Wooton’s Landing Wetland Park

Anne Arundel County’s newest park will open to the public this fall. It’s not a park with ball fields, biking paths or tennis courts. Rather it’s a park for cattails, willows, mud flats, Yellow Warblers, nature study and wetlands research. Welcome to Wooton’s Landing Wetland Park! This park and nature preserve has an unusual history. First a bit of background:

It is a sobering fact that almost 75% of Maryland’s wetlands have been destroyed. Gone to make way for highways, subdivisions, marinas and farm fields. To stem the rising tide of wetland loss, the Bush administration in the late 1980s developed the concept of “no net loss” of wetlands. For the first time there was a national goal of preserving existing wetlands and a new mandate to “create” wetlands to make up for the loss of those that were (and continue to be) destroyed.

Key to “no net loss” is the practice of wetland mitigation, a phrase that has become part of the lexicon of ecologists and conservationists. What is wetland mitigation? A mitigated wetland is one that has been created to make up for the loss of wetland function due to development that degraded or destroyed a natural wetland elsewhere. Mitigation is in its infancy, and the jury is out on whether or not it can actually work.

Just seven miles upstream from Jug Bay, on the east bank of the Patuxent River, sits Wooton’s Landing Wetland Park—one of the largest mitigated wetlands on the East Coast. Formerly known as Sands Road Wetland Mitigation Site, this 140-acre park is a dramatically changed old sand and gravel quarry. The site has been owned by the county for more than 20 years. The State Highway Administration, in consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Army Corps of Engineers and Anne Arundel County, took five years and spent $2.5 million to create 72 acres of wetland. Several types of wetland are included: 56 acres of

A dedication ceremony will be held at Wooton’s Landing at 10 a.m., Monday, June 15

forested wetland, 7 acres of scrub-shrub wetland, 4 acres of freshwater tidal wetland and 4.6 acres of non-tidal emergent wetland. About 50,000 trees and shrubs were planted and many tons of topsoil and wood chips were spread on the site. Additional trees were planted as an upland buffer. A unique feature of the project is the creation of four different terraced levels with different water regimes.

A major question to be answered is will this created wetland transform into a real, functioning wetland. Research on several fronts will help to answer this question. Studies of plant succession, reptile and amphibian use and bird populations have been ongoing for the past four years. Biologists Matt Perry, Peter Osenton and Cynthia Sibrel have been studying the vegetational changes

Continued on page 6
Wetland Exhibit Fund Raising Update

By Doug Kuzmiak

Baltimore's prestigious Abell Foundation has given the Friends of Jug Bay a grant of $10,000 for the Interactive Wetlands Education Project (IWEP). The Abell Foundation awarded the grant for the purchase of computers and office equipment and has greatly enhanced the Friends' ability to aid in IWEP's realization. The Abell Foundation's grant closely follows another prestigious Baltimore foundation, the France-Merrick Foundation's $10,000 challenge grant, described in the Spring 1998 edition of Marsh Notes. Other grant proposals both local and national are pending.

I wish to remind all of our Friends that this year's Music Mix will be on June 14 and is an IWEP fund raising event. Many of the same performers who entertained us with such enthusiasm and gusto last year will play at this year's festivities and do so as a contribution to IWEP. We hope all the Friends will attend; prices are $10 per person or $25 per family.

During the spring the Friends of Jug Bay, acting on a suggestion by Mike Quinnlan, realized about $500 from the proceeds of food and merchandise sales at this year's Volksmarch, held at the end of March. About $700 has been raised in IWEP contributions by our own FOJB members in donations accompanying membership renewals.

Depending on our ability to mobilize volunteers during the summer months and the scheduling for late summer and early autumn activities, three possible fund-raising events are being envisioned. They are an Annapolis-Baltimore-Washington area small business sponsored Kayak Paddle, an auction with more action and activity than our normally said "silent auction" accompanying December's Volunteers' Dinner, and a theme party/dinner. Another possible source of funding is the National Arbor Day Foundation's Trees for America fund-raising project. For these suggestions I wish to thank Susan Barber, Marcy Damon and Suzanne Gubbings.

