

Chincoteague Natural History



Summer 2011

The Piping Plover

Anniversary Celebration

Beth Hanback, CNHA Executive Director

On Saturday, May 21, the members of the Chincoteague Natural History Association, its special guests and refuge staff joined together to celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of CNHA. The day-long celebration was held in conjunction with the Annual Members Meeting and election of Board Members.

The day began at 7:30 AM, as CNHA members boarded the CNHA bus for a complimentary wildlife tour. Members were treated to the sights and sounds of the refuge, and abundant bird life was spotted, as well as some of the famous ponies.



Charlie Holbrook (left) and Bob Wilson (right) display the anniversary cake

At 10 AM, the Annual Meeting was called to order by President Barbara Thackray who noted some of the CNHA highlights of the past year and welcomed special guests, Charles Holbrook and Kathy Woodward. Committee chairs reported on their various activities and accomplishments over the past year. Members attending the meeting were presented with special CNHA 25th Anniversary T shirts. Nominating Committee Chair Jack Keene announced the slate of nominees for board election and members were given an opportunity to cast their provided ballots.

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Chincoteague Natural History Association Board at the Annual Members Meeting



The Piping Plover is a quarterly newsletter from the Chincoteague Natural History Association

CNHA Board of Directors

Janice MacKinnon, *President*
Summer Term
Claire Hunkins, *Vice President*
Jack Keene, *Treasurer*:
Carole Marz, *Secretary*

Allen Andreach
Carole Barkley
Karen Barnaby
Sandy Gifford
George Hunkovic
Jim Young

CNHA Staff

Beth Hanback, *Executive Director*

Debbie Brown
Gene Carey
Frank Giglio
Chad Hall
Peter Pulman

The Chincoteague Natural History Association is a non-profit organization established in 1986 in partnership with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The purpose of the CNHA is to promote a better understanding and appreciation of the Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge and the Eastern Shore of Virginia Refuge, as well as the natural history and environment of Virginia's Eastern Shore.

The CNHA produces and provides interpretive and educational material for refuge visitors on the CNWR.

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PO Box 917
Chincoteague, VA 23336
www.piping-plover.org

Thank You, Barbara



The Chincoteague Natural History Association wishes to extend its most sincere appreciation to outgoing President Barbara M. Thackray for her tireless support during her tenure as President. Barbara's advocacy for the CNHA raised awareness of our organization in the local community and increased understanding of the function of Friends groups and how they operate to support the refuges they serve.

During Barbara's term as president the CNHA faced many challenges, such as the immense task of starting fundraising for the restoration of the Assateague Lighthouse. Under Barbara's leadership the CNHA was able to contribute over one hundred thousand dollars to the restoration effort. Barbara has been active in every phase of this effort, from assisting with the planning study to distribution of community collection banks and smashing of cast off lighthouse glass in preparation for a special fundraising sales item.

Barbara's efforts did not stop at the lighthouse, however. She served as the driving force behind the development of the popular and ongoing series of CNHA programs, held on Friday and Saturday afternoons seasonally. Barbara demonstrated a deep commitment to both board and staff training, and organized the first CNHA Board Retreat last November, providing CNHA Board members the opportunity to work with speakers from national level Friends advocacy groups. Barbara was also a strong supporter of training for staff, encouraging and attending regular staff meetings, and authorizing staff to attend training to improve their job performance. Throughout her time as President, Barbara continued to serve the refuge as a volunteer, both at the Assateague Lighthouse and at the visitor desk at the Bateman Center.

We at the CNHA deeply appreciate Barbara's commitment to the refuge and the CNHA, and welcome her plans to continue to be actively involved as we face the challenges of the future.

