



**MEMBER NEWS**

July - September 2021

# Aullwood Audubon



# Aullwood Offering Special Summer Programs

*Aullwood is excited to offer a limited number of summer programs. These programs are held 9:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. on Tuesday–Friday of the weeks noted below. There is a 5-student minimum and a 10-student maximum. Pre-registration and payment are required to secure your spot. Please note that there are no refunds unless Aullwood is forced to cancel a program. All sessions are at the Marie S. Aull Education Center, 1000 Aullwood Road.*

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Exploring wetlands



Catching tadpoles

To register, call 937-890-7360. With limited programming, we anticipate classes will fill quickly.

Partial scholarships are available. To apply for a scholarship, please call 937-890-7360 and ask for Sam Romeo or email him at: [sam.romeo@audubon.org](mailto:sam.romeo@audubon.org).

Summer program policies and forms are available on our website [www.aullwood.org](http://www.aullwood.org) under "Programs/Education Programs." The adult/guardian is responsible for downloading, reading, signing and bringing forms on the first day of the program.



Green Heron. (*Butorides virescens*). Audubon Photo. John Adolf.

## Our Cover Bird

### Green heron (*Butorides virescens*)

*This small, solitary and often somewhat secretive heron lives around small bodies of water with dense vegetation. It forages mostly by standing still or stalking very slowly at the edge of shallow water, waiting for prey to approach and has been observed dropping feathers or small twigs on the surface of water to use as "bait." It's an opportunistic hunter that feeds mainly on fish, crustaceans, aquatic insects, frogs and tadpoles, as well as grasshoppers, snakes, earthworms, snails, and small rodents. Look for yellow to orange legs, a thick, chestnut-colored neck, and daggerlike beak to help identify this bird in the field.*





Earth Arts

*Special Summer Programs continued . . .*

**July 13-16**

***Art in Nature***

(For students entering grades 5-12)  
Members \$85; Non-member \$95.

Join Outreach Naturalist Chris Rowlands for this class all about painting nature. Learn color theory and paint outside in the “plein air” style. Class fee includes cost of paint and materials. Registration deadline: July 8



Art in Nature with Chris Rowlands

**July 20-23**

***Summer Adventures I***

(For students entering grades 4-8)  
Members \$70; Non-members \$80.

Splash through the creek, hunt for bugs, birds and other critters as you explore Aullwood’s waterways, prairies, forests and secret places with Environmental Educator Sam Romeo. Registration deadline: July 15



Collecting macroinvertebrates

**August 3-6**

***Earth Arts***

(For students entering grades 3-4)  
Members \$80; Non-members \$90

Use a variety of earth arts as you explore the natural wonders of Aullwood with Bev Holland, Environmental Educator. Make natural collages, a pinch pot using clay, weave with plants, and paint works of art using soil, leaves, berries and other natural pigments. Class fee includes cost of materials. Registration deadline: July 29



Finding worms

**August 10-13**

***Summer Adventures II***

(For students entering grades 1-3)  
Members \$70; Non-members \$80

Splash through the creek, marvel at the prairie in bloom and hunt for bugs, birds and other critters as you explore Aullwood’s habitats and secret places with Sam Romeo. Registration deadline: August 5



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[www.facebook.com/AullwoodAudubon](http://www.facebook.com/AullwoodAudubon)



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Visit us on the web  
[www.aullwood.org](http://www.aullwood.org)



Contact us by email  
[AskUs@aullwood.org](mailto:AskUs@aullwood.org)



*"When a great genius appears in the world  
you may know him by this sign;  
that the dunces are all  
in confederacy against him."*

—Jonathan Swift

## Director's Corner

**Alexis R. Faust**  
*Executive Director*

### **Genius and Grace**

I asked my son, who is 16, what he thought might be an interesting topic for my column this quarter. He thought about it a while and then suggested that I write about some of the extraordinary concepts that are emerging in science to help save the planet — like high level atmospheric shields made of plasma that could deflect electromagnetic radiation. Students at the University of Leicester recently published this concept in the student *Journal of Special Physics Topics*.

While I would love to wax eloquently about atmospheric shields, I believe there is another planet saving concept I would like to give a little air time to in this issue — it's been top of my mind as a long-time mentor of mine was the genius behind the concept — and in July he will celebrate his 80th birthday.

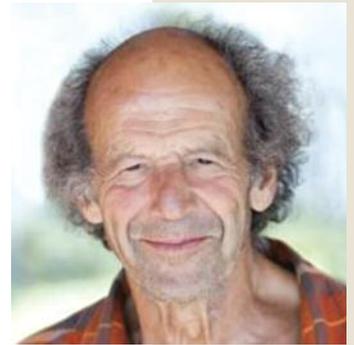
Before I talk about his planet-changing invention, I want to say a few words about Peter Eisenberger. It's extremely rare to find a person who is both brilliant and also a fantastic human being. Someone so smart that he could run you under the intellectual table at any moment, but because he is kind and caring, he doesn't, but rather encourages you to raise yourself up to your own highest standards. He does this because he is not threatened by you because he has a confident sense of self and thus is able to embrace your ideas based solely on their intellectual merit — and may the best argument win.

Peter had a lot of faith in me. He took me on years ago as a very green manager, and that made all the difference in my life. He taught me that a good argument with diverse viewpoints makes an idea stronger. He taught me not to be afraid to have an opinion, and voice it (to the dismay of some of his colleagues). He demonstrated to me by his actions what it was to be an ethical and compassionate leader, while still driving hard for results.

He did not go without criticism for his style and drive, particularly in a world that is often made blurry by greed, ambition and self-aggrandizement. His criticisms came from those who had something to lose, or who were desperate to win just to prove something to themselves. Criticism, however, will not change the fact that the world will always be a better place because of Peter.

Which leads me to one of his great inventions. Peter and his colleagues have developed a large-scale carbon capture technology that removes carbon emissions from the air and converts it to useable energy. I'm sure he conceptualized it sitting in a forest somewhere, surrounded by the beauty of nature, immersed in thought. Check it out at: <https://globalthermostat.com>. This is something our planet can really use, now.

Happy Birthday, Peter!



