

A quarterly newsletter for Volunteers and Friends of the Friends of Patuxent Research Refuge, Inc.



FRIENDS OF PATUXENT

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July-Aug-Sept 2021

A Gift to Friends of Patuxent

Richard Dolesh, Chair, Board of Directors, Friends of Patuxent

Members of Friends of Patuxent volunteer countless hours at the Patuxent Research Refuge, and financially support research, conservation, and education programs and activities through Friends of Patuxent memberships, donations, and purchases at the Wildlife Images Bookstore & Nature Shop. There is another way you can provide support long into the future and that is by leaving a gift to Friends of Patuxent by listing Friends as a beneficiary in your will or as a beneficiary on your annuity, trust, insurance policies, securities, or other types of accounts. The Board of Directors of Friends of Patuxent is pleased to announce that long-time Friends member and Refuge volunteer (and Volunteer of the Year in 2017), Stephanie Everett, recently designated Friends of Patuxent as a beneficiary on her annuity. Here she explains why she did so.

“Over the years I have enjoyed many wonderful hours at Patuxent Research Refuge. Being a refuge volunteer has become my ‘job’ now that I am retired, and it’s the best job I have ever had! It brings me great joy to share my love of nature with others – especially children – and to hear their exclamations of wonder when they see something that excites them, or when they learn something new.



Stephanie enjoys doing interpretive and educational programs for Patuxent visitors.

“Patuxent is a refuge not only for wildlife, but also for people. It offers a close-to-home escape from the noise, the concrete and the frenzied pace of our increasingly urban and artificial world. Whether you’re scan-

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The National Wildlife Visitor Center at Patuxent Research Refuge has Reopened!

FWS News Release

The National Wildlife Visitor Center at Patuxent Research Refuge (10901 Scarlett Tanager Loop, Laurel Maryland, 20708) reopened on June 1st, and is currently welcoming guests into the building. While the Refuge land has been accessible to the public during the pandemic, the Visitor Center on the South Tract has been closed since March of 2020. The building is open Tuesday through Saturday from 9:00am to 4:30pm. Capacity limits are in place and masks are required for those who are not vaccinated. You can reach us at 301-497-5772.

For additional information regarding Patuxent Research Refuge please visit <https://www.fws.gov/refuge/patuxent/>

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A Gift to Friends of Patuxent

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ning the treetops with binoculars searching for an elusive bird, walking the trails and breathing in the fresh scents of spring, or just sitting quietly on a bench and listening with your eyes closed, time in nature restores one's soul.

"I have chosen to make a bequest to The Friends of Patuxent to help ensure that this precious place of peace is preserved for future generations, and so that quality programs and activities can continue to educate our visitors, in spite of the vagaries of governmental funding. My hope is that Patuxent will always be a place where people can spend time enjoying nature and learning about it, so that they will come to love it as I do, and thus work to protect it."



Stephanie and Brenda Stone volunteering at the Friends' annual Wildlife Holiday Bazaar.

This is a wonderful gift to Friends of Patuxent, and to the Patuxent Research Refuge. We hope Stephanie's actions will inspire others to follow her lead. If you would like to know more about how you, too, can support the work of Friends of Patuxent long into the future, please contact Bequest Program Coordinator Lowell Adams and ask for additional information about our Bequest Program (Email: friendspr@friendsofpatuxent.org; Phone: 301-497-5789). 



Stephanie receiving the 2017 Volunteer of the Year award from then Refuge Manager Brad Knudsen.

Visit us on Facebook and Twitter

<https://www.facebook.com/PatuxentResearchRefuge>

<https://twitter.com/USFWSNortheast/status/78546358377783296>

Friends of Patuxent is published quarterly and can be read online or mailed to our Friends upon request.

Many of the regular newsletter contributors and assistants are volunteers. However, we welcome and encourage all volunteers and Friends to submit items for the newsletter by sending or bringing them to:

Editor, Friends of Patuxent Newsletter
ATTN: Ross Feldner
 11811 Ivanhoe Street
 Wheaton, MD 20902

Or email to ross.feldner@verizon.net

All articles submitted to the Friends of Patuxent Newsletter will be reviewed by newsletter staff prior to their publication. We reserve the right to not publish submissions based on length, content or suitability.

