

Friends of Huntley Meadows Park



September 2016

Website: www.friendsofhuntleymeadows.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/friendsofhuntleymeadowspark

Considering EMBARK Impacts

By Cathy Ledec

Have you heard about EMBARK Richmond Highway (EMBARK)? **The EMBARK project is about the future of our region and how we see it evolving for future residents.** EMBARK is an effort that comes out of the recommendations, from the Route 1 Multimodal Alternatives Analysis that were finalized in January 2015. Recommendations include “major transportation improvements along Richmond Highway to be phased [in] over the next 10 to 15 years.”

<http://www.drpt.virginia.gov/transit/major-transit-initiatives/major-transit-planning/route-1-multimodal-alternatives-analysis/>

For those of us living nearby and along the Route 1 Corridor, this is an important effort that I bring to your attention. I encourage all of our Friends (directly impacted or not) to be engaged by sharing your opinions on this significant Fairfax County effort for the Lee and Mount Vernon magisterial districts.

Why should Friends of Huntley Meadows Park be interested in EMBARK? Huntley Meadows Park (HMP) is an important island of natural habitat that is adjacent to the project area. HMP is surrounded by dense development that occurs, for the most part, right up to the edge of the Park. Development activities that occur outside of the Park boundary can also adversely impact this important natural area. This includes the potential for adverse impacts to water flows into the Park, along with adverse impacts to wildlife, rare plants and rare ecosystems. It is these adverse impacts that we hope to avoid. Our goal is for HMP to be protected so that it continues to provide the important ecosystem services from which we all benefit. We want this important natural area, including its rare plants and animals and globally rare habitat, to remain intact for future generations.

Much of our natural resources in the Mount Vernon and Lee Districts have been adversely impacted by development over the past 20+ years. Our streams, creeks and rivers are in degraded and degrading condition. We are being forced to spend large amounts to restore streams, fix failing storm water outfalls, build flood walls, and the like. Air quality is deficient; we have many Air Quality Alert days due to high levels of ozone and other pollutants in our air. We are losing tree cover rapidly to development, and we do not have enough green spaces, wooded areas, and parks along the Richmond Highway corridor. Opportunities exist to repair this situation, but we must act now.

The EMBARK project provides a huge opportunity to improve environmental conditions along the Route 1 corridor. We need to pursue balanced growth which includes an immediate Environmental Assessment to inform the planning process, so that we can be successful in creating an attractive and healthy community for those of us who live here now and for future residents.

Planning for the future transportation needs of the Route 1 corridor includes planning for increased density (more people living and working here). In recent EMBARK community meetings, there were presentations for proposed roads with no discussion--not even a mention--of the environmental impact on sensitive natural resources as well as historic and cultural resources.

‘See EMBARK continued on page 5.’

Meet the Park Summer Interns

Interns play an important role in running camps, conducting essential research, and completing important projects over the summer. This summer the Friends of Huntley Meadows Park sponsored three Naturalist Interns and one Resource Management Intern. The Friends of Historic Huntley sponsored one Historic Huntley Intern. Their contributions to the park were much appreciated, helping staff stay on task especially considering staff ran a total of **twenty five** summer camps!

My name is **Courtney Check**, and I am a rising sophomore at the College of William and Mary. I plan to major in Biology. I had a fantastic time working at Huntley Meadows this summer as a Naturalist Intern, and learned so many new things about wildlife, species identification, water quality testing, and science education. I thoroughly enjoyed spending my summer here at the Park, where I observed nature and shared my enthusiasm for the outdoors with visitors and campers. I had no idea that there was such a large culture of nature appreciation before working here, and I am incredibly happy to have been exposed to it. My time here has provided me with invaluable hands-on experience in biology, and has helped me solidify my career goal of working in wildlife management.

I am so grateful to the Friends of Huntley Meadows Park for making this internship possible and providing me with such a great opportunity. I would also like to thank all of the wonderful staff at Huntley Meadows, who made this internship such an amazing experience.



