

http://www.friendsofbombayhook.org

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The President's Note By Frank Rawling

Greetings to all once again! Well, I am back for another two year term as President of the Friends of Bombay Hook. Many thanks to Janet for her great work as President for the last 4 years! Time sure flies by. Also, a warm welcome to Hannah McLennan and Randy Murphy who have joined the Board. Long time Board member John Hargrove has agreed to fill the long vacant Development Chair in addition to remaining as webmaster and our in- house computer guru. Re-elected to the Board were P. J. Hamm –Vice-President, Jim Homer, Treasurer, and Ed Langham and Linda Osiecki. Janet remains on the Board as Past-President. Long-term Board member and former President Bob Mayer has retired from the Board. A hearty thank you to Bob for his outstanding contributions to The Friends and the Refuge. We will greatly miss you (Sambo's will also!).

Over the years the Friends have contributed much to the Refuge. However, we can, I believe, do a lot more. That will be the focus of the next two years. A subset of this is increasing the membership and encouraging more people to volunteer. This year the Refuge staff will be busy putting together the CCP (Comprehensive Conservation Plan). This will increase their work load. Anything the Friends can do to ease their workload by helping out on the refuge will be greatly appreciated, especially in this time of tight budgets. So, stay tuned!

I hope to see you out at the Refuge.

Bird Notes by Frank Rawling

The Winter Season

December

What a way to begin the season! A **White Pelican** was observed at Shearness on the 1st. This was followed by a sighting of 2 **Marbled Godwits** at Raymond on the 2nd. Also seen on the 2nd was a **White-fronted Goose** mixed in with a flock of **Canadas** in the field opposite the Raymond parking area. On the 3rd a flock of 158 **American Avocets** was seen at Raymond as well as 4 **Marbled Godwits**. The next day 2 **Hooded Mergansers** were seen at Bear Swamp. A real surprise on the 8th was the

sighting of an immature male **American Redstart** at the entrance of sighted on the bay side the Bear Swamp Trail. An **American Bittern** was seen at Shearness on the 16th. The same location harbored 2 **Bald Eagles**. The first report



White-Crowned Sparrow

of White-crowned Sparrows at the Visitor Center occurred on the 17th. On the same day a Golden Eagle was reported from the bayside of Shearness. Eastern Meadowlarks were at the Allee House on the 18th. Christmas Eve was celebrated with a sighting of the Golden Eagle. A nice Christmas present was the sighting of a Winter Wren at the Finis turnaround. The month closed out with 2 Bald Eagles at Shearness.

January

A new year began with the sighting of a pair of **Bald Eagles** and a pair of **Northern Harriers** over the bay side of Shearness. On the 2nd a **Belted Kingfisher** was noticed at the north end of Raymond. **Northern Shovelers** were also in residence. A nice sighting on the 9th was a light-phase **Rough-legged Hawk** over Shearness. **Hooded Mergansers** were also seen at Shearness. The 16th saw **Northern Shovelers, Buffleheads**, and **Hooded Mergansers** on the impoundments. No less than 10 **Wood Ducks** were seen on the 22nd. The next day a **White-fronted Goose** was at Raymond.

Common Mergansers were also seen on the 22nd. On the 23rd an **American Tree Sparrow** was observed on the road to Bear Swamp as



White-fronted Goose

well as a late C o m m o n Yellowthroat. A male Canvasback was sighted on the bayside of Shearness. A Ruddy Duck was reported on the 29th.

The month closed out with the sighting of a **Great Egret** at Raymond Pool and a **Black-crowned Night Heron** at Bear Swamp.

