

# The Lily Pad

Fall 2021 Newsletter



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As the leaves begin to change colors and the crisp, cool air fills my lungs, I am always quickly reminded of the way Fall speaks to me like it's one of my oldest friends. There is an unspoken comfort that Fall always brings. Even though I know it inevitably leads the way to Winter, the Fall transformation is something that always catches my breath: the way Spring brings new life, Fall brings familiar joys too. Hot apple cider, freshly made donuts, and the parade of reds, oranges, and golds that blanket the forest are among my favorites.

While the forest at Reinstein Woods begins to harness the magnificence that is Autumn, the staff too is ready for all the exciting things Fall brings. Especially this year, we are looking forward to the continuation of school groups coming to visit, new signs to adorn the trails & ponds, and exciting Fall events that are a staple at Reinstein.

Continue on to read more about our happenings below! See you on the trails.

## Message from the President

Hello Friends -

I hope this greeting finds you all well as we get set to enjoy another beautiful Fall in Western New York. The education center is open and many folks from near and far have once again been able to visit us. Education programs have been re-established and our summer camp sessions was a complete success with many "happy campers!". It certainly has been challenging to keep things operational as we move through the pandemic but, as always, we are lucky to have devoted staff, members and volunteers eager to help "steer the ship."

Friends had their first virtual auction over the past summer and this was a big success! Truth be told, I was a bit skeptical regarding the logistics of the online auction and all it entailed, but in the end I was surprised how well it went. I sincerely thank all the sponsors and folks who supported this important fundraiser to help the environmental education programs here at Reinstein Woods! Our BBQ fundraiser was also a success even though Mother Nature gave us some "liquid sunshine"! I do want to personally thank all the volunteers who braved the elements while setting up and getting the food orders to the cars as they pulled up to get them. A big shout out to Vickie Dymock, our Development Manager, for her efforts in spearheading both of these fundraising events and the success they both brought forth!

Save the date for our "Annual Membership Meeting" which is scheduled for Tuesday, October 19th at 6pm. Our special guest presentation will be Skyhunters USA – Birds of Prey! They will be presenting many live raptors (hawks, falcons) along with facts and a flight demonstration. I know you won't want to miss this as I have seen this organization and it's both educational and enjoyable. See Page 3 for more information!

Please be sure to get out into the woods and enjoy the colorful palette Mother Nature so carefully paints our landscape with!

Best regards – respect and enjoy nature,  
Terrence Boyle, President

## Calling New Members!

New members, please be sure to register to join us for a new member hike! Get to know the woods and our Board. If you haven't already, please be sure to register for the hike [here](#).

While this hike is intended for new members only, existing members can check out some of the other hikes we have going on this Fall. Keep reading to find out more!



*Welcome to the family!*

### SAVE THE DATE!

Saturday, September 25, 2021 at 1pm

Now that you're officially part of the Reinstein Woods family, save the date to join us for a new member hike, led by Board President, Terry Boyle. Learn about the woods, meet fellow members and experience Autumn at Reinstein.

## Annual Membership Meeting

We are thrilled to be holding our Annual Membership Meeting this year on October, 19, 2021 from 6-8pm. We are excited to announce that SkyHunters USA will be our Guest Speaker this year! They are a non-profit organization that has provided flight demonstrations, falconry services, educational presentations & bird of prey experiences for over 20 years.

Join us to learn about falconry, see some birds of prey up close, and get to know other members!

Please register by calling 716-683-5959 or by clicking [here](#).

## Honey Tasting Event

Its gooey, smooth texture and sweet scent...that's right, HONEY! The perfect compliment to a warm biscuit, caramelized fig, or comforting mug of herbal tea. Please join us **Saturday, November 13, 2021 at 6pm** for an experience all about honey! You will receive 3 tastings of honey from our friends at Bee Country and a special presentation to learn about bees, honey, and the perfect pairings. [Find out more.](#)

Proceeds benefit Reinstein Woods and its environmental education programs.