*Peter Eisenberger, Professor of Earth and Environmental Science, Columbia University, Chief Science Officer and Co-Founder, Global Thermostat*

### **Friends of Aullwood Board of Trustees**

July 1, 2021 –  
June 30, 2022

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**July Events!**

**Monarch House**

*On July 1, Aullwood will open its first-ever Monarch House at the farm!*

This small greenhouse will feature a variety of species of milkweed plants, monarchs in various stages of development, and information on the monarch butterfly life cycle. This is a self-guided experience. The number of monarchs will vary inside the greenhouse depending on the time of summer.



Monarch butterfly

**The Faerie Houses are Back!**

*Join us on July 1 for the opening of a brand-new Faerie House Exhibit!*

Many of the world's most beloved fairy tales are set deep in enchanted forests and woods. You are invited to wander along Aullwood's paved woodland trail at 1000 Aullwood Road into the world of princes, princesses, fairies and yes, even a witch or two!

Start your journey in the Aullwood Nature Store where you will see a mother reading fairy tales to her children in the Faerie Library. Grab a Faerie House questionnaire from the front desk and try to identify each fairy tale represented by the six Faerie Houses along the paved trail. Bring your completed sheet back to the front desk for a prize.



**Christmas in July Sale**

*July 24-31 at 1000 Aullwood Road*

Don't miss the Christmas in July Sale for discounts on ornaments, décor, one of a kind items and a few surprises. Shop any day for unique products for education, the home, the garden and fun! We are inspired by nature and offer a wide selection of field guides and bird feeders, along with magnifying glasses, rock collections, toys and games for young explorers. You will find wonderful children's books, beautiful jigsaw puzzles, personal luxuries from Michel Design Works, puppets and plush made with eco-friendly materials, bamboo garden gloves, jewelry and so much more. New merchandise arrives weekly. Stop in every time you visit Aullwood to browse and buy.



Dave Anderson



Dave Anderson

Holiday items for sale in July

**Fun Family Concert with Chris Rowlands**

*Enjoy an evening of music and entertainment at Aullwood with musician and Environmental Educator, Chris Rowlands. Chris will amuse and delight you with songs and humor at a fun, family-oriented concert on Saturday, July 17 from 7:00-8:15 p.m.*



Seating is not provided, so grab a blanket or chairs and enjoy live music on the lawn in front of the Nature Center, 1000 Aullwood Road. The Nature Store & Gift Shop will be open for shopping during the concert and tasty treats, ice-cold desserts, and drinks will also be available for purchase.

This program is limited to 100 guests; pre-registration and payment is required. Event fee is \$10/adults (12 and older), \$7/child (ages 3-11), 2 and under free. There is no discount for Friends of Aullwood members. Aullwood does not provide refunds unless the program is cancelled.

Seating is first-come, first served, and please leave a 6-foot space between your group and those not in your family pod.



Gates open at 6:30 p.m. for the concert (please do not arrive earlier than 6:30 p.m., you will not be able to get into the parking lot).

Please call 937-890-7360 to make your reservation; the deadline is Friday, July 16 at 1:00 p.m. In case of inclement weather, the concert will be held inside the Nature Center's Auditorium (**bring your blanket and chairs along as seating will not be provided**). Masks are required indoors for those not yet vaccinated.

# Naturally Curious

## Training is for the Birds!

By Kate Burkman  
*Animal Care Assistant*

It's always exciting to see birds of prey up close. These magnificent apex predators (top predators) play an important ecological role in maintaining the environmental health of their habitat by removing old, sick and weak animals as well as keeping prey populations under control. They also have important historical connections to the United States, such as our national symbol, the American bald eagle. Many nature centers use various animal species to foster a connection between guests and the natural world, and one of the most popular ambassadors used for education are raptors.

Currently, Aullwood has two raptors: an Eastern screech owl and a Red-tailed hawk. The Eastern screech owl is a female, red-phase with a malformed left eye; she came to Aullwood in 2017 as a juvenile. The Red-tailed hawk is a female who is blind in the right eye; she came to Aullwood in 2017 as a juvenile. Because of these injuries, these birds can never be released into the wild.

Aullwood is required to have special permits from the state and federal government to have these educational birds. We're also responsible for providing proper housing and a healthy diet. Housing (also called a mew) depends on a variety of factors including the size of the bird, whether it can fly and whether it may require platforms or cavities. The mew is scrubbed nearly every day to ensure the raptors live in a clean and healthy environment. We feed our birds a variety of rodents and chicks (frozen and then defrosted). Portion sizes vary and food is weighed and logged and leftovers are collected, weighed and recorded, too.

Training is a critical aspect of having animal ambassadors. It includes glove training (being able to stand on the glove around people) as well as target training (free flying from one target to another). Training takes patience, persistence and flexibility! I work 30-60 minutes every day with each bird. Each of our raptors has a training plan, and after working with them, I spend additional time writing extensive notes on their progress.

Right now, both birds are being trained for the glove. They are offered bits of meat to reward them for demonstrating a certain behavior, like putting a foot on the glove or stepping onto the glove. I have seen a good deal of progress getting the Red-tailed hawk and the Eastern screech owl to step onto the glove. Seeing their progress makes me want to jump for joy in the moment, but I cannot get too excited or I might set the training back. However, as soon as I get back into the building to write all my notes, I let out a small "Yay!" Although the birds and I still have work to do, the progress makes all the hard work worth it.

Training is an ongoing process that takes a lot of consistent hard work. The end goal of all that training is to make it possible for the raptors and I to provide educational programs. Seeing birds of prey up close and learning about them helps deepen connections between people and the natural environment and helps people understand why birds matter. And one day, we hope to have you all meet the Red-tailed hawk and the Eastern screech owl on glove.



Red-tailed Hawk working on the glove

Kate Burkman



Kate Burkman

Red-phase Eastern Screech Owl with jesses



Kate Burkman

Red-tailed Hawk



Sept. 18 & 19  
Sat. & Sun.  
10 a.m.-5 p.m.

## It's Fall Festival Time!

*The long wait is almost over . . .*

*It will soon be festival time at Aullwood.*

On September 18 & 19, Aullwood Apple Fest becomes **Aullwood Fall Festival!** Spend the day at Aullwood Farm and enjoy the ambiance of the farm. Many of your favorite foods will be back including Dutch oven apple pie, fresh-pressed cider, apple butter, steamed corn and chili. Bella Sorella brick oven pizza and other food trucks will round out the menu.

