

Demarest Nature News



Demarest Nature Center Association
Winter 2007 Box 41, Demarest, N.J., 07627 Vol. XXXII, No. 1

President's Message

This will be my last message as president of the Demarest Nature Center board of trustees. Our bylaws limit trustee terms to six consecutive years.

As I look back over the past six years on the board, four as president, I'm very proud of all that we have accomplished. We've blazed trails and built bridges to open up previously inaccessible portions of the nature center. We have placed 12 benches at scenic

spots commemorating special people and events. We restored our annual Environmental Scholarship to support high school seniors who choose college studies related to the environment. We've added the cross-country race, tai chi and yoga, ice-skating parties, and the scavenger hunt. And we've continued all the activities the nature center is known for, including programs in the schools, birdhouse building, the photo

contest, Breakfast in the Woods, and of course the Craft Fair at Oktoberfest.

I would like to thank my fellow trustees, the mayor and council, the Department of Public Works, Northern Valley RHS seniors, and the many volunteers whose generous support helped make these endeavors a success.

It's been a great ride.

See you on the trails,

Rich Van Buren



Photo: Kevin Riley

In contrast to the 2005 rainout, the 2006 Oktoberfest was a smash success.

THE ROOT OF THE MATTER ... "to establish a conservation center within the community of Demarest where land and people may be reunited for scientific, cultural, recreational, and educational pursuits."

Demarest Nature Center Constitution

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Your Contributions Support Nature Education

This past year, your contributions helped send Demarest second-graders to Abmas Farm in Wyckoff, where they learned about growing food naturally and eating healthy diets. You also helped bring naturalist

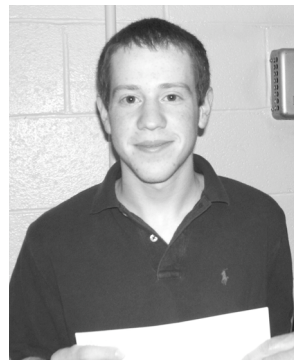
Marc Gussen to teach fourth-graders about the toolmaking and survival skills of the Lenni Lenape. You bought flowers that students at County Road and Luther Lee Emerson schools planted with the help of nature center volunteers,

as well as flowers for Demarest Middle School and Catholic Academy of the Northern Valley that students there planted themselves. Thank you for supporting nature education in 2006.

Introducing Our 2006-07 Scholarship Recipients



Jessica Redisch is studying landscape architecture at the State University of New York's College of Environmental Science and Forestry.



Michael Lester is studying wildlife biology at the University of Vermont's Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources.

How to Apply

The one-year, \$1,000 Environmental Scholarship is for a high school senior planning to study the environment. The applicant must be: a resident of Demarest; or a member of the nature center; or attending either Northern Valley R.H.S. at Demarest or Academy of the Holy Angels. A 150-word essay is required. Applications must be postmarked by May 1. Details are available from guidance counselors or at www.demarestnaturecenter.org



Above, a young girl climbs the inflatable slide at Oktoberfest. Below, trustee John Reinke hams it up at the cotton candy machine. (Photos: Kevin Riley)



Thanks for Making Oktoberfest a Big Success

Our sincere thanks to the many people who made our annual fund-raising event, the Craft Fair at Oktoberfest, a big success. Thanks to the Demarest police, fire, and public works departments, mayor, and council; the Korean Women's PTO; and the United Methodist Church. Thanks to everyone who baked goodies for the bake table and those who volunteered to help at the event.

Thanks also to the following **donors of items for auction**: In **Closter**, A&P, Brilliant Touch Jewelry, Callahan Jewelers, Clearview Cinema, CORE (Northern Valley Fitness Center), Hallmark Card Shop, Homewares, Maxfit, Nu Moda Salon, Rudy's Pizza, Stop & Shop, Tiger Kim, Xocolate. In **Cresskill**, City & Country Specialty Housewares, Fuel Fitness Center, Golden Garden Chinese

Restaurant, Paul's House of Fish. In **Demarest**, Demarest Wines and Liquors, Ed Kabakow. In Haworth, Haworth Apothecary. In **Tenafly**, Benjamin Brothers, Café Savoy, Clearview Cinema, Tenafly Auto Repair. To all, many thanks.

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Explore Our Newest Trail. If You Love It ...

Our newest trail, the Trestle Bridge Trail, isn't easy to find, but locating it is well worth the effort.

The trail runs along the west bank of the Tenakill Brook,

directly across the brook from the Wakelee ballfields.

