

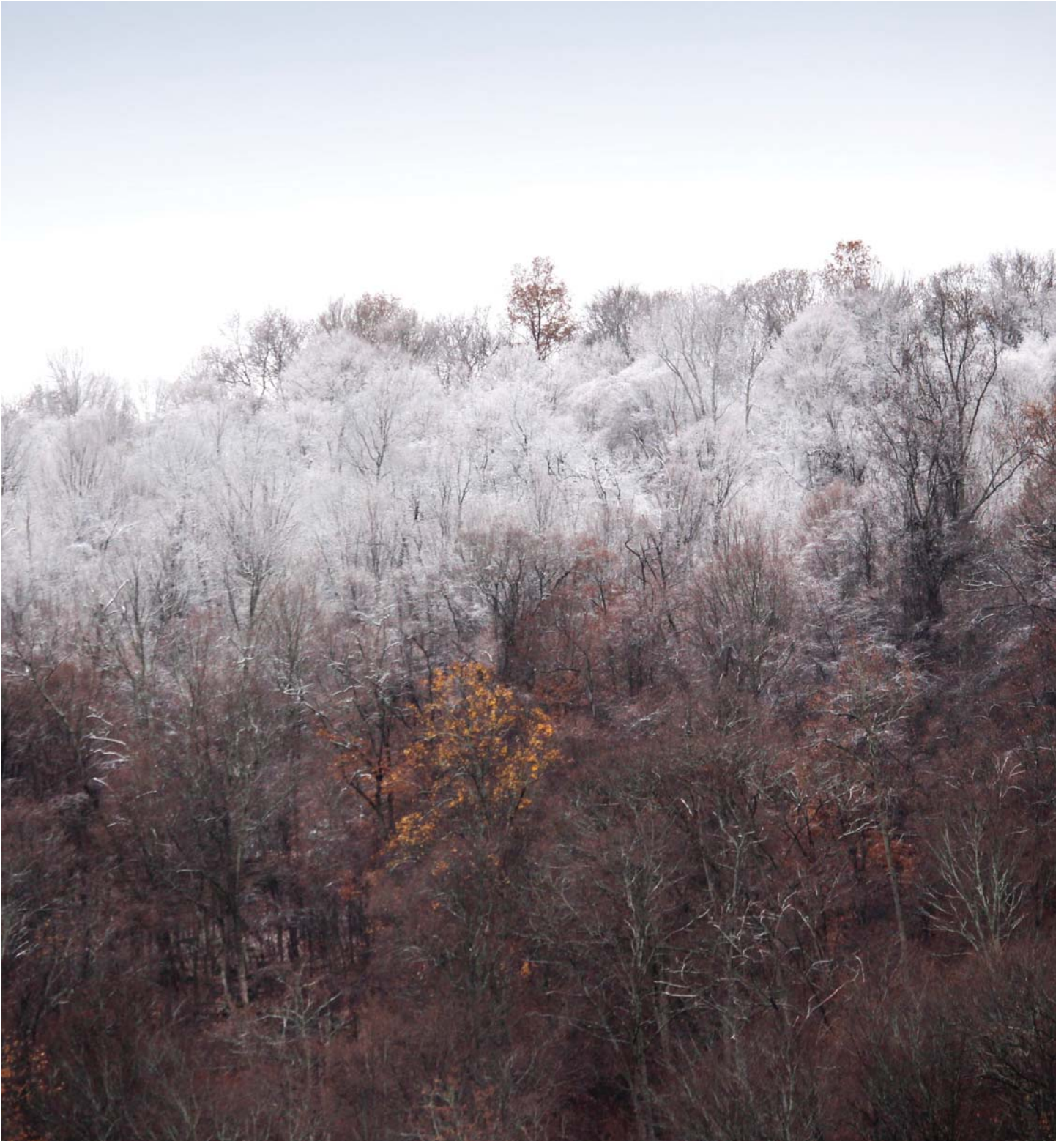


Audubon Community Nature Center

The connection begins with you.

November – December, 2020
Volume 64, Issue 6

The bi-monthly newsletter of ACNC,
featuring upcoming programs and events.



