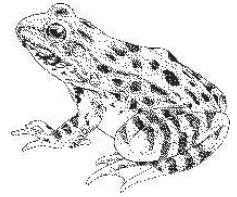




FRIENDS OF HUNTLEY MEADOWS PARK



JUNE 2004

E-MAIL ADDRESS: info@friendsofhuntleymeadows.org

WEB SITE: <http://friendsofhuntleymeadows.org>

President's message

The Friends of Huntley Meadows are winding down another successful year of “promoting, preserving and protecting” Huntley Meadows. Our fiscal year ends on June 30. Our Annual Meeting is June 22, at which you will be asked to vote for new directors of the Corporation. We are fortunate to have most of this years Directors agree to continue, and we have four new candidates seeking election to the Board.

- ▶ Ken Larsen is our new newsletter editor. Lolette Guthrie has moved to North Carolina and can no longer serve on the Board or prepare the newsletter. Ken is a Park volunteer. He is retired from WMATA (Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority - the Metro). He lives in Arlington, and has been enjoying the Park for several years.
- ▶ Marianne Mooney is also a Park volunteer, serving as the Volunteer on Duty at the visitor center on Monday mornings. She has led plant walks in the park and participates in the yearly Birdathon. Marianne has been the president of the Potowmack Chapter of the Virginia Native Plant Society for the last five years. She is also on the board of the Friends of Green Spring Park
- ▶ Chuck Studhome is the owner and proprietor of One Good Tern in Alexandria. He is a seasoned naturalist and birder who has explored most of the rich birding sites in our area. He holds a USDA Certificate of Natural History Field Studies. The passion to protect natural areas has passed from father to son. Chuck is the son of Allen Studhome who was a major participant in the struggle to stop the road through Huntley Meadows.
- ▶ Connie Carpender recently retired as the Huntley Meadows Administrative Assistant. She is intimately familiar with the workings of the Park and the Resource Management Division of the Park Authority. Her contributions to our coordination with these elements will be invaluable.

Our Annual meeting will also have a presentation about the Cicada invasion by Dr. Dexter Hinckley. Dex holds a PhD in entomology from the University of Hawaii. He is retired from EPA, has substantial volunteer experience with the Smithsonian and the National Zoo, and now does “freelance” volunteer work at schools, senior centers and other parks. Be sure to call for reservations.

As of the date this note is being prepared, the tree care for the two champion Swamp Chestnut Oaks located on the Parks northern boundary should be completed on May 26. FOHMP was given an award from the County Tree Commission this year for its work on this project.

Finally, let me direct your attention to a new project we have begun. We are sponsoring a photo contest based on photography of Huntley Meadows. The rules and an application form are found in this edition. So, dust off the old Brownie (Am I that old?) and start hunting for great shots.

Harry

Birdathon 2004

My first sighting in the parking lot on May 4th was not a bird, but rather a Fairfax County Police Officer who was curious what business I had in the park before 5AM. I'm not sure if "listening for owls" was the response he expected, but he allowed me to continue on my way into the woods. With a bright full moon illuminating the wetland, I joined Chris French (who had already heard 3 Barred Owls). There we listened to the first Cardinal of the morning before a chorus of many shorebirds became the most conspicuous sound from the boardwalk. When we finished later in the day, a total of 108 species had been found by the three Birdathon teams, breaking the old record of 105.

What were the highlights? Well, most people ask first about the warblers, and there were 18 species found that day. They included Blue-winged, Blackburnian, Magnolia, Prothonotary, Worm-eating, Canada, Prairie, Yellow, Redstart, and both Waterthrushes. Raptors were also on proud display with 4 Bald Eagles, 7 Red-tails, 4 Red-shoulders, 3 Sharp-shinned, an Osprey, a Northern Harrier, and even a Peregrine. And the eight species of shorebird helped boost the days tally, with notables including Snipe, Stilt sandpiper and 36 Least sandpiper.

