

Friends of BOMBAY Hook

<http://www.friendsofbombayhook.org>

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The President's Corner by Janet Manchester

March 14 is the birthday of the National Wildlife Refuge System (NWRS). It was on that date in 1903 that President Theodore Roosevelt signed a proclamation designating Pelican Island in Florida a "Federal Bird Reservation." The 3-acre mangrove island thereby became the first federal land set aside specifically to protect a non-game bird species.

This year, at the suggestion of the National Wildlife Refuge Association (NWRA), Friends organizations around the country, including ours, celebrated the NWRS's birthday by giving a party and inviting the legislative aides of their senators and representatives in Washington. The members of Congress were scheduled to be in the capital on that day, so it was a good time to bring their staffers out to see the refuges, meet the Friends, and learn some of the concerns of the Friends and refuge staff.



From left to right, Bob Stickels, Lori James, Janet Manchester, Kate Rohrer and Glenn Garner

We were fortunate in that aides for all three of our members of Congress were able to join us for our party: Lori James (aide to Sen. Carper), Kate Rohrer (aide to Sen. Coons), and Bob Stickels (aide to Rep. Carney). We also invited the Friends of Prime Hook, and several of their members came as well: Glenn Garner (president), David Webber (vice president), and Diane Webber.

The goals of our party were to enhance our relationship with our legislators and their staffs; to boost their knowledge of and commitment to refuges; and to make certain specific requests concerning the NWRS.

After a rousing game of Refuge System Jeopardy, both Friends groups talked about their organizations and how they support the refuges, and the refuge staff discussed some of the issues facing Delaware's refuges. We then presented a "Refuge System birthday wish list," which we asked the staffers to convey to the legislators. This is what we asked for:

1. Maintain *status quo* funding for the NWRS. This translates to \$511 million for FY 2012 – far less than the \$900 million that the NWRA believes is actually needed to adequately manage all of the NWRS's acreage, but just enough to maintain its current level of management.
2. Pass legislation that will address NWRS liability and readiness. Such legislation should authorize the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to go after responsible parties when they do harm to refuges and to retain the fines associated with such damages.
3. Fully fund the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF). This fund was created in 1965 and authorized at \$900 million per year. It is funded by off-shore oil and gas leasing royalties – not taxpayer dollars – and is one of the best tools the federal government has for purchasing land for national parks and refuges. The LWCF has been used to buy land for both Bombay Hook and Prime Hook, and for many state and local parks in Delaware as well.
4. Join the Congressional Wildlife Refuge Caucus (this was requested only of Congressman Carney, since the Senate currently does not have such a caucus). This group was formed in 2006, and Delaware's Mike Castle was a founding member. With his departure from Congress, Delaware fell off the membership list, and we would love to be back on.

Our members enjoyed chatting with the legislative aides and the members of the Friends of Prime Hook while we ate cake and drank punch.

Unfortunately, the staffers were not able to stay for the planned refuge tour. Some of the attendees did take the tour and had a bit of an adventure when the van got stuck in a field and had to be towed back onto the road by the maintenance staff. Too bad we didn't get a picture of that!

Join us for the



Annual Meeting

Saturday, June 11, 2011

10:00 a.m.

Bombay Hook Visitor Center

This is your opportunity to:

- **Learn how the Friends have helped support the refuge over the past year;**
- **Find out what projects the refuge staff has been working on;**
- **Participate in the election of officers and board members;**
- **Meet our new store manager and her “crew”;**
- **Ask questions of the refuge staff and Friends board;**
- **Catch up with Friends that you may see only once a year.**

After the business meeting, Susan Guiteras, the chief biologist for the Bombay Hook/Prime Hook complex, will give a presentation on sea level rise and its implications for Bombay Hook. She will also discuss other projects that her staff is working on.