Mission

Audubon Community Nature Center builds and nurtures connections between people and nature by providing positive outdoor experiences, opportunities to learn about and understand the natural world, and knowledge to act in environmentally responsible ways.

Vision

Audubon Community Nature Center envisions a future where every child within our community has a real and healthy connection to nature.



Nature Center Newsletter

The free, bi-monthly publication of Audubon Community Nature Center, Inc.

1600 Riverside Road
Jamestown, NY 14701
Ph: (716) 569-2345
Fx: (716) 569-2765
info@auduboncnc.org
auduboncnc.org

Hosting a chapter of National Audubon Society
Serving Chautauqua and Warren Counties

Kim Turner, Newsletter Editor
Cover: *First Snow*. Photo by Jeff Tome

Nature Center Hours

Monday – Saturday, 10:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Sunday, Closed
Trails are open daily from dawn to dusk.

Visit auduboncnc.org
by scanning this code.



Follow Audubon
on these platforms:



Executive Director's Desk

Leigh Rovegno

Dear Members and Friends of the Nature Center,

Gratitude. It's what makes the world go round. This November and December, we have so much to be grateful for despite the challenges that we face.

Expressing gratitude guarantees joy. It lightens our own hearts, as well as the hearts of others. This year, we have re-discovered what we are grateful for as we've witnessed all of the changes that have taken place around us.

We're grateful for our good health, and for the good health of our families. We're grateful for the people and places that have been by our side to support us through the last year during difficult times. We're grateful for the people we have lost due to illness or age who shared their love and wisdom with us throughout their lives. We express our gratitude with the ones that we love in many ways. We prepare our favorite foods, share family stories, and exchange holiday gifts.

This year, and every year, Audubon Community Nature Center is grateful for you, our community members. Together, we continue to provide real and healthy connections to nature for people of all ages. That connection has been a life-line for many people this year as they faced the loss of jobs, closures of schools, and have tried to make sense of the many 'unknowns' that we all face.

Audubon Community Nature Center's trails remained open throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, and they became a retreat for many who were feeling lost and overwhelmed. Audubon's summer day camp programs offered families a safe place for kids to be social, be outside, and discover the wonder of nature. Volunteers continued to work at safe distances, allowing them to continue to connect with each other and give back to their communities.

Join us in expressing your own gratitude this season by continuing to support Audubon through your membership, program attendance, volunteerism, visitation, and donations. Rather than spending money on toys, games, and technology, consider spending time... time in nature with those you treasure most.

Thank you as always for your support, and we hope you enjoy your holiday season.

Leigh J. Rovegno



ACNC Through the Years

Audubon has changed a lot since it was founded in 1957 around a kitchen table. The following excerpts are from past September – October newsletters.

1960

“We would like all our members out to the next meeting so we can make a definite decision regarding... acquisition of property for our proposed sanctuary.”

1970

“Chuck Neel has just about completed a new trail... that starts behind the green house and meanders through the... beautiful evergreens” at Audubon.

1980

“Construction on the (Big Pond) dike has been completed. The major repairs were needed to combat... erosion.”

1990

“I’m pleased to announce that both the Allegany and the Cattaraugus Youth Bureaus will be providing support for our nature education operations for those counties.” – Jim Yaich, Naturalist-Director

2000

“First Friday Lunch Bunch: This new Audubon tradition meets on the first Friday of every month from October through May.”

2010

“Our solar panels have created over 50,000 kilowatt hours of electricity since we turned them on two years ago. That is half of the electricity we use.”