Anniversary Celebration

(Continued)

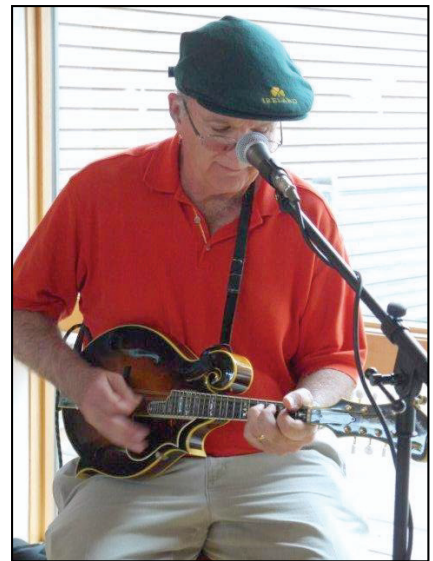
Following the Meeting, a barbeque lunch was served in the Noah Williams classroom. President Barbara Thackray gave the election results and welcomed new board members Carole Barkley, Karen Barnaby, and Janice MacKinnon. Long time Board member Bob Wilson and special guest and founding member Charlie Holbrook cut the 25th Anniversary cake, which concluded the delightful lunch.

During the afternoon CNHA members were able to visit the Assateague Lighthouse and view the recently completed portion of the restoration and/or tour the refuge on their own.

As the sun set on this very special day, members, guests and refuge staff gathered at the Bateman Center for a reception. The Celtic Islanders featuring CNHA member Bill Weiskopf provided the music. The celebratory program included an address by CNHA President Barbara Thackray, and two

PowerPoint presentations created by Webmaster Doug Gifford. Founding member Charles Holbrook shared several of his special memories of the earliest days of the CNHA. Kathy Woodward, former president of the National Wildlife Refuge Association, spoke on the importance of Friends groups to the Refuge system. Refuge Manager Lou Hinds congratulated the CNHA and spoke of the importance of volunteers to the success of wildlife refuges nationwide. Following the program, members and friends gathered for social time and more music, along with light refreshments.

The Chincoteague Natural History Association would like to thank everyone who attended for helping to make this such a wonderful celebration.



CNHA member Bill Weiskopf performed with The Celtic Islanders



Doug and Sandy Gifford at the Members Lunch

Bill Weiskopf photo: Beth Hanback

Other photos for this article: Janice MacKinnon

Rose Moore Founder's Scholarship

Beth Hanback, CNHA Executive Director



Rose Moore

As we celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the Chincoteague Natural History Association, we are pleased to announce the establishment of the Rose Moore Founder's Scholarship. The scholarship is named in honor of CNHA founding Board member Rose Moore, who served as a staunch advocate of educational programs on the Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge for 24 years until her retirement from the CNHA Board in 2010.

The purpose of the scholarship is to encourage students to pursue higher education in the areas of conservation and environmental education. Annually, CNHA will award the scholarship to a graduate of a high school on the Eastern Shore of Virginia who plans to attend a college or university and concentrate his or her studies in these fields.

William Howard (Bill) Engelhart 1929-2011



Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge (CNWR) and the Chincoteague Natural History

Association (CNHA) lost a true friend and supporter with the recent death of Bill Engelhart.

Bill was a gentleman, friend, and a true family man. At Bill's funeral service his sons spoke warmly of a father who was a mentor, encourager and wise counselor. Refuge Manager Lou Hinds spoke of the great respect in which Bill was held by the refuge staff for his devotion to the purpose of the refuge during his years of voluntary service.

Bill grew up in Port Jervis, NY. He was a high school baseball star, a veteran of the Korean conflict and a graduate of the State University of Albany. For thirty years he served as a school administrator in New York schools.

Bill and his family moved to the Eastern Shore in the 1980s. His experience, skills and management style were invaluable in his volunteer work with several area organizations.

CNWR was fortunate to be able to hire Bill to head up the Federal Fee Program when it was initiated in 1986. His maturity and business experience were an asset for the refuge in hiring new fee collectors and solving the many problems associated with a new Federal initiative.

He supervised the fee collectors for several years and during that time joined CNHA and became a board member. In 1993 he accepted the position of president

of the board and served until the late 1990s-- the longest tenure of any president.

Bill was one of the rocks on which the current CNHA has been built. He brought a wise discretion to the Board. As an experienced educator he influenced the educational emphasis of CNHA today.