## Member Highlight: Meet Fen Stanczyk

We are pleased to highlight member and active volunteer, Fen Stanczyk, this quarter! As one of our younger members, Fen has been active in many of our programs from Trail Thursdays, Teen Naturalist Club, our summer camps, and so much more! See his delightful interview below.

### How long have you been coming to Reinstein Woods?

*I have been coming to Reinstein when I was a toddler, and began volunteering when I turned 16.*

### What is your favorite thing about Reinstein?

*My favorite thing about Reinstein is that though it has a finite amount of land it occupies, it seems endless. There are always new things to see and learn. Even though I've been coming here regularly for most of my life, I am constantly learning and discovering new things each time I visit. I don't think there's been a single time I've visited Reinstein and not discovered something new and interesting that I hadn't seen or noticed before.*

### What is your fondest memory?

*My fondest Reinstein memories are of bringing friends here for the first time. Everyone who knows me well knows about Reinstein Woods, so I always love bringing them there to see it with me. They're always amazed at how beautiful it is and at how much wildlife we see. There are many people who love rainforests, or beaches, or deserts, but I think that a lot of people don't realize how incredible the flora and fauna in our own backyard really is, and Reinstein is the best place I know to show them.*

### What is the best/your most favorite thing you've learned from Reinstein?

*Though I've certainly learned many objective facts about different plants or wildlife since I've been coming to Reinstein, some of my favorite things I've learned are the things I've learned about myself. I'm pursuing a career in Environmentalism, and coming to Reinstein regularly has certainly helped to foster my interest and passion for the field. Seeing the intricacies of the ecology of the ponds here firsthand, in particular, has led me to realize that my main environmental interest is in freshwater wetlands. I wouldn't be where I am today, or be the person I am today, without my regular visits to Reinstein throughout my childhood.*

Thank you for letting us continue to be part of your life, Fen! Best of luck to you as you start your collegiate career. We're so proud of you!



# 21st Annual Fall Festival: Back to Our Roots With a Reimagined Event

In 2001, Reinstein Woods' education program was in its infancy. The "Education Center" consisted of a garden shed and a couple of port-a-johns in the parking lot. But we were anxious to bring awareness of Reinstein Woods to the community. We decided a "15th Anniversary Celebration," marking the September anniversary of when Dr. Victor Reinstein's estate donated the property to the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, was a perfect way to introduce people to Reinstein Woods.

The celebration including an event every day of the week: a "Historical Tour" with local author and forest advocate Bruce Kershner, a bird walk, pond plunge, and more. Saturday was "Anniversary Celebration Day" with nature activities for kids, guided walks, door prizes, and pre-packaged snacks sold by the Boy Scouts (I still remember their table of goodies). The volunteers had so much fun, they asked to make it an annual event. And the Fall Festival was born!

The festival attracts loads of children, who are not eligible to receive the COVID vaccine, and our narrow entrance makes social distancing a challenge. So this year, we decided to go back to our roots. We asked some of the groups that normally exhibit at the festival if they'd be interested in a multi-day affair, to provide lots of opportunities for the public without creating large crowds.

Please be sure to join us [Thursday, September 16 to Monday, September 20](#) for this exciting, multi-day event. Stay tuned to our [website](#) and announcements for a schedule of events.

Thanks to our willing partners, a "festival of activities" will span five days, with registration required for most activities. We hope you enjoy this "reimagined" event, and look forward to a bigger event in 2022!

- Meaghan Boice-Green, Center Director

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## Friends of Reinstein Receives Grant to Rehabilitate the History Trail

We are excited to announce a \$6,510 grant from the Environmental Protection Fund's Park and Trail Partnership Grants program to provide permanent, durable trailside interpretive signs along Reinstein Woods' History Trail. The grant will be combined with funds from a generous private donor to complete the \$8,710 project.

The new signs will be installed at the proper height and angle to provide accessibility, and will include QR codes to connect with online text and to an audio tour of the trail. The existing wooden posts will be replaced with more durable metal posts. Some signs will be revised to better acknowledge the history of native peoples on the land, and to acknowledge the important role that Friends of Reinstein Woods has played for the last 15 years. Look for the project to be completed by Spring 2022!