Bird Notes
By Frank Rawling

The Fall Migration

September

No less than 10 **Stilt Sandpipers** were seen at Sheariness Pool on the 2nd. This was in addition to 3 **Long-billed Dowitchers** and a lone **Western Sandpiper**. Bear Swamp held 3 **White-rumped Sandpipers**. A **Whimbrel** was a nice find at Sheariness on the 3rd. Both **Long** and **Short-billed Dowitchers** were in residence at Sheariness on the 3rd. On the bay side of Sheariness 6 **Royal Terns** were spotted. Two **Peregrine Falcons** were at the Refuge on the 3rd. A **Spotted Sandpiper** was on Big Woods Pond on the 4th and 6 **Black-necked Stilts** were seen at Raymond Pool. A lone **Solitary Sandpiper** and 2 **Spotted Sandpipers** were seen in the ponds along the road to the Allee House on the 6th.

Also on the 6th the **Long-billed Dowitcher** flock had increased to an estimated 25-50. Two **Hudsonian Godwits** were seen at Raymond on the 7th. On the 11th a **Golden Plover** was noticed at Raymond Pool and a **Wilson's Phalarope** was seen at Bear Swamp.

The 13th saw 2 **Marbled Godwits** at Raymond Pool, 25 **Bobolinks** at Sheariness and 6 **White-rumped Sandpipers** at Bear Swamp. Four **Pectoral Sandpipers** were at Raymond Pool on the 16th. Also that day approximately 10 **Seaside Sparrows** were detected on the bay side of Sheariness. A nice sighting was a **Merlin** on Bear Swamp Road on the 17th. **Blue Grosbeaks** were also seen along Bear Swamp Road and 2-3 **Caspian Terns** were at Sheariness Pool. Four **Marbled Godwits** were seen at Raymond Pool on the 19th along with a lone **Hudsonian Godwit**. A **Green Heron** was seen in one of the ponds along the road to the Allee House. A female **Lark Bunting** was seen along Raymond Dike on the 19th. The ponds and field by the Allee House were quite popular with birders and rightly so, for on the 19th a **Little Blue Heron**, **Blue Grosbeaks**, **Pectoral Sandpipers**, **Wild Turkeys**, and a **Palm War-**



Long-billed Dowitcher

bler were all seen in that area. Meanwhile a **Merlin** was seen at Raymond Pool as well as **Black-bellied Plovers**. The 19th saw the Boardwalk Trail hosting a **Yellow Warbler** and 2 **Great Crested Flycatchers**. The **Lark Bunting** reported above was still being seen on the 21st. A great sighting was approximately 12 **American Kestrels** along the Allee House road on the 23rd. A **Baird's Sandpiper** was seen at Bear Swamp on the 23rd. **Yellow-crowned Night Herons** are seen each year on the Refuge but not in any great numbers. However, 2 were at the ditch at the north end of Bear Swamp on the 23rd. On the 25th there were 2 **American Golden Plovers** and 12 **Stilt Sandpipers** at Raymond Pool. The next day a **Peregrine Falcon** was seen flying over Raymond Pool. The first large flock of **Snow Geese**, approximately 60, was seen on the 27th. The month ended with sightings of a **Sora** along the Boardwalk Trail, an **Eastern Screech-owl** near the Allee House and 5 **Northern Harriers** in the vicinity of Bear Swamp.