His personal style made him a particularly effective leader. He created a board comprised of individuals with a history of and commitment to volunteer service with CNWR and CNHA.

He was involved with CNWR in the turbulent times leading to the development of the 1992 Master Plan, emphasizing the 'Wildlife First' purpose and mission of the refuge. Current Manager, Lou Hinds, considers this crucial as other refuges encouraged Friends' groups to form across the nation during the Service Friends' initiative in the early 1990s.

During Bill's tenure CNHA made and activated many effective policies, including a major revision of the Bylaws. Bill developed a Personnel Policy Handbook which his daughter, Nancy Birch, completed.

In 58 years of marriage Bill and his wife 'Midge' raised four sons and Nancy. They found much joy in their retirement home on the perimeter of the golf course in Melfa. Aside from all of these attributes, he will be greatly missed by his family and all who knew him. CNHA extends its sympathy to his family and its thanks for the many years of Bill's service.

Highlights of CNHA actions completed under Bill's watch:

- ❧ Opening of the sales outlet at Eastern shore NWR
- ❧ Celebrating the CNWR 50th anniversary in 1993
- ❧ Designing several unique items and marketing them nationally to fund exhibits for the new CNWR Visitor Center
- ❧ Producing the *Paradise Found* brochure which was used to lobby for a new visitor center and to 'sell' the idea to local residents
- ❧ Providing seed money to promote construction of a new visitor center and lobbying Congress for funds
- ❧ Loan of \$5,000 to Crab Orchard Refuge friends group to start and stock a sales outlet
- ❧ Initiation of credit card sales, which considerably increased gross sales for CNHA
- ❧ Collaborating with Blackwater and Bombay Hook Friends groups to identify cooperative opportunities
- ❧ Taking responsibility for producing and nationally marketing the TR Bear in observance of USFWS 100th anniversary, 2003,
- ❧ Establishing a Wish List to accumulate funds over several years to fund a refuge video

Coordinated by Barbara Thackray with contributions from Frank and Rose Moore, Manager Lou Hinds and family information.

International Migratory Bird Celebration

Nancy Ferguson, CNHA

Local artists, agencies and refuge staff came together at the Bateman Center on May 7, 2011 to mark the celebration of the 17th annual International Migratory Bird Day. A variety of hands-on activities, displays, and programs were available to the 1,100 visitors that came to join the celebration.

One room was set aside for children's activities. Kids were able to make a model of a piping plover, have their faces painted and make up their own bird. Representatives from the Salisbury Zoo were on hand with two live hawks for the children to see.

One highlight of the day was the birth of the first eaglet in the refuge nest. Visitors were able to watch the emergence of the eaglet and the mother's response on the Eagle Cam.

"The Good, The Bad, and the Ugly" program was presented by the Pocomoke State Forest and Park. Again this year, The Historic Main Street Merchants received over 100 art entries for the Children's Art Contest with a large number from Arcadia and Nandua High School. They were all beautiful and it was very hard to choose the winners!

International Migratory Bird Celebration is an annual program of the Environment for America. Its goal is to focus the public's attention on the amazing migration of birds. The theme for 2011 was "Go Wild, Go Birding".

Photos: Jenny Owen

Building bird houses



Painting T-shirts

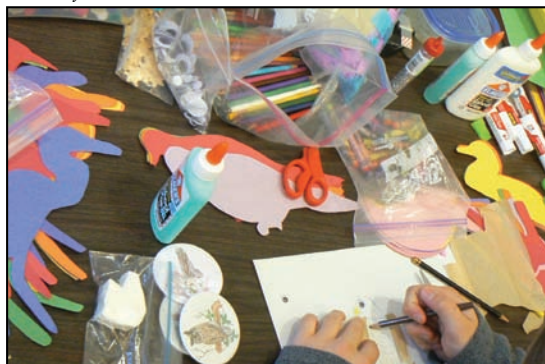


Face painting

Meeting a snake



Bird crafts



From the Refuge Manager's Desk

Lou Hinds, USFWS, Refuge Manager



As we enter into what undoubtedly our busiest season, the Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge is ready for the challenge! We must be prepared to serve the many families that flock to Chincoteague and Assateague during the summer. At the same time,

we must also prepare to meet the challenges of the future through careful and broad-based planning.