Article submission deadlines:

Issue			Issue		
No.	Months	Deadline	No.	Months	Deadline
1	Jan-Mar	December 1	2	Apr-Jun	March 1
3	Jul-Sept	June 1	4	Oct-Dec	September 1

To become a member of the Friends of Patuxent or send a donation, please see "Membership Application" on page 11.

Young Artist From Kansas Takes Top Honors at the National Junior Duck Stamp Art Contest

Vanessa Kaufman, U.S. Fish and Wildlife News Release

A talented young artist from Kansas has taken top honors at the [National Junior Duck Stamp Art Contest](#). A pair of hooded mergansers by 18-year-old Margaret McMullen will grace the 2021-2022 Junior Duck Stamp, which raises funds to educate and engage our nation's youth in wildlife and wetlands conservation and outdoor recreation. A panel of five judges chose the entry, painted in acrylic, from among best-of-show entries from 50 states, Washington, D.C. and two U.S. Territories.

"I am so excited that thousands of talented young students from across the United States participated in this year's Junior Duck Stamp Program, and especially proud to announce the top winners of this prestigious contest," said Service Principal Deputy Director Martha Williams. "This program is one of our hallmark efforts to engage youth and foster a lifelong connection with the natural world through science, art and language."

Students in kindergarten through grade twelve participate in their annual state Junior Duck Stamp Program through their school, home, art studio or after-school group, or from a national wildlife refuge, park or nature center. After learning about wetlands, waterfowl and wildlife conservation, they express their learning through a drawing or painting of a duck, goose or swan.

The top piece of art in the nation – chosen at this annual competition – is featured on the Junior Duck Stamp, sales of which support educational programs and activities that nurture our next generation of conservationists.



The Federal Junior Duck Stamp Conservation and Design Program began in 1989 as an extension of the [Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp](#), commonly known as the Duck Stamp. The first national Junior Duck Stamp art contest was held in 1993. The stamp encourages students to explore their natural world, participate in outdoor recreation activities, and learn wildlife management principles. Approximately 2,000 Junior Duck Stamps are sold annually for \$5 each.

Second place winner was Daniel Schumacher, age 18, from North Dakota, with an acrylic painting of a redhead.

Third place went to 12-year-old Ariaah Lowell from Maine who entered a harlequin duck painted in oils.

In addition to the art contest, a Junior Duck Stamp Conservation Message Contest encourages students to express in words the spirit of what they have learned through classroom discussions, research, and planning for their Junior Duck Stamp Contest entries. This year's winner is Josie Arp, 15, of Arkansas with her message: "When the world turned upside-down

nature calmly and quietly laid a blanket of comfort over us all."

"We are so honored to help run a program where thousands of young people from around the country and all different backgrounds and interests have an opportunity to showcase their talents," said Assistant Director for Migratory Birds Jerome Ford. "These kids have had to adjust to new learning methods during the past year due to the pandemic. It just shows how important this program is to allow students to turn what they know about wildlife and use their passion to turn that into a piece of personal art they share around the country

This year, nearly 9,000 young artists submitted entries to the Junior Duck Stamp contests around the nation. State coordinators, which include the Service, state wildlife agencies and local nongovernmental employees adjusted to the COVID-19 pandemic in several ways. They offered virtual tours of neighboring wetlands and national wildlife refuges, provided lessons and activities about waterfowl identification and sent art supply packets to students learning from home. The coordinators

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Government Biologist An Interesting Career

by Sanford R. Wilbur, Government Biologist, Retired

Introduction to the book Government Biologist With the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in the Second Half of the Twentieth Century.

For thirty-five years, I worked in various aspects of wildlife conservation, mostly with the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Early in my career, my Dad opined that I and my brother Roger (who also worked with wildlife) were getting paid for what we'd gladly do for free. Well, maybe on some days. However, there were many other days, weeks, and even months when - had I been in it for the money - no amount of monetary remuneration would have been enough.

But, philosophically at least, Dad was right. I was in the very enviable position of making my living doing something that I really liked to do. I wasn't getting rich, but I knew from the first day that civil servants rarely did. And the work was interesting and rewarding personally, and I often felt like I was contributing to something important - something beyond just feeding my family and being gainfully employed.

