



SUMMER 2023

# ROOKERY

## DEAR FRIENDS,

I am honored and humbled to have been appointed as the next President and CEO of the Nature Center at Shaker Lakes, and to succeed Kay Carlson—a visionary leader whose countless successes from 15 years as President & CEO have primed the Nature Center to flourish for years to come. The dynamic team, dedicated board, and committed supporters have energized my drive to further the mission of the Nature Center. In the coming years, my knowledge of ecological restoration, background in environmental education, and successes in curating inter-organizational collaborative efforts will grow the Nature Center as a community and ecological resource. In everything we do, our team will continue to strive to be a welcoming and inclusive environment for all. This effort, nor any we undertake, cannot be done alone. Our team relies on our partnering organizations and regional advisors to ensure a meaningful experience for all visitors.

For those members and supporters that have helped us get to where we are today, from the bottom of my heart, thank you! For those who are looking for a way to make an impact or reengage with our team, we will write this next chapter together. There is a great opportunity that lies in front of us to

lead the region through the woods and demonstrate the importance of our dedicated work here in the Shaker Parklands. I look forward to serving the community as the next President & CEO of the Nature Center at Shaker Lakes. I'm inspired by this region that we call home and excited for all we will accomplish together.

I enjoyed meeting so many of you at Nature at Night and hope to meet many more throughout the summer on the trails, at one of our Summer Wednesday nights, an upcoming program, or at the annual Hike & Run coming up on Sunday, September 17.

You can find me in the trees!



Peter Bode, President & CEO



# NATURE *at* NIGHT

ON SATURDAY, JUNE 3, OVER 500 GUESTS  
AND NATURE CENTER SUPPORTERS ATTENDED A  
**SOLD OUT**  
ANNUAL BENEFIT, NATURE AT NIGHT.

Guests enjoyed drinks, delectable tastes and small plates from local food and drink partners including Luna Bakery & Cafe, J Pistone's Market & Gathering, Sophie La Gourmade, Zoma Ethiopian Restaurant, Abundance Culinary, Saroj & Carlos, Ephemeral, Poppy (A Salt Restaurant), Spice Hospitality Group, ZHUG, On the Rise Breads and Pastries, The Honeybirch Bakehouse, the Wine Spot, and Gigi's. The weather was gorgeous for this night outdoors under the stars.

The event is often boasted as the first summer party in the Heights and guests were dressed for the weather looking summer cocktail fresh in floral dresses and dapper fits. This year's event was bittersweet as it was Kay Carlson's last annual benefit as President & CEO.

In attendance was the Nature Center's new President & CEO, Peter Bode, who was able to experience his first benefit as the baton is handed over. Most importantly, attendees helped raise over \$110,000 to support and further the Nature Center's mission. Thank you to all who attended, supported our fund-a-need, purchased raffle tickets, and bid on our fantastic silent auction.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR EVENT CO-CHAIRS:  
Laura Dean, Kristin Lasky, and Lauren Martin and Food Chair: Chef Douglas Katz





SUMMER PROGRAMS & EVENTS

RECENTER & RESET HIKES

Select Sunday Evenings:  
June 25, July 30, August 27 | 6-7PM  
Join Jo Rattliff of GirlTrek Cleveland for our monthly Sunday evening hikes as we bask in the warmth and glow of summer evenings while trekking the beautiful trails of the Shaker Parklands and surrounding neighborhoods. The trail will be of natural surfaces (paved and dirt trails) and sidewalk. Rain or shine. All are welcome to join us for a fun-filled evening in nature. Registration required. Free. Donations welcome.

GUIDED BIRD WALKS

Select Wednesdays:  
June 28, July 19, July 26, August 9, August 30 | 6:30-8PM  
September 13, September 27 | 6-7:30PM  
Join a guided walk through the Shaker Parklands looking and listening for birds. The first walk of each month begins on our ADA accessible boardwalk and moves to dirt trails throughout the Parklands. The second walk of each month (marked with an asterisk\*) is fully accessible and includes ASL interpretation. For all hikes, meet in the Nature Center parking lot. Binoculars are available to borrow. Rain or shine. Accessible hikes will be canceled if the paths are covered in snow/ice. Registration required. Free. Donations welcome.

