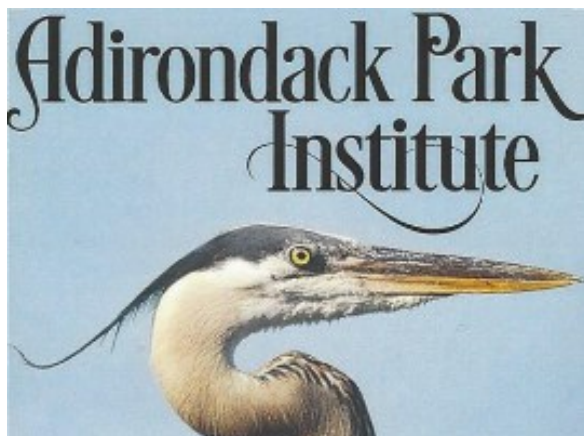


2020 Fall Newsletter



"Teaching Generations to Care"

The 2020 Virtual Awards Program

These are unusual times which have challenged us to be creative. The Adirondack Park Institute (API) had to cancel its fall Gala, a major fundraiser for the organization. We decided to go ahead with a virtual event and partnered with the Adirondack Research Consortium (ARC) who also had to cancel live programming. The program was held on Friday, September 18th, 3:30–4:30, via zoom, and hosted by Paul Smith's College. During it, the **Frank Hutchins Educational Leadership Award** was presented to **Betsy Folwell**, author and longtime editor of Adirondack Life magazine. Renowned environmental author **Bill McKibben** honored Betsy and discussed his latest work in a prerecorded message. **Assemblyman Dan Stec** presented retired U.S. Air Force Colonel **Bob Lilly** with the **Community Service Award** for his many volunteer contributions to his home town of Newcomb. The ARC presented the **Liz Thorndike Adirondack Achievement Award** to the **Adirondack Foundation** for their outstanding work during this COVID crisis. It was accepted by the Foundation's CEO and President, **Cali Brooks**. Many thanks to Paul Smith's College for hosting the event and to Professor Dr. Melanie Johnson who directed the program. It can be viewed on the API webpage: <http://adkinstitute.org/Events/>. Pictured above top left and clockwise: Adirondack Foundation logo; Bill McKibben; Bob Lilly; and, Betsy Folwell.



Butterfly House Photo by Paul Smith's College VIC

The Breck Chapin Native Species Butterfly House

at the Paul Smith's College VIC opened this season featuring four new ADA accessible doors! The API was pleased to contribute funds to this project and for funding Butterfly House Managers Anna Butler and Stephanie Tyski who provided expert programming 7-days a week through Labor Day. Anna reports that well over three thousand people visited the Butterfly House, even in this socially-distanced pandemic season. Visitors learned about the Butterfly House, gardening, and butterfly ecology. Many also shared fond memories of Breck. To read a touching tribute to Breck written by Anna, go to the VIC webpage at www.paulsmiths.edu/vic/in-memoriam-breckinridge-chapin-1932-2000/. Thanks for writing this for all of us Anna!

SUNY ESF's Adirondack Interpretive Center (AIC) building in Newcomb was closed during the summer season. The trail system remained open and many visitors used the opportunity to unplug and unwind with some time outdoors. Interpretive Center staff continued to provide program content through Facebook and Instagram. A new series of YouTube videos called "*Newcomb Naturalist Notes*" was created and shared by Summer Naturalist Intern, **Sam Luca**. Sam worked with AIC staff remotely to create five videos in the series. Sam also wrote a weekly blog post about her summer experience, created *Plant of the Week* content, and designed informative *Trail Cards* that are placed along the AIC trail system. The trail cards are a great way to provide educational content while the building is temporarily closed. Sam is a undergraduate at SUNY ESF earning a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Studies with a focus in communications. She will graduate this December. Videos by Artist-in-Residence, **Dennon Wallantus**, were produced and released and were followed by Facebook Live events where people engaged in on-line conversation with the artist. The on-line content was extremely well received and introduced the AIC and API to a new audience. This Artist-in-Residence program is funded in part by a generous grant from the Essex County Arts Council.



Pictured above left is Artist-in-Residence **Dennon Wallantus** at work on the AIC trails. At right, Summer Naturalist Intern **Sam Luca** presenting *Newcomb Naturalist Notes*. Below, fall trails at the AIC. *Photos by SUNY ESF.*



Become an API Member!

Your generous memberships and donations allow us to fund these and other enriching educational programs in the Adirondacks. Please consider becoming a member and donating today. For more information on how to do this, go to our webpage at adkinstitute.org/Membership. Remember, your donation is tax deductible!