I began my career living and working on wildlife refuges in Nevada, Idaho, and California. I next took a job in our Portland, Oregon, regional office, studying refuge areas for possible inclusion under the recently-passed Wilderness Act. I moved on to Atlanta, Georgia, where I served as advisor on biological issues on wildlife refuges in the South. A change of pace from management to research took me back to California, there to study the endangered California condor and other rare birds. Then it was on to Portland again, first to administer the endangered species program in the West, and then to supervise the operations of the national wildlife refuges



in Oregon, Washington and Idaho. I had come full circle, with a number of interesting stops along the way.

Looking back, I see that I was involved in a number of "firsts," and near-firsts. Although the occupation of wildlife manager was an old one, I was part of the first really big wave of college-trained men entering the field. Where previously only the Fish and Wildlife Service and the State "fish and game" agencies hired numbers of biologists, other career opportunities were opening up

in the U. S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, and National Park Service. And within ten years of my first assignment, it was becoming clear that the profession was no longer all-male, as more and more college-trained women entered the field.

I was also there to see significant changes in the work of the Fish and Wildlife Service and the administration of the National Wildlife Refuge System. When I entered the scene, most federal refuges - in fact, most of the work of Fish and Wildlife Service - catered to ducks and geese and little else. There was plenty of other wildlife around, but little specific attention was paid to those other species - sometimes to their detriment, as "waterfowl management" is not always good wildlife management. During the 1960s and early 1970s, the Wilderness Act and the several endangered species acts helped redirect some of the Service's emphasis. The 1980s and 1990s ushered in concepts new to many government agencies: concepts like biological diversity, species richness, habitat fragmentation,



American White Pelicans



**Future Wildlifer?
(With Dad on the Berkeley Pier)**

and island ecology. New paths were opening up for habitat preservation and species management. Clearly, it was not the career that those of us from the 1950s and 1960s had been trained for. Just as clearly for me, the changes were exciting, and helped round out thirty-five years of work in rewarding ways.

I like to write, and for a number of years I've been toying with the idea of putting together my reminiscences of my career in wildlife conservation. The years I was researching the California condor have been covered pretty well, and I've drafted various other "chapters" from time to time. Still, I never got the time and the inclination to coincide to really make the project go. The impetus to do the job came recently from reading David B. Marshall's autobiography. Dave and I were friends and co-workers, and our careers strongly paralleled one another's. We worked on some of the same refuges, and held some of the same administrative positions. But Dave was fifteen years older than me, and the differences in our profession between the first years of his career and the last years of mine were tremendous. It seems worthwhile to me to "keep the story going." I hope you agree.

So, to keep the story going, I wrote a book of reminiscences and opinions (please click on the link at the end of this article). Most of it came from my memory (good in places, not so good in others), and from my field notes and journals (very complete some years on some jobs, non-existent at other times). To round out (and, hope-

fully, enhance) the story, I have reviewed a lot of printed literature and also picked some brains that were not my own. You won't find a bibliography, endnotes, any "literature cited" section, or even an index. I do have file copies of most of my information sources. If you see something you'd

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What's in a Name?

Richard Dolesh, Chair, Board of Directors

The Friends of Patuxent made a momentous decision at our most recent meeting of the board of directors on May 18, 2021. We changed the name of the Friends of Patuxent.

No, we didn't change the name "Friends of Patuxent," but we did vote to officially change our formal name of "Friends of Patuxent Wildlife Research Center and Patuxent Research Refuge, Inc" to simply the "Friends of Patuxent Research Refuge, Inc." We are in the process of gaining state approval for the name change.

The name change of the USGS research side of Patuxent has been a long time in the making, several years in fact. The USGS decided to administratively reorganize many of its East Coast facilities under one unifying name, the Eastern Ecological Science Center (EESC). The EESC has three primary facilities: Patuxent Research Refuge, MD; Leetown Research Laboratory, WV; and Silvio O. Conte Research Laboratory, MA.

The change of the official name of the Friends of Patuxent follows the administrative re-naming of USGS facilities, and is somewhat bittersweet for many of us who have been associated as volunteers for both the Patuxent Research Refuge and the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center.

