

Autumn 2015

HUXOCK PRESERVE



Myosotis Messenger

Eldridge Research
Center
of the
Edmund Niles Huxock
Preserve

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I was at a strategic planning meeting the other day for the Ecological Monitoring and Management Alliance, of which the Huyck Preserve is a founding member. We were taking a break to grab an apple-centric snack of apple cider and apple cider donuts before heading out to check a few deer enclosures when one of the attendees announced, "I just love this time of year!" It could have been the donut talking or the last of autumn's leaves swirling in the breeze, but I couldn't help but concur despite my normal inclinations towards frigid temperatures and

delicate snowflakes. Of course I am still super excited for all that winter brings including our annual Christmas Bird Count, a February Full Moon Hike, and our ever popular Winter Festival all featured on the facing page, but I can see the appeal in fall's bounty. I get warm fuzzy feelings as I admire the breathtaking beauty of the leaves changing around the Rensselaerville Falls. Finding wood frogs preparing for winter in the leaf litter with 4th grade Greenville students leaves me in a wide-eyed wonder. Perhaps these feelings, which seems to envelop us all as people seem to get a little friendlier this time of year, is why fall is considered the season of thanks and giving.

In the spirit of the season and challenges such as #thankfulNovember, the Huyck Preserve presents the 10 things we are thankful for this year (in no particular order):



Board of Directors

Susan Beatty, Ph.D., Chair
Susan Kessler, President
Geoffrey Carter, Exec. Vice President
Britt Winterer, Vice President
Alexandra Van Horne, Treasurer
Helene Goldberger, Secretary
Bradbury Dyer III
William H. Eldridge, Ph.D.
George Frangos, Ph.D.
Bill Logan
Tom Lyons
Mike McChesney
Daniel McNamee III
Rebecca Platel
Anne Rhoads, Ph.D.
Mame Kennedy Schrager
Michael Sterthous

Honorary Directors

Nancy Chase
Roswell Eldridge, M.D.
James Foster
Shirley Stevens French
Jerome G. Rozen Jr., Ph.D.

Staff

Dawn O'Neal, Ph.D.
Executive Director
Carolyn Barker
Administrative and Financial Manager
Adam Caprio
Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds
Dennis Hostash
Buildings and Grounds Assistant
Christina McLaughlin Conservation
and Outreach Coordinator
Emileigh Tanner
Membership Coordinator
and Board Liaison
Leah Waldron
Bookkeeper

1. We are grateful for the opportunity to lead field-trips in science and research for our local school districts Greenville, Berne-Knox-Westerlo, Voorheesville, and Middleburg. We appreciate the teachers who use our outdoor classroom and expertise to complement in-class lessons assisting us in achieving Jesse Huyck's vision (profiled on page 4) for the Preserve. We look forward to welcoming students from Ravena-Coeyman-Selkirk, Schoharie, Durham, and Bethlehem in 2016.

2. The 3000+ people who signed into our trail system this year. Especially those who left us heartwarming comments like, "These are the best trails ever! One of my favorite places! Kids and parent approved!" We love to see all of our hard work appreciated by nature lovers from all over the world.

3. The ability to meet a revolving group of people each year, from scientists, students, and nature artists, who visit with the unifying desire to better understand our environment.

4. All of the volunteers who provided trail assessments and maintenance, folded mountains of paper for mailings, and participated in our Christmas Bird Count and Monitoring Avian Productivity and Survivorship station. Special thanks to Wildlife Ecology Research alum Jacob Gorneau for cataloging moths of the Huyck Preserve and writing for this newsletter (page 8).

5. Our newly updated Visitors Center. Visitors can now enjoy, amongst several other improvements, an enchanted book on the invasive species of the Huyck Preserve, thanks to the support of the New York's Environmental Protection Fund and New York State Conservation Partnership Program administered by the Land Trust Alliance and the Department of Environmental Conservation

6. All of the guest lecturers and speakers who participated in our Thursday Lecture Series and Annual Science Symposium. Thank you for sharing your research on how our region is changing and adapting to a warming climate.

7. Our recently rehabilitated office space which was completed just in time for our spring Open House with the elbow grease of the local community. Charlie B., Chris S., Josiah E., Mark R., Donny B., and Chris C., we could not have finished in time without you!

8. Good data! Research projects were fruitful this year providing estimates of our deer population (25.8 deer/sq. km at the Preserve compared to sustainable populations of 17 deer/sq. km), the status of the devastating chytrid fungus on frogs in the area (not present at the Preserve, yay!), and information on wood turtle populations in the area, all which play into monitoring efforts.

9. Carolyn Barker, the Preserve's Administrative & Financial Manager, who is retiring at the end of the year. A staple of the Preserve for over 20 years, Carolyn has held this organization together at times. Right-hand woman to me as Executive Director; mentor to our new Bookkeeper, Leah Waldron, and Membership Coordinator & Board Liaison, Emileigh Tanner; and fount of knowledge of all things Preserve- words cannot express our sadness at her departure for more time with the grandkids and her many chickens. Fortunately, she's just down the block and we hope she will continue to join the staff for lunches at the Hilltown Cafe whenever she is able!

