



MEMBER NEWS

July-September 2020

Aullwood Audubon





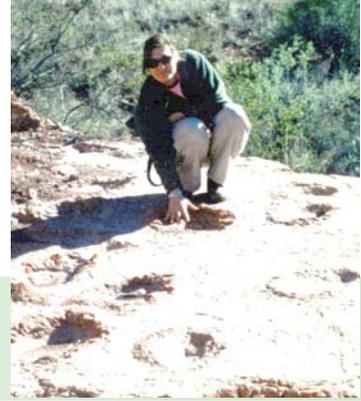
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*“Trees exhale for us so that we can inhale them
to stay alive. Can we ever forget that?
Let us love trees with every breath we take
until we perish.”*

— Munia Khan



Director’s Corner

Why Do We So Love Trees?

Alexis R. Faust
Executive Director

I think I was lucky growing up because my father was a lover of trees and he inspired that love in me and that, in so many ways, has shaped my life into what it is today. He spent most of his career at Princeton University where, at lunch, he would take long walks on the 2,200-acre James Forrestal Campus, or through the Institute for Advanced Study woods, pocketing acorns and seeds from his favorite trees. He would bring them home and sprout them and plant them on our family property, where today they still thrive and tower hundreds of feet in the air. He also planted a pine woods, birches, orchards, and a blue spruce that someone once offered him \$500 to cut down for a Christmas tree — he said no.

Trees do many practical things for us. Their timber is a thriving trade and a vital part of our economy. Their barrels age our whiskey, their cork protects our wines. From a climate perspective, they sequester carbon, and from an environmental perspective, they protect our biodiversity by supporting hundreds of thousands of species of insects, mammals, and birds. In our backyards and parks, they provide shade, and perhaps a place to hang a favorite swing, or throw a picnic blanket under.

But somehow a tree is so much bigger than the sum of its bits of leaves and twigs and bark. When we gaze upon a magnificent tree, we feel pride, wonder, awe, and perhaps an innate kinship with its obvious determination to survive despite all adversity. We, as human beings, admire that tenacity and strength. We often wonder what history these ancient creatures have witnessed — in a lifetime that will surely outlive ours.

I think it is for all of these reasons that I was so personally devastated when I witnessed the destruction of our region’s trees after the Memorial Day tornadoes. I was dumbfounded to witness how they had been literally ripped from us in such a violent way. In a moment, hundreds of years of survival — just gone.

Aullwood wants to help fix this, along with dozens of dedicated agencies and individuals that have been working for months on tornado recovery in our region. In 2021, we hope to welcome an incredible nonprofit to Montgomery County — RETREET, the only organization of its kind in the world. RETREET redefines disaster relief by engaging communities to replant lost trees. Their volunteers have replanted 5,683 native trees for thousands of families deep within the recovery process across the US, bringing joy, hope, and a renewed sense of environmental identity to communities in need. Their philosophy is to plant the right tree in the right place the right way at the right time. Check them out at and let me know if you would like to support the cause by volunteering or donating!



Alexis Faust



Cover Photo:
Indigo Bunting. John Edmondson,
The Naturalist’s Notebook.



1000 Aullwood Road • Dayton, OH 45414 / office: 937-890-7360 / www.aullwood.org

Aullwood Audubon © 2020



Aullwood Audubon Now Open



Tom Hissong

Field sparrow

Welcome Back!

After being closed since March 16, 2020, Aullwood is now open to everyone through the farm entrance at 9101 Frederick Pike. The Marie S. Aull Education Center and its parking lot at 1000 Aullwood Road remain closed; however, all trails are accessible from the farm.

All of our native animals as well as our signature Nature Store and Gift Shop have relocated to the farm for your enjoyment. Come see the animals' new habitats and enjoy the expanded selection of products in our store including grass-fed beef and all natural eggs for sale. We will be adding sustainably-raised pork and chicken to our product line later in the summer and early fall. Purchases may be made with credit card, check or cash.