But the bird that seemed to elicit the most excitement that day was a Turkey calling near the platform at the end of the Hike-Bike trail (Ben Jessup, you are my hero). Other special sightings included a late Blue-winged Teal, two Bank Swallows, five Rose-breasted Grosbeak (including two sitting in a feeder), four Veery, 20 Wood Thrush, two Yellow-throated Vireo, three Virginia Rail, and a Sora.

But while diversity was nice, the numbers of some species were distressingly low. Normally abundant species that were suddenly hard to find included American Crow (5), Fish Crow (3), Tufted Titmouse (6), and Carolina Chickadee (14). I suspect the West Nile virus is likely at the root of these disappointing numbers.

But of course, this is not just another "big-day" count. It provides us with the opportunity to reflect on the lives of Ed Weigel and Ken Howard, two volunteers who enriched so many of our Huntley Meadows experiences. And just as important, the donations it inspires will fund an internship for another young person, helping to insure the Ken and Ed's good work will continue into another generation.

Thanks to everyone who contributed their time, skills, and donations to this annual event. I cannot tell you how happy I am to see these interns receive this opportunity each year. And I cannot help but wonder who's lives they will be touching in the future.

Andy Higgs

Thanks to Participants

Many thanks for your generous contributions toward our Resource Management Internship. Over 50 people donated \$2200. WOW! A special thank you goes out to the birdathon birders- **Andy Higgs, Larry Cartwright, Marianne Mooney, Chris French, PJ Dunn, Ben Jesup, Gene Keefe, Mike Ready, Kurt Gaskill, Paula Sullivan, Kitty Keller, Suzanne Malone and Ann Stat**. If you would like to see the birdathon results, check friendsofhuntleymeadows.org. If you need a paper copy call Annie at the park.

Ann Stat

“Marion’s Walk”

Making HMP more accessible to the Visually Impaired

On May 25th, Carolyn Gamble and I will be leading a program at HMP for a group of children from the Visually Impaired Program of Fairfax County. We will be using our newly created interpretive materials, including two Discovery Boxes detailing Mammals and Birds, brailled maps of the Visitor Center and the trails, brailled copies of our park brochure and a recording that takes the listener through the visitor center while using the brailled map.

These materials have been created by FOHMP over the past couple of years, inspired by donations in memory of a park visitor, Marion Metcalf. We are very excited to have the opportunity to “test” these materials with this class. The final part of the project is a recording that will accompany the braille map of the trails, which we hope will be completed soon.

If you know of any group who may be interested in using these materials, please call the park at 703 768-2525.

Many thanks to Lolette Guthrie who was the Project Leader. She kept me “on task” over the years!

Kathi McNeil

2004 Naturalist Intern

The Naturalist Intern this year is a familiar face and name to many of you. Last year Ross Downer spent many hours on the boardwalk helping visitors with wildlife sightings as a “View from the Tower” volunteer. In June he returns to the park for 11 weeks to experience all aspects of natural history interpretation and visitor center operations. Ross will lead nature programs and day camps, and create a new program for 6-8 year olds. He will greet visitors at the information desk, exhibit area and on the trail. He will also assist on resource management projects. The Friends of Huntley Meadows Park has generously sponsored the Naturalist Internship program at the park every year since 1992.

Carolyn Gamble

Connie Carpenter Retiring May 28

After 13 years of dedicated service as the Huntley Meadows Park secretary (aka office manager, Naturalist in Charge, keeper of Miss Toady, the bagel part of all the Birds and Bagels programs, etc) Connie Carpenter is retiring. Hopefully Connie will be spending plenty of time near the ocean when she isn’t volunteering at the park. She plans to serve as a member of the Friends of Huntley Meadows Park board after retiring. That’s dedication!

Welcome Jennifer Hoffman

Please welcome Jenn Hoffman, Huntley Meadows Park’s new secretary. Jenn is a park neighbor and frequent park visitor who is very interested in the natural world and enjoys working with people of all ages. Her varied work background includes receptionist/assistant at a veterinarian’s, assistant manager of a bakery and sales associate at a book store.

Carolyn Gamble

Still....Surviving

Photographs by Alice J. Burton will be exhibited in the Visitor Center auditorium June 5 to July 31. Meet the photographer at an opening reception on Saturday, June 5, 2-4P.M.

