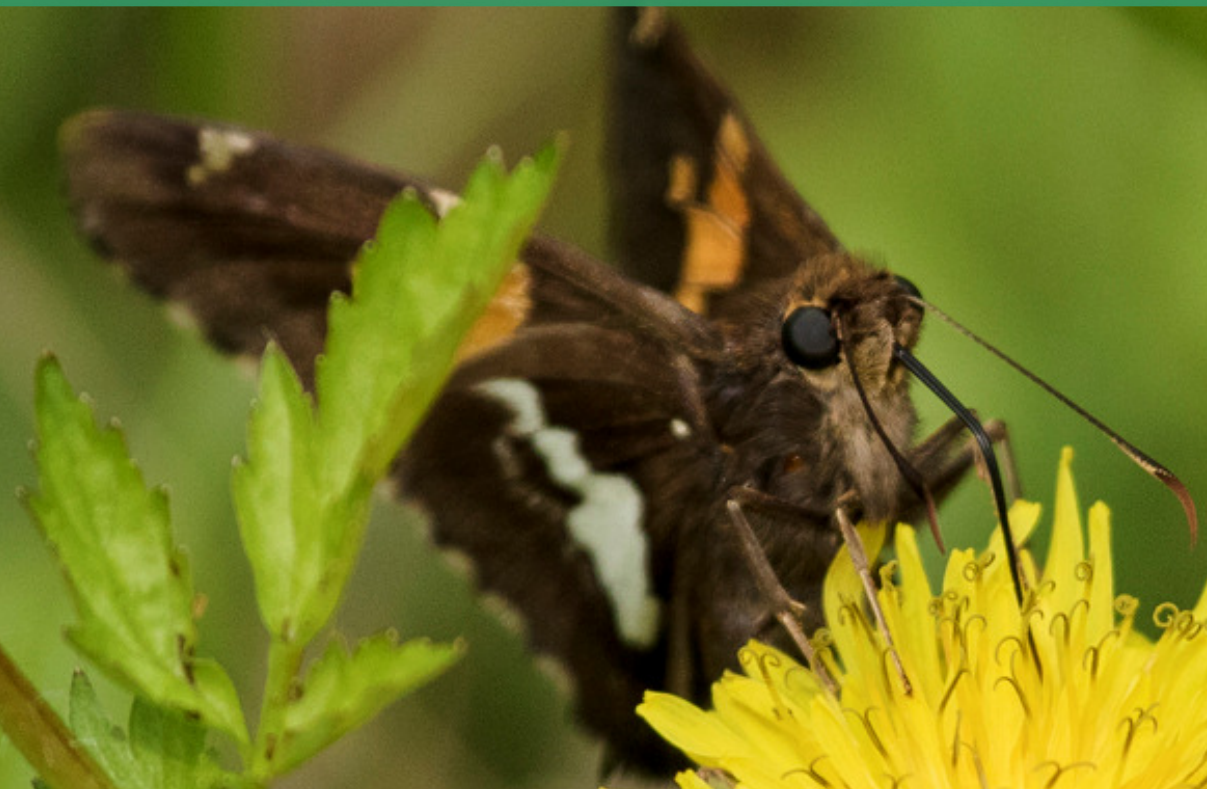


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The Naturalist

Green-Rock Audubon Society



Protecting Wildlife for Tomorrow

Serving Lafayette, Green,
& Rock Counties

Highlights from the President

We're feeding two birds (or more) with one crumb...

I just spent four hours with a weed mower and a string trimmer.

This week I was mowing the entrance area at the Gabower-Reilly Wetlands. After that I cleaned up around the benches there and at Androne Woods. Meanwhile, Victor was mowing the firebreaks/trails. Last week I worked behind the D-R mower to reveal the trails at Androne Woods while the other volunteers were dealing with garlic mustard.