Board Officers

<i>Board Chairman</i>	Andrew Harrington
<i>Vice Chair</i>	Tim Smeal
<i>Secretary</i>	Penny Lester
<i>Treasurer</i>	Robert Klebacha

Board of Directors

Louise Boutwell, Dave Burlee, Linnea Carlson, Willow Fodor, Elisabeth Hall, Greg Lyle, Tim Piotrowski, Piper Van Ord, Brittany Wilcox

Nature Center Staff

<i>Executive Director</i>	Leigh Rovegno
<i>Administrative Assistant, Volunteer Coordinator</i> ...	Tina Preston
<i>Education Coordinator</i>	Sarah Hatfield
<i>Senior Nature Educator, Marketing</i>	Jeff Tome
<i>Senior Nature Educator, Exhibits Manager</i>	Katie Finch
<i>Nature Educator</i>	Chelsea Jandreau
<i>Designer, Education Assistant</i>	Kim Turner
<i>Receptionist, Resource Person</i>	Joanne Miller
<i>Building and Grounds</i>	Terry LeBaron

Volunteer Chairs

<i>Bird Seed Delivery</i>	Sherwood VanDewark
	Bob Schlick
<i>Bird Seed Sales</i>	Mel Feather
<i>Eagle Keeper</i>	Thom Armella
<i>Enchanted Forest</i>	Bob Ungerer
	Amanda Meleen
<i>Garden Chair</i>	Janet Forbes
<i>Mailing</i>	Leah Bullock
	Blanche Robbins
<i>Membership</i>	Sandy Fletcher
	Linda Trostle
<i>Allegany Nature Pilgrimage</i>	Jim Backlas
	Barb Conklin
	Judy Long
	Ro Woodard
<i>Photo Club</i>	John Brustrom
<i>Publicity</i>	Pat Bringer
<i>Roadside Cleanup</i>	Denny Anderson
<i>Wild 5K</i>	Jeff Rupp



Audubon Community Nature Center’s Board of Directors, Chairs, and Committee Members are volunteers.

Thank you to those listed above who contribute time, thought, and energy to help ACNC run smoothly and effectively.

Students during an Audubon classroom program, December 1976.

Grants

Recorded between February 28, 2020 and September 2, 2020.

Barclay O. Wellman, Discretionary Grant from The Ralph C. Sheldon Foundation

\$1,000 — Operating and Programmatic Support

Chautauqua County Crisis Response Fund: COVID-19

\$20,000 — Operating Support

Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo, Ralph C. Wilson Jr. Legacy Fund

\$10,000 — Operating and Programmatic Support

Chautauqua Region Community Foundation, Patrie-Leamon Fund

\$3,934 — Solar Inverters

Holmberg Foundation

\$10,000 — Operating and Programmatic Support

Joe Johnson, Discretionary Grant from The Lenna Foundation

\$500 — Operating and Programmatic Support

The Lenna Foundation

\$35,000 — Operating and Programmatic Support

The Lenna Foundation

\$10,400 — Visitor Experience Improvements



Day Camp ran safely this summer thanks to a Grant from The Ralph C. Sheldon Foundation.

Linda Swanson, Discretionary Grant from The Ralph C. Sheldon Foundation

\$1,500 — Safe Day Camp Materials

Randy Ordines, Discretionary Grant from The Lenna Foundation

\$2,000 — Operating and Programmatic Support

The United Way of Southern Chautauqua County

\$500 — Open Safe Micro Grant

United Arts Appeal of Chautauqua County

\$500 — Nature Art Kits

The Blue Heron Gift Shop Re-opens its Doors

With a new sign and new inventory, the Blue Heron Gift Shop is stocked for the holidays with gifts including many that are truly unique to Audubon. Items include: ACNC apparel, new puppets and plush animals, a wide variety children's books, nature and guide books, locally made jams, jellies, honey, beeswax candles, and soaps.

As always, Conewango Blend birdseed, suet, and feeders are available, too, to keep your backyard birds happy through the colder months.

All gift shop purchases directly benefit the Nature Center and grounds.

Keep ACNC in mind for your holiday shopping, especially on **Small Business Saturday, November 28**, when everything in the gift shop will be 10% off for all visitors. Additionally all new ACNC memberships purchased on this day only will be 10% off. Audubon Members will receive an additional 10% off for a total of 20% off all items.



Animal Advocate Packages are a great gift idea for your critter loving friends and family that directly supports the Animal Ambassadors of ACNC.

Programs and Events

November

The Outdoor Classroom (Ages 7 – 10)

November 5 / 6, 12 / 13, and 19 / 20

8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

\$56 Children ages 7 – 10 • \$50.40 Members

Nature Play Care (Ages 4 – 6)

November 3 – 20, Tuesdays – Fridays

8:00 – 11:30 a.m.