We have much good news to report: First, the Woodland Trail repaving project is complete and it looks great! After the mosquitoes die back a bit, take a walk or bike around the trail, if you haven't already done so. I am sure you will be as impressed as I am. If you see Kim Halpin or Larry Beasley give them a big 'thank you' for their excellent work in bringing this project to a successful conclusion.

Other exciting news pertains to the restoration of our famed lighthouse. We are pleased to announce that CNHA and CNWR have successfully obtained a \$430,000 Enhancement Grant from Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) for the restoration of the Assateague Lighthouse. This is the second Enhancement Grant received from VDOT bringing our total available grant funding to \$495,000. CNWR intends to match this funding with \$150,000 from entrance fee funds, and CNHA is committed to providing an additional \$100,000. This will give us a working restoration fund of an amazing \$745,000. We hope to begin additional work this fall.

Our planning team is continuing work on developing the Chincoteague and Wallops Island National Wildlife Refuge Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP). The CCP is required of all National Wildlife Refuges by the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997. The CCP is a 15-year plan as to how best achieve the purposes of the Refuge system. In May, the Fish and Wildlife Service released a newsletter that set out seven "draft Goals" for the Refuge and a "Vision Statement" for the future. You can find this news letter by going to <http://www.fws.gov/northeast/planning/Chincoteague/ccphome.html>. Scroll to the bottom of the page to find "Newsletter" and then "click here" to find the newsletter. The seven goals are on the second page of that newsletter. Please note that preparations are underway for a public meeting in August. During that meeting we will release the first draft CCP alternatives.

I am very excited about this opportunity to present the work that staff and other planning team members have labored over for the past five months. I look forward to seeing y'all at that meeting.

Eaglets Ready to Spread Their Wings

Janice MacKinnon, CNHA

Every time I visit the Bateman Visitor's Center to check up on the eaglets, I run into at least one if not six to eight persons there as well, ready to check up on and converse about the babies. Two eaglets were born in early May. One, as is common in nature, is clearly bigger and more dominant, often pushing the little one aside.

The nest is in the Wildlife Loop and is observable from the Bateman Center. The web camera is carefully situated to zoom in on the early life of these babies.

Typically baby eagles gain about one pound every four to five days. Within three weeks, they can reach one foot in height. The next major benchmark for them will be their fledging. Fledging is the stage in a young bird's life when the feathers and wing muscles are sufficiently developed for flight. The first evidence of the eaglets reaching their fledging will be lots of flapping of the wings! Their first flight is expected sometime between July 23rd and mid-August and may only be to the next branch.

Woodland Trail photo: Henry Barnaby III

An Unforgettable Summer Experience

Shevika B. Mitchell, USFWS Intern

This summer at Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge, there are a total of 14 interns. These interns have dedicated their summer to making a difference in the environment and educating the public of the changes occurring in our wildlife habitats. They are truly working toward the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service mission to conserve, protect, and enhance the environment for the benefit of the American people.



Amanda—26, *University of Wisconsin*. I am excited to be at CNWR to gain more experience in the wildlife field. I took the opportunity to apply for this internship because it offered experience and I enjoy researching birds.

Allison—23, *Graduate of Rutgers University*. This is my second time interning with the USFWS and working with endangered shorebirds. I have a passion for wildlife conservation. Working every day in the fields for CNWR is an enjoyable experience.

Chelsea—20, *Senior at Unity College*. I am dedicated to the environment and wildlife. I would love to continue working with endangered species and other conservation efforts. This is my first time in the field and I enjoy it very much. I am working on a program of balloons as litter with a new web site: www.balloonsblow.org.

Christine—20, *Unity College*. As a STEP student I could have been placed anywhere, but I am very happy to be here. I wanted to gain experience working with the USFWS down the law enforcement pathway. My interest is in protecting and conserving wildlife. I enjoy being outdoors and working with people.