10. Our wonderful members, donors, and supporters (mentioned in full on pages 10-11) whose continued support helps us accomplish all that we do! As always we have big plans for next year and we hope that you will continue your generosity and donate towards our 2015 Annual Fund so that we may reach all of next year's goals. 🌱

•Dawn O'Neal, Ph.D.

Winter Events at Huyck Preserve

Mark your calendars! We've got some great events in store to keep you from catching those winter blues.

December 19th, 2015: Christmas Bird Count

Visitor Center, 10am-1pm

Calling all interested birders and citizen scientists!

Each year thousands of people participate in Christmas Bird Counts in December across the country – here's your chance to join in on one of the oldest holiday science traditions in the country!

This is the Huyck Preserve's fifth Christmas Bird Count and we need new birders to continue the tradition. To participate, meet at the Visitors Center at 10am to get started and divide into teams. We'll then meet back at the Visitors center at 12:30pm for a warm lunch. For the avid birders, don't worry – you can keep counting until 5pm if you'd like, but we only ask volunteer scientists to stay from 10am-1pm. Live within the boundary of our CBC circle? You can stay at home and count the birds that come to your feeder – contact us by email to get a data reporting form and information and then email us your counts!

To participate in this event, please email

outreach@huyckpreserve.org or call our office at (518)797-3440 with your name and phone number.



January 30th: Winter Festival

Eldridge Research Station, 12-4pm

One of our most popular festivals is almost here! People of all ages are welcome to attend this free event to enjoy winter recreation and peruse some local vendors. Be sure to dress warmly and bring your favorite winter gear: ice skates, sleds, ice fishing gear and an appetite for fun! **In the event of a storm or bitterly cold weather, we will be holding a snow date for the following weekend, Saturday February 7th.** Same time, same place. Check your emails and our Facebook about any cancellation.

Interested in hosting a table at this event?

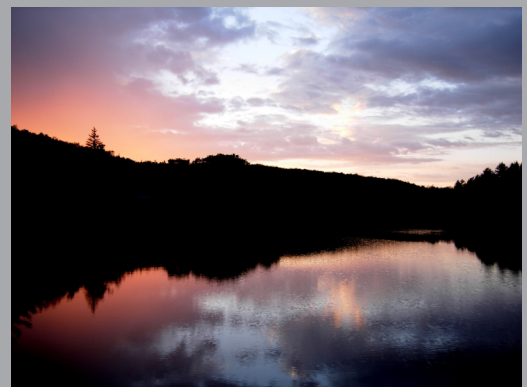
Contact outreach@huyckpreserve.org for information.

February 19th: Full Moon Night Hike

Eldridge Research Station, 6:30-8pm

This hike, open to the public, gives the special opportunity to enjoy the serenity of the Preserve beneath the luminescent glow of the Full Moon. A limited number of snowshoes are available, snow permitting.

Dress warmly for this winter hike!



JESSIE HUYCK: A REMARKABLE WOMAN

This article, written by Huyck Preserve member and Rensselaerville Historical Society (RHS) historian Janet Hasesley, first appeared in RHS's quarterly newsletter, The Rensselaerville Press, in Fall 2001 as "A Remarkable Woman's Vision". It was later published on June 15, 2013 as "Jessie Huyck: A Remarkable Woman" in the online blog of Huyck Preserve member and previous Board Member, Laura Stephenson Carter. Visit her blog and check out more articles related to the Huyck Preserve, including personal anecdotes, interesting historical tidbits, and other natural history topics at: www.lscnews.wordpress.com.

Quiet, shy, and refined. Intelligent, determined, envisioning the future. On a first-name basis with national and world leaders. Though childless herself, she loved young people and encouraged them to develop their talents and abilities. A behind-the-scenes leader in civic, educational and cultural projects in Rensselaerville and Albany and beyond. She memorialized her husband through the imaginative creation

of what became a world-renowned nature preserve and biological research station. But she remained so much in the background that few realize that she was its creator and the guiding hand that supported its direction and provided its sound financial base. She was Jessie Eliza Van Antwerp Huyck.

This year [2001] marks the 70th anniversary of the founding of the Edmund Niles Huyck Preserve, which Jessie established in Rensselaerville, N.Y., on September 5, 1931, 14 months after her husband's death. She wanted to honor him by carrying out his wish that the natural beauty of the Rensselaerville area be kept as unspoiled as possible for the benefit of future generations. "It will be a bird and wildlife sanctuary," said Jessie according to a September 13, 1931, Knickerbocker Press (Albany, N.Y.) article. "It will serve to increase the general knowledge and love of nature, especially that of trees and wildlife. Reforestation and forest culture will be demonstrated. I intend shortly to establish a fund to finance the Preserve in perpetuity, I hope."

The person the Preserve honors, Edmund (Ted) Niles Huyck, was born in Rensselaerville in 1866, and was an avid fisherman and lover of nature. The Rensselaerville Falls and Lincoln Pond were special favorites of his and he often said that he wanted them maintained in their natural state for the benefit and enjoyment of future generations of the people of Rensselaerville. Jessie gave to the Preserve the original 450 acres—which included Lake Myosotis, Lincoln Pond, the Rensselaerville Falls, the watershed of Ten Mile Creek, and the forested land surrounding them—as well as the Mill House and the Rensselaerville Grist Mill. Today the Preserve owns more than 2,000 acres.

