

Black River Audubon Society's Scholarship Winners

Two Lorainites have been named the 2017 Black River Audubon Hog Island summer camp scholarship recipients.

Teressa Nemeth, an OSU Extension master gardener for more than twenty years, will be attending the ***Field Ornithology*** camp at camp at National Audubon's camp off the coast of Maine.

Ms. Nemeth, as a master gardener gives advice during presentations to groups interested in gardening also answers telephone callers and internet questions. She has worked with Lorain Metropolitan Housing's "Green Thumb" program to teach gardening to the residents who are encouraged to use the skills around their homes.

Her position with the extension program gives her access to many other public venues such as libraries, garden clubs and schools to teach gardening. Her goal after the camp is to "encourage others to take a deeper look at the world around them. To arouse in people the desire to remove the 'ear buds' while outdoors and take in bird song."

Charmaine Lupinacci, is a fifth grade teacher at Elyria's Crestwood School. She will be attending Hog Island's ***Sharing Nature: An Educator's Workshop*** camp. Charmaine, also, has twenty years of experience in her chosen profession, teaching science as well as social science at her school.

Ms. Lupinacci acquired her love of birds from an ornithology class and an independent bird-counting study she took part in college, "it was the best class I ever had," she remembers.

She intends to use the experience "to further environmental understanding in my school by sharing ideas with students that they could do in their own backyard . . . to make a small ecosystem and learn how it works."

Her social science class can benefit as well as the students study the use of natural resources and different land forms that make for different ecological niches for birds and other wildlife.

Black River Audubon Society congratulates both recipients on their selection and their goals to improving environmental understanding in our area.