



The Swamp Scene

friends of great swamp national wildlife refuge

ISSUE SEVENTY-SIX
NOVEMBER 2024

Highlights

Celebrating	1
Construction Begins	2
Wood Turtle Head-Start Update	3
Why Birds' Legs Don't Freeze	4
Frogs & Turtles in Winter	4
Autumn in Great Swamp NWR	5
In Praise of Winterberry	5
2024 Photo Contest Winners	6
From Then to Now	10
Dedication of Great Swamp NWR	12
Wilderness Act & GSNWR	14

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CELEBRATING 25 YEARS AS FRIENDS, 60 YEARS AS GREAT SWAMP NWR, AND THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WILDERNESS ACT

Photos by Dave Katz, Board of Directors and Pat Wells, Co-Editor

This year's Fall Festival on September 14 celebrated two big anniversaries—the 25th year of the Friends and 60 years since the dedication of the Refuge and the passage of the Wilderness Act. The festivities continued with an Afternoon of Celebration on November 15 at the Old Mill Inn with yummy food and a talk with Rachel Carson (actually, her impersonator).



Jin Nordhausen from Amateur Astronomers, Inc. helped visitors look at the sun through a solar telescope.



Fifty-four women and children from Josephine's Place in Elizabeth spent a beautiful day in the country.

At the Fall Festival, more than 60 volunteers, including 8 teens from Groundwork Elizabeth, helped give 740 visitors a good time. There was much to do, things to see, and good food to eat. At the end of the day, four kestrels were released by Raptor Trust and a monarch butterfly was cheered on as she headed south to Mexico.

Thank you, Randi Emmer, for taking charge of the Fall Festival. *(Continued on pages 8 & 9)*



Bob Franco and Tom Cartwright cooking up the dogs.

CONSTRUCTION BEGINS ON EXTENSION TO THE FENSKE VISITOR CENTER

By Tom Gula, President, Friends of Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge

Construction has begun at the Fenske Visitor Center at Great Swamp NWR, and one cannot help but notice that an exciting new project has started. Work began the first week of October 2024 on an addition to the building. (Figure 1).



Figure 1

A chain link security fence has been installed around the construction area (Figure 2). The historic Fenske Visitor Center, which began as a farm house built by the Bockoven family in the late 1800s, will remain in place and accessible to the public as much as possible during the construction.



Figure 2

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has been planning the design of the extension for several years. When completed, it will contain offices for Fish & Wildlife staff that work throughout the Lenape National Wildlife Refuge Complex, which in addition to Great Swamp NWR, includes Cherry Valley NWR, Wallkill River NWR, and Shawangunk Grasslands NWR.

The addition will also contain a large multipurpose room where meetings, presentations, and educational programs can be held, in addition to storage areas.

Friends volunteers have been actively participating in important preparatory work prior to the start of construction. They removed the Butterfly Garden pergola, a split rail fence in the area of the bird and butterfly garden, and transplanted a number of plants to an area outside the construction zone. Plans are also underway to relocate the winter bird feeders to an area near the front of the visitor center.



Figure 3

The project completion date is expected to be February of 2026. What will the new expansion look like when completed? The construction firm has provided us with computer-generated images of what the expanded Visitor Center will look like. (figures 3 and 4).



Figure 4

The ongoing construction of the addition will no doubt result in some inconveniences to volunteers, visitors, and refuge staff. However, we agree with Refuge Visitor Services Manager Jared Green "that the end result will be worth it."



WOOD TURTLE HEAD-START PROGRAM UPDATE

By Kurt Buhlmann, Colin Osborn, and Jim Angley

Another highly successful season of helping to ensure the persistence of this state threatened species on the refuge was had. Here are the highlights from the past year:

With help from volunteers John Berry and Robert Muska, we created and launched a “Wood Turtle Head-start Program” webpage on the Friends’ website: <https://friendsofgreatswamp.org/turtle-research/>



Dr. Buhlmann in turtle lab

Fall 2023 saw our 500th hatchling produced since the project began in 2006! Spring 2024 stream surveys were highly productive (yet again), with 33 individuals captured over the 2-day period.

In early June, 27 head-starts from the 2023 cohort, which were successfully raised over the winter at Bristol County Agricultural High School in Dighton, Massachusetts, were released. This resulted

in the 300th head-start turtle released at the site since we initiated head-starting in 2011!

