

BUTTERFLIES OF THORN PRESERVE

The meadow at Thorn Preserve hosts a significant population of one of our most spectacular butterflies, the Baltimore Checkerspot, shown here below. These beauties are suffering declines due to many factors, so we were delighted to hear of the sightings.



The Checkerspot searches for a host plant for nourishment, preferring the native White Turtle Head (*Chelone glabra*). In the absence of *Chelone*, the butterfly will adapt, using the introduced lawn weed, Narrowleaf Plantain - abundant at Thorn - for larval food.

Annual mowing of the fields at Thorn Preserve is timed to benefit populations of grassland birds and overwintering larvae of these declining butterflies. The late mowing also allows the abundant milkweed, host plant to Monarch butterflies, to mature. Recently, Catskill Center interns participated in the *Milkweed Project*, collecting seed to raise awareness about milkweeds' value to Monarchs and native pollinators.

The mated pair of American Coppers, shown below, were also spied at the preserve this summer. To learn more about the butterflies of Thorn Preserve, mark your calendar for



June, 20, 2015, when butterfly enthusiast, Steve Chorvas, will walk us through the meadows of Thorn.

Photos: S. Chorvas

Hikes and Events

Nov 1 🍁 **Survival Skills | Keeping Warm** - Sloan Gorge 10am - 1pm - This program is designed for children and families, but all are welcome to join in the fun. Wild Earth Programs Manager, Dustin Lamberta, will instruct us on basic survival skills and tips for keeping warm in the woods. **Pre- Register:** contact - Virginia.wlc@gmail.com

Dec 6 🍁 **Winter Walk at Comeau with WLC and John Burroughs Natural History Society** - 9am -12:00pm Explore the wonders of the winter landscape: animal tracking, tree ID, and of course birds.

Jan 4 🍁 **Winter Bird Walk at Thorn Preserve** - 8am - Join Mark DeDea of the John Burroughs Natural History Society for a brisk morning walk. Heads up!

Feb 7 🍁 **Winter Tree ID at Thorn Preserve** - 10am - Join Vern Rist for this leisurely and illuminating walk in the open fields, woodland and wet meadows.

March 7 🍁 **Animal Tracking at Thorn Preserve** - 10am - Tracking is the science and art of observing animal tracks and other signs to gain an understanding of the landscape and animals that inhabit it. Bring the kids!



We do love man's best friend, *but please no dogs at these events.*

Visit our website for more information on all WLC events

LAND LINES

Fall 2014

Meet our new Board Members

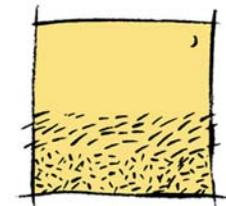
Events on the land 🍁 Celebrating 25 Years

Butterflies of Thorn Preserve



Jennifer Lynn Morse

Celebrating 25 years
of land conservation.



WOODSTOCK LAND
CONSERVANCY

www.WoodstockLandConservancy.org

WLC ANNOUNCES THE APPOINTMENT OF THREE NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Woodstock Land Conservancy is working hard to extend its reach by engaging new community leaders. Join us in welcoming Georgia Asher, Nancy Jainchill and James Tolisano to the WLC Board of Directors. Stay tuned for additional board member profiles.



Nancy Jainchill began her emigration to Woodstock from

New York City, around 20 years ago, and like so many others, she now calls this town home. She is, by training and profession, a psychologist. For years she focused most of her efforts on conducting federally funded research on treatment to address substance use problems among adolescents, and has edited a textbook on the subject, while maintaining a part-time clinical practice. Today, along with a clinical practice, after receiving an MFA in creative writing, June 2013, from Bennington College, she sits at her desk and maneuvers words around. (She also has M.A degrees in both Women's Studies and Psychology, and a doctorate in psychology.) She has recently had essays published in literary journals. Coming of age in the sixties, she feels she has a responsibility to fix things—somehow—and so she hangs her clothes on a line, lives vegan, and hopes that she can contribute to making a difference with the Woodstock Land Conservancy.

SPIRIT OF THE ZENA CORNFIELD LIVES ON

The Zena Cornfield was the setting for Woodstock Land Conservancy's celebration of its Twenty-fifth Anniversary on August 9, 2014. On and off during the day nearly 150 members of the community braved the heat and arrived at the cornfield to pay their respects to the original 550 individuals who worked so diligently and successfully to save the treasured piece of land from development. In the process of conserving the field in perpetuity, they created the fledgling Woodstock Land Conservancy's "can do" legacy that lives on today. The summer day was glorious – full sun bathing the field in golden light, a harpist playing under the big tent, artists painting en plein air, photographers working in their own unique styles memorializing Overlook Mountain, instrumental music, corn on the cob cooking on the grill with grown-ups and children alike enjoying the fresh, hot kernels drizzled with infused oils, plus lemonade and homemade cornbread for all. In other words it was a party done in true Woodstock style!

We would be remiss if we didn't thank everyone again who made it happen from Co-chairs Lisa Pollard and Sara Henry and their volunteer crew, Virginia Luppino for coordinating the event, Jim Bogner as chief traffic coordinator, Richard Husted who mowed the field, Matt Longyear for advice and the loan of a tractor, to the following participants and speakers: Maggie Green, Face Painting, Treasure Hunt with Deborah and Richard Heppner, Harp music by Ilfa Halley who played as well for the 10th Anniversary, The Whirligig Farm Band, a Blessing of the Land by Jim Davis, History of Overlook Mountain and the cornfield given by Richard Heppner, Geology of the Valley and Overlook by Robert Titus, Nature Wisdom Storytelling by Gioia Timpaneli, and well wishes from Town Supervisor, Jeremy Wilbur.

Photos: S. Shoptaugh, M. Williams