Fun and exciting children's activities will keep the little ones entertained with games and crafts. Visit farm animal friends, take a tractor pulled wagon ride, and enjoy musical entertainment in the bank barn.

Don't miss the artisan and craft exhibitors offering needle crafts, animal masks, sand art, painted pumpkins, garden ornaments, wood craft, jewelry, hand-made soap and more.

Aullwood Fall Festival will be held at:

Aullwood Farm, 9101 Frederick Pike  
September 18 & 19 from 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.  
Admission is: \$10/Adult, \$7/Child  
(ages 2 & under, free). Friends of Aullwood  
members are free with membership card.  
Visit [aullwood.org](http://aullwood.org) for updated information.



*Lots of activities for the kids*



*All photos: Dave Anderson*



*Chris Rowlands plays for the kids*



# 2021 Aullwood Program and Class Calendar

## July 2021 Programs

Many birds are still singing on territory as they begin their second round of nesting and raising young. Every Thursday morning, Environmental Educator Sam Romeo will help you spot the birds hidden among the leaves. Afterwards, join Kate Burkman to learn all about our turtle ambassadors. The summer heat and humidity is rising – how about cooling off in Wiles Creek during one of our Splish Splash Explorations? Grab a blanket and enjoy a fun, family-oriented evening concert with Chris Rowlands, Environmental Educator. There's a lot to do and see at Aullwood in July!

**July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29** – Member Adult Discovery Walk – 8:00-9:30 a.m. (Nature Center)

**July 4 – Free Admission Day** – 1:00-5:00 p.m. (Nature Center and Farm)

**July 5** – Aullwood closed – 4th of July Holiday

**July 6, 13, 20, 27** – Long-term Butterfly Monitoring Walk – 3:00-4:30 p.m. (Nature Center)

**July 8, 15, 22, 29** – Turtle Thursday – 10:00-11:30 a.m. (Nature Center)

**July 11, 24** – Splish Splash Exploration – 2:30-3:30 p.m. (Nature Center)

**July 13-16** – Art in Nature Summer Program – 9:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. (Nature Center)

**July 14, 21** – Chipmunk Adventures – 10:00-11:45 a.m. (Nature Center)

**July 17** – Family Concert featuring Chris Rowlands – 7:00-8:15 p.m. (Nature Center)

**July 20-23** – Summer Adventures I Summer Program – 9:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. (Nature Center)

**July 22** – Friends of Aullwood Annual Meeting via Zoom.

**Member Adult Discovery Walk** (Members) July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 – 8:00-9:30 a.m. These walks are for Aullwood and National Audubon Society members only. You must preregister for walks by calling 937-890-7360 or register on Aullwood's website at [aullwood.org](http://aullwood.org). Explore Aullwood's trails searching for birds and other nature finds! Binoculars

recommended. Please be ready and waiting on the main sidewalk of the Nature 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.



Sam Romeo

*Common eastern bumble bee*

**Long-term Butterfly Monitoring** (Everyone) July 6, 13, 20, 27 – 3:00-4:30 p.m. Join Sam Romeo and Aullwood's Long-term Butterfly Monitoring team to identify, count and monitor butterfly and skipper populations. Butterfly enthusiasts of all skill levels are invited to participate. Bring binoculars if you have them. These walks meet on the sidewalk in front of the Nature Center. You must preregister for walks by calling 937-890-7360 or register on Aullwood's website at [aullwood.org](http://aullwood.org). The walk starts promptly at the scheduled start time and ends promptly at the scheduled end time. This is a Community Science project, and there is no cost to attend.



*Eastern box turtle*

**Turtle Thursdays** (Everyone) July 8, 15, 22, 29 – 10:00-11:30 a.m. What do turtles eat? Join Kate Burkman, Animal Care Assistant, to learn some surprising facts about turtle care. You will observe Kate as she prepares the animals' meals and feeds the Eastern Box Turtles, Snapping Turtle, Musk Turtle, Painted Turtles and Map Turtle. Get the inside scoop on their

personalities and food preferences during this fun program. You must preregister by calling 937-890-7360 or register on Aullwood's website at [aullwood.org](http://aullwood.org). This program is recommended for ages 5+ and is limited to 10 participants per session; meet in the Nature Center lobby. Free for members of Aullwood, NAS and ANCA, and active and retired military (with ID); non-members may register and pay our general admission prices to participate. Please arrive 5 minutes before the program begins.



*Splish Splash in Wiles Creek*

**Splish Splash Exploration** (Everyone) July 11, 24 – 2:30-3:30 p.m. Let's go creeking! Put on your water shoes and plan to get wet. Join a naturalist to learn about creek ecology; search for crawdads, macroinvertebrates and more. You must preregister by calling 937-890-7360 or register on Aullwood's website at [aullwood.org](http://aullwood.org). Please be ready and waiting on the main sidewalk of the Nature Center at least 5 minutes before the scheduled start of the exploration. Free for members of Aullwood, NAS and ANCA members and active and retired military (with ID); non-members may register and pay our general admission prices to participate. Please arrive 5 minutes before the program begins.

**Art in Nature Summer Program** (see article on Page 3)

**Summer Adventures I Program** (see article on Page 3)

**Fun Family Concert with Chris Rowlands** (see article on Page 5)

**Chipmunk Adventures** (see article on Page 11)

## August 2021 Programs

The summer is winding down, but the prairie is getting ready to wow visitors with its show-stopping bloom. Join a naturalist for a Bloomin' Prairie walk to identify prairie plants and birds, and learn why prairie habitats are so special. Butterflies love the heat and August is a great time to join the Long-term Butterfly monitors to find and identify butterflies for Community Science!

**August 1** – Free Admission Day – 1:00-5:00 p.m. (Nature Center and Farm)

**August 3, 10, 17, 24, 31** – Long-term Butterfly Monitoring – 3:00-4:30 p.m. (Nature Center)

**August 3-6** – Earth Arts Summer Program – 9:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. (Nature Center)

**August 5, 12, 19, 26** – Member Adult Discovery Walk – 8:00-9:30 a.m. (Nature Center)

**August 10-13** – Summer Adventures II Summer Program – 9:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. (Nature Center)

**August 14, 18** – Bloomin' Prairie Walk – 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. (Nature Center)

**Member Adult Discovery Walk** (Members) August 5, 12, 19, 26 – 8:00-9:30 a.m. – These walks are for Aullwood and National Audubon Society members only. You must preregister for walks by calling 937-890-7360 or register on Aullwood's website at [aullwood.org](http://aullwood.org). Explore Aullwood's trails searching for birds and other nature finds! Binoculars recommended. Please be ready and waiting on the main sidewalk of the Nature 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.