The following people made contributions to the exhibit project from September 1997 to May 1998:

Cheryl B. Adams
Marvin, Pam & Maggie Andersen
Susan and Doug Barber
Richard and Barbara Blass
Dorothy R. Brodie
Katherine M. Cave
Eva Lee Dumas
Richard Schneider & Robin Faitouret
David and Ellen Farr
Marilyn Fogel
Elaine Friebele
Don Gustafson
Jonathan Jordan
Penny Koines
Dotty Munford
Susan Nugent
Harry and Naomi E. Olsen, Jr.
Doris C. Peters

Tom, Barbara & Ryan Petska
Robert Reichwein
Sue Ricciardi
Katherine E. Rowe
Catherine Shields
Diana Smith
Katalin Szlavecz
Albert J. Tucker
Marie Tuthill
Jim Wick

Members Elected to Board

The Friends of Jug Bay elected officers at the annual meeting in March. The officers are: President Doug Kuzmiak, Vice President Tom Petska, Secretary Betty Chaney and Treasurer Susan Barber.
Dear Friends,

Summer at Jug Bay lends itself to sitting in contemplation while looking out over the Patuxent River from the deck or perhaps from Otter Point, and then engaging in conversation with Friends, volunteers and staff about matters concerning the Sanctuary or other environmental issues.

Lately I have been having some conversations of my own with people very much involved with the environment, ecology and conservation. They have included such luminaries as Bob Marshall, Aldo Leopold, Claus Murie, Theodore Roosevelt and Rachel Carson. Now, before you either say “Uh-huh?” or firmly believe I have been hitting the marsh water too hard—or worse—I will admit that the conversations have been a bit one-sided. They talk to me through their published work, but I have yet to have any evidence that they hear what I ask them about Jug Bay, the here and now, the future.

Take Bob Marshall for example, a Johns Hopkins University graduate who probably visited the Patuxent River, Alaska explorer and co-founder of the Wilderness Society; He passed away in 1939 at age 38. He felt you couldn’t have enough wilderness. I ask him: “How about wetlands, and how about wetlands in a watershed area rapidly becoming the most heavily populated in the state?” Balancing human needs with the natural ones is an increasingly daunting task, and finding what is optimum is the challenge of our time. Jug Bay is a place ahead of its time; can it stay that way? How will it be in 59 years?

Then there is Aldo Leopold, a past Ecological Society of America president whose posthumous Sand County Almanac is an inspiration for many of us and whose wetlands-avian essay “Marshland Elegy” is a kind of mantra. If I remember correctly he believed that scientific observation doesn’t exist unless it is written down. Compiling data is a way of life for us at Jug Bay, but how can we put this into a form as wonderfully embracing and compelling as Leopold’s writings? I ask this question of Aldo, but look to others who experience Jug Bay and our own era for the answer.

Olaus Murie did seminal work on animal migrations from the 1920s through the 1950s and answered the zoological mystery “where do Yellowstone elk over-winter, and how many of them are there?” I don’t know if he knew the Patuxent watershed. Answering questions he might have posed about Jug Bay’s turtle and snail populations, Chris Swarth and his team of volunteers have been recording data on numbers and behavior, while Kathy Szlavecz is determining where the snails go, if anywhere, once the thermometer drops. What’s the difference between an elk and a snail in ecology’s grand scheme?

On more than one occasion I have asked Theodore Roosevelt, our most celebrated conservation-intensive president, if 90 years ago he really hunted those very same Sora Rails, in the very same marshes, that this year’s Jug Bay Award winner, Greg Kearns, has been working so tirelessly to study and understand. In the time-space continuum, are they mirror images of the environmental-conservation dialectic? TR has yet to reply.

Rachel Carson might very well have been in the Jug Bay area at some point in time as she frequently researched the inlets and watersheds of Maryland’s Western shore. Through her now classic work Silent Spring (1962), she defined how DDT and other contaminants desecrated the environment. She is credited with making “ecology” a household word. As we watch a new generation of Ospreys take flight—not a natural wonder again made possible by banning the toxic substance that made proper egg shell formation impossible—what is she telling us to be on the lookout for today?

