



Audubon Community Nature Center

The connection begins with you.

September – October, 2022
Volume 66, Issue 5

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.

Kim Turner, Newsletter Editor
Cover: Red Salamander, photo by Dave Huth.

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

Nature Center Hours

10:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Monday – Saturday
1:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m., Sunday
Trails are open from dawn to dusk.

Building Admission

\$6 Adults • \$2 Children • \$15 Max per family
Free admission for Nature Center Members.
Free admission for SNAP/EBT cardholders.
Free admission for non-members on Sundays.

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,

Another fiscal year down, and we're looking forward to a new year! Audubon's fiscal year runs from October 1 through September 30, so October feels a lot like January at ACNC (but hopefully not weather-wise)!

All current ACNC members are invited to attend the upcoming Members-only Sneak-Peek and Annual Meeting event scheduled for the evening of Monday, September 26.

Join ACNC staff and board members for a private program featuring the two new birds of prey — 'Cricket' the American Kestrel and 'Soren' the Red-tailed Hawk. Help welcome both birds to their new 'forever home', and learn more about their unique stories and characteristics.

After the program stay and celebrate the other accomplishments from the 2021 – 2022 fiscal year and help to welcome incoming and continuing board members.

This year we are fortunate to have three board members who have elected to continue their service for an additional term. ACNC's board terms last three years with the option to serve a second term. This year's returning board members include Louise Boutwell (gardener extraordinaire and personnel committee member), Dave Burlee (dragon egg expert), and Linnea Carlson (fundraiser, JEDI committee member, and vice board chair).

ACNC is also welcoming two new board member, Dr. Erin Pender DDS, MA, MAT of Stow, NY and Dr. Eugenie Poignard PT, DPT of Busti, NY.

Speaking of incoming board members, have you voted yet? We've recently moved away from sending out a paper ballot to save on paper and on expense, but your vote still counts! Voting to elect incoming board members is just one of the many ways to be an active member of Audubon Community Nature Center. We need 100 votes to meet our quorum, so please submit your vote today!

To register for the Member's Sneak-Peek and Annual Meeting, learn more about the board of directors, and to submit your vote visit:

auduboncnc.org/vote

Thank you all for supporting ACNC through your continued membership, and I look forward to seeing you again very soon.

Sincerely,

Leigh Rovegno, Executive Director

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.

1962

“The Audubon Conservation Guide reports that about the same time Rachel Carson concluded her three-part “Silent Spring” in the New Yorker Magazine... the Chemical and Engineering News... (was) cautiously optimistic that 1962 will end up as a good year for their business.”

1972

“Eight good, husky men responded to the appeal for help at Burgeson Sanctuary. To keep muskrats from coming on over where we don’t want them, the men rip wrapped cyclone fencing into the new dam structure to prevent the varmints coming through.”

1982

“The twenty-fifth anniversary often becomes a celebration of what has developed over those many years. Our accomplishments are great, indeed; our disappointments small and our aspirations, awesome.”

1992

“Jamestown Audubon Nature Center will host a major exhibit about a topic that is on the minds of everyone concerned about our environment, global warming.”

2002

“Join us on October 13 for the official Grand Opening and Eagle Introduction.”

2012

“There’s a plastic bucket on the roof that protects a sensitive, special-purpose microphone pointed at the sky. It listens at night for... migrating warblers and sparrows.”

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

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

Right: The 1992 Nature Art Festival featured Roger Tory Peterson as a speaker and many nationally recognized artists.

Board Officers (through September 30, 2022)

<i>Board Chairman</i>	Brittany Wilcox
<i>First Vice Chair</i>	Andrew Harrington
<i>Second Vice Chair</i>	Linnea Carlson
<i>Secretary</i>	Willow Fodor
<i>Treasurer</i>	Greg Lyle

Board of Directors (through September 30, 2022)

Louise Boutwell, Dave Burlee, Tina Downey, Elisabeth Hall, Laurie Korb, Netta Lindell, Tim Piotrowski, Piper Van Ord

Nature Center Staff

<i>Executive Director</i>	Leigh Rovegno
<i>Public Engagement Specialist</i>	Jeff Tome
<i>Administrative Assistant, Volunteer Coordinator</i> ...	Emily Nelson
<i>Education Coordinator</i>	Sarah Hatfield
<i>Senior Nature Educator, Exhibits Manager</i>	Katie Finch
<i>Nature Educator</i>	Chelsea Jandreau
<i>Nature Educator</i>	Emma Roth
<i>Designer, Animal Care Specialist</i>	Kim Turner
<i>Gift Shop Manager</i>	Joanne Miller
<i>Receptionist</i>	Claire Certo
<i>Building and Grounds Manager</i>	Terry LeBaron