Courtney Check

Hello! I am **Megan Massa**, one of Huntley's Naturalist Interns. I am entering my junior year at the College of William and Mary, where I am majoring in Biology and hope to minor in Environmental Science.



Megan Massa

Thanks to this internship, I am now better able to understand a direction I might want to take in my career; I had never considered environmental education, but now I constantly think of ways to get the public interested in science. I learned so much about nature and communicating it to kids, beyond my former comfort zone. I was able to get down in the mud for water quality sampling, teach kids about the "peet-sa" bird, and even got the chance to make some cool Pokémon Go signage to protect the Park! All of this was a fantastic opportunity to foster engagement with nature in kids and other park goers.

I would like to thank my fantastic coworkers for making every day fun this summer, and especially the Friends of Huntley Meadows Park for supporting my internship.



Jessica Quinta

My name is **Jessica Quinta**. I began my Resource Management Internship fresh out of college as I felt I was lacking the intimate knowledge of field biology, restoration sciences, and resource management strategies that would be beneficial to furthering my career. I hope to pursue ecological restoration at the graduate level, and this internship has provided me with an enormous amount of pertinent knowledge and experience that will help me to attain my immediate and future career goals. For that, I sincerely thank the Friends of Huntley Meadows Park for providing me with the opportunity to intern at the Park.

During my time here, I have taken part in, and have completed, numerous tasks to benefit the Park, those who work in it, and the patrons who enjoy it. These include, but are not limited to, water quality sampling and reporting, invasive and rare plant surveys and identification, extensive work within GIS and Excel, compiling lists of rare plants and animals found within the Park, pesticide application, bluebird box surveys and bird counts, meadow creation, deer browsing surveys, and CRAM surveys (a rapid assessment method for monitoring the conditions of wetlands.) The skills that I have honed through participation in these tasks are numerous and will continue to benefit me into the future.

I would also like to thank my awesome supervisor, Dave Lawlor, for his help and guidance over the course of my internship. Dave did an extraordinary job of providing me with plentiful opportunities to work towards gaining a more diverse skillset, as well as providing me and my peers with many chances to network with others in the field. A big thank you as well to Brian Moore for being so receptive and providing me plentiful help over the course of my internship.

I have had a great time this summer, and I am sad to see this internship conclude!



Caitlin Dove

My name is **Caitlin Dove**, and this summer I was a Naturalist Intern at Huntley Meadows Park. I volunteered in the summer of 2015 and enjoyed working with the kids and staff so much, I applied for the intern position! I am thankful for the opportunity to work with a diversified group of children with varying abilities and interests.

I would like to thank the Friends of Huntley Meadows Park for supporting my internship.

My name is **Greg Campbell-Cohen**, and I am a rising senior at the University of Edinburgh, majoring in History and Politics. As the Historic Huntley Intern I focused on the Amlong residency in the home, as well as on Henry Woodhouse (entrepreneur involved with the George Washington Air Junction). Notable projects include digitizing the Oral History archives, conducting several interviews with members of the Amlong family, proposing a re-design for the Historic Huntley website, and wading into the court records of Henry Woodhouse. My research has taken me to Baltimore, the Air and Space Museum archives, and the vaults of the Fairfax County Circuit Court.



Greg Campbell-Cohen

I wish to thank the Friends of Historic Huntley for this wonderful opportunity. I will return to school on September 12th, where I will continue my work as a class representative, an officer of the North American Society, and a sleepless undergrad.

Summer Interns Continued

My name is **Max Ferlauto**, and I'm studying Plant Ecology at Juniata College in Pennsylvania. I was the Virginia Native Plant Society (VNPS) Intern for the summer of 2016." My main job was to map rare plant populations to help guide invasive management. I also surveyed the Purple Milkweed population and then compared it to that of 2015 in order to assess the population growth.