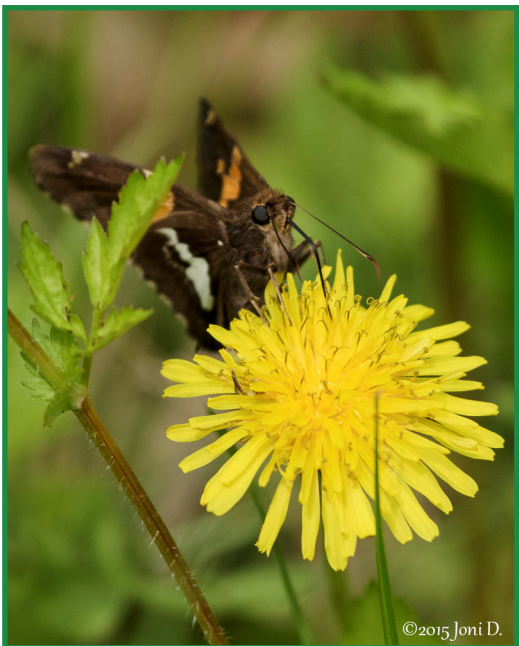
Someone said (tongue in cheek) that the president of an organizations shouldn't have to do grunt work. The fact is, I want an excuse to do physical labor. When I retired, that was one of my goals: to get outdoors and use what little muscle I have left. I still want – and need – to hike and ride my bicycle. But when I put in that active time with the G-RAS work crew, I'm doing my body a favor while I'm helping the natural world – and enhancing the experience for people who visit our properties.

One of the best parts is spending time with the crew – people who generously give their time and effort – and who enjoy working together. Carol's cookies add a sweet touch to it all.

(You can join us. Just email Victor to get on the email list: viccarol@sbcglobal.net)

Neil Deupree

President of the Board
Green-Rock Audubon Society



On the Cover:

*A red admiral butterfly
visiting a dandelion.*

Taken by Joni Denker.

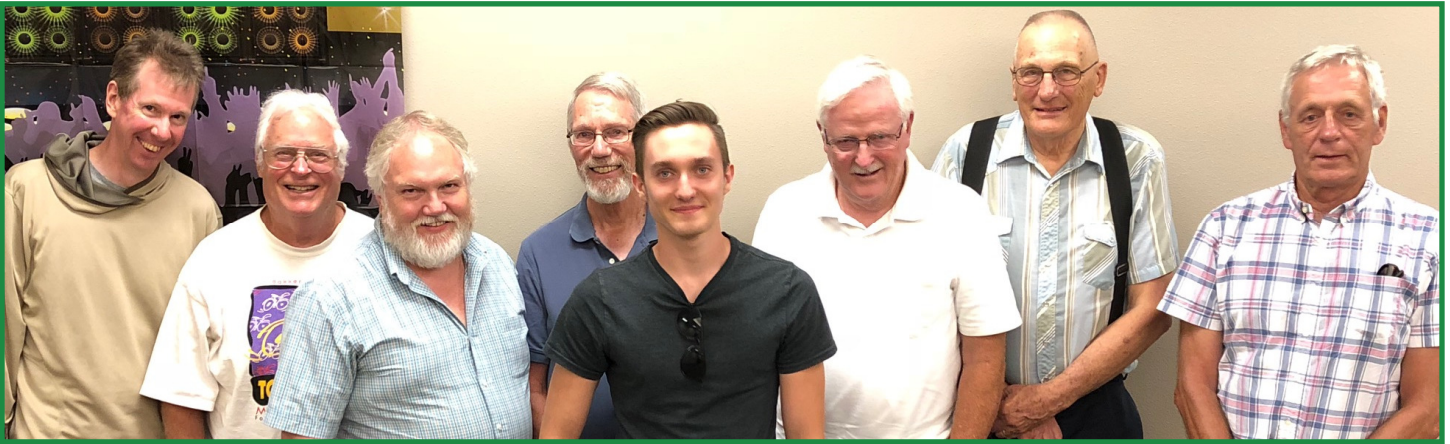
On the Back:

*Nadine Whiteman & Neil
Deupree hold the G-RAS
sign which is placed at
property entrances to for
events.*



First Scholarship Awarded to UW Student

By Meghan M.M. Trimm



From left: John Watrous, Norm Aulabaugh, Steve Reischel, Neil Deupree, Josh Cullum, John Patterson, Victor Illichmann, Dennis Rogers

Last year, G-RAS board members decided to allocate funds to support students studying conservation and environmental issues. Two separate scholarships were created: one for higher education and one for community settings such as camps.

