

## Introvert or Extrovert? There's Something for All

A friend shared a version of Bingo designed for introverts. It made me laugh quietly to myself because I am indeed an introvert. Most of us who coordinate and volunteer here on The Quarry Farm are, although you wouldn't know it during a program, workshop or board meeting. We step outside our comfort zones on such occasions because we feel passionately about the mission "... to provide the opportunity for people of all ages to increase their understanding of the natural environment of Northwest Ohio and to interact with their fellow inhabitants in a sustainable manner."

An introvert is a person whose interest is generally directed inward toward his own feelings and thoughts, in contrast to an extrovert, whose attention is directed toward other people and the outside world. The people who make things happen here have both personality traits, and we all step outside our comfort zones sometimes to further The Quarry Farm mission. We speak louder, gather and interact in big groups of strangers to instruct and share. When all the louder talking makes us lose our voices (I speak from frequent experience) the extroverts step in unless they are already front and center.

Volunteers do so much year-round. Here are a few examples:

- David Seitz is a frequent traveller in the nature preserve. He employs his professional engineering skills to build bridges, monitor water levels and remove great groves of invasive Amur honeysuckle, roots and all.



David Smith and Deb Weston (left) lead bird hikes in Spring and Fall.



Paul and Joyce Bonifas set the base for the Cadillac of compost systems.

Deb Weston is a birder extraordinaire. She is a California transplant who was a docent for the Sacramento Valley Conservancy and a trip leader for the Sacramento Audubon Society. We all lucked out that she moved to Ohio. She and David Smith keep adding avian species to the Quarry Farm's ebird list on their own and with visiting birders.

- It takes a lot of cool, creative heads to coordinate a school field trip. In order for each student to make the most of their time here, we frequently break busloads into small groups and rotate them through activity stations. Paula Harper, Rita Seitz and Martha Erchenbrecher are three people who help visitors make hiking sticks and t-shirts, lead hikes and much more when the schoolbuses arrive.
- Throughout the warmer months, Putnam County Master Gardeners tend their pollinator garden, which is flourishing south of Red Fox Cabin. This year, they have branched out to other beds. Paul Bonifas designed and built the Cadillac of compost systems onsite.
- Who says you have to be a grown-up to make a difference. Youth hasn't stopped kids from chipping in to maintain the gardens, pull honeysuckle and garlic mustard, document Blanchards cricket frogs, paint barns and build benches and observation platforms.

It's often someone who is attending an event for the first time who plants the seed for a new project, course of action in the preserve or a fun program. Have a volunteer idea? Share!

### Board of Directors:

Laura Coburn, President  
Randy Basinger  
Martha Erchenbrecher  
Mike Erchenbrecher  
Paula Harper  
Phyllis Macke  
Tim Macke  
Paul Nusbaum

Rita Seitz  
Deb Weston

### Advisory Board:

Bonnie Brooks  
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**Do you have questions, want to schedule an outing or workshop for your group or keep up with what's happening here? Email [thequarryfarm@gmail.com](mailto:thequarryfarm@gmail.com), follow us on Facebook, Instagram and visit [www.thequarryfarm.org](http://www.thequarryfarm.org) or call 567-376-0705.**

**Donations to The Quarry Farm Nature Preserve & Conservation Farm, a 501(c)(3) public charity, are tax-deductible.**

## Summer 2023 Programs & Events

Dress for the weather, including good walking shoes, and meet in Seitz Family Pavilion, 1/8 mile north of 14321 Road 7L, Pandora. There is no fee to participate unless noted otherwise. Tax-deductible donations are welcome.

### Leaf-making Workshop

**Saturday, July 15, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.**

**Rain Date: July 22**

Join us to create one-of-a-kind leaf-molded birdbaths, bowls and stepping stones from concrete and stone, using large leaves like those from burdock plants. Preregister by Tuesday, July 11. **There is a material fee of \$15 per person for this event. Preregistration is required by Tuesday, July 11 by emailing [thequarryfarm@gmail.com](mailto:thequarryfarm@gmail.com).**

### 9th Annual Quarry Farm Jam

**Saturday, September 9, 6 p.m.**

Whether you play an instrument like a virtuoso, just like to pretend or sing along or listen, spend a sweet late summer evening with music under the big red roof alongside calls from the nature preserve. Bring your own chair. Refreshments will be available, including homemade cookies.

### The Quarry Farm 5K

**Saturday, October 7, 10 a.m.**  
**(check-in opens 8:45 a.m.)**

Walkers and runners will start at the Seitz Family Pavilion. Check-in is from 8:45 to 9:30 a.m. Please present ID to receive participation packet. The 5K run/walk will start at 10 a.m. (line-up at 9:55 a.m.) The race will be held rain or shine (unless there is lightning) so please dress appropriately and wear layers if necessary. Registration is \$25.00. Complete the registration form on this newsletter and mail with entry fee to The Quarry Farm, 14321 Road 7L, Pandora, OH 45877. **Entry forms are also available at [www.thequarryfarm.org](http://www.thequarryfarm.org) under Upcoming Events.** NOTE: Your registration must be received by September 15, 2023, in order to receive the 2023 5K T-shirt.

**Follow us on Facebook to find out about pop-up events like night-time Star Walks.**



### Mission Statement

It is our goal and mission to provide the opportunity for people of all ages to increase their understanding of the natural environment of Northwest Ohio and to interact with their fellow inhabitants in a sustainable manner.



*A Magnolia Warbler peered into Deb Weston's camera outside the Seitz Family Pavilion.*

The Quarry Farm Newsletter is a quarterly publication for supporters of The Quarry Farm Nature Preserve & Conservation Farm, a nonprofit organization in Pandora, Ohio.