In my opinion, the coolest feature of Huntley Meadows Park (HMP) is the rare, coastal plain depression swamp. The Park was recently nominated to be a Natural Area Preserve by the State. HMP has more of this plant community than the rest of Virginia. I found and mapped the rare sedges that grow only in this kind of habitat. They are colonial sedges and prefer vernal pools. In order to find them, I had to wade through ankle deep water. Luckily, the sedges flowered during the spring, so I had wonderful (bug free) weather. Being out in the middle of a depression swamp is a magical experience. Small hummocks emerge from the water covered in sedges. Large blueberry plants huddle in groves surrounded by thickets of greenbrier. Spongy sphagnum moss covers the roots of large willow oaks. Everything is green; even the black water reflects

back the new Sweetgum leaves.

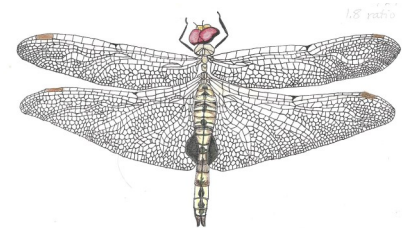
Lastly, I created an identification key for a sedge in the Carex family found at HMP. My goal was to create an easy to understand guide that would encourage the appreciation of these often overlooked plants.

I learned so much during my internship at HMP. I experienced what working at a large wetland is like. I learned how to raise and lower the water level, how to conduct plant surveys, and how to monitor water quality. This was an incredibly valuable experience for me and I want to thank VNPS for offering this opportunity. Dave Lawlor and Brian Moore taught me so much. I also want to thank Karla Jamir (Park Volunteer) for teaching me sedge identification. I expect to be back this winter break as a volunteer.

Fall Art Show

Currently, the dragonfly art of Margaret Wohler is on display in the auditorium of the Norma Hoffman Visitor Center. Her paintings and drawings of dragonflies at Huntley Meadows Park are accompanied by note cards and jewelry made from up cycled materials.

Margaret is passionate about Huntley Meadows Park and teaching individuals how to draw. Her belief is that everyone can learn to draw. She teaches campers to draw dragonflies during her Artists and Scientists Summer Camps. Some of the resulting pieces of art accompany her show.



Friends of Huntley Meadows Park 2016 Photo Contest

The Friends of Huntley Meadows Park will begin to accept submissions for our photo contest October-November. Further details on exact dates for submissions, contest rules, and the opening reception can be found at the front desk of the Norma Hoffman Visitor Center. All photos must be nature-themed and taken at Huntley Meadows Park. Proceeds from the show benefit Huntley Meadows Park.

So get out there and take your best shot!

'EMBARC continued from page 1.'

No Environmental Assessment (EA) for EMBARK is currently underway or planned for the overall effort. The plan at this time is to do an EA after federal funding is received (which requires an EA) for the widening of Route 1 and perhaps for the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT). This would encompass only about ¼ mile on either side of Route 1, a much smaller impact area than the large chunk of the Mt. Vernon and Lee districts that will be affected by EMBARK. Aside from being too narrow in its scope, the planned EA for Route 1 widening has not yet begun and is due to be completed in 2018, much too late to inform the EMBARK planning process. Doing an EA too late also minimizes the importance of our environmental resources to the planning process.

When asked what environmental resources will be adversely impacted by one of their proposals and how this will be mitigated, the EMBARK project team members and Fairfax County staff cannot provide an adequate response. Because an EA has not yet been performed, Fairfax County staff and consultants do not know what natural or cultural resources are in the EMBARK area. Without a current EA the project team does not know where environmentally sensitive areas are, or if there are any "no go" areas. Without an EA, they are unable to craft a strategy to follow the mitigation hierarchy of avoid, minimize, restore, and where needed offset by improving other areas.