From the beginning the people of Rensselaerville were involved in

the upkeep of the Preserve and benefitted from its being open for public use. Annual "trail blazes" were organized to create and maintain trails. The blazes were coordinated by Winthrop Stevens, Jessie's nephew and one of the original board members of the Preserve. In the first three years more than 7,500 trees were planted, bird nest boxes installed, and 10 silver pheasants and 70 ducks hatched and released.



In addition to preservation and conservation, Jessie saw to it that the Preserve devoted a major part of its work to education. From the first years, the Preserve awarded prizes to schoolchildren for nature study work and sponsored public showings of conservation films. The July 6, 1934 annual meeting of the Preserve reported that Win Stevens had published an article on birds of the Preserve in the National Audubon Society's Bird Lore. In 1932, Jessie established an endowment to support the Preserve and added to it in subsequent years. Throughout her life, she continued to finance the major needs of the Preserve, including, in 1933 and 1934, the cost of repairing the Lake Myosotis Dam, a job that required 1,475 yards of crushed stone.

In 1937, Cornell biologist Dr. William Hamilton spent two months on the Preserve, presented a talk on plants and animals, and recommended that scientific research be conducted there. On September 24, 1938, the Preserve's

biological field station was formally established and Jessie said she would pay to support at least three resident biologists who would live on the Preserve during the summer. Today the Preserve supports six to eight scientists each summer. They each lead a Huyck Hike (an activity that has been going on since 1956) and give public reports on their research. Recently an artists-in-residence program was added: Artists live at the Preserve for several weeks each summer creating nature art and sharing their talents with youngsters and others. The Preserve's educational programs to benefit local children include swimming instruction, begun in 1948; children's nature study programs; day camps; and outreach programs throughout the year, both on the Preserve and in area schools.

Jessie's insistence on education is remarkable because she never attended college herself. She was a graduate of Albany Academy for

for Girls, but her father did not believe in higher education for women so Jessie and her six sisters were denied the opportunity to go to college. Jessie had a keen mind, however, and was very well-read and interested in a wide variety of subjects especially world affairs. She encouraged young women to go to college if they possibly could.

She was a director of the New York State League of Women Voters and the Foreign Policy Association in Albany and a personal friend of Eleanor Roosevelt and of Governor Averill Harriman. She was a member of the Cosmopolitan Club of New York City; served on the board of directors of the New York State College for Teachers; and, in the mid-1950s when she was in her late 80s, she was the honorary chairman of the Albany Academy for Girls' building fund campaign. She had a deep sense of world responsibility and was active in the World Affairs Council, which brought foreign-policy speakers to Albany. In 1957, when she was 88 years old, Jessie was a charter member of the SANE Nuclear Policy Committee, an activist group that opposed the production and testing of nuclear weapons.

For many years she gave summer secretarial employment to young women from China and Japan who were college students in the United States.

"Such broad interests have their own rewards—in the constant mental stimulation which tightens the passing years," wrote newspaper columnist Ellen Scott in December 1958, less than a year before Jessie's death at age 90. "Chronological age is unimportant when, as in Mrs. Huyck's case, the world is your horizon."

After her husband's death, Jessie commissioned Francis Brown to write a biography of his life—Edmund Niles Huyck, the Story of a Liberal—that detailed his many civic and business accomplishments in the area of social welfare. Rose C. Feld, who reviewed books for the New York Times and the New York Herald and was also a contributor to the New Yorker, wrote a review of the book: "Long before this country had a program of social security for workers, Huyck sponsored the idea of old-age pensions, housing, health insurance, care of dependent children. A friend of Al Smith, he could always be depended upon to lend his support to reform legislation."

After reading the book, the then-commissioner of education for the State of New Jersey, John Bossart, wrote to Jessie that he was so impressed with the enlightened thinking and application of progressive business practices of E.N. Huyck that he was giving a copy of the book to Wendell Wilkie, who was then campaigning for president of the United States. Bossart said he wanted Wilkie to "learn how Mr. Huyck demonstrated a strong leadership in dealing with his men and at the same time was so sympathetic to their needs. Such a basic philosophy is necessary to any permanent solution of our great social problem."

While planning what the book would cover, Jessie wrote to Francis Brown, "While Mr. Huyck was one of the highest type of American public-spirited citizen and businessman, that by no means tells the whole story. He was admittedly a man of charming personality, with whimsical humor, something of a poet, and at the same time practical to the point of being successful in all he undertook. This all went into the making of an unusual person. I am not alone in thinking so, and adds to the difficulty of interpreting him in words. Yet I am of the opinion it can be done."

