarest Girl Scouts
D Loop	Demarest Girl Scouts
Stelfox Trail	The Endick Family
Dogwood Trail	The Endick Family
Connecting Trails	The Riley/Stern Family
Trestle Bridge Trail	The Cottrell Family

Photos: Kevin Riley



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