



THE GREBE

Published by The Friends of Deer Flat Wildlife Refuge

Volume 2, Issue 3

UPCOMING EVENTS

- ◆ **April 3 -**
MONTHLY MEETING at 7 p.m. at Deer Flat Visitor Center
- ◆ **April 3 -**
Lecture Series
(Water quality issues)
- ◆ **April 15 -**
Lake opens to boating
- ◆ **April 21 -**
Weed Warriors/Litter Lift
- ◆ **April 21 -**
Earth Day
- ◆ **May 1 -**
MONTHLY MEETING at 7 p.m. at Deer Flat Visitor Center
- ◆ **May 8 -**
Lecture Series
(Local fish identification)
- ◆ **May 19 -**
Weed Warriors, Ride and Roam the Refuge, International Migratory Bird Day celebration

If you have a story that you would like to have published in "The Grebe", please contact Denise Hughes, 850-5885 or den_hug@hotmail.com

Friends Book Store to open in April

The alcove at the Visitors Center has been painted, Jim Iverson donated a handcrafted beautiful armoire to display the items that are for sale, bags are stamped with our grebe logo and merchandise is priced. We are ready to go!

Our Start Up Grant gave the Friends \$1,000 to begin a book store. We'll have Audubon plush birds with real bird calls, pocket Naturalist Field Guides, wildlife bookmarks, Idaho Birds Field Guides, mood pencils and 14 beautiful wildlife

books donated by Ducks Unlimited. Our profits will restock the shelves with more items and to help fund Friends and Refuge projects.

We plan to be open on Saturday afternoons and during school field trips.

The more volunteer store staff we have the more hours we can be open. The Refuge staff has graciously offered to sell items when Friend volunteers can't be there.

This has truly been a joint effort by the Refuge staff and Book Store Committee: Cathy Eells, Lynnette Wifling, Denise Hughes, Connie Leavitt, Al, and Lee McGlinsky.

If you'd enjoy volunteering a few hours at "The Grebe Nest" please call Lynette Wifling. 468-0506.



President's Corner

What inspired you to become a member of Friends of Deer Flat Wildlife Refuge?

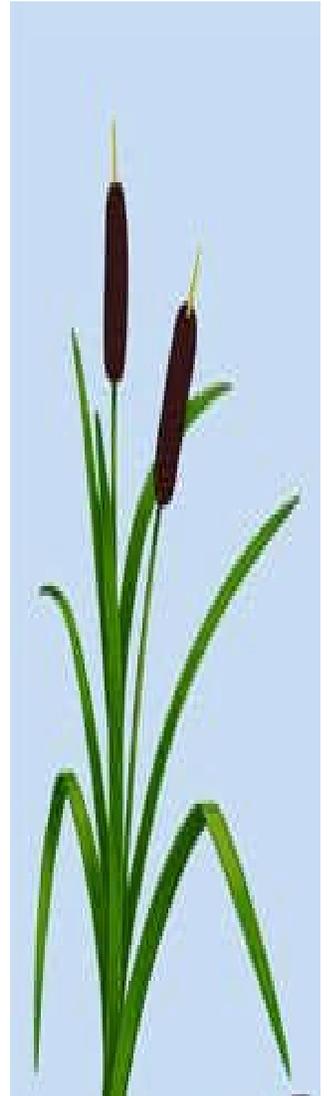
For me, it is the time I spend with my grandchildren, enjoying the beauty that surrounds us. It is my desire to leave my grandchildren with a place that they can take their children to see and enjoy what we have today. Josslyn is 13 and loves to help at our Friends events. She is a joy to work with; always doing her best. Matthew is 9 and loves to take pictures. He is the one I turn to when I need photos of our Friends events and projects. Robert and his twin brother, AJ, just turned 8 and they both love being outdoors. AJ loves to see the animal displays at the refuge and Robert enjoys looking for animal tracts when we go on walks at the Refuge. Then I have my three little girls. Malani is five she loves learning about the birds, animals, plants and everything else I can show her. Alana is two, and she likes to show her grandpa 'roly-poly's' and being with her grandma. Isabella Marie is also two; she loves Dora the Explorer, and flowers, lots of flowers.