**On the cover:** Attendees of the Putnam County Educational Service Center Summer Camp dipped their toes into natural science, identifying crayfish and other aquatic life in Cranberry Run and the quarry.

All photographs printed in this newsletter were taken on The Quarry Farm Nature Preserve & Conservation Farm.

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



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### Under One Big Sky

The Spring field trip season was hopping with onsite visitors and road trips to offsite presentations. Matt Hanneman, Cubmaster for the Glandorf Cub Scout Pack 229, brought his troop to earn their hiking badge on April 11. Recent flooding resulted in sightings of displaced shrews and hungry Great Horned Owl calls. Continental Elementary School third grade students arrived on May 12, most for the first time. They traveled by yellow bus across Putnam County at the urging of Charlene Finch. Charlene



*Glandorf Cub Scout Pack 229 were the first to earn their hiking badge on the trails this Spring.*



*Third grade students, their teachers, parents and principal made hiking sticks on the porch of the House That is a Kitchen.*

and her Continental Junior Gardeners were some of our first visitors after The Quarry Farm became official. We took The Quarry Farm on the road on May 15, or at least a snapshot thereof. Miller City-New Cleveland School rounded out their elementary program year with the theme "School is Wild" and we visited, along with Estella the Virginia Opossum and Amur honeysuckle hiking sticks finished by Deb Weston for each teacher.

The May 20 Spring Migration Bird Hike resulted in 44 species observed in the nature preserve, including the addition of a Mourning Warbler to our eBird.org list of species. The days leading up to the hike were full of song, although the early spring foliage gave the birds plenty of places to hide. It's a good thing that David Smith speaks bird. David and Deb Weston recorded 56 species the day before the hike. Eleven were migrating warblers.

For the first time we shared space with Into the Wild LGBTQIA+ at the Findlay Pride Resource Fair on June 3. We removed invasive honeysuckle the day before and used all 50 trunks to make hiking sticks there at Riverside Park. Putnam County Educational Service Center scheduled a summer camp geared toward Grades 5-8 here on June 6. Campers made hiking sticks and



*Kathleen Heeter reviews the tea wheel with June 17 tea tasters.*

discussed aquatic insect adaptations before wading into Cranberry Run and the quarry to look for the insects, fish, mollusks and crustaceans that live there.

On June 17, the pavilion was set for a tea-tasting led by Kathleen Heeter. *(continued on next page)*

### Resident Spotlight: K

People often ask if the Canada geese here are mean. Wouldn't anyone be if they or their family are threatened? If a Canada goose concludes that you are flock, however, you are blessed. Until we adopted two Canada geese in 2003, we honestly didn't think much of these birds either. In very short order, Johnny and Stella taught us that Canada geese are extremely curious, intelligent and loyal birds. They mate for life and dote over their families. Researchers have found that, after wild goslings hatch, the dame and gander lose their flight feathers and don't regain them until their young ones are also ready to get airborne.

There are two Canada geese in the farm animal sanctuary that are non-flighted permanent residents. The others include imprinted individuals that were placed here by the Lake Erie Nature & Science Center with the hope that the proximity to wild Canada geese will light that spark within them that tells them that they are wild birds. They are tagged with lettered leg bands that will allow their lifetime movements to be tracked. We call them by their letters: K, T, U, and X.

While we keep interaction to a minimum, it is a delight to watch them find their way after they arrive. Like most animals, they sense what goes right past humans. T was Steve's protector during the weeks when Steve had to walk with a cane. Shy K, who had only been with us for a few weeks, forced a field tripper to high-step away from Steve. Obviously, Steve is flock. K was escorted into the inner paddock where he spent the remainder of the visit. That was earlier this spring. Current goose aggression is relegated to Bernard the Turkey, who is aggressive himself, especially if you are wearing or carrying the color red. K and T both help round up Bernard at night and keep him at bay when we lock the gates.

*NOTE: Canada geese, their nests and eggs are protected under both the Federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act and Ohio law. According to a June 18, 2023 article in the Cleveland Plain Dealer/Cleveland.com, property owners are encouraged not to feed geese and to allow grass and other vegetation to grow up around their home ponds.*

### Under One Big Sky continued

Her presentation included a rich, flavorful history of tea and tea culture. Participants tasted four curated loose leaf teas, each paired with a selection of freshly baked items from Kathleen's menu. Attendees also shared a display of their own tea pots and tea cups.

Last fall, Cub Scout Pack 324 conducted their annual cake auction at Findlay Zion United Methodist Church. They donated the proceeds from the auction to support the work that we do here. On June 28, over a dozen pack members hiked The Quarry Farm trails (photo at right) to earn a badge and visited the farm animal sanctuary residents.



*The Canada Goose tagged "K" protects Bruce the Turkey from aggressors.*



### Thank you...

...to Martha Erchenbrecher for helping with the Miller City-New Cleveland school tour

...to David Seitz for honeysuckle and vine removal and hydrological engineering

...to Paula Harper and Rita Seitz for leading the t-shirt making station at the Continental Third Grade Field Trip

...to Deb Weston for leading visiting birders on the trails during Spring migration



*A Bumblebee, its hind legs already carrying pollen, collects more from spring flowers. (Photo by Deb Weston)*

### Monetary Donations:

Byron and Joan Bossenbroek

Bruce Coburn in memory of Bert Coburn

Parents of Continental Third-Graders

Martha and Mike Erchenbrecher

Holly Ianneo

Dan Kempf

Sandy Pope

Maryann Posch

Putnam County ESC Summer Campers

David Smith

Deb Weston

In memory of Emma Jo Dolan:

- Bill Baldwin

- Margaret Gardner

- Gille Senior Center

- Phil and Phyllis Seitz

- Jody White