



Field Notes

P.O. Box 81065, Fairbanks, AK 99708 907-452-5162 www.friendsofcreamersfield.org director@friendsofcreamersfield.org

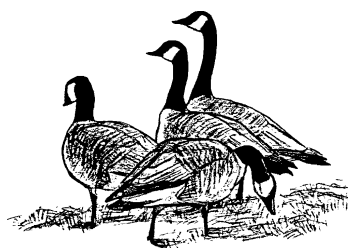
Inside this issue:

From our President	2
Sharing Nature & History	3
Camp Habitat	4
Sandhill Crane Festival	5
Spring/Summer Programs	6
Summer Raffle	7
Membership Renewal	8



Bernard Marschner
Creamer's Field
Fairbanks Alaska 2019

Black-backed Woodpeckers are somewhat rare, however the seasonal pond has flooded numerous times in recent years, killing many birch trees. The result has been an infestation of beetles, a favorite food of the Black-backed woodpecker. The yellow spot on the head indicates a male.



Our Mission:

Inspiring environmental stewardship and lifelong learning through experience, awareness and appreciation of the natural and historical resources of Creamer's Field Migratory Waterfowl Refuge.

Spring is in the air at Creamer's Field!

We're just a few short weeks away from the spring migration, which will bring thousands of waterfowl, Sandhill Cranes, and other species of birds to Creamer's Field.

Join us for the Spring Migration Celebration on Saturday, April 27th!
Noon to 4:00pm

Opportunities for Birdwatching, Wildlife viewing and Photography

Guided Nature Walks 1:00pm & 3:00pm

Birds of Prey 2:00pm

Bird song quiz, Crafts for kids, Face-painting, Ice cream

Program partners include Camp Habitat, the Alaska Department of Fish & Game, Alaska Songbird Institute, Arctic Audubon, Alaska Falconers Association, Ducks Unlimited, US Fish & Wildlife, and Scout Troop 38.



Friends of Creamer's Field

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Kerry Savereide

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Lissa Hughes,

Executive Director

Barbara Logan,

Administrative Assistant

Bennett Wong,

Camp Habitat Director

Board President's Report

Dear Friends,

Each day is getting brighter and warmer and our thoughts are turning to spring and summer. This time of year is filled with excitement and anticipation. Soon we will be giving daily nature walks, tending to Anna's garden, and welcoming visitors to the Spring Migration Celebration and the Design Alaska Wild Arts Walk. I hope you are planning to join us. It's going to be great fun.

Training for Nature Walk Leaders and Visitor Center staff will soon be under way. If you haven't done this before, I highly recommend it. The classes are filled with great information. We walk the trails and make new friends. You can even get college credit.

We recently launched a raffle. The prizes this year are fantastic and useful. Plane tickets to fuel oil can be won. Tickets can be purchased from a board member or at the Farmhouse Visitors Center.

We appreciate everything you do to support our mission and the refuge and value your continued support. There are so many wonderful opportunities this time year to help. Please consider being a Nature Walk Leader, a gardener, a host, an office clerk, event volunteer, or a contributor. There is room for everyone, at every level.

Stop by anytime and keep us informed about what you see and experience at the refuge. As always, I look forward to seeing you on the field.

Best and warm wishes,

Laurie
Laurie

Volunteers are always needed throughout the spring and summer months for planting and maintaining Anna Creamer's Historic Garden. We will begin tilling the beds in May in preparation for planting Saturday, June 1st. Contact Lissa Hughes at 452-5162 for volunteer information.



Sharing Nature & History

at Creamer's Field Migratory Waterfowl Refuge

2019 marks the 21st year of the Sharing Nature & History training offered in partnership between the Alaska Department of Fish & Game (ADFG) and Friends of Creamer's Field.

The course is a seven-week program focused on the ecology of the refuge and the history of Creamer's Dairy. Course participants will be trained to staff the Farmhouse Visitor Center, as well as the art of planning and leading an interpretive walk, designed to connect the audience with their natural environment. The course is available to educators for professional development credit, and FREE to the general public.

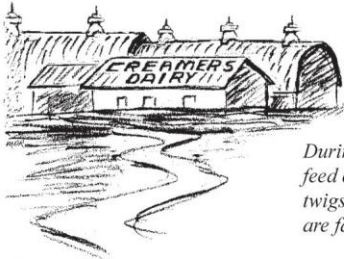
Course dates run on Wednesday evenings from 6:00pm-8:00pm, April 3rd through May 15th. Call 452-5162 for more information.



Creamer's Field Waterfowl Refuge

Field Sketches:

Visit at the big barns off College Road
A working dairy farm from 1910 to 1966,
Creamer's is now a refuge for wildlife and a place
for people to enjoy a variety of outdoor activities.



During Winter, moose
feed exclusively on small
twigs. Willow and Birch
are favored.