The Patuxent Research Refuge was established in 1936 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt as the nation's first wildlife research station. In the long history of Patuxent, it came to be called Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, and then in 1993, the two functions of Patuxent—refuge management and biological research—were split into two agencies of the Department of the Interior, the administration of the refuge under the U.S Fish and Wildlife Service, and the biological research function under the U.S. Geological Survey.

The Friends of Patuxent was formed in 1992 by a group of volunteers who were dedicated to supporting the conservation, education, and research missions of the refuge and science center. While the administrative names of the governmental programs and administrative units of Patuxent have changed, the goal of the Friends of Patuxent has never changed and that is to continue to support the refuge and the science center. We are the **Friends of Patuxent**, and we stand for Patuxent in all ways, for the one-of-a-kind National Wildlife Refuge and for the internationally known and respected science and research programs. If you are not already a member of the Friends, join us!

Telegraph Poles of Patuxent

by Matthew C. Perry, Retired Patuxent Research Biologist and Member of the Friends of Patuxent Board of Directors

When Patuxent Research Refuge was established in 1936, there was interest in the old telegraph road that ran through the land, and the numerous poles along the road. Stories had existed that this was the road that Samuel Morse had used to send the first telegraph message, “What hath God wrought?,” a rhetorical question somewhat challenging the value of this new technology. Although this was an early telegraph road, the National Park Service historian sent a letter to the management of Patuxent explaining that this was not the road for the message. The road used for the message was the old Post Road (Rt. #1) running north and south through Laurel. There is an old railroad line there and it was common that the telegraph lines followed the rail lines, as they had been surveyed and for ease of maintenance. A historic plaque along the side of the road explains this local history, but the location with heavy traffic does not provide the public a good spot to stop and read.

The original telegraph poles at Patuxent were made of the very durable hardwood, American chestnut. When Dr. Joe Linduska and his wife, Lillian, lived at Patuxent in Snowden Hall during the late 1930s, he took one of the poles that had fallen and had it sawed and planed for a coffee table he constructed. I would love to know its location now, or at least get a picture of it.

Once biologist, Gary Heinz, related to fellow biologist, Bill Stickel, that he had missed hitting a deer that he shot at with his shotgun. Bill told Gary he should go down to River Road and sight his gun in better. So, Gary did as this senior biologist had suggested. He picked out a “dead tree,” nailed his target to the tree and blasted away. He did this many times just before the opening of each deer season, nailing his tar-



Oliver Perry inspecting fallen telegraph pole near Duvall Bridge, February 2021.

get to the same dead tree. One year, he noticed the dead tree had fallen, no doubt in some part at least, to Gary weakening it with his dozens of rifled shotgun slugs. Then he noticed something peculiar about that “dead tree.” It had notches carved into its top; it was one of the old telegraph poles set up early in the 1900s along Telegraph Road. Gary had “killed” one of the historic poles! But he confessed that he did not do it maliciously; at the time, it just looked like a nice dead tree to tack his targets to. I recently found that old pole, now rotting on the ground. If I had had a metal detector, I probably could have found many slugs in the wood.

Several other poles are still standing at Patuxent and maybe other areas, like along Route #170, which was called Telegraph Road and extended from the North Tract of Patuxent to southern Baltimore. There is one telegraph pole in Knowles marsh, on the very edge in shallow water. There also are several poles on the South Tract of Patuxent, and one standing in Lake Redington, which was interpreted in the past by tour guides to visitors on the tram.

One of Patuxent’s former volunteers, Charlie Robinson, conducted tram tours for many years and was very interested in the telegraph poles. He had spent his career working for the telephone company, and stated the following about the historic road:



Historic chestnut telegraph pole on Central Tract, 2011. Note Duvall Bridge in background.

