

# Friends of the Parks

## 2007 Programs

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| January 27<br>Saturday  | College Lodge<br>6:00 pm ®                                       | <b>Fireside Dinner: Around Iceland: Rainbows, Icebergs, and Lava</b> – <i>James Reber</i> – Jim will share the highlights from a recent trip to Iceland. Enjoy the spectacular scenery in Iceland including waterfalls, rainbows, an iceberg filled lagoon, hot springs, and glaciers. Join us for our annual “kick-off” potluck dinner. Pre-registration required.   |
| February 4<br>Sunday    | Blue Spruce Lodge<br>2:00 pm ®                                   | <b>Fifth Annual Poetry in the Park Event</b> – <i>Local Poets</i> – Your favorite nature poems by established (Thoreau, Dickinson, Frost) and/or emerging (Hue, Stuchell, Ferrence) poets, read and recited by your friends and neighbors. So bring a poem and come to read or just to listen. Pre-registration required for readers only.  |
| February 10<br>Saturday | Yellow Creek<br>Environmental Learning<br>Classroom<br>6:30 pm   | <b>The Winter Sky</b> – <i>Ray Beisel</i> – Enjoy a chilly look at Saturn, a view of Venus setting in the west and a quarter moon through a good telescope. Background information and other interesting phenomenon about our solar system and universe will be shared. Dress warmly!   |
| February 16<br>Friday   | Blue Spruce Lodge<br>7:00 pm                                     | <b>A Taste of Taiwan</b> – <i>Larry Turton</i> – Taiwan is relatively unknown to most Americans except as a country threatened by China. Visit this fascinating island through Larry’s photography. You will be able to learn about its unique geography and place in the political sphere.   |
| February 23<br>Friday   | Blue Spruce Lodge<br>7:00 pm                                     | <b>Caves</b> – <i>Kevin Patrick</i> - Kevin covers the natural and human history of caves, beginning at the bottom of prehistoric seas millions of years ago, and continuing through the age of auto-oriented mass tourism. His discussion of ‘other rocky roadside wonders’ includes Pennsylvania’s four tourist coal mines, boulder fields, rock cities, ice mines, and profile rocks.                          |
| March 2<br>Friday       | Blue Spruce Lodge<br>7:00 pm                                     | <b>Death Valley’05: Bloom of the Century</b> – <i>James Reber</i> – Spring 2005 was called “the bloom of the century” in Death Valley with well timed rains resulting in a spectacular bloom. We will look at pictures of Death Valley dunes and blooms.  |
| March 10<br>Saturday    | Blue Spruce Lodge<br>2:00 pm                                     | <b>Maple Sugaring</b> - <i>Allan and Andy Kinter</i> – Spring is coming and the sap is running. Satisfy that sweet tooth by attending our popular Maple Sugaring program. See how maple sugaring was done in the past, and get a taste of the delightful treat.   |
| March 17<br>Saturday    | Blue Spruce Lodge<br>7:00 pm                                     | <b>Patagonia, the Falklands &amp; the Chilean Fiords</b> – <i>Denise Weber</i> – Take a cruise from Buenos Aires, Argentina to Valparaiso, Chile. See the Magellan penguin rookery at Punto Tombo, the battlefields in the Falklands, and the southern most national forest at Ushuaia. Cruise the Chilean fiords where the only access is by boat or plane. See the “Switzerland of Chile” region.               |
| March 25<br>Sunday      | Yellow Creek<br>Environmental Learning<br>Classroom®<br>2:00 pm  | <b>Have You Seen Bigfoot?</b> – <i>Eric Altman, PA Bigfoot Society</i> – Hear about the history of Bigfoot, how it got its name, and reports of sightings located in PA. Eric will talk about how he became interested in Bigfoot, and how the Society investigates reports of sightings. Pre-registration required.  |
| March 31<br>Saturday    | Blue Spruce Lodge<br>2:00 pm ®                                   | <b>Introduction to Fly Fishing for Pennsylvania Trout</b> – <i>Rick Distanislaio</i> – Come and learn more about this sport, about the equipment it takes to pursue it, where the fish are found, and how you coax them to bite on a hook covered with feathers and thread!   |
| April 15<br>Sunday      | Yellow Creek<br>Environmental Learning<br>Classroom<br>2:00 pm   | <b>Landscaping with Stone</b> – <i>Joe Dinwiddie</i> – Homeowners can use stone for a wide range of landscaping in their yard, and build projects that will last several lifetimes without an aching back! We will look at slides of a dozen different types of stone projects such as retaining walls, edging, steps, and water features. We will discuss step by step how to build them to last for many years. |
| April 21<br>Saturday    | Yellow Creek<br>Park Office<br>8:00 am                           | <b>Bird Walk</b> – <i>Margaret Higbee</i> – Join the Todd Bird Club for a bird walk in Yellow Creek State Park. This birding hot spot ranks in the top ten in the state. We will be just in time to see migratory waterfowl, and the warbler season will be just beginning. Dress for the weather.  |
| April 28<br>Saturday    | Blue Spruce Lodge<br>10:00 am ®                                  | <b>Digital Cameras and Photography</b> – <i>Larry Turton</i> – Learn how to purchase and use a digital camera. Examine the conditions that determine what you buy and then learn the secrets of digital cameras. Pre-registration required.   |
| May 5<br>Saturday       | Pine Ridge Lodge<br>2:00 pm                                      | <b>Mushroom Walk</b> - <i>John Plischke</i> – Morels are one of nature’s special foods, but they can be delicious or they can be toxic. This session will teach participants where to find morels, and how to identify edible versus toxic types.   |
| May 13<br>Sunday        | Yellow Creek<br>Environmental Learning<br>Classroom<br>2:00 pm ® | <b>Mother’s Day Wildflower Walk &amp; Tea</b> – <i>Cindy Rogers</i> – Join Cindy for a talk and walk to learn about our local “weeds.” After a walk you can join us for a Tea and snacks made from some of the plants you will see in the wild. Come dressed for the weather. Pre-registration required.  |