February

The shortest month of the year opened with the sighting of a **Belted Kingfisher** at Finis Pool and a Merlin at Bear Swamp. A couple of days later an American Kestrel was noticed near Finis Pool. The same day an Eastern Phoebe was seen at Finis Pool. There were lots of ducks on the refuge on the 6th. Among those seen were Canvasbacks, Buffleheads, Northern Shovelers and Common Mergansers. Not to be outdone was a large flock of Tundra Swans. A lone Lesser Scaup was seen on the 9th at Shearness. One birder counted 18 Canvasbacks on the bayside of Shearness on the 12th. Horned Larks were seen along Whitehall Neck Road on the 13th. Additional ducks observed on the impoundments on the 16th were **American Widgeon** and **Gadwalls**. Eastern Bluebirds were seen near the Allee House on the 16th. Five **Tree Swallows** were seen over the fields near Bear Swamp Road on the 18th. Near Bear Swamp on the 19th a **Brown Creeper** was sighted and on the 20th a Peregrine Falcon was seen near Shearness. A large flock of Hooded Mergansers were seen at Big Woods Pond on the 21st. Also on the impoundments that day were Ring-necked **Ducks**. On the 22nd 4 American Pipits were seen. The sighting of a Greater Scaup on the 28th closed out the sightings for the season.

Cheers and Good Birding!

The Refuge Store

Since I took over as Store Manager September of 2009, we have had \$22,802.06 in sales and have purchased just under \$15,000 worth of inventory. May, 2011 was the best month of sales we have ever had (as far as I could find) at \$5,147.86. April sales were \$2717.53 and March was \$1489.31. Income has slowed in June as usual as our resident bugs come out, but we are still doing well.

The sales of new books, especially ID by Crossley, and some new t-shirt designs

make up the bulk of that increase. We had to restock on new t-shirts and on a number of books recently. We are selling also many of Marcia (Poling)'s ornaments. Our other Marsha (Holler) de-



signed a snow goose t-shirt for us which is on grey and a light blue. We anticipate adding some new items for summer and fall. We are working to get a distributor of bug spray for resale for the first time. We also will have bug jackets and hats again shortly. We hope to add socks (which sell very well at Eastern Neck NWR), night lights, and many more children's items.

I am proud of the work the volunteers are doing in the store as they have stepped up to do things differently with the new displays and with more products. We made changes in the money management and people have adjusted well to those changes. My reporting is much simpler now than it was last fall. I especially want to mention Karen Dever who worked very hard to get the new displays done. And Hannah McLennan, who has taken over

some of the detail work which Verna had picked up over the years. As you know, Hannah and Karen have been part of the committee I formed to spread the responsibility of the store and thus the information about running the store. They both have been totally reliable and have accomplished a lot. I will be having knee surgery in August, so Karen and Hannah will be doing even more of my job than they have so far. But, they are both well prepared now and will get the rest of the information they need over the summer.

During the winter, the Board of Directors generously allocated \$1,800 for us to spend on displays for the store. You can see that we have purchased bookcases and low displays from IKEA to unify the look of the store. Those purchases cost about \$1,200. We still have a couple of purchases to make



to complete the look of the bookcases. We have spotlight lamps which need the additional wiring to install them. We also plan to purchase a couple of racks to improve the t-shirt displays. Finally, we may add 3 other cases to go under the large display. They would block children from going under the display. We expect to have all of these purchases made and ready for the fall weekend store hours. We are proud of the new look and hope you are happy too.

Pat McElwee Store Manager

DELAWARE FIELD CHECKLIST

Delmarva Ornithological Society

Observers 10 Observers

Bombay Hook National Wildlife Refuge - Smyrna, DE

Localities	1	2	
Red-throated Loon			Г
Common Loon			Г
Pied-billed Grebe			Г
Horned Grebe			Г
Red-necked Grebe			Г
Eared Grebe			Г
Northern Fulmar			Г
Cory's Shearwater			Г
Greater Shearwater			Г
Sooty Shearwater			Г
Manx Shearwater			
Audubon's Shearwater			
Wilson's Storm-Petrel			
Leach's Storm-Petrel			
Northern Gannet			
American White Pelican			
Brown Pelican			
Great Cormorant			Г
Double-crested Cormorant			
American Bittern			Г
Least Bittern			
Great Blue Heron 30			
Great Egret 55			
Snowy Egret 9			
Little Blue Heron			
Tricolored Heron			
Cattle Egret			
Green Heron			
Black-crowned Night-Heron [6]			
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron			
White Ibis			
Glossy Ibis			
White-faced lbis	1		
Fulvous Whistling-Duck			