When you're on the trail, you feel as if you're a thousand miles away from the daily

hubbub. The easiest approach is to cross the steel bridge from the Imaginative Playground, turn left onto the Stelfox Trail, and go about 50 yards. The entrance to the trail is on your left. The trail meanders for about half a mile before reconnecting with the Stelfox Trail a bit farther south.



Some builders of the trail's namesake bridge: Lucas, Jeannette Ioannou, Dave Emerson, Rich Van Buren, and Gary Ioannou. (Photo: Dave Emerson)

New Bench

The Maluchnik family and friends generously purchased a bench for the Nine Bridges Trail in memory of Carol Roa. She was a frequent visitor to the nature center for many years and cherished its beauty and serenity.

... You Can Adopt It!

The Trestle Bridge Trail is so new that it doesn't have a sponsor yet. Sponsors pick up litter, remove small branches, and mark the edges of the trails using downed limbs. For more information on how to sponsor the Trestle Bridge Trail or any other trail, write an email to info@demarestnaturecenter.org.

Trail Name

Nine Bridges Trail
Gus Stumpp Trail
Log Road Trail

Tenakill Brook Trail
D Loop
Stelfox Trail
Dogwood Trail
Connecting Trails
Trestle Bridge Trail

Sponsor

Demarest Cub Scout Troop 270
Demarest Boy Scout Troop 101
Northern Valley R.H.S. at Demarest Earth Club
Demarest Girl Scouts
Demarest Girl Scouts
Endick Family
Endick Family
Kevin Riley
Un-sponsored

Seeking Nature-Loving Photographers

Take a photo on the grounds of the nature center. Submit it. And you just might win a prize. The best in show gets \$100. First (\$50), second (\$30), and third (\$20) prizes will be awarded in four categories: under 14; 14 and older; black and white; and color.

Entries must be unmounted prints between 8"x8" and 8"x12". They must be submitted to the Bank of America branch in Demarest by noon, Saturday, May 19. The contestant's name, address, phone number, and age should be on the back of each photo. There is no limit

on the number of entries. Winners will be announced and prizes will be awarded at the Breakfast in the Woods on Saturday, June 2.



Above, German music lends an authentic air to Oktoberfest. (Photo: Kevin Riley) Below, Tenakill Brook and the steel bridge are robed in snow in February 2006. (Photo: Peter Coy)



2006

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We're on the Web!

www.demarestnaturecenter.org

Email:

info@demarestnaturecenter.org

What's Doing This Winter and Spring

◆ The general public is invited to the annual meeting of the **Demarest Nature Center Association** on Thursday, Jan. 18, at 7:30 p.m. at Wakelee Fieldhouse.

There will be a brief report on 2006 activities, a financial report, and the election of trustees, followed by refreshments. All are welcome.

◆ **Impromptu skating parties** will be held at the skating pond by the Imaginative Playground in January and February, weather permitting. We'll supply the hot chocolate and other refreshments. To find out when they are, check the train station

bulletin board and our website. Better yet, sign up for our email notification list by sending your request to info@demarestnaturecenter.org

◆ Photograph a snow scene in the nature center this winter and enter it in the **photo contest**.

◆ Kids build **bird houses and bird feeders** on Mar. 10 at the train station. See the calendar for details.

Cross Country Race and Fun Run

Congratulations to Jaime Gonzalez, 7, who won the 1-mile **Fun Run** on Nov. 18 in 10 minutes, 19 seconds. Katherine Guo, 8, was the first female in 10:56. They were followed by Kaileigh Conti, 8, Yuhyun Lee, 15, and Lylah Rutigliano, 8. Dan Guo, 40, was the

automatic winner in the 5-kilometer **Cross Country Race** in 29 minutes, 40 seconds because he was the only entrant. He was escorted on the course by race director Peter Coy. It was a good day. We hope more runners come out next time to join the fun.

Wish List

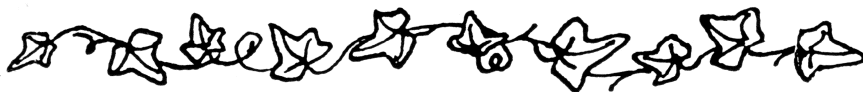
* People willing to be called upon as volunteers for special events, including the cross country race and Oktoberfest.

* **Naturalists** (amateur or professional) to assist with educational programs.

* Someone to construct a bulletin board for the Columbus Road entrance.

* Walkie-talkies.

To answer a wish, please write to info@demarestnaturecenter.org.



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