“My theory is that the Telegraph Road was built by a competitor of Samuel Morse. After Morse’s patent ran out, many other entrepreneurs entered the telegraph communication business. When Morse expanded his telegraph line to Boston and to the south, Western Union started a line west toward St Louis. Morse leased to these new companies the new routes that he had established, as Morse did not have equipment or monies to expand. One company was American Telegraph. On the Refuge map there is a right-of-way for Western Union paralleling the Penn’s Railroad line. Old Maryland maps prior to 1960 show a Telegraph Road from Washington, DC, northward near Greenbelt, Beltsville Agriculture Center’s south border, Fort Meade, and on to Baltimore. Telegraph Road was on 1950 maps near Greenbelt, but by 1960’s the part near Greenbelt was changed to Good Luck Road.”

The early poles at Patuxent were made of American chestnut, a dominant eastern tree that died in the early 1900s from a blight. When the bases of the poles rotted, they were sometimes supported by support poles made of creosoted pine. Now, the old weathered remaining poles are camouflaged well with the forest that has grown around them. But if you look closely, while walking Telegraph Road, you might spot some of these relics of our interesting Patuxent history. 🦋

Why We Love Volunteering at Patuxent!

by Ann M. Sunny, Isha A. Sunny and Nishanth E. Sunny, Patuxent Volunteers

We are Ann Sunny (9th grader at North County High), Isha Sunny (6th grader at Corkran Middle) and Nishanth Sunny (dad!). Ann and Nishanth have been volunteers at Patuxent since 2019, and Isha recently joined the fun. After a one-year pause due to the COVID-19 pandemic related shutdowns, we started volunteering again in April 2021. Here we are sharing our recent experiences and some of the highlights of our visits to the wildlife refuge in the last couple of months.

On our drive from the entrance of the South Tract to the visitor center parking lot through the Scarlet Tanager Loop, we are always on the lookout for any kind of wildlife sightings. Although the fragrance of the honeysuckle and the squirrels are always welcome during our drives, Isha was more excited to see a wild turkey cross the road in front of our car. From the visitor center parking lot, our first trip is to check on a nest box located on the tram route towards Lake Redington. On our recent walks to the nest box, we encountered a Killdeer nest in the gravel right next to the tram route, with four eggs. We could not resist the temptation to take a few pictures of the Killdeer and its eggs. Our attempts at taking pictures were met with a unique display from the bird, where the Killdeer would move away from the nest, spread its feathers and wildly flap its wings and tail feathers, pretending to be injured. We later learned that this act is an attempt to distract any poten-



Killdeer eggs



Eastern Redbud



Killdeer

tial predator away from its eggs, even by sacrificing its own body, amazing! Meanwhile, Isha was questioning the Killdeer's wisdom of making a nest and laying the eggs right in the middle of the gravel path!

We reach our first nest box, which now has four Tree Swallow babies. Whenever we approach the nest, the Tree Swallow would peep its head out, hesitating for a few seconds before flying away. Sometimes it would even stay in the nest while we opened it and would try to ward off our attempts to check the nest, before flying away. It always stays close to the nest throughout our check, flying around us and swooping down straight at us several times, warning us to leave. After checking the first nest box, we then walk to our second nest box located behind the visitor center near Lake Redington. One Saturday we were welcomed by a Black Racer that was slithering through the grass towards our nest box. At that time, the nest box had two Tree Swallow eggs, so we were worried when we saw the snake. We managed to chase the snake away into a bush. Luckily, those eggs have survived, and we now



Tree Swallow

have two hatchlings. All through our nest monitoring, the male tree swallow guarding this nest, sits on a tree branch just two feet away from the nest. Taking advantage of his proximity, we start taking pictures of him. Amazingly enough, it seems to us that he is enjoying it and posing for us as he is sitting on the tree branch even when we are only a foot away from him.

We then proceed to the South Tract Loop Trail to record the phenology of five trees: the Common Persimmon, Silver Maple, Sweetgum, Eastern Redbud and American Sycamore. Through the last two months it has been interesting for us to observe the changes in these trees, with the gradual appearance of leaf buds, leaves, flowers and fruits. The transition of the Eastern Redbud exemplifies these changes the best with the appearance of a tree full of beautiful pink flowers in early spring, which then gradually gives way to the formation of leaves and hundreds of seed pods. We are excited to go full circle and see how this transition continues into fall and winter.