Carolyn Gamble

Friends of Huntley Meadows Park Photo Contest

GIVE US YOUR BEST SHOT

Description

The Friends of Huntley Meadows Park Photo Contest is a nature-themed photography contest for the benefit of Huntley Meadows Park. All photos must be taken at the Park. Contestants must submit photos between May 15, 2004 and October 1, 2004. No late entries will be accepted. A panel of judges will select photos from the pool of contest entries. The selected photos will be exhibited at the Huntley Meadows Park Visitor's center during the months of November and December, 2004. All photos may be used by the Park for promotional or fund raising purposes. A subcategory, with prizes, will be awarded to children fifteen years of age or younger.

Contest Rules

- An entry fee of \$5.00 must accompany your entry (for a maximum of 3 photos). No entry fee is required for those 15 years old and under.
- All photographs must have been taken at Huntley Meadows Park, Fairfax County, Virginia.
- Photographs made with both film cameras or digital cameras are acceptable.
- Only photographs of a nature theme will be considered (plants or animals, including birds). Photos may contain images of people so long as the provisions below are met.
- Photographs must be mounted. Mounts should not exceed 18"x20".
- Name, address and phone number should be entered clearly on the BACK of the mounted photograph. No identifying marks should appear on the front of the photographs, to preserve anonymity for fair judging.
- The decisions of the judges are final.

Copyrights and Permissions

- The photographer must hold the copyright to all photos he or she submit to the contest. Photographs that violate the laws of copyright will be disqualified.
- The use of public domain images is prohibited.
- Photographers retain ownership of all copyrights.
- By submitting an image to Huntley Meadows Park, you hereby grant Huntley Meadows Park permission and rights to store, display and use the image, its thumbnails, and your name as the photographer indefinitely, on any Huntley Meadows Park web sites and in Huntley Meadows Park or promotional materials both printed and on-line. No other entities will be allowed to use this material.
- Photographers must have sufficient permission of any recognizable models or other persons appearing in the photograph to be able to grant to Huntley Meadows Park the right to display their photographic submission online or in printed materials.
- Any contest submissions that receive legal challenges from either copyright or insufficient model permissions will be removed.
- Entrants may sell their photographs during the exhibition period. 20% of sales will be retained as a donation to the Friends of Huntley Meadows Park. If a photo is available for sale, please specify the sale price on the back of the mount. If not for sale, clearly mark NFS on the back of the mount.

Eligibility

- Park Volunteers and employees of Huntley Meadows Park and their families, not involved in judging or administering the contest, are allowed to enter the contest.
- Contest judges are not eligible to enter the contest.
- All Huntley Meadows Park rules do apply, including rules that animals must not be harassed and no modifications or improvements of the environment may be made to improve the photograph.
- All federal, state and local laws apply.

If you have questions or comments, please call Huntley Meadows Park, phone 703 768 2525; your call will be redirected to a representative of the Friends of Huntley Meadows Park.

Entry Form

Name _____

Please Check () Adult () Junior 15 and under (Please provide age) ____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Day Phone _____ Evening Phone _____

Email address _____

Print Caption _____

Sale Price or Not For Sale _____

I certify that the photo I am entering into the 2004 Friends of Huntley Meadows Park Photo Contest was taken at Huntley Meadows Park, Fairfax County, Virginia. I agree to all the rules of this contest. I grant the Friends of Huntley Meadows Park and the staff of Huntley Meadows Park permission to publish my name and/or photo in their publications and website, to use the photos for educational purposes and to exhibit my photo at the Huntley Meadows Park Visitor's Center.

Signature _____

Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian _____
(for contestants under 18)

To Enter: A separate entry form must accompany each photograph entered (a maximum of three). Mail your entries to Huntley Meadows Park, 3701 Lockheed Boulevard, Alexandria, Virginia 22306, or deliver the photos to the Reception Desk at the Visitor's Center. A check for \$5.00, payable to the FRIENDS OF HUNTLEY MEADOWS PARK, must accompany your entries. The \$5.00 entry fee covers up to 3 photos. Please do not send entries in excess of 3 photos.