Josh—20, *North Carolina State University*. I learned about the CNWR internship after doing some research online. I have worked in this area for the past few years, so I am very familiar with the beauty of the place. I enjoy being here and I am learning many things about wildlife and banding birds. My goal is to go into research, and working at CNWR is definitely a possibility.

Kristen—22, *Senior at Friends University*. I visited CNWR as I grew up and I remember going to the programs and that I loved it. Now that I am old enough, I just want to spread my

knowledge to others and explore how biology and interpretation work together.

Kyle—20, *Florida Institute of Technology*. When I was little, I had an annual father and son date with nature and fell in love with wildlife. I previously volunteered with the USFWS and enjoyed it, I started to look for internships and I found CNWR. My goal this summer is to become more aware of my environment and translate that knowledge to young children.

Laurel—21, *Shippensburg University*. I am an intern with the National Park Service and I am at CNWR to gain experience and to determine a career path. I am acquiring a vast amount of information and gaining invaluable experiences.

Leslie—21, *Sul Ross State University*. My family and I came to Chincoteague Island five years ago for pony penning week and decided to check out the refuge. I thought that the refuge with the wild ponies was one of the most amazing places I've ever seen. That vivid experience, combined with my passion for nature, made me decide to apply for an internship here at CNWR. I can definitely see myself working here, hopefully as a full-time ranger.

Mathew—21, *Eastern Shore Community College*. I remember coming to CNWR as a child and walking the trails. I love nature and I am excited to explore the aspects of interpretation. I am serious about the USFWS mission. As a STEP student, I hope that my knowledge, skills, and performance will open the gateway for employment at CNWR.

Megan—20, *Colorado State University*. I am absolutely in love with this place. I have never been to CNWR before, but have always wanted to visit. I was looking for summer internships and I saw that CNWR had positions that correlated with my interest. This is an

amazing experience. I wake up every day and see wildlife right outside my window. I love that I am able to bike everywhere because I am unable to do that in Michigan.

Molly—23, *Graduate from Appalachian State University*. After much research, I saw the internship online at CNWR and decided to apply. The combination of wildlife and biology is where my passion lies. I am attaining an abundance of information about shorebirds. I want to keep expanding my knowledge and continue to gain experience working with shorebirds.

Shevika—18, *Sophomore at Spelman College*. I was born in Guyana and raised in the Virgin Islands, so growing up I had no choice but to look at nature as my entertainment. I enjoy working with others to promote a productive cause. I hope to expand on my professional and leadership endeavors this summer. I love that I am a footstep away from nature every day, and what better place to combine nature and fun than at CNWR?

Vanessa—22, *Graduate of University of Massachusetts*. My main goal is to work for the USFWS to conserve habitat for endangered species and to protect them from extinction. I have learned much about what it takes to protect these species and it has made me an advocate among family and friends. I want to do all I can to aid in the survival of endangered species, and I believe CNWR is the place to do it.

Zenovia—21, *Graduate from Hampton University*. My passion is biology. Next spring I will be attending Indiana University for graduate school. My experience with working at CNWR has inspired me to apply my skills to my future studies and practices of environmental policy. One of my goals this summer is to build upon my interpretive skills.

Hope Returns to the Delmarva Peninsula

April 2011

The odyssey of Hope, a whimbrel carrying a satellite transmitter, continues to amaze scientists.

Hope was originally captured on May 19, 2009 on the southern Delmarva

Peninsula of Virginia. She left Virginia on May 26 that year and since that time has logged more than 21,000 miles flying between a breeding territory

on the MacKenzie River near Alaska and a winter territory on St. Croix in the U.S. Virgin Islands. On April 8, 2011, Hope returned to Virginia following a 75 hour, 1,850 mile flight out over the Atlantic Ocean.

