



the Grebe

Volume 5, Issue 2

Spring 2009

Mission of The Friends of
Deer Flat:

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.

A PROMISE MADE/A PROMISE KEPT For 100 Years

Theodore Roosevelt said: "Wild beasts and birds are by right not the property merely of the people who are alive today, but the property of unknown generations, whose belongings we have no right to squander." The promise of the National Wildlife Refuge system is to preserve wildlife and habitat for the benefit of "present and future generations of Americans." The Friends of Deer Flat Wildlife Refuge are proud to be part of that 100 year old promise.



On June 6th, 2009, the Friends of Deer Flat Wildlife Refuge, in partnership with the Deer Flat Refuge, will celebrate the "100 years of Working Together for Wildlife" with a fun event at the Refuge. The Celebration will kick off at 11:00 am at the Visitor's Center with a ribbon-cutting ceremony for

the new Centennial Trail accompanied with a flag-raising ceremony by the Boy Scouts of America. Games for children, booths, raffles, guided tours to the observation platforms and cartoon characters will start the fun. A no-host barbecue will start at 12:00 p.m. with wonderful music starting at 12:30 p.m. You will be able to see the completed Butterfly/Hummingbird garden and the commemorative benches for the Centennial Trail. Both of these projects are the work of local scouts who are working on their Eagle Scout awards. A gorgeous quilt made by Nancy Smith and donated by Dr. and Mrs. Watkins will be on display; the quilt will be raffled off and one lucky person will be able to take it home with them.

The Friends feel this is a great and educational way to showcase the Refuge and the important work of the National Refuge system. Please join the Friends in their mission to insure that this wonderful Refuge will exist for, at least, the next 100 years!

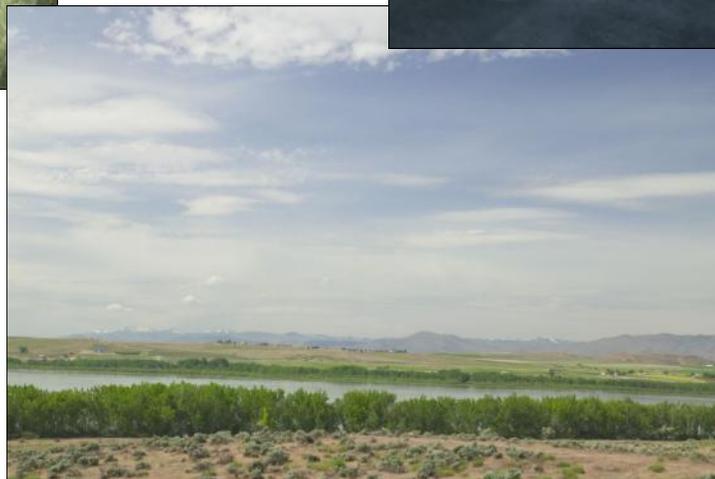
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DEER FLAT WILDLIFE REFUGE - A VISUAL JOURNEY

You are invited to a special evening of beautiful photography and dessert at the Deer Flat Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center on Tuesday, April 7 from 6:30 to 8:00 P.M. The evening will feature the exquisite photography of Mike Shipman of Blue Planet Photography. Mike is a professional freelance photographer who lives in Nampa, Idaho. He is a self-taught photographer and former wildlife biologist. He has photographed Deer Flat Refuge for three years, covering events, seasonal changes, and documenting the upper dam reconstruction project. Mike believes, as conservationist Aldo Leopold did, that humans are not separate from nature; they are a "plain member and citizen of it". His photographs represent how he views and experiences the world around him and include a wide range of subjects from architecture and people to hot rods and wildlife.

Please bring a dessert to share. The entrance to the Refuge Visitor Center is located at the corner of Indiana and Roosevelt in Nampa. For more information contact Lyndell Jackson, President at 459-4740 or by email at waterfall@speedyquick.net.



Photos by Mike
Shipman

Mark your calendar...

Upcoming Events

Deer Flat Refuge - A Visual Journey

Tuesday, April 7th, 6:30 p.m. (for more information see page 2)

Lecture Series

Tuesday, April 14th, 7 p.m. - ***Be Outside! Idaho Children in Nature***

Weed Warriors

Saturday, April 18th, 9 a.m.

Lecture Series

Tuesday, May 12th, 7:00 p.m. - ***A Glimpse of Deer Flat Embankments and the Boise Project through Historic Photographs***

Lecture Series

Thursday, May 28th, 7:00 p.m. - ***The CCC at Deer Flat: A Legacy of Federal Labor in the Treasure Valley***

Refuge Centennial

Saturday, June 6th, 11:00 a.m.
Join the 100 year celebration.

Kids Fishing Day

Saturday, June 13th (see refuge website for more information (<http://www.fws.gov/deerflat/> or call 467-9278)

Weed Warriors

Saturday, June 20th, 9 a.m.