Some natural areas should be protected from development because of the ecosystem benefits they provide, including clean air (through absorption of air pollution), clean water (through absorption and filtering of storm water), habitat for numerous species, and a healthy environment within which to live. Which of our remaining environmental resources should be specially designated for protection, and how will they be protected? These questions cannot be fully answered because an EA has not yet been performed. Without a timely EA, all the proposals generated by the EMBARK process (e.g., for new roads and streets) are likely to raise public expectations, even if they cannot feasibly be implemented from an environmental standpoint.

There is an urgent need for a timely Environmental Assessment (EA) to inform all aspects of the EMBARK planning process. A strategic EA for the full EMBARK planning process would help to answer key questions, such as how Resource Protection Areas (RPAs) would in practice be conserved, what kinds of development (if any) might reasonably be permitted in RPAs, and the likely impacts of proposed new developments on historic and cultural resources which largely define the core identity of the Mount Vernon District. For example, would there be adverse impacts to historic view-sheds, for Woodlawn, for Historic Huntley or for other historic properties? Until an adequate EA is carried out, many key questions related to EMBARK will remain unanswered.

Many of us who have worked on environmental matters for years in Fairfax County should be tapped for our knowledge to inform the planning process. Regrettably, this has not happened. To my knowledge, there is no one on the EMBARK Advisory Group team with a dedicated focus on the environmental impacts (direct and indirect) of this planning process.

I look forward to hearing your input on this important planning process. Without our strong advocacy to the EMBARK Advisory Group representatives, we are likely to end up with plans that emphasize development for development's sake. The resulting development would be unbalanced with more impervious surfaces than we have now, greatly diminished green and open spaces, fewer trees and vegetated areas, streams that are piped, more Air Quality Alert days, damage impacts to our historic view-sheds, and no more space for our wildlife. The EMBARK project web site is here: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/embarkrichmondhwy/> I hope to see you at an upcoming meeting of the EMBARK Advisory Group. Stay tuned to this effort by signing up for the listserv here: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/email/lists/>.

News from Park Manager Karen Sheffield

Huntley is abuzz with wonderful news, and I'm so happy to share these items with you:

The Fairfax County Park Authority (FCPA) Board has named Harry Glasgow the recipient of the 2016 Sally Ormsby Environmental Stewardship Award! Harry has dedicated over 25 years (and still counting!) as an advocate for the preservation and protection of the County's natural resources. Some noteworthy roles include: Fairfax County Park Foundation Board member, FCPA Board member, Board member and member of the team creating the Fairfax Master Naturalist program, the vice-chair of the Fairfax County Chesapeake Bay Preservation Ordinance Exceptions Review Committee, member of the Fairfax County Tree Commission and Friends of Huntley Meadows Park Board member. Harry's voluminous efforts for Huntley have made, and continue to make meaningful contributions to every aspect of Huntley's mission. Harry will be honored at the November Elly Doyle Park Service Awards.

Thanks to the 2012 Park Bond, renovation of the Historic Huntley Tenant House is scheduled to begin this fall. Significant new information about the tenant house has already been revealed. Previously thought to be built in the 1890's, corroborative evidence suggests the tenant house was built just after the Huntley villa was completed circa 1825. As renovation begins, there may be more exciting discoveries to come! Construction will continue into 2017; however, we hope to maintain the regular tour season open for the villa. Keep an eye out for special programs to get an insider's view of Huntley!

Vegetative goals for the central wetland are being achieved. With the new water control structure, staff can influence the wetland water levels and vegetation to help create desired habitat. Natural resource management of the central wetland has resulted in significant vegetative recovery both in species diversity and abundance of native plants. The most noticeable change to visitors is the 70% reduction in cattails since 2013. Thanks to creative management efforts by Dave Lawlor, the Park's Natural Resource Manager, and the volunteers and staff that help make restoration a reality!

Thank you everyone for supporting the preservation of Huntley's treasured cultural and natural resources.

