

## ***Friends Forward Index***

*Use the “Find” function on your browser to search the index by topic, refuge name or article author.*

### **DECEMBER 2016**

Thank You for Your Work in 2016 – Cynthia Martinez

Urban Friends

Pinckney Island Accessibility

Digital Scavenger Hunt for Families (Friends of Outer Island, Stewart B. McKinney Refuge, CT)

50-Year-Old Oil and Gas Regulations Updated

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Grants

Friends Training and Mentoring

American Eagle Conservation Advances

### **OCTOBER 2016**

USFWS Manages World’s Largest Conservation Estate – Cynthia Martinez

Scouts: Bringing the Next Generation to Your Refuge

Friends of Alaska National Wildlife Refuges – A “Brand” New Approach: Digitizing and Friends  
by Michael d’Agostino

What Makes a Friends Group Vibrant and Effective? By Cheryl Hart

But How Do I Get There? (refuge accessibility study)

Passports and Posters – Blue Goose Passports and Refuge Week Posters

Google Cultural Institute

NFWF Friends grant winners

Share the Experience Photo Contest

### **AUGUST 2016**

Seeds: They Only Sound Simple – Cynthia Martinez on National Seed Strategy

Refuges Best Ambassadors – implementation of Friends strategy by Joanna Webb

Willapa Nature Notes

New Online Stories Highlight Refuge System

Four New Urban Partnerships Established

Public lands day September 24

Every Kid in a Park

### **JUNE 2016**

Friends Are Our Go-To Resources – Cynthia Martinez and the new Kankakee National Wildlife  
Refuge and Conservation Area

Science is All Around You – citizen science

Bringing Conservation to Cities – Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge manager John Hartig

Building Pocket Parks in Philadelphia – John Heinz at Tinicum Refuge, PA

From Crosswalks to Boardwalks – Trinity River Refuge, TX

2016 State of the Birds

Grants – NFWF, Captain Planet, Friends of NCTC Scholarships

Junior Duck Stamp Winner

Legends and Beacons Awards

## **APRIL 2016**

Going Beyond Your Comfort Zone – Cynthia Martinez on \$1 million refuges (John Heinz at Tinicum, PA, and Valle de Oro, NM)

2016 Refuge System Awards including Molly Kirvall Friends of the Year – Friends of Tamarac Refuge, MN

Engaging New Audiences with Photography

When to Consider an Endowment Fund (Friends of Hakalau Forest, HI)

To Feel Healthier, Happier – Try Nature

Building an Environmental Education Program – Friends of Bear River, UT

Grants – FWS Retiree Assoc Anniversary Grants, NFWF Grants and Call for Proposals

2015 Rachel Carson Science Award – Gail Collins

Migratory Bird Centennial Resources

Monarch Information and Resources

## **FEBRUARY 2016**

A Story of Change and Consistency – Cynthia Martinez on Moving Friends Forward

Proposed Budget Seeks Increase for Refuge System

Finding the Volunteers You Need

10 Strategies for Finding Great Board Members

Valle de Oro Refuge as a Resource for the Community

Mayors' Monarch Pledge

2016 Friends Academy and Friends Mentoring Program

## **DECEMBER 2015**

Friends are the Givingest – Cynthia Martinez on Peer to Peer Coaching at Sherburne Refuge

Welcome to our refuge – Hispanic outreach

Quilts of Tamarac

Resident Artist program at Cedar Keys Refuge, FL

Houston Urban Partnership

Nitty Gritty of Volunteering

Restoring Islands, Saving Species

Online Citizen Science Course

Urban Waters Restoration Grants

Monarch Butterfly Conservation Fund Grants Announced

Urban Friends Webinar

## **OCTOBER 2015**

I want to hear from you – Cynthia Martinez

What's up with the Friends Policy – Joanna Webb

Launching a Major Donor Campaign – Jonathan Poisner

Keeping Windows Safe for Birds

Counting Butterflies (Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge)

Treasures of Plum Island (MAT team and the message in a bottle)

Expanded hunting/fishing on refuges

Every Kid in a Park  
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Fall Grants

### **AUGUST 2015**

Digital Dollars and Community Giving  
Zeta Phi Beta Memorandum of Understanding  
Who's That In Our Sandbox? (Friends supporting research)  
20,000 Hour Volunteer – Jim Montgomery  
More Urban Partnerships  
Friends Can Be Key Players – Urban Wildlife Conservation Program Webinar  
Meet the Refuge System  
National Friends Training January 2016  
PlayCleanGo – campaign against invasives

### **JUNE 2015**

New Chief of the Refuge System – Cynthia Martinez  
National Friends Training planned for January 2016 at NCTC  
Mentoring Friends (John Heinz Refuge at Tinicum, PA)  
That's What Friends Are For – Friends of the Wichitas, OK, help after flooding  
After the Birds Taught Me to Fly – MN Valley Refuge stages play in the woods  
Northwest Refuges Receive \$1 Million for Community Connections  
New Refuge in North Carolina – Mountain Bogs National Wildlife Refuge  
Refuge Update May June  
Arctic Refuge featured on 2016 Federal Lands Recreation Pass  
2014 Youth Service Report

