

THE CLOSTER NATURE CENTER NEWS

P.O. BOX 80, CLOSTER NJ 07624 closternaturecenter.org

By the pond on Ruckman Road

JUNE 2023

Our Thanks go out to the many generous friends of the Closter Nature Center who contributed more than 15 homemade soups to our delightful **Soup Supper!** Some of our favorite local restaurant chefs donated their soups as well- **Buon Gusto, Closter #1, Madeleine's Petit Paris, Isabella's, La Promenade, The Hill, Brasserie Mémère, and Zendiggi. Balthazar Bakery** and **Buon Gusto** contributed bread. All were delicious! We had an amazing turnout for a rainy fundraiser. Friends arrived through teeming rain and lightning. It was a great day for soup!

June After-School Programs: Pond Life

Kids will learn about the amazing creatures that call Ruckman Pond home. We will explore the aquatic world with hands-on activities and live pond animals!

Tuesdays 6, 13 and 20...Pre-K4 -K

Wednesdays 7, 14 and 21...1st-3rd

Thursdays 8, 15 and 22...4th-6th

\$75/ Members - \$90/ Non-members

Register on Community Pass: <https://register.communitypass.net/Closter>.

Questions email programdirector@closternaturecenter.org or call 201-800-2008.

After-School Nature Program sponsored by: **TARGET**

Naturalist's Notes:

What would The Nature Center be without Ruckman Pond? I have a hard time even imagining it. I often hear people referring to the nature center as "The Pond". Although Ruckman Pond is far from being our geographical center on the map, it is definitely the heart of it. People of all ages take advantage of what it has to offer: from toddlers coming to see their first duck, to seniors reflecting on a long life- and everyone else in between. Kids fishing, bird-watchers watching, dog-walkers walking, coffee-drinkers sipping, hikers hiking, musicians playing, picnickers eating, and people enjoying the magic of nature. Forgive me if I left you out, I'm sure the list can go on for a whole page. The importance of the pond to our educational programs is immense. Our pond ecology

classes are among the most popular choices for school trips and summer programs- and with good reason. They are exciting and fascinating.

The pond is home to an incredible number of plants and animals that are often the focus of our science lessons, and is, itself, a great classroom for so many ecological concepts. I am ecstatic about the number of kids that have learned to canoe here, and hope it opens up a world of adventure that they can take with them forever. **On June 3rd**, we will be hosting our annual pond celebration. It can't possibly capture all that Ruckman Pond means to us, but it is a chance for our community to celebrate this gift that brightens our lives in so many ways.

CUTE KID'S QUOTE:

I asked a group of kids for the definition of a pond. After some thought, one young girl informed me, "A pond is an inside out island!"

POND CELEBRATION RETURNS TO RUCKMAN POND! SATURDAY, JUNE 3rd from 1-4 PM

It's June once again!

Please join us for the CNC's annual celebration of Ruckman Pond!

Come to Ruckman Pond for an afternoon of science and fun!

Enjoy the pleasures of our Nature Center and pond on a lovely early June afternoon that will feature:

Canoe rides. Pond Hikes
Live animals Live music!
Tie-dying tee-shirts Arts and Crafts
Fun Games Educational Science Exhibits
...And more!

Bring your family and friends, grandparents, aunts, cousins and uncles!

Admission is FREE

**Volunteers needed for the "Pond Celebration"! Come on down and
dive in!**

Email programdirector@closternaturecenter.org,
or call Marc at (201) 750-2778

Third Sunday Jam Session

June 18th, 4-6 PM

Friends and family will come together to share music,

Hosted by Mike Pisano!

**FOLK ROCK BLUES
ACOUSTIC INSTRUMENTS, VOCALS, PERCUSSION**

Join us at the cabin on each

3RD SUNDAY OF THE MONTH, 4-6 PM

...And later that evening:

Father's Day Twilight Hike

June 18th 8:30-9:30 PM

Fathers and their families are invited to come out for a night of listening to nocturnal sounds, stargazing, and exploring the Closter Nature Center in a new way! Led by CNC Trustee, **Francesca Costa**, we will take a short walk under the full moon. Proper footwear and flashlights are recommended.

Fee: Pay what you will

June Calendar of Events:

Pond Celebration Saturday, June 3rd 1-4 PM

Third Sunday Jam Session, June 18, 4-6 PM

Father's Day Twilight Hike, June 18, 8:30 – 9:30

After-School programs all month!

Summer Program Begins! June 26- August 24