



Friends of Huntley Meadows Park Fall
2023 Newsletter

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Announcements



The Huntley Meadows Park (HMP) Gift Shop will reopen Wednesday, October 25, 2023! Old favorites, new items, and Friends of Huntley Meadows Park (FOHMP) clothing/logo items will be available for sale. [See *FOHMP Merch is Back!* the fifth article in this newsletter. To navigate directly, click on the icon at the bottom right of the screen. The icon is a small black box with horizontal lines in it.]

Fall and Winter Norma Hoffman Visitor Center & Gift Shop Hours:

- October - November: Noon - 5pm weekends; Mondays and Wednesdays - Fridays 9am - 5pm. Check this website for holiday hours, <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/holiday-hours>. Click on the holiday in question to expand the menu for each holiday.
- December - February: Wednesdays - Mondays 11-4pm. Check above website for holiday hours.

Message from the (Still Interim) FOHMP President: Photography at Huntley Meadows



By: Interim President Ben Jesup

Frequent visitors have no doubt noticed the increasing prevalence of photographers at Huntley Meadows Park (HMP). On weekends, there are often rows of photographers lined up on the boardwalk past the observation tower. They recognize that Huntley is an excellent place for photography, and not just because of its diversity of wildlife. Much of that wildlife is relatively habituated to the presence of humans and will come closer at HMP than most other places.

Some of you may be intimidated by the large and often quite expensive equipment that many of these photographers use. It is true that wildlife photography has gotten much more popular given the amazing technology now available. But with a little patience and a willingness to work with smaller and closer subjects, you can take great photos with a point-and-shoot camera or a smart phone. (I took the photos accompanying this column with point-and-shoots.)

When you have become proficient in taking photos, enter those great photos in the annual FOHMP photo contest that we have been hosting for years! Details on how to participate in the contest are in the article below *2023 