Our visits to the Patuxent Research Refuge have always provided us with a calmness of being together with nature, while at the same time helping us learn how various elements of nature tend to successfully coexist to support life. We hope more and more middle and high schoolers take advantage of the opportunities provided by the refuge, towards a broader objective of protecting and being closer to mother nature. 🦋

Around the Refuge

Photos by Matt Beziat, Patuxent Volunteer



Winter Firefly (South Tract)



Golden-Backed Snipe Fly (North Tract)



Mountain Laurel (North Tract)



Orange-Patched Smoky Moth (North Tract)



Giant Leopard Moth (South Tract)



Hebrew Moth (South Tract)

Patuxent's Herbarium Gets a New Cabinet and a New Home

by Sue Priftis and Cathy Kuehne, Patuxent Volunteers

Patuxent's herbarium has been given its own room in the Visitor Center near the bookstore, and will soon acquire a third cabinet to store its collection of plant specimens growing on the refuge.

Herbaria are repositories of plant specimens that have been collected over time and are dried, pressed, and annotated. They are remarkable and irreplaceable sources of information about plants and the world they inhabit. The Patuxent Research Refuge herbarium holds over 5,250 vascular plant specimens from over 1,260 species found on the Refuge and is unique in the National Wildlife Refuge



Patuxent volunteer Robert Ferraro in the herbarium

system. This includes some Maryland rare, threatened, and endangered species and at least 5 species new to Maryland. Recently, the herbarium added lichens to its collection.

The herbarium was started in 1936 by botanist Neil Hotchkiss, and was led for several recent years by Patuxent volunteer Bill Harms, who recently moved from the area. The herbarium is a relatively small but museum-quality collection, and is currently managed by a small group of dedicated and enthusiastic Patuxent volunteers, who adhere to professional standards on collecting, inventorying,

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Milestone Achieved by Paul Sykes

by Matthew C. Perry, Retired Patuxent Research Biologist and Member of the Friends of Patuxent Board of Directors

Patuxent alumnus, Paul Sykes, recently completed a report listing 918 bird species that he has personally identified in the continental United States and Canada. His last life bird was the red-legged thrush (Bahama race) at Miami Beach. He is not sure which bird can be considered the hardest species to list, as there are many that fit that category. Paul is well-known for immediately driving or flying to any site in North America where a new species has been spotted. His life list includes three species that are no longer recognized by the American Bird Association, but this still rates him with the third highest list among all birders in continental North America, north of Mexico.

The small populations of the budgerigar and the crested myna that he identified have now been extirpated, and the Bachman's warbler became extinct in the 1960s. He saw an adult male Bachman's warbler in South

Carolina near Charleston on May 21, 1960, just 5 miles south of the city. This might have been the same individual bird that John Henry Dick photographed in color in the same area in 1959. Sadly, this species is now extinct. The last definitive report of the species was in 1962 in the Charleston area. Paul has also seen four bird species in Hawaii that are now extinct in the wild.

At Patuxent, Paul is best recognized as an ornithologist who has studied many avian species, including the ivory-billed woodpecker. Unfortunately, this species became extinct, and this is one species that Paul cannot claim on his life list. Paul is certainly the number one birder from our Patuxent community. Alumnus Peter Osenton also has an impressive record with 715 for our continent north of Mexico, but not including Canada. Peter considers Paul an impressive mentor when it comes to birding, and in retirement Peter is working closer



Alumnus Paul Sykes in Eleuthera, Bahamas Islands, with Kirtland's warbler, 1985.

each year to Paul's record. However, as this moment, Paul is probably out searching for a new species to add to his list. Congratulations Paul on this great milestone of your very productive career with birds! 🦋

An Interesting Career

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like to know more about, let me know. Maybe I can help.

Three editorial notes: First, the ornithological "lumpers" and "splitters" have continued their ongoing occupations of making a lot of changes in animal and plant names and classifications since I retired in the 1990s. I haven't made a lot of effort to keep up with them in recent years, and you may find I've used some names that are not currently "acceptable" (although they may be next year, again, if past history is any indication). Still, I think you'll be able to figure out most of the references. In a few cases where there might be some confusion, I've added (hopefully clarifying) footnote comments.

