

Friends of Sessions Woods
c/o Sessions Woods WMA
PO Box 1550
Burlington, CT 06013-1550
www.fosw.org

To enhance and encourage
the public use and awareness
of Sessions Woods



Volume 10, Number 1
Winter 2012

FOSW Receives Generous Gift

The Friends of Sessions Woods has recently received a bequest from the estate of Natalie L. Parsons. Natalie generously included the Friend of Sessions Woods in her will because Sessions Woods was a special place to her. Natalie's generosity will enable the FOSW to continue to enhance the educational and recreational offerings of Sessions Woods.

Special Thanks

Special thanks to the family of Edwin John Kraus for their generous donations to the Friends of Sessions Woods in lieu of birthday gifts to John. The donations will be used to help support the mission of the FOSW. The FOSW also wish John a very Happy 90th Birthday Year!

Long-time Board Member Retires

The Friends of Sessions Woods extends its appreciation to long-time Board member Margaret Kane who recently retired due to health issues. Margaret began her association with Sessions Woods during the neighborhood grassroots effort to buy the property from the United Methodist Church in the 1980s. Over the years, Margaret assisted with many projects, including the FOSW Annual Meeting, "Halloween in September," and CT Hunting & Fishing Appreciation Day. She also operated the book cart during special events and lended a hand during potluck luncheons. Margaret recorded minutes for FOSW Board Meetings, assisted with mailing efforts, and always provided endless support in developing the exhibit area from its humble beginnings to its present day appearance. Thank you very much Margaret!

Scenes From Connecticut Hunting & Fishing Appreciation Day 2011



FOSW Board member Cheryl Hubble staffs the welcome table. Other FOSW members assisted with the food tent, silent auction, book store and various other activities.



Participants enjoy the indoor displays and outdoor activities during the event.



The Friends of Sessions Woods was established as an all-volunteer organization in 1998 to facilitate projects and programs that enhance the value of Sessions Woods.

Welcome New Friends!

The Friends of Sessions Woods would like to welcome several new members to our organization:

James & Carol Stewart
Maxine Fippinger
Tom & Barb Mitchell
James A. Chakulski

What's New at Sessions Woods

-Recently, the Friends of Sessions Woods received a donation of a beautiful beaver mount. The habitat material with the mount also included a small tree chewed by the beaver with a bird's nest at its base. The individual who donated the mount said the beaver actually took down the tree, along with that same bird's nest. The Wildlife Division has plans to display the beaver in the foyer of the Conservation Education Center.

-Work is continuing by Wildlife Division staff on a fourth exhibit cube. This cube will feature information on coastal Connecticut.

-Carol Lawber will be displaying her beautiful photos of Connecticut birds in winter. The photographs will be displayed during January and February, so be sure to visit Sessions Woods for a walk down the hallway.

-Be sure to check out the cougar skull in the exhibit case, also down the hallway at Sessions. The skull is from the cougar killed on June 11, 2011, on the Merritt Parkway in Milford. This cougar was not native to Connecticut but was from a subpopulation in the Black Hills of South Dakota and had travelled through Minnesota, Wisconsin, and New York on its way east to Connecticut. Learn more about the cougar's remarkable story by viewing the display in the Sessions Woods Exhibit Area.

Sessions Woods Calendar of Events

The Sessions Woods Conservation Education Center's Public Program Series is a cooperative venture between the CT DEP Wildlife Division and the Friends of Sessions Woods. Please pre-register for these programs by calling 860-675-8130. Programs are free unless noted. An adult must accompany children under 12 years old. No pets allowed!

January 22, 2012 (Sunday), 1:30 p.m. Turkey Tails & Horses' Hooves

Join Master Wildlife Conservationist Jack Nelson for an exploration into the world of bracket fungi. Following an introduction indoors, Jack will lead participants on an outside tour to view and identify the interesting woody fungi found on the trees along the trails at Sessions Woods. The program will begin in the large meeting room inside the Conservation Education Center. The exhibit area will be open for viewing prior to the program.



February 22, 2012 (Wednesday), 10:00 a.m. Wildlife Tracks & Sign for Kids

Learn about wildlife tracks indoors with Natural Resource Educator Laura Rogers-Castro and Master Wildlife Conservationist Shirley Sutton and then head outside for a short walk to look for animal signs. Children also will make a wildlife track to take home. An adult must accompany all children.



Save the Date! April 22, 2012

The Friends of Sessions Woods Annual Meeting will be on Sunday, April 22. As usual, there will be a potluck dessert extravaganza from 12:30 to 1:00 p.m., prior to the presentation.

February 26, 2012 (Sunday), 1:30 p.m. Bluebirds

Master Wildlife Conservationist Fred Lowman has been monitoring bluebird nest boxes on his property for several years. This indoor program will provide an informative discussion on bluebirds as Fred shares some of his success stories. He also will provide tips for getting bluebirds to nest in your backyard, too. The program will begin in the large meeting room inside the Conservation Education Center.



March 25, 2012 (Sunday), 10:00 a.m. Mushroom Program

Join the Connecticut Valley Mycological Society, during their annual meeting at Sessions Woods, for a program on mushrooms. Refreshments will be at 9:30 a.m., followed by the presentation at 10:00 a.m. All are welcome and will have the opportunity to talk with mushroom enthusiasts to learn about the society; sponsored field trips; and hints about purchasing mushroom identification guides.



Membership Renewal & Special Projects Fund Donations

Please Print

Name _____

Address _____

Town _____

State _____ Zip _____

E-mail _____

Check one:

I am a new member _____

I am renewing my membership _____

Check one:

Annual Membership Levels:

- Student (under 21) \$6
- Individual \$15
- Family \$20
- Patron \$50
- Corporation \$100

\$_____ Donation for Special Projects Fund
Memberships run annually from July 1 through June 30 of the following year. Each membership receives *Connecticut Wildlife* magazine.

For new members only: Memberships received during the months of January to June are effective through June 30 of the following year.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

We gratefully accept your contributions. Fees and contributions are fully tax deductible. My check for \$_____ is enclosed. Please send your check, made payable to Friends of Sessions Woods, to:

Friends of Sessions Woods
PO Box 1550
Burlington CT 06013-1550