WELCOME to New Staff

I can't tell you all how excited I am to be here at Huntley Meadows! My name is Halley, and I'm the new Volunteer & Outreach Coordinator. My first day was July 5th and I've come to Huntley after multiple stops in other Fairfax County Park Authority parks. I started as a Naturalist at Hidden Pond in 2009 and spent time there, as well as at Frying Pan Farm Park and Eleanor C. Lawrence Park - with a brief summer 2013 stint in the Outer Banks at North Carolina Aquariums-Roanoke Island. All my positions focused on nature education and used extensive volunteer participation. In addition, I am a volunteer at the Smithsonian National Zoo in the Reptile Discovery Center.

I was born in Massachusetts, but moved to Springfield, VA while still in elementary school. I attended Fairfax County Public Schools and obtained a B.S. in Biology from Christopher Newport University. After graduating, I wandered into my local nature center (Hidden Pond) and realized I could be involved in nature and science and have a whole lot of fun doing it! This led to my career in the Park Authority where I've been able to get the experience needed to arrive here at Huntley.

Everyone has been incredibly welcoming and supportive, and I'm so happy to be joining the Huntley team. I'm looking forward to getting out to as many activities and events as I possibly can, so keep an eye out for me and please come say hello!



Halley Johnson holding a Red-tailed Hawk at Eleanor C. Lawrence Park.

Monday Morning Bird Walk

By Harry Glasgow

Early in August, a juvenile Yellow-crowned Night Heron was seen and photographed on the boardwalk at Huntley Meadows. Now, there isn't anything particularly unusual about Yellow-crowned Night Herons - except at Huntley. There was a day not too many years ago when Night Herons were fairly regular visitors at our Park, but their visits became increasingly rare. So, when one does drop in these days, it's a kind of big deal. Night Herons can be found locally in some number. The nearest place is the National Zoo. It became clear to Night Herons, and several other bird species, that the place called the Zoo was a literal buffet of stuff that herons like to eat spread all over the ground, just waiting to be gobbled up. So, while that Huntley place is nice, it's nothing compared to this Eden called the Zoo.

Another great place to find Yellow-crowned Night Herons is Bombay Hook National Wildlife Refuge near Dover, Delaware. Birders in the mid-Atlantic area all know about "the Hook". It is one of the largest expanses of salt water marsh on the east coast, and is a great place to see huge flocks of migrating shore birds, water fowl, Bald Eagles, and migrating song birds. In a specific grove of trees in the northwest section of the Refuge, one can easily find a large group of Yellow-crowns. Herons are communal birds. They nest in colonies called Rookeries. This area has Great Blue Heron rookeries at nearby locations such as Gunston Hall and Mt Vernon.

It is the ardent hope of the birders at Huntley Meadows that our wetland restoration project will attract more Night Herons, as well as Rails, Bitterns, and greater numbers of waterfowl. One of my hopeful dreams is that Herons will someday decide that Huntley is good real estate for a rookery! Perhaps birders from Delaware will seek out Huntley Meadows as their great bird destination as we have their Bombay Hook.

The Monday Morning Bird Walk has been a weekly event at Huntley Meadows Park since 1985. It takes place every week, rain or shine (except during electrical storms, strong winds, or icy trails), at 7AM (8AM November-March), is free of charge, requires no reservation, and is open to all. Birders meet in the parking lot at 3701 Lockheed Blvd, Alexandria, VA. Questions should be directed to Park staff during normal business hours at (703)768-2525.



Adult Yellow-crowned Night Herons

2016 Bird-a-thon Contributors

Thank you to all who contributed to the 2016 Bird-a-thon. We raised a total of \$1,982, which is used to pay a stipend to the Resource Naturalist Intern. Meet this year's intern, Jessica Quinta above.