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| May 20<br>Sunday | Yellow Creek Park Office<br>2:00 pm ® | <b>Salamander Safari</b> – <i>Mike Shaffer</i> – Come and explore Laurel Run for salamanders and other “critters.” Remember to wear shoes that can get wet. Great fun for the whole family. Pre-registration required. |
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| May 26<br>Saturday      | Yellow Creek Environmental Learning Classroom<br>7:00 pm  | <b>Daily Life of Native Peoples</b> – <i>Butch Laney</i> – Join us as we learn about the daily lives of Eastern Woodland peoples at the time of the French & Indiana Wars (1750's). Mr. Laney will discuss hunting & fishing techniques, cooking, gardening, tool making and use of herbs by the Native Peoples. For a preview see the web at <a href="http://www.naeskahonitown.com">www.naeskahonitown.com</a> |
| June 2<br>Saturday      | IUP Campus meet at Library<br>2:00 pm                     | <b>Trees in an Urban Setting: Allegheny Arboretum</b> – <i>Jerry Pickering</i> - How is the Allegheny Arboretum moving ahead with its plans and vision for the future? Learn about its impact on the health and diversity of trees on the IUP campus. Walking tour included.   |
| June 10<br>Sunday       | Yellow Creek State Park North Shore<br>2:00 pm            | <b>Lake Kayaking is Family Fun</b> – <i>Ron &amp; Cookie Moretti</i> – Ever consider enjoying the lake by kayak? It's great fun and easy to master. Bring your family, learn about kayaking and try a vessel out for size!   |
| June 16<br>Saturday     | Yellow Creek State Park Lake-view Pavilion<br>2:00 pm ®   | <b>Creek Stomp</b> – <i>Mike Shaffer</i> – Join us for an afternoon of fun and discovery as we explore Little Yellow Creek for the critters that live there. We'll be in “Craw-Dad” Heaven. Wear shoes that can get wet. Pre-registration required.  |
| June 23<br>Saturday     | Blue Spruce Pavilion #4<br>10:00 am                       | <b>Hiking with Llamas</b> – <i>Diane Neely</i> – What do you do with a llama? Learn about these gentle animals from South America. After the presentation, take a walk with llamas-leading them down the trail.  |
| July 1<br>Sunday        | Yellow Creek Environmental Classroom<br>6:00 pm           | <b>Turtles, Tortoises, or Terrapins</b> – <i>Mike Shaffer</i> - Have you ever wondered if there is a difference? Can turtles really crawl out of their shells? Join the park naturalist for an up close and personal look at these wonderful creatures.  |
| July 15<br>Sunday       | Yellow Creek Environmental Learning Center<br>2:00 pm     | <b>Venomous Snakes of PA</b> – <i>Mike Shaffer</i> – Don't let the scales fool you. Snakes are fascinating and play an important role in the environment. Join us for a closer look at these misunderstood creatures. Live snakes will be on hand!   |
| July 22<br>Sunday       | Yellow Creek Environmental Classroom<br>2:00 pm           | <b>Trails of Pennsylvania</b> – <i>Bill Dietrich</i> – An overview of the more than 3000 miles of major hiking trails in Penn's Woods. So how do you find them and get information to walk them? “Leave No Trace” ethics and the ten essentials for day hikers will be given, and then a short hike in Yellow Creek State Park to get our feet going and our hearts pumping.                                     |
| July 28<br>Saturday     | Yellow Creek Environmental Learning Classroom<br>10:00 am | <b>PA Native Species Garden</b> – <i>Sue Weiland</i> – Come and see PA native flowers growing. This garden project is collaboration between the state park and the Indiana County Master Gardeners. Enjoy the garden, learn about the plants and how to establish a native garden.   |
| August 5<br>Sunday      | Yellow Creek Environmental Learning Classroom<br>2:00 pm  | <b>Wildflowers and Trees of Western Pennsylvania</b> – <i>Bob Zuberbuhler</i> – Wonder what the name is for a certain wildflower or tree? Learn Bob's methods to classify & identify plants based largely on the characteristics of the flowers. Traditional medical use of some species will be discussed.  |
| August 18<br>Saturday   | Yellow Creek North Shore Pavilion<br>7:00 pm              | <b>Bats: Up Close and Personal</b> – <i>Mike Shaffer</i> – What do you know about bats? Do you see them as being important to the environment? If not, come and learn about these misunderstood creatures and visit the park's bat boxes.  |
| September 8<br>Saturday | Blue Spruce Lakeside Center<br>2:00 pm                    | <b>Coyotes in Pennsylvania</b> - <i>Pat Snickles</i> – Mr. Snickles will discuss the presence of coyotes in Pennsylvania and our area. His lecture will include coyote behavior and predation followed by Q/A session.   |
| September 9<br>Sunday   | Yellow Creek Environmental Learning Classroom<br>2:00 pm  | <b>Art Creations from Nature's Gifts</b> – <i>Rebecca Sterley</i> – Workshop and demonstration of the use of objects found from nature to adorn small boxes of wood and cardboard.   |
| September 16<br>Sunday  | Yellow Creek Environmental Learning Classroom<br>2:00 pm  | <b>Birds of Prey</b> - <i>Earl Schriver</i> – Come see these fascinating birds, hear their stories and learn facts about these avian predators. Earl brings a variety of live birds to this always interesting presentation.   |