www.huyckpreserve.org

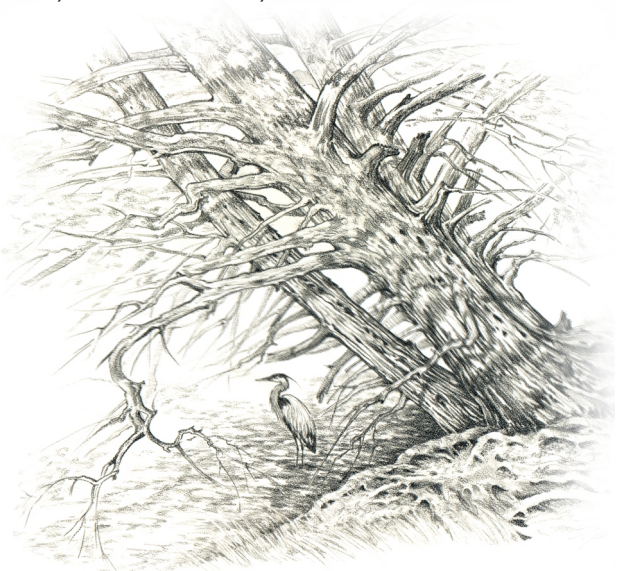


A plaque in honor of Jessie Huyck resides at the Visitor Center at the base of the Falls Trail.

In her will, Jessie left large bequests to the Preserve and to the Edmund Niles Huyck Foundation, which she established as a separate entity to support charitable, scientific, and educational purposes, and to benefit the local people.

An editorial that appeared in the Albany Times Union after her death in 1959, said: "If Mrs. Huyck had any one outstanding quality it was that of self-effacement in her association with all of the organizations to which she gave of her time and energy. Her composite monument will not be found in ornate structures of granite and bronze, but rather in the hearts and minds of her countless friends and the many cultural institutions in which she was so vitally interested. . . . Through precept and example, she has left a legacy . . . which cannot be measured by the usual standards of material success."

In a letter written in 1982, Katharine Huyck Elmore, Jessie's niece wrote, "I am the only one left on the board [of the E.N. Huyck Preserve] who signed the original charter. At the time I feel that few, if any, of us appreciated Jessie Huyck's vision of the future and how important protected land and research would be in the future. I feel even today she may not be appreciated or understood as much as she should be for what she has done for the community and the world beyond it."



Summer 2015 at the Huyck Preserve



Below: A student exercises her microscope skills while looking at samples in the Nature Study Program.

Above and Left: To kick off our seasonal programs, we hosted our 3rd Annual Visitor Center Open House on May 30th. Nearly 40 people visited for a sampling of the Summer 2015 Education Programs and to get up close and personal with wildlife, including this curious box turtle!



Right: For the first time, the Huyck Preserve welcomed Gwarigju Science Academy students from South Korea to participate in our WER program! We're pleased to be welcoming them back in Summer 2016.



Left: WER students present their final research project at a wine and cheese poster session.



Above: Our stellar summer staff pose for a picture in high-water waders while they dip-net for crayfish during Wildlife Ecology Research.



Above and Right: We had a wonderful turnout for our festive 2015 Annual Benefit: *Contra for Conservation*. Thank you all who came and supported this event!



Right: One of the students from Nature Study made a lucky find while exploring the Preserve's vast forest!





Wildlife Ecology Research isn't just about work. There's plenty of down-time to ensure a healthy mix of play, too! Left, students enjoy a kayaking field trip to conclude their time at the Huyck Preserve. Below, a GSA student learns the art of banjo playing after a day out in the field.



Wildlife Ecology Research

This intensive 3-week residential course introduces rising junior and senior high school students to field ecology through hands-on research. This program aims to provide a significant academic experience that will help students prepare for courses and research experiences at the college level.

2016 Program Dates:

July 17- August 7

For more information on this program, visit our website:
www.huyckpreserve.org/WER



Left, Executive Director Dawn O'Neal holds a Downy Woodpecker while at the Bird Festival on May 2nd.



Right: Two of our youngest Swim Lesson students bask in the sun side-by-side while they prepare for their turn in Lake Myosotis.



Above: After a week of research, Natural History Day students eagerly present their findings on ant food preferences.

GOT MOTHS?

Jacob Gorneau

Jacob participated in the 2014 Huyck Preserve Wildlife Ecology Research Program. He has also volunteered for the Preserve by leading moth hikes for the WER program and cataloging species. He is currently a senior at Greenville High School looking to pursue a degree in Entomology, with a specialization in Moths.



Virginia Ctenucha
(*Ctenucha virginica*)

It's no doubt moths get a bad rap—they are blamed (rightfully so, in some cases) for eating clothes, defoliating trees, and destroying food crops. However, only a minority of moth species are true pests. Most of the nearly 12,000 species in North America play an essential role in the ecosystem.

Many people wonder about the differences between butterflies and moths. From a taxonomic perspective, there is no real difference between a butterfly and a moth. Recent DNA studies have actually shown that butterflies are closely related to primitive species of moths (Mutanen et al. 2010). However, for identification purposes, it is still helpful to know some characters to distinguish butterflies and moths. Butterflies generally have clubbed antennae (antennae that bunch up at the ends), while moths can have a variety of antennae structures. Most moths also have a wing-coupling structure called a frenulum that butterflies generally don't have. This structure, however, is best seen under a microscope.

High in both protein and fat, moths are essential in the diets of many breeding birds. Carolina Chickadees (*Poecile carolinensis*) feed their young 390-570 caterpillars a day (Brewer 1961). Since they are so nutritious, the chickadees only feed their young caterpillars, nothing else. During times of food scarcity, Grizzly Bears (*Ursus arctos*) have been recorded to eat between 20,000 and 40,000 moths in one day at Glacier National Park. Over the course of all of August, these bears consumed 300,000 calories of moths, amounting to over 25% of their yearly caloric intake (White et al. 1998). A study investigating the feeding behaviors of bats in Australia found that all 5 bat species studies consumed moths more than any other insect, including mosquitoes, which we typically credit bats for eating (Gonsalves et al. 2013).