HEALING WALK CLUB WITH THE HIIT FACTOR

Select Saturdays:  
July 15, August 19 | 7:30-9AM | HIIT Factor  
Start your weekend with an invigorating hike from The HIIT Factor on Larchmere to the Nature Center and back. Enjoy a brisk walk and naturalist-led nature breaks. At The HIIT Factor, stay for a complimentary sampler class led by fitness instructor, Haja Tunkara (9-10AM). Looking for even more fitness opportunities? NCSL members receive a 15% discount on HIIT Factor Memberships. Prepare for dirt trails and to hike about 3 1/2 miles. Registration required. Free.

HAWK WALK

Saturday, July 8 | 10-11:30AM | Lake View Cemetery  
Perched in our lush tree canopy or soaring overhead, many birds of prey call Lake View home, including hawks! Join naturalists from the Nature Center as they teach us about these amazing birds and lead us on a hike through the cemetery in hopes of spotting a hawk in their natural habitat. Bring your binoculars! This leisurely hike will be 1-1.5 miles, on paved road that may be hilly or uneven at points and will last roughly 60 minutes. Registration required. \$25 per person.

BAT NIGHT

Friday, August 4 | 7:30-9PM | Lake View Cemetery  
Challenge everything you think you know about bats with naturalists from Cleveland Metroparks and the Nature Center at Shaker Lakes. The naturalists will discuss the lives of the only mammal capable of flight before leading a hike to find bats. Bring your binoculars! This leisurely hike will be 1-1 1/2 miles on paved road that may be hilly or uneven at points and will last roughly 60 minutes. Registration required. \$25 per person.

NATURALIST NOTEBOOK: ALL WE CAN SAVE

Sunday, August 20 | 1-3PM | Hybrid: Join us at NCSL or online  
This quarter, Naturalist Notebook is discussing All We Can Save: Truth, Courage and Solutions for the Climate Crisis by Ayana Elizabeth Johnson and Dr. Katharine K. Wilkinson. All We Can Save is a collection of essays by women in the forefront of climate activism from around the world, across generations, and from multiple perspectives including scientists, farmers, lawyers, and poets. Women bring compassion, connection, creativity and collaboration qualities, which are often missing at the table. Registration required. Free. Donations welcome. Purchase your book at Loganberry Books for a 10% discount.

ART ON VIEW

Flyover: Birds of Northern Ohio by Vic Weizer  
Opening Reception | Thursday, July 13 | 5:30-7PM  
Vic Weizer is a local Cleveland Heights photographer who uses patience, persistence, and luck to capture stunning images of wildlife. His primary objective is to observe these creatures without disruption or stress. His exhibit, Flyover: Birds of Northern Ohio showcases these birds up close and in their native habitats. This exhibit will be on display from Thursday, July 13 to Friday, October 20. Pieces may be purchased for a fee with a percentage of proceeds benefiting the Nature Center.

DOAN BROOK ANNUAL FAMILY FISHING DAY

Saturday, July 29 | Rockefeller Lagoon  
Hosted by the Doan Brook Watershed Partnership, families will enjoy a day of free fishing and outdoor activities at University Circle's historical Rockefeller Park Lagoon. Learn how to cast, tie knots, fish, identify native Ohio fish, and learn about the importance of clean water. Visit doanbrookpartnership.org for more information. FREE.

TAKE TO THE LAKE

Saturday, August 26 | Lower Shaker Lakes | 10AM-5PM  
Doan Brook Watershed Partnership hosts an afternoon of recreational activities on and around Lower Shaker Lake. Visit doanbrookpartnership.org for more information. Attendees may bring their own kayak or canoe. Registration required beginning in July.