The History Trail Interpretive Sign Improvement project was supported with funding from the NYS Park and Trail Partnership Grants and New York's Environmental Protection Fund. Park and Trail Partnership Grants are administered by Parks & Trails New York, in partnership with the NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation.

# Sprucing Up The Flower Sculpture

\$3K IN 30!



We are well on our way to restoring our beautiful flower sculpture!

If you've been to Reinstein Woods, you've probably been greeted by the beautiful flower sculpture at the entrance, or maybe you've taken a selfie with it! Made from recycled car parts, the sculpture is now a part of the landscape at Reinstein Woods.

Originally donated by a long-time champion of Reinstein Woods, over the years it has been weathered from the sun and Western New York's harsh winters, and is in need of a little TLC. You may have noticed it's been missing since July. We need your help to give it a much-needed facelift and extend its life!

While we already have some of the funding donated, our goal is to raise \$3,000 in 30 days!! - ending September 1st. This will help pay for the restoration (sanding, painting, replacing parts etc.) and pay for any unexpected labor costs. TOGETHER, we can do this! Make a donation by clicking [here](#) on one of the levels at or make a donation for any amount [here](#).

Thank you for your continued support of Reinstein Woods.

## Donors May 2021-July 2021

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF REINSTEIN WOODS AND OUR PROGRAMS!

### Grants

Erie County  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
North American Association for Environmental Education  
NY Power Authority  
Parks & Trails New York

### In-Kind

Buffalo Audubon Society  
Mike & Carol Gettings  
Marie Bindeman  
Judith Robinson  
Buffalo Sabres  
William Boehm  
Michael Dorobiala  
Andrew's Estate Service  
Liz Taillie  
Penn Dixie Fossil Park & Nature Reserve  
William Brunea  
Paths, Peaks and Paddles, Inc  
Meaghan Boice-Green  
Rose Brunea  
Suzanne O'Brien  
The Orvis Company, Inc.  
Carolyn Celeste

### In-Kind

Herschell Carrousel Factory Museum  
Zuba Zone 716  
Amazing Bargains USA, LLC  
West Seneca Art Society  
Timothy Robson  
Proforma Total Business  
Daniel Mlodozieniec  
Jennifer Lodi-Smith  
Hebrank  
Wischmeyer's  
Plumbing Plus  
Dorothy Klink  
Holly Graham  
Lucy Bond  
Margo Banatti  
Molly Santoro  
Loaded Lumber Buffalo  
Morrison Outdoors  
Buffalo Niagara Waterkeeper  
Community Beer Works

### \$1000+

Anonymous  
**\$500-\$999**  
Julia Reinstein  
**\$200-\$499**  
Meaghan Boice-Green  
Joe Basil Chevrolet, Inc.  
Gear For Adventure  
Cause & Effect Strategy  
SnowCrest Digital  
Esther Clabeaux  
Jim Hartz  
**\$100-\$199**  
David Kennedy  
Bowmansville Garden Club  
Michael Tonovitz  
Joann Weibel  
Melinda Foran  
Jennifer Kinder  
Robert Schick  
Karen Smith  
Vinod Suchak  
Alfred Dittenhauser  
Sue Banchich  
Teresa Corrigan  
Jacqueline Brodfuehrer  
Marilyn Wisniewski (in Memory of Judy Brummer)

### Up to \$99

Kenneth Nusstein  
Jane Dietz  
Barbara Arber  
Mary Kavanagh  
Richard Lipka  
Tom Lawson  
Ed Swiatek  
Jade Feeney  
David McCormick  
Peter Buechi  
Veronica Dolensek  
Cynthia Frame-Endres  
Debra Soman  
Gary V. Lamitina  
Dale Milsom  
Christine  
Duchscherer  
Thomas Alberalla  
Michele Setzer  
Eileen Roy  
Agape Inc.  
Kayla Rizzo  
Pamela Jones  
Amazon Smile Fdn  
Kathleen Hannel