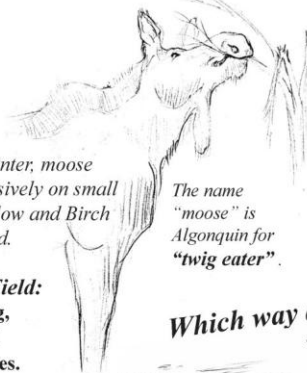
The name
"moose" is
Algonquin for
"twig eater".

Recent Moose sightings at Creamer's Field:

A cow with yearling, also a lone yearling,
are frequenting the Boreal Forest Trail
near the big bridge with fallen birch trees.

Always give a Moose room!
Please Leash pets

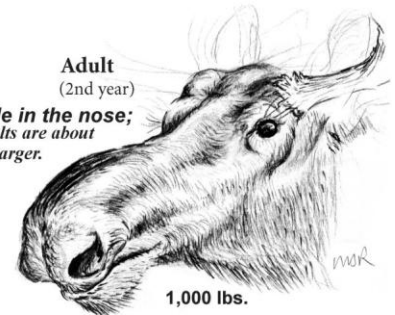
Wildlife in profile: Moose at Creamer's Field



Yearling
(late winter)

It's noticeable in the nose;
overall, adults are about
30% larger.

600 lbs.



Adult
(2nd year)

1,000 lbs.

Which way did the Moose go?

The tip of the long drag indicates direction

Always yield for Moose!

When encountering a moose always
stay well away from the moose.
Keep pets on leash. Turn back if need be.

Mark your calendar Spring Events: presented by

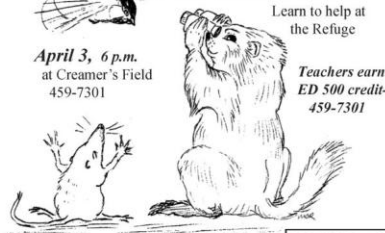


Learn Nature Knowledge

Learn yer birds and other critters
Learn to help at
the Refuge

April 3, 6 p.m.
at Creamer's Field
459-7301

Teachers earn
ED 500 credit-
459-7301



see more-- www.friendsofcreamersfield.org

Owls Live!

March 30

1-4 p.m.

Morris-Thompson Ctr.
452-5162



Snowy
Owl
Live!

and more

History of Creamer's Field



April 10, 6 p.m.
Creamer's Farmhouse

and
More through
May 16

459-7301



Camp Habitat is a summer nature education camp for children ages 4-11. Skilled instructors and counselors will lead small groups in week-long day camps, learning ecological concepts while exploring Creamer's Field. We are thrilled that Bennett Wong will be returning as the 2019 Camp Habitat Director!

Work is well underway on getting everything ready for the first group of Nature Sprouts on June 10th. Join us as we celebrate 29 years of Camp Habitat at Creamer's Field!

The Camp Habitat Advisory Board welcomes new members, Louise Biderman and Kyle Campbell.



Camp Habitat Summer 2019

A Nature Education & Ecology Camp for youth ages 4-11

Camp Habitat Dates

Nature Sprouts Ages 4-5

June 10 - 14 12:30pm-4pm

June 17 - 21 8:30am-12pm

Nature Detectives Ages 6-7

Full-Day Program 9am-4pm

July 8 - 12 or July 15 - 19

Water Striders Ages 8-9

Full-Day Program 9am-4pm (With overnight)

July 8 - 12 or July 15 - 19

Refuge Adventurers Ages 10-11

Full-Day Program 9am-4pm (With overnight)

July 8 - 12 or July 15 - 19

****A \$25 registration fee per family is required.**

QUESTIONS? E-mail camphabitat@friendsofcreamersfield.com



Registration starts on the 15th of March

3 Easy Ways to Register!

1. PHONE: Call (907) 750-2298

2. MAIL: Fill out brochure & mail in (download online, pick up around town)

3. ONLINE: www.friendsofcreamersfield.org

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IS AVAILABLE!



2019 Sandhill Crane Festival to feature Dr. Gary Ivey of the International Crane Foundation, and honor Herb Melchior.



We are thrilled to present Gary Ivey as our Featured Guest for the 22nd Annual Tanana Valley Sandhill Crane Festival, which will take place on August 23rd-25th at Creamer's Field Migratory Waterfowl Refuge. Gary Ivey works with the International Crane Foundation as a Research Associate and is an expert on Sandhill Cranes in the Pacific Flyway. He has worked with wildlife for over 35 years, concentrating his work on waterbirds, waterfowl and wetland conservation. He served for 20 years as a biologist at several western refuges, including 15 years at Malheur Refuge. He studied nesting ecology of sandhill cranes for his Master's Thesis and wintering ecology of sandhill cranes for his PhD, both from Oregon State University. He also serves as Past-President of The Trumpeter Swan Society and is leading efforts to restore breeding Trumpeter Swans to Oregon. Dr. Ivey will present at the Wedgewood Taiga Center on Saturday, August 24th at 7:00pm.