The 2024 nesting season saw a record number of nests protected (15). The total number of hatchlings produced from those nests was 41, which is tied for the 4th highest that we’ve ever had produced in a year. (Many of the nests were laid by primiparous/first-time nesting females, which are typically unsuccessful, or minimally successful).

Of extra special note was our first DIRECT RELEASE female to ever produce hatchlings (2011 direct release Female 457; at age 12 years, 9 months). We also had our first 2015 head-start females nest (F4089 and F4093; at age 8 years, 9 months). F4093 produced 10 hatchlings - the highest output of a primiparous/first-time nesting head-start!

We continued positive relations with landowners adjacent to the site, balancing their property management needs while minimizing habitat damage and potential for turtle injuries and mortalities.

The project’s second manuscript was published in the scientific journal *Northeastern Naturalist*:

“Survival and Age at Maturity in Head-started Wood

Turtles (*Glyptemys insculpta*) with Implications for Population Recovery”

As always, we would like to extend our sincere gratitude to the Friends group, who have kindly and loyally



Head-Start turtle laying eggs

supported this project since the initiation of the head-starting component in 2011. Without their continued financial generosity, none of the above would have been possible. THANK YOU, FRIENDS!!!



Head-Start turtles in their lab tubs

WHY DON'T BIRDS' LEGS FREEZE IN THE WINTER

By Judi DiMaio, Board of Directors

Birds do get cold feet; sometimes their feet are at a temperature just above freezing. They can do several things to keep their legs and feet warm: they can stand on one leg and pull the other up under their feathers (like many waterfowl do), or they can fluff out and lower their body to cover their feet when perching.

Birds have very little fluid in their legs and feet, which are mostly tendons and bones. Birds use a system called regional heterothermy, which regulates blood flow regionally. It would take a lot of energy to keep legs and feet warm if they just had a simple blood flow system. To conserve energy, they have, in effect, two circulatory systems. They are able to maintain their body temperature at a very warm level while the legs and feet are much colder. This system is a countercurrent heat exchange system. The arteries and veins in their legs are very close together so when the cooler blood from the feet is returning to the heart, it passes by the arteries containing warm blood and heats up. So, blood coming down to the feet is cooled and the blood going back to the heart is

warmed so it doesn't lower the body temperature.

Humans can impact birds by disturbing them and causing them to move frequently so they don't have a



Female Hooded Merganser by Chuck Hantis

chance to keep their feet warm for long by covering them when they sit on them. This is especially true for resting waterfowl.



DO FROGS AND TURTLES GO TO FLORIDA FOR THE WINTER

By Judi DiMaio, Board of Directors

We all see how turtles love the sun, basking in its warmth. What happens when the temperature drops or the water freezes? Where do the turtles and frogs go? How do they survive?

Warm-blooded critters, like us, can generate our

own heat, but this is not true for frogs and turtles as they are cold-blooded. The aquatic turtles can survive in the water, as long as it's deep enough not to freeze all the way to the bottom, by reducing their body temperature and metabolism. Turtles can absorb oxygen

through their skin much like a fish uses its gills. The tail area is especially good at this since it has so many blood vessels.

To pass the winter, the turtles that live mostly on land will try to hide in leaf litter, dens, burrows or under logs.

Some toads and frogs will burrow beneath the frost line. Other frogs, like wood frogs and spring peepers can actually "freeze" solid. Their hearts stop beating, then they "thaw out" and revive when the weather warms up. They have a high concentration of glucose (sugar) in their organs which acts as sort of antifreeze to protect the organs.



Photo by Robert Stapperfenne

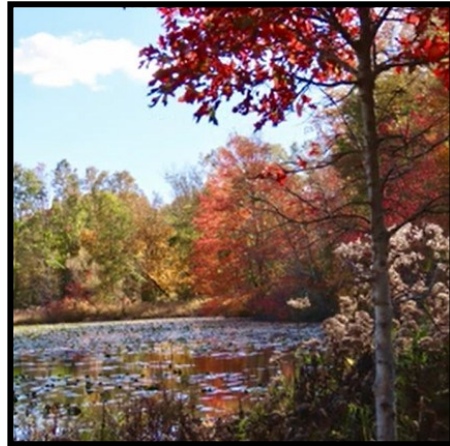


Autumn at the Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge by Jack Donohue

