

Friends Forward



Summer 2012

National Wildlife Refuge System
www.fws.gov/refuges

From the Chief

Community Partnerships and the Silver Tsunami



Jim Kurth

Each of the nine *Conserving the Future* implementation teams is working on concepts and products that will interest anyone concerned about the growth and health of the

Refuge System. But none speaks more directly to Refuge Friends than the Community Partnerships team. Organized into five sub-teams, the team is beginning to work on:

- An action-oriented strategic plan to increase the number and effectiveness of volunteers, Friends organizations and community partnerships. The plan will benefit from a survey of refuge managers that painted a picture of the challenges and strengths of current programs.
- An expansive handbook to help managers give the support needed to grow and retain our cadre of volunteers and Friends. Incorporating information from such books as "Soaring to New Heights" and "A Guidebook for Working with Volunteers," the handbook is outlined to cover almost anything you can conceptualize—from fundraising

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Heather Jenne

John Heinz National Wildlife Refuge at Tinicum offers solitude and wildlife within the city of Philadelphia.

Home Values Higher Near Refuges

A new national study shows that owning a home near a national wildlife refuge increases home value and helps support the surrounding community's tax base. The study was conducted in urban areas across three regions of the country.

According to the study, conducted for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service by economic researchers at North Carolina State University, homes located within half a mile of a refuge

and within eight miles of an urban center were found to have higher home values of roughly 7 to 9 percent in the Southeast, 4 to 5 percent in the Northeast and 3 to 6 percent in the California/Nevada region.

The researchers suggested that refuges boost property values in the selected regions because they protect against future development while preserving scenic vistas and other "natural amenity benefits associated

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Conserving the Future Celebrates Anniversary

In July 2011, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Director Dan Ashe told those who attended the historic *Conserving the Future* conference in Madison, WI, “People must be a key component in our conservation strategy.” Those words ring equally true today as nine implementation teams work toward fulfilling *Conserving the Future’s* 24 recommendations and the vision that will guide management of the Refuge System for the next decade.

The implementation teams—powered by more than 120 Service employees—are crafting new, innovative ways to reach Americans, improve scientific excellence in the Service, nurture Friends and community partnerships, and offer greater opportunities in hunting, fishing and other outdoor recreation, among other goals. Progress on implementation has been steady.

Teams at Work

The Community Partnerships implementation team, for example, has surveyed Refuge System employees to understand the challenges and successes on the ground as the team seeks to strengthen volunteer programs, Friends organizations and community partnerships. Information from the survey will help the team complete a strategic plan, including actions to increase the number and effectiveness of volunteers, Friends and partnerships. At the same time, a sub-team is preparing a mentoring needs assessment to go to 21 Service offices and field stations and a dozen Refuge Friends to help identify issues and explore strategies to address them.

On other fronts, the Strategic Growth implementation team is identifying national priorities

to guide the Refuge System’s expansion, including such measures as birds in decline, and threatened and endangered species. The Urban Wildlife Refuge Initiative team held face-to-face meetings with a score of nongovernmental organizations to learn about programs already designed to reach urban communities and how the Refuge System could collaborate or adapt similar programs. As a result of the meetings, the Trust for Public Land agreed to sponsor a 2013 Urban Refuge Partners Summit.

The Communications implementation team has been working with a marketing firm, which held personal discussions with stakeholders to understand the barriers that may be preventing the Service from reaching urban audiences. The firm also gauged the Service’s “voice” in the areas of scientific excellence, clean air and clean water, recreation, and traditional sports like hunting and fishing. The results are reflected in a draft communications plan.

Other steps and considerations by implementation teams are:

- A revitalized “ambassador program” that would train Refuge System employees who meet the public face-to-face—whether they are wage-grade employees or refuge managers.



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Director Dan Ashe and former Chief of the National Wildlife Refuge System Greg Siekaniec display the signed vision document at the 2011 *Conserving the Future* conference.

- A survey of Refuge System employees to gather “lessons learned” during the first round of Comprehensive Conservation Plan development.
- Attendance at this year’s annual conference of the States Organization for Boating Access to gather ideas and information about new recreation opportunities for people with disabilities, including Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)-compliant boat ramps.