### **APRIL 2015**

National Wildlife Refuge Association Award winners  
    Friends Group – Friends of the Bosque del Apache Refuge, NM  
    Volunteer – Wiley “Dub” Lyon, Friends of Balcones Canyonlands, TX  
    Manager – Tom Kerr, St Croix WMD/Whittlesey Creek Refuge, WI  
    Employee – John Vradenburg, Bosque del Apache Refuge, NM  
Grants Galore – NEEF, NFWF, FWS Retirees Assoc, Sea World/Busch Gardens, store rewards  
A Friend's Perspective – Richard Skoglund, International Wildlife Refuge Alliance (Detroit River)  
#ScienceWoman  
Candlelit Trail Hike (Crane Meadows, MN)  
Congressional Committee Leaders  
Refuge Update March/April  
Wichita Mtns Refuge wins USA Today Readers Choice poll  
NWRA 2014 Annual Report

### **FEBRUARY 2015**

President Obama Moves to Protect Arctic Refuge  
Highest-ever Refuge System Budget proposed by President  
Jim Kurth named Deputy Director USFWS  
Help for Monarch Butterflies

Friends on the Web – best practices for Friends Web sites  
Handwritten Letters from Prairie Wetlands Learning Center, MN, to refuges  
Treasures of the Dungeness Spit  
Grants (NEEF, KEEN, Captain Planet)  
2015 Friends Academy applications  
Friends Partnership Course (NCTC)  
Coloring Books and other USFWS Publications  
*Refuge Update January/February*

### **DECEMBER 2014**

Friends, Volunteers and Nature Stores  
Creating a New Generation of Outdoor Enthusiasts – Outdoor Recreation Team  
Achieving Excellence – Standards of Excellence for urban refuges  
Getting Pinned with Frats, Sororities – Occoquan Refuge/Omega Psi Phi; Phi Beta Sigma/Zeta Phi Beta  
A Goal, A Purpose, Self Esteem – Friends of Red River Refuge, LA work with students w/disabilities  
Ding Darling App  
Ivory Challenge  
Report Refuge Violations

### **OCTOBER 2014**

Power of a Small Group – Dan Ashe on the Pacific Remote Islands Marine Natl Monument  
A Policy to Thrive – Christine Kline, Friends of Squaw Creek, MO on the new Friends policy  
Putting Out the Welcome Mat – new Ambassadors program  
Building Bridges to Birding – Friends of Wertheim introduces local birds to local residents  
Bird Conservation Works – State of the Birds Report  
Barn Quilts by Friends of Noxubee, MS  
Friends Partnership Mentoring Program  
Nominations sought for 2015 Refuge Association Awards  
FWS Retiree Association Grants  
Resources from Southwest Friends Mentoring Workshop  
Refuge Update focus on climate change  
Celebrate Wilderness resources

### **AUGUST 2014**

A Million Dollar Day for Conservation (SoCal Urban Wildlife Refuge Project) – Jim Kurth  
Peers and Partners: Peer to Peer Workshop at Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge, NJ  
Nature in the City – six new urban refuge partnerships  
Mentoring Friends  
Fighting Fears about Nature  
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Grants  
CARE report  
Refuge Update focus on Friends and volunteers  
2014-15 Federal Duck Stamp for sale  
Meet the National Wildlife Refuge System – online overview available

## **JUNE 2014**

Friends Policy – Friend or Volunteer – Which Hat Are You Wearing?  
Conserving the Future Vision Becomes Reality  
Do You Know Where Your Friends Group is Headed? *By Mark Musaus*  
A Year in the Life of Our Refuge – Friends of Anahuac Refuge, TX, anniversary book  
Seventeen Species-Recovery Projects on Refuges  
Winners: Legends (Lorrie Beck/Quivira/Great Plains Nature Center, KS) and Beacon (NCTC) Awards  
Student Employment Opportunities

## **APRIL 2014**

Friends Policy  
Taking a Look at Your Friends – Life cycles – Friends of Tualatin River, Friends of Las Vegas,  
Friends of Little Pend Oreille  
Artists on Refuges – Friends of Sam D. Hamilton Noxubee Refuge, Friends of Ridgefield  
Remembering a Friend – Molly Krival  
Give Me a Hammer – Friends of Plum and Pilot Islands (Women in Preservation), Rhode Island  
Refuge Complex (Tuesday Club)  
NEEF Grants – April 30 deadline  
CARE 23 Members – added Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership  
Send a Wild eCard

## **FEBRUARY 2014 (digital only)**

Refuge System Chief Jim Kurth on Congressional funding at 4 percent more than last year  
Revitalized Mentoring Program – Friends of the Savannah Coastal Wildlife Refuges  
First Ever National Friends Policy – highlights  
2014 Refuge System Awards – Friends of Tualatin River Refuge, volunteers Bob & Sharon Waldrop,  
refuge manager Andy Yuen, federal wildlife officer Kenneth McCain  
Boosting Sales in Nature Stores – “Ding” Darling Wildlife Society, Friends of Anahuac, Friends of  
Squaw Creek, Friends of Blackwater  
Wilderness Toolkit  
Peer-to-Peer Coaching Grants – Friends of Great Swamp  
2014 Friends Academy

## **NOVEMBER 2013 (digital only)**

Banking on Nature 2013 report  
Chief Jim Kurth on the budget/shutdown/importance of Friends  
Friends Save Dirt and Protect Wildlife – Friends of Heinz, PA; Friends of Tualatin, OR  
Birding App for YOUR Refuge – Friends of Anahuac, TX – BirdsEye Anahuac  
Matching Volunteers – speed dating to recruit volunteers Friends of Willapa, WA  
Cars for Cats – Friends of Laguna Atascosa, TX, and Save the Ocelot license plates  
*Links for American Hiking Society Trails Grants, eCards, Friends Partnerships Fact Sheet*