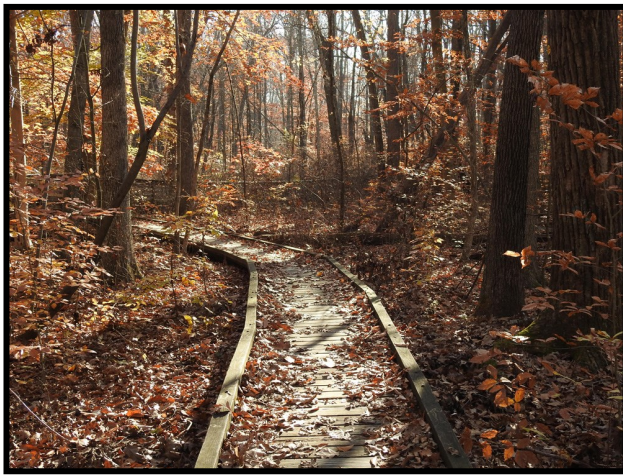
Autumn has reached the swamp
Animals have begun hibernation
Birds are well into migration
The visitor center has begun renovation.

Temperatures are beginning to drop
Dead leaves tumble to the ground
Our daylight is fading fast
But the joys of the swamp still abound.

Friday morning walks still continue
We meet at the Visitor Center at ten
Sharing the day with good friends
Searching for hawks, songbirds and wren.



*Autumn Vibes by Susan Neufeld
1st Place Landscape 2024 Photo Contest*



Boardwalk by Judi DiMaio

The mosquitoes are finally gone
We can finally stop swatting to no avail
As we take a walk on a beautiful boardwalk
Or perhaps along a wilderness trail.

And Autumn brings a wonderful treat
If it's ducks you're looking to see,
A large variety of ducks can be found
At the Robbins Platform at the WOC.

Whether it's a new adventure you seek
Or an old fall memory you're looking to find
Go look for it at the Great Swamp
It's a great place to relax and unwind.

IN PRAISE OF WINTERBERRY

By Martha Wells, Co-Editor

Winterberry holly (*Ilex verticillate*) is native to North America, as well as the Great Swamp. It can be found on a walk down Pleasant Plains Road and in the garden at the entrance to the Helen Fenske Visitor Center. The berries are enjoyed by American robins, cedar waxwings, gray catbirds, Northern mockingbird, Eastern bluebirds, and cardinals, just to name a few.

Like all hollies, they are dioecious with male and female flowers on separate plants.

Winterberries bloom in late spring, but the blossoms are inconspicuous. Their red berries ripen later than most fall berries, such as viburnum. Unlike some hollies, winterberries are deciduous, dropping their leaves in the fall. The bright red berries are then easy to see through much of the winter. Birds do not eat the berries until they have frozen and thawed several times. The berries are an important source of fat and nutrients late in the season when other foods are gone and over-wintering birds need them the most.



Winterberry by Mary Beth Hansbury

WINNERS OF THE 2024 PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

There were 211 entries submitted by 53 photographers presenting the judges with the formidable task of choosing the winners.

The judges were:

- Jim Gilbert, Professional Wildlife Photographer
- Bill Koch, Retired GSNW Refuge manager
- Bonnie O'Connor, NJ Junior Duck Stamp Contest judge, Retired art teacher

Thank you to the judges and all the volunteers who handled the entries.



*Autumn Vibes by Susan Neufeld
Landscapes*

*"I Don't Give a Hoot" by Robert Lin
Raptors*

*Symbiotic Relationship by Ashleigh Drake
Other Animals*



The photos are used:

- In the Friends Swamp Scene newsletter, in our Happenings eNews, on the website, and on our Facebook pages.
- In displays, interpretive signs, presentations, and publications by the Friends and the Refuge.
- In many ways by US Fish & Wildlife Services.
- Some photos from previous years were used in the PBS New Jersey Treasures episode about the Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge. You can watch this program at <https://www.njpbs.org/programs/treasures-of-new-jersey/the-great-swamp-mhlze2/>



*Hoverfly on Purple Aster by Charlie Neiss
Pollinators, Insects, and Spiders*



*Peek-a-Boo by Kavin Shah
Youth*



*Buttonbush Plant by Edward Shulman
Plants and Fungi*

*Male & Female Ruby-Throated Hummingbirds in Flight
by Steve Weiner
Birds Other Than Raptors*

Use the QR code to access the video of all the contest winners or go to [friendsofgreatswamp.org/2024-refuge-photo-contest-winning-entries/](https://www.friendsofgreatswamp.org/2024-refuge-photo-contest-winning-entries/)



CELEBRATING 25 YEARS AS FRIENDS, 60 YEARS AS GREAT SWAMP NWR, AND THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WILDERNESS ACT *(Continued from page 1)*



Children’s activities kept the little ones busy and happy at the Fall Festival.