Second, the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service went through a period during which its name was changed to the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife. This came about when the administration of the Nation's commercial fisheries was separated from the continental fish and wildlife responsibilities. Reason must have eventually prevailed, and this awkward, tongue-twister of a name was relegated to history. Because the agency I went to work for in the 1960s was pretty much the same one I retired from in 1990s, I've chosen to ignore the interim name.

Third, this is a "what happened" story, my attempt to describe what it was like to work for a Federal wildlife agency from the '60s into the '90s. I don't think such a tale is worth telling

if it doesn't include both the "good" and the "bad," and that sometimes involves naming names. You will find a lot of people identified by name, but the majority are those involved in the "good" events and circumstances. I haven't shied away from naming those individuals who I feel were directly responsible for serious problems. However, if the "bad" times had to do with issues I had with a person, or one-time events in what could otherwise be described as "business as usual," you won't find a name. If you were there, you know who I mean. If you weren't, it doesn't really matter. It will only be a few more years before most of us are gone, anyway.

To read more and see Sanford's other publications go to <http://www.condor-tales.com/bookpages/index.html> 🦋

Hollingsworth Summer 2021 Exhibitors

by Faith Leahy-Thielke, Patuxent Volunteer

If this article and the exhibitors sound familiar, you read the Hollingsworth Gallery article this time last year. I'm happy to report that this summer they'll actually be able to hang, and we'll personally be able to admire their work. In July we'll enjoy the work of fine artist, Marion Orchard; in August, the Laurel Art Guild; and in September, nature photographer, Bodi Nolan.

Marion Orchard is a Maryland artist whose oil paintings of endangered species have been studied here at Patuxent Research Refuge. The six she describes include a delightful rendering of two whooping cranes in flight, gliding low over the water. Others feature species from all over the United States including a Honey Creeper from Maui, a condor from California, wolves from Yellowstone and a local fox. Marion has worked many years as an illustrator for national companies. For her own business, she accepts commissions, which included designing jewelry for the 1996 Olympics and for various government agencies.

In August, we'll again welcome members of the Laurel Art Guild. Since 1967, this organization of professional and amateur artists has had a home on the grounds of the historic Montpelier Mansion. It is under the jurisdiction of the Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission, which has been "instrumental in the Guild's success" by promoting classes, workshops and shows. Membership is open to anyone with an interest in the visual arts. Activities available to members include: instructional and informational programs, a newsletter, local networking and social functions, and critiques by pros and peers. The Guild also promotes community involvement. For the past 30 years, it has made scholarship fund donations to local high schools for graduating seniors who plan to continue their studies in the Fine Arts. The Guild is supported by annual dues, sales commissions at shows and outside contributions. Check out members' work on the Guild website. Lovely on line, but we'll enjoy them more on the Gallery wall.

September's exhibitor is photographer, Bodi Nolan. He has always lived on or near the Chesapeake Bay. He writes that as a child, he explored "secluded creeks and animal trails" gaining an appreciation of "wildlife and tucked-away nooks" along the shore. He's still hiking, camping and kayaking as an adult, but carrying his camera through "rugged places" and beautiful landscapes in Europe and North and Central America from Costa Rica to Canada. He is always conscious of the need to raise awareness of the importance of conservation of natural resources – not only in national parks and wildlife refuges, but in our own backyards. Near his own home, he's "shepherded" a multigenerational family of foxes – with vaccines, patience and persistence. Nolan's images have been displayed at local art galleries (notably Gallery 564 in Severna Park) on the web, as well as in magazines and newspapers. His photos of Yellowstone wolves were featured in USA Today in honor of the 25th anniversary of wolf reintroduction into the park. Look for these and the native animals and pristine landscapes close to home that remind us of their value.

It's going to be a great summer. 🦋

Young Artist From Kansas Takes Top Honors at the National Junior Duck Stamp Art Contest

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also mailed letters to students about future conservation careers. Online sketching, painting and journaling videos were made by several local artists to engage students and promote their involvement in the Junior Duck Stamp Program while increasing their observation skills and understanding of waterfowl behavior. For complete contest results, visit <http://www.fws.gov/birds/education/junior-duck-stamp-conservation-program.php>.

The Junior Duck Stamp Contest winner receives \$1,000. The second place winner receives \$500; the third-place winner receives \$200; the Conservation Message winner receives \$200.