October

A **Black-throated Blue Warbler** was seen along the Parson Point Trail led off the sightings for October. Also seen along the trail were **Golden-crowned Kinglets**. Two **American Wigeon** were seen at Raymond Pool on the 2nd. On the 9th there was a **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** seen on the Boardwalk Trail and a **Laughing Gull** at Sheariness Pool. A lone **Glossy Ibis** was seen at Sheariness on the 9th and a **Ruby-crowned Kinglet** at the Visitor Center. The same day a **Purple Finch** was seen at the feeders at the Visitor Center and a **Pied-billed Grebe** at Bear Swamp. A **Red-breasted Nuthatch** was seen at Raymond Pool on the 10th. A couple of hundred **American Avocets** were seen at Raymond Pool on the 10th. A **Yellow-billed Cuckoo** was seen along the trail to Raymond Tower on the 10th. A nice sighting on the 11th was that of a **Ring-billed Duck** near Raymond Tower. The same day 2 **Wilson's Snipes** were seen at the north end of Sheariness. Both a **White-crowned Sparrow** and an **American Goldfinch** were seen at the Visitor Center feeders on the 12th. The first **Dark-eyed Juncos** were seen on the 12th near Raymond Tower. Raptors seen on the 12th were a **Sharp-shinned Hawk** perched on the sign at the Visitor Center, 2 **Red-tails**

along Finis Road, **Peregrine Falcon** at Shear-ness, and a couple of immature **Bald Eagles**. A pair of **Rusty Blackbirds** was seen along Bear Swamp Road on the 17th. A **Hermit Thrush** was seen along the Raymond Tower Trail on the 17th and there were 2 **Pied-billed Grebes** at Raymond Pool. On the 21st there were 10 **Greater Yellowlegs** at Bear Swamp and a **Cooper's Hawk** at Shear-ness. A **Marbled Godwit** was seen at Raymond Pool and a **Hudsonian Godwit** at Bear Swamp Pool on the 23rd. A **Common Moorhen** was seen along Raymond Dike on the 24th. Thirteen **Lesser**



American Goldfinch

Scaup were seen on the Shear-ness mudflats on the 24th. **Wild Turkey** sightings are in-creasing on the Refuge. Six were seen along Ray-mond Neck Road on the 25th. **Cedar Waxwings** were

seen along the Allee House Road on the 25th. A **Virginia Rail** was seen on the 29th at Shear-ness. On the 30th approximately 10 **Gadwall** were seen at Raymond Pool and an unusual sighting of a **Western Kingbird** along the road to Raymond Pool.

November

There were 4 **Marbled Godwits** on the Refuge on the 1st. The **American Avocet** flock had risen to an estimated 350 and **Dunlins** num-bered in the 1,000's. A lone **White-winged Scoter** was seen at Raymond Pool on the 1st as well as many **Gadwalls** and **American Wigeons**. **American Coots** were seen all over the refuge. Two female **Rose-breasted Gros-beaks** were seen in the woods near Raymond Tower on the 2nd. The duck population was increasing with **Northern Shovelers** and **American Black Ducks** seen at Shear-ness on the 6th. Five **Pine Siskins** were seen at the feeders near the picnic tables on the 7th. On the 14th there were 8 **Horned Larks** sighted along Whitehall Neck Road. There was also a large flock of **American Pipits** in the fields along the road leading to Raymond Pool. On the 19th there were **Ruddy Ducks**, **Northern Shovelers**, **American Black Ducks**, **American Coots** and **American Avocets** seen in good

numbers at several of the impoundments. A **Greater Black-backed Gull** and a **Herring Gull** were seen on the mudflats at Shear-ness and a flock of approximately 15 **Black-bellied Plovers** along Whitehall Neck Road. On the 20th some 8 **Hooded Mergansers** were seen in the gut opposite Raymond Pool. The 21st saw some 20 **Green-winged Teal** at Bear Swamp. The same day there were both **Marbled** and **Hudsonian Godwits**, **Hooded Mergansers**, **Bufflehead**, and 8 **Bonaparte's Gulls** seen at Raymond Pool. A nice observation was a **Bar-nacle Goose** mixed in with a flock of **Canada Geese** at Bear Swamp. A **Cackling Goose** was seen at Raymond Pool on the 23rd. The **Bar-nacle Goose** was still being seen on the 24th. On the 26th a **Ross's Goose** was seen on the flats at Shear-ness. A **White Pelican** was seen flying over the Visitor Center by the Refuge Staff on the 30th. It was later seen out over the Refuge by some birders. The month and the season closed with the sighting of a **Belted Kingfisher** at Shear-ness.