Chris Soucy, Executive Director of the Raptor Trust, released 4 kestrels, 2 females and 2 males. Use the QR code below to watch the video of the release on Facebook.



AN AFTERNOON OF CELEBRATION



A poster-a-year for the 25 years of the Friends working with the Great Swamp NWR. The posters were displayed at the Fall Festival and at the Afternoon of Celebration.



Tom Gula, Friends President, accepting letter of congratulations from Anna Harris Bisson, Deputy Refuge Manager, and Jared Greene, Visitors Services Manager.



Colleen Webster as Rachel Carson recalling the days of DDT spraying that prompted her to write "Silent Spring"



Friends and Refuge staff past and present enjoy each other's company.

Thank you, Kathy Woodward for heading this event.

An Afternoon of Celebration

Friday, November 15, 2024
The Olde Mill Inn
225 Route 202, Basking Ridge NJ 07920

25th Anniversary –
Friends of Great Swamp NWR

60th Anniversary –
Dedication of Great Swamp NWR

60th Anniversary –
Wilderness Act

12:00pm – Gathering

1:00pm – Welcome and Introductions
Tom Gula, President, Friends of Great Swamp NWR

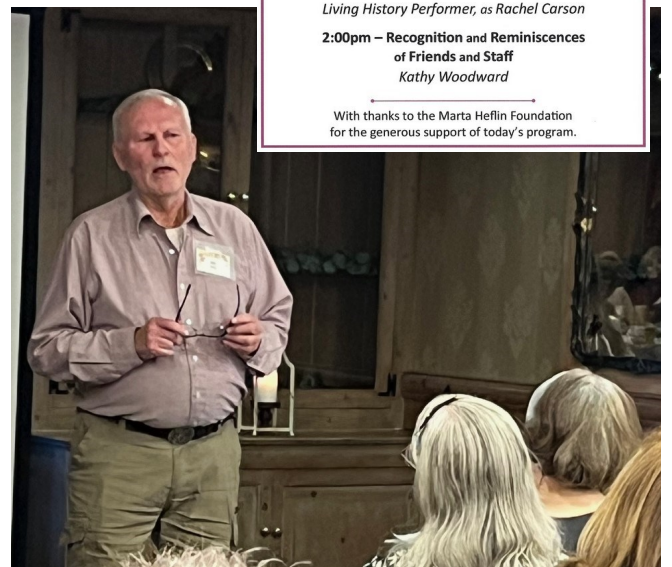
1:15pm – Colleen Webster
Living History Performer, as Rachel Carson

2:00pm – Recognition and Reminiscences
of Friends and Staff
Kathy Woodward

With thanks to the Marta Heflin Foundation
for the generous support of today's program.



Food, glorious food at the Old Mill Inn.



Bill Koch, Friends Volunteer and Retired Refuge Manager (34 years!), sharing some memories.

FROM THEN TO NOW

By Lisa Florio, Volunteer & Editor of Great Swamp Happenings

This is an excerpt from Lisa's very interesting article which is longer than our space allows. Rather than shortening it, we are offering the complete article using the QR code on the next page.

When I saw this picture in the June 2024 issue, it made me curious to know more about the people in it. Where are they now? Are they still involved? What happened during the early years and what part did each of them play in the formation of the Friends of the Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge (GSNWR)?

What follows is information I gleaned from looking at past issues of Swamp Scene. This is not a complete history of the Friends! For that, please refer to the 2019 issues of Swamp Scene which contain a timeline of notable events spanning from the formation of the Friends through the 20th anniversary in 2019. Perhaps the timeline can be brought up to date in a later issue.

The Great Swamp was saved from becoming a jetport through the efforts of local citizens. Management of the Refuge was turned over to the US Fish & Wildlife Service. Although initially there was staff dedicated to the Refuge, assistance and additional funding from volunteers was still needed.