*Eastern tiger swallowtail butterfly*

**Long-term Butterfly Monitoring** (Everyone) August 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 – 3:00-4:30 p.m. Join Sam Romeo and Aullwood's Long-term Butterfly Monitoring team to identify, count and monitor butterfly and skipper populations. Butterfly enthusiasts of all skill levels are invited to participate. Bring binoculars if you have them. These walks meet on the sidewalk in front of the Nature Center. You must preregister for walks by calling 937-890-7360 or register on Aullwood's website at [aullwood.org](http://aullwood.org). The walk starts promptly at the scheduled start time and ends promptly at the scheduled end time. This is a Community Science project, and there is no cost to attend.



*Prairie in bloom*

**Bloomin' Prairie Walks** (Everyone) August 14, 18 – 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. A tallgrass prairie in bloom is a sight to behold. Join an Aullwood naturalist to marvel at the riot of purple and yellow flowers produced by native plants such as Giant Coreopsis, Prairie Dock, Compass Plant, Purple Coneflower and New England Aster. Discover the myriad of

pollinators that rely on these late summer bloomers for food and nectar. Please note these walks are held earlier in the day when it's a bit cooler. These walks meet on the sidewalk in front of the Nature Center. You must preregister by calling 937-890-7360 or register on Aullwood's website at [aullwood.org](http://aullwood.org). Free for members of Aullwood, NAS and ANCA members and active and retired military (with ID); non-members may register and pay our general admission prices to participate. Please arrive 5 minutes before the program begins."

**Earth Arts Summer Program** (see article on Page 3)

**Summer Adventures II Program** (see article on Page 3)



*Queen of the prairie*

Alexis R. Faust



### **Aullwood Audubon Programs: Important Information & Guidelines**

Masks are optional if vaccinated. Visit the Aullwood Audubon website for more information about program guidelines at [aullwood.org](http://aullwood.org).

## September 2021 Programs

Start September with a Fall Scavenger Hunt by joining a naturalist to search for leaves, nuts, and other natural objects that you may take home with you. Wrap up the month with a walk looking for birds making their way south for the winter. And in-between, come out to the Farm to enjoy food and activities at the Aullwood Fall Festival (formerly known as Apple Fest)!

**September 2, 9, 16, 23, 30** – Member Discovery Walk – 8:00-9:30 a.m. (Nature Center)

**September 5** – Fall Scavenger Hunt – 2:30-3:30 p.m. (Nature Center)

**September 5** – Free Admission Day

**September 6** – Aullwood closed – Labor Day Holiday

**September 7, 14, 21, 28** – Long-term Butterfly Monitoring – 3:00-4:30 p.m. (Nature Center)

**September 8, 22** – Chipmunk Adventures 10:00-11:45 a.m. (Farm)

**September 18-19** – Aullwood Fall Festival – 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. (Farm)

**September 25** – Fall Migratory Bird Walk – 2:00-4:00 p.m. (Nature Center)

### Self-Guided Family Activity

(Everyone) Happenings in the Fall at the Farm. Think of a sight, sound, or smell that makes the fall season special for you. Do leaves changing color, or hearing the crunch under your feet bring back a memory? How about the sweet smell of apples? Yum! There are many fun things to see and do on the Farm with your family. Check out the “harvest” of ideas on the scavenger hunt sheet at the Farm for September!

**Member Adult Discovery Walk** (Members) September 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 – 8:00-9:30 a.m. – These walks are for Aullwood and National Audubon Society members only. You must preregister for

walks by calling 937-890-7360 or register on Aullwood’s website at [aullwood.org](http://aullwood.org). Explore Aullwood’s trails searching for birds and other nature finds! Binoculars recommended. Please be ready and waiting on the main sidewalk of the Nature 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.

### Long-term Butterfly Monitoring

(Everyone) September 7, 14, 21, 28 – 3:00-4:30 p.m. Join Sam Romeo and Aullwood’s Long-term Butterfly Monitoring team to identify, count and monitor butterfly and skipper populations. Butterfly enthusiasts of all skill levels are invited to participate. Bring binoculars if you have them. These walks meet on the sidewalk in front of the Nature Center. You must preregister for walks by calling 937-890-7360 or register on Aullwood’s website at [aullwood.org](http://aullwood.org). The walk starts promptly at the scheduled start time and ends promptly at the scheduled end time. This is a Community Science project, and there is no cost to attend.

### Fall Scavenger Hunt (Everyone)

September 5 – 2:30-3:30 p.m. Join a naturalist to search for leaves, nuts, flowers and other natural objects to create a collection you can take home. You must preregister by calling 937-890-7360 or register on Aullwood’s website at [aullwood.org](http://aullwood.org). Free for members of Aullwood, NAS and ANCA members and active and retired military (with ID); non-members may register and pay our general admission prices to participate. This walk meets on the sidewalk in front of the Nature Center. You must preregister for walks by calling 937-890-7360 or register on Aullwood’s website at [aullwood.org](http://aullwood.org). The walk starts promptly at the scheduled start time and ends promptly at the scheduled end time.



*Blue-headed vireo*

Doug DeNeve

**Fall Migratory Bird Walk** (Everyone) Sept. 25 – 2:00-4:30 p.m. September is the best month for seeing a wide variety of migrating songbirds including warblers, flycatchers, thrushes, vireos and sparrows. Join Sam Romeo, Environmental Educator, for a walk to look for these elusive birds. Even experienced birders find fall migrants a bit confusing as they have molted out of their bright spring plumage into drab colors that work like camouflage to aid their safe passage to the southern hemisphere. Binoculars recommended. This event begins in front of the Nature Center. You must preregister by calling 937-890-7360 or register on Aullwood’s website at [aullwood.org](http://aullwood.org). Free for members of Aullwood, NAS and ANCA members; non-members may register and pay our general admission prices to participate. Please arrive 5 minutes before the program begins.