Green Marvel
(*Acronicta fallax*)



Small-eyed Sphinx
(*Paorias myops*)

Moths also have some amazing forms of defense to evade bat predation.

A study published this year found that Luna moths (*Actias luna*), which are relatively clunky fliers, use their tails to interfere with bat echolocation (Barber et al. 2015). Other moths, such as the Delicate Cynia (*Cynia tenera*) make clicking sounds from their thorax to accomplish the same task (Simmons and Conner 1996). Furthermore, a study including Asian sphinx moths in the Sphingidae family discovered that they use their genitals to produce clicking sounds (Barber and Kawahara 2013).

In New York, nothing is best from about early April to November. National Moth Week (www.nationalmothweek.org) is an excellent resource and a fun way for people to start learning about moths and how to attract them. National Moth Week is devoted to celebrating the biodiversity of moths and their importance in the environment. Last year, we had participants in all 50 states and several dozen countries. National Moth Week is held in the last full week of July and is extended to include two full weekends. You can register a public or a private event. The fifth annual National Moth Week will be held July 23-31, 2016. People can contribute data to National Moth Week by contributing to one of several partners such as Project Noah, iNaturalist, BugGuide, or BAMONA (Butterflies and Moths of North America).



A basic mothing setup with an ultraviolet blacklight, an incandescent light, and a bedsheet. The bedsheet is suspended between two trees by rope.

(These moths can all be found at the Huyck Preserve! All images taken at the Huyck Preserve's Ordway House courtesy of Jacob.)

References:

- Barber, Jesse R., and Akito Y. Kawahara. "Hawkmoths produce anti-bat ultrasound." *Biology letters* 9.4 (2013): 20130161.
- Barber, Jesse R., et al. "Moth tails divert bat attack: Evolution of acoustic deflection." *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 112.9 (2015): 2812-2816.
- Gonsalves, Leroy, et al. "Mosquito consumption by insectivorous bats: Does size Matter." *PloS one* 8.10 (2013): 00.
- Mutanen, Marko, Niklas Wahlberg, and Lauri Kaila. "Comprehensive gene and taxon coverage elucidates radiation patterns in moths and butterflies." *Proceedings of the Royal Society of London B: Biological Sciences* 277.1695 (2010): 2839-2848.
- Simmons, Rebecca B., and William E. Conner. "Ultrasonic signals in the defense and courtship of *Euchaetes egle* Drury and *E. bolteri* Stretch (Lepidoptera: Arctiidae)." *Journal of insect behavior* 9.6 (1996): 909-919.
- Thomas, Katie, and Laurie Geller, eds. *Urban Forestry: Toward an Ecosystem Services Research Agenda: A Workshop Summary*. National Academies Press, 2013.
- White, Jr, Don, Katherine C. Kendall, and Harold D. Picton. "Grizzly bear feeding activity at alpine army cutworm moth aggregation sites in northwest Montana." *Canadian journal of zoology* 76.2 (1998): 221-227.



SUMMER 2015 RESEARCH CONDUCTED AT HUYCK PRESERVE

The Genetic Basis of Behavioral Coevolution - Adaptations in Socially Parasitic Slavemakers and Their Hosts; Genetic basis of Division of Labor

Ants of the genus *Temnothorax* are ideal model systems for research into phenotypic plasticity and division of labor due to their small colony sizes and lack of distinct morphological castes. This genus is of additional scientific interest for its numerous slavemaking species. Social slavery, a specialized form of parasitism, has evolved multiple times independently within *Temnothorax*. Results of phenotypic examinations suggest that slavemaker and host coevolve through reciprocal adaptations. Recently, the Foitzik lab has conducted multiple experiments and collected much data on co-evolutionary aspects, division of labor, and personalities within this system. Now we seek to investigate the genetic basis of castes and species specific behaviors. Currently, we are investigating gene expression patterns with respect to age and caste behavior, as well as raid-related behaviors within slavemaker and hosts species. For the study proposed here, we seek to collect a number of *Temnothorax* colonies, which are naturally occurring at the Huyck Preserve, in order to conduct an array of behavioral experiments. These experiments incorporate methods for the establishment of procedures aimed at suppressing specific candidate genes via RNA interference (RNAi). Candidate genes will be identified from current gene expression data in order to determine specific behavioral phenotypes.

-Austin Alleman

University of Mainz, Germany

Genetic Diversity and Population Structure of Brook Trout at the Huyck Preserve in Rensselaerville, New York

The Huyck Preserve is home to a number of tributaries that both feed, and are fed by the preserve's major water bodies, Lake Myosotis and Lincoln Pond. The fish assemblage currently present in the preserve's watershed has likely been influenced by a number of anthropogenic factors, including the introduction of non-native species such as bass and yellow perch. My proposed study seeks to examine the influence of fish diversity on the stream dwelling brook trout (*Salvelinus fontinalis*) populations currently present on the preserve's property. This study has been specifically designed to assess the degree of brook trout population structure present in the area, identify the level of genetic diversity these populations possess, and examine how the presence of other fish may be influencing the two. In addition to shedding light on the current population structure of one of New York's native fish species, this study will also provide detailed records of the fluvial fish communities currently found within the preserve's boundaries, helping to identify patterns in the assemblage that might be associated with the presence or absence of various species.