## **AUGUST 2013 (digital only)**

Urban Wildlife Initiative

Friends of Louisiana Wildlife Refuges contribute to Delta Marsh Restoration  
Friends Academy spurs new projects at home  
Friends of Big Muddy, MO, collaborates w/students at Univ of Missouri to recycle cigarette butts  
Oral history tips

### **JUNE 2013 (digital only)**

From the Chief – All Conservation is Local  
Build a Better Board  
Refuges as Outdoor Classrooms – Environmental Education Strategic Plan  
Concert on the Prairie – Friends of Neal Smith Refuge, IA  
“Poor Jo Jo Missed His Bus” – Beacon Award to Bob Danley (outdoor recreation planner at Lee Metcalf Refuge, MT; Global Ocean Legacy Hero Award to Ike Cabrera, Friends of the Monument

### **APRIL 2013 (first digital only issue)**

From the Chief – Digital Friends  
President’s Proposed Budget  
Kilauea Lighthouse Centennial and Restoration  
Congratulations – Friends of Maga Ta-Hophi win Friends of the Year Award  
Finding the Money – NFWF grant winners and YardMap winners  
Special Report Bringing Environmental Education to Diverse Audiences  
Book Shelf –  
*Swamper: Letters from a Louisiana Swamp Rabbit* by Amy Griffin Ouchley;  
*Moonbird: A Year on the Wind with the Great Survivor B95* by Phillip Hoose

### **WINTER 2013**

- 1 Strategic Growth
- 1 Chief – Young volunteers (Jessica Flory, marine debris)
- 2 New Ways to Teach Invasives – *Wild Things: Investigating Invasives*
- 3 Sharing Refuge System Experience Abroad (Russia)
- 3 Sense of Wonder winner Sheila McCartan, Nisqually
- 4-5 Friend to Friend
  - Florida – Sea Turtle Education, “Ding” Darling Wildlife Society
  - New Jersey – Celebrate Urban Birds – Friends of Forsythe
  - Oregon – Restoring a Barn – Friends of Little Pend Oreille
  - Texas – Nature Kiosk – Friends of Balcones Canyonlands
- 6 Draft Plan for Volunteer/Partnership Involvement + Draft Friends Mentoring Program
- 7 Q&A: What are the Secrets to a Great Nature Store?
- 8 Book Shelf – *Citizen Scientists*, by Loree Griffin Burns
- 8 Going Digital – send opinions or email addresses

### **FALL 2012**

- 1 Surrogate Species: Conservation Choices that Work
- 2 Chief – Recreation report
- 2 30th anniversary – Friends of the Minnesota Valley, Friends of Loxahatchee, “Ding” Darling

- Wildlife Society + 3 new refuges: Sangre de Cristo, Valle de Oro, Rio Mora
- 3 *Conserving the Future* survey on Friends and volunteers
- 4-5 Friend to Friend
- Minnesota – Prairie Wetlands Learning Center creates endowment for education
  - Louisiana – new trails at Tensas River Refuge by Friends of Black Bayou
  - Maine – Sunkhaze Café
  - New Resources at Recreation.gov
- 6 Articles continued
- 7 Q&A: How Do You Tell Your Story to the Media?
- 7 Book Shelf – *Rachel Carson and Her Book that Changed the World*, by Laurie Lawlor
- 7 Take Pride – Friends of St Croix WMD win National Volunteer Award
- 8 2012 Refuge Week wingspan banner available for educational use

### **SUMMER 2012**

- 1 Community Partnerships and the Silver Tsunami (*From the Chief Jim Kurth*)
- 1 Home Values Higher Near Refuges
- 2 *Conserving the Future* Celebrates Anniversary
- 3 Planning with Friends
- 4-5 Friend to Friend
- Florida – Friends and Volunteers of Refuge Florida Keys trash can corral giveaway
  - Nevada – Friends of the Desert National Wildlife Refuge Complex family overnight camping
  - Texas – Friends of Brazoria built urban trails in Lake Jackson, TX
  - Vermont – Friends of Missisquoi Giving Goose project
- 6 Climate Change Concerns Visitors, Who Love Wildlife Refuges
- 7 Special Passes for Refuge Entry
- 8 New Duck Stamp Curriculum
- 9 Friends Academy 2012
- 10 Birding in the Refuge System (new Refuge System birding Web site)
- 10 Making Dreams Come True (Every Day, NFWF grant winners)
- 11 Q&A How do you attract volunteers and encourage them to become Friends
- 11 Fundraising: It's all about relationships (online Special Issue on Fundraising)
- 12 Book Shelf – *Bird Talk: What Birds are Saying and Why* by Lita Judge  
*Bob Hines: National Wildlife Artist*, by John D. Juriga

### **SPECIAL ISSUE 2012 – FUNDRAISING**

- 1 Fundraising: It's All About Relationships (Overview)
- 2 Fundraising Letters and Email Go Hand-in-Hand
- 3 Raising Money with Just the Right Event
- 4 We Can Do This: Raising Money Means Staying Flexible
- 5 Raising the Big Bucks
- 7 Selling for Nature
- 8 Where There's a Will, There's a Way to Raise Money (Bequests, Planned Giving)
- 9 Embrace Online Fundraising for Long-Term Success
- 10 Grants Galore: National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