You can [buy](#) Junior Duck Stamps online through the U.S. Postal Service and Amplex and at some national wildlife refuges. Proceeds from the sale of Junior Duck Stamps are used for recognition of individuals who submit winning designs in state or national competitions and to further activities related to the conservation education goals of the program.

The first day of sale for the 2021-2022 Federal Duck Stamp and Junior Duck Stamp is planned for June 25, 2021. 🦋



Patuxent's Herbarium Gets a New Cabinet and a New Home

Continued from page 8

and preserving the specimens. These volunteers (Robert Ferraro, Christine McElroy, Helen Lowe Metzman, Elaine Nakash, and Marnie Whitlock) handled the painstaking task of moving the entire collection from the Contact Station on the North Tract to its special room in the South Tract Visitor Center.

The Board of Directors of the Friends of Patuxent (FOP) recently approved the purchase of a new herbarium cabinet for the growing collection, which

supports the work of the refuge and research staff at Patuxent. The cabinet selected is a museum-grade cabinet designed to protect and preserve plant specimens from light, insects, rodents, dust, and water. The cabinet was purchased with FOP funds plus additional personal contributions made by several FOP board directors and members.

Contributions to the Friends of Patuxent are always appreciated from any person and were especially helpful with this important project. The corporate membership for FOP is \$1,000 and entitles the corporation to ¼ page advertisement in each newsletter for one year. 🦋

FRIENDS OF PATUXENT BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2021

- Richard Dolesh, *Chair*
- Lowell Adams, *Vice-chair*
- Sue Priftis, *Secretary*
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LIAISONS

- Diana Ogilvie, *Patuxent Research Refuge Liaison*
- Tom O'Connell, *USGS Eastern Ecological Science Center, Liaison*
- Douglas Meister, Esq., *General Counsel*

FRIENDS OF PATUXENT BOARD MEETINGS

Friends Board meetings are currently held by Zoom at 4 pm. Dates for Board meetings for 2021 are: January 19, March 16, May 18, July 20, September 21, and October 19 (both Board and annual members meeting). Dates, locations, and times are subject to change.

Friends of Patuxent is Now on Instagram!

Please follow us @friendsofpatuxent to see great photos from Patuxent.

If you'd like us to share your pictures, please message us on Instagram or email us at friendspr@friendsofpatuxent.org

JOIN TODAY!

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

E-mail: _____

(E-mail address will not be sold or shared. It will be used for Friends and Refuge announcements only.)

Phone: (opt.) _____ New Renewal

- Individual (\$25/yr), gift: FOP bookmark (or other) Family (\$35/yr), gift: FOP decal (or other)
- Contributor (\$75/yr), gift: History of Patuxent DVD (or other) Sponsor (\$250/yr), gift: FOP hat (or other)
- Life (\$500), gift: FOP shirt (or other) Please ✓ size: S M L XL XXL XXXL
- Life-65+ (\$300), gift: FOP shirt (or other) Please ✓ size: S M L XL XXL XXXL
- Corporate \$1,000 Gift: 1/4 page ad in the Friends newsletter for one year. (4 Issues).

Donation \$_____ Make check to "Friends of Patuxent" and mail to address on reverse side of this page.

- Check here if you prefer not to have a gift, and instead have your entire dues support Friends of Patuxent.
- Check here if you would like save a tree by reading our quarterly newsletter online.





Friends of Patuxent

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WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN!

Friends of the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center and Patuxent Research Refuge, Inc. is a designated Section 501(c)(3) public charity. It is a membership organization whose mission is to financially support the research of the PWRC and the environmental education, outreach and recreational missions at the PRR. All contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. Our Maryland Charitable Organization Registration-2348.

Your membership/contribution helps support the mission and programs at Patuxent. You also receive the following benefits:

- Quarterly newsletter (mailed on request or go to www.friendsofpatuxent.org)
- 10% discount in our Wildlife Images Bookstore and Nature Shop and other area refuge bookstores
- Attendance at member functions
- Participation in on-site educational programs
- Sense of accomplishment in providing many opportunities for wildlife-related recreation, education and research

(Application on reverse side)