During the course of two full migration cycles, Hope has clearly demonstrated how distant locations are interconnected in the life of migratory species and how their conservation requires collaboration on a multi-national scale. For three consecutive springs, Hope has returned to the same creek in Virginia where she has fed on fiddler crabs preparing for a transcontinental flight to her breeding grounds. The creek, located in the the Conservancy's Virginia Coast Reserve, is part of the Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network, a network of international sites considered critical to populations of declining shorebirds. Hope's breeding grounds on the MacKenzie River are part of an International Important Bird Area and one of the areas of highest conservation value in Canada. Efforts are ongoing to protect the area considered by many to be one of the most pristine watersheds remaining in North America. For the past 2 years, Hope has wintered at Great Pond, a Birdlife International Important Bird

Area on St. Croix. Protection of long-distance migrants like Hope requires that countries recognize the importance of vulnerable populations and work together toward effective conservation solutions.

Hope is one of several birds that have been fitted with state of the art 9.5-gram, satellite transmitters in a

collaborative effort by the Center for Conservation Biology at the College of William and Mary-Virginia Commonwealth University and the Virginia Coast

Reserve of The Nature Conservancy to discover migratory routes that connect breeding and winter areas and to identify en route migratory staging areas that are critical to the conservation of this declining species.

Satellite tracking represents only one aspect of a broader, integrated investigation of whimbrel migration. During the past 4 years, the Center for Conservation in partnership with The Nature Conservancy has used conventional transmitters to examine stopover duration, conducted aerial surveys to estimate seasonal numbers, collected feather samples to locate summer and winter areas through stable-isotope analysis, and has initiated a whimbrel watch program. Continued research is planned to further link populations across staging, breeding, and wintering areas. Funding has been provided by The Nature Conservancy, the Center for Conservation Biology, The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, The Toronto Ornithological Club, the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, the Willow Beach Field Naturalists, and the Northern Neck Audubon Society.



Photo: Barry Truitt

Update: Hope Arrives on MacKenzie River Breeding Grounds

June 2011

Hope has arrived on her breeding grounds along the MacKenzie River in Canada. She left the Eastern Shore of Virginia on May 22 and made it to breeding grounds on June 14 after traveling nearly 3,728 miles. This is the third year that the bird has been tracked to the same location just south of the Beaufort Sea. Her travels through three migration cycles have included more than 24,000 miles. In addition to Hope, three other whimbrels were tracked this spring to breeding grounds west of Hudson Bay.

Updated tracking maps may be viewed online:

www.ccb-wm.org/programs/migration/Whimbrel/whimbrel.htm

Dr. Bryan D. Watts, Director.

Center for Conservation Biology, College of William and Mary, Virginia Commonwealth University

Barry Truitt, Chief Conservation Scientist, The Nature Conservancy, Virginia Coastal Reserve Program



Want to learn more?

Steve Parker, Director of The Nature Conservancy, Virginia Coastal Reserve Program will speak on Whimbrel Migration at The Bateman Center on Saturday, September 17 at 2 PM.

Native Plants for Backyard Birds

John Eliot, CNHA

A new habitat has sprouted in late May on the east side of the Bateman Visitor Center—trees, shrubs and perennials native to the maritime forest of Assateague Island—and other local habitats. Visitors viewing the plants through windows and binoculars from inside will also have access to field guides. Some of the native plants that visitors have viewed at the Bateman Center can be planted in their own yards, attracting many of the same bird species.



Clyde Morris and volunteers in the Bird Garden at the Bateman Center

The architect of the 1,000-square foot bird garden is Eastern Shore Master Gardener Clyde Morris aided by an able corps of volunteers. The bird garden incorporates three elements: food, water, and cover. Plants will provide food, and water sources are quite creative. “A water cascade structure with four circular dishes are powered by a solar panel,” Clyde explains. “A rain barrel catching runoff from the Visitor Center roof will provide water for the system.”

A small woodpile attracts cardinals, chickadees and wrens. Wax myrtle was planted to entice yellow-rumped warblers that feed on the seeds in the winter. Other native plants found in the garden include northern bayberry, black cherry, holly, red cedar, coreopsis and seaside goldenrod.

The logo of the “Plant ES Natives” campaign depicts a branch of Downy Serviceberry and a Scarlet Tanager, a migratory songbird who needs the berries and insects provided by this and other Eastern Shore native plants to fuel their long journey. Look for this logo at your local garden center. ES Native Plants have a lime green tag, and ES Native trees have a pink tag.