Cheers and Good Birding!



Newsletter

is published quarterly by "Friends of Bombay Hook, Inc. (FOBH)", a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization working in conjunction with Bombay Hook NWR and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. FOBH provides financial and developmental support for environmental education programs at the refuge and in communities throughout the region.

Our readers are encouraged to share comments, provide articles for publication and/or suggestions regarding the refuge as well as notifying us of address changes.

Please direct communications to:

Friends of Bombay Hook, Inc.
2591 Whitehall Neck Road
Smyrna, DE 19977

Phone: (302) 653-6872

Fax: (302) 653-0684

email: fobhmembership@idv.net

<http://www.friendsofbombayhook.org>

Bombay Hook NWR Calendar of Events

Check website for changes and additions: bombayhook.fws.gov

Bombay Hook Visitor Center is open **Monday through Friday** from **8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.** year round and from **9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Saturday** and **Sunday** until June

[The Allee House is closed for repairs until further notice.](#)

Saturday, April 9, 2011 – *Environmental Education Workshop –Exploring the Refuge* 10:00am – 2:00 pm

The workshop is for teachers, volunteers, scout leaders, and interested visitors. It will introduce educators to the National Wildlife Refuge System and provide an understanding of how Bombay Hook NWR can be used as an outdoor classroom for environmental education programs. Participants will tour the Refuge; learn about bird migration and bird identification; explore the brackish water, fresh water, and forest habitats; and develop an understanding of how the Refuge is managed for wildlife and habitat conservation. Lesson plans and general information about the Refuge are provided. **To register, contact Tina Watson at (302) 653-6872.**

Sunday, April 10, 2011 – *Bird Identification Tour with Joel Citron* 9:30 am – 12:30 pm – Beginner and experienced bird watchers will enjoy walking a trail looking for songbirds, identifying wading birds and ducks in the impoundments, watching for eagles, and looking for shorebirds. Meet Joel at the Visitor Center.

Saturday, April 16, 2011 – *Highway Cleanup* 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm – Celebrate SPRING by cleaning up the roads leading to the Refuge. Bring your gloves and wear shoes that can get wet. Refreshments will be served after the clean up.

Wednesday, April 20, 2011 - *Garden Keepers Session* 9:30am **Creating a Native Butterfly Friendly Garden** – Learn how to attract and encourage butterflies using native plants in your garden. Sow seed of a butterfly friendly plant to grow and enjoy in your own gardens. Following the workshop, participants will perform seasonal maintenance on the landscape around the Visitors Center. This is a great opportunity to learn about fertilizers, mulches and other basic garden practices. Light refreshments will be served. To register, contact Quentin Schlieder at 302-653-6449 or qcsjr@comcast.net.

Saturday, April 23, 2011 – *Personal Nature Journaling* 10:00am – 12 noon - Would you like you and your children to remember your outdoor adventures together? Introduce your children to journaling. Join local artist Ramona Maziarz, pen and ink artist, for a fun discussion on the many ways and reasons to keep a *personal journal of your experiences and connections with the natural world. We will take a walk along a trail and discover it is possible to collect nature's "treasures" while honoring the rule of "taking only pictures and leaving only footprints."* Journaling helps develop better observation skills and trains the brain to look again and again for more detail. Not suitable for children under seven. Sketch book will be provided.

Sunday, April 24, 2011 - *Tour of the Refuge* 11:00am – 12:30pm and 1:30pm – 3:00pm - Join volunteer, Ray Cullom, for a tour of the Refuge. Find out how the Refuge is managed for wildlife, visit different habitats, and walk a trail. Meet at the Visitor Center.