- 11 Grants: Paying Attention to What is Out There
- 12 Raising the Big Bucks (con't)

### **SPRING 2012**

- 1 Climate change: What is your Local Story?
- 2 New Faces (Marcia Pradines, Mendel Stewart, Anna Harris)
- 3 Conservation Initiatives Unveiled at White House Conference
- 4 -5 Friend to Friend
  - Upper Mississippi – guide to species
  - New Jersey – Friends of Supawna Meadows/Carneys Point Generating Plant EE program
  - Mississippi – Friends of Noxubee have MSU fraternity pledges working on refuge
  - New Jersey – Friends of Forsythe using retired Atlantic City jitney-bus for refuge tours
- 6 Geocaching
- 6 Director Dan Ashe Blogs and Tweets
- 7 Summer of Paddling (Mississippi River)
- 8 *stories continued*
- 9 Q&A \_ What is capacity building? (*Joanna Webb*)
- 10 Book Shelf: *Swirl by Swirl* by Joyce Sidman; *Out of the Way! Out of the Way!* by Uma Krishnaswami
- 11 Science Awards
- 11 Todd Paddock, advocate from Friends of the Refuge Headwaters
- 12 Save Vanishing Species stamp

### **WINTER 2012**

- 1 Vision Becoming Reality – vision implementation (Community Partners team)
- 2 New Refuge – Everglades Headwaters National Wildlife Refuge and Conservation Area
- 2 New Faces in Washington – John Segur (Fire), Scott Covington (energy program coordinator) Kim Trust (chief of the Branch of Wildlife Resources)
- 3 Protecting Habitat When the Sea Rises – SLAMM
- 4 Friend to Friend
- 5 Friend to Friend
  - Florida – Friends of Lower Suwannee and Cedar Keys paddling guides
  - South Carolina – Friends of Carolina Sandhills longleaf pine education day
  - Missouri and Florida – Friends of Big Muddy/"Ding" Darling Wildlife Society lecture series
  - Wisconsin – Friends of St Croix WMD Conservation Day
- 6 It Pays to Conserve – economic report commissioned by NFWF
- 7 *vision continued*
- 8 Success Begins in the Board Room – effective meetings
- 8 Q&A Why Bother With a Strategic Plan? *Susan Snider, Friends of Norwalk Islands*
- 9 Meeting Friends *Katie McVey, Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge*
- 9 Reflections on Friends Academy (Friends of Dahomey, Kootenai, Dungeness, Maine Seabird Islands)
- 10 Diversity in Birding conference at John Heinz Refuge



- 11 Year-long planning calendar
- 12 Congratulations
  - Friends Group of the Year Coastal Wildlife Refuge Society (Alligator and Pea Island Refuges, NC)
  - Volunteer of the Year David Govatski (Silvio O. Conte Refuge, NH)
  - Refuge Manager of the Year Charlie Pelizza (Pelican Island Refuge, FL)
  - Employee of the Year Kate O'Brien (Rachel Carson Refuge, ME)

### **FALL 2011**

- 1 – New Refuge in New Mexico – Price's Dairy
- 1 – Visitor Survey
- 1 – *Conserving the Future* vision
- 2 – Friends of Kofa build membership
- 3 – Inventory & Monitoring
- 4 – 5 Friend to Friend
  - Florida – QR codes on “Ding” Darling iNature Trail
  - Nevada – Survey of damselflies and dragonflies on Desert Refuge Complex
  - California – WildWing at Humboldt Bay Refuge
  - Book Shelf – *A Place for Frogs*
- 6 – Q&A – What are the keys to having a board that really gets the job done?
- 8 – Award winners – Friends of Nevada Wilderness (Partners in Conservation) and Friends of Louisiana Wildlife Refuges – Southeast Award for ability to overcome obstacles

### **SUMMER 2011**

- 1 – Greg Siekaniec appointed deputy director
- 1 -Taking the Vision into Implementation
- 3- Friends for the Future (Greg Siekaniec and Evan Hirsche meet with Friends in Madison)
- 4- 5 Conference Photo Spread
- 6- New Refuge Trail Finder
- 7 – Nature of Learning Grants
- 8 – 9 Friend to Friend
  - Florida – “Ding” Darling Wildlife Society – Monofilament Busters
  - Louisiana – Black Bayou Lake Refuge – front lawn signs
  - Massachusetts – Parker River Refuge – wheelchair beach buggy
  - Puerto Rico-Georgia – Okefenokee visits PR
- 10 – Q&A What is the key to a winning grant application?
- 11 – Awards and Grants – Jennifer Jewett, Pamela Steinhaus, Lori Iverson
- 11 – Friends Academy in October
- 12 – Climate Change Education Partnership

### **SPRING 2011**

- 1 – Chief: Olivia Bouler – 10 year old who raised funds for oil spill recovery
- 1 – Social Media Bring Vision Conference Home Virtually
- 2 – Awards
  - Friends group of the year = Chassahowitzka

- Volunteer of the year = Denis Mudderman (Tamarac, Brazoria)
  - Refuge Manager of the year = Kenneth Litzenberger, Southeast Louisiana Complex
  - Employee of the year = Dave Mauser, Klamath Basin Refuge
- 3- You Have to Play to Win – Friends enter contests
- 4 – 5 Friend to Friend
- Louisiana – Shell, Questar volunteers help restore farmhouse at Red River Refuge
  - Washington – audio tour on CDs at Ridgefield Refuge
  - Florida – Friends identify trees on River Trail at Lower Suwannee Refuge
  - Oregon – Haystack Rock Awareness Program video on YouTube
- 6- Book Shelf – *Bring On the Birds* by Susan Stockdale
- 6 – Joanna Webb, New National Friends Coordinator
- 7 – FAQ – Friends organizations awarding scholarships
- 8 – Flat Blue
- 9 – America’s Wild Read