G-RAS reached out to high schools and colleges in Green and Rock counties to get the word out. After reviewing essay submissions, the board unanimously awarded \$3,000 to Josh Cullum, who will be continuing studies at UW Stevens Point, for the 2018-2019 scholastic year.

Cullum became interested in nature at a young age. First with bugs and dinosaurs, and then with his mother's influence, he attended the Horicon Bird Fest which lead him to his current passion—ornithology. He told the board, when he attended the July Board Meeting, that participating in bird counts as a young person had a huge impact on him.

He will be studying wildlife ecology and hopes to continue with a graduate degree in ornithology. One day Josh hopes to consult on environmental impact studies.

The main question for essay submissions related to how the students believed their studies would impact their contributions to the Earth. Josh Cullum's answers were echoed by his clear enthusiasm and developing expertise. Additionally, Cullum's impact is already manifesting; in the words of his fiancé, Courtney, "I didn't ever pay attention to birds before I met him."

The decision to allocate funds for a scholarship came from several years of passing the idea around. After the Stateline Community Foundation awarded funds from the Gibbs Family Fund to G-RAS for the fifth year in a row, the board decided to pass on the generosity. "One of the ways we can protect wildlife for tomorrow is to help ensure there will be good stewards of the Earth in future generations," said board president Neil Deupree.

Essay submissions for the next school year will be published on G-RAS's website as early as September 2018.

Wilson Summer School Looks for Birds

By Neil Deupree



Wilson Summer School Students explore the school yard looking for birds.

Each summer for the last ten years, Kay Deupree has designed a class to encourage the students at Wilson Elementary School in Janesville to get outdoors and learn.

This year the focus was on birds. Each Thursday for four weeks four groups of students spent 30 to 45 minutes getting to know birds. Neil Deupree from Green-Rock Audubon Society assisted.

The students identified the birds by sight and sound in the classroom, and then went outside to see what they could find. They saw robins with worms, vultures circling above, a pair of goldfinches on a fence, geese and ducks on the Rock River, over fifty gulls and a tern.

The students colored birds for shrink art as a way to remember their appearance and to have a reminder to keep.

The most exciting part was the binoculars. Wisconsin Society for Ornithology had provided G-RAS with a kit of 14 pair of field glasses for just such an opportunity. The kids had fun, and there were enough so that each person had a pair of their own. Thanks to WSO.



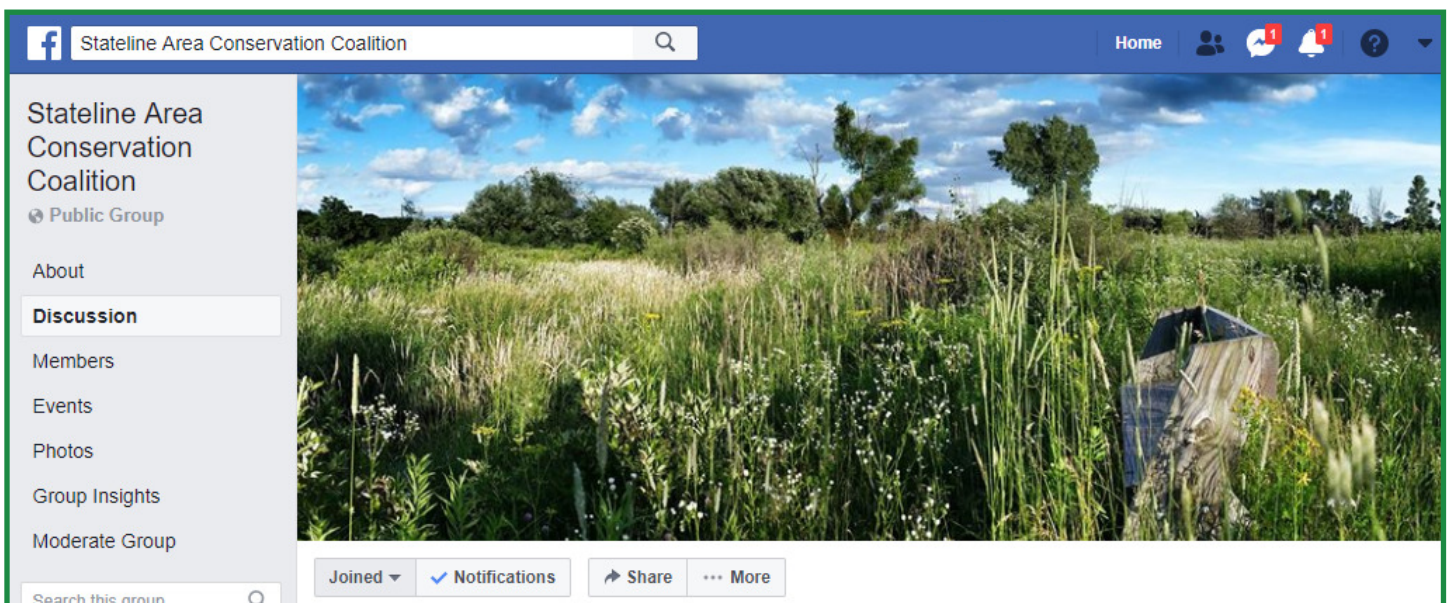
Examples of shrink art colored by Wilson Summer School Students.