### Up to \$99

Stephen Wieczorek  
Brigitte Schick  
Dennis Kaniecki  
Larry Carroll  
Brie Olearczyk  
Valerie Antos  
Stephen Wisniewski  
Diane Karosik  
Irene Benbenek  
Gary Michalski  
David Green  
Kandy Krampitz  
Dennis Burns  
Kathy Halter  
Michael Cleesattel  
Penny Price  
Linda Lohr  
Martha Reddout  
Brigitte Wagner-Ott  
Gasper Aronica  
Frima Ackerhalt  
Megan Szerwo  
Cynthia Griffin  
Sheryl Davies  
Elizabeth Howell  
Boris Harison  
Nancy Murray

### Up to \$99

Thomas Schifferli  
Christine Michaels  
Kristy Lupejkis  
George Wisniewski  
Katherine Weber  
Diane  
Bingenheimer  
Rick Ecker  
Joseph Killian  
Helen Cyrulik  
Norma Weinstein  
Tom Mudd Sr.  
Kristy Schmitt  
Benevity  
Barbara Morrissey  
Dolores Palezewski  
Eleanor Jusiak  
Barbara Ann Niehus  
Kelly DiFiglia  
Heather Nowak  
Nick Loudenslager  
Ann Harrison  
Lucy Bond  
Siri Paolino  
Judith Hendee  
John Wilton

**\*\*PLEASE NOTE: Registration is required for ALL programs unless otherwise indicated.**

*We welcome those who have any type of physical challenge to all of our programs. If you call ahead to let us know your needs, we will be happy to learn how we can serve you.*

### PROGRAMS AT REINSTEIN WOODS

- You must pre-register by phone; call 716-683-5959 to register.
- If you call outside of normal business hours you will receive a call confirming your registration or waitlist status. **PLEASE SPEAK CLEARLY** when leaving your name and phone number as our system does not have caller ID. *Unless you receive a callback, you are not registered.*
- Social distancing and mask protocols are subject to change with current COVID guidelines.
- In case of poor weather, programs may be cancelled.
- We cannot accommodate organized youth/civic groups at these programs. Please call to make other arrangements.

## SEPTEMBER

Saturday, September 4 at 10:00 AM

### SUMMER'S END STROLL

Celebrate the end of summer break with a guided walk. \*\*

Saturday, September 4 at 11:00 AM

### WOODS WALK: ALIENS

Are there visitors from outer space in Reinstein Woods? No, just plants and animals that have been introduced from other parts of the world. Join a guided tour to meet some of them.

**No registration required.**

Saturday, September 11 at 10:00 AM

### THE GREAT REINSTEIN WOODS TREASURE HUNT

Embark on a nature play adventure with a self-guided treasure hunt. Follow your map to find your own hidden treasure and look for animals along the way! **For children ages 5-10. \*\***

Saturday, September 18 at 11:00 AM

### WOODS WALK: NATURE GUIDE'S CHOICE

Join a guided nature walk through the woods. **No registration required.**

### 21<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL FALL FESTIVAL

**Thursday, September 16 –  
Monday, September 20, 2021**

Kick off the fall season by spending time in the woods! Instead of our typical one-day event, we are holding multiple guided walks and programs this year. See <https://reinsteinwoods.org> for event details and registration information.

Wednesday, September 22 at 7:00 PM

### SUNSET EQUINOX STROLL

Celebrate the fall equinox on this guided evening walk. \*\*

Saturday, September 25 at 10:00 AM

### OUTDOOR SKILLS

In this program, you will build an emergency shelter from natural materials and practice navigation and fire building techniques. **For adults and children ages 8 and older. \*\***

## OCTOBER

Saturday, October 2 from 9:00 AM to Noon

### FOREST BATHING AND YOGA

Friends of Reinstein Woods is partnering with Yogis in Service for this special event! Enjoy a forest bathing experience in Reinstein Woods, followed by a yoga session with a Yogi in Service instructor. **Register on the Yogis in Service website at <https://www.yogisinservice.org/>**