On a walk

Friends of Aullwood Board of Trustees

July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021

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New Hours:

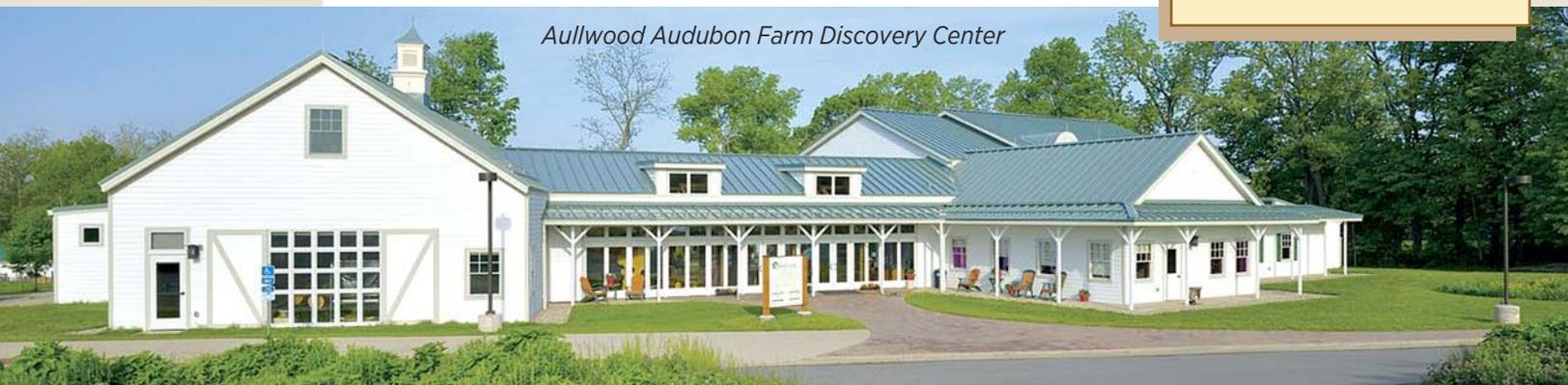
Aullwood is thrilled to offer new extended summer hours to allow everyone to enjoy our facility and property during longer daylight hours.

New Hours:
9:00 AM-7:00 PM
Monday
through Saturday
and
1:00-7:00 PM
on Sunday

General admission is \$10/adult and \$7/child. Members of Friends of Aullwood and National Audubon Society are admitted free.

Access to Aullwood and any Aullwood programs is only at 9101 Frederick Pike. Call 937-890-7360 for more information.

Aullwood Audubon Farm Discovery Center



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Visit us on the web
www.aullwood.org



Contact us by email
AskUs@aullwood.org

Naturally Curious



by **Nicole Conrad**
Education Manager

Barn Swallows

Barn swallows are a common sight around Aullwood during the summer and can be seen swooping around the fields, flying low to the ground, making quick, sharp turns. They are found in Ohio in the spring and summer and start their migration journey in late summer and early fall, spending their winters in Central and South America.

Male and female barn swallows look similar, though the female's colors are usually a little lighter than males and the tail is shorter. Barn swallow feathers can appear vibrant blue or darker blue depending on the lighting. Adult barn swallows have a blue back and tail with a tan underside and a rusty cinnamon colored throat and forehead. The tell-tale sign of a barn swallow is their long, pointed, deeply forked tail. They have a white band on their tail, though it is difficult to see unless they are in flight. Juveniles do not have the long, forked tail and their colors are more muted. Barn swallows can be found in other parts of the world (Europe, Asia and Africa) and may look slightly different than those found in the America's with lighter coloring on their undersides.

It is not unusual to see flocks of barn swallows together. They like more open habitats and can be found in meadows, fields, marshes and edges of waterways. Open habitats allow barn swallows to fly low to the ground, feeding on prey while in flight. The majority of their diet consists of insects including flies, beetles, bees, ants, butterflies, moths, damselflies and grasshoppers.