*Wood thrush*

Juan-Zamora

**Chipmunk Adventures** (see article on Page 11)



## Aullwood Backyard Birdathon 2021 – Thank You!

### Good Fun, Good Friends, Good Birding

**Saturday, May 8** was the official date for Aullwood's Backyard Birdathon 2021. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we encouraged everyone to participate by identifying birds in their yards, neighborhood and parks where they could practice social distancing.

We are grateful for the staff and volunteers who birded separately in various local areas including Aullwood, Englewood MetroPark, Taylorsville Reserve MetroPark, Vandalia, the Tipp City area, the Troy area and Miami Valley Bike Trail, Clark County, DeWeese Park, Carillon Park, and Greene County areas. Friends posted bird sightings on Aullwood's Facebook event page and Sam Romeo shared photos and videos including a close-up of more than 400 swifts and swallows at Englewood MetroPark! Sam's highlights also included a Mourning warbler (a rare bird), Blue-winged warbler, Golden-winged warbler, Blue-headed vireo and a Magnolia warbler!



Magnolia warbler

Ruhikant Meetei

Our staff, volunteers and friends identified a total of 81 species of birds. Thank you to all of our dedicated birders and supporters! Because of you, we were able to raise \$3,150 to help Aullwood inspire and reach children of all ages with the wonder of nature, animals and farming!

We appreciate the generous support of our Birdathon sponsors – Wild Birds Unlimited Kettering and Wild Birds Unlimited Huber Heights!



## Chipmunk Adventures

### Welcome to Chipmunks!

**Class dates: July 14, 21 and Sept 8, 22, 2021**

This is a class for preschool children, ages 2-5 years old, accompanied by an adult. Our chipmunks have been busy buddies this spring and early summer! By exploring, stretching their imaginations, building their own pond, making a special bird, learning about the wind, and observing cicadas, we continue to increase our sense of wonder! Every session offers nature hands-on activities, art work, songs, stories, checking up on the animals, and always a special hike! July classes will be at the Marie S. Aull Education Center, 1000 Aullwood Road and September classes will be at the Charity S. Krueger Farm Discovery Center, 9101 Frederick Pike. Please dress for the weather conditions.

Aullwood requires that a parent/guardian sign a waiver and acknowledge our COVID-19 Health Safety Protocols. These documents can be found on our website [www.aullwood.org](http://www.aullwood.org), under Programs/Education Programs. Please download, read, sign and bring the forms with you on the first day of the Chipmunks session.

Bev Holland, Environmental Educator, is the teacher for the sessions. You may register by calling 937-890-7360 or in person at the Nature Center.



**Chipmunk Adventures** is for 2-5 year olds (with an adult). Classes meet on Mondays on the dates and times below. Upcoming themes are:

<b>Critters in the Creek</b>	July 14	Wed. 10:00 a.m.-11:45 a.m. Nature Center
<b>Critters in the Creek</b>	July 21	Wed. 10:00 a.m.-11:45 a.m. Nature Center
<b>Animals Make Bubbles Too</b>	Sept. 8	Wed. 10:00 a.m.-11:45 a.m. Farm Classroom
<b>Animals Make Bubbles Too</b>	Sept. 22	Wed. 10:00 a.m.-11:45 a.m. Farm Classroom

**Cost:** Individual classes are \$20.00/Members and \$25.00/Non-Members. Class limit is 6 child-adult pairs for a total of 12 participants. (4 minimum).



Ken Fasimpaur

# Volunteer Corner 2021

July • August • September

## With appreciation . . .

*Aullwood is so grateful for the volunteers who have helped with daily operations throughout the pandemic. We'd like to give special recognition to the following volunteers who have made it possible for us to open up to our members and the general public:*

**Guest Services:** Karen Beaty, Stella Brewer, Jane Higgins, Diana Kozuh, Marie Lewis, Michael Mushala, Barb Runyon, Valerie Schaefer, Steve Smith, Marsha Williams

**Mowing Crew (The Lawn Rangers):** Rob Davis, James Eller, Ron Hill, Steven Meyer, Charlie Wiltrout

**Maintenance Volunteer Extraordinaire . . . Dansen Brown**

We also appreciate the many volunteers who have volunteered for special projects such as working in the Farm Garden, moving wood shavings, and helping to make our various events such as the Friends of Aullwood Birdseed Sales, Native Plant Sale, Pancake Box Brunch and Brunch with the Kids so successful.

## A special shout out to . . .

The staff from **Hollywood Gaming at Dayton Raceway** for the incredible job of working with Jonah and Amber to clean the barn and pasture areas. The staff even brought a Bobcat and backhoe to help with the work! Livestock and visitors are now enjoying the clean and fresh lower barn.

**Sam Romeo** and a crew of volunteers who dodged flying cicadas in hot and humid conditions to get the Birdwatching area back into shape. They removed piles of weeds, trimmed shrubs, cut down unwanted trees, installed native shrubs and plants, and got the water feature running again in preparation for opening the Nature Center.

**The Designing Divas** for their creative talents and hard work in making the beautiful Faerie House exhibit.



Apple pie baked in Dutch ovens



Charlie Wiltrout on the mower



Hollywood Gaming volunteers

## Late Summer into Fall Volunteer Activities and Opportunities

For more information about these opportunities, please call **Nenita Lapitan, Manager of Volunteer and Rental Services** at (937) 890-7360, ext. 214 or email: [nenita.lapitan@audubon.org](mailto:nenita.lapitan@audubon.org).

### Calling all Volunteers for Fall Festival — September 18 and 19 (Farm)

Since so many events were cancelled due to the pandemic, we hope you feel comfortable and excited to help us with Fall Festival. There are many fun volunteer opportunities to help visitors have a great experience. And many opportunities may sound familiar: Apple Cider Press, Apple Butter & Apple Pie Booth, Dutch Oven Apple Pie, Children's Activities, Steamed Corn and more. As in the past, event volunteers will receive a special discount on items in the Nature Store & Gift Shop (some items excluded from this offer). Email or call Nenita Lapitan if you are interested in volunteering, and don't forget to look for the Fall Festival volunteer recruitment flier in your mailbox later this summer. Three shifts to choose from: 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.; 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.; 2:00-5:15 p.m.