\$336 Children ages 4 – 6 • \$302.40 Members

Terrarium Make-and-Take (All)

Wednesday, November 4

5:30 – 6:15 p.m. / 6:45 – 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, November 7

10:00 – 10:45 a.m. / 11:15 a.m. – noon / 12:30 – 1:15 p.m.

\$10 Adults • \$7.50 Members •

\$7.50 Ages 3 – 15 • free < 2

First Friday — *The Poetry of Birds* (Adult)

Friday, November 6

11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

\$8 Adults • \$6 Members

Little Explorers — *The Big Move*

(Ages 3 – 8 with an adult)

Saturday, November 14

10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

\$8 Adults • \$6 Members • \$6 Children 3 – 8



Live Hawk and Owl Encounter (All)

Saturday, November 14

10:00 a.m. / 11:00 a.m. / noon

\$8 Adults • \$6 Members •

\$6 Children 3 – 15 • free < 2

Audubon Remembers (All)

Saturday, November 21

10:00 a.m. – noon

Free, donations welcome.

Small Business Saturday (All)

Saturday, November 28

10:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

December

Giving Tuesday — *An online day of giving*

December 1

12:00 a.m. – 11:59 p.m.

Nature Play Care (Ages 4 – 6)

December 1 – 18, Tuesdays – Fridays

8:00 – 11:30 a.m.

\$336 Children ages 4 – 6 • \$302.40 Members

Decorating with Greens (All)

Wednesday, December 2

5:30 – 6:30 p.m. / 6:45 – 7:45 p.m.

Saturday, December 5

10:00 – 11:00 a.m. / 11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. /

1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

\$10 Adults • \$7.50 Members •

\$7.50 Children 3 – 15 • free < 2

The Outdoor Classroom (Ages 7 – 10)

December 3 / 4, 10 / 11, and 17 / 18

8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

\$56 Children ages 7 – 10 • \$50.40 Members

First Friday — *The Nature of Elk* (Adult)

Friday, December 4

11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

\$8 Adults • \$6 Members

Little Explorers — *Evergreens and Conifers*

(Ages 3 – 8 with an adult)

Saturday, December 12

10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

\$8 Adults • \$6 Members • \$6 Children 3 – 8

Christmas Bird Count (Adult+)

Saturday, December 19 • Warren

Sunday, December 20 • Jamestown

8:00 a.m.

Free

Winter Solstice Bonfire (All)

Monday, December 21

4:30 – 6:30 p.m.

\$6 Adults • \$2 Children 3 – 15 • free < 2

Holiday Camp (Children ages 4 – 12)

Tuesday, December 29

9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

\$40 Children 4 – 12 • \$30 Member children •

\$5 Sibling discount

Christmas with the Critters (All)

Wednesday, December 30

10:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., or noon

\$8 Adults • \$6 Members • \$6 Children 3 – 15 •

free < 2



Intended Audience Key

Adult = designed for adults

Adult+ = designed for adults, mature, and interested children 9 and up when accompanied by an adult.

All = Something for everyone, but children must be accompanied by an adult.

Children/Ages = designed for kids — drop them off and pick them up later.

Program Registration

- Online at auduboncnc.org

- Phone: **(716) 569-2345**

- By mail with credit card information or a check payable to ACNC

Audubon Community Nature Center

1600 Riverside Road,

Jamestown, NY, 14701

Refund Policy

- If Audubon Community Nature Center cancels the program, participants receive full refunds.
- If a participant cancels **before** the deadline, a refund, with \$5 withheld as a processing fee, will be made.
- If a participant cancels **after** the deadline, no refund will be made, but ACNC still needs to know of your cancellation.

Programs may be cancelled if there are not enough registered. Register early to ensure the class fills. Some programs have limited enrollment.

Please Note:

For the most accurate information about ACNC programs and events, please visit auduboncnc.org or call **(716) 569-2345**.