A. Birtle & Janise Zygmont
Su Yon Kim
Fred & Suzanne Lepple
Carolyn Gamble
Sandra Lucier
Colette Hodes
Nancy Pryor
Larry Cartwright
Alex Moot & Nancy Roosa
Susan Whitmore
Nancy Roeper

Margaret Wohler
Anna Finch
Margaret Bixler
David Higgs
Philip Kline
Nancy Tresp
Dorothy Raduazo
John & Paula Sullivan
John & Tam Davis
Robert Fina

Ana Arguelles and Jeff Wneck
Sandra Galletta
Cathy & George Ledec
JG Harrington
Connie Carpender
Ken Lawwill
Fred Siskind
Andrew Stifler
Jim Mathews
Lisa Romano

Mystery Solved!

By Carolyn Gamble

When the Norma Hoffman Visitor Center was doubled in size in 1990, contractors discovered a number of terra cotta tubes while preparing the grounds. We stored a sampling of the artifacts without knowing their exact purpose or age.

Fast forward 26 years to Huntley Farm Day hosted by the Friends of Historic Huntley and featuring the Harrison time period, 1868-1946. In preparation for the event, research was conducted on the minutes of the local Woodlawn Agricultural Society. The owner of Huntley, Albert W. Harrison, was an active member of the Society. Therein lay the truth about the terra cotta tubes.



Terra cotta tubes found in the ground during 1990 renovation of the Norma Hoffman Visitor Center.

In the March 1886 minutes of the Woodlawn Agricultural Society, a description of Albert W. Harrison's farm included: "There has been considerable underdraining done with both tiles and poles to evident advantage." Underdraining efforts by Harrison are mentioned numerous times in the minutes. There were many ditches on his rather soggy farmland (now Huntley Meadows Park in part), and he filled them after laying terra cotta tiles end to end at the bottom of the ditches.

Tile drains were an agricultural drainage innovation brought to this country in the mid-19th century from Scotland. A farmer in Geneva, New York first employed the technology. The Geneva Historical Society agrees that our tiles are consistent with 19th century tiles in their collection. Mystery solved!

To find out more about the Woodlawn Agricultural Society as well as the Woodlawn Housekeeping Society, please come to the **Friends of Historic Huntley's Annual Meeting on November 6 at 2 p.m. at Sherwood Regional Library**. Carolyn Gamble and Susan Hellman will be sharing what the minutes of these two societies reveal about local Victorian era farm life.

Harrison Lane and Lockheed Blvd Clean Up is scheduled for Saturday, October 15th, 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Meet in the Huntley Meadows Parking Lot



The Wetland Restoration Project Wins Another Award!

Congratulations to all Huntley Meadows Staff involved with the wetlands restoration project as it has won yet another award! The National Association of County Park and Recreation Officials (NACPRO) selected Huntley Meadows Park as winner of a NACPRO Environmental/Conservation Award. This is the fourth award received for the project.

NACPRO is a non-profit professional organization that advances official policies promoting county and regional park and recreation issues. NACPRO provides its members with opportunities to network, exchange ideas and best practices, and enhance professional development.



A view from the tower looking over the completed berm and outflow structure.

Since the completion of the restoration project in 2013, the Huntley Meadows Park area has become paradise for wildlife. Virginia wildlife watchers and professionals from other states and countries have come to study Huntley's success. The project serves as an outstanding example of environmental stewardship with impact on water quality, wildlife and wildlife viewing.

New Friends of Huntley Meadows Park Lifetime Members

Jacob Williams
The Pearson Family
Kathleen Luisa
Barbara & Bernard Hummelt
Bonnie Rathbone
Lisa Browning
Tony Morris
Kristina Zanotti



2016 Bond

November 2016 elections are getting a lot of press right now. But don't forget that when you go to the polls on November 8th in Fairfax County, you will be asked to vote on this year's bond. For 2016, the bond will be supporting Fairfax County Parks.