We are looking for volunteers to assist in various departments — while some opportunities are fairly flexible on days and hours; others are not, please read the description carefully and contact Nenita Lapitan at 937-890-7360, ext. 214 or [nenita.lapitan@audubon.org](mailto:nenita.lapitan@audubon.org) if you are interested or have questions.



Taste some pie at Fall Festival



Hollywood Gaming volunteer



Serving beer at Fall Festival

#### Manure Managers

Yes, we need help shoveling manure and keeping the stalls clean for our farm animals. Commitment is 2-4 hours once a week for 6 months. Days available are Tuesday-Saturday between 9:30 am-4:00 pm; activities include bending, stooping, sweeping, dusting, raking, shoveling, using a wheelbarrow. All tools provided; please bring your own gloves. Must be 16+ years old. Starts July 20.



#### Trail Tamers

The trails need some artful trimming. This means a volunteer should have the ability and willingness to take the time to consider aesthetics when pruning/cutting back tree limbs and shrubs. Commitment is 2-4 hours once a week for 4 months. Days available are Monday-Friday between 7:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.; tools provided. Activities include reaching, stooping, bending, using hand tools (not chain saws), moving brush, walking on uneven ground. Tools provided; please bring your own leather gloves. Must be 18+ years old. Starts July 19.

#### The Lawn Rangers

We would love to add a couple more mowers to the mowing team that maintains our grounds and trails. Equipment used are John Deere Zero-turn vehicles. Experience preferred; however, we will train you. Commitment is 3-4 hours once a week for 4 months. Days available are Monday-Friday between 7:30-11:30 am. Must be 21+ years old. Starts immediately.



#### Scales & Tales Animal Care

Looking for one or two volunteers to help Kate, Animal Care Assistant, with cleaning animal tanks and preparing food for some of our wildlife ambassadors. These activities are for the care of our turtles and non-venomous snakes only. Activities include chopping/mashing food; scrubbing tanks with vinegar, cleaning filters, dumping dirty water and refilling with clean water. Must be a good observer, have excellent listening skills and be willing to follow instructions. Commitment is 2-3 hours once a week for 4 months. Days available are Monday-Friday from 9:30-11:30 a.m. Must be 18+ years old. Starts immediately.



Aullwood Nature Center



***Aullwood is a  
Blue Star Museum!***

Aullwood has once again joined an innovative program sponsored by the National Endowment for the Arts, the Department of Defense and Blue Star Families — **Blue Star Museums 2021**. Through this program Aullwood will show its support for America's armed forces by providing free general admission to active duty military personnel from all branches of the service, National Guard members, as well as Reserve members. The active duty member or spouse may bring up to five family members until **September 5, 2021**.

**Blue Star Museums** is a collaboration among the National Endowment for the Arts, Blue Star Families, the Department of Defense, and more than 2,000 museums including science and nature centers, fine art museums and historic sites in all 50 states that offers free admission to active-duty military personnel and their families during the summer. **Blue Star Museums** provides the gift of an outstanding museum experience to thousands of military families. The program strengthens both museums and military communities and says thank you to military personnel who give so much!

See the list of museums at: <https://www.arts.gov/national/blue-star-museums>.

***Buy and Donate  
Business Partnerships***

All of these partnerships support Aullwood's environmental educational programs for children. Help Aullwood by registering today!

**Kroger Community Rewards Program**



You can shop till you drop and support Aullwood at the same time with only a few easy steps!

1. Visit the website: [www.KrogerCommunityRewards.com](http://www.KrogerCommunityRewards.com)
2. Sign in or Login to your account.
3. Make Aullwood Audubon your charity of choice. Aullwood's Charity ID Number YN601.
4. Shop at Kroger as normal and a portion of your sale will support all of Aullwood's programs for local children!
5. You will know you are giving to Aullwood when you see at the bottom of your receipt: "At your request, Kroger is donating to Aullwood Audubon Center and Farm."

**Dorothy Lane Market's Good Neighbor Program**



It's easy to join the DLM Good Neighbor Program and support Aullwood!

1. Visit [www.DorothyLane.com](http://www.DorothyLane.com).
2. Click "Club DLM" in the bar across the top.
3. Click on "Good Neighbor Program."
4. Type in your First & Last Name, Email and Club Card Number.
5. Select Aullwood Audubon as your charity and click "Enroll Now." Please keep in mind you must re-enroll each year for the good Neighbor Program.

**AmazonSmile**



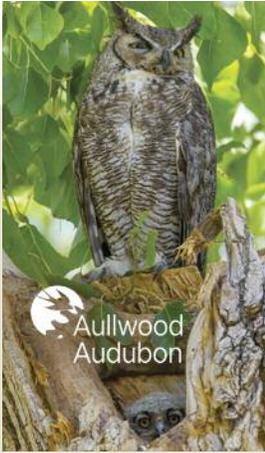
Support Aullwood when you shop at Amazon!

1. Visit [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) and login to Amazon as normal.
2. Type in Friends of Aullwood, Inc. as your Charitable Organization.
3. Aullwood will receive 0.5% on the price of eligible items purchased! It's simple and easy and makes a big difference for Aullwood!

Call Laurie Cothran at 937-890-7360 ext. 216 for more details.

## IT'S FOR THE BIRDS!

Audubon. Great Horned Owl. Photo: David Reilin.



**May 15, 2021**

## *A day of giving for Aullwood Audubon*

Thank you to everyone who gave so generously to Aullwood's

**"IT'S FOR THE BIRDS!"**

**A DAY OF GIVING FOR AULLWOOD AUDUBON!"**

This inaugural giving challenge was held on Saturday, May 15, 2021 to honor, celebrate and support Aullwood Audubon and Marie Aull's legacy of 64 years. When our community comes together, we can make a big difference. Special thanks to The Wyse Family Foundation for a \$10,000 challenge grant to start the day which was fully matched! We appreciate our generous sponsors including: Buckeye Home Healthcare LLC, Shook Construction, The Siebenthaler Company, Henny Penny, LWC, Inc., Mechanical Systems of Dayton, Porter Wright, and the Requarth Co.

Because of these sponsors and many kind donors, we were able to raise \$38,021 for Aullwood! These gifts will help fund educational experiences for children, maintenance of our beautiful grounds, facilities and hiking trails, conservation efforts and programming. This support sends the message that what Aullwood is doing matters to you and to our community!