Face coverings are required for all participants ages 3 and up for indoor programs; they are also required for outdoor programs during which participants cannot maintain 6 feet of distance between family groups. Please have a face covering available should situations change. If you are feeling ill, have any symptoms of COVID-19, or have come into contact with a probable or confirmed COVID-19 case, please stay home. If you have traveled from one of the states on New York's travel advisory list, please complete your quarantine before attending programs.

Please be aware that if Audubon discovers that a program instructor or participant tests positive or is considered presumptive positive for COVID-19, they may use registration information to assist with contact tracing.

Nature Notes — Spiders and Other Arachnids

Chelsea Jandreau

No matter your feelings on spiders, it is inevitable you will encounter them. You may come across them on the trail, in the garden, on your car door, or in your home. You have probably also run into, often literally, an assortment of spider webs.

Not all spiders survive the winter; instead they lay eggs in the fall and the babies emerge from the egg casing the following spring. Others produce antifreeze-like compounds in their body and tuck themselves away in small crevices. There is another strategy though. Like many humans, a spider may simply move indoors, hanging out in the corner eating other insects and spiders.

Spiders are part of a group known as arachnids. All arachnids, including ticks and scorpions, have eight legs and two body segments. Something that makes spiders unique within this group is the ability to produce silk, which can be used to catch or hold their prey.

One commonly spotted arachnid is the ubiquitous Daddy-longlegs, also known as Harvestmen. This past summer, day campers found them in droves on the forest floor. I am sure you have seen one or two around yourself, and while they are arachnids, they are not actually spiders. They do not produce silk or spin webs, and although they do have two body parts like other arachnids, the joining is so poorly defined that it appears to be one body segment.

If you do find an arachnid in your home with eight legs and two well-defined body segments, it is probably a cellar spider. Luckily, neither one will harm humans, so don't worry if you come across one or several.

Spiders may be a winter companion for some of us. Most spiders in the northeast are harmless, so you can always let them hang around until next spring when you can safely usher them back outside.



Top: Spiders, like fishing spiders or nursery web spiders, use surface tension to glide around on top of ponds and creeks.

Middle: Orb weavers, like black and yellow garden spiders, spin circular webs to catch their prey.

Bottom: Harvestmen are not spiders, but still prey on insects and have eight long legs and fit in the arachnid family. Photo by Jeff Tome

Annual Fund Donors

Donations made between February 28, 2020 and September 2, 2020, including Warren Gives and Give Big CHQ.

\$1000

Bob Sokolski

\$251 – \$500

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David and Marty Carnahan
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Paul and Beth Higby
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Dallas Thurn
Jeffrey Tome
Renee Tower - DBA The Critter
Clipper
The Turecek Family

Annual Fund Donors (Continued)

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Lissa and Sherwood VanDewark
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Jerald and Carole Weber
Kathy Wellington
Kari Wendel
Dean and Nadine Westover
Richard and Julie Wetzstein
Kristen Wright
YMCA Camp Onyahsa
Alan Yelvington
William H. Young



Migrating Tundra Swans. Photo by Jeff Tome.

Memorials and Honoraria

Recorded between February 28, 2020 and September 2, 2020.

In Memory of:

Dr. Joseph C. Baglia

Chris J. Baglia

Andre Biekert

Abbey, Amy, Jenn, Karen,
Leigh Anne and Linda

Murray L. Bob

Renate G. Bob

Michael Burbank

Janet Boyle

Lois Cermak

Lisa and Shawn DeSaw

Paul A. Dibble

Susan V. Abdella
Stephen and
Ann Morse Abdella
Patricia R Bass
Marjorie and John Ellert
Cindy and Mark Hanson
Jamestown Skeet Club
Peter and
Emmy Kapuscinski
Elizabeth McIntyre
Rick Rupprecht
Jan and Bill Salter
Gayle Schulte
Kay Stahlman
Ann Walker
Flip Yates

Ann and Paul Dibble

Marie and Dave Anderson
Wendy D. Miller

Donald E. Dorn

Plateau Chapter of the
Allegheny Society of
American Foresters
David and
Jennifer Wortman