Volunteer Chairs

<i>Eagle Caretaker</i>	Thom Armella
<i>Fundraising and Development</i>	Brittany Wilcox
.....	Linnea Carlson
<i>Garden Committee</i>	Janet Forbes
<i>JEDI Committee</i>	Willow Fodor
<i>Land Use Management</i>	Jane Conroe
<i>Mailing Committee</i>	Leah Bullock
.....	Blanche Robbins
<i>Membership</i>	Sandy Fletcher
.....	Linda Trostle
<i>Publicity</i>	Pat Brining



Volunteer Corner

Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities:

- **Member Sneak-peek and Annual Meeting, September 26, event runs 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.:**
Set-up, greeters, servers, and cleanup.
- **Autumn Roadside Cleanup, October 1, 8:30 a.m. – noon:**
Collect trash along Route 62 and, if time permits, along Route 60. Must at least 12 years of age.
- **Enchanted Forest, October 7 and 8, event runs 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.:**
Set-up, actors, greeters, trail guides, crafts, refreshments, cleanup, and more.
- **Birdseed Pick-up, October 15, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.:**
Customer check-in, and loading vehicles; great opportunity for teen volunteers.
- **Blue Heron Legacy Society Get-together, October 16, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.:**
Set-up, greeters, guides, servers, and cleanup.

For more information about volunteering, please contact Emily Nelson at: enelson@auduboncnc.org or (716) 569-2345 x103



Volunteer for Enchanted Forest

Pictured above is Bill Colter, who is diligently checking on the lamps so the Firefly Trail Guides can light the way for visitors.

You're invited be a part of the magic and join ACNC's volunteer crew! There's something for everyone, from being an Animal Actor in the Enchanted Forest to working in the Butterfly and Native Plant Nursery Gardens.

Interested in volunteering? Please visit: auduboncnc.org/volunteer

Birdseed Sale

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.



Order online at auduboncnc.org/shop, call the gift shop at (716) 569-2345, or use the yellow birdseed flier insert and return it by mail with a check payable to ACNC. Nature Center Members receive 30% off of retail prices when they purchase seed through this sale.

Orders are due by Friday, September 30, 2022.

Pick up your birdseed order at the Nature Center on Saturday, October 15 between 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Volunteers will help load your order into your car.



Stuffed Animals

Audubon is so excited to welcome new birds of prey that the Blue Heron Gift Shop's stocked with all kinds of great birds of prey items. You can shop hawk, eagle, and owl stuffed animals and puppets. There are children's books, field guides, and so much more.

Programs and Events

September

First Friday (Adult+)

Topic to be determined

Friday, September 2, 11:00 a.m. – noon

\$8 Adults

\$6 Members and children 9 – 15

Reservations appreciated, walk-ins welcome.

Sunday Story Time

(Children 2 – 8 with an adult)

Sunday, September 4, 12:30 – 1:00 p.m.

Free for children and adults

Reservations requested by September 3.

Limited enrollment. Walk-ins accepted if room.

Photography Class (Adult)

Camera Basics

Wednesday, September 7

5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

\$32 Adults

\$24 Nature Center members

Paid reservations required by September 4.

Little Explorers (Ages 3 – 8 with an adult)

Mammals

Saturday, September 10

10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

\$8 Adults

\$6 Members and Children 3 – 8

Paid reservations required by September 8.

Limited enrollment.

Accessible Bird Day (All)

Tuesday, September 20 and

Saturday, September 24

10:00 a.m. – noon

Free for children and adults

Reservations appreciated, walk-ins welcome.

Photography Class (Adult)

Camera Basics and Putting It All Together

Wednesday, September 21

5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

\$32 Adults

\$24 Nature Center members

Paid reservations required by September 18.

Member Sneak-Peek and Annual Meeting (Adults)

Live bird program and annual business meeting

Monday, September 26

5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

\$6 Adults

Reservations required by September 19.

Birdseed Sale — Orders Due

Friday, September 30

October

Autumn Roadside Cleanup

Volunteer Opportunity (Ages 12+)

Saturday, October 1

8:30 a.m. – noon

Reservations appreciated, walk-ins welcome.

First Friday (Adult+)

The Big Picture of Conservation

Friday, October 7, 11:00 a.m. – Noon

\$8 Adults

\$6 Members and children 9 – 15

Reservations appreciated, walk-ins welcome.