For the first 38 years from 1960 through the formation of the Friends



The first Board of Directors meets with Congressman Rodney Frelinghuysen in 1999. (Left to right) Treasurer Judy Schmidt, Great Swamp NWR Manager William Koch, Congressman Frelinghuysen, President Wes De Cou, Secretary Litty Hado, Vice-President Kathy Woodward. Photo from the first Friends newsletter, December 1999.

group in mid-1999, volunteers came both as private individuals as well as through various groups involved with protecting the Refuge and the natural resources of the watershed such as the Great Swamp Watershed Association, the NJ Audubon Society, Summit Nature Club and the Ten Towns Great Swamp Management. But it became apparent to a group of individuals that there was a demand for a volunteer group to focus on fulfilling the needs and furthering the mission of the Refuge itself. Thus, the Friends group was born.

similar institutions across the nation and won the U.S. Department of the Interior's Environmental Achievement Award in 2004 for successful remediation of an old landfill on Refuge lands.

Mr. Koch began a long-term effort to increase and revitalize open fields and meadow habitats for the Eastern Bluebird at the Refuge, which is required for them to live and breed. Koch's effort, aided and eventually carried on by staff and hardy volunteers, has been so successful that the Refuge now boasts one of New Jersey's largest breeding populations of eastern bluebirds.



Bill Koch (center) receiving the inaugural Wilderness Stewardship Legacy Award from U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

Bill Koch, Refuge Manager

Back in 1999, Bill Koch was the Refuge Manager, and he was very enthusiastic about the formation of this new group, declaring in his message in the first Swamp Scene – back then it was called the GSNWR Newsletter – that he looked forward to working together and doing what's right in the next millennium.

Under his leadership, the Refuge became a model for

Representative Rodney Frelinghuysen

It is important to mention here that the citizen effort to wrest the Great Swamp lands from the Port Authority received an invaluable assist from Congressman Peter Frelinghuysen, the father of Representative Rodney Frelinghuysen.

Rodney Frelinghuysen inherited the mantle of land stewardship from his father and carried it forward with important results for the state of New Jersey. Rodney Frelinghuysen's position on the Appropriations Committee

helped in obtaining grants to add more land to the GSNWR. In 2000, he was instrumental in obtaining a \$1million federal grant that expanded the Refuge's footprint to 7,768 acres.

Litty Hado

Ms. Hado's tenure as Secretary of the Board occurred during the crucial first year of the Friend's formation. Although she resigned in mid-2000, her contributions to establishing and documenting the group's processes form the basis of today's practices. Ms. Hado lives in PA.

Wes De Cou

Mr. De Cou wrote the application for 501(c)3 status, making the Friends a tax-exempt charitable organization. He was also part of the original group that decided what format the new volunteer group would take, deciding against forming an alliance with the watershed organization and instead choosing to create an independent group with its own vision, mission and values.

Mr. De Cou resigned in 2000 to move out west. He is retired and living in Phoenix.

Judy Schmidt

Judy Schmidt has been a key figure in the history of the GSNWR since before it was a refuge. She was part of



Judy Schmidt introducing a child to the Junior Ranger Program, which she established.

an early group that volunteered in the Swamp and then became part of the founding group of the Friends. She has done everything from serving as President of the Friends Board to hauling out refuse from old homesteads to

making pottery for the Gift Shop. She is a woman of many talents and has put many of them to use at the GSNWR.

She became one of the first volunteers for the Refuge, helping with deer tagging, the annual goose round up, frog and duck count surveys and wood duck box maintenance. She and her husband kept track of evening duck numbers by moving a penny from one pocket to another, one for every hundred arriving waterfowl.

She picked up pottery skills and a kiln from a neighbor and for years created mugs and other ceramic pieces inspired by nature and decorated with wonderful creatures from the Swamp. Her pottery was sold in the bookstore. Her love of Swamp creatures translated into pieces painted with wood ducks, chickadees and frogs. They were very popular items.

Kathy Woodward

Ms. Woodward was a volunteer at the Swamp before there was a Friends group. She was a founding member, was elected to the Board, and remains a very active member of the Board and a volunteer. She was recognized for reaching the 12,500-hour volunteer hour mark at the 2024 Volunteer Recognition event.

There is no position, committee, task, area, staff and volunteer member, article, time of day or weather conditions that she has not undertaken, worked with, been at or participated in over her 25 years of involvement. She has been an active participant as well as an active manager of Friends participation over her entire tenure. She has been a part of all the decisions that have created the structure and relationship with Refuge staff that we enjoy today.

Shortly after the creation of the Friends of GSNWR group, Ms. Woodward became involved with the National Wildlife Refuge Association (NWRA) in Washington D.C., a group that advocates for Refuges to lawmakers on a

national level..