-Spencer Bruce

Research Assistant, NYS Museum
Ph.D. Candidate, University at Albany

*Determining the Status of the Wood Turtle (*Glyptemys insculpta*) in New York State*

At a pivotal time for the Wood Turtle (*Glyptemys insculpta*), we recently uncovered a collection of roughly 260 dried specimens from SUNY-Oneonta storage which date back to the late 1950s. Collected by the late Dr. John New, the assemblage serves as a genetic cache which we will use to identify changes in Wood turtle populations across New York State. Preliminary genetic screens indicate the preserved specimens can yield sufficient DNA for evaluation. Unlike previous Wood turtle studies, the existence of the historical data set provides rare context, which will be compared to contemporary population data acquired over two summers field seasons (2015 & 2016). Specifically, we will identify parameters such as the effective population size (N_e), the fixation index (F_{st}), and the inbreeding coefficient (F) for both contemporary and historical populations. Genetic information will be paired with mark-recapture field data to assessing the viability of our New York's populations. By doing so we will recommend the most appropriate course of management to maintain the Wood Turtle in New York State and at the Huyck Preserve. We hope to incorporate our findings in a report to both the state and private land conservancies.

-Alexander Robillard

SUNY Oneonta

INTERESTED IN CONDUCTING YOUR OWN RESEARCH AT THE HUYCK PRESERVE?

Apply to one of the great programs below to join a growing community of researchers helping to better understand our local environment.

Odum Internship

In this residential internship, interns work with scientific professionals, conduct and present original research, and gain valuable professional experience at a biological field station that has a rich history of launching prominent ecologists' careers. Four highly qualified undergraduate students will be selected each summer.

Applications are due the second Friday in March.

For application requirements and additional information about this opportunity, visit:

www.huyckpreserve.org/odum-internship



Huyck Research Grants

Huyck Research Grants are awarded each year to regional, national, and international applicants that focus on natural systems of the Huyck Preserve. We support work in basic and applied ecology, conservation biology, taxonomy, animal behavior, evolution, earth sciences, land use history, and other areas of natural science.

Applications are due the second Friday in March.

Find out more about this grant program as well as the online application by visiting:

www.huyckpreserve.org/huyck-research-grants



A SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR SUPPORTERS!

Benefactor Donor (\$2,500+)

Susan Beatty
Amy Goldman Fowler
Shirley Stevens French
Mario Gabelli
Tom and Sue Lyons
Richard Prince

Patron Donor (\$1,000-\$2,499)

Laura and Geoffrey Carter
Nancy Chase
Bradbury Dyer III
Peter and Susan Kessler
Peter and Kristen McChesney
Daniel McNamee
Charles and Alexandra van Horne
Kathy and Bill van Wie
Britton and Rosy Winterer

Sustaining Donors (\$300-\$999)

Anonymous (1)
Linda Borock and Lynda Blankenship
John and Jennifer Burt Davis
Gretchen Coward
Camille Douglas
Roswell Eldridge
William Engel
Martha and Leo Fishel
James Foster
George and Diana Frangos
Douglas Fraser
David and Margaret Hannay
Dolores DeMeyere and Ernest Kuehl
John and Karen Ladley
Malcolm and Mary Morris
Steward Myers
Ken Storms and Cynthia Nicholson
William and Sally Rhoads
Michael Fischer and Ann Siegel
Shirley Siegel
Jessica Spacil
Helen Tworok
Dorothy Waldron
Walenta & Co. Agency
Bette and Burton Weidman
Jennifer Blum and Paul Weinschenk
Mark Lewis and Dennis Winslow

Contributing Donors (\$125-\$299)

Anonymous (1)
Gregory and Diane Bischoff
Lawrence and Marion Bryan
David McCabe and Susan Cipolla
Patricia De Meyer and Chris Christophorou
John Arrighi and Sharon Costello
Steven Hancox and Michelle DePace
Cathryn Doyle
Francis Eldridge

William and Abbie Eldridge

Neal Elmore
David Ernst

Jameson Stevens French
Patrick and Aline Galgay
Paul Baitsholts and Helene Goldberger
Timothy and Barbara Gunn
Jack Long and Janet Haseley
Bente Hirsch
Ted Klarsfeld
Amanda and Jon Kosich
Michael and Linda Kukla
Robert and Nancy Lynk
Mike and Cynthia McChesney
Kevin and Melissa McGrath
Martha Meader
Nancy Dyer and Mary Musca
Jost and Ellen Nickelsberg
Sarah and Thomas O'Connor
Andrea Worthington and Rob Olberg
Martha Olson

Charlotte Taylor and George Pendle
Penny Grimes and Richard Platel
Rebecca Platel

Timothy and Nicole Quinn
Lynn Love and Walid Raad
William and Jeannette Rice
George and Ingrid Robinson
Jerome Rozen

