



The Tanana Valley Sandhill Crane Festival is finally here! We have a jam-packed schedule of events for this year's festival. The events will

start on Tuesday, August 15th with Crane Yoga courtesy of the Alaska Songbird Institute. We will also have a kick-off event at Black Spruce Brewing. Stop by their location at 3290 Peger Rd on Thursday, August 17 from 3:00PM - 7:00 PM to try your hand at Crane origami, pick up a festival schedule, and learn some Crane-tastic facts all while sipping on a Crane-themed ale. The main festival will start on Saturday, August 19th, and run through Sunday, August 20th. There will be themed walks, workshops, and

This year's keynote address will be given by Sergei & Elena Smirenski of Muraviovka Park in the Amur Region of Russia on Saturday evening in the Taiga Center of the Wedgewood Resort.

We hope to see you at the 2023 Tanana Valley Sandhill Crane Festival! See you at the Refuge, Grace & Melanie Friends of Creamer's Field Staff

Photo: Bill O'Malley leads Kids Crane Walk at the 2022 Crane Festival.



Wednesday



10:00AM

11:00AM

12:00PM

1:00PM

1:00PM

2:00PM

3:00PM

4:00PM

more info.

Book Fair

Visit with local

authors. Fiction,

wildlife, poetry,

and more.

Tanana Valley, Alaska

## **Spruce Brewing** Join Friends of Creamer's Field Black Spruce Brewing Company for kick-off event at Black Spruce Brewing (3290 Peger Rd.). Celebrate the 26th

**Thursday** 

Kick-off at Black

Friday

Explore the Refuge

trails with volunteer

Kid's Crane Walk

A walk for kids of

all ages with Bill

Nature Walk Explore the Refuge trails with volunteer

naturalists.

O'Malley.

**Crane Calling Contest** 

A crane calling contest for all

ages. Costumes encouraged.

Paint a wooden

crane with Ducks

Unlimited's Tom Robinson. While

supplies last.

4:00PM			Tanana Valley Sandh Festival with a glass of Crane-themed Ale!	ill Crane	
5:00PM		FOCF Annual Me Learn what Friends of Cr Field has accomplished t and what is planned for 2  Volunteer Orient Brush up on the ba Sandhill Crane ecolog	reamer's his year 024!  Cation sics of ty over		
6:00PM	Join ASI and Heart Stream for 1-hour beginner friendly that will introduce you to poses so you can embrace feeling of flying! \$10 dona Proceeds support the Cream Field Migration Station.	Yoga class bird the tion.	iestivai		
7:00PM				Join voluntee evening expl	er naturalists for an oration of Creamer's ratory Waterfowl
• • • •	Satu	day, I			
	Migration Station Songbird Banding with ASI	Blue & White Tent	Lawn	Walk	Craft Tent
8:00AM	A firsthand look at research on the				
9:00AM	may even release a newly banded bird! Weather Learn at Staff. West	terfowl Banding out waterfowl banding from bepartment of Fish & Game ather dependent.			
10.00.135	dependent. Call (907) 888-2121 for			Nature Walk Explore the Refuge	Crane Painting

## naturalists. Dirding by For

Coffee & Birds

Bird friendly coffee

tasting with Alaska

Songbird Institute.

Learn how your consumer choices can help create more diverse and sustainable ecosystems for migratory birds.

Free coffee samples, prizes, and activities for kids.

Waltzing

with Cranes

Live music with

local musicians.

2:00PM				Birding Join Beth Gra on finding an birds by soun- to hone your s	d identifying d. Short walk DUCKS
3:00PM			Birds of Pre Local falconers share knowledge of hawks a	their	
4:00PM					
5:00PM					
6:00PM					
7:00PM	Sergei and Elena Smirer	<b>6S:</b> <i>Protecting Cran</i> nski share about Cranes of th s in East Asia and Russia, and Wedgewood Resort. Donation	e World, the International ( I the Muraviovka Park story	. Presentation will take pl	lace at
8:00PM	the raiga center in the	wedgewood resort. Donation	1 po. Seating militeu. Visit u	oww.friendsoferedmersfield	WEDGEWOOD RESORT
• • •	<b>Sun</b> Migration Station	Blue & White Tent		<b>1 20</b> Field Trip	<b>†h</b> DU Overhead
8:00AM	Songbird Banding with ASI A firsthand look at research on the Refuge.		Fall Birding Hot Spots Carpool to Fairanks'		
9:00AM	See wild birds up close. You may even release a newly banded bird! Weather dependent. — Call (907) 888-2121 for	Waterfowl Banding Learn about waterfowl banding from ADF&G staff. Weather dependent.	best birding spots with Jeff Walters.Meet at the Creamer's Farmhouse parking lot at 8AM.		
10:00AM	more info.			History Tour Join the Creamer Family for	
				a walk around the historic farm.	
11:00AM				a walk around the historic	t

## st stSchedule is subject to change. Please visit www.friendsofcreamersfield.org for updates. 2023 Festival Speakers: Sergei & Elena Smirenski Sergei was born in 1947, graduated from Moscow State University in 1973, and received

lce Cream Social

Close out the festival and celebrate our 2023 summer season! Everyone is welcome for music and ice cream with homemade crane-berry toppings. \$5 donation, complimentary for festival volunteers! Music provided by the Serevend Marimba

award-winning Alaska poet Linda Schandelmeier.

30 Years of Conservation Efforts by

Muraviovka Park With Keynote Speakers Sergei an Elena Smirenski. Capture a Crane... on paper!

with Mark D. Ross. Bring y

what cranes eat with

Alaska Cavity **Nesting Birds** 

with Tom Robinson from Ducks Unlimited.