Are You On Facebook?

Share Events, Announcements, & Accomplishments with Other Nature-Lovers

If you are on Facebook, you are welcome to join the Stateline Area Conservation Coalition group. This is a public group where local organizations share events, news, announcements, job postings, and pictures.

The Stateline Area Conservation Coalition Facebook group was started this spring by G-RAS as a hub for communication with local nature-lovers and like-minded organizations. So far, we are 77 members strong. We welcome you to join us!



G-RASlands Summer 2018

Prepared by Victor Illichmann

Androne Woods

We didn't get through the whole woods killing garlic mustard this spring. This is the first time in years that this happened. We had a late start, no garlic mustard growth, and then when we started it was so dry we had half our crew on fire suppression or went to pulling instead of torching. This really slowed us down. When we got rain, the garlic mustard grew faster than we could kill it. We need to basal bark treat the woody invasives and check out all of our tree protectors before August 1st. This is a great place to hike, it is said to be the best place in Rock County for viewing wild flowers. There is a succession of blooming so you need to visit often so you don't miss anything.

Cleophas Reserve

This area has been burned and nine acres sprayed with Clethodim 2 E to kill the grass. There are many sedges coming, and lots of weeds. The plan is to mow the weeds to keep them from seeding out. We have 9 acres being treated as part of a 5 year prairie restoration project here. It will cost between \$10,000 and \$16,000 to complete. After the burn, I discovered a new spring I didn't know existed.

Gabower-Reilly Reserve

Part of the area scheduled for a burn has been done. The rest will wait until next year. We will work on burning the rest of the fallen trees this summer so we can get in there with equipment to kill the canary grass. A lot of brush is making a comeback. We'll get most of it this summer. It would be nice to restore the southern portion of this area in the next few years. When I was mowing firebreaks, I found that we have iris growing east of the creek. There is also a beaver dam south of our property. This summer, watch for the compass plants blooming. In late summer we will have a lot of asters in bloom.

Spring Creek Reserve

The grass filter strips have been burned. This summer we'll keep the firebreaks mowed. The rest of the work will be on hold. Even years we concentrate on Gabower-Reilly Reserve and Androne Woods.

Help

We have been working wonders with our small group of dedicated volunteers. To do what needs to be done this summer we will need to have more than one job being worked on at the same time. We need to have more volunteers to get everything done.

Rock County Conservationists Events

Partners in conservation...

CANOE/KAYAK TRIPS ON YAHARA RIVER & BADFISH CREEK

Saturday, August 11, 2018

Time: 9:00 am to 1:00 pm and 2:00 to 6:00 pm

Place: Meet at Murwin Park in the Village of Fulton.

Two different canoe/kayak trips on local rivers. The trips are free and open to the public. To participate in either of these trips, you must make a reservation in advance by calling Dave Bendlin at 608-868-3824 by Friday, August 10th. You are welcome to bring your own canoe or kayak, but if you don't own one, there will be a limited number of kayaks available for use at no charge.