From science to strategic growth, community partnerships to outdoor recreation, and communications to interpretation, the nine *Conserving the Future* implementation teams are making progress. To keep pace with the teams’ progress and view the *Conserving the Future* vision, visit www.AmericasWildlife.org. 🐦

Planning with Friends

The Refuge system has nearly completed the first round of Comprehensive Conservation Plans (CCPs) called for in the Refuge Improvement Act of 1997: CCPs have been completed for 429 of the Refuge System's 554 units. The *Conserving the Future* vision calls for incorporating lessons learned from the first round into the next generation of conservation plans. Sarena Selbo, chief of the Branch of Conservation Planning, and Matt Hogan, refuge chief in the Mountain Prairie Region, chair the vision's Planning implementation team which includes managers from the Washington office, the regions and individual refuges as well as biologists, social scientists, and visitor services specialists. Conservation organizations are represented on several sub-teams.

The team is asking "what we need to do to maintain a healthy Refuge System," says Selbo. To be effective in confronting challenges posed by climate change, invasive species and habitat fragmentation, the next generation of plans must look beyond refuge boundaries and tie refuge planning and management actions to the larger landscape. To a large degree, this will involve collaborating with partners, especially Friends.

CCPs involve a very public process, and Selbo believes Friends can be involved in both their creation and implementation. "CCPs lay out what we need to do on the refuge for healthy ecosystems. There are things like invasive species control in our CCPs but we don't always have the time and resources to get everything done. This is where Friends groups can step forward to make a positive difference for the refuge by helping achieve its CCP goals."



Friends of Balcones Canyonlands National Wildlife Refuge, TX, has a Conservation Legacy fund for purchasing land, as well as a committee to generate grassroots support for acquisitions.

Friends Key Partners in Planning

Friends are the eyes and ears of the community during a CCP process. Whether the issue is land acquisition, zoning issues along refuge boundaries or recreational activities on the refuge, Friends can help identify and address community concerns, raise funds if needed and promote buy-in from the community.

Deborah Holle, refuge manager at Balcones Canyonlands National Wildlife Refuge in Texas, considers Friends critical in providing outreach to local decision makers and political leaders. She wrote in a recent issue of the Friends newsletter, "Do you ever ask yourself why Balcones acquisition isn't done yet? Twenty years after it was established, Balcones has acquired less than half of its authorized acreage. Balcones needs money from the Land and Water Conservation Fund on a

regular basis to purchase enough land to support our endangered birds for future generations." The Friends of Balcones has a Conservation Legacy fund for purchasing land and covering related costs, as well as a committee to garner grassroots support for acquisitions.

The same was true very recently at John Heinz National Wildlife Refuge at Tinicum in Philadelphia. Forty years ago this summer, a grassroots group saved the last remnant of freshwater tidal marsh from the path of Interstate 95. The land ultimately became the refuge and the citizens group became Friends of Heinz, which rallied public support again this spring to save 130 acres next to the refuge from high density development. "It was the entire community speaking," says refuge manager Gary Stolz, "not just the refuge." 🦋



from friend to friend

share your
success
stories

FLORIDA

An abundance of urban wildlife can make trash cans a tempting source for an easy dinner. Animals eat materials that make them sick or worse. So the Friends and Volunteers of Refuge Florida Keys (FAVOR) sponsored a “Say No to Nibblers” free trash can corral giveaway.

Friends and volunteers built 40 trash can corrals of lumber, provided at reduced rates by a local vendor. The corrals were given free to residents of Big Pine and No Name Keys. The project helped educate neighbors about the importance of securing their trash to keep wildlife safe, and they were pleased they no longer had to pick up debris the animals left behind.



Friends and Volunteers of Refuge Florida Keys sponsored a “Say No to Nibblers” free trash can corral giveaway.

NEVADA

Seeking to attract visitors who are new to the refuge and to camping, Friends of the Desert National Wildlife Refuge Complex last spring held its first overnight camping event. Friends provided food—hot dogs, quesadillas and s’mores—while REI loaned tents and sleeping bags and an educator from the Southern Nevada Agency Partnership led a guided evening walk. “All our new friends needed to bring was a sense of adventure,” says Friend board member and event planner Frank Simpson.

“Camping is a great way to get people out on the refuge,” says Simpson. “No one is rushing off to get the kids to soccer in the middle of your program.

Your Friends’ sense of passion for the refuge really has a chance to shine through.” About 15 campers spent the night; another 30 were on a waiting list. Next year, Friends plan to include experienced campers who will serve as mentors for the beginners. Simpson taught campers how to put up tents, start a fire, cook breakfast and dinner, survive

in the desert and leave no trace. Volunteer Bruce Lund shared information about small mammals that had been caught in live traps during the night.