The Pervasive Invasive group came out of a project Ms. Woodward developed to obtain certification as a Rutgers Environmental Steward in 2012. Before then, Refuge Manager Koch and other staff and volunteers had attacked specific invasive species on general workdays. There was no regular group dedicated to keeping public areas free of a variety of invasives such as Japanese barberry, multiflora rose and Japanese honeysuckle.



Kathy Woodward (far left) leading a group walk at the Wildlife Observation Center.

It takes many, many hours, many people, much dedication and a lot of luck and talent to create and sustain an organization such as the Friends, which is devoted to fulfilling the mission of a place where the residents cannot speak for themselves. The Friends of GSNWR has attracted a special group of people since its inception. They are an inspiration to future volunteers and stewards of the special place that we call the GSNWR.



DEDICATION OF THE GREAT SWAMP NWR

By Pat Wells, Co-editor

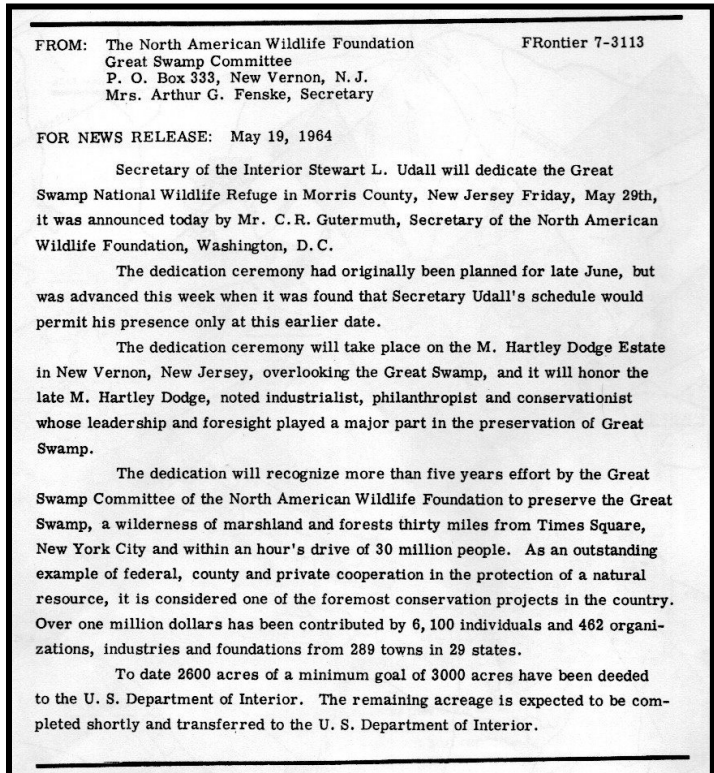
On Friday, May 29, 1964, Secretary of the Interior, Stewart Udall dedicated the Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge.

The map seen in the photo below shows the 2,600 acres that had been donated up to that time. Refuge land is shown as black blocks. Note that properties were purchased piecemeal when owners were willing to sell.

Marcellus Hartley Dodge quietly purchased numerous sections of land with the intent to donate them to the federal government. This protected them from being claimed by eminent domain by the New York Port Authority for the proposed jetport. The Great Swamp Committee then started raising money for the purchase of more land.

According to Cam Cavanaugh's book *Saving the Great Swamp*, "Because of the committee's severe lack of funds, Dodge himself dipped into his pocket several times for cash to prevent a deal from getting away."

Dodge was accused of being self-serving be-



Great Swamp NWR dedication on May 29, 1964 at Hartley Farm, Harding. (L to R) John Gottschalk, Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife; Warren Kinney, Great Swamp Committee; Stewart Udall, Secretary of the Interior; Rev. George Knieriemen, First Presbyterian Church, New Vernon; State Senator Thomas Hillery; Congressman Peter Frelinghuysen (at podium).

cause his property would be affected by the jetport. In truth, Dodge had a deep love for nature and for the Great Swamp in particular. A lifelong horseman, he especially enjoyed driving through the Swamp in his horse-drawn buggy.



Marcellus and Geraldine Dodge at one of her famous dog shows on the Hartley Farm polo field.

Dodge was the Director of the Remington Arms Company and the Union Metallic Cartridge Company. In 1904, Dodge and his aunt, Helen Hartley Jenkins, purchased Hartley Farm in Harding Township. Dodge added a polo field and other equestrian facilities. He held an annual horse show on the grounds that attracted top rated horses and riders.

