

*Friends of the Burchfield
Nature & Art Center*

NEWSLETTER



Winter/Spring 2016

A Walk in the Park

Carol Yetter

The park lands have been getting a lot of visitors through the winter months. With the many days of nice weather, people have been out enjoying the trails. In early February, we were seeing the daffodils start to pop up. When covered with snow, there are great opportunities to observe the tracks in the snow, snowshoe and even build snow sculptures. Photographers enjoy the winter scenery. The shadows cast through the trees are impressive and it is easier to catch a picture of the wildlife and birds.

This spring there will be lots of work to do. There are many limbs that have fallen from trees that will need to be cleared. The windy winter deposited a sad covering of litter that will need some help getting in the garbage bins. We constantly remind dog walkers to clean up after their pets (*even in winter*), but a few don't heed the warning. So, watch your steps as the weather warms. There will be people out scooping up, but be careful you don't step before it gets scooped up.

All are welcome to help keep the park clean, safe and healthy. We will be kicking off our efforts on **EARTH DAY**, Saturday, April 23rd from 9AM to noon. Bring a pair of gloves, wear old shoes or boots and help with the park clean-up. For those who can't make it that day, we appreciate any effort, any time.

In the spring we anticipate two special Eagle Scout Projects. One will straighten the benches and repair the gazebo. Another will finish renovations in the pergola area and install a new garbage bin. If you see the Scouts at work, remember to thank them.

As the spring progresses, watch our Facebook page (www.Facebook/BurchfieldNAC) or our website BurchfieldNAC.org to find out when the daffodils are in bloom. Work was done in the fall to improve the bloom and there should be THOUSANDS of the yellow lovelies to enjoy.

2016 Summer Concert Series at BNAC

The line-up for a summer concert series is set. Concerts are held in the amphitheater from 6:30 – 8:00 PM on the following Tuesday evenings:

7/5/16	Stone Row
7/12/16	Doug Yeoman's Band
7/19/16	My Cousin Tone'
7/26/16	Carnival Kids Steel Band
8/2/16	Pyramid Band

In addition, there will be music in the park on Sunday afternoons for 2 special events:

6/19/16	My Cousin Tone' at <i>Sunday in the Park</i>
8/7/16	4 Way Street at <i>Burchfield's Enchanted Forest</i>

The BNAC received a grant through the Art Service Initiative this year that will cover a portion of the cost. This program is funded by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Cuomo and the New York State Legislature. We are still looking for sponsors to help cover the costs of the series. If interested, call 677-4843 for information.

Upcoming Events 2016

Paula Minklei

We enjoyed reminiscing over the Historical Society display of West Seneca School pictures and artifacts in January and sharing the beauty of WNY photographs by Melanie Chimento in February. Now as we anticipate the flowers of spring, we can add a few more BNAC events to the calendar.

March 3 to March 31: The Gallery will host a variety of art by students from the Iroquois School District grades K – 12. The exhibit, **An Artists World** will feature works influenced by Charles Burchfield, paintings of local landmarks and art representing the dreams and imagination of the young artists. Join them for an **Opening Reception on Sunday, March 6 from 2 – 4 PM.**

March 20, 2-4 PM: A Sunday 2 hour **Photography Clinic** with professional Photographer Kenn Morgan, reviewing tips on the use of color to make an outstanding photo. \$5 fee. Call 677-4843 to **reserve a seat.**

March 22, 23 & 24: 1-3 PM **Spring Wonders Camp** for children K – grade 4. Fun and crafts related to nature and springtime. Stop in or go to our website for registration forms and more information.

April 6 6:30 – 8:30 PM: A Wednesday evening small group discussion/writing class **Telling Our Stories: Garden Memories** with author and gardener Joan Alberella. \$5 fee **Reservations needed.** Call 677-4843

April 8 through May 5: The West Seneca Art Society **Spring Show** will fill the Gallery with an array of art in a variety of media. The public **Opening Reception** will be held on **Friday, April 8 at 7PM.** Please come!

May is Native American Month at the Burchfield with **Native American Art** in the Gallery from **May 10 – June 1.** There will be a public **Opening Reception** Friday May 13 7-9 PM. The **Buffalo Creek Treaty of 1842 Commemoration** will take place **Friday May 20th.** It will include Seneca Nation singers, dancers and speakers. We may also have Native American Art vendors in the park that day. More information will be available on our website, Facebook page and at the BNAC.

June will find a new exhibit in the Gallery.

June 19 Sunday in the Park with music, vendors, food, games, basket raffles, adoptable pets and other animals. **Save the Date... for this annual fundraiser.** Join us for all the fun.

Who Was Charles E. Burchfield?

Most people are aware that Charles Burchfield, after whom the Burchfield Nature and Art Center was named, was a world renowned artist. Beyond that, individual knowledge varies. In an attempt to enlarge knowledge and to enhance an appreciation for the man and his art, Friends of the BNAC is developing a committee to establish a permanent area within the Center dedicated to this mission.

If you or someone you know might be interested in joining this committee or in sharing knowledge or artifacts, please call 677-4843. In the meantime a new *Did You Know* feature will be included in this and upcoming BNAC newsletters.

Did You Know...

1. Charles Burchfield lived most of his adult life (1925 – 1967) in West Seneca on Clinton Street in the area known as Gardenville. His home can be seen from the gazebo within the park.
2. Burchfield was born April 9, 1893 in Ashtabula Harbor, Ohio. At the age of five after the death of his father, his family moved to Salem, Ohio where he graduated from high school in 1911 as class valedictorian.
3. Burchfield's medium was watercolors. While he did work occasionally with oils in the 1920's and 1930's, he felt they were cumbersome and deterred his freedom of expression.

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

Our new year started in October 2015. We have logged a total of 1,343 hours thru January 2016. A really good start to the 2015-2016 year.

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	