Male and female barn swallows build their nest together, gathering dried grasses and mud to make a cup or bowl-shaped nest. Most barn swallows like to build their nest on man-made structures and nests can be found in barn rafters, under bridges or eaves of structures. They sometimes reuse nests from previous years. The female usually lays 3-6 eggs which take 12-17 days to hatch. Both the male and female will incubate the eggs, but the female spends more time on the nest. Once the young hatch, both the male and female feed them for 2-3 weeks until they leave the nest. Barn swallows may have 1-2 broods a year with the first-year chicks sometimes coming back to the nest to help their parents feed the second brood.

On your next visit to Aullwood this summer quietly check out the barn swallows nesting in the lower bank barn or watch them swooping over the farm lawn nabbing insects midair!

* You can reach Nicole Conrad at 937-890-7360, ext. 217 or nconrad@audubon.org.



Katsura Miyamoto



VJ Anderson

Gathering nesting material



Melissa McMasters

Barn swallow nest



Ian Hearn

Volunteer Corner



Zebra Swallowtail butterfly

2020 July-August-September

By Nenita Lapitan
Volunteer & Rental Services Manager

I'm so grateful that we've been able to stay connected during the 14 weeks that Aullwood was closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Between email, phone calls, texting and Zoom, staying connected has never been easier. However, all this technology doesn't provide the same pleasure as seeing your friendly faces every week as you share your time and talents while supporting Aullwood's mission to the community and beyond. Since Aullwood Farm reopened on July 1, I have been able to see many volunteers in person. Wonderful!

Special thanks to a small group of volunteers who have helped us maintain Aullwood during the closure. This group includes mowing and bush-hogging volunteers (because grass doesn't stop growing), farm garden volunteers, farm hands, maintenance volunteers, Native Plant Sale delivery drivers, volunteers who sewed masks and put together mailings at home, and members of the Greenview Garden Club.

New volunteer protocols and volunteer-only virtual enrichment programs are coming soon!

POSTPONED — Aullwood's Annual Volunteer Appreciation Event

The annual volunteer appreciation event scheduled for August 25 is postponed. As we do not know when the prohibition on large groups will be lifted, we look forward to holding this popular event later in the year.

Volunteer Activities and Opportunities

For more information, please call Nenita Lapitan, Manager of Volunteer and Rental Services at 937-890-7360, ext. 214 or email her at nenita.lapitan@audubon.org.

Farm Helping Hands

Would you like to assist the farm staff with our livestock? Farm Hands help with farm chores and other work on the farm, including mucking out stalls, sweeping and dusting for cobwebs. Volunteers must be age 18+, able to lift at least 30 pounds, have strong attention to detail, be willing to follow Aullwood's Standard Operating Procedures for livestock and Risk Management policies and procedure. Experience working with livestock is preferred but not required. After training, volunteers must be able to handle chores independently.



Summer fun!



Joe-pye weed



Prairie Ironweed

AL Gibson



Orange coneflower



2020 Aullwood Program and Class Calendar

August Programs

August is a great time to explore Aullwood! Visit the farm animals, hike the trails or relax on the back porch and watch the birds. Call 937-890-7360 for more information. All of Aullwood programs begin and end at 9101 Frederick Pike Dayton, OH 45414.

Tuesday, August 4
4:00-5:30 p.m. – Adult Butterfly Walk

Thursday, August 6
7:45-9:15 a.m. – Adult Discovery Walk

Tuesday, August 11
4:00-5:30 p.m. – Adult Butterfly Walk

Thursday, August 13
7:45-9:15 a.m. – Adult Discovery Walk

Tuesday, August 18
4:00-5:30 p.m. – Adult Butterfly Walk

Thursday, August 20
7:45-9:15 a.m. – Adult Discovery Walk

Tuesday, August 25
4:00-5:30 p.m. – Adult Butterfly Walk

Self-guided Family Activities (Members and Non-Members)

Animals of Aullwood: No Stone Unturned

August 7-31 – Enjoy a new self-guided rockin’ scavenger hunt! Pick up a clue sheet at Guest Services, then search around the farm for different painted rocks that resemble some of our animal friends.