Into this milieu of ideas, conversations and activities I wish to welcome our three 1998 interns Sherri Emer, Michael Marchand and Myra Parks and attend as many Friends as possible to make their acquaintance.

Summer’s Bonus: Three New Fellows Arrive

Three college interns have joined the Sanctuary staff for the summer, supported by grants from the Friends of Jug Bay. The new Jug Bay Fellows, selected from a pool of 65 applicants, are Sherri Emer, Michael Marchand and Myra Parks.

Sherri just completed her sophomore year at Eckerd College in St. Petersburg, Fla. She is a biology major with a particular interest in turtles; she is part of a herpetology club at college that has tagged and collected data on sea turtles and on turtles in campus ponds. Her hometown is Dunkirk, Md.

Michael graduated this spring from the University of Massachusetts with a degree in wildlife conservation. His honor’s thesis on turtle conservation investigated the use of tunnels and overpasses, exploring whether Painted Turtles would use a tunnel to reach their breeding grounds. His home is in Massachusetts.

Myra graduated in May from Salisbury State University with a dual degree: a bachelor of science in biology and a bachelor of science in environmental science/marine biology. She is eager for fieldwork experience in wetlands to prepare for a long-term goal of practicing environmental law. Her home is in Pennsylvania.

Potluck Picnic in July

We’re instituting a new Jug Bay event this summer: a potluck picnic for all volunteers and FOJB members, here at the Wetlands Center. Come and make new Sanctuary friends while sharing a favorite dish from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Sunday, July 12. Hamburgers, hot dogs and beverages will be provided by FOJB. Please let us know if you are coming.
Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary
Summer Programs: June - September 1998

Reservations are required for all events. Call 410-741-9330. Space is limited for all programs. Open Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays March - November. Admission: $2.50 for adults, $2.00 for senior citizens, and $1.50 for children under 18.

Volunteer Workshops

Wetland Plant Studies
From May 27 to June 12 & August 3 to 14, volunteers are needed to assist with the Wetland Plant Transplants. Volunteers will assist in data recording, identification and measuring of the plants and must be prepared to spend one to three hours in the field. Dates and times will vary depending on tide and the volunteer availability. Plant identification skills are helpful but not necessary.

Marbled Salamander Study Orientation
Saturday, August 22; 12:30 - 4:00 p.m.
Adults and older children interested in amphibian ecology are welcome to help with our amphibian research. Volunteers monitor drift fence/pitfall traps each morning. We will review identification and sexing of different amphibians and discuss data-recording procedures. Experienced volunteers are encouraged to attend to refresh their skills.

Discovery Programs

Insects Everywhere
Sunday, June 28; 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.
Discover some of the world's most fascinating and diverse creatures: insects! We'll explore the forest, marsh and meadow searching for their insect inhabitants, and we'll learn some of the basics of identifying them. Wear shoes or boots that can get wet and muddy. All ages welcome.

Reptiles and Amphibians
Sunday, July 5; 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.
Saturday, September 26; 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.
Snakes, turtles, lizards, frogs, toads and salamanders will be the stars of this program, as we search Jug Bay's ponds and marsh for the animals known as "herps." We'll investigate the differences and similarities among reptiles and amphibians and learn what it means to be an ectotherm. Wear shoes or boots that can get wet and muddy. All ages welcome.

Twilight at Jug Bay
Saturday, July 25; 7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.
Come to Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary for a special evening experience. We'll watch the sun set over the marsh, and then explore the world of frogs, fireflies, moths, owls and other nocturnal creatures. Bring a flashlight, but be prepared to turn it off! All ages welcome.

What's That Habitat?
Saturday, August 29; 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.
Fish don't live in trees, and caterpillars can't swim. Come explore the varied habitats of Jug Bay and learn about which plants and animals live where — and why! Wear shoes or boots that can get wet or muddy. All ages welcome.

Marsh Ecology Hike
Sunday, June 14; 1 p.m. - 2 p.m.
Sunday, July 12; 1 p.m. - 2 p.m.
Sunday, August 9; 1 p.m. - 2 p.m.
Sunday, September 13; 1 p.m. - 2 p.m.
Join us for an informal introduction to the ecology of freshwater tidal wetlands. The marshes are ever-changing, so each month offers something new. All ages welcome.