### **WINTER 2011**

- 1 – Chief – Community of ideas at [www.americaswildlife.org](http://www.americaswildlife.org)
- 1 – Make Your Voice Heard on Refuge System’s Future
- 2 – Dan Ashe nominated as Director
- 3 – Nature of Learning grants (Detroit Lakes, DEWEE, Heinz, and more)
- 4 – Cherry Valley National Wildlife Refuge established
- 4 – Possible Everglades Headwaters National Wildlife Refuge and Conservation Area
- 4-5 Friend to Friend
- Midway Atoll – Race to Midway Atoll to educate about marine debris
  - Mississippi – St Catherine Creek Refuge – Animal Olympics trail
  - New Jersey – Refuge Readers book club at Great Swamp Refuge
  - New Mexico – children create guide to Bosque del Apache Refuge
- 6- Roads and Trails projects at Eastern Shore of Virginia, Chincoteague, National Elk, Wichita Mountains Refuges
- 7 – Trails and Transit – connections between refuges and public transit
- 7 – Growing a Festival – Friends of Tualatin River, OR
- 8 – FAQ – What are some good ways to get to know your refuge staff (*Kathy Woodward, Great Swamp*)

### **FALL 2010**

- 1 – Chief – Arctic Refuge 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary
- 1 – Vision Conference
- 2 – Service Releases Final Climate Change Strategy
- 2 – Senate Resolution Designates Refuge Week
- 3 – National online dialogue on America’s Great Outdoors
- 4-5 Friend to Friend
- New Jersey – Celebrate Urban Birds at Edwin B. Forsythe Refuge
  - Tennessee – Friends of TN Refuge band ducks during member appreciation event
  - Alaska – Friends restore live video link from St Lazaria Island

- Maryland – Wild Goose Chase bike ride for women at Blackwater Refuge
- 6– New leaders for National Wildlife Refuge System – Jeff Rupert, Cynthia Martinez, James Hall
- 7 - Close the Caves and Spread the Word (spread of white nose bat syndrome)
- 8 – First Service Honor Guard
- 8 – FAQ: How do we grow our membership?

### **SPRING 2010**

- 1 – Chief: 2011 Vision Conference
- 1 – America’s Great Outdoors White House Conference
- 2 – Climate Change, SLAMM (Chincoteague)
- 3 – Tulare Basin added to Refuge System
- 4 -5 – Friend to Friend
  - West Virginia – Canaan Valley – resident photographers *Marquette Crockett*
  - New Mexico – Bosque del Apache – group travel to Costa Rica
  - New Jersey – Great Swamp – *Discovering Great Swamp* coloring book
  - Texas – Viva the Ocelot Facebook page
- 6– Soaring to New Heights
- 7 – Q&A Guidelines for funding school field trips (SEWEE Assoc, Bosque, Tamarac, Boyer Chute/DeSoto, Sherburne; Blue Goose Fund at Minnesota Valley)
- 8 – Chief’s column concluded
- 8 – Calendar

### **WINTER 2010**

- 1 – Paying for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Conservation – 2011 budget, RAPP
- 1 – Chief – growth of Friends movement
- 2 – Kayaking the Lower Laguna Madre *Nancy Brown*
- 3 – Birding with more than your eyes – blind birders (Patuxent)
- 4 – 5 – F2F
  - Minnesota-Florida – Friends Exchange *Barbara Hammes* (Upper Mississippi, Florida Panther)
  - Arizona – Buenos Aires Brown Canyon Workshops *Richard Conway*
  - Texas – Friends of Anahuac donate books to libraries
- 5 Book Shelf – *Bugs and Bugsicles* (Amy Hansen), *Butterflies and Moths* (Nic Bishop)
- 6 Alphabet Soup – acronyms (I&M, LPP, LWCF, PPP, RAPP)
- 6 Honors – NWRA awards
  - Friends of Alaska – Friends of the Year
  - Zeeger de Wilde – Volunteer of the Year
  - Kevin Foerster – Refuge Manager of the Year
  - Vernon Byrd – Refuge Employee of the Year
- 7 Calendar
- 8 Q&A – Secure donation boxes (Savannah Coastal, Sachuest Point, Louisiana, Pinckney Island)

### **FALL 2009**

- 1 – Strategic Habitat Conservation *Jennifer Anderson*

- 1 – Chief – media
- 2 – Inventory and Monitoring
- 3 – Hands-off Hiring (Friends hiring Refuge staff) *Jennifer Anderson*
- 4-5 F2F
  - Montana – Lee Metcalf construction of outdoor education shelter *James Hamilton*
  - Texas – Balcones Canyonlands Sparrow Fest
  - Florida – Ding on the Wing e-bulletins from “Ding” Darling Wildlife Society
- 6 What Makes a Good Web Site? *K.C. Summers*
- 7 Book Shelf: *Earth in the Hot Seat*, (Marfé Delano Ferguson) *A Mirror to Nature* (Jane Yolen)
- 8 Q&A – What makes a good grant application?