Tundra Swan			
Mute Swan			
Greater White-fronted Go	ose		
Snow Goose			
Ross's Goose			
Brant			
Canada Goose	4		
Wood Duck	7		
Green-winged Teal			
American Black Duck			
Mallard	23		
Northern Pintail			
Blue-winged Teal	ı		
Northern Shoveler			
Gadwall		100	
Eurasian Wigeon			
American Wigeon			
Canvasback			
Redhead			
Ring-necked Duck			
Greater Scaup			
Lesser Scaup			
Common Eider			
King Eider			
Harlequin Duck			
Oldsquaw			
Black Scoter			7
Surf Scoter			
White-winged Scoter			
Common Goldeneye			
Bufflehead			
Hooded Merganser			
Common Merganser			
Red-breasted Merganser			
Ruddy Duck			

Black Vulture	
Furkey Vulture	2
Osprey	-
Swallow-tailed Kite	
Mississippi Kite	
Bald Eagle	6
Northern Harrier	
Sharp-shinned Hawk	
Cooper's Hawk	
Northern Goshawk	
Red-shouldered Hawk	
Broad-winged Hawk	
Red-tailed Hawk	
Rough-legged Hawk	
Golden Eagle	
American Kestrel	
Merlin	
Peregrine Falcon	nielopii ideaa
Ring-necked Pheasant	
Wild Turkey	3
Northern Bobwhite	-
Yellow Rail	
Black Rail	
Clapper Rail	1
King Rail	-
Virginia Rail	
Sora	
Sora Common Moorhen	
American Coot	
Black-bellied Plover	27
American Golden-Plove	
Semipalmated Plover	18
Piping Plover	-
Killdeer	3
American Oystercatche	10
Black-necked Stilt	17
American Avocet	42
Greater Yellowlegs	2
Lesser Yellowlegs	6
Solitary Sandpiper	
Willet	14
Spotted Sandpiper	1
Upland Sandpiper	
Whimbrel	
Hudsonian Godwit	
Marbled Godwit	
Ruddy Turnstone	
Red Knot	
Sanderling	
Semipalmated Sandpip	er 934
Western Sandpiper	

Red-necked Stint	
Least Sandpiper /35	
White-rumped Sandpiper	
Baird's Sandpiper	
Pectoral Sandpiper	
Purple Sandpiper	
Dunlin 2,679	
Curlew Sandpiper	
Stilt Sandpiper	
Buff-breasted Sandpiper	
Ruff	-
Short-billed Dowitcher 595	
Long-billed Dowitcher	
Common Snipe	
American Woodcock	
Wilson's Phalarope	
Red-necked Phalarope	
Red Phalarope	
Pomarine Jaeger	
Parasitic Jaeger	
Long-tailed Jaeger Great Skua	
	-
South Polar Skua	
Laughing Gull	
Franklin's Gull	
Little Gull Black-headed Gull	
Bonaparte's Gull	
Ring-billed Gull	
Herring Gull	
Iceland Gull	
Lesser Black-backed Gull	
Glaucous Gull	
Great Black-backed Gull	
Black-legged Kittiwake Gull-billed Tern	
	_
Caspian Tern	
Royal Tern Sandwich Tern	
Roseate Tern	
Common Tern Arctic Tern	
Arctic Tem Forster's Tem	
Least Tem	
White-winged Tern	
Black Tem	
Black Skimmer	
Dovekie	
Common Murre	
A STATE OF THE STA	
Common Murre Thick-billed Murre Razorbill	