Morning Bird Walks
Saturday, June 6; 9 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
Saturday, August 1; 9 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
Saturday, September 5; 9 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
Attention, amateur bird watchers! Learn the skills of identifying birds by sight and sound. Binoculars and field guides will be available to borrow. Not appropriate for children under 10.

Volunteer Excursion

Boat trip to Billingsley Mansion
Saturday, August 1; 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Leader: Judy Burke
Volunteers are invited on a boat trip Saturday, August 1, to the 17th-century Billingsley Mansion, where caretaker Doris Peters will give a history tour. We will meet at the Wetlands Center at 11 a.m. and walk to the Potomac River Pier to meet the Patuxent River Park pontoon boat. Then we will ride to the Billingsley dock and walk up to the mansion — a short but strenuous hike. (For those who cannot manage the ascent, Doris will provide her car.) Please bring a sandwich; we will provide lemonade and cookies.

Pond and Stream Exploration
Sunday, June 21; 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.
Sunday, July 19; 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.
Sunday, August 16; 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.
Sunday, September 20; 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.
Come explore our streams and ponds. We'll search out and learn to identify frogs, turtles, fish, tadpoles and dragonflies and other aquatic insects. Dip nets, buckets, and field guides provided. Wear boots or shoes with laces that can get wet, and bring a change of clothes and a towel. All ages welcome.

Germany in a Nutshell
Sunday, July 26; 2 p.m. - 3 p.m.
Singer and storyteller Heidi Zach will entertain young and old with tales of animals, plants and the natural world as viewed through the Germanic traditions. Feel free to bring a blanket or lawn chair for this event. All ages welcome.
LECTURES IN THE FIELD

Lectures in the Field offer a chance for adults and older children to learn first-hand about wetlands and ecology. Plan to spend the time outdoors.

Fish Ecology and Identification Techniques
Saturday, June 27; 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Come learn more about the fish that live in the waters of Jug Bay. Participants will learn about fish ecology, as well as techniques for identifying the species. We will use seine nets to catch the fish, so be prepared to get into waist-deep water. Bring a lunch, towel and a change of clothes. Old sneakers that tie tightly are the recommended footwear for sitting. Not appropriate for children under 10.

Aquatic Plant Ecology
Saturday, July 25, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
By late July the marshes are in full bloom and glory. Learn to identify the plants as well as different wetland types. We will also investigate the adaptations that enable the plants to grow in the stressful environments dominated by water and tidal action. Karyl Molmes and others of the Maryland Native Plant Society will lead this hike. Please bring a lunch and a drink. Wear comfortable walking shoes. Not appropriate for children under 10.

Trees Tell a Story
Saturday, August 8; 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Steve Stedliman, Calvert County Forester, will lead a tour of the woodlands at Jug Bay. We will see some large trees to determine their ages. Through investigating the trees' growth rings and the composition of forest plant species, we can learn more about the land-use history of these Patuxent River forests. Some tree identification and folklore will be included. Please bring a lunch and a drink. Wear comfortable walking shoes. Not appropriate for children under 10.

Dragonflies of the Patuxent
Saturday, August 15; 9 a.m. - noon
Richard Crox, senior ornithologist with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, will introduce us to the beauty and agility of dragonflies. He will present a slide show and discuss dragonfly biology, and then he will lead us on a walk to observe some of the local species.

Wooton's Landing Tour
Sunday, September 20; 10 a.m. to noon
Leader: Chris Swarth
We will explore the natural history of Maryland's largest manmade wetland (see article, Page 1).

Marsh Ecology by Canoe
Come learn about wetland ecology through our popular canoe explorations of the wetlands along the Patuxent River. In summer, the marsh plants are in full bloom and the Red-Winged Blackbirds and Ospreys are often seen flying. In the fall, the wetland shrubs are changing color and many birds, including the elusive Sora Rail, are still found. Trips are led by experienced volunteers or staff naturalists. Canoe instruction and all equipment is provided. Children must be at least 7 years old, unless otherwise noted. To reserve a space, mail your payment of $5 per person (including FOJB) in advance to the Sanctuary. Please include your name, address, daytime phone number, the number of people in your party and the ages of children as well as a first and second choice of dates.
Sunday, June 21 (12:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.) space may be available
Saturday, July 18 (10:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.)
Saturday, August 1 (9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.)
Saturday, August 15 (9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.)
Saturday, Sept. 12 (9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.)
Adults only
Saturday, Sept. 26 (9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.)