Eastern Box Turtle

Bear, Salmon, Mosquito Game

August 12-31 – Bring four or more of your family members and play a fun family game together. This activity is like an active game of “Rock, Paper, Scissors.” Instructions and an ample amount of play space will be provided in Aullwood’s farmyard!

Adult Discovery Walks (Member Only)

Discover the sights and sounds of nature on a fun discovery walk! Bring binoculars. You must preregister for walks by calling 937-890-7360. There is a limit of 10 members on a walk at a time. Please be ready and waiting outside the Farm Discovery Center at least 5 minutes before the scheduled start of the walk. The walk starts promptly at the scheduled start time and ends promptly at the scheduled end time. Adult Discovery Walks are a benefit for members and there is no cost to attend. Please read through “Important Information and Guidelines Programs.”



Great spangled fritillary

Adult Butterfly Walks (Members and NonMembers)

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Buckeye butterfly



Blue False Indigo

Nicole Conrad



Spicebush Caterpillar

Nicole Conrad



White Rock rooster

Alexis Faust



Social Distancing Guidelines

Please remember to keep your social distance when you visit! This means keeping six feet between yourself and other visitors. Six feet is equivalent to the length of one cow, or two pigs standing tail-to-tail, or five chickens in a row! Come and enjoy!

Sponsors Aid Aullwood

Donors to Farm Babies Fest 2020

Thank you to our sponsors for Farm Babies Fest 2020! Even though we were unable to hold this important community event, our sponsors elected to give their sponsorship to help Aullwood through this difficult time. We are so grateful for the generosity of these fine organizations! Aullwood thanks all of our event sponsors including:



Goldfinch on thistle

Thank You to those that have contributed at this time!

Donors to Birdathon 2020 . . .

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Memorials / Tributes . . .

In memory of
Irvin G. Bieser, Jr.
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Mike and Amy Parks
Burt and Alice Saidel
Mr. & Mrs. James Spears
Derek Stern
Gracey & Al Weisbrod
Betsy Whitney

In memory of
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Mary Olt

In memory of Betsy Coffey
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Karen Beaty
Linda Caton
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Miami Valley Triumphs
Car Club
Cecelia Pan
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In memory of Ruth Gress
Mikell Kloeters
Charity Krueger

In memory of
Ardith Hamilton
Charity Krueger

In memory of
Deborah Kaucher
Christine Olinsky
Rebecca Streeter

In memory of Jack Lukacs
Katina Lukacs

In memory of Marilyn Morris
W. Hardy Eshbaugh
Andrea & Stanley Hirtle
Gary Morris

In memory of Paolo Podini
Chris & Marti Birch

In memory of and to honor
Susan Siehl
Amy Fischer
John Siehl
Timothy & Nancy Siehl

In memory of Sue A. Smith
Jeanette & Jim Patton

In memory of Ed Soloski
Charity Krueger
Nancy Soloski

In memory of
Mary Lou Thomas
Judith Metzger

In memory of Marilyn Trick
Charity Krueger
Mary Olt
Jan & Steve Scheid

In memory of Lisa Wolfe
Shelley Harmony

In honor of Idele Ports
Lynne Kramer

In celebration of the birthday
of Sally Jo Saunders
Patricia Engel

In honor of Barbara Trick
Charity Krueger

Aullwood Staff

Alexis R. Faust
Executive Director

Nicole Conrad
Education Manager

Laurie Cothran
Development & Marketing Manager

Ken Fasimpaur
IT Manager

Bev Holland
Environmental Educator

Nenita Lapitan
Manager of Volunteer & Rental Services

Sean Mormino
Environmental Educator

Crystal Osterhaus-Hardy
Large Animal Veterinary Technician

Sam Romeo
Environmental Educator

Chris Rowlands
Environmental Educator / Outreach

Dalynn Sours
Nature Store Coordinator

Jonny Thomas
Maintenance / Grounds Worker

Barbara Trick
Office Manager

Jonah VanRoekel
Farm Assistant

Ryan Walburn
Maintenance Manager

Thank You . . .

