

**Upcoming Events**

**Run-A-Munk**

**5K Trail Run**

**November 7, 9:30am**

A 5K walk/run fundraising event on Woldumar's trails. Visit [woldumar.org/events](http://woldumar.org/events) to register.

**Mid-Michigan**

**Bluegrass & Folk**

**Jam**

**3rd Sunday Nov, Dec 2:00pm-6:00pm**

Jamming, open mic, and scheduled performances. Contact Henry Casillas for more details at (517) 482-2382.

**Backyard Birding**

**December 9, 6pm**

Gene Wasserman will be presenting info on building bird feeders and selling his wood-craft kits.

**Annual Meeting**

**December 13, 5pm**

Current members are invited to vote for new board members—all are welcome to attend. More details below.

**Winter Break Camp**

**December 21-23, 28-30**

Visit [woldumar.org](http://woldumar.org) for more information

Amie Lucas Photography



**Experiencing Fall at Woldumar**

By Brittney Cox

Once a week I take a twenty minute walk to the river before I start my day of programming. I have noticed the morning dew is now turning to frost and the leaves of orange, yellow, and red are blowing away from the northern wind. It is a perfect time of year to have lunch by the river, or even breakfast. Fish are breaching the surface, largemouth bass are fattening up for the winter, and the habitat is changing right before our eyes.

Autumn is my favorite time of year. Football season is in full swing, the Detroit Red Wings are continuing their quest to extend their playoff berth record, and hunters in camouflage and orange are making up stories about whitetail the size of moose. This time of year deer are in full rut and the mixed forest holds many clues as to their whereabouts. If you get a chance, come to Woldumar and search oak and maple trees for "buck rubs." You will also find tracks and scat along the forest floor. Speaking of animal tracks, squirrels are also making their presences known. Walnuts and acorns have been chewed and stored for the anticipated snow-fall. I was recently leading a group of 5<sup>th</sup> grade students and one student said "the squirrels are bombarding us with walnuts!" Gotta love kids! I told the class that squirrels will chew free walnuts, and it does sometimes feel like they have an agenda, but I assure you the squirrels have better things to do than to intentionally drop walnuts on our heads! A squirrel bombardment would make for a great story, however.

I hope you will have the chance to experience Woldumar Nature Center in the fall. It truly is a wonderful feeling walking through the woods with a hint of Jack Frost nipping at your nose. Perhaps I will see you out there. Please feel free to stop into the Visitor Center during open hours to say hello!

**Welcome Our New Program Staff**



**Christine McCreedy** has just returned to the Midwest after living in Wyoming for

the past 6 years. Her background in natural resources and education as well as her love of the outdoors make her a perfect fit for the Woldumar team. She has enjoyed the challenge of answering tough questions presented by students during field trip programs and we are grateful for her expertise!



**Kathie Arney** graduated with a degree in Forestry from MSU and worked with

the Michigan DNR for 16 years. She attended Olivet to acquire a Teacher Certification in 2003 and went on to earn her Masters in Teaching 3 years later. As a retired math and science teacher, Kathie is excited to combine her love of children and the outdoors while working as a naturalist at Woldumar.



**Lisa Stelzner**, a California native, received degrees in Ecology and Evolutionary

Biology & Earth Science from UC Santa Cruz. After working in the environmental science field for several years, Lisa returned to school to get a master's in Plant Biology with a certificate in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology & Behavior from MSU. Ask her about her crazy backpacking adventures!

**Annual Member Meeting to be Held December 13**

Woldumar's board and staff will be hosting an annual meeting on **December 13 at 5:00pm**. All are welcome to attend this event as we review the past year, vote for new board members, and look forward to what's in store for 2016. Only current Woldumar members will be able to vote; your membership status can be found on the lower left corner of the mailing label section of this newsletter. Bring an hors d'oeuvre or dessert to share following the meeting. We look forward to shaping Woldumar's future with you!

**Woldumar Nature Center**  
**5739 Old Lansing Rd**  
**Lansing, MI 48917**

Nonprofit Rate  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Lansing, MI  
Permit No. 824



# 8TH ANNUAL RUN-A-MUNK

## 5K TRAIL RUN

NOVEMBER 7 9:30AM

**visit [woldumar.org/events](http://woldumar.org/events) to register**

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

*New and renewed memberships from  
August/September 2015*

Patricia Huebner	George & Annette Ryan
Frank Tegge	Steve & Susan Greene
William Schaner	Andre & Judith Friedlis
Terri Edick	Joyce Hensley
Jerry & Eileen Schneider	David Cooper
Norman Eastman	Eugene Wasserman
Jacqueline Wood	Win Stebbins
Robert Wasserman	Susan Kendall
Howard Hedlund	Dave & Ada Kidd
Dale, Jan & Anne Dodds	Randy & Vickie Karcher
Gordie & Michelle Frederick	Phil Kline
Brittney Cox	Mark Bolla
Stephen & Karen Cessna	Elizabeth Rice & David Hill
Linda Baes	Ronald Planten
Larry & Sarah Stump	Bradley Scherer
Frederic & Sandy Lammert	Michael Perry

## SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR DONORS

*Donors and sponsors from  
August/September 2015*

### **Barn Painting Fundraiser**

Jim & Chris Stiles  
Barbara Schmidt  
Tim Golisch  
Michael Wacyk  
Lee Villarreal  
Daniel & Janet Van Acker  
Todd & Maureen Miller  
Daniel & Sharon Wanderer  
Mike Moquin & Julia Spalding

### **American Heritage Festival**

Harry O. Culp Insurance  
A Complete Rental

### **General Donations**

Patricia Huebner  
Terri Edick  
JB McCombs  
Jacqueline Wood  
Robert Wasserman  
Howard Hedlund  
Juan Vonetti  
Linda Baes  
Eugene Wasserman  
Ronald Planten  
  
Grand Pointe Marina  
Sandy Walter  
(in memory of Gordon Walter)

# Letter from the Director By Kevin Wernet

I recently had lunch with a longtime family friend. After exchanging personal updates, the conversation turned to Woldumar. I described some of the challenges and some of the successes we've experienced in recent months, and how I've weathered my transition from a very hands-on educational role to a purely administrative one (I'll tell you, the ability to reduce stress by stepping out of the office into a small, quiet, peaceful park is a definite benefit of this job!) After listening politely for a few minutes, he confided in me that although he is a longtime area resident who walks at Woldumar regularly, he wasn't sure what we actually DO here.

Odds are, if you're receiving this newsletter, you probably do have a good idea of what goes on at Woldumar. You know about our educational camps and school field trip programs. You know that we host annual festivals and a variety of community programs throughout the year, as well as private events like weddings and birthday parties. Of course we maintain the trails, grounds and Visitor Center for walk-in use by the public. It may not seem like a lot, but from one day to the next, our small staff is a flurry of activity in this small, quiet, peaceful park!

This month, our small staff is going to get a little bit smaller. For the past year and a half, Katie Whitecar has served as Woldumar's Associate Director of Development and Outreach. Katie has made her mark coordinating volunteer projects, planning festivals and events, issuing press releases, managing the gift shop, designing publications, and generally assisting the organization through a bumpy chapter in our history. Katie is leaving to pursue some adventures around the globe before returning stateside to plan her next move. On behalf of Woldumar's Board of Directors and her fellow staff members, I'd like to wish Katie safe travels and all the best of luck in whatever comes next. You will be greatly missed at Woldumar!

For the rest of us, the flurry is going to become just a little bit "flurrier" in Katie's absence... just in time for winter, too! We have some exciting winter events right around the corner, so please check our events page regularly! As always, your membership and volunteer support are critical to Woldumar's success, so please feel free to stop by, swap some stories, share your wildlife sightings, and become more involved in this great community organization!

## Please Join Us

**Thank you  
for your  
support!**

**Online** Visit the membership page of our website at [woldumar.org](http://woldumar.org)

**Mail** Please fill out the information below and return with payment to  
**5739 Old Lansing Rd. Lansing, MI 48917**

*Your current membership status is posted under your name on the address label*

This is a gift membership

### 1. Fill out member information

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street City State Zip

Primary Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Secondary Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. Choose membership level\*

- Trail Sponsor \$30
- Student/Senior \$35
- Individual \$40
- Household \$50
- Lifetime \$1,000 to endowment

### 3. Determine total payment amount

Membership Fees: \_\_\_\_\_  
Additional Gift: \_\_\_\_\_  
Total: \_\_\_\_\_

### 4. Choose payment type

- Cash
- Check
- Card

\* See reverse side for full list of membership level fees and benefits

### 5. Complete billing information

Same as member information

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street City State Zip

### 6. Complete payment information

Check #: \_\_\_\_\_

Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_



# Backyard Birding Presentation and Workshop

December 9, 6:00pm-7:30pm

Gene Wasserman, a Haslett resident, Board member of the Michigan Bluebird Society and owner of WoodCraft Kits (a not-for-profit hobby/business) will present a short talk on feeding birds. This presentation will include information on identifying common Michigan song birds, landscaping to provide food and shelter, and information on preventing house sparrows.



Gene will then guide a workshop on how to build a Hopper Seed Feeder

(\$22), a Suet Feeder (\$17) and a small Peanut Butter/Suet Feeder (\$8) from a WoodCraft Kit. If you wish to attend the presentation but not purchase a feeder, it is \$5 per person. These feeders will attract many of the birds common to Michigan. The kits are easy to build for birders of all ages! They are made of cedar and will be ready to use by the birds. The presentation will be approximately 30 to 60 minutes and kits take about 20 to 40 minutes to build. Contact Gene Wasserman for more info.

517-339-1161 • woodcraftkits@hotmail.com • www.geneswoodcraftkits.com

Visit [woldumar.org/events](http://woldumar.org/events) to register

**\$2 discount  
for members!**

## NEW Membership Levels

Level	Annual Dues	Benefits
<b>Trail Sponsor</b>	<b>\$30</b>	Annual parking pass, newsletter
<b>Student/Senior</b>	<b>\$35</b>	+ Discounts on gift shop items and select programs
<b>Individual</b>	<b>\$40</b>	Same as student/senior
<b>Household</b>	<b>\$50</b>	+ Camp discount
<b>Lifetime</b>	<b>\$1,000</b> to endowment	+ Never have to renew!

Consider a  
**GIFT MEMBERSHIP**  
for the holiday season!

Give the gift of Woldumar membership by selecting "this is a gift membership" at the top of the membership form.