His wife, Geraldine Rockefeller Dodge had her own estate, Giralda, bordering his. An ardent dog lover and breeder, she held an internationally famous dog show each year on the Hartley Farm polo field.

The couple had only one child, a son named after his father, but called Hartley. He died at age 22 in a car crash. In memory of her son, Mrs. Dodge donated the magnificent marble town hall to Madison, where most of her property was located.

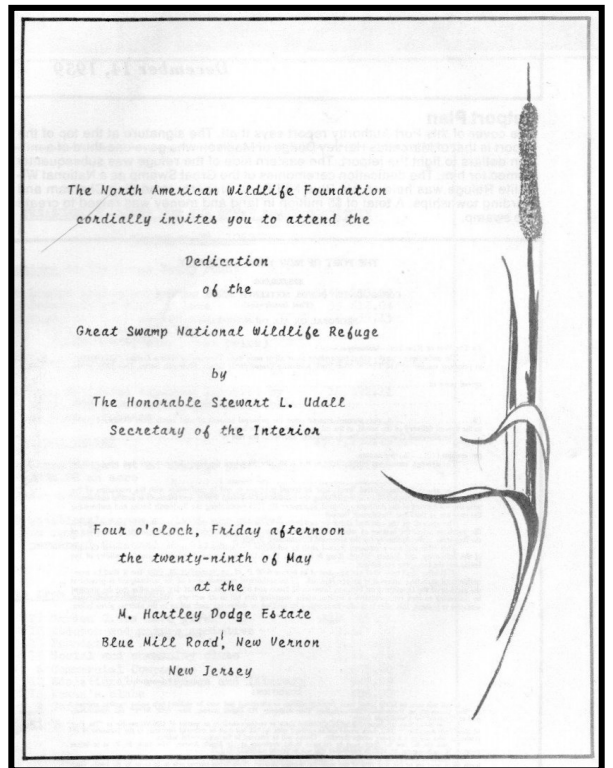
The eastern portion of the Great Swamp NWR was designated the M. Hartley Dodge Natural Area at the 1964 dedication. This, too, was in memory of Hartley.

The dedication of the Great Swamp NWR was held on the polo field at Hartley Farm. Sadly, Marcellus Dodge died six months before the dedication.

The eastern portion of the Great Swamp NWR



Mark Fenske, son of Helen Fenske, greeting Secretary of the Interior Stewart Udall after he landed in a helicopter on the Hartley Farm polo field.



THE WILDERNESS ACT AND THE GREAT SWAMP NWR

By Pat Wells, Co-editor

On September 3, 1964, President Lyndon Johnson signed the Wilderness Act, Public Law 88-577.