Victor and Mame Schrager
Arlene Boop and Kenneth Simpson
Michael Soistman

Michael and Carolyn Sterthous
Ed Horn and Erica Sufrin
Steven and Judy Thomson

Roland Tozer
Randy Tryon
Nancy Engel and Charles Ver Straeten
Lodewijk Werre
Alberto Caputo and Ann Wolf
Rich Zabinski

Family Donors (\$49-\$124)

Derek and Alexis Aloisi
Anonymous (6)
Susan Arbit
Laura Arnwine
Mark and Michele Atchinson
Janet Baldwin
Will and Sarah Beekman
Thomas Behanna
Paulina and Raphael Bemporad
Steven O'Connor and Helen Benedict
Margaret Bernstein
Dennis and Catherine Bezmen
Robert Blum
Neil Blundell
Marvin and Laura Bolotsky
Kenneth Brand

Jeffrey and Switlana Breigle

Debra Breitenbach

Suzannah Lessard and Noel Brennan

Mari Brick

Donald and Elizabeth Britton

John Linnell and Karen Brown

Joel Bukiewicz

Joanna Bull

Charlie and Annie Burgess

Lynn Burke

Karen DeWitt and Jeffrey Carlson

Harry Carter

Ronald and Stacy Case

Jeff Beller and Susan Caumont

Zuzana Cerny

James and Cathy Chapman

David Coleman

April Austin and Timothy Condon

James and Diane Cooke

Eric and Michelle Cotter

Judith Crilley

Susannah Friedman and Gareth Crawford

Sara Kate Gillingham and Penny De Los Santos

Rhodes Adler and Annick deBellefeuille

Morgan Noble and JR Delia

Armand and Gail Delli Colli

Dale Dorner and Thomas Delp

Johanna and Markus Dennig

Brian and Ninetta Dickerson

Jessica Doerr

Dan and Maureen Driscoll

Roger and Roberta Ehlert

Nancy Elliott

Elisabeth and Robert Huyck Eldridge

Matt Elmore

Christopher Aiello and Sarah Esterquest

Christina Plattner Evola

Hugh Flick Jr.

Frederika Foreman

Gary and Elinor Fredricks

Daniel Fritchley

Mike and Ardis Fritz

Taras Gach

Anastasia Gallati

Cynthia Gifford

MJ and Roland Gilligan

Miss Stuart "Tootie" Greene

Robert and Judith Griffith

Anthony Guadagno

John and Gail Haines

Pat Hanson

Priscilla and Lawson Harris

Tom Jenik and Jane Holland

Susan Holmes

Vernon and Barbara Husek

Joan Ipsen

Anne Keary

Crystal Keyes

Tiffany Kelfbeck





Mimi Dygert and Duane Knutson
 Maria Kole
 Robin Krivanek
 Greg and Mary Beth Krohel
 Dean Parker and Tanya Krohn
 Kyle and Jennifer Kubler
 Micah and Rochelle Kuhar
 Rosie Kuhar
 Belle Melzer and Francis Lad
 Ami Lahoff
 Giuseppe Iafigliola and Eugenie Lancereau
 Toni Lang
 Nicole and Ed Lansing
 Brant and Amy Latham
 Eric and Amber Lounsbury
 William Lyons
 LeeAnn Mailloux
 Franny and Sam Makely
 Michael and Ann Malone
 Robert and Virginia Mangold
 William and Jean Mangun
 Dennis Martin
 James Martin
 Laura McCann
 Glenn and Barbara McKenna
 Austin Egan and Kirsten Meisinger
 Tim and Linda Miller
 Vince and Margaret Moehringer
 Sarah Motta
 Matt and Denise Mulholland
 Tom and Dennis Murphy
 Roy and JoAnn Myers
 Stephen and Marjorie Nagrotsky
 Ray and Roberta Nunn
 Jenifer O'Keefe
 Timothy and Marie O'Leary
 Tom Gilroy and Marilyn Oliva
 Phil and Lee Pearson
 Neil Pawlush and Carmela Pellegrino
 Patrick and Cynthia Pepe
 Rebecca Perl
 Rebecca Pinder
 Paul and Diane Praus
 Jacob Pultorak
 Jay Goodman and Anne Rhoads
 William Brooking and Kristin Richwagen
 Domenic Rinaldi
 Brent and Felicia Rogers
 Richard and Mary Ann Ronconi
 Beth Rosenthal
 April Davie and Robert Rudd
 Kenneth and Barbara Rudzewick
 Dian Ryan
 Donna Sawyer
 Robert and Paula Scardamalia
 Tara Scales
 Joanne Schindelheim
 Paul and Maureen Schlereth
 Alexandra and Stephen Schmidt
 Josh Schroeder