Stay tuned for new and exciting happenings at Aullwood this year! Thank you to everyone for supporting our mission and making Aullwood's inaugural day of giving a great success!

## **FREE Admission Days**

*On Sundays: July 4, August 1, and September 5, admission to Aullwood Farm and Nature Center is free for all from 1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.*



*Summer Monarch*



*Flowers at Aullwood Farm*

Bring your family and friends to explore our eight miles of trails, meet our animals at the farm and center or look for native birds! Kona Ice of Troy will be outside the Nature Center on August 1 with refreshing treats for sale from 1:00-5:00 p.m.



# A Special Thanks to our Community Partners

## Blue Heron

Charles S. Allyn, Jr. Foundation  
Fund of The Dayton Foundation  
The Berry Family Foundation  
Cargill Provimi  
The Dayton Foundation  
DP&L Company Foundation  
Englewood Friends  
Estate of Francis O. Munn  
Sue & Ben Fry  
Graymer Foundation  
Kettering Family Philanthropies  
Mariel Foundation  
Mary Kittredge Fund  
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Mathile Family Foundation  
Montgomery County Arts &  
Cultural District  
Jesse & Caryl Philips Foundation  
Kenneth A. Scott Charitable Trust  
Susan Kathleen Black Foundation  
Vandalia Lions Club  
Vectren Foundation  
Virginia Kettering Foundation  
Wyse Family Foundation



## Egret

Buckeye Home Healthcare LLC  
CareSource Foundation  
Honda of America Foundation  
National Audubon Society  
Burke Grant  
The Fred & Alice Wallace  
Charitable Memorial  
Foundation

## Eagle

Cargill  
Choice Comfort Services, Inc.  
Richard & Beverly Cleverly  
City of Vandalia Cultural  
Endowment Fund  
Dayton Freight Lines, Inc.  
Dayton Rotary Foundation  
Dollar General Youth Literacy  
Foundation

## Henny Penny

Houser Asphalt & Concrete, Inc.  
C. Stewart Johnson  
JP Morgan Chase  
kmh Graphics  
LWC, Inc.  
Mechanical Systems of  
Dayton, Inc.  
Ohio Farm Bureau Foundation  
Porter Wright Morris & Arthur  
PNC Bank  
Riverdale Optimist Club  
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Shook Construction  
The Siebenthaler Company  
Richard & June Smythe  
Joanne & Cyrus W. Spurlino  
Theda & Tamblin Clark Smith  
Family Foundation  
Waste Management  
Vandalia-Butler Community  
Foundation

## Swallow

Sylvia & Lawrence D. Brazie  
Fund of The Vandalia-Butler  
Foundation  
The Dupps Company  
Charitable Foundation  
Hairless Hare Brewery  
Requarth Co.  
Milton & Marian Simmons  
Community Fund of  
The Dayton Foundation  
Vandalia Butler Optimist Club  
Western Ohio Graphics  
Wild Birds Unlimited Kettering  
Wild Birds Unlimited  
Huber Heights

## Warbler

College Women's Club  
of Dayton  
Eubel Brady & Suttman  
Asset Management  
Greenview Garden Club  
Illinois Tool Works  
The Oakwood Schools  
Foundation  
Reynolds & Reynolds  
Woodhull LLC

## Memorials / Tributes . . .

In memory of David Bolen  
Dr. and Mrs. Kim  
Goldenberg

In memory of Glenn Bower  
J. Herbert  
Spinnaker Coating LLC

In memory of Norma Feller  
Patricia Amlin

In memory of Eileen  
Rose Lucente  
Wayne & Fran Carlisle  
Karen Constine  
Jeff & Lori Engel  
Jane Fischer  
Antonette Lucente  
Janet Manning  
Eric Parnes  
Paula Penkal  
Brenda Roediger  
Nancy Strassel  
Emma Thomas  
Jeff Weiler

In memory of Elizabeth  
Retterbush  
Janie Lindenbaum

In memory of  
Bonnydell Rudy  
Neal & Geneva Hoffman

In memory of Ellen Smith  
Ara & Al Lawrence

In memory of John Trimmer  
Lonnie Josh Barclay  
The DeWine Family  
Foundation  
Hedges Chapel CCCU  
Randy & Rita Knece  
Cathy Waters

In memory of Thomas Zobrist  
Linda Denney

In honor of Sally Jo Saunders  
Patricia Maud Engel

## Thank You . . .

*Aullwood Audubon gratefully acknowledges  
donations from the following:*

Cargill, Inc.  
Linda Denney  
Silas Felton  
Douglas Glass

Kettering Family  
Philanthropies  
Melissa K. Rubins  
Peter and  
Sally Jo Saunders

### ***Friends of Aullwood gift memberships are always available!***

A Friends of Aullwood gift membership is perfect for any occasion and at any time of the year. Along with your purchase, you can select a gift box and card to announce your gift. You may choose the level (Family, Individual, Senior Couple, Student, Grandparent and more!) and be assured of a great fit! So many benefits await including reciprocal admissions and discounts at over 180 nature centers around the country! It's a gift that will be used year-round and is ideal for that hard to shop for person.

Call 937-890-7360 for more information.

## ***The Aull Society***

*Aullwood Audubon is grateful for the continuing support of members of The Aull Society who have expressed their intention to include Aullwood in their estate planning in order to preserve and protect the gift of Aullwood to our community now and in the future. Everyone can participate in supporting Aullwood at this time in various financial ways.*

### **IRA / Retirement Account**

If you are age 72 or older, you can make gifts directly from your Individual Retirement Account (IRA) to the Friends of Aullwood, Inc. without paying income tax on the withdrawal. Requirements include:

- You must be age 72 or older at the time the gift is made.
- You must request from the IRA plan custodian a direct transfer of funds to Friends of Aullwood, Inc. for the gift to be tax-free. (Friends of Aullwood, Inc. EIN #31-0968010)
- Gifts can be used to satisfy your IRA required minimum distribution each year.
- Each person may give up to \$100,000 annually.
- Gifts can be designated for a specific Aullwood Audubon project or where most needed. Funds held in 401(k), 403(b), SEP-IRA or SIMPLE IRA plans are not eligible, but may be rolled over into a Standard IRA and then used to make tax-free gifts to Aullwood.