Enchanted Forest (All)

Friday and Saturday, October 7 and 8

6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

\$12 Adults

\$9 Nature Center members

\$6 Children 3 – 15

Free 2 and under

Paid reservations required. No tickets sold at the door. No refunds. Limited enrollment.

Little Explorers (Children 3 – 8 with an adult)

Falling Leaves

Saturday, October 8

10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

\$8 Adults

\$6 Members and children 3 – 8

Paid reservations required by October 6.

Limited enrollment.

Birdseed Sale — Order Pick-up

Saturday, October 15

10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Orders due by Friday, September 30.

Blue Heron Legacy Society

Get-together (Adult)

Sunday, October 16

1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Free for all current and potential Blue Heron Legacy Society Members

Reservations requested by October 10.

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.

Registrations required for most programs. 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**.

ACNC will continue to take into consideration regional data from both Chautauqua and Warren counties to make COVID-19 related decisions. In addition, ACNC will continue to follow CDC recommendations at minimum. Check auduboncnc.org for any updates.



Nature Notes — Fall Food Gathering

Chelsea Jandreau, *Nature Educator*

In parks, forests and yards, squirrels are chattering overhead as they jump from branch to branch and Chipmunks, with their cheeks full of food, are scurrying around on the ground.

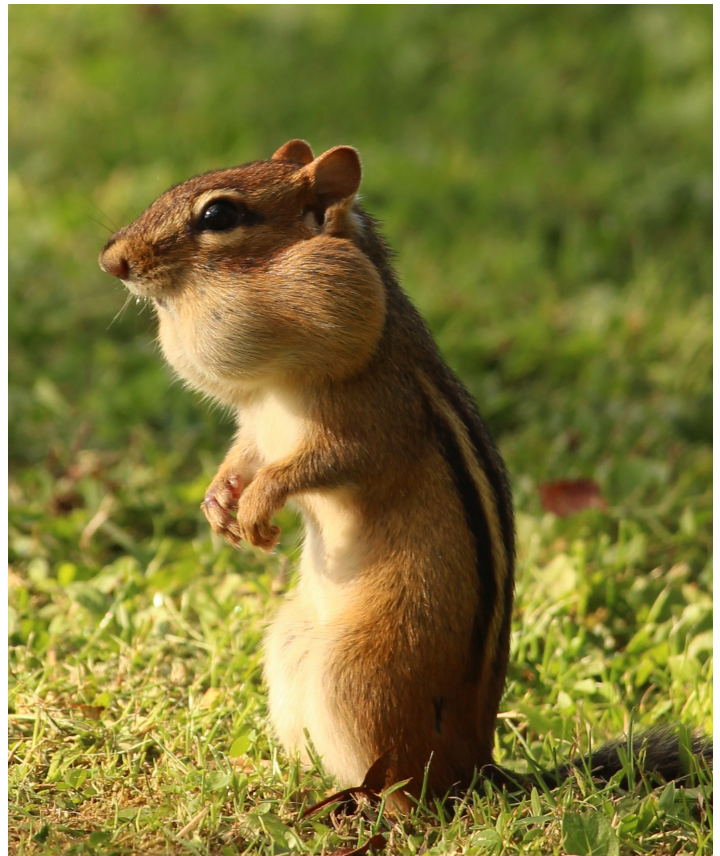
Tree squirrels, such as Red or Gray Squirrels, and Chipmunks are both common animals to this area, but they often get mistaken for one another. Despite being members of the same family, these animals have several differences in how they look and how they behave in the cooler autumn temperatures.

Chipmunks have distinct black and white stripes down their backs and shorter tails. Tree squirrels are generally larger. They can be red, gray, black, or brown, but usually have longer, fluffier tails. Both are omnivores who spend their fall eating, collecting, and storing food for the winter.

Throughout the fall, chipmunks collect seeds and nuts, then store this food either in their burrows or in other hiding spots. They are preparing to spend much of their winter sleeping underground, but chipmunks don't hibernate all winter. Instead, they wake up every few days and eat the food they have stored rather than going outside into the cold to search for food.

Tree squirrels will build nests of leaves up in the tree branches to help stay warm, but are active throughout the winter. They still spend their autumn days eating enough food to gain weight before the temperatures drop and collecting nuts and pine cones to bury and store to prepare for the scarce resources in the winter. They will visit these caches throughout the winter.

The exact details of squirrels' and chipmunks' fall food collection frenzy may be a little different, but they are still on the same mission — to find and store enough food to help them get through the winter months.