Atlantic Puffin		Г
Rock Dove		T
Mourning Dove		r
Monk Parakeet		t
Black-billed Cuckoo		1
Yellow-billed Cuckoo 1		
Barn Owl		H
Eastern Screech-Owl		H
Great Horned Owl		H
Snowy Owl		H
Barred Owl		
Long-eared Owl		
Short-eared Owl		H
Northern Saw-whet Owl	7. 1	
Common Nighthawk		-
Chuck-will's-widow		۰
Whip-poor-will		
Chimney Swift		
Ruby-throated Hummingbird		-
Rufous Hummingbird		-
		-
Belted Kinglisher		-
Red-headed Woodpecker		-
Red-bellied Woodpecker 6		-
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker		L
Downy Woodpecker		_
Hairy Woodpecker		_
Northern Flicker 2		
Pileated Woodpecker		
Olive-sided Flycatcher		_
Eastern Wood-Pewee 9		_
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher		_
Acadian Flycatcher		_
Alder Flycatcher		_
Willow Flycatcher		
Least Flycatcher		
Eastern Phoebe		
Great Crested Flycatcher 2		
Western Kingbird		Ξ
Eastern Kingbird 22		Π
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher		
Homed Lark		_
Purple Martin 172		Ξ
Tree Swallow /06		
Northern Rough-winged Swallow		_
Bank Swallow		
Cliff Swallow		Ť
Barn Swallow 6		-
Blue Jay 7		-
American Crow		-
		-
Fish Crow		_
Black-capped Chickadee		

Carolina Chickagee		
Tufted Titmouse 2		
Red-breasted Nuthatch		
White-breasted Nuthatch		
Brown-headed Nuthatch		
Brown Creeper		
Carolina Wren		
Carolina Wren 9		
Winter Wren		
Sedge Wren		
Marsh Wren 21		
Golden-crowned Kinglet		
Ruby-crowned Kinglet		
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher		
Veery 2		
Gray-cheeked Thrush		
Bicknell's Thrush		
Swainson's Thrush		_
Hermit Thrush		
Wood Thrush 6		
Wood Thrush 6 American Robin 30 Gray Catbird 61		
Gray Catbird 61		_
Northern Mockingbird		_
Brown Thrasher 5		-
American Pipit		_
Cedar Waxwing 5		_
Loggerhead Shrike		_
European Starling 13		_
White-eyed Vireo		-
Solitary Vireo		_
Yellow-throated Vireo		_
Warbling Vireo		_
Philadelphia Vireo	+	-
Red-eyed Vireo 12	1	_
Blue-winged Warbler		_
Golden-winged Warbler	+	-
Tennessee Warbler		_
Orange-crowned Warbler		-
Nashville Warbler		-
Northern Parula		-
Yellow Warbler 22	$\overline{}$	
Chestnut-sided Warbler		-
Magnolia Warbler		-
Cape May Warbler		
Black-throated Blue Warbler		-
Yellow-rumped Warbler 4		
Black-throated Green Warbler I		_
Blackburnian Warbler		
Yellow-throated Warbler		1
Pine Warbler		

Prairie Warbler		
Palm Warbler		
Bay-breasted Warbler		
Blackpoll Warbler	3	
Cerulean Warbler		
Black-and-white Warble	r	
American Redstart	1	
Prothonotary Warbler		
Worm-eating Warbler		
Ovenbird		
Northern Waterthrush		
Louisiana Waterthrush		
Kentucky Warbler		
Connecticut Warbler		
Mourning Warbler		
Common Yellowthroat	52	
Hooded Warbler		
Wilson's Warbler		
Canada Warbler		
Yellow-breasted Chat	1	
Summer Tanager		
Scarlet Tanager	4	
Northern Cardinal	14	
Rose-breasted Grosbea	k	
Blue Grosbeak	22	
Indigo Bunting	10	
Painted Bunting		
Dickcissel		
Eastern Towhee	5	
American Tree Sparrow		
Chipping Sparrow		
Clay-colored Sparrow		
Field Sparrow		
Vesper Sparrow		
Lark Sparrow		
Savannah Sparrow		
Gracebonner Sparrow	The state of the s	