Why Native Plants?

Janice MacKinnon, CNHA

Ever wonder why this recent emphasis on native plants? Jack Humphries and Clyde Morris spoke to a packed audience at the Bateman Center at the CNWR in May and gave an interesting and informative explanation. Basically, native plants are those plants that were here on the Eastern Shore prior to the arrival of the colonists. *Plant ES Natives* began 3½ years ago, working with nurseries and retail garden centers to use native plants. As Clyde Morris explained, native plants keep soil in place, don’t require that much water, and tend to be salt-resistant. Another benefit is that they don’t require the amount of fertilizer other, invasive plants do, and therefore that potential fertilizer is not running into the streams and waterways.

Jack and Clyde showed us several varieties that they particularly like. Here are the names of some of these favorites. Swamp milkweed, joe-pye weed, and butterfly weed are especially good for the butterflies. Birds love the cardinal flower for its nectar and the bushy bluestem for its seed and nesting material. Some recommended trees are American holly, Eastern persimmon, downy serviceberry, and Eastern red cedar.

For more information, visit the *Plant ES Natives* website: <http://www.deq.virginia.gov/coastal/go-native.html>



Assateague Lighthouse Schedule

June 1 – Oct. 31

Daily
9 AM to 3 PM

Nov. 1 – Nov. 28

Friday, Saturday, Sunday
9 AM to 3 PM

*Admission to climb the lighthouse
\$5 adults / \$3 children under 18*

*Group rates are available for
educational groups
with advance reservations.*

*Note: The lighthouse may close due
to weather or restoration work.
Call (757) 336-3696 for information.*

Wildlife Tours

June 1 – Aug. 29

Thursday through Monday
10 AM and 4 PM
(no tours July 25-28)

Sept. 1 - Sept. 29

Thursday through Monday
10 AM

Sept. 30 – Nov. 20

Saturday at 1 PM
Sunday at 10 AM

*Admission for Wildlife Tours is
\$12. adults / \$6 children 12 and under*

*Member discounts are offered to
CNHA members seasonally.*

*Group tours and special tours may be
arranged by calling (757) 336-3696.*

CNHA Special Pony Penning Bus Tours

*The CNHA will make available the following special tours for
Pony Penning Week, July 24 – 30, 2011*

Sunday, July 24, 10:30 AM to 1:30 PM: Board the CNHA bus at the Bateman Center and travel to the northern pony corral to see the ponies rounded up and brought into the corral by the world famous saltwater cowboys! The bus will remain on site after drop off to provide shelter if the weather becomes inclement. Bring your lawn chair, insect repellent, cold drinks and snacks, and of course, your camera! No restrooms area available at the north corral. This tour is limited to ages 10 and up.

Cost is \$25. per person and advance reservations are required.

Sunday July 24, 4 PM: This will be a regular Wildlife tour with a special addition! When the bus reaches the northern corral, it will make a stop so that passengers may disembark and approach the corral to get an up close view of the northern herd before they make the "beach run" on Monday morning.

Cost is \$12 for adults and \$6 for children (12 and under).

Monday July 25, 6 AM: Avoid the traffic and congestion on the south beach! Take the CNHA shuttle bus around the Wildlife Loop to be dropped off at the Swan's Cove Trailhead, a short walk from the northern section of beach. See the pony herd come down the beach in a beautiful beachfront setting, without the crowd! You may board the shuttle at the Bateman Center. The bus will run continuously from 6 AM until the ponies have passed the area and then will continue to run until all shuttle riders have been returned to the Bateman Center.

Cost is \$6 per person. Reservations may be purchased in advance or can be purchased at the door as you board the bus for an exact cash payment

There will be no regular Wildlife Tours Monday July 25 through Thursday July 28. The regular tour schedule resumes on Friday, July 29.

To make reservations or additional information about any CNHA tour, please call (757) 336-3696.