Left Top: Red Squirrel eating a mushroom. Photo by Terry LeBaron.
Left Bottom: Squirrels find food wherever they can, including bird feeders. Photo from ACNC archives.
Right: Chipmunk with cheeks full. Photo by Jeff Tome.

Welcome, Emily Nelson

Please join Audubon in welcoming Emily Nelson as the new Administrative Assistant and Volunteer Coordinator! Emily started as the Volunteer Coordinator on June 13, and has been a fantastic addition to the team.

Emily grew up on the acreage of her family's property in Busti, NY. This is where Emily's love of nature first began, and continued when she started attending Audubon's summer camps. Since then, she has contributed more than 500 hours of volunteering, and has also served as a summer intern. Her passion for environmental education led Emily to the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry, where she majored in Landscape Architecture for three years, and Environmental Studies and Communications for two years.

Emily has always been an advocate and enthusiast for the world around her. She also enjoys spending time with her dog, Spencer, and growing her green thumb. Emily plans to follow her career in nature education and learn as much as she can at ACNC, just as she did as a kid attending camps.



Welcome, Emily Nelson, Audubon Community Nature Center's newest staff member.

Blue Heron Legacy Society

ACNC strives to ensure that every child from the local community has a real and healthy connection to nature.

You can be a part of this vision, make it stronger, and leave a lasting legacy for the future.



ACNC's vision becomes stronger through long-term commitments made by Nature Center members, donors, and friends; those who wish their legacies to be a part of a thriving, educational, nature-based organization. Commitments can include listing ACNC as a beneficiary in your will, IRA account, retirement plan, or designated fund.

What will **your** legacy be? How will you leave **your** mark on the world?

Please contact Leigh Rovegno for more information at lrovegno@auduboncnc.org or (716) 569-2345 x101.

Community Partners

Thank you for your dedicated support.

Carnahan-Jackson Foundation
Chautauqua Region
Community Foundation
Curt and Susie Westrom
Holmberg Foundation
Hultquist Foundation
Jessie Smith Darrah Fund
Lenna Foundation
Ralph C. Sheldon Foundation
Whirley-DrinkWorks!

Bob Frucella's Tax Service
Bush Furniture, a brand of eSolutions Furniture
David Campbell
Hal and Mary Conarro
Univera Healthcare
Weinberg Financial Group

Please contact Leigh Rovegno for more information at lrovegno@auduboncnc.org or (716) 569-2345 x101.

Thank You, Nature Center Volunteers

183 volunteers (including 30 registered with the national AmeriCorps retired senior volunteer program — RSVP) logged 4,284 hours from January 1 through June 30, 2022. Audubon is grateful for these dedicated individuals who give freely of their time and talents.

Diana Abrams	Janette Coleson	Nancy LeBaron	Tim Piotrowski
Nermeen Ahmed	Barb Conklin	Terry LeBaron	Alexander Pitts
Denny Anderson	Arlene Connelly	Gregg Leonard	Gary Pudlewski
Todd Anderson	Jane Conroe	Ashley Leos	Freda Pyles
Linda Andrews	Elaine Conti	Penny Lester	Shireesha Ravichetti
Thom Armella	Elaine Crossley	Netta Lindell	Reski Reski
Don Armstrong	Paige Dalrymple	Mallory Lohnes	Katherine Rieck
Christian Baffoin	Joshua Delgado-White	Judy Long	Johannah Robb
Kyle Baggiano	Brian Dickinson	Elsa Lumia	Blanche Robbins
Matt Baran	Don Dove	Ruth Lundin	Pamela Robbins
Joann Bardo	Tina Downey	Greg Lyle	Rachel Roushey
John Barone	Devin Ecklof	Julianna Main	Charlie Rovegno
Janice Barrelle	Nilla Ecklof	Lucy Mason	Leigh Rovegno
Kate Barry	Mel Feather	Mark Mason	Rick Rupprecht
Len Barry	Patricia Fincher	Cheryl Mawhinney	LeeAnn Russell
Ashley Bean	Sandy Fletcher	Mary Beth Mazzone	Carol Samuelson
Addison Becker	Willow Fodor	Deborah McAndrews	Heidi Schwab
Sally Beckerink	Janet Forbes	Elizabeth McIntyre	Olivia Sechriest
Michelle Belleau	Dean Frentz	Janel McIntyre	Diane Shannon
Lily Bendetto	Brooke Golab	Amanda Meleen	Don Sharp
Alexis Berry	Mary Hackford	John Merchant	Catherine Simpson
Danielle Bertolini	Ethan Haight	Kelli Merchant	Karel Sroyer
Heidi Bird	Beth Hall	Eddie Meyer	Kay Stahlman
Greta Bollman	Terry Hallock	Carol Miller	Toni Stone
Barbara Boone	Genevieve Hanlon	Thomas Mooney	Barb Suckow
Patricia Borowski	Ginger Hanlon	Lena Morano	Paul Swanson
Dennis Bottomley	Karen Hansen	Heather Morrison	Merle Szydlo
Louise Boutwell	Andrew Harrington	Ashley Myers	Katherine Terra
Reg Boutwell	Serina Harris	Emily Nelson	Grace Tillotson
Bonnie Bowen	Brenda Harrison	Joanne E. Nelson	Maia Tome
Pat Brininger	Susan Hedberg	Julie Nelson	Skylynn Tomlinson
Jeff Brockelbank	Matt Henry	Ahmed Nermeen	Linda Trostle
Brenda Brook	Gerald Hildom	Rohmania Noorgraheni	Kaylee Turner
Alan Brown	Miles Hilton	Will Novitske	Don Weber
Karen Brown	Dianne Hovey	Joseph O'Hara	Joyce Weber
Lawrence Brown	John Hyde	Hattie Palmer	Mary Jane Whaley
Sydney Brown	Karen Inwood	Ellen Paquette	Nancy White
David Bull	Ronald Johnson	Sally Patchen	Brittany Wilcox
Leah Bullock	Kelly Joslyn	Kaleigh Paul	Catherine Willard
David Burlee	Robert Klebacha	Alix Peterson	Jim Williams
Linnea Carlson	Laurie Korb	Braelyn Peterson	Edward Yager
Raymond Carlson	Mary Lou Krott	Catalina Peterson	Sue Yauchzy
Carey Casillo-Young	Susan Lampo	Jennifer Pierce	Ellery Yohe
Alex Champman	Margaret Lane	Tucker Pierce	Sertap Zengin
Karen Christy	Michelle Lauffenburger	Deborah Piotrowski	
Lucy Colburn	Janet Laurin	Mae Piotrowski	