Ecology of the Patuxent River Watershed
June 22-26; 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Program fee: $50
This workshop, designed for middle and high school educators, focuses on the Patuxent River watershed and its relationship to the Chesapeake Bay. Wetland ecology, archaeology, estuarine studies and water chemistry will be discussed. Both classroom and field experiences will be part of each day. This program is presented by the Chesapeake Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve in Maryland, through the Maryland-National Park and Planning Commission and the Anne Arundel County Department of Recreation and Parks. Teachers can apply for 2 MSDE credits. Registration deadline is June 8. For more information please call Patuxent River Park at 301-627-6074.

The Great Herp Search
Saturday, June 6; 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Come out and search the forest leaf litter, stream banks and marsh edges for turtles, frogs, toads, salamanders, lizards and snakes (a.k.a. herps). Participants will be assigned to teams to help gather information and document herp population changes at Jug Bay. Box turtles will be notchted, salamanders will be weighed, and Six-lined Race Runners will be watched running away! Special teams for families led by volunteer naturalists will get a chance to learn more about reptile and amphibian biology. June 13 will focus on the southern sections of the Sanctuary. Please make advance reservations for the Family Teams. Free admission to the Sanctuary for all who help.

Music Festival at Jug Bay
Please join us at the Wetlands Center Sunday, June 14, for a “music mix,” an evening of songs and contra dancing to raise money for the exhibit project. We will feature flute music, Celtic and traditional folk songs and old-time string music. The 5 p.m. - 8 p.m. event will include light refreshments. Tickets are $10 per person or $25 per family.
Wooton Continued from page 1
(among other topics). They placed 320
meter-square quadrats that were sampled
Grasses were the dominant plant group
initially, but they declined from 59% in
1994 to 30% in 1996. Coincident with
the decline in grasses was an increase in
forbs (for example, cattails and
smartweed) and woody species. Of the
thousands of trees that were planted,
about 35% died. Fortunately, many
plants have become established through
natural means. Overall, plant species
diversity increased from 95 in 1994 to a
respectable 134 species in 1996.

A major question to be
answered is will this created
wetland transform into a real,
functioning wetland.

T'Shaka Toure, a graduate student at
Howard University, carried out a two-
year study of amphibians and reptiles in
which he compared species diversity in
the created wetland with that of adja-
cent natural wetlands. Using several
survey techniques including drift fences
with pitfall and funnel traps, line tran-
sects and call censuses, he identified 16
amphibians and 15 reptiles using the
created wetland. This compared favor-
able with the diversity of nearby natural
areas. Wood Frogs and Spadefoot Toads
were noticeably absent from the created
wetland but were common in nearby
habitats. As the created wetland
matures, these species will probably
colonize it.

Southern High School biology
teacher Kathy Chow and her students
have collected data on fish, plants,
aquatic invertebrates and water quality
for several years. Kathy has introduced
hundreds of her students to this site and
to basic concepts in wetlands science.

Bird surveys have been conducted by
Fred and Jane Fallon, by Kathy Lambert
of the Anne Arundel Bird Club, and by
Jug Bay intern Andrew Dubill. Their
studies, combined with counts made
intermittently by others, reveal that this
site is very produc-
tive for birds. A
wide variety of
songbirds nest at
Wooton's, taking
advantage of the
abundant estab-
lished vegetation,
and shorebirds and
waterfowl use the
site extensively
during the migra-
tion periods. We
frequently see
Ospreys foraging
over the pools, and
in winter Northern
Harriers and even
Rough-legged Hawks have been sighted.

