



Visitor of the Month

May 2012: Lucy Ridgefield, Connecticut



May Visitor of the Month, Lucy.

Weir Farm National Historic Site has chosen Lucy, an artist from Ridgefield, Connecticut, as the May 2012 Visitor of the Month. “The views, the colors, the shapes, the changing light inspire my work,” Lucy noted, and it is apparent by how dedicated she is to her work and to painting *en plein air* (“in the open air”) at Weir Farm National Historic Site. Lucy frequently visits the park, coming at least once a week -- though at times you find her painting in the fields and meadows on a daily basis! She typically comes to paint, but also enjoys walking the trails and discovering new sites. She hopes to one day paint Weir Farm during a blizzard!

Lucy has been visiting the park for about six years, ever since her friends gave her a tour of the area. She immediately found Weir Farm a special place and started making trips from her previous home in New York City.

Even before ever visiting Weir Farm National Historic Site, Lucy was drawn to the work of J. Alden Weir and his friends, John Twachtman and Childe Hassam. She was amazed to behold the familiar landscape she had always seen in their paintings, and even though the forest has returned in some places, the topography of the land remains the same. By painting *en plein air* in this landscape, Lucy continues an artistic tradition that has been on going for 130 years. Lucy adds a special presence each time she visits the park, and it inspires visitors and staff alike to see Lucy following in the footsteps of great American painters of the past. Thanks, Lucy!

To view Lucy’s artwork, please visit her website: www.lucygr.com