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| September 22<br>Saturday | Blue Spruce Lodge<br>2:00 pm                              | <b>The Pennsylvania Black Bear</b> – <i>Pat Snickles</i> – Mr. Snickles will discuss the presence of black bears in our state and area. Methods for controlling the black bear population will be discussed followed by a Q/A session.   |
| September 29<br>Saturday | Yellow Creek Environmental Learning Classroom<br>7:30 pm® | <b>Night Hike</b> – <i>Mike Shaffer</i> – Join the Park Naturalist do discover some of the amazing creatures of the night-time world. We'll venture out into the darkness searching for owls, learning how to tell temperature by counting cricket chirps, and by the end of this program you will have sparks flying out of your mouths! Pre-registration required. |

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| <b>October 6<br/>Saturday</b>  | <b>Blue Spruce Lodge<br/>7:00 pm</b>                                 | <b>What's in Your Haggis?</b> – <i>Denise Weber</i> – View a unique slide show of Scotland from Glasgow to Edinburgh via the Highlands, Isle of Skye, Lock Ness, Inverness, and St. Andrews. Have a wee dram at the Glen Boyne Distillery and dance a reel at the Allidh at McGregor's Barn. Meet the ghosts of the Daughtered McDonald clan at Glencoe, and ride Scotland's newest innovation –the Falkick Wheel. |
| <b>October 14<br/>Sunday</b>   | <b>Yellow Creek State Park<br/>Boat Rental Building®<br/>2:00 pm</b> | <b>Fall Foliage by Boat</b> – <i>Mike Shaffer</i> – Always a popular program. Spend the afternoon on a leisurely tour of the spectacular fall scenery around Yellow Creek. Pre-registration required.  |
| <b>October 21<br/>Sunday</b>   | <b>Yellow Creek Environmental<br/>Learning Classroom<br/>2:00 pm</b> | <b>Wily White-Tails</b> – <i>Mike Shaffer</i> – Take a close look into the most hunted big game species in North America. Topics will include antler growth and development, PA's present deer herd, calling and rattling, and the best places to see and hunt trophy white-tails. Get ready for the rut is right around the corner!   |
| <b>October 27<br/>Saturday</b> | <b>Blue Spruce Lodge<br/>2:00 pm</b>                                 | <b>Ghost Hunting in Pennsylvania</b> - <i>Laurel Black</i> - Ghost Researchers in Pennsylvania will share photos, EVPs (Ghost Voices), and experiences from some of their investigations. You'll learn what researchers think ghosts are, how investigations are conducted, and what happens during a ghost hunt, from the small details to some of the exciting moments.  |
| <b>November 3<br/>Saturday</b> | <b>Blue Spruce Lodge<br/>3:00 – 5:00 pm</b>                          | <b>Violin Soloist Allie Jacobs &amp; Company: A Celebration of Nature</b> - <i>Allie Jacobs</i> - Enjoy an afternoon's reflection on our human relationship with nature. Allie and friends will share with you a woven repertoire of violin performance, with short interludes of inspirational nature readings and poetry, all performed against a colorful and changing backdrop of nature photography.          |
| <b>November 9<br/>Friday</b>   | <b>Blue Spruce Lodge<br/>7:00 pm</b>                                 | <b>To Yellowstone and Back</b> – <i>Larry Turton</i> – Yellowstone National Park is constantly changing its geology and geography. Man has implemented a number of changes in its political-economic status. Explore these fascinating changes in Yellowstone from the 1970s to 2006 through the photography and experiences of Larry Turton.  |