The Friends used email, fliers and Facebook to publicize the event. “Get partners on board with MOUs (Memorandum of Understanding) signed well in advance,” adds Simpson. “The more you do in advance the more fun you’ll have at the event. If you are enjoying yourself, your participants will too!”



During an overnight camping trip at Desert National Wildlife Refuge, children observed small mammals in plastic jugs and then released them where they had been caught.

TEXAS

The hard work of Friends of Brazoria Wildlife Refuges volunteers built and opened two urban trails at the Dow Woods Unit of San Bernard National Wildlife Refuge. The 338-acre property, donated by The Dow Chemical Company, is located in the city of Lake Jackson.

A Friends team coordinated planning with refuge staff, obtaining \$220,000 in grants from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and The



Friends of Brazoria Wildlife Refuges, TX, built two new trails in an urban unit of the refuge.

Dow Chemical Foundation. The Texas Master Naturalist Cradle of Texas Chapter provided a team of experienced volunteer craftsmen to build five boardwalks and an observation platform. Dow Chemical employees and local residents also volunteered. Recruiting volunteers from the community helped build a sense of ownership in the trail.

Experienced members of the Friends board developed detailed specifications so that even the lowest competitive bids would meet certain performance requirements. This was especially helpful in evaluating the bids, as prices varied widely on individual items such as decking, concrete work, trail edging and restrooms. Volunteers from the Friends board made sure that grant requirements for time and cost reporting and public bid solicitations were met. Local dignitaries, community and local business leaders and administrators of other local tourist destinations attended the grand opening, which was featured in the local newspaper.

Two trails now meander through the hardwood forest of the Columbia Bottomlands. One, nearly a mile of universally-accessible path, is named in honor of local naturalists Gloria and John Tveten; the other is a 1.5-mile compacted granite woodland path called Bayou Loop. Benches and an interpretive display welcome visitors. The trails are open daily from sunrise to sunset.

VERMONT

The Friends of Missisquoi National Wildlife Refuge unveiled its Giving Goose Project on International Migratory Bird Day in May. Local artist Paule Gingras donated a 4-1/2 x 5-1/2 foot painting titled Blue

Goose Marsh, with 50 brass geese across the sky. Each small goose will be engraved for a \$350 minimum donation.

“We’ve ordered an extra handful of geese,” says Friends vice president Rich Kelley, “so we can send them out for engraving without having a blank spot. We haven’t yet decided what we’ll do when we get the 51st donation, but that will be a good problem to have.”

The brass geese are about the size of an index card. Kelley says a big part of the initial expense was creating the template. Other Friends can use the Missisquoi template if interested. Contact info@friendsofmissisquoi.org for details.

A plaque below the painting includes a quote from Mollie Beattie: “What a country chooses to save is what a country says about itself.” Beattie was a University of Vermont graduate and the first woman director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. 🦢



The Friends of Missisquoi National Wildlife Refuge, VT, a brass goose for each donation of at least \$350.

Climate Change Concerns Visitors, Who Love Wildlife Refuges

Visitors to national wildlife refuges are concerned about the impact of climate change on America's fish, wildlife and plants. At the same time, they are favorably impressed with the recreational opportunities, education and services offered on wildlife refuges.

The survey conducted for the Refuge System by the U.S. Geological Survey also shows strong support for efforts to help native species adapt to changing climate conditions. About 74 percent of those surveyed between July 2010 and November 2011 believe that addressing climate change effects on wildlife and habitat will benefit future generations. Nearly half the visitors surveyed expressed interest in learning from refuges how they could help address the effects of climate change on wildlife and habitat.

Climate change is not a distant threat; it is occurring here and now. The first decade of the 21st century has proven to be the hottest decade since scientists began recording global temperatures in the 1880s. The unmistakable signs of a rapidly changing climate are everywhere—melting glaciers, heat waves, rising seas, flowers blooming earlier, lakes freezing later, migratory birds delaying their flights south. No geographic region is immune. According to the findings of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, the rate of sea level rise has nearly doubled in the last two decades. Many coastal regions, including a number of wildlife refuges and cities will be threatened as shorelines recede.

The second recommendation in the *Conserving the Future* vision calls



Howard Ignatius/Creative Commons

Bull elk take a break from sparring to stare down a visitor at San Luis National Wildlife Refuge, CA.

on the Refuge System to “develop a climate change implementation plan that dovetails with other conservation partners’ climate change action plans.” The Service’s National Fish, Wildlife and Plants Climate Adaptation Strategy (wildlifeadaptationstrategy.gov/) is far-reaching and visionary. The Refuge System is also expected to provide cutting-edge leadership in reducing carbon emissions and implementing sustainable, green business practices. Climate change transcends the Service and the National Wildlife Refuge System and poses one of the largest conservation threats of the 21st century.