Sunday, May 1, 2011 - *Bird Identification Tour with John and Becky Hargrove* 1:00pm – 4:00pm - Beginner and experienced bird watchers will enjoy walking a trail looking for migrating songbirds, identifying wading birds in the impoundments, watching for eagles, and looking for shorebirds. Meet the Hargroves at the Visitor Center.

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Saturday, May 14, 2011

- ***International Migratory Bird Day, Spring Bird Count 7:00am*** – IMDB is celebrated in Canada, the United States, Mexico, Central and South America, and the Caribbean. Public awareness and concern are crucial components of migratory bird conservation. Citizens who are enthusiastic about birds, informed about threats, and empowered to become involved in addressing those threats, can make a contribution by volunteering to participate in the national spring bird count. Meet at the Visitor Center to participate in Bombay Hook's Spring Bird Count. Teams will be formed and each team will survey a section of the Refuge. The teams tabulate their bird sightings and are usually finished before noon.
- ***Bird Identification Station 2:00pm – Sunset*** - Get a close look at the different bird species in the impoundments. Randy Murphy will be set up on the auto tour route with scopes and binoculars to help you identify waterfowl, passing raptors, and whatever else flies by. Check in at the Visitor Center for the exact location.

Wednesday, May 18, 2011 - ***Garden Keepers Session 9:30am*** - ***Bombay Hook Wildflower Walk*** - Enjoy a tour with Dr. Susan Yost to see many spring wildflowers native to Bombay Hook in bloom and learn how to grow and enjoy them in your own garden. Following the workshop, participants will perform seasonal maintenance on the landscape around the Visitors Center. Light refreshments will be served. To register, contact Quentin Schlieder at 302-653-6449 or gcsjr@comcast.net.

Thursday, May 19, 2011 – ***Salt Marsh Boat Ride 9:00am – 11:30am*** - Meet at the Visitor Center. The salt marsh grasses will be 'greening up' for summer. Shorebirds will be looking for mudflats to probe for aquatic insects, and you may see or hear a rail or two. Dress for the weather and possibly a wet spray from the water. Limit 8. **Call to register at 302-653-6872.**

Saturday, May 21, 2011 – ***The Shorebird and Horseshoe Crab Connection 12:30pm*** - Greg Breese, Project Manager for the Delaware Bay Estuary Project, will start the program with a presentation on shorebirds, their amazing migration journey, and horseshoe crabs on the Delaware Bay. The group will then go to Pickering Beach to see the shorebirds and the horseshoe crabs that come up onto the Bay beach to spawn.

Sunday, May 29, 2011 - ***Tour of the Refuge 11:00am – 12:30 pm and 1:00pm – 3:00pm*** - Join volunteer, Ray Cullom, for a tour of the Refuge. Find out how the Refuge is managed for wildlife, visit different habitats, and walk a trail. Meet at the Visitor Center.

Thursday, June 2, 2011 – ***Salt Marsh Boat Ride 9:00am – 11:30am*** - Meet at the Visitor Center. The salt marsh grasses will be 'greening up' for summer. Shorebirds will be looking for mudflats to probe for aquatic insects, and you may see or hear a rail or two. Dress for the weather and possibly a wet spray from the water. Limit 8. **Call to register at 302-653-6872.**

[Important Reminder to Refuge Visitors....](#)

To protect wildlife and their habitat and to provide the best opportunities in wildlife observation and photography, it is important not to disturb, injure, or damage plants and animals of the refuge. In fact, it is a prohibited act as stated in 50 CFR27.51. This disturbance includes flushing birds and other wildlife or using electronic calls (taping) to lure birds closer for observation or photography. Please remember to take only memories and photographs and leave only footprints.

President Obama Announces America's Great Outdoors Action Plan

President Obama recently announced an America's Great Outdoors action plan to achieve lasting conservation of the outdoor spaces that power the nation's economy, shape its culture and build its outdoor traditions.