Rocco R. Doino

Carol L. Doino

Jim Ellis

Pam, Ted, and Tad Ellis

James Forbes

Janet Forbes and
Alan Brown

Stephanie Carol Auge Good Bear

Mike, Sara, and Archer
Susan Babcock
J. Edwards Insurance
Agency Inc.
Micheal and
Elizabeth Fessel
Fro-lickers
Jesse Lescynski
Andrew Lescynski
Jenny Smail

Jinny Griffin

Priscilla Menzies

David Hedberg

Susan Hedberg

Larry Ingerson

Ricardo Gilson

Stephanie Jantzi

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Andrew Kibler

Frank and Liz Petiprin

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Paul Hedberg
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Richard and
Janice Stahlsmith
Peter Stark
Regina Weatherbee

Dr. Dixon Stevens

Judith M. Stevens

John S. Thaller

Frances J. Lapinski

Laurie Taylor

Charles and
Julianne Peterson

Madelyn Wellington

Kay R. Stahlman

In Honor Of:

ACNC staff and volunteers

Danielle Myers

All Feathered Friends

Carol San George

Bonnie Bowen

Martha Danielson
Terri Stalmach
Sheila Jill Youngberg

Sarah Hatfield

Diana Hatfield

Doug Hearn, on the occasion of his retirement

Mark and Pat Evans

Terry LeBaron and the OWL Volunteers

Peter Stark

Ruth Lundin

Lissa and
Sherwood Vandewark

Leigh Rovegno

The Neglers
Kate Baumgartner
Jan Boyle
Stephen Boyle
Brien Darby
Jamie Vanecko

Jennifer Schlick

Tom and Mary Erlandson
Susan Guenther
Mary Anne Harp
Bridget and Dick Johnson
Frances Lapinski
Danielle Myers
Leigh Rovegno

Rick Severtson

Jennifer Schlick

A Fond Farewell to Patricia Spicer

Audubon Community Nature Center is sad to announce that Patricia Spicer has resigned from her position as Gift Shop Manager and Receptionist at the Nature Center. For more than thirty years, Pat has contributed enormous amounts of creativity, time, and hard work to Audubon. She has done a little bit of everything in her decades with Audubon: cleaned the building, managed the Blue Heron Gift Shop, painted signs, coordinated birdseed sales, planned and led field trips, and her contributions go far beyond those things.

Pat has been a catalyst for new ideas. She was instrumental in starting Audubon's Conewango Blend birdseed and getting it sold in local stores. The Snowflake Festival grew into a huge event under her guidance. Groups, like the original Art Club, started to meet at Audubon under her direction. A revived form of Art Club, Brown Bag Creative Club, has formed with her inspiration as a driving force.

Pat Spicer has been one of the friendly and sometimes mischievous (in a good way) faces that greeted visitors at the reception desk for years. The entire Audubon family will miss her terribly, and we wish her all the best in retirement.

Go climb those mountains, Pat!



Patricia Spicer, has been a vital part of Audubon Community Nature Center for over thirty years.

Birdseed

Conewango Blend is a specially-mixed seed that was created by a team of local birders to attract many different birds. It is rich with black oil sunflower seeds and also includes canary seed, millet, corn, safflower seed, and sunflower hearts. The goal is to attract many different birds without wasting seed. This mix is available in the Blue Heron Gift Shop at ACNC.



You can also find Conewango Blend at:

- Ashville General Store, *Ashville, NY*
- Chautauqua Book Store, *Chautauqua, NY*
- Howe's True Value, *Warren, PA*
- Lakewood Apothecary, *Lakewood, NY*
- Lighthouse Point Grocery, *Mayville, NY*
- Oneida Lumber, Ace Hardware, *Warren, PA*
- Russell Veterinary Hospital, *Russell, PA*
- Wegmans, *Jamestown, NY*

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Thank you for your dedicated support this year.

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November/December ACNC Newsletter

Inside This Issue:

- ACNC Through the Years
- Annual Fund Donors
- Blue Heron Gift Shop Update
- Director's Desk
- Farewell to Patricia Spicer
- Grants
- Memorials and Honorariums
- Nature Notes: Spiders and Other Arachnids
- Program and Event Updates



Bald Eagles in a tree. Photo by Jeff Tome.