Trip One: 9:00 am to 1:00 pm on the Yahara River west of Edgerton, WI. Participants should meet at Murwin Park off county highway H in the village of Fulton, WI where we will arrange shuttles among the participants. The Yahara River is a wide, shallow river with a gentle current suitable for beginners and family-style paddling. Bring a beverage and snacks and wear clothes suitable for swimming; we'll stop at an island along the way for a break where participants can swim if they choose. This will be a fun trip and a great way to cool off on a hot summer day.

Trip Two: 2:00 to 6:00 pm on the Badfish Creek near Cooksville, WI. Participants should meet at Murwin Park off county highway H in the village of Fulton, WI where we will arrange shuttles among the participants. The Badfish Creek is a narrow, twisting waterway with a quick current and many obstacles that require good boat control. It is not recommended for beginners and is not suited for large canoes or family-style paddling. Bring a beverage and snacks and wear clothes suitable for swimming; we'll stop along the way for a break where participants can swim if they choose.

TURTLE CREEK NATURE EXPLORATION (CHILDREN & ADULTS)

Date: Sunday, August 12, 2018

Time: 1:00 to 3:00 pm

Place: Meet at Sweet Allyn Park in the Village of Shopiere

Here's a chance for children, parents, grandparents and other adults to learn about the aquatic life of Turtle Creek. Naturalist Dave Bendlin will be on hand to show participants how to use different nets and fishing poles to survey the plants and animals found in the creek. Children and adults will have the chance to cool off in the creek on a summer day to do these explorations. Participants should be dressed for wading and/or swimming in the creek and must wear some type of footwear for protection while they are in the water.

Rock County Conservationists Events (Continued)

Partners in conservation...

H UMMINGBIRD BANDING

Date: Saturday, September 8, 2018

Time: 7:30 to 8:30 am

Place: Meet at the home of Emily & Larry Scheunemann, 11703 E. Berg Rd., Whitewater, WI

This event takes place in the yard of Emily and Larry Scheunemann. Extensively landscaped to attract butterflies and hummingbirds, their gardens have become a site where hummingbirds are captured, banded and released. In return for an early wakeup, participants will have a unique experience; the opportunity to see and photograph ruby-throated hummingbirds closeup as they are captured and banded by Michelene O'Connor, one of only two people authorized to band hummingbirds in WI. You may even get the chance to hold a hummingbird in your hand before it is released. Arrive promptly at 7:30am for the best chance of seeing successful banding.

HISTORY OF MONARCH BUTTERFLIES, TAGGING MONARCH BUTTERFLIES, AND HUMMINGBIRD GARDENS DISPLAY

Date: Saturday, September 15, 2018

Time: 1:00 to 3:00 pm

Place: Meet at the home of Emily & Larry Scheunemann, 11703 E. Berg Rd., Whitewater, WI

Monarch butterflies are one of the most colorful and widely distributed butterflies in North America. After hatching from eggs, caterpillars feed on milkweed plants, form a chrysalis, and go through their metamorphosis to emerge approximately two weeks later to form the adults that will mate and lay the eggs to hatch into the next generation. This remarkable transformation is easily observed and enjoyed by children and adults. All these life stages will be visible at this program. But did you also know that Monarchs are one of the few butterflies that migrate south to spend the winter? As the summer ends, Monarchs begin their long migrations to wintering grounds in the mountain forests of Mexico. This remarkable migratory behavior was discovered by attaching tiny tags to the wings that allow people who capture tagged butterflies to report their locations. During this program, participants will be able to help capture and tag the butterflies for the study of their migration. This program is highly recommended for families with children or for anyone who would enjoy a day outdoors catching butterflies in the sunshine.

The Schuenemanns' hummingbird gardens will also be on display at the start of the hummingbirds' fall migration. Hummingbird enthusiasts will see large numbers of hummingbirds in the yard and can learn what plants best attract hummingbirds to the home landscape.

Green Rock Audubon Society Events

August Guided Hike

Saturday, August 18th—9 AM at Gabower-Reilly Reserve

Join G-RAS ecologists to explore this diverse ecosystem and witness habitat restoration in progress. Gabower-Reilly features wetlands, oak savannah, and a category five trout stream.

Annual Picnic & Potluck

Sunday, August 26th—2-4 PM at Androne Woods

We welcome the community to join us in appreciating our volunteers and our natural spaces at our annual potluck picnic! We'll provide the hot dogs and beverages. You bring a dish to pass. After lunch, we'll hike!