DEER FLAT WILDLIFE REFUGE - A VISUAL JOURNEY

hosted by the Friends of Deer Flat Refuge

When: Tuesday April 7th 2009

Where: Deer Flat Refuge Visitors' Center
13751 Upper Embankment Rd.
6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

Bring your favorite dessert- to share
Enjoy the beauty of the Deer Flat Wildlife Refuge

Mike Shipman, Blue Planet Photography,
will present a slide show of images
captured on the Refuge

The Grebe is published quarterly for the members of the Friends of Deer Flat Wildlife Refuge. If you have photos, stories, or other information for the Grebe, please email it to: idahobirder@hotmail.com or call 850-5885



Last Call to Renew Your Membership for 2009

Dear Friends, 2009 is soaring along with the spring winds. Summer will be upon us before we are ready for it. If you have not renewed your membership to the Friends of Deer Flat Wildlife Refuge (FDFWR), then now's the time to do it. Your tax exempt gift is critical to our ongoing work to preserve and enhance Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge and especially to aid in the Refuge's 100th birthday commemoration—the Centennial Celebration set for June 6th. With your help, we can make the centennial an event that will delight and educate the people of the Treasure Valley to the values of the refuge.

Thank you for caring about the refuge. Please continue your advocacy by renewing your membership today. And please consider joining at a higher level. We can only be strong and successful with your continued support!!

In addition to providing financial support, our current members can do so much more for Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge. FDFWR's credibility is greatly enhanced when we can count on YOU as a vital and growing membership from all walks of life.

For your convenience, there is a renewal form at the end of the newsletter. If you have any questions concerning your membership or about what Friends members do, please call Bob Christensen at 208-454-2518.

Volunteer for Wildlife at Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge

I love Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge! It is a refuge not only for wildlife but an important refuge for the people who visit; a place to enjoy nature and reduce the stress of everyday life. Spending time at the Refuge with my grandchildren is one of my favorite things to do. Isabella, who is four years old, talks about her visits to the Refuge all the time. She loves looking for animal tracks with her older sister. Josslyn's favorite thing to do is watch the hummingbirds in the shrubs and flowers around the Visitor Center. My twin grandsons, Robert and Anthony, and their cousin Matthew, love to run and play and learn about the natural world. Our time at the refuge lets me teach them to love and care for the wonders of nature. The refuge sure beats a video game any day!

I also love to go to the Refuge to relax and enjoy the quiet beauty around me. Every visit is different: one time I can listen to the wind rustling the trees or watch the waves on the lake. If I'm lucky I will get a quick glimpse of an occasional deer, bird, or rabbit. And every season is also different: the orange colors of fall, the stark white of winter, the renewing green of spring, and the hot colors of summer.

These are just a few of the things that I find so delightful about Deer Flat refuge. It is the reason I love to volunteer at the Refuge. The work is so important; the Refuge staff is amazing and great to work with. They do so much and give so much of themselves. They need all of our help and the Refuge needs our help. If you are interested in helping keep the Refuge as a refuge for wildlife and for people, please, join the Friends of Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge. We have a lot of work to do but the rewards will be ours, our grandchildren's and our grandchildren's children.

Noreen Tripp, FDFWR



2009 Friends' Projects

The Friends, with the help of Refuge Staff, are having a busy year, planning and implementing many exciting projects. We are also very lucky to have two scouts helping us with our projects. The scouts are working towards their Eagle Scout badges and they have chosen to work on projects at the Refuge in order to achieve their badges. Their help to the Friends group is invaluable and their projects will help to enhance the Refuge.

Andrew plans to make several benches that will be placed along the new Centennial Trail. He will make one bench and showcase it during the Centennial Celebration Event on June 6th. Additional benches can be purchased by sponsors and they will also be placed along the Centennial Trail. The monies raised from this project will go towards the Friends Educational Program.

Matthew will be working on the Hummingbird/Butterfly garden at the Refuge Visitor Center. He will clean up the garden and install additional native plants that will attract hummingbirds and butterflies. He will also lay bricks that will be eventually be replaced with the engraved bricks that the Friends will be selling. All proceeds from this project will also go to the Friends Educational Program to help the Refuge staff with the youth programs.

Plan to make several visits to the Refuge to see the changes made by Andrew, Matthew, and the Friends group.

By Noreen Tripp



Be a Friend! Join Today!