### **SUMMER 2009**

- 1- Climate Change Challenge
- 2- Sleepover on a Refuge – RV volunteers
- 3- Lighthouses (Kilauea, Assateague)
- 4- Friend to Friend
  - Wertheim Refuge Welcome Cabin
  - Bosque del Apache Refuge with Food Network contest
- 5 - Honors – Angelace Blue-McLean, Friends of Chassahowitzka – Regional Conservation Award  
Rona Balco, founder Friends of Oxbow Refuge, 100 Unsung Heroes of 2009
- 6 - Attracting New Visitors with Classic Species – car show – Friends of Ottawa, OH
- 7 – *jumps*
- 8 – Q&A: What are some good outreach strategies in response to the current economic downturn?
- 8 – Calendar

### **SPRING 2009**

- 1 – Omnibus Public Lands Bill
- 1 – Chief: value of Friends
- 2 – Friends conference
- 3 – Reducing carbon footprint on refuges
- 3 – Green transit – electric trams – Patuxent (MD)
- 4-5 – F2F
  - Sustainability – Ding Darling (FL)
  - Green fashion – Loxahatchee (FL)
  - Books – *Great Swamp: New Jersey’s Natural Treasure*; reviewed by Laurel Gould
  - Books – *Backyard Birds*
- 6 – Water – managing water strategically
- 7 - Refuge birding guides – Santa Ana, Bombay Hook – *Mike Carlo*
- 8 – Honors
  - Marie Springer – vol of the year
  - Friends of Pool 9 – Friends of the year
  - Greg Siekaniec – manager of the year
  - Baron Horiuchi – employee of the year
  - David Obey/Dianne Feinstein – CARE awards

- 9 – Barns – Supawna Meadows, Canaan Valley
- 11 – Planning a special event – Okefenokee *Blaine Eckberg*
- 12 – Q&A – junior Friends groups – Muscatatuck, Cabeza Prieta, Alligator/Pea Island *Cindy Heffley*

### **WINTER 2009**

- 1-National Friends Conference Feb 21-23
- 1 - New hunting guide online ([www.fws.gov/refuges/hunting](http://www.fws.gov/refuges/hunting))
- 2-Saving Three Sisters Springs (Friends of Chassahowitzka-FL) *Lace Blue-McLean*
- 3-Merritt Island Refuge Nature of Learning grant used with high school students (Merritt Island Wildlife Association-FL)
- 4-5 Friend to Friend
  - Friends of the Montezuma Wetlands Complex -NY podcasts
  - Pea Island National Refuge –NC podcasts
  - Upper Mississippi National Fish and Wildlife Refuge cell phone tours
  - From Friends Conference to Cattail Swamp (Friends of Humboldt Bay-WA) *Betsy Burch*
  - Planning for Refuge Week – Friends of Great Swamp-NJ display materials in libraries
  - Get Some Nature Into Your Kids – PSAs, posters
- 6-7 Civics 101/Congressional committees/Caucus/Laws/CARE
- 8-Q&A – Web-based networking opportunities (Friends of Noxubee-MS; Friends of Ridgefield-WA)
- 9 – Birder friendly refuges
  - Celebrate Urban Birds (Cornell)
  - Duck Stamps not just for birders
  - Using stores to attract birders
- 10- Transit in refuges – National Elk-WY, Bosque del Apache – NM, San Diego Bay-CA, Chincoteague-VA
- 11 – Thoughts from a refuge manager *Jonathan Schafner*
- 11 – Welcome Friends of the Ohio River Islands Refuge –WV
- 12 – Connecting People with Nature resources
- 12 – Invasives Web site wins award from National Association for Interpretation

### **FALL 2008**

- 1 - New Leadership Team
- 1 – Independent Evaluation Rates Refuge System – MSI report
- 2 – Welcome
  - Friends of Pocosin Lakes National Wildlife Refuge (NC)
  - Kodiak Chapter of Friends of Alaska National Wildlife Refuges (AK)
  - Friends of Tampa Bay National Wildlife Refuge (FL)
  - Friends of the Savannah Coastal Wildlife Refuge (GA, SC)
  - Friends of Eufaula National Wildlife Refuge(AL)
  - Friends of Plum and Pilot Islands (WI)
  - Friends of the Front Range Wildlife Refuges (CO)
  - Lostwood Birding and Nature Association (ND) – Lostwood Natl Wildlife Refuge Assoc.
- 3 – Capital Campaigns (Sherburne, Black Bayou, Bear River, Loxahatchee, Ding Darling, Bosque del Apache)
- 4-5 Friend to Friend

- 4-5 Fundraising
  - Friends of the Montezuma Wetlands Complex (NY) – tree sales, Wildflower & Wine
  - Friends of Blackwater – 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Eagle’s Nest Christmas Open House
  - “Ding” Darling Wildlife Society – Biologer partnership
- 4-6 Reaching out to Teachers – Friends of the Prairie Wetlands Learning Center (MN)
- 4-7 Creatures of the Night – Friends of Wallkill River National Wildlife Refuge (NJ)
- 6 Succession Planning *Doug Seale, Friends of the Assabet National Wildlife Refuge (MA)*
- 7 – Building Rapport with Congress *Molly Brown, Friends of Back Bay National Wildlife Ref (VA)*
- 8 - History by the Numbers *Charles Whitmore, Friends of Great Swamp (NJ)*
- 9 – Mentors Visit Four States
  - 4-8 Rocky Mt Arsenal and Rocky Flats (CO)
  - 4-9 Tensas Refuge (LA)
  - 4-10 Lostwood Refuge (ND)
  - 4-11 Columbia Gorge Refuge (WA)
- 10 – FAQ – TechSoup [www.techsoup.org](http://www.techsoup.org)
- 10 – Calendar
- 11 – Puffin Watch – Fireworks-free Celebration – Friends of Haystack Rock (OR) *Gary Hayes*
- 12 – Wild Bird Note cards
- 12 – 2009 National Friends Conference
- 12 – Refuge Week Toolkit has long shelf life