Wooton's Landing is part of the
Natural and Cultural Resources Division
of the county's park system. It will be
managed by the Sanctuary as a natural
area with limited access by the public.
Visitors will be required to obtain a
permit from the Sanctuary. The park
now includes two observation decks
where visitors can scan the wetlands for
wildlife. Interpretive signs will explain
aspects of marsh ecology and natural
history. Trail guides are in the works,
and several nature trails will be built in
the future. If you would like a natural
history tour through the park, join us on
Sunday, September 20, from 10 a.m. to
noon (see Lectures in the Field).

Thanks to Todd Nichols, resource
ecologist with the State Highway
Administration, and Laura Kinch of
Biohabitats, Inc., of Timonium for their
great assistance in preparations prior to
the public opening.

Scientific Outreach

One of the ways we share the results of our research projects with others is by
speaking at and attending conferences with other professionals. Sanctuary staff
spoke at six conferences this past winter and spring:

- In February, Karyn Molines and Liz Clickner gave a presentation on the
  "History of Sedimentation on the Patuxent River" to environmental educators
  at a conference in Rockville.
- In March, Chris Swarth spoke on the "Ecology of Aquatic Turtles in Freshwater
  Tidal Wetlands" to the New York Turtle and Tortoise Society.
- In April, Chris Swarth spoke to the Biology Department of the National
  Aquarium in Baltimore on the ecology of wetland animals in Alaska, West
  Africa and Maryland.
- In April, Karyn Molines attended the annual Wetlands Conference sponsored
  by the Terrene Institute, where she was a member of a panel discussing how
  communities could address development issues facing wetlands.
- In May, Chris Swarth spoke to high school students about research opportunities
  in natural history and estuarine science at the Governor's Environmental Youth
  Summit in Baltimore.
- In May, Chris, Judy Burke and Karyn Molines gave a presentation titled, “Using
  Volunteers to Monitor Biodiversity in Central Maryland,” at a state-sponsored
  conference on biodiversity held in Annapolis.
Spring Volunteers

The following people donated their time and labor this spring. Thank you.

Edward Allen
Freeman Bagnall
Sue Barber
Jeri Barbour
Marty Barron
Ralph Beachley
Vincent Beachley
Stacey Beadman
Chrise Blackstone
Mike Blackstone
Susan Blackstone
Kyle Bodenhorn
Alan Bourdat
Jane Bourdat
Morgan Bourdat
Mary Brewer
Sarah Brewer
Sharon Brewer
Peggy Brosnan
Bradley Buck
Gordon Burton
Mary Burton
Danny Bystrak
Calverton School
Susan Carlson
Bill Cave
Elizabeth Cave
Pat Cecil
John Celeste
Betsy Chauncey
Ginger Chauncey
Jennifer Cohen
Midge Coppersmith
Cathy Cronin
Sandy Curry
Jeff Dashiff
Darcey Dotes
Jack Dowd
Adam Duke
Dennis Duke
Evan Duke
Dave Flutesch
Marilyn Fogel
Robert Frezza
Elaine Friebel
Grace Gast
Roy Gast
Vanessa Gibbings
Jack Gleason
Suzanne Guggings
Lee Harbeson
Warren Hardman
Jim Harle
Carlton Hershner
Jean Hershner
Maria Hicewsky
Ashley Hill
Bobby Hill
Sarah Hill
Mary Horne
Kim Hudyma
Carroll Hughes
Carol Jelich
Joe Jelich
J.J. Jenkins
Jack Jordan
Rebecca Kane
Humaira Khan
Susan Kirchner
Tony Klagesberg
Doug Kuzmiak
Eric Lancaster
Bob LaPorte
Bill Laflourd
David Laughlin
Greg Lemenon
Lloyd Lestis
Katherine Llewellyn
Rich Malinger
Mike Martin
Wooden Martin
Jennifer McLean
Karyn Malines
Ginny Mudrock
Dotty Mumford
Tom Nappi
Diane Nisson
Shelly Nixon
Susan Nugent
Eileen O'Brien
Heather O'Hara
Tim O'Hara
Old Mill High School
Daniel Ormsbey
Marilee Ormsby
Steven Ormsby
Gary Pendleton
Dave Perry
Dave Peters
Tom Petska
Mary Pittke
Pam Poparch
Jessica Queen
Carolyn Quinlan
Mike Quinlan
Justin Rainey
Mary Rea
Dan Rice
Ken Riggleman
Kay Roach
Fred Rose
Rogard Ross
Donald Russ
Jill Russ
Diane Ruth
Vinnie Salomone
Beverly Sands
Sue Wilkins
Megan Schultz
Diana Smith
Tracey Smith
Daniel Spotnitz
Ron Spritzer
Kelly Starichak
Bill Stein
er
Heather Strifler
Joyce Studenberg
Rod Studenberg
Dana Swarth
Evan Swarth
Katalin Szabo
Bud Taylor
David Turner
Martha Turner
Bob Warner
Fred Werner
Emily White
Nancy White
Jim Wick
Sue Wilkins
Ben Wood
Colin Wood
Katie Wood