As you can see I have a lot of future 'Friends', and it is my hope and dream to leave them a lovely world. A world with lots of flowers, animals, animal tracts to find, trees, birds and all

the wonderful things we can see at our Refuge. I became a Friends member because I want my grandchildren to be able to take their children to the Deer Flat Refuge and say to them, "your great-grandmother helped protect this place for you and I to enjoy together."

I want to say "thank you" to all our hard working 'Friends' members, for helping to preserve the Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge as a treasure for the enjoyment of present and future generations. Please, let us know what is your inspiration for becoming a Friends member!

By Noreen Tripp,
President



Friends Website

Nila Huskey has taken on the job of Webmaster for the Friends group. Our webpage is currently under construction and additional information will be added to the website as it becomes available. To access our website, go to: friendsofdeerflat.org

Information about our Friends group can also be found at <http://www.fws.gov/deerflat/friends.htm>



The Refuge website contains a calendar of events for the public and for Friends members only along with other refuge information.

New Members



Please welcome our newest members:

Nettie Smoot

MISSION STATEMENT

The purpose of this group is to promote, protect, and provide resources to preserve and enhance Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge for the enjoyment of present and future generations.

Photo Blind Project



A working sketch of the photo blind

The photo blind project is gaining momentum. Noreen Tripp, with help from Elaine Johnson and Susan Kain, has applied for a grant from 'Wildlife Watchers'. If the Friends group is successful in obtaining the grant, the money will be used to purchase materials to build the photo blind.

A site has been chosen for the blind but it needs to be surveyed before the blind can be built.

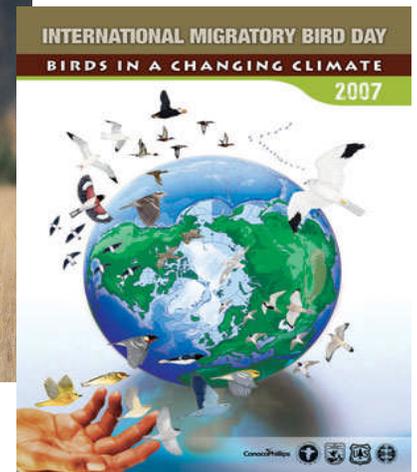
Jim Iverson has been meeting with members of the Friends Group and Southwestern Idaho Birders Association for input of the blind design. Because the blind will be built in close proximity to the lake, it may be built on stilts so the blind can be accessed during periods of high water.

A site has been chosen for the blind but it needs to be surveyed before the blind can be built.

Ride & Roam the Refuge & International Migratory Bird Day

We are gearing up to host a ride and roam at the refuge for the local area children. So keep Saturday, May 19th open as we need volunteers to help direct the traffic over the upper dam and to lead the kids and adults on a nature walk near the visitor center. In the afternoon, we plan to have a Golden Eagle at the visitor center along with games and other activities.

Contact Lyndell Jackson for more information (waterfall@rmci.net)





FRIENDS OF DEER FLAT WILDLIFE REFUGE

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Executive Board:

President - Noreen Tripp (468-0402)

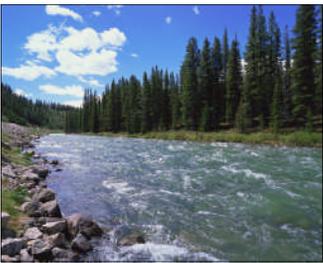
**Vice President - John Augsburger
(362-2769)**

**Treasurer/Secretary - Kris Horton
(461-9717)**

Upcoming Programs

April 3 - Water Quality Issues

Join us as we discuss water quality issues in Idaho; the ways in which we



as individuals contribute to water pollution and what we can

do to help. Amy Luft, Environmental Education Coordinator with the Department of Environmental Quality will lead the discussion.

The Friend's group general meeting will be held right after the program.

May 1 - General Meeting

Colleen Moulton, from Idaho Fish and Game, will discuss the designation of Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge as an Important Bird Area. (tentatively scheduled)

May 8 - Local Fish Identification

Amy Parrish with Idaho Fish and Game will show us how to identify Idaho's fish, and the importance of riparian areas and human impact.

Yellow Perch



June 5 - BioBlitz Diversity

What is it and why do we care?

This interactive presentation will concentrate on animal diversity and the roles that zoos play in conservation efforts.

Join Rena Ashton from Zoo Boise will lead the discussion.



The Friend's group general meeting will be held right after the program.