### **SUMMER 2008**

- 1 - Florida Panther partnership with Ritz Carlton and Whole Foods
- 2 - Standardized design
- 2 - Building a photo blind
- 3 - Friends of Alaska volunteer all around state
- 3 - Volunteer Master Naturalists at Edwin B. Forsythe Refuge (NJ)
- 4-5 Friend to Friend
  - Gourmet fundraising Friends of Maine Coastal Islands
  - Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge (UT)– the Movie
  - Backpacks Ding Darling, Upper Mississippi Refuges
- 5 - Kudos
  - Seney Natural History Association (MI), regional award
  - Dennis Mudderman – Midwest Regional Director’s Award; Tamarac Refuge
  - Marie Springer – Friends of Walkill Refuge (NJ); Environmental Quality Award
  - Nancy Menasco – Red River Refuge (LA)– Southeast Regional Director’s Award
- 6 – Calendar
- 7 – Establishment of Friends of Pool 9 (Upper Mississippi Refuge)
- 7 – Bookstore training in fall 2008
- 8 – Workday at Supawna Meadows Refuge (NJ)

### **SPRING 2008**

- 1 – Awards:
  - Kevin Brennan – manager of the year (Fergus Falls WMD, ND)
  - Friends of Sherburne NWR (MN)

- Clyde Morris – retired mgr Don Edwards San Francisco Bay (CA) – employee of the year
  - John Bertrand – Friends of the Bosque del Apache NWR (NM) – vol of the year
- 2 – Birding initiative
- 2 – Big Oaks Conservation Society (Big Oaks NWR, IN) – taking on stewardship of Old Timbers Lodge now on refuge land
- 3 – Small Wetlands 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary
- 4-5 F2F
- Five Recruiting Tips
  - Oral history project at Tamarac NWR (MN)

### **WINTER 2008**

- 1 – National Friends Conference coming in April
- 2 – 2008 Mentoring program – apply by March 14
- 2 – *A Home for Salty* – Friends of San Pablo Bay NWR; about endangered salt marsh harvest mice
- 3 – online invasive species training
- 3 – Draft Friends policy
- 3 – Great Dismal Swamp –NJ - in African American history
- 4 – F2F
- Friends of Chassahowitzka –FL - and Friends of Great Falls Discovery Center (Silvio O. Conte) hold musical fundraisers
  - Klamath Basin Wildlife Refuge Association renovating CCC barracks (Oregon)
  - Matagorda Island NWR Sea Turtle Patrol (TX)
  - Supporters of St Vincent NWR (FL) – busy new org; mentored in 2007
- 6 – Friends of the Willamette Valley –OR - – tour of three refuges and three wineries
- 7 – FAQ – How do you create a board committee
- 7 – Marine debris challenges Refuge System
- 8 – DVD Volume 3

### **FALL 2007**

- 1 – First Friends Academy
- 2 – Congressional field trip to learn about transportation programs on refuges
- 2 – Coral Reef Ecosystem Conservation Amendment Act of 2007 – being considered by house and senate committees
- 2 – Six Congressman honored
- a. Cong Jim Saxton, NJ
  - b. Cong Norman Dick, WA
  - c. Cong Todd Tiahrt, KS
  - d. Cong Ron Kind, WS
  - e. Cong Mike Thompson, CA
  - f. Cong Michael Castle, DE
- 3 – Starting a bookstore at your refuge
- 4 – 5 Friend to Friend
- g. Ron and Peggy Tillier, Blackwater Refuge - MD – gave more than 14,000 hours

- h. Monte Vista Refuge in southern Colorado and Friends of San Luis Valley – crane festival during national wildlife refuge week
  - i. Fire lines at Okefenokee –GA-- volunteers are members of Okefenokee Wildlife League
  - j. Friends and Volunteers of Refuges, Florida Keys (FAVOR) – Green-thumb certified campaign to weed out invasives
- 6 – Hiring an executive director
- 6 – Grant Deadlines
- k. American Hiking Society – Nov 1 (Friends of Crab Orchard Refuge - IL)
  - l. Preserve America – Friends in AK, MN, MA
- 7 – FAQ
- m. How can a Friends organization manage members
- 8 – Study confirms popularity of outdoor activities (National Survey of Fishing, Hunting and Wildlife-Associated Recreation)
- 1 – Friends Academy – Advanced Capacity Building
- 2 – New Friends Policy to provide consistency on administration
- 2 – New Titles – reminder of *Taking Flight; Soaring to New Heights* coming
- 3 – Budget Process
- 4-5 F2F
- n. Launching new organization – Friends of Crane Meadows (MN), Columbia Gorge Refuge Stewards (Franz Lake, Pierce, Steigerwald Lake NWRs), Friends of Deer Flat (ID)
  - o. Introducing middle school students to NC refuges – Alligator NWR Club
  - p. Environmental Film Festival debuts in New Mexico – Friends of Bosque del Apache
  - q. Bon Secour NWR (AL) – dunes restoration
- 6 – Congressional Wildlife Refuge Caucus – 120 members of House representing 36 states, 168 refuges
- 7 – FAQ
- r. What types of skills and traits should we seek as we organize or expand our board of directors
  - s. What are some of the less complicated events we can organize as a start-up group
- 8 – *Beyond the Boundaries* – citizen conservationists...80 people, 30 Friends organizations