"At a time when America's open spaces are controlled by a patchwork of groups, from government to land trusts to private citizens, it's clear that conservation in the 21st century is going to take more than just what we can do here in Washington," Obama said at a Feb. 16 White House ceremony. "The new test of environmental stewardship means finding the best ideas at the grassroots level. It means helping states, communities and nonprofits protect their own resources. And it means figuring out how the federal government can be a better partner in those efforts."

In making the federal government a better partner, the initiative seeks to reinvigorate the nation's approach to conservation and reconnect Americans, especially young people, with the lands and waters that are used for farming and ranching, hunting and fishing, and for families to spend quality time together.

Recognizing that many of these places and resources are disappearing and under intense pressure, the President established the America's Great Outdoors Initiative last spring to work with the American people in developing a conservation and recreation agenda for the 21st century. The action plan released in February outlines ways in which the federal government will help empower local communities to accomplish their conservation and recreation priorities.

Last summer, the administration held 51 listening sessions nationwide to gather input from Americans about outdoor places and activities they value most. The sessions, which drew about 10,000 participants and 105,000 written comments, helped shape the action plan.

The plan is designed to result in: accessible parks or green spaces for children; new urban parks and community green spaces; river restorations and recreational "blueways" that power economic revitalization; stronger support for farmers, ranchers and private landowners who help protect rural landscapes and provide access

for recreation; reinvestment of revenue from oil and gas extraction into the permanent protection of parks, open spaces, wildlife habitat and access for recreational activities; and a 21st century conservation ethic that builds on local ideas and solutions for environmental stewardship and connects to historic, cultural and natural heritage.

The America's Great Outdoors Initiative is "about practical, common-sense ideas from the American people on how our natural, cultural and historic resources can help us be a more competitive, stronger and healthier nation," said Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar. Recommendations and actions in the America's Great Outdoors action plan include:

- Calling for full funding of the Land and Water Conservation Fund, which directs federal revenue from oil and gas extraction for national, state and local conservation and recreation projects.
- Establishing a 21st century Conservation Service Corps to engage young Americans in public lands and water restoration.
- Extending the tax deduction for conservation easement donations on private lands beyond 2011.
- Establishing an America's Great Outdoors National Recreational Blueways Trails initiative to designate community-scale portions of rivers as recreational destinations that receive special attention for restoration and access.
- Increasing outdoor recreational opportunities and access on public lands, including establishing a Federal Interagency Council on Outdoor Recreation.
- Establishing an interagency America's Great Outdoors Council to ensure federal agencies collaborate efficiently on conservation and recreation strategies.
- Launching the Partnership for Americas Great Outdoors, a non-governmental body that will focus on forming strategic conservation partnerships across communities, businesses and governments.
- Partnering with communities nationwide to establish and expand urban parks and green spaces and to build on large landscape conservation projects.

The full, 173-page action plan is at: www.doi.gov/AmericasGreatOutdoors.



Save the Date!

Kevin Karlson is scheduled to lead another shore-bird identification workshop on August 13, 2011.

Look for details in the next newsletter or on Bombay Hook's website: bombayhook.fws.gov.

Photographs by Karen and Mark Dever



The Refuge Store

Your Refuge Store committee spent a lot of time over the winter making changes which customers will never see. Those changes will make functioning in the store easier in the long run. We will be able to track our best sellers and find information more quickly. We also have made plans to change the store's displays. Ease of access, eliminating crowding and creating a welcoming area which displays the merchandise are our goals. ***Come visit us after Easter to see the new displays. In the next few days, we expect most of the spring merchandise to be arriving.***

As you visit us this spring check out the new books and old favorites for birders, gardeners, and children. We only carry books about things you may actually see on the Refuge. As you visit the Refuge and its store, think about volunteering. When we are in the store, it means the Refuge staff can work without interruptions. If you enjoy talking with people about our wonderful resource, ask Tina Watson, or one of the volunteers in the Visitor's Center, about becoming a volunteer. The people you meet at the Visitors Center are interesting, enthusiastic and needing information about the Refuge. About 90% of the work is just that. Talking about the auto tour and answering questions about what birds have been seen recently are the primary responsibilities of volunteer staff at the Visitors Center. We especially need people who are available for 4 hour shifts during the week.