Enchanted Forest

Friday and Saturday, October 7 and 8

6:00 — 8:00 p.m.

\$12 Adults; \$9 Nature Center members
\$6 Children 3 – 15; free 2 and under

Paid reservations required. No tickets sold at the door. No refunds. Limited enrollment.

On this enchanted evening, animals have the ability to speak human language and communicate with visitors. Follow a guide through the luminary-lit Enchanted Trail to meet them.

This magical, non-scary event is designed for children and their adults. Talking animals engage your imagination, maybe make you laugh, and teach you something about wildlife in the region. After the walk, stop in the backyard to enjoy snacks and a campfire. There will be crafts, live animals, and exhibits available inside the Nature Center.

**Reservations for this guided walk are required. Walks go out every 10 minutes and last about 40 minutes. (Sunset is approximately 6:45 p.m.) Audubon members at the Family level and higher may reserve starting August 16. Regular registration opens September 1.*

Register online at auduboncnc.org or call (716) 569-2345



Welcome Soren, the Red-tailed Hawk

Soren joined the team of Animal Ambassadors at ACNC in late August. He will assist in programs to teach the community about North America's most prevalent bird of prey, the Red-tailed Hawk! He is housed in the large, front aviary of the Pamela A. Westrom Wildlife Habitat.

Soren hatched in 2021. He was found on the roadside in Highland, Michigan in November 2021. He was thin, had swollen wing tips, and was missing one of his hallux (rear) talons. This talon is vital to hunting and holding on to prey. With his injury and age, he would have had a difficult time hunting successfully and defending himself in the wild. Because of this, Soren was deemed non-releasable by wildlife rehabbers and his vet and could not be released into the wild.

Special thanks to River Raisin Raptor Center for taking Soren in and healing his injuries, and to Tamarack Wildlife Center for their mentorship and training assistance preparing him for a happy life in captivity.





Audubon Community Nature Center

Audubon Community Nature Center, Inc.
1600 Riverside Road
Jamestown, NY 14701

Electronic service requested

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Jamestown, NY
14701
Permit No. 687

September/October ACNC Newsletter

Inside This Issue:

- ACNC Through the Years
- Annual Meeting
- Blue Heron Legacy Society
- Community Partners
- Enchanted Forest
- Executive Director's Desk
- Fall Birdseed Sale
- Nature Notes — Fall Food Gathering
- Upcoming Programs and Events
- Volunteer Contributions
- Volunteer Needs
- Welcome New Bird — Soren the Hawk
- Welcome New Staff — Emily Nelson



Bird's Nest Fungus. Photo by Jeff Tome.