Upcoming CNHA Programs

These free programs are held in the auditorium of the Herbert H. Bateman Educational and Administrative Center on the Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge. Refuge admission is free for those attending a program.

Date	Speaker	Topic
Friday, Aug. 5 – 7 PM	Gretchen Knapp	Ecology of Assateague Island
Friday, Sept. 2 – 7 PM	Martha Burns and Linda Hartsock	Voices of Chincoteague
Saturday, Sept. 17 – 2 PM	Steve Parker	The Nature Conservancy and Whimbrel Migration
Friday, Oct. 7 – 7 PM	Dr. Kirk Mariner	History of Assateague Island
Saturday, Nov. 19 – 2 PM	Jim Dayton	Peregrine Falcons

Lighthouse Oil Shed Art Shows

Date	Artist	Exhibition
July 1 – 17	Mary Jager	Oils, watercolors and limited edition prints
July 18 – 21	Kelly Lidard	Wildlife and wild ponies photography
July 22 – 24	Robert E. Wilson	Nature photography
July 25 – 26	Kelly Lidard	Wildlife and wild ponies photography
July 28	Brittany Brown	Photography and paintings
July 29 – 31	Stephen Moore	Frame and mat photography
Aug. 12 – 13	Stephen Moore	Frame and mat photography
Aug. 26 – 27	Rose Taylor	Wildlife paintings and photography
Sept. 2 – 4:	Robert E. Wilson:	Nature photography
Sept. 9 – 11	Karen Pruitt	Paintings of local wildlife and scenery
Sept. 20 – 22	Barbara Schmitz	Watercolors, Chinese brush paintings
Sept. 23 – 25	Rose Taylor	Wildlife paintings and photography
Sept. 30 – Oct. 2	Barbara Schmitz	Watercolors, Chinese brush paintings
Oct. 7 – 9	Robert E. Wilson:	Nature photography
Nov. 11 – 13	Robert E. Wilson:	Nature photography
Nov. 25 – 27	Robert E. Wilson	Nature photography

Thank You New and Renewing Members

Nicholas R. Abitanto	Kari Lynn Collins	Ron Hugo	Jenny & Jacob Owen	Umit Turunc
Glenn & Carol Aldinger	Robert Comnos	George Hunkovic	Shane Patterson	Laurie Ursing
Wayne & Mary Ann Angleberger	Dorothy DeBlock	Mary & Norman Kimball	Phillip Porzel	Howard & Donna Vanderslice
Cheryl Aylor	John Eliot	Jennifer Kuhlmeier	Renate Powers	Jill Van Scoyoc
Henry & Karen Barnaby	Z. Andrew & Nancy Farkas	Joan Konow	Herbert Probasco	Celeste Verdone
Larry & Jama Beasley	Roselyn Fenton	Sandy & Mark Laken	Nancy Raposa	Kristen Wakeland
Dottie Beck	Daniel & Barbara Fitzgibbon	Leslie Lane	Patricia Reed	James & Lorraine Walker
Amanda Bernheimer	Pete & Anne Flowers	Telfair Leimbach	Michael Reis & Cheryl Polydor	Joyce Watson & Richard Puckett
Michael Bingham	Laddie Flyger	Judith Lovely	Faye Sandosky	Gail Wadsworth & Peter Markham
Ginger Birch	Linda Frederick	Francis & Marjorie Lutz	Jim Schneck	Wild Pony Tales (Robert Boswell)
Margo Bloxom	Judy Gallagher	Marie & Steve Maltese	John Schroer	David J. Wesler
Jean & Wayne Bonde	Carol Gazunis	Warren & Ann Marchioni	Helen Kavannah & Jack Schultz	Roger & Susan Wheeler
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		Donald O'Loughlin	C. Josephy & Jaque Styles	
		Kyle Olejniczak		
		Matt & Ann O'Neill		
		Fred Orlansky		

And a Special Thank You to Our Newest Life Members

Paul and Deb Hartwick

Cynthia Risley (in memory of her late husband Edward)

Chincoteague Natural History



"Friends of the Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge"

PO Box 917

Chincoteague VA 23336

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