According to the Fairfax County Park Authority website, "Parks are free for the public to use and are enjoyed by about 90% of the County's population. Some specialty facilities, such as RECenters and golf courses, charge fees to support operating costs. Park fees cover approximately 60% of all park operating costs. The remaining operating funds are appropriated by the Board of Supervisors from the County's General Fund derived from taxpayer contributions. The park system operating costs are supported by less than one penny of the tax rate."

The Board of Friends of Huntley Meadows Park encourages you to vote YES to the 2016 Park Bond Program.

Form more information please go to <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/2016bond.htm>.

Huntley Meadows Park Programs

All programs **require reservations**, unless free. Sign up online using Parktakes. Search "Huntley" at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes, or call 703-222-4664. For help, call Huntley Meadows Park at 703-768-2525.

SEPTEMBER

24 Saturday - Fall Wetland Plant ID (Ages 12-Adults), 10am-12pm. See 10/29. Registration code: 3404897901. \$8.

Ice Cream at Historic Huntley (Ages 2-Adults), 11am-12pm. Make and enjoy hand-cranked ice cream as Huntley's Harris family may have done. Discover how the histories of ice cream and Huntley follow a similar path from elite luxury to family fare. Tour of ice well and Historic Huntley House included. Registration code: 3404039101. \$8.

Hitching a Ride through Huntley (Ages 4-Adults), 2-3:30pm. Your mission, should you choose to accept it, is to uncover some of the top secret history at Huntley Meadows. Take a wagon ride through time on the wilder side of the Park to discover its role from World War II through the Cold War. Meets at the South King's Hwy. parking lot. Registration code: 3404821701. \$7.

OCTOBER

1 Saturday - Sketch Hike: Fall Wetland Flowers (Ages 15-Adults), 10am-12pm. Join Park artist and naturalist Margaret Wohler for a hike to the wetland focusing on fall flowers and learn techniques to enhance your fall flower observation and sketching skills. Registration code: 3404023601. \$8.

History Discussions at Huntley (Adults), 1-4pm. Enjoy a refreshingly different view this autumn at Historic Huntley. Join our guest speaker for a lively discussion of local history related to Historic Huntley or the surrounding area. Program meets at the Norma Hoffman Visitor Center at 3701 Lockheed Blvd, Alexandria VA 22306. Call (703) 768-2525 for topic. Registration code: 3404821601. \$5.

Wild Side Wagon Ride (Ages 5-Adults), 1:30-3pm. (See 9/10 2pm.) Registration code: 3404864903. \$7.

Wild Side Wagon Ride (Ages 5-Adults), 3:30-5pm. (See 9/10 2pm.) Registration code: 3404864904. \$7.

3 Monday - Taux Trail for Homeschool (Ages 6-12), 1:30-3:30pm. (See 9/8). Registration code: 3404023702. \$12.

7 Friday - Delicious Dairy at Historic Huntley

(Ages 2-Adults), 1-2pm. Churn your own delicious butter and taste fresh cheese you can make at home. Discover how Huntley, once summer home for the wealthy, became a dairy farm. House tour included. Registration code: 3404827201. \$7.

8 Saturday - Evening Stroll (Ages 6-Adults), 6:00pm-7:30pm. Come for a relaxing stroll through the Park at dusk. A naturalist takes you on a tour of the woods and wetlands to watch and listen for beavers, owls and other nocturnal residents. Registration code: 3404827901. \$7.

29 Saturday - Fall Wetland Plant ID (Ages 12-Adults), 12pm-2pm. Join a Park naturalist on a walk through the wetland and put a name to the plant that has budded your interest. Learn how to identify the fall freshwater marsh plants of Huntley Meadows Park. Registration code: 3404897902. \$8.

NOVEMBER

12 Saturday - Boardwalk Astronomy (Ages 12-Adults), 6-8pm. What's new in the night sky? Join Park naturalists as they take you on a tour of constellations, comets and other current events happening in the heavens above. Canceled in case of rain or other severe weather. Registration code: 3404865101. \$8.