Kristopher Scholl
 Art and Ronnie Siegel
 Kathryn Sikule
 Michael Sikule
 Andrea Small
 Travis and Sarah Smigel
 Greg and Kathie Speck
 Brigitte Hammond and Lawrence Stricker
 Shawn and Linda Styer
 Capri and Anthony Taibi
 Grace Ten Eyck Tagliabue
 Janet Acker and Paul Taylor
 Peter and Margaret Ten Eyck
 William and Daphne Ten Eyck
 Stephen Tomasik and Nancy Thackaberry
 Peter and Joanne Tobiessen
 Patrick Van Roey
 Paul and Laura Ventura
 Martha Waldman
 Katherine Dieckmann and Brian Wallis
 Dave and Emily Warburton
 Andrew and Carolina Ward
 Jon and Amanda Wilber
 Jessica Wiley
 Robert Williams
 Sarah Nelson Weiss
 Robert and Patricia Woods
 Glenn and Linda Sue Yelich
 Dan and Leslie Yolen
 Fred and Joyce Zeitler

Friends (\$1-\$49)

Susan Arbit
 Anonymous (2)
 Kathleen Balthazar-Heitzmann
 Joshua Bebb
 Wesley Boyce
 Debra Breitenbach
 Robin Broadbent
 Jane Cappiello
 Harry Carter
 Mary Crea
 Thomas Cuccia
 Vicki Degross
 Dee de Long
 Barbara DeMille
 Carol Devito
 John and Pat Dupier
 John Eldridge
 Beth Elliott
 Mary Fallati
 Bernice Fisher
 Mary Gavin
 Gretchen Gould
 Jennifer Hamilton
 Philip Hilferty
 Diana Hinchcliff
 John Kennedy
 Hope Konecny
 Charles and Margaret Kowalski

Tom and Donna Kropp
 Stephen and Dianne Lewis
 John LoVerde
 John Loz
 Markham MacLeod
 Christopher Mayack
 Susan McChesney
 Barbara McGeachen
 Erik and Jennifer Nicholson
 Timothy O'Brien
 Kristine Osborn
 Alison Platt
 Barbara Plume
 Clifford Prewencki
 Julie Rickert
 Mark Rosa
 Kathy Rusch
 Lisa Schneider
 George Senft
 Tina Stannard
 Gerard and Courtney Stapf
 Susan Stone
 Katherine Storms
 Jeanne Strausman
 Janet and Barry Strock
 Kathleen Tanner
 Mary Tuttlebee
 Dwight Grimm and Leigh Van Swall
 Sandra Varno
 Dennis Wax
 Troy Weeks
 Ray and Alicia Weiss


Honorary Mentions

Alternative Veterinary Therapies, Clarksville NY
 The Book House, Delmar NY
 Josh Carlsen
 Eastern Mountain Sports, Albany NY
 Eustace & Zamus, Hudson NY
 Danny Goodwin
 Kimberly Graff and the Rensselaerville Library
 Heather Ridge Farm, Preston Hollow NY
 Greg Hostash
 Les Indiennes, Hudson NY
 Bill and Nora Logan
 Merriman & Pfister's Market Place, Delmar NY
 Mountain View Brasserie, Greenville NY
 Nine Pin Ciderworks, Albany NY
 Olde Hudson, Hudson NY
 Partidge Run Farm and Apiary, Berne NY
 Dudley and Betty Reed
 Wendy Robinson, The Lady Gardener
 Schoharie Valley Veterinary Clinic
 Sewing Room's Workshop, Greenville NY
 Stewart's Shops
 The Westerner, Greenville NY
 Matt Tiernan
 Debbie Trudell
 Chris Ulstrom
 Wine and Spirits of Slingerlands

* These contributions reflect all donations to the 2014 Annual Fund, 2015-2016 Membership Drive, and donations exceeding \$55 per person for the 2015 Annual Benefit, as well as in-kind donations. *



Connecting people to nature through research, education, recreation and conservation



Go, sit upon the lofty hill,
And turn your eyes around,
Where waving woods and waters wild
Do hymn an autumn sound.
The summer sun is faint on them -
The summer flowers depart -
Sit still - as all transform'd to stone,
Except your musing heart.

~ Elizabeth Barrett Browning

Photo and COM. EN. ART illustration credits: Cover: Preserve Sentinel Sketch from a Not-So-Distant Past, Mary Ellen Didion, 1998; Page 2: Dawn O'Neal, Christina McLaughlin, 2015; Page 3: Owl Close-up, Chris Schiralli; Winter Fest photo, JR Della, 2014; Myosotis at Sunset, Unknown; Page 4: Jessie Huyck Photo, Source Unknown; Page 5: Jessie Huyck Plaque, Janet Haseley; Heron and Tree Roots, Merri Nelson, 1999; Page 6: Open House Images, Emileigh Tanner, 2015; Benefit Images, JR Della, 2015; GSA/WER Images, Dawn O'Neal, 2015; Nature Study Images, Christina McLaughlin and Lacey Becker, 2015; Page 7: WER Images, Dawn O'Neal, 2015; Young Swimmers Image, Emily Warburton, 2015; All other student images, Christina McLaughlin and Lacey Becker, 2015; Page 8: Moth Images, Jacob Gorneau, 2014; Sphinx Moth Artwork, Mary Ellen Didion, 1998; Page 9: Detail Sketch of Color Wheel, Jane Axamethy, 2001; Research Image, Christina McLaughlin and Lacey Becker, 2015; Page 10 and 11: Detail Sketches of Color Wheel, Jane Axamethy, 2001; Back cover: Rensselaerville Falls, Laurin Trainer, 2015; Myosotis Messenger Design: Emileigh Tanner