

*Friends of the Burchfield
Nature & Art Center*

NEWSLETTER



Fall 2016

A Walk in the Park

Carol Yetter

Summer has brought many new adventures to the parklands at the BNAC. **Two fawns were born** in the park and delighted visitors who watched them grow and become more independent. **Baby woodchucks, rabbits, ducks, chipmunks and geese** added to the fun. All the wildlife seemed to love our "Garden Buffet". Many flowers and plants in the gardens became healthy meals for the animals. The drought also had an impact on the gardens. We **use rain barrel water** (when available) to support our planters. We do not water the gardens. It would be impossible to get the amount of water needed to support acres of gardens in an environmentally friendly way. Instead we let Mother Nature chart the course. The Buffalo Creek that runs through the park, ran very low this summer, but there was always enough for people to cool off a bit.

The **Pokemon invasion** brought hundreds of new people into the park. Many of the new visitors looked up from their phones long enough to enjoy the wonders of nature and discover that this is a great place to spend time. With the increased crowds, came increased litter. West Seneca buildings and grounds employees and volunteers spent many hours daily picking up, but still couldn't keep up. We finally turned to our regular visitors and asked them to help. Thanks to all who brought a bag and cleaned up as they walked. Not only did it get rid of the litter, but it also set an example for other people. Leading by example seems to have worked.

People expressed concerns about the amount of **poison ivy** in the park this year. We marked the most prolific areas and posted warning on Facebook and the website. There is little that can be done in a public place to get rid of the itchy leaves of three. Staying on the graveled paths is the best way to stay safe. Looking up while traveling the park, provided some wonderful sights as the **birds and squirrels built their nests**. There were also several sightings of **an eagle gliding** up and down the creek corridor. Listening to the woodlands is always worth the time. The rustling leaves, the birds chirping and the scampering of critters can draw your attention away from the traffic sounds. Several guests also got to hear a new born fawn call for its mother.

As autumn begins, the park only becomes more inviting. Take time to enjoy all it has to offer.

BNAC Summer Concert Series Has Another Successful Year

The Summer Concert Series filled the park with music this summer. Thanks to all who attended concerts by: **Stone Row, Doug Yeomans Band, My Cousin Tone', Carnival Kids Steel Band and Pyramid Band.**

Many thanks to the concert sponsors who made the series possible:

Western New York Federal Credit Union

Dolores Mendolia

West Seneca Rotary

DMD Builders

West Seneca Woman's Club

Councilman Gene Hart

This program was funded by a grant from the New York State Council on the Arts with the Support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature; administered by Arts Services Initiative of Western New York. The support of the Music Performance Fund (Musicians' Association of Buffalo) was also appreciated.

What's Going on the Rest of the Year?

Paula Minklei

Honoring **Native American** art and history, the **Mike Taylor exhibit**, a Father's Day **Sunday In the Park**, the fascinating works of the **Fiber Interest Group**, **Conrad Borucki's** beautiful acrylic paintings and the **Americana Music Festival** were all perfect events for the Nature and Art Center! Now we move on with a few more enticing exhibits!

September 4 through October 2 the Gallery will exhibit mixed media assemblages by **Jerold Glaser**. The display, called **They're Sounds, Not Numbers**, will feature music and musicians that most will recognize. Everyone will probably enjoy careful viewing of this exhibit. A **public reception** for the artist will be held from 7-9pm on **Friday, September 9**. Come meet the artist and learn about the background of this exhibit.

October 9 through November 3 brings the **West Seneca Art Society Fall Show** to the Gallery. As always, it will consist of varied works of many **local artists** in many mediums. An **opening reception** will be held on **Friday, October 14** from 7-9pm.

The 2016 BNAC Photography Contest is coming. Information is available on our web site (BurchfieldNAC.org) and at the Center. Entries will be accepted October 23 through November 6 and exhibited November 13 through December 30. Artists Reception and Awards on Friday, November 18 from 7-9pm. This is another "always popular" event. If you plan to enter, come in or visit our website for information.

Holiday Open House and People's Choice Award will take place on Friday, December 30. Check our website (BurchfieldNAC.org) or [facebook.com/BurchfieldNAC](https://www.facebook.com/BurchfieldNAC) for more information.

Who Was Charles E. Burchfield?

Work progresses on our permanent exhibit dedicated to Charles E. Burchfield. Several prints of his works now hang in the boardroom with more soon to be added. We have purchased a desk to hold the books and other information we have on Burchfield. We are also working on part of the exhibit that will showcase Burchfield, the man, as well as the artist. We invite you, the next time you are in the gallery, to give us input on where the exhibit should go from here,

Did you know:

1. Burchfield attended the Cleveland School of Art from 1912-1916. It was during this time that he began formulating his Conventions for Abstract Thoughts, a language of pictorial symbols that infused much of his early work and to which he returned in his later life.
2. Burchfield loved classical music. It was played constantly in his studio, especially Sibelius.

Holiday Open House at the BNAC

On **Friday, December 30th**, the BNAC will hold a Holiday Open House. The event will run from 12 – 3:00. There will be light refreshments, craft activities, puzzles and the opportunity to enjoy conversation and memories. The relaxing afternoon is a time to share the simple pleasures of the holiday season. **Stop by.**

Announcing the BNAC 2016 **Photography Contest**

Entries accepted: Sunday Oct. 23 – Wednesday Nov. 2

Exhibit on display Nov. 13 – Dec. 30

Artist Reception & Awards: Friday, Nov. 18 7 – 9 PM

Entry Categories: **Up Close**
 Too Funny
 Joy
 Special Places
 Quiet Moments
 Youth (participants 12 years old or less)

Entry forms and rules available at the BNAC or on-line at *Burchfieldnac.org*

*Stop in during the display to vote for your favorite photo for the **People's Choice Award**.
That award will be given on December 30th at 2:00 during the **Holiday Open House**.*

Membership

Nola Stutz

The Friends of the BNAC would like to applaud your continual support and invite you to join our organization. Memberships provide us with the resources to continue with activities at the center. Hop on board and enjoy our holistic approach to life embracing nature, the arts, education relaxation and exercise. A "get away vaca day" at the BNAC will make you smile. Check out our beautiful park and bring a friend. Please check our website or call the office@ 677-4843.

Volunteer Hours

Nancy Pufpaff

We have had a very active few months with Sunday in the Park, Enchanted Forest and Wonderful Wednesdays. Total hours combined for Sunday in the Park and Enchanted Forest were 548 volunteer hours and Wonderful Wednesdays with 85 hours (for July only). Our total hours to date are 4,579.

Burchfield contact information

Address: 2001 Union Road West Seneca, New York 14224
Phone #: 716 677 4843
Web site: BurchfieldNAC.org
Winter hours: Tuesday – Friday 10 AM to 4 PM
(Oct. 5 – Apr. 1)) Sunday 1 PM to 4 PM
Facebook.com/Burchfieldnac

The Gallery at the BNAC will be closed in January 2017. We are taking this time to refresh the paint, clean the rugs and give our volunteers a rest. We look forward to reopening in February with a woodcarving exhibit.