UPCOMING EVENTS: SUMMER 2004

June 2004							July 2004							August 2004						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5					1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
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27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30	31				

FOHMP - To Do List

- June 5 - summer birds & bagels
- June 6 - birding for beginners
- June 12 - wetland plant walk
- June 18 - café cattail
- June 19 - welcome to Huntley Meadows
- June 21 - young explorers - Cicada cycles
- June 22 - FOHMP annual meeting and lecture - periodical Cicada's - return of brood X
- June 23 - nature detectives - Cicada cycles
- June 24 - nature detectives - Cicada cycles
- June 26 - summer stroll
- June 27 - dragonflies
- June 27 - snakes
- July 3 - video - feathered jewels
- July 4 - video - feathered jewels
- July 10 - bat watching
- July 13 - bat watching
- July 19 - nature buddies - bugs
- July 24 - buglover's paradise
- July 24 - rise and shine
- July 25 - buglover's paradise
- July 28 - nature detectives - crickets
- Aug 4 - young explorers - a tale of tails
- Aug 5 - nature detectives - crickets
- Aug 9 - nature buddies - reptiles
- Aug 21 - video - insects
- Aug 22 - video - insects

Summer 2004

The Visitor Center is open 9am-5pm, Monday, Wednesday-Friday. On June weekends the Visitor Center is open 9am-5pm. On July and August weekends the Visitor Center is open 9am-1pm. The Visitor Center is closed Tuesday. Grounds open dawn to dusk.

Saturday, June 5 - Summer Birds and Bagels

(Adults), 7-9:30A.M. Explore the woodland and wetland to observe summer bird life. Following the walk, cool off and enjoy juice and bagels at the Visitor Center. meet at the Visitor Center parking lot. Binoculars and field guides recommended. Sponsored by FOHMP. Reservations required. Canceled if rain. \$5

Sunday, June 6 - Birding for Beginners - Optics and Field Guides

(Adults), 7-10A.M. Interested in birding? We can get you started! Learn about the birds in the park and some basic identification skills. Program begins with a discussion of field guides and optics. Reservations required. Canceled if rain. FREE

Saturday, June 12 - Wetland Plant Walk

(Adults), 9-10:30A.M. Take a walk to learn about common wetland plants and search for the animals that use them. Reservations required. Canceled if rain. FREE

Friday, June 18 - Café Cattail

7-9:30P.M. Welcome to Huntley Meadows' very own coffee-house! Enjoy a relaxing evening applauding our community's talents. Musicians, dancers and poets are encouraged to share their arts with a nature theme. Reservations required for performers only. Sponsored by FOHMP. FREE

Saturday, June 19 - Welcome to Huntley Meadows

1-2:30P.M. Take an introductory walk with a naturalist and observe the seasonal highlights of the park. Appropriate for families with children 5 yrs. and up. Reservations required. Canceled if rain. FREE

Monday, June 21 - Young Explorers - Cicada Cycles

(6-8 yrs.), 3:15-4:30P.M. Through indoor and outdoor activities learn about the life cycle of this most amazing, infrequent, noisy visitor, the Cicada. Reservations required. Canceled if rain. \$3

Tuesday, June 22 - FOHMP Annual Meeting and Lecture - Periodical Cicadas - Return of Brood X

(Adults), 7:30-8:30P.M. They're back! After spending 17 years underground sucking on roots, the "brood 10" teenagers have become adults. This summer we'll have millions of males singing loudly to attract mates. Join entomologist Dr. Dexter Hinckley for a slide show about this insect phenomenon. FREE to FOHMP members and Huntley Meadows' volunteers. Sponsored by FOHMP. Reservations required. \$3

Wednesday, June 23 - Nature Detectives - Cicada Cycles

(3-5 yrs.), 9:30-10:15A.M. or 10:45-11:30A.M. Through discussion, craft and a story learn about the life cycle of this most amazing, infrequent, noisy visitor, the Cicada. Reservations required. \$5