## **SUMMER 2007**

- 1 – Preserve America grants
- t. Friends of Kenai –AK – interpretive panels at 10 restored cabins
  - u. Friends of Rydell -MN – 20-30 min DVD being produced on changes in prairie pothole region
  - v. Friends of Assabet River -MA – interpretive displays
- 2 – Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge – fundraiser for new organization
- 2 – Mentoring visits – Eufaula (AL), St Vincent (FL), Southwest LA Complex, AK refuges
- 3 – Carbon footprint – Conservation Fund and FWS Go Zero
- 3 – Mark Musaus new chief visitor services and communications
- 4-5 F2F



- w. Friends of Lee Metcalf - MT – license plates
  - x. Shoreline Education for Awareness (Oregon Coast) – new ad campaign
  - y. Friends of Erie -PA– Guys Mills Heritage Festival
  - z. Deer Flat - ID – Great Backyard Bird Count
- 6 – Midway Journal – Christy Finlayson
- 6 – National Wildlife Refuge Friends Grants (Trevor Needham)
- aa. Friends of Louisiana Wildlife Refuges
  - bb. Friends of Iroquois Refuge (NY)
  - cc. Friends of Laguna Atascosa Refuge - TX
  - dd. *Deadline for 2007 grants by Sept 4*
- 7 – FAQ
- ee. What’s the value of the time that Friends groups invest in refuges
- 8 – Friends at the witness table for House appropriations subcommittee hearing
- ff. Marie Springer (Wallkill River NJ)
  - gg. Molly Brown (pres, Friends of Back Bay VA)
  - hh. David Raskin, president Friends of AK
  - ii. John McCabe , J.N. Ding Darling Wildlife Society (FL)
  - jj. Walt Stieglitz, board member Pelican Island Preservation Society (FL)
- 9 – Polar Bears – 500,000 emails, letters and petitions by Apr 9 re endangered listing

### **SPRING 2007**

- 1 – Standardized Design
- 1 – America the Beautiful Interagency Pass
- 2 – Reading Rachel Carson
- 3 – Awards
- kk. Friends Group of the year – San Luis Valley
  - ll. Volunteer of the Year – Marian Sansing (Noxubee – MS))
- 4-5 Friends to Friends
- mm. Chassahowitzka and the cranes (FL)
  - nn. Walk on Winn Dixie Open House – Florida Key Friends
  - oo. Writing a Newsletter – tips from Mike Blenden, San Luis Valley NWR mgr
  - pp. Noxubee Friends advertise on billboard for free
- 6 – Glacier activity at Togiak-AK
- 7 – FAQ
- qq. How can a Friends organization recruit new board members?
  - rr. What are hallmarks of a solid and sustainable Friends and refuge partnership

## **SPECIAL ISSUES**

### **Membership (Spring 2011)**

- 1 – Secrets of Membership Success (Overview)
- 2 – eFriends – Gathering Members Electronically
- 3 – Member Management in a Digital Age (databases, etc.)
- 4 – Reaching for Diversity
- 5 – Members Beyond the Boundaries (Friends of Midway Atoll)
- 7 – “They Signed Up Right Away” – special events (Friends of Deep Fork, Cape Romain, SEWEE)
- 8 – Hold Those Members – member appreciation events (*Dan Dzienkowski, Friends of Tennessee*)

### **Arts (October 2009)**

- 1 – You’ve Gotta Have Art - *Ren Lohofener*
- 2 – Salmon Art Trail, Willapa, WA
- 3 – Wild Things Art Contest, Southeast LA Complex
- 4 – Birdfest and Bluegrass Festival, Ridgefield, WA
- 5 – Upper Tanana Migratory Bird Festival, Tetlin, AK
- 6 – Mapping the Rio Watershed Education Program, Bosque del Apache, NM
- 7 – River of Words, Whittlesey, WI
- 8 – Henshaw Creek Weir Science Camp, Kanuti, AK
- 9 – Nisqually Watershed Festival, Nisqually, WA
- 10 – Artist in Residence, Ninigret, RI – *Ana Flores*
- 11 – Tips on Planning Arts Events
- 11 – Other Notable Arts Projects – Walkill, NJ; Necedah, WI; Edwin B. Forsythe, NJ; Charles M. Russell, MT, Bear River, UT; Mississippi Sand Hill Crane, MS; Prime Hook, DE

### **Transportation (2008)**

- 1 – Roads and trails – Getting Around the Refuge System (Tualatin River, Public Lands Highway Discretionary Fund)
- 2 – Reauthorization of Transportation bill 2008
- 3 – High Priority Projects (Brandon Marsh)
- 4 – Maintaining roads and trails (Reelfoot, Refuge Roads Program, Federal Lands Highway Program)
- 5 – Transportation Enhancement grants (Nestucca Bay)
- 6 – Public Lands Highway Discretionary (Shiawassee)
- 7 – Scenic Byways (Des Lacs)
- 8 – Paul S. Sarbanes Transit in the Parks Program (Patuxent)
- 9 – Recreation Trails Program (Prime Hook)
- 10 – Transportation workshops