Visitor Satisfaction


The same survey also determined overwhelming visitor satisfaction with wildlife refuges. Of survey participants,

- 91 percent reported satisfaction with recreational activities and opportunities;

- 89 percent reported satisfaction with information and education about the refuge;
- 91 percent reported satisfaction with services provided by refuge employees or volunteers; and

Wildlife observation, bird watching, photography, hiking and auto-tours were among the most popular activities mentioned. More than half those surveyed said they visited refuges repeatedly; more than a third said they lived within 50 miles of a refuge.

The survey included responses from more than 10,000 visitors at 53 refuges. A second phase of the survey, covering another 25 refuges, is expected to be completed in 2012. The Service will use the survey results to help guide planning for refuge transportation, facilities and services.

The full report, including results for individual refuges is available at <http://pubs.usgs.gov/ds/685/>. 

From the Chief—Continued from page 1

and communications to words of wisdom from other Friends groups.

- Developing a single, “get involved” Web portal with more robust information about what the Refuge System offers so people can find just the right work to make a difference for conservation.
- A super-charged Friends mentor program that will help with fundraising, capacity building and membership recruitment, but also offer emergency support when needed.

Over the past decades, the Refuge System has worked hard to support Friends organizations by offering a mini-grant program, handbooks, the annual Friends Academy and a National Friends Conference in 2002. We’re proud of the help we’ve given. But we know we can—and must—do more.

While the growth in the number of Friends organizations has leveled off at about 230, Refuge Friends are still the best ambassadors we have in hundreds of communities across the country. When we wrote recommendations 11 and 12 in *Conserving the Future*, we said that we have to do more.

Developing a more self-directed and self-perpetuating volunteer program is one step. Another is tapping into the generation of skilled and motivated people who are moving into retirement, people who have been lovingly called part of the “silver tsunami.” Who better to help us develop a school partnership than a retired teacher, we thought.

Those concepts are reflected in the Community Partnerships team’s work plan. But the plan is not complete until you look at it. Follow the team’s progress online at <http://americaswildlife.org/>. While you are

online, join the social network, where draft products will be posted.

Conserving the Future embodies your ideas and passion. Its implementation is the path to our future.

Special Passes for Refuge Entry

As a sign of appreciation for those who serve the country, the new Interagency Annual Pass-Military is available at no charge and offers free entrance to wildlife refuges, parks and other federal lands for active duty members of the U.S. armed forces and their dependents. The Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Reclamation, the Forest Service and the Army Corps of Engineers began issuing the pass on May 19, Armed Forces Day. The pass is good at more than 2,000 sites managed by the Department of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture.

There are also special passes for senior citizens (\$10 lifetime), people with permanent disabilities (free,

lifetime) and volunteers (one year free for volunteers with 250 hours of service). For more information contact the national recreation fee program coordinator Phil_LePelch@fws.gov 703-358-1974 or visit fws.gov/refuges/visitors/permitspasses.html.



The Interagency Annual Pass—Military is available at no charge to active duty members of the U.S. armed forces and their dependents.

New Duck Stamp Curriculum

Created two decades ago as an innovative way to teach children about wetlands and waterfowl, the Junior Duck Stamp Conservation and Design Program curriculum has been updated with new lesson plans, exercises and activities focused on conservation science and the changing natural world. The program reaches more than 27,000 children each year.


“We’ve designed a curriculum that will spark kids’ interest in habitat conservation and careers in natural resources through science, art, math and technology,” says U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Director Dan Ashe.

The curriculum, aimed at grades 5 to 8, is written, field-tested and evaluated by educators and biologists. It now meets a number of national education standards in science, environmental education and visual arts.

Perhaps most appealing are the stories of the kids who explore, investigate and share information about ducks, geese and swans on the pages of the youth guide. Michael asks, “If you were a duck, what would you do all day long?” Matthew wonders how ducks know what other ducks are thinking. “I wonder how waterfowl tell each other that it’s time to feed, or roost or migrate.” And Jasmine asks, “However they do it, is it the same for all ducks? What about geese and swans?”

Each chapter of the guide includes learning objectives, activities, Internet links and resources, and adaptations to make the information appropriate for elementary or high school students. Students can learn how to keep nature journals, with tips from the Smithsonian and the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, and perhaps translate their knowledge

about waterfowl into paintings and drawings. The best artwork can be submitted to Junior Duck Stamp contests in each state and ultimately around the country.