Thursday, June 24 - Nature Detectives - Cicada Cycles

(3-5 yrs.), 9:30-10:15A.M. or 10:45-11:30A.M. (SEE 6/23.) Reservations required. \$5

Saturday, June 26 - Summer Stroll

(Adults), 8-10P.M. Glittering fireflies, gnawing beavers and a parade of raccoons. Huntley Meadows Park never sleeps! Learn about Huntley's night life through a short lecture and a walk to the wetland. Sponsored by FOHMP. Reservations required. Canceled if rain. \$2

Sunday, June 27 - Dragonflies

(Adults), 9-11:30A.M. Learn about the life cycle, behavior and identification of Huntley's many dragonflies and damselflies. Venture to the wetland to observe these acrobatic fliers in action. Reservations required. Canceled if rain. FREE

Sunday, June 27 - Sssnakes!

(Families), 1-2:30P.M. Through discussion and a walk learn about some of Huntley's scaly inhabitants. Appropriate for families; children must be six years or older. Reservations required. Canceled if rain. FREE

Saturday, July 3 - Video - Feathered Jewels

10-10:30A.M. Hummingbirds are a marvel of nature. Learn more about these beautiful and agile flyers. FREE

Sunday, July 4 - Video - Feathered Jewels

10-10:30A.M. (SEE 7/3.) FREE

Saturday, July 10 - Bat Watching

(Adults), 8-9:30P.M. The only mammals with true flight can find insect prey in complete darkness. Learn about the diversity and adaptations of these fascinating animals at a slide illustrated lecture. Then search twilight skies for bats on the wing. Reservations required. FREE

Tuesday, July 13 - Bat Watching

(Families), 8-9:30P.M. Families can search twilight skies for bats on the wing. Learn to use a bat detector and see a slide show for a close look at these fascinating animals and their habits. Appropriate for families; children must be 6 years or older. Reservations required. FREE

Monday, July 19 - Nature Buddies - Bugs

(4 yrs.), 9:30-11A.M. Praying mantids, dragonflies, leafhoppers, butterflies-insects are buzzing everywhere. Become an entomologist and join an insect safari. Sponsored by FOHMP. Reservations required. \$5

Saturday, July 24 - Buglover's Paradise

(Families), 10A.M.-noon. The park is buzzing with insect activity-grasshoppers, butterflies, ladybugs and leafhoppers. Stop by our classroom for self-guided activities, a craft and videos. Appropriate for children 4 years & up. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Sponsored by FOHMP. \$2/child

Saturday, July 24 - Rise and Shine

(Adults), 5:30-7:30A.M. Embrace the new day while standing in the middle of a freshwater wetland. Look and listen as animals and plants react to the sunrise, then join us for a bite to eat. Sponsored by FOHMP. Reservations required. Canceled if rain. \$5

Sunday, July 25 - Buglover's Paradise

(Families), 10A.M.-noon. (SEE 7/24.) Sponsored by FOHMP. \$2/child

Wednesday, July 28 - Nature Detectives - The Very Quiet Cricket

(3-5 yrs.), 9:30-10:15A.M. or 10:45-11:30A.M. The Very Quiet Cricket meets many insects along his way. Listen to his story, make a craft and then look for the insects he meets in their natural environment. Reservations required. \$5

Wednesday, August 4 - Young Explorers - A Tale of Tails

(6-8 yrs.), 9:30-10:45A.M. They balance, they grasp, they communicate and they shelter. Tails do amazing things! Through indoor and outdoor activities, get the whole tail tale. Reservations required. \$3

Thursday, August 5 - Nature Detectives - The Very Quiet Cricket

(3-5 yrs.), 9:30-10:15A.M. or 10:45-11:30A.M. (SEE 7/28.) Reservations required. \$5

Monday, August 9 - Nature Buddies - Reptiles

(4 yrs.), 9:30-11A.M. Become a herpetologist and learn about the snakes, turtles and lizards at the park. Meet a reptile up close and enjoy a story, walk and craft. Sponsored by FOHMP. Reservations required. \$5