19 Saturday - Owl Outing (Adults), 4:30-6:30pm. These nocturnal raptors are pair-bonding and looking for nesting sites at this time of year. Prowl the Park after dark to listen for and learn about our local owls, and possibly see a barred owl. Meet at the Norma Hoffman Visitor Center and dress for the weather and standing off trail. Registration code: 3404866601. \$8.

BOY SCOUT MERIT BADGES

(Ages 11-17), All programs satisfy most of the requirements to earn these badges.

Archaeology Merit Badge, Sunday, November 20, 10am-3pm. Registration code: 3404739701. \$38.

Art Merit Badge, Saturday, October 1, 9am-12pm. Registration code: 3404742001. \$30.

Chemistry Merit Badge, Monday, December 19, 10am-2pm. Registration code: 3404748201. \$32.

Citizenship in the Community Merit Badge, Monday, December 19, 10am-2pm. Registration code: 3404749001. \$30.

Citizenship in the Nation Merit Badge, Sunday, October 23, or Tuesday, December 20, 10am-2pm. Registration code: 3404739901 or 3404739902. \$30.

Citizenship in the World Merit Badge, Saturday, November 12 or Wednesday, December 21, 10am-3pm. Registration code: 3404749101 or 3404749102. \$38.

Fish and Wildlife Merit Badge, Sunday, October 16, 1-5pm. Registration code: 3404740901. \$30.

Forestry Merit Badge, Sunday, November 13, 1-5pm. Registration code: 3404740301. \$30.

Indian Lore Merit Badge, Saturday, November 19, 9am-1pm. Registration code: 3404741601. \$30.

Plant Science Merit Badge, Saturday, October 15, 9am-1pm. Registration code: 3404740401. \$30.

Sustainability Merit Badge, Wednesday, December 21, 10am-2pm. Registration code: 3404775801. \$30.

Weather Merit Badge, Thursday, December 29, 10am-2pm. Registration code: 3404742101. \$30.

OTHER SCOUT PROGRAMS

BGS-My Family Story, Saturday, December 10, 11am-12:30pm. Registration code: 3404749801. \$10.

JGS-Detective, Monday, November 7 or Saturday, December 10, 2-3:30pm. Registration code: 3404744601 or 3404744602. \$10.

JGS-Playing the Past, Sunday, November 6 or Sunday, December 11, 2-3:30pm. Registration code: 3404745001 or 3404745002. \$10.



Ed Batten during the Park's 40th anniversary celebration on the Huntley Meadows Park boardwalk.

Happy Trails to Ed Batten!

Our heartfelt appreciation goes to Edward R. Batten, Sr., who has served for over 13 years as the Fairfax County Park Authority Board Member for Lee District. Ed is taking a new trail and relocating out of the area.

We are thankful for Ed's strong support for Friends of Huntley Meadows Park (FOHMP). It has been a joy to work with him on Park matters. We have enjoyed having Ed's representation as we celebrated many wonderful events and activities at Huntley Meadows Park.

Thank you Ed for all that you have done for Friends of Huntley Meadows Park!

**Friends of Huntley Meadows Park
Membership and Renewal Form**

Please support Huntley Meadows Park by joining our Friends group. Dues contribute toward funding new initiatives and programs, and your membership support will help us to be stronger advocates for the Park.

Fill out this form and mail the application to:

Dues information (Annual):

- \$15 Individual
- \$20 Family
- \$10 Student/Senior
- \$150 Lifetime Membership
- Donation

**Friends of Huntley Meadows Park
3701 Lockheed Blvd.
Alexandria, VA 22306**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Telephone: _____



Alternatively you can use our PayPal feature on the Membership page of our website <http://www.friendsofhuntleymeadows.org/membership.html>.



**Friends of Huntley
Meadows Park**
3701 Lockheed Blvd.
Alexandria, VA 22306