Youth and Educator Guides are available online at fws.gov/juniorduck/curriculum.html, for use as an entire curriculum or for single programs. 

The Call of the Wild Duck

Meet the “Waterfowl Friends”

This group of middle-schoolers found each other online on one of the social network sites because they shared a common interest in waterfowl. Follow their conversations throughout the pages of this guide as they explore, investigate, express, and share curious facts and information about ducks, geese, and swans.

Anthony



[Links](#) [Info](#) [Photos](#) [Notes](#)

Home: Near Baltimore, Maryland

School: 6th grade

Interests: Video games, birding, hiking, texting

Selena



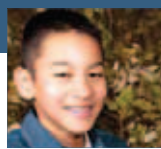
[Links](#) [Info](#) [Photos](#) [Notes](#)

Home: Bangor, Maine

School: 6th grade

Interests: Online social media, computer programming, camping, reading

Jacob



[Links](#) [Info](#) [Photos](#) [Notes](#)

Home: Knoxville, Tennessee

School: 7th grade

Interests: Fishing, NASCAR racing, chemistry set, texting, TV

Ashley



[Links](#) [Info](#) [Photos](#) [Notes](#)

Home: Saginaw, Michigan

School: 8th grade

Interests: Kayaking, birding, volleyball

Matthew



[Links](#) [Info](#) [Photos](#) [Notes](#)

Home: Stuttgart, Arkansas

School: 6th grade

Interests: Fishing, canoeing, camping, hiking, online chatting, TV



Junior Duck Stamp Conservation & Design Program

A new Junior Duck Stamp curriculum features young people who share information about ducks, geese and swans.

Home Values Higher Near Refuges—Continued from page 1

with open spaces.” The report is the first national study to analyze national wildlife refuges’ impact on land values.


The study considered 14 refuges in the Southeast, 11 in the Northeast and 11 in California/Nevada. Researchers did not include data from the Midwest, Southwest, Central Mountains and Northwest, where refuges tend to be located further from urban centers.

“Our wildlife refuges are strong economic engines that generate and support jobs in communities across

the country,” said Refuge System Chief Jim Kurth. “When President Obama signed an Executive Order earlier this year to promote travel and tourism in the United States he was affirming that investing in our refuges and promoting them to visitors—from here and around the world—can contribute to both an improved National Wildlife Refuge System and economic growth for local communities.”

The report’s conclusions have already been valuable to one Friends group. Debbie Beer with Friends of

Heinz Refuge in Philadelphia shared the survey results with partners involved in protecting a parcel of land adjacent to the refuge from development Beers said, “We used the survey to reinforce the point that green space makes strong, economic sense.”

The full report is available online at <http://go.usa.gov/wrQ>. 

Friends Academy 5



Twenty-four Friends gathered in Shepherdstown, WV, for Friends Academy 5 at the National Conservation Training Center in July. They learned about refuge planning, land acquisition and the Conserving the Future vision implementation. Friends also shared strategies for working with local media and recruiting more diverse members and volunteers.

Birding in the Refuge System

From bald eagles and blue-winged teals to sandhill cranes and puffins, hundreds of birds show their colors and their intriguing habits on national wildlife refuges. Now, the Refuge System Web site has new pages to encourage more visitors to bring their love of birds to wildlife refuges.

At fws.gov/refuges/birding, visitors can find special events and birding festivals, activities for families and stories about the groundbreaking work refuges do to protect birds and their habitat. A section on backyard birding identifies food preferences for wild birds in eastern and western North America. There are links to citizen science projects and to Bird

Tracker results, which show current bird sightings at refuges. A “for the pros” section provides a checklist for refuges and Friends groups that want to improve the birding experience for visitors. 🦋



The new birding pages on the Refuge System Web site include conservation stories about the Nihoa millerbird, the whimbrel and this Kirkland's warbler.

Making Dreams Come True

Three refuge Friends organizations received Every Day Capacity Building Grants of \$5,000 from the National Environmental Education Foundation (NEEF). **St. Marks Refuge Association**, FL, will purchase a computer and donor management software to grow membership and strengthen its financial base. **Friends of Sherburne National Wildlife Refuge**, MN, will work with a consultant to develop a funding strategy to make annual giving a part of the organizational culture. **Friends of Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge**, MO, will use grant funds for its “iNature iNdulgence” project: posting digital QR codes on the auto tour loop and hiking trails to promote the Friends, projects that need funding, the Nature Shop, upcoming events and educational information.