Name

Address

City

State

Zip Code

Telephone

Email

Annual Membership Categories

<i>Owl (Senior & Student)</i>	<i>\$10</i>
<i>Deer (Individual)</i>	<i>\$15</i>
<i>Fox (Family)</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>Osprey</i>	<i>\$50</i>
<i>Eagle</i>	<i>\$100</i>
<i>Goldeneye</i>	<i>\$500</i>

All contributions are tax deductible

Please print this page and return with a check payable to:

*Friends of Deer Flat Wildlife Refuge
13751 Upper Embankment Road
Nampa, Idaho 83686-8046*



BUY A BRICK----EDUCATE A CHILD

Have you had the opportunity to visit the hummingbird/butterfly garden that is located on the southeastern corner of the Visitor Center? In the upcoming months, the garden will be undergoing a facelift.

The Friends of Deer Flat Wildlife Refuge are now selling engraved bricks that will be used in the garden as a fund raiser for the Educational Outreach Program at the Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge.

Here is your opportunity to leave your mark at the Deer Flat Refuge while contributing to the important educational programs offered at the Refuge. When you buy a personalized brick, your name or the name of a loved one will be make a permanent part of the Hummingbird/Butterfly garden located just outside the Refuge Visitor's Center. Whether you are honoring a friend, client, family member or celebrating a special occasion, our engraved bricks make a wonderful and lasting gift.

Each brick is 4"X 8" with up to three engraved lines.
There is a maximum of 15 characters and/or spaces per line.

Note: Although bricks will be engraved and installed in a timely manner, the date of placement cannot be guaranteed due to requirements of the engraver and the necessity of installing the bricks. Donors will be notified when their brick has been installed.

Minimum donation per brick is \$25.00

Please indicate:

Line 1: _____

Line 2: _____

Line 3: _____
maximum of 15 characters/spaces per line

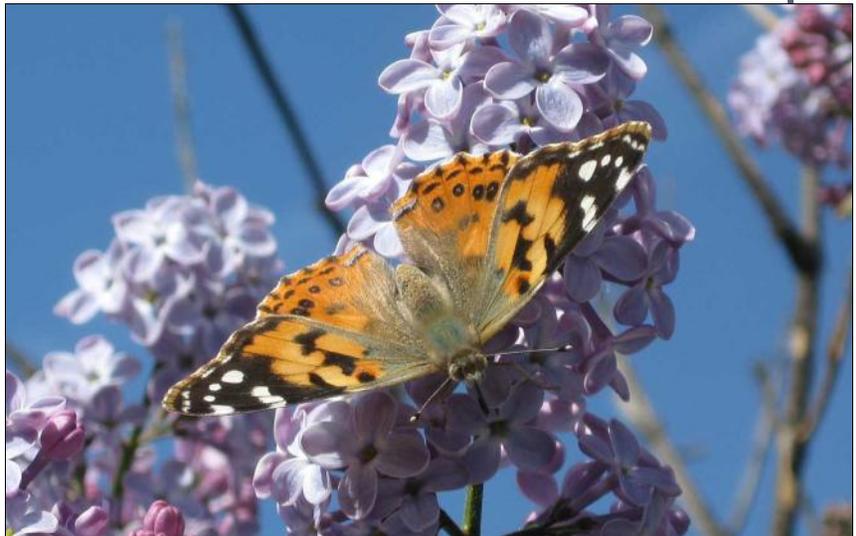
You may order as many bricks as you want.

Your Name _____

Address _____

Phone number _____

e-mail address _____



Send check or money order to:

Friends of Deer Flat Wildlife Refuge
c/o:bricks/nt
13751 Upper Embankment Rd.
Nampa, Idaho 83686

If you have any questions you may call:
Noreen Tripp
208-936-3130



**FRIENDS OF DEER
FLAT WILDLIFE
REFUGE**

13751 Upper Embankment
Road
Nampa, Idaho 83686-8046

Executive Board:

President - Lyndell

Jackson (459-4740)

Vice President - Noreen

Tripp (468-0402)

Secretary / Treasurer - Bob

Christensen (454-2518)

*Newsletter - Denise Hughes
(850-5885)*

**We are on the web at:
[www.fws.gov/deerflat/
friends.htm](http://www.fws.gov/deerflat/friends.htm)**

To preserves and enhance Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge

The Grebe is published four times a year — look for the next issue in June 2009

Lecture Series Programs



Tuesday, April 14th

Be Outside! Idaho Children in Nature Network

Come learn about this exciting initiative to get Idaho kids outside!

Meggan Laxalt Mackey,
Network Chair

Photo by Laura VanAcker

Tuesday, May 12th

A Glimpse of Deer Flat Embankments and the Boise Project through Historic Photographs

Join us to discover the history of Deer Flat embankments and the Boise Projects, the irrigation network that shaped the Treasure Valley.

John Martinson,
Historian for the Bureau of Rec.

Thursday, May 28th

The CCC at Deer Flat: A Legacy of Federal Labor in the Treasure Valley

Learn about what the CCC; what it did and how its work continues to shape the refuge and the lake today.

Marc Frisk, BSU, Department of History