PHOTO BY HERB MELCHIOR



Every year, the Sandhill Crane Festival Committee honors a member of the Fairbanks community for their contributions to birding and to Friends of Creamer's Field.

Herb Melchior served as a wildlife biologist and Creamer's refuge manager for the Alaska Department of Fish & Game for many years. After retiring, he joined the Friends of Creamer's Field Board of Directors, where he was a champion of our education programs and a fierce advocate for preserving and maintaining the Creamer's historic dairy complex. Herb passed away June 5, 2018.

The 2019 Sandhill Crane Festival Committee and Friends of Creamer's Field Board of Directors are pleased to honor Herb Melchior, in memoriam. A collection of Herb's photographs will be displayed in the Farmhouse Visitor Center during the 2019 Tanana Valley Sandhill Crane Festival.

Coming Up This Summer at Creamer's Field

SAVE THE DATES!

Keep an eye out for Board Members selling raffle tickets! Don't miss your chance to win one of three great prizes!



April 3rd-May 15th	Sharing Nature Training	Wed.nights 6-8pm
April 6th	Babes in the Woods	11am
April 20th	Preschool Nature Discovery	11am
April 27th	Spring Migration Celebration	Noon 4pm
May 4th	Babes in the Woods	11am
May 12th	Mother's Day Frog Walk	1pm
May 16th	Preschool Nature Discovery	11am
June 1st-Sept.1st	Guided Nature Walks	10am Mon-Sat. 6pm Wed.
June 1st	Babes in the Woods	11am
June 15th	Preschool Nature Discovery	11am
June 16th	Design Alaska Wild Arts Walk	Noon-4pm
July 6th	Babes in the Woods	11am
July 21st	Creamer Dairy Day	Noon-4pm
August 23-25	Sandhill Crane Festival	All Day

Many thanks to our Program sponsors!



Fort Knox



**BILL STROECKER
FOUNDATION**



**Wedgewood
Resort**



Golden Heart Community Foundation
An Affiliate of The Alaska Community Foundation





Friends Summer Raffle

3 Prizes! 3 Winners!

The Raffle will be held on

June 16th, 2019 at the



Design
Alaska

Wild Arts Walk

Alaska

AIRLINES

Two Round Trip Coach Tickets System Wide on
Alaska Airlines, value \$2,500.

Tickets

On sale in the Farmhouse!

\$10 each ~ 3 for \$25

ALASKA

RAILROAD

Two Round Trip Denali Adventure Star Class Tickets from
Anchorage to Fairbanks, Alaska. Value \$1,000.

Sourdough[®] Fuel

Warming the Hearts & Homes of the Interior

250 Gallons Home Heating Fuel. Approximate value \$750.

Need not be present to win

Alaska State Gaming Permit # 1894



Friends of Creamer's Field

P.O. Box 81065

Fairbanks, Alaska 99708

www.friendsofcreamersfield.org

DONATE TODAY

**Pick.
Click.
Give.**

Join Friends of Creamer's Field with a tax deductible donation

You can also donate online at www.friendsofcreamersfield.org

Membership Donation Amount: \$ _____ *Do you wish to have this donation remain anonymous? YES* ☐

☐ \$15-34 Chickadee ☐ \$35-49 Swallow ☐ \$50-99 Canada Goose ☐ \$100-249 Wigeon

☐ \$250-499 Peregrine Falcon ☐ \$500-999 Swan ☐ \$1000 or more* Sandhill Crane

☐ *For donations of \$1000 or more, please check here if you would like to receive a historic Randall Compton print of Creamer's Dairy signed by the Creamer family (valued at \$150).

☐ NEW MEMBER ☐ RENEWAL ☐ This is a gift from _____

Individual, Family, or Business Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Payment: ☐ Cash ☐ Check ☐ Credit card (VISA, Mastercard, Discover or AMEX)

Card Number _____ Expiration Date _____

Signature _____ VCode: _____

Billing Zip Code _____ Billing Phone Number _____ (3 digit code on card back)

☐ If renewing, I have a new mailing address, phone number or email address.

☐ I would like to receive my Newsletter and Event Announcements via email.

☐ I would like to volunteer. Please contact me with information about volunteer opportunities.

Friends of Creamer's Field is a 501(c)(3) organization. Your donation is fully tax deductible to the extent allowable by law.

Friends of Creamer's Field

PO Box 81065

Fairbanks, Alaska 99708

907-452-5162 (office)

907-459-7307 (Visitor's Center)

email: director@friendsofcreamersfield.org

website: www.friendsofcreamersfield.org