Pat McElwee
Store Manager

Garden Keepers Sessions - Learn about Native Plants

The Garden Keepers is a group of garden enthusiasts which meets monthly to learn about gardening with native plants in the mid-Atlantic region and to maintain a native landscape near the Visitors Center at Bombay Hook National Wildlife Refuge. The sessions are free and open to everyone but reservations are suggested since many activities are limited. The group meets on third Wednesday of each month. This year's topics include: creating a native butterfly friendly garden, wildflower identification walk, harmonizing with herbaceous native plants, drought resistant native plants, tour of University of Delaware's botanic garden, mosses and moss gardening, and native plants in America. Join the Garden Keepers to learn, volunteer, and have fun! Check Bombay Hook's website for more information or contact Quentin Schlieder at (302) 653-6449.



Garden Keepers potting Maidenhair ferns to plant in their home gardens.

2011 Garden Keepers Sessions

Wednesday, April 20, 2011 9:30 a.m. Creating a Native Butterfly Friendly Garden - Learn how to attract and encourage butterflies using native plants in your garden. Sow seed of a butterfly friendly plant to grow and enjoy in your own gardens. Following the workshop, participants will perform seasonal maintenance on the landscape around the Visitors Center. This is a great opportunity to learn about fertilizers, mulches and other basic garden practices. Light refreshments will be served.

Wednesday, May 18, 2011 9:30 a.m. Bombay Hook Wildflower Walk - Enjoy a tour with Dr. Susan Yost to see many spring wildflowers native to Bombay Hook in bloom and learn how to grow and enjoy them in your own garden. Following the workshop, participants will perform seasonal maintenance on the landscape around the Visitors Center. Light refreshments will be served.

perform seasonal maintenance on the landscape around the Visitors Center. Light refreshments will be served.

Wednesday, June 8, 2011 7:00 p.m. National Garden Week Celebration - "Harmonizing with Herbaceous Native Plants"

Dr. Jules Bruck of the University of Delaware will show ways to design gardens using native perennial plants. Learn about color, texture, and form in design while seeing stunning plant combinations.

Wednesday, June 15, 2011 9:30 a.m. Drought Resistant Native Plants and Strategies for Delaware Gardens Picnic Luncheon and Tour of a Private Garden - Following the workshop, participants will perform seasonal maintenance on the landscape around the Visitors Center and then visit a nearby private garden for a picnic luncheon.

July and August - Summer break. No sessions are scheduled.

Wednesday, September 21, 2011 8:30 a.m. University of Delaware Botanic Garden Tour - The UD Botanic Garden is a series of twelve gardens on fifteen acres. UDBG continues to be used by faculty, students, Green Industry professionals, and the public, and serves a primary role in supporting the CANR programs in horticulture, plant science, entomology, and landscape design. Join us for an "insider's" visit to these gardens including The Lepidoptera Trail. Space is limited and reservations are required.

Saturday, September 24, 2011 10:00 a.m. 7th Annual Native Plant Symposium -Mosses and Moss Gardening - This symposium is sponsored jointly by the Delaware Native Plant Society and the Bombay Hook Garden Keepers. Participants will learn about the types of Mosses that grow in our region and how they can be used effectively in the landscape. Guest speakers include Dr. Susan Munch, noted moss specialist and author of ***Outstanding Mosses & Liverworts of Pennsylvania & Nearby States*** and moss gardening guru David E. Benner, co-founder of Moss Acres. Munch will discuss moss classification and ecology and Benner will discuss his nationally renowned shade garden near New Hope, PA. A complimentary lunch is included. Following lunch there will be an optional field trip. The symposium is free but registration is required and space is limited. To register, contact Quentin Schlieder by phone at (302) 653-6449 or by e-mail at qcsjr@comcast.net after September 1, 2011.