### **Charitable Contributions in 2021**

Aullwood is not eligible for support from the CARES Act Payroll Protection Plan because, as part of the larger National Audubon Society, we collectively have too many employees to qualify. There are, however, other ways that you might help.

Under the new CARES Act, there are various tax incentives intended to encourage charitable givers to continue making donations despite economic uncertainty. These incentives include:

- The new above-the-line deduction for all taxpayers of up to \$300 for cash donations, even if the taxpayer doesn't itemize, is still in effect for the 2021 tax year. Even better, for the 2021 tax year, those who are married and filing jointly can EACH take a \$300 deduction, for a total of \$600.
- Elimination of the deduction limit in 2020 for monetary contributions for those who itemize, raising it from 60 to 100 percent of adjusted gross income (AGI).
- Enhanced deductions for donations by corporations. The new law raises the usual limit of 10% of adjusted gross income (AGI) to 25%.

Remember all gifts made to Aullwood are 100% tax deductible and you will be supporting the environmental education programs Aullwood is known for and our many services and outreach programs in the community.

If you have further questions about giving through your IRA or about the charitable contribution associated with the CARES Act, please contact Laurie Cothran at [lcothran@audubon.org](mailto:lcothran@audubon.org) or 937-890-7360 x216 for confidential personal assistance.

## **Aullwood Staff**

Alexis R. Faust  
*Executive Director*

Kate Burkman  
*Animal Care Assistant*

Laurie Cothran  
*Development & Marketing Manager*

Ken Fasimpaur  
*IT Manager*

Bev Holland  
*Environmental Educator*

Nenita Lapitan  
*Manager of Volunteer & Rental Services*

Sam Romeo  
*Environmental Educator*

Chris Rowlands  
*Environmental Educator / Outreach*

Amber Smith  
*Farm Assistant*

Dalynn Sours  
*Database Assistant*

Barbara Trick  
*Office Manager*

Jonah VanRoekel  
*Farmer*

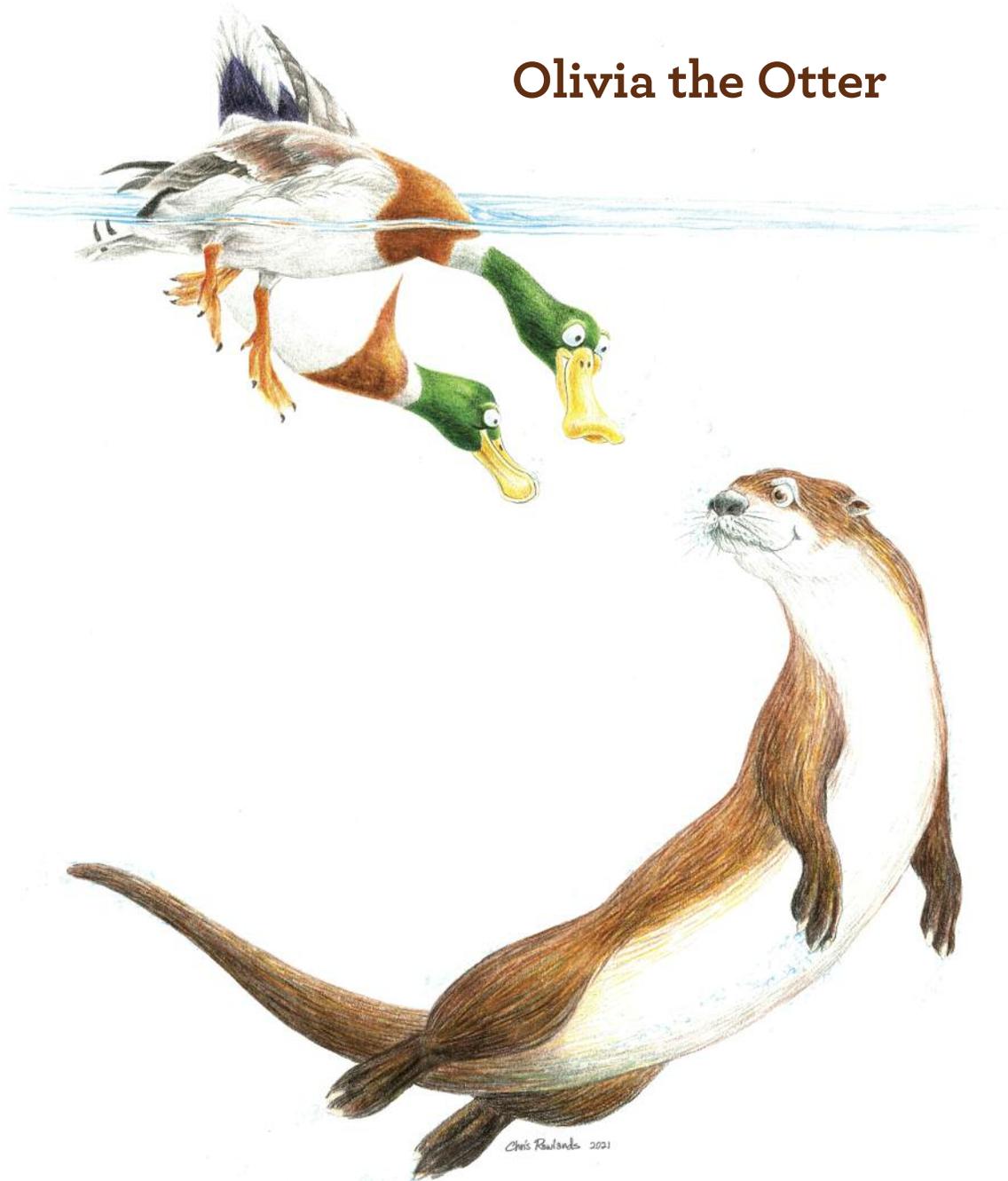
Ryan Walburn  
*Maintenance Manager*



*Rattlesnake master*

*Kristina Deckert*

## Olivia the Otter



***Olivia the Otter:** This Chris Rowlands illustration is from a 2021 Artistic Book Residency at Helke Elementary in Vandalia, Ohio. Chris and the students worked on the tale together, and he made quick sketches of the story as the students gave him ideas on what should be included.*

*In this illustration, done in colored pencils and Crayola crayons, Olivia the Otter is inviting the ducks to a party.*