Saturday, August 21 - Video - Insects

10-10:30A.M. Take a close-up look at the amazing world of insects. FREE

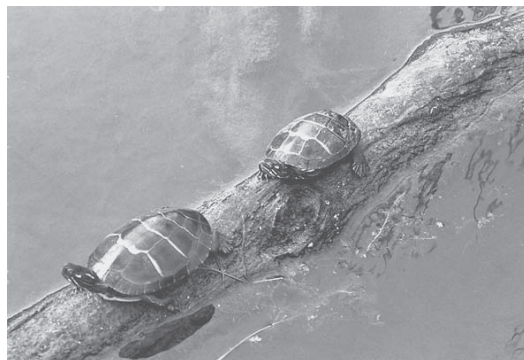
Sunday, August 22 - Video - Insects

10-10:30A.M. (SEE 8/21.) FREE

Friends of Huntley Meadows Park

Officers:

- President: Harry Glasgow
- Vice-President: Sarah Stromayer
- Secretary: Glen Curtis
- Treasurer: Sally Cureton
- Membership: Harry Glasgow
- Newsletter Editor: Ken Larsen



- Web address:
- Email:
- General Information:
- Membership Info: Harry Glasgow
- Donations and dues: Sally Cureton
- Newsletter Inquiries/submissions: Ken Larsen
- Questions For Park Staff

- <http://friendsofhuntleymeadows.org>
- info@friendsofhuntleymeadows.org
- membership@friendsofhuntleymeadows.org
- treasurer@friendsofhuntleymeadows.org
- newsletter@friendsofhuntleymeadows.org
- staff@friendsofhuntleymeadows.org

**FOHMP ANNUAL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
JUNE 22, 7PM HUNTLEY MEADOWS VISITOR CENTER**



Vincent VanGogh
Saint Remy, 1886

**Elections of Board of Directors
for 2004-2005**

MAIN EVENT:

Cicada Lecture

By Dr. Dexter Hinckley

Refreshments

Call 703.768.2525
To RSVP

Are You A Member?

Please

help support Huntley Meadows Park and join

The Friends of Huntley Meadows Park!

Become a member of FRIENDS OF HUNTLEY MEADOWS PARK. (FOHMP) and help to protect and preserve the park. Your annual dues (tax deductible) will keep you informed and help support the nature center's programs. Please fill out and mail this application today!

Membership Information

Note Our new dues schedule is as follows:

- | | | | |
|--------------|---------|-----------------------|----------|
| ◆ Senior | \$5.00 | ◆ Family | \$15.00 |
| ◆ Individual | \$10.00 | ◆ Lifetime Membership | \$150.00 |

_____ **Yes! I would like to join FRIENDS!**

_____ I'd like to renew my membership. Enclosed is \$____.00 annual dues for a _____ membership. (*Please make checks payable to FOHMP.*)

Additional \$____.00 donation enclosed.

_____ I have some comments and/or suggestions: _____

_____ I'm interested in learning more about volunteering at the Park.

_____ I would like to volunteer at the Park.

If you checked that you would like to volunteer, please help us by indicating your areas of knowledge and/or interest. _____

- FOHMP Volunteer Coordinator Park Watch Promoting Friends Special Events Mailing
- Phoning Members For Lectures and Special Events Letter Writing Campaign As Needed

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: (h) _____ (w) _____

E-mail Address: _____

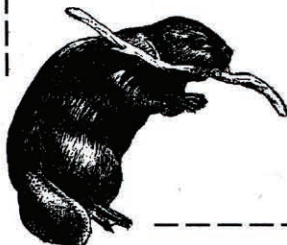
Please Mail To: FRIENDS OF HUNTLEY MEADOWS PARK

c/o Huntley Meadows Park
3701 Lockheed Boulevard
Alexandria, VA 22306

E-MAIL ADDRESS: info@friendsofhuntleymeadows.org

PHONE: 703/768-2525

WEB SITE: (<http://friendsofhuntleymeadows.org/index.html>)



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Your membership expires on the date in the upper left corner..
NOTE: Please check your mailing label for accuracy & notify us of any changes .