Saturday, October 15, 2011 3:00 p.m. Native Plants in America: Past, Present and Future - Catherine Renzi is an active speaker at flower shows, native plant conferences, garden clubs, universities, and continuing education programs around the Middle Atlantic. As owner operator of Yellow Springs Farm in Chester Springs, PA she has employed her lifelong interest in art and nature to create a unique and beautiful working landscape and she can show you how you can too!



Garden Keepers booth at open house, educating the public about "Bring Nature Home: Planting Native Plants for Wildlife"

Saturday, November 19, 2011 10 a.m. - noon National Family Volunteer Day - National Family Volunteer Day is a great opportunity for families and individuals to spend quality time making significant contributions to the Refuge while learning about natural gardens and gardening. Light refreshments will be served.

Volunteers Providing Education Programs for Bombay Hook NWR

Friends of Bombay Hook, Inc. supports environmental education programs on and off the Refuge. Volunteers are needed to lead school groups on the refuge educating about wildlife and habitats and to go to schools to teach about wildlife conservation and careers in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. If this something you would be interested in doing contact Tina Watson at (302) 653- 6872 or email at tina_watson@fws.gov.



Volunteer Nancy Morrison teaching about wildlife conservation

Larry Price educating about careers in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service



Children learning about wildlife in the fresh water habitat at Bombay Hook.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN JOINING FRIENDS???

FRIENDS OF BOMBAY HOOK is a cooperating association formed with the Bombay Hook National Wildlife Refuge and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. It is a private, non-profit corporation which was founded to promote conservation, environmental education, and better understanding of and appreciation for Bombay Hook National Wildlife Refuge.

Each year more than 3,000 students visit Bombay Hook. They use equipment to study habitats, watch videos about endangered species, and are taught from field guides - all provided by **FRIENDS OF BOMBAY HOOK!**

If you used an Auto Tour Brochure or the Bird or Mammal List, these too have been funded by **FRIENDS OF BOMBAY HOOK!**

Your Membership Dues will make it possible for Friends of Bombay Hook to continue its support of educational and recreational programs at Bombay Hook.

Proceeds from the Refuge Store in the Visitor Center at Bombay Hook also help support the Friends program and activities. Make this your place to buy field guides, books, T-shirts, Posters, and Souvenirs!

OUR MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS INCLUDE:

- 10% Discount on all items sold in the Refuge Store
- Subscription to the Friends Newsletter (published 4 times a year)
- Participation in special wildlife education programs and field trips
- Attendance at the Annual Meeting (held in June)
- Eligibility in the Dover Federal Credit Union (DFCU)
- Opportunity to meet others with similar interests in birds, other wildlife, wetlands, and the environment

And perhaps best of all, the chance to say, *"Thank you Bombay Hook, for all the great times I've had here!"*

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Submit completed application at the Visitor Center
(payment by cash, check or credit card) or Mail (with check) to:

*Friends of Bombay Hook
2591 Whitehall Neck Road
Smyrna, DE 19977*

Or you can go to www.friendsofbombayhook.org/membership.html
and follow the instructions in applying or renewing your membership

Renewal New Member

Date: _____

Name

Address

City, State, Zip

E-mail

Newsletter Preference:

Print E-mail (require E-mail address)

Membership Plan (Check One)

	Annual
<input type="checkbox"/> Junior (under 18)*	\$5.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual	\$15.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Family	\$20.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor***	\$25.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining	\$50.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Corporate**	\$100.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Life***	\$200.00

*Junior membership: under age 18.

**Corporate sponsorship: includes link to FOBH website;
no voting privileges or store discount.

***Sponsor and Life memberships includes family.

Method of Payment

- Cash (payment at Visitor Center only)
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A Reminder...

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