Lapland Longspur Snow Bunting	
Bobolink Red-winged Blackbird	1593
Eastern Meadowlark Yellow-headed Blackbir	d
Rusty Blackbird	
Brewer's Blackbird	
Boat-tailed Grackle	0.0
Common Grackle	43
Brown-headed Cowbird	5
Orchard Oriole	3
Baltimore Oriole	
Purple Finch	
House Finch	
Red Crossbill	
White-winged Crossbill	
Common Redpoll	
Pine Siskin	
American Goldfinch	26
	O(O
Evening Grosbeak	9
House Sparrow	8

2011 Spring Round Up

Observers:

Bryan Feyock, Jennifer Bowman, Janet Mitchell, Annie Mitchell, Randy Murphy, John Dunn, Karen Purdy, Hannah McLennan, Carol Palmer, Marcia Poling

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 am to 4:00 pm year round.

The Visitor Center is **closed** on weekends until **September 3, 2011.**

The Allee House is in need of repairs and is closed until further notice.

The wildlife drive is open from sunrise to sunset everyday of the year weather permitting. Parts of the wildlife drive are closed for hunting 15 days of the year.

Family Explorer Kit Available - Check out the kit at the Visitor Center and explore the refuge. There are wildflower, tree, bird, amphibian and reptile, insect, and mammal guides to help you identify what you see on the 12-mile wildlife drive and 5 walking trails. Binoculars will help you get a close-up view of birds and magnification lenses will help view smaller specimens. A dip net is provided to explore the brackish pond on Boardwalk Trail and the freshwater pond at Finis. **Instructions are included on ethical exploration methods** and where and how to use the equipment. The next time you visit the refuge ask if the kit is available.

Saturday, August 13, 2011 - Shorebird and Birding by Impression with Kevin Karlson – 8:30 am – 3:00 pm Sponsored by the Friends of Bombay Hook NWR

Outdoor Field Trip – 8:30 am – 12:30 pm: Join author and professional field trip leader Kevin Karlson as he shares a simple and more effective approach to shorebird ID highlighted in his bestselling book <u>The Shorebird Guide</u>. With an initial focus on basic impressions of size, shape and body motion for all birds seen, a more effective starting point is achieved for your ID pursuit. Appreciation of this different and exciting field approach is best experienced in field conditions, and Kevin has been fine tuning his teaching approach over the last five years. Beginners and expert level tips will be shared, with something for everyone involved.

Kevin will also show how this simpler ID approach may be applied to all birds in the field. He is presently completing a new book titled <u>Birding by Impression</u> for the publishing house of Houghton Mifflin Company, with a projected release date of late 2011 in the Roger Tory Peterson Reference Series. Come and see how a field approach using basic impressions of size, shape and body motion may be combined with a traditional, detail oriented approach to reach a more effective ID conclusion. Kevin has written a number of articles on this subject for *Living Bird, Wild Bird* and *Birding* magazines, and gives workshops at major birding and nature festivals around North America.

- <u>Lunch 12:30 pm 1:30 pm</u> Bring your lunch.
- <u>Indoor Workshop 1:30 pm 3:00 pm:</u> This interactive indoor workshop will share a different approach to field identification that Kevin calls *Birding by Impression*. This exciting ID approach concentrates on basic impressions of size, shape and body motion to form a surprisingly accurate initial mental picture of every bird seen in the field. These non-changeable field characters may be combined with traditional ID approaches using details of feather patterns and plumage to reach a more comprehensive ID picture. A similar approach was used in Kevin's best selling book, <u>The Shorebird Guide</u> (Houghton Mifflin Co., 2006), which will be for sale during the day.