Two other Friends organizations—**Friends of Craig Brook National Fish Hatchery**, ME; and **Friends of Coleman National Fish Hatchery**, CA,—also received Every Day grants. A second round of recipients will be announced later this year. The Every Day Capacity Building Grants, co-sponsored by Toyota USA, provide funding for board development, staff training, fundraising support, strategic planning and technology improvements, among other things. For more information about the grants, go to the www.neefusa.org or contact Joanna_Webb@fws.gov (703-358-2392).

Nine Friends organizations received a total of \$50,000 in mini-grants from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. Projects include starting book stores, designing Web sites, recruiting volunteers and

members, distributing wildflower seed packages with the refuge and Friends logo, and strategic planning. A list of specific projects is available at www.fws.gov/refuges/friends/grants.html. Information about future NFWF grants is available at nfwf.org under “Grant Programs” or contact Teal.Edelen@nfwf.org (202-857-0166).

More information on grants is included in the special fundraising issue of Friends Forward now available online at fws.gov/refuges/friends/publications.html. 🦋

Q&A send us your questions

How do you attract volunteers and encourage them to become Friends?



Thomas Ferguson

When he was a college intern at Horicon National Wildlife Refuge, WI, Thomas Ferguson designed a poster to attract volunteers.

- Provide a free one-year Friends membership to everyone who volunteers. Add volunteers to the Friends mailing list so they receive regular information about the Friends and the refuge, making them much better prospects to renew their membership.
- “A very active chapter of the Texas Master Naturalists is the core resource for everything we do. Many are members of the Friends. Networking is key after that: one of our board members

is a biology professor, so we get students from the local college. We have made connections to get volunteers from local high schools and local businesses as well.”
David Plunkett, Friends of Brazoria Refuges, TX

- Promote the fact that you can get a free “America the Beautiful” annual federal recreation pass (\$80 value) for each 250 hours volunteered on a national wildlife refuge (see page 7)
- “To attract volunteers as well as members, emphasize what the refuge Friends group offers. Make it more fun for the Friends members who do come and help with an event. Our treasurer suggested a potluck lunch for the volunteers during our December

Holiday Open House. It was a big hit!”
Thomas Ferguson, Friends of Horicon National Wildlife Refuge, WI

- For Friends groups that are competing with similar organizations for events and members, national Friends and partnership coordinator Joanna Webb suggests teaming up on membership: Buy one, get both. Friends of Archie Carr National Wildlife Refuge, FL, operated for a time as a subsidiary of the Sea Turtle Preservation Society. Both memberships were available on the same application, with the Friends newsletter sent out as an attachment to the Sea Turtle Preservation Society newsletter.



Fundraising: It's All About Relationships

A special issue of *Friends Forward* is now available online (fws.gov/refuges/friends/publications.html) devoted entirely to fundraising. Read, email and print individual articles or the entire issue. It's all here: fundraising letters and email, special events and projects, capital campaigns and online fundraising, sales (from nature stores to auctions), planned giving and bequests. Loaded with links, resources and ideas!



David Menkel/USFWS

A pair of Clark's grebes celebrates a friendly relationship.



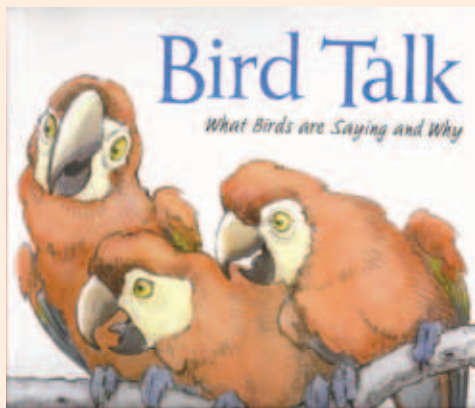
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The Book Shelf

From the boom of the prairie chicken to the dance of the western grebes and the “regular one-man hard rock band of the cockatoo,” birds have songs and sounds that attract a mate, protect a nest or scare away predators. Lita Judge paints softly colored illustrations of a wide range of species to explain all these sounds in *Bird Talk: What Birds are Saying and Why*.



To mark the 100th anniversary of Bob Hines’ birth this year, John D. Juriga published a new biography—*Bob Hines: National Wildlife Artist*. Hines, the only U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service employee ever to hold that

title, worked with Rachel Carson, standardized the annual Duck Stamp competition, and in the words of former Service director Lynn Greenwalt, was an artist whose “talent was formidable and his work legendary.”



Friends Forward

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