Bird Box

Building

Melissa Sikes!

Photography Workshop

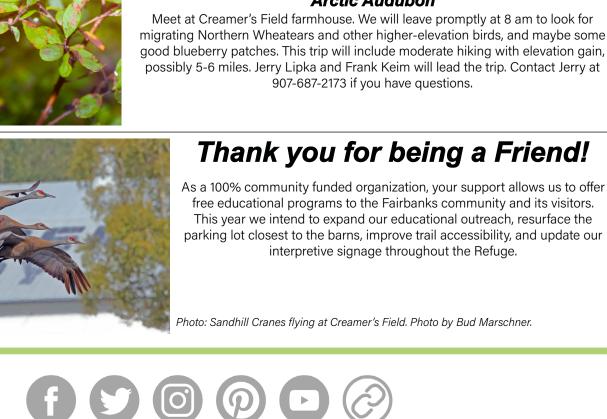
Wander the trails with a local photographer and learn tips

and tricks for photographing wildlife. Bring your camera!

a Ph.D. in Zoology in 1986. He was in love with birds since his childhood. Since 1970,

**AUG 15, 2023** 6-7 PM KATJA





Creamer's Field

Pages of

Full of Seasonal Nature Notes,

with History and Wildlife Insights 2023 Camp Habitat Camp Habitat has officially closed out the 2023 season! 263 youth explored and experienced the wonder of the natural world at Creamer's Field this summer.

Shop Friends of Creamer's Field

Purchase Creamer's Field merchandise from the comfort of your own home.

and Many more ...

Field Sketches follow natural events through the seasons at Creamer's Refuge.

This book of sketches

includes those seen in the Daily News-Miner years 2000 - 2023 with 2 pages of Sounds and Sights

205 Sketches

A big thank you goes to our camp staff (pictured left), sponsors, and partners.

Now with Sound!

Fairbanks, AK 99708

(907) 978-8457

and conservation of the natural and historic resources of Creamer's Field Migratory Waterfowl Refuge."

director@friendsofcreamersfield.org www.friendsofcreamersfield.org Mission Statement "Inspiring environmental stewardship and lifelong learning through experience, awareness, appreciation

Other Happenings in Fairbanks Field Trip: Wickersham Dome Birding & Blueberries Saturday, August 12 | 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM **Arctic Audubon Our Contact Information** Friends of Creamer's Field P.O. Box 81065

Sergei began bird research in the far-eastern Russia. Elena graduated from Moscow Teachers' University in 1972 with majors in Biology and Chemistry. They got married in 1976 and have a daughter and a son who live in the US with their families. In 1980, together with Sergei Winter, they established the Crane Working Group of the USSR, first species-oriented NGO in the Soviet Union. In 1992, Sergei and Elena, with financial support from the International Crane Foundation (ICF) in Wisconsin, organized an International Workshop on Cranes and Storks of the Amur River Basin. In 1994, through the International Socio-ecological Union and with support from ICF and Pop Group Co., Ltd. (Japan), leased over 12,000 acres of wetlands near Muraviovka Village in the Amur Region of Russia for 50 years. In 1995, this land and adjacent areas were put on the list of wetlands of international importance (Ramsar Convention). In 1996, this territory was designated as a non-profit NGO - Muraviovka Park for Sustainable Land Use. In 2010, the lease was extended to 2058 and the park area to over 16,000 acres. The Park boasts over 700 species of vascular plants and over 300 species of birds, including six species of cranes. The Park is critically important area for White-naped, Red-crowned and Hooded Cranes, Oriental White Stork, Yellow-breasted Bunting and other species of the IUCN Red Data List. The Park monitors number of cranes, prevents grass fires, runs a program to breed and release into the wild endangered cranes raised in captivity, conducts reforestation, organizes annual international summer camps, initiated summer camps in other parts of the Amur River Basin including China, hosts tourists, organizes festivals and other special environmental events. Columbus Zoo (Ohio) and Woodland Park Zoo (Seattle) have been consistently providing small grants for the Park's activities since 1999. A group of volunteers - Friends of Muraviovka Park established in 1998 has been providing important monetary and in-kind support to the Park's development and activities. 2023 Festival Artist: Erica Mathews ARTIST STATEMENT | My passion for art began early. As a small child my mother, also an artist, opened her own stained glass business. I began dabbling in different forms of art along the way but always came back to glass. Over time I discovered my own personal love for glass mosaics. I began creating unique and beautiful works of art that were inspired by the nature around me, along with my experience growing up in Alaska. Mosaics intrigue me mostly because of the calming process of puzzling small pieces of glass together to form a beautiful and larger image. Each mosaic has hundreds of pieces that I precisely place. Every piece I create is unique in its own way. No two pieces are, or could ever be the same. Over 5 years have passed since I quit my day job to become a full time artist. I have been so lucky with more work than I can manage at times. I sell all over the state of Alaska as well as in the lower 48. I now live in a beautiful log home on 40 acres with my spouse, 8 dogs and 2 cats. I have a large studio in the basement and way too many power tools. Now I get to drink coffee on my porch every morning before I go to "work". I am so lucky to love what I do! To see more of my creations please find me on Facebook, Instagram. TikTok or check out my website at www. LolaBugCreationsAK.com **Pre-Festival Activities** YOGA with the vranes! with Instructor **DIEKERS** reamer's TANANA WALLEY SANDHILL CRANE FESTIVAL

TANANA VALLEY SANDHILL CRANE FESTIVAL