The first half of the program concentrates on shorebirds and how to apply this approach in all field conditions. The second half shows how to apply this approach to all bird families, and uses a number of digitized, comparative photos from Kevin's new book *Birding by Impression*. These photos allow the viewer to see similar species in side-by-side comparison that is rarely, if ever, possible in field conditions. The end result is a surprising recognition of obvious and subtle structural and plumage differences between these similar species that is not possible otherwise. Come and share in this innovative new approach to bird ID, with audience participation encouraged with the digitized photo section. Space limited. Call to register, 302-653-6872.

(Continued on page 6)

Bombay Hook NWR Calendar of Events

(Continued from page 5)

Saturday, August 27, 2011 - *Shorebird Identification Workshop with Andy Urquhart and Eric Braun.* Learn a system to ID shorebirds based on size, structure, habits, and plumage. Half-Day includes classroom and field work. Reservations required. **Call Andy at 302-239-2471** by 8/25/11 if you are planning to attend.

Saturday, September 3, 2011 - *Volunteer Orientation* - 10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Bombay Hook National Wildlife Refuge is seeking responsible individuals who have an interest in wildlife conservation, public relations, maintenance work, and environmental education. A meeting for new volunteers will be held Saturday, September 4, 2011 at the refuge visitor center. The meeting will cover volunteer opportunities and upcoming activities, with the latter part of the session being a tour of the Refuge. Individuals are needed to staff the visitor center and operate The Refuge Store on weekends and weekdays starting in September. Volunteers are also needed to provide environmental education programs for school groups, conduct refuge tours, provide trail and landscaping maintenance, and help with highway cleanups.

Wednesday, September 21, 2011 - *Garden Keepers Session: University of Delaware Botanic Garden Tour* - **8:30** a.m. - **4:00** p.m. - . 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 College of Agriculture and Natural Resources (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. To register, contact Quentin Schlieder by phone at (302) 653-6449 or by e-mail at qcsjr@comcast.net.

Saturday, September 24, 2011 - 7th Annual Native Plant Symposium - Mosses and Moss Gardening -

10:00 am - 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 <u>Outstanding Mosses & Liverworts of Pennsylvania & Nearby States</u> 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 - Garden Keepers Presentation: Native Plants in America: Past, Present and Future - 3:00 pm - 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!

Saturday, November 19, 2011 - Garden Keepers Session: National Family Volunteer Day - 10 am - 12 noon 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.

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.

Friends' Bird Club

Did you know? You already "belong" to the Friends' Bird Club as a benefit of your Friends' membership. The Club just needs to know that you are interested.

Bird walks are the Club's main activity. Everyone, from veteran expert to raw beginner, is encouraged to participate. The groups are usually small – 6 to 10 people on average – a good size for birding. This is a great way to hone your birding skills and chat with other birders.

This past winter, the Club ventured north to White Clay Creek and Delaware City, south to the Indian River Inlet and in-between to closer areas, including Prime Hook NWR. In April, we joined Bombay Hook's public bird walks. In May, the Club participated in the annual Spring Bird Count, also at the Refuge. A severe storm warning caused another May trip's cancellation. The subsequent high heat dimmed further planning for the rest of the spring. Lists of the species seen were distributed after each trip.

