

Master Naturalist Instructor Bios

Penny Miller

Penny began her zoo career at the Pittsburgh Zoo in 1971. She started at Oglebay while the Good Zoo was under construction in 1974. As general curator, she managed the animal collection and keeper staff, and the education department for 15 years. She became director of the Good Zoo in 1994. She has a Bachelor of Arts degree from Wheeling Jesuit University with a concentration in biology and professional writing, and is currently working on her master's degree at Wheeling Jesuit University. She has authored numerous articles in magazines and professional journals. Penny lives on a 140-acre organic farm, where she has a special interest in Lepidoptera, pollinators in general, snapping turtles and box turtles. She has led zoo trips to Kenya and several countries across Southern Africa.

Bill Beatty

Bill Beatty has a B.S. degree in biology from West Liberty State College. He is a consulting Naturalist and Outdoor Education Specialist for Oglebay Institute's Schrader Center, Oglebay Park, Wheeling, WV, since 2004. Bill founded *Wild and Natural* in 1990, specializing in nature/environmental programs and nature photography with over 1,000 published photos. He was an Interpretive Naturalist for Oglebay Institute from 1972-1990. Bill teaches Recreational Camping, Outdoor Leisure Pursuits, and Outdoor Activities classes for the P.E. Dept at West Liberty State College. Bill is a popular Master Naturalist instructor on many topics.

Sam Norris

Sam is a biologist with the WV DNR. He and his wife Rose started the Master Naturalist Program in West Virginia! Sam is an all-around naturalist in the truest sense of the word, with special interest in botany.

Zac Loughman

Zac received a B.S. degree in Biology from West Liberty State College and a Masters degree in Biology from Marshall University. Zac's main interest is astacology; the study of freshwater crayfishes. He has added crayfish state records to multiple state lists and works on projects describing crayfish species, while still working on projects elucidating reptile and amphibian life histories in Appalachia. Zac has worked for Oglebay Institute as a Natural History Research Specialist. Zac is the Natural History Research Coordinator for Oglebay institute and Natural History Research Specialist for West Liberty State College, where he instructs environmental and biological classes for the college.

Vickie Markey-Tekely

Vickie has been involved with the Oglebay Zoo for over 25 years. Her current position is as curator of education. In this position, she develops, plans and teaches a wide variety of programs, from pre-schoolers to K-12; young adults through seniors in the Elderhostel program. Vickie also coordinates and instructs the zoo's 100 adult and teen volunteers. Vickie has a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from West Liberty State College and a Master of Arts in Science and Math Education from Wheeling Jesuit University. She is also a member of the National Association for Interpretation.

Revised 7/22/10

MASTER NATURALIST CLASSES 2010

Class Title (titles in bold are core classes)	Instructor	Day	Date	Time
MonarchWatch: Rearing and Tagging monarchs	Elective Penny Miller	Saturday	August 14	9 am- noon
Wetland Habitats	Core Sam Norris	Saturday	August 14	1 pm - 5 pm
Recording, Sharing, Preserving	Core Sam Norris	Sunday	August 15	1 pm - 5 pm
Mushrooms	Elective Bill Beatty	Saturday	September 11	1 pm - 4 pm
Insects, Spiders and Such	Core Zac Loughman	Saturday	September 18	9 am - 12 pm
Nature Interpretation	Core Vickie Markey-Tekely	Saturday	November 6	1 pm - 5 pm
Talkin' Turkey: Wild Turkeys	Elective Vickie Markey-Tekely	Saturday	November 6	10 am - 12 pm

Master Naturalist Class Descriptions: August through November 2010

Wetlands Habitats (Core)

Explore the definitions and types of wetlands that are found in WV and their values and needed protection. Students will gain a basic understanding of the general types of wetlands found in West Virginia, the value of wetlands to humans and wildlife, and look for wetlands plants and animals. During the class, you will take a field trip to a farm in West Liberty to explore wetlands first hand, so DRESS in long pants and bring boots or shoes that can get wet.

Recording and Preserving What You Learn (Core)

This core (required) class encourages students to collect data in the form of notes, photos, and specimens, and insure that this information is permanently preserved and made available for use by others. Students will gain a basic understanding of the huge value of his/her observations, collections, and data; the importance of accurate, detailed, complete notes and specimen labels, and high quality specimens; the fact that his sketches are for information, not art; the systematic description of habitats; and methods of sharing/preserving what they learn through publications, databases, archived Internet discussions, public collections, etc.

MonarchWatch: Rearing and Tagging Monarchs (Elective)

Students will learn about monarch butterfly natural history and biology, including their spectacular migration clear to Mexico in the winter. Students will learn how to collect and rear monarch caterpillars, tag adults and keep records for Project Monarch Watch. Program will begin with a classroom presentation and PowerPoint and end with a field trip to a farm in West Liberty.

Mushrooms of West Virginia (Elective)

Mushrooms includes a power point program followed by a short field trip. The class will cover the natural history of specific fungi and slime molds. Slime molds, non-edible fungi, poisonous fungi, and edible fungi will be the topics presented. Throughout the program the value of mushrooms as decomposers, the different taxonomic groups, and the beauty of mushrooms will be emphasized.

Insects, Spiders and Such (Core)

Student will gain a basic understanding of the major orders of WV insects and spiders; how to observe, collect, preserve, and identify invertebrates; the diversity of adaptations, life histories, and ecological roles of invertebrates. Learn about citizen science projects with ladybugs, fireflies, bees and other projects you can use to earn your Master Naturalist volunteer hours!

Nature Interpretation and Teaching (Core)

Participants will learn what it means to be a nature interpreter and acquire a broad understanding of the goals, techniques, and attributes required to provide an effective interpretive program. The students will gain a basic understanding of what nature interpretation is and how it differs from formal environmental education and classical nature study; an appreciation that our natural environment and our lives and manmade environments are intertwined; the difference between the interpreter as leader and as provocateur; some basic techniques for interpreting the natural world; strategies for successfully leading a guided walk.

Talkin' Turkey: Wild Turkeys (Elective)

Discover fascinating facts about turkey anatomy, physiology and behavior. Through video clips, biofacts and other materials find out why the turkey is one of Americas most popular – an often misunderstood - birds.