Aullwood Audubon gratefully acknowledges donations from the following:

Janice Carrigan
India Clarke
Caelen Ford
James Harrison
Sandra Kanak

Glynn Marsh
Donna Melia
Kim Romeo
Michael & Candace Schumacher

Joanne & Cyrus Spurlino
Hope Taft
Mr. & Mrs. Gregory A. Trimbach

Become a member of Aullwood now! Visit our membership page at <https://aullwood.audubon.org/membership> for more information or come to Aullwood Audubon Farm at 9101 Frederick Pike to join between 9:00 AM and 7:00 PM Monday through Friday or between 1:00 PM and 7:00 PM Sunday. We look forward to welcoming you back to Aullwood! If you have questions, please email AskUs@aullwood.org

We need Your Support Now . . .

We need your support now more than ever! Please consider making a tax-deductible gift to help support our work during the COVID-19 crisis by visiting:

<https://aullwood.audubon.org/donate>

or by clicking the red donate button in the upper right corner of any page of our website.



Mike Mushala

Going Digital!

You'll notice that this issue of Membership News is now in digital format. We hope you support us in our efforts to divert printing funds for the News at this time to other more important endeavors at Aullwood Audubon.





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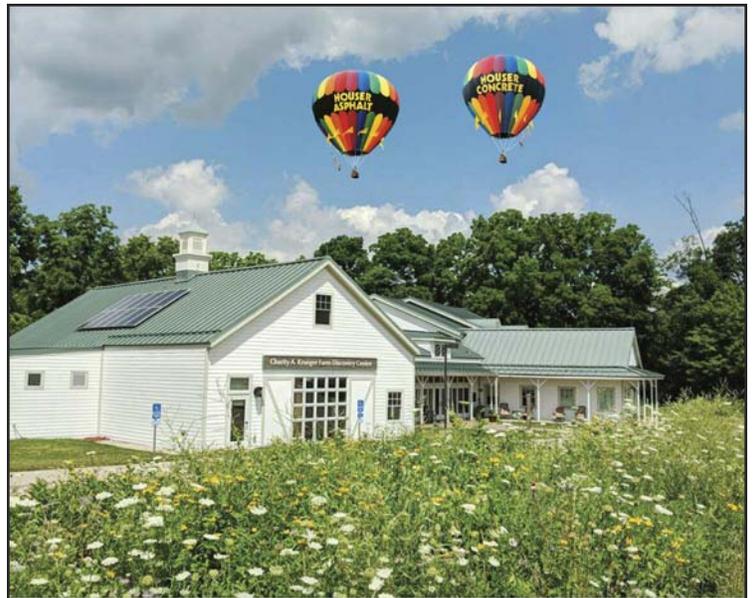
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Important Information and Guidelines for Programs:

Aullwood is following recommendations from government officials, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Ohio Department of Health and the National Audubon Society. In order to keep everyone as safe as possible, there are new guidelines and procedures for Aullwood programs. Guidelines are subject to change as State mandates change. The safety of our members, volunteers and staff is our top priority.



Sulphur butterfly

- Preregistration is required to attend any walks or programs. Call 937-890-7360 to preregister for programs.
- Programs begin promptly at their scheduled start time, are weather dependent and are cancelled if there is thunder, lightning or heavy rain. Participants will be contacted via email should a program be cancelled.
- If you or someone in your household is sick, stay home. Do not visit Aullwood if you have a fever, persistent cough or shortness of breath.
- We will follow social distancing during programs and keep at least a 6-foot social distance.
- Masks are required when inside any building. Masks are required outdoors, when unable to keep at least a 6-foot social distance from those not in your household.
- Wash your hands or use hand sanitizer before and after your visit.
- Programs are to take place outdoors unless severe weather threatens, unless participants need to use the restroom or there is an emergency.
- If guests are not following social distancing and other guidelines, we may be forced to cancel programs.