Saturday, October 2 at 11:00 AM

### WOODS WALK: NATURE GUIDE'S CHOICE

Join a guided nature walk through the woods. **No registration required.**

Saturday, October 9 at 9:00 AM

### BIRDING 101

Learn how to identify birds by hiking the trails at Reinstein Woods in search of our fall migrants. Bring binoculars if you have them. \*\*

Wednesday, October 13 at 4:30 PM

### WILD WEDNESDAY

Together, kids and their parents or caregivers can enjoy a fun hour-long outdoor activity. **For children in grades K-5. No registration required.**

Saturday, October 16 at 10:00 AM

### AUTUMN COLORS

Fall foliage is a blaze of color, from flaming oranges and reds to subtle yellows. Enjoy the beauty of autumn's trees on this guided walk. \*\*

Saturday, October 16 at 1:00 PM

### WOODS WALK: CHANGING SEASONS

How do you know the seasons are changing? Join a guided nature walk to find out. **No registration required.**

Wednesday, October 20 at 7:30 PM

### FULL MOON WALK

Discover Reinstein Woods by moonlight on this guided evening walk. \*\*

Saturday, October 23 from 9:00 AM to 3:30 PM

### EDUCATOR WORKSHOP: PROJECT LEARNING TREE

Project Learning Tree is an award-winning environmental education program featuring an interdisciplinary, hands-on curriculum that uses the forest as a window on the world. All activities are correlated to Common Core math and ELA standards. Six CTLE hours provided. **For formal and non-formal educators of students in grades Pre K-8. \*\***

Saturday, October 30 at 10:30 AM

### HALLOWEEN STORIES IN THE WOODS BY WOVEN YARNS

This unique combination of a singer-songwriter and a storyteller will create a nature-themed, family-friendly Halloween event by blending original songs with traditional folktales. \*\*

## NOVEMBER

Saturday, November 6 at 1:00 PM

### WOODS WALK: NATURE GUIDE'S CHOICE

Join a guided nature walk through the woods. **No registration required.**

Wednesday, November 10 at 4:30 PM

### WILD WEDNESDAY

Together, kids and their parents or caregivers can enjoy a fun hour-long outdoor activity. **For children in grades K-5. No registration required.**

Saturday, November 13 at 7:00 PM

### OWL PROWL

Learn about the owls that live at Reinstein Woods during a nocturnal adventure in search of them. **For adults and children ages 8 and older. \*\***

Saturday, November 13

### SAVE THE DATE: HONEY TASTING

Your taste buds will "bee" delighted as you sample the flavors of local honey and get the buzz from a local beekeeper about our important flying friends. **Check [reinsteinwoods.org](http://reinsteinwoods.org) for more details and registration information.**

Saturday, November 20 at 10:30 AM

### ANIMAL TRIPS

Enjoy a walk through the woods as we explore which Reinstein Woods residents migrate in preparation for winter. \*\*

Saturday, November 20 at 11:00 AM

### WOODS WALK: NATURE GUIDE'S CHOICE

Join a guided nature walk through the woods. **No registration required.**

Saturday, November 27 at 10:00 AM

### STORIES IN THE WOODS: WILD TURKEYS

Enjoy hearing a nature story, followed by a guided walk in the woods. **For children ages 3-7. \*\***

## Ellicottville Member Hike

JOIN US FOR SOME OFFSITE FUN!

Be sure to save the date for our member hike in Ellicottville! Saturday October 16th.

Details to follow.

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## Reinstein Stories and Member Highlight

Is there someone you think should be highlighted for their amazing volunteering? Do you know a member that is always inspired by Reinstein Woods? How has Reinstein Woods influenced your life? Please contact Vickie at [Vickie@reinsteinwoods.org](mailto:Vickie@reinsteinwoods.org) or 716-683-5959 ext. 210 with your stories!

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## Planned Giving

Don't forget! You can make a lasting impact on Reinstein Woods and its programs by making a commitment through planned giving. Consider adding the Friends of Reinstein Woods to your will or retirement plan.

(learn more at: <https://reinsteinwoods.org/donate/planned-giving/>)