Joni Denker hold a sedge for children to observe during a scavenger hunt hike.

September Guided Hike

Saturday, September 15th—9 AM at Androne Woods

Our most popular hiking spot, Androne woods has been in the restoration process longer than any other G-RAS property. Every year, new species of plants come back. Furthermore, Androne Woods should be beautiful this time of year, with Fall coloring beginning to emerge.

October Guided Hike

Saturday, October 20th —9 AM, location TBD (Watch our website for more info).

With Autumn in full swing, we have a variety of exciting ecosystem changes to witness. Keep an eye on www.greenrockaudubon.org/events for more information and location details.

Annual Meeting & Presentation by Fellow Mortals

Sunday, October 21th —1-4 PM at Creekside Place (102 Maple St., Evansville)

[Fellow Mortals Wildlife Hospital](#) will be giving a public presentation during G-RAS's annual meeting. Stay tuned for more details on our website.

Green-Rock Audubon Society



Protecting Wildlife for Tomorrow

Two Ways to Join

___ I wish to join Green-Rock Audubon Society. I understand that I will not receive the Audubon Magazine, but all dues will go to G-RAS. Dues: \$10 Senior or Student, \$15 Single Membership, \$20 Couple.

- To pay by mail, make checks payable to G-RAS, and mail this form along with the check to this address:
Green-Rock Audubon
Attn: John Patterson
N3262 Loop Rd.
Monroe, WI 53566
- To pay online visit <https://www.greenrockaudubon.org/donate>

___ I wish to join the National Audubon Society's normal membership of \$35 per year which includes the Audubon Magazine. (Please visit <https://www.audubon.org/> to complete this membership.)

Volunteering Interests

I would like to volunteer for...

- ___ Whatever is Needed
- ___ Burning
- ___ Brushing
- ___ Spraying
- ___ Seed Collecting
- ___ Planting

I can volunteer at...

- ___ Whenever is Needed
- ___ Androne Woods
- ___ Cleophas Reserve
- ___ Spring Creek Reserve
- ___ Gabower-Reilly Reserve
- ___ The Pond (Janesville)

Times I can usually volunteer:

- ___ Monday
- ___ Tuesday
- ___ Wednesday
- ___ Thursday
- ___ Friday
- ___ Saturday
- ___ Sunday

Volunteer Coordinator:

Victor Illichmann
viccarol@sbcglobal.net
608-752-8342

Join

Green-Rock Audubon Society

Your Name: _____

Your Mailing Address: _____

Your Email: _____

Would you prefer to receive the newsletter electronically? _____

Donate Beyond Membership

I would like to donate to...

- ___ Whatever is Needed
- ___ Purchasing Herbicides
- ___ Purchasing Spray Equipment

I want my donation to support G-RAS's efforts to manage or maintain...

- ___ Androne Woods & Reserves
- ___ Cleophas Reserve
- ___ Spring Creek Reserve
- ___ Gabower-Reilly Reserve
- ___ Forest Prairie Park (Monroe)

(Please mail checks according to the directions above or visit our website.)

Young Naturalist



Julia Stack © 2015

Membership Form Inside

Green-Rock Audubon Society (GRAS)
membership for one year with the quarterly
newsletter *Green Rock Naturalist* from Green
Rock Audubon Society (all dues go to GRAS).

- Senior or student membership \$10
- Single person membership \$15
- Couples membership \$20

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or deupreen@charter.net

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Director, Dennis Rogers

Director, Donna Oxenreider

Director, Grace Burns

Land Manager, Victor Illichmann

Sunny Peace Prairie Project Manager, Norm Aulabaugh

Membership Chair, Steve Reischel

Education Chair, Nadine Whiteman

Volunteer!

Join the Board

Curious about becoming a board member? Visit! Or contact a board member to talk. Board Meetings occur every first Wednesday of the month at 7PM at the Brodhead Public Library.

Get Active & Save the Planet

Volunteer to restore habitats! Donate a few hours a week or a few hours here and there. G-RAS always needs help planting trees, eradicating invasive species, collecting seeds, mowing trails, and clearing brush. You'll be rewarded by the visible increase in biodiversity and by your own health!