SUMMER WEDNESDAYS

Wednesdays | 5-8PM  
Join us weekly for varying themed activities, including movement, music, art, food and drink, games, movies, and more.  
Upcoming Wednesday Features:  
• June 28, July 26, August 30: Mount Granita Italian Ice  
• July 12: Art in the Park - Pop-up shopping event with local vendors  
• July 19: Lemonade & Cookie Night!  
• July 26: Children's Musician Jane Tomick  
• August 2: A Carnival of Animals - Roaming performances by the City Ballet of Cleveland  
• August 9: Mason's Creamery Ice Cream  
• August 30: Outdoor Movie Night! | 8-10PM

LEARN MORE AND REGISTER AT SHAKERLAKES.ORG/PROGRAMS. PROGRAMS AT NATURE CENTER UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.

SUMMER WEDNESDAYS

NOW-AUGUST 30 | 5PM-8PM

at the Nature Center

Make the most of long summer days with the Nature Center for a mid-week dose of sun, treats, and fun! Bring a picnic to enjoy in the Friend's Pavilion, walk the trails with friends or play in the Nature Play Area with family.

Join us weekly for movement, music, arts, food trucks, nature, games, and more. Nature Center hours are extended Wednesday nights all summer! Trails are open dawn to dusk, 365 days a year. Food and drink available for purchase.



Art on View



Art on View

VOLUNTEER NEWS & OPPORTUNITIES

MANY THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS FOR THEIR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF THE NATURE CENTER.

A special THANK YOU to Business Volunteers Unlimited, Greater Cleveland Volunteers, Ruffing Montessori, Project FeederWatch volunteers, Hawken School, Illinois College, Medical Mutual, Rockwell Automation, OverDrive, Parker Hannifin, Gesu Middle School Service Club, Shaker Heights High School Art Club, NorthEast Ohio Tamil Sangam, Monarch School of Bellefaire JCB, and our 41st Annual Plant Sale Volunteers.

SHAKER LAKES

HIKE & RUN

SUNDAY 9.17

5K & 10K | 1 MILE FAMILY FUN RUN

GUIDED HIKES OF VARIOUS DISTANCES

More information and registration available at shakerlakes.org/hikerun

Pets are welcome at this family-friendly event! For sponsorship details, please contact Rob Sikora at 216.321.5935 or sikora@shakerlakes.org

STEWARDSHIP SATURDAY

Saturdays July 29 & August 26 | 10AM-12PM  
Join our Natural Resources Manager in completing land management and trail maintenance tasks at the Nature Center. This is a great volunteer opportunity for families with school-aged children.

TAKE TO THE LAKE

Saturday, August 26 | 9:30AM-4PM  
The Nature Center partners with the Doan Brook Watershed Partnership for the annual Take to the Lake event on Lower Shaker Lake. Take to the Lake gives participants a chance to resurrect recreational sports like canoeing on the lake for a day and to gain a different perspective of the lakes and its place in our watershed community. Volunteers will assist with the NCSL activity table or assist with a guided hike led by one of our educators.

HIKE AND RUN

Sunday, September 17 | 6AM-12PM  
Join us for the annual Hike & Run! This beloved event benefits environmental education and promotes health and wellness while celebrating the Shaker Parklands. Partial proceeds also support the Jenny Goldman Memorial Nature Outreach Fund, which underwrites our Environmental Educator in Residence program that provides environmental education for hundreds of Cleveland school children each year.

NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY!

Saturday, September 23 | Location to be determined  
Join us this National Public Lands Day as we improve the habitat of the wildlife area of the Shaker Parklands. Started in 1994, National Public Lands Day is the largest single-day effort to preserve and protect public lands. In honor of this day, the Nature Center and Doan Brook Watershed Partnership are hosting a public land event. Tasks may include pulling invasive species and trash cleanup.

TO INQUIRE ABOUT THESE OPPORTUNITIES OR REGISTER, PLEASE EMAIL VOLUNTEER@SHAKERLAKES.ORG OR VISIT SHAKERLAKES.ORG/VOLUNTEER.