Goodbye and Hello to Sanctuary Staff

Liz Clickner has resigned from her naturalist position to pursue a career in the healing arts. She has kindly agreed to remain on call to fill in during staff emergencies. Tracey Smith has resigned as administrative assistant for family and health reasons, but she has joined our volunteer corps. We're fortunate not to lose these two friends entirely.

Beth Wright has joined the staff as weekend naturalist. She had been working as a seasonal park ranger in Rock Creek Park in Washington and as a volunteer at Patuxent Research Refuge in Laurel. Before switching careers with the aid of a USDA Graduate School certificate in Natural History Field Studies, she was an analyst for a congressional organization. She lives on Capitol Hill.

Doug Willis is our new maintenance supervisor. He comes with many skills, having worked in the construction, gardening, maintenance, retail and restaurant businesses. He lives in Churchton.

Melinda Hill is our new administrative assistant. She has been an office manager and receptionist for private firms as well as for Prince George's County. She lives in Dunkirk with her husband and three children.

Donations

We thank the following people for their donations. • Barbara Anderson and Danny Bystrak for a Purple Martin nest box. • Jim Harle for a desk. • David Laughlin for measuring sticks for the tree research. • Brooke Meanley for nature booklets. • Marie Tuthill for a book, Waterfowl: Ducks, Geese and Swans of the World, by Frank S. Todd.

Gregory Kearns Receives Jug Bay Award

Greg Kearns, a naturalist at Patuxent River Park on Jug Bay, won this year's Jug Bay Award for outstanding environmental service. Greg has been passionate about nature since childhood, and through his teaching and research he has introduced thousands of people to the fascinating lives of marsh plants and animals. He is well-known not only here but also nationally for his research on Sora Rails.

The award is given by the Friends of Jug Bay.

Greg Kearns (right) stands with FOJB President Doug Kuzmiak.

Students Help with Shrub Plantings

Students from two schools planted about 300 shrubs this spring on the Sanctuary Farm. Morgan Bourdat, a Sanctuary volunteer, organized a group of 10 classmates from Calverton School in Huntingtown to plant Hercules' Club, Sweet Pepperbush and Shining (or Dwarf) Sumac. Those shrubs were donated by Danny Bystrak. Another 30 students from Old Mill High School in Millersville planted 250 shrubs provided by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources' Tremendous program. The planting will provide better habitat for many bird species.
Owls give birth.

A pair of resident Great Horned Owls produced two chicks this spring in the woods near Utility Road. When they were grown enough to handle but not yet able to fly, volunteer Woody Martin (in photo) climbed two pine trees to retrieve and band them. The photos show how the young owls fluffed out their downy feathers in an attempt at self-defense.

Karyn Molines & Gary Pendleton
P. O. Box 228
8832 Dayton Ave.
North Beach MD 20714

Want to help the environment? Keep an eye out for trouble.

Protecting wildlife and the health of our natural environment is a job we all need to share. If you see or suspect a violation of regulations that guard the clarity of streams, the purity of air, the preservation of wetlands or the safety of birds, fish, amphibians, reptiles, mammals and other creatures, please don’t walk on by. Pick up the phone instead and let appropriate agencies know. Try the numbers below to help enforce the law.

• Md. Department of Environment - Southern Maryland: (410) 414-3400
• Md. Department of Natural Resources (Fish & Wildlife): (301) 888-1601 or 410-260-8888
• U.S. Army Corps of Engineers: (410) 962-6028 or (301) 390-2541