From January through March, well over 100 species were seen despite weather challenges. Some of the highlights were:

- Pied-billed Grebes
- Red-breasted Mergansers
- Canvasback
- Belted Kingfisher
- Greater Scaup
- Northern Harrier
- Song Sparrow
- Yellow-rumped Warbler January 1: 1st Warbler of the year for all of us!
- American Goldfinch
- Red-shouldered Hawk (immature)
- Great Blue Heron
- Common Loon
- Brandt
- Long-tailed Ducks
- Surf Scoters
- White-winged Scoters
- Black Scoters
- Red-throated Loon
- Ruddy Turnstones
- Purple Sandpipers
- Bonaparte's Gulls
- Ring-billed Gulls

- Herring Gulls
- Greater Black-backed Gulls
- Glaucous Gull
- White-breasted Nuthatch
- Red-shouldered Hawk
- Wood Ducks
- American Widgeon
- Hooded Merganser
- Bufflehead
- Belted Kingfisher
- Northern Flicker
- Bluebird
- American Coot
- Ring-necked Duck

The Club will resume bird walks in the fall and will have a planning meeting in late summer. Everyone on the Bird Club email list will receive notices.

While tentative field trip schedules are on the Friends' website, the finalized schedules, important last minute changes and reports from the field are emailed, so it is important to be on the Club's email list. Please email Hannah McLennan or call her at (302) 559-4848 to be added. There is no obligation to attend.

We hope to see you soon!



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

News! The Visitors Center Store

Lots and lots of new items, a fresh look and record sales to benefit Bombay Hook - these are the highlights of the Friends' store in the Visitors Center.

In late spring, the old shelves were replaced with modern display units and shelves. Now the store has much more room for merchandise and a cheerful, new look.

Many book titles have been added, including the popular, new Crossley field guide, more bird song CDs and a birding DVD. New T-shirt styles and designs are replaced with additional styles as they sell out (which they do!).

By fall, there will be many more children's items, more hats, nature socks, night lights and the unique Jabebo bird and wildlife earrings made from recycled materials. And, much more. Several new items will be under \$5.

You may have noticed two popular additions already – snacks and bug spray!

Sales have increased significantly, and May 2011 had the highest sales since the store opened. This is terrific news, as all profits benefit the Refuge.

Much of the store's recent success is due to the wonderful volunteers who keep the merchandise stocked, fresh and attractive and who greet and help our visitors. Special recognition goes to the store's new manager, Pat McElwee, who devotes countless hours on a volunteer basis and whose leadership inspired all these improvements.

If you would like to volunteer in the store, please contact Tina Watson at Bombay Hook at (302) 653-6872.

Please stop by, and remember that all Friends' members get a 10% discount on merchandise.

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
- Participation in the Birding Club
- 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

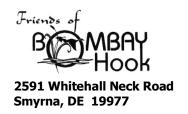
And perhaps best of all, the chance to say, "Thank you Bombay Hook, for all the great times I've had here!"

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

Smyrna, DE		
Or you can go to <u>www.friendsofbom</u> and follow the instructions in applying		
☐ Renewal ☐ New Member	Membership Plan (Check	One) Annual
0.111	☐ Junior (under 18)*	\$5.00
Date:	☐ Individual	\$15.00
	☐ Family	\$20.00
Name	☐ Sponsor***	\$25.00
	☐ Sustaining	\$50.00
Address	☐ Corporate**	\$100.00
Address	☐ Life***	\$200.00
City State 7in	*Junior membership: under age 18.	
City, State, Zip	**Corporate sponsorship:includes linl no voting privileges or store discount.	
	***Sponsor and Life memberships inc	ludes family.
E-mail	Method of Paym	<u>ient</u>
Newsletter Preference:	Cash (payment at Visitor Center only)	
☐ Print ☐ E-mail (require E-mail address)	Check (payment by mail or at Visitor Center)	
9	☐ Visa (payment at Visitor Cen	ter only)
	☐ MasterCard (payment at Visi	tor Center only)



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Photos Wanted

The Visitors Center store needs a few photos of Bombay Hook to use for postcards. If you have taken photos that they could use, please email them to the store for consideration. The store volunteers will choose two or three initially, and photo credit will be given on each postcard. Selections will be made based on photo quality, variety and representation of Bombay Hook. Please email your photo(s) to Karen Dever, store volunteer, at BHNWRphotos@comcast.net. No more than three (3) photos per email, please.