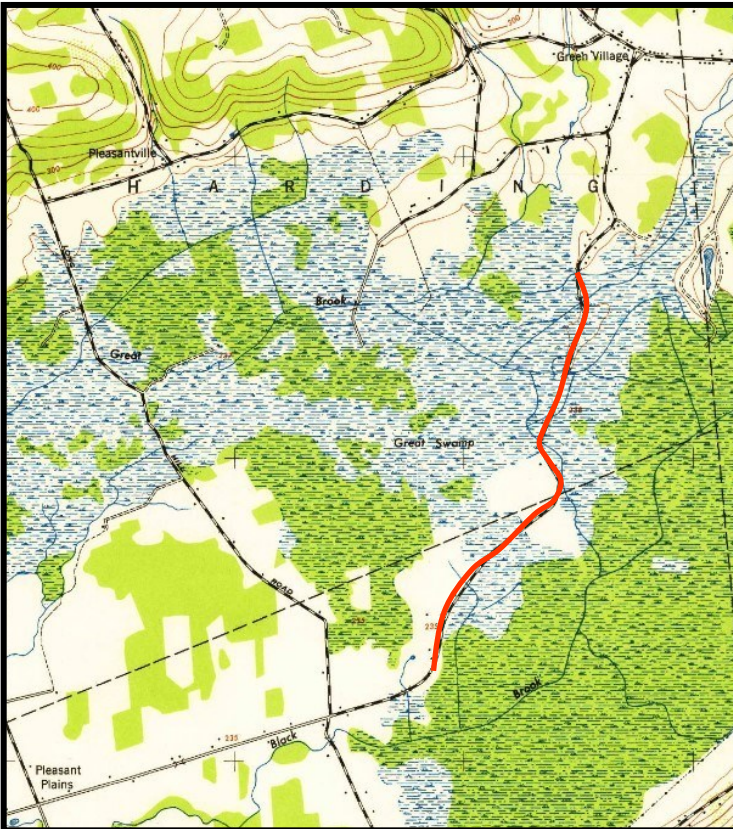
Wilderness Act Statement of Policy

In order to assure that an increasing population, accompanied by expanding settlement and growing mechanization, does not occupy and modify all areas within the United States and its possessions, leaving no lands designated for preservation and protection in their natural condition, it is hereby declared to be the policy of the Congress to secure for the American people of present and future generations the benefits of an enduring resource of wilderness.

Definition of Wilderness

A wilderness, in contrast with those areas where man and his works dominate the landscape, is hereby recognized as an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammelled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain. An area of wilderness is further defined to mean in this Act an area of undeveloped Federal land retaining its primeval character and influence, without permanent improvements or human habitation, which is protected and managed so as to preserve its natural condition.

It was not a simple task to convince Congress that 3660 acres of swampland in the middle of suburbia qualified as wilderness. The volunteers who were fighting to absolutely guarantee the safe future of the Great Swamp had to learn how to work the Hill. They had to convince Congressmen from big wide-open western states that a small area of land in densely populated New Jersey should be defined as wilderness. They had to persuade them that the people of suburbia needed these areas of respite and that the land itself was worth saving in its untrammelled state.



1943 USGS Map with section of Meyersville Road that was removed in 1968 marked in red.



Helen Fenske in the Great Swamp

With the help of politicians like Peter Frelinghuysen, they succeeded. On September 28, 1968, President Johnson signed Public Law 90-532, and nearly half of the Great Swamp NWR was designated wilderness.

The portion of old Meyersville Road that ran through the Wilderness Area had to be removed because no roads nor any motorized or wheeled vehicles are permitted. No permanent structures are allowed, so all buildings have been torn down and the refuse removed.

Trail maintenance volunteers must use hand tools to clear trails—no engines or batteries are allowed. If a big tree comes down on a trail, volunteers use a two-man crosscut saw to cut it up. Trails cannot be built up with stone dust nor can boardwalks be built when areas become wet and muddy.

Winter is a great time to hike in the Wilderness area when the mud and the mosquitoes are frozen.



Photo by George Solovay

FRIENDS OF GREAT SWAMP NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

The Friends of Great Swamp is an independent, non-profit organization organized in 1999. Our operations and activities are managed by an all-volunteer Board of Directors. As our mission statement indicates, our focus is Refuge-centric — we support the goals, projects, and mission of the Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge.

To become a member of the Friends of Great Swamp, fill out the information on this form, and mail with your check to:
 Friends of Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge
 32 Pleasant Plains Road, Basking Ridge, New Jersey 07920

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> EASTERN BLUEBIRD—\$15-\$49 | <input type="checkbox"/> PAINTED TURTLE—\$50-\$99 | <input type="checkbox"/> RIVER OTTER—\$100-\$249 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> MONARCH BUTTERFLY—\$250-\$499 | <input type="checkbox"/> WOOD DUCK—\$500 + | <input type="checkbox"/> New Member? |

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

You may also join online at www.friendsofgreatswamp.org

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State, Zip Code _____

Phone Number _____

E-Mail Address _____

Gift Membership From: _____

(If this is a gift, please include your full name on the line above so we may notify the recipient)

We need more Friends ...
Become a Friend Today—or,
Give a gift membership to a friend.

Thank you



Memberships help support the projects and programs at Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge.

Membership Benefits

- The Swamp Scene Newsletter.
- A 10% discount in Friends Nature Shop.
- Notifications of upcoming events.
- Satisfaction in knowing you are helping protect wildlife and wild places while safeguarding a national treasure for future generations.

Friends of Great Swamp NWR
32 Pleasant Plains Road
Basking Ridge NJ 07920

Non-Profit Org.
PrSrt Std.
US Postage Paid
Permit No. 407
Chester NJ 07930



THE SWAMP SCENE NOVEMBER 2024

Friends of Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge
Is an independent, volunteer, non-profit organization
dedicated to

Promoting stewardship of the natural resources of the Refuge,

Inspiring an appreciation of nature through education and outreach,

Engaging in partnership activities that support and enhance the Great Swamp National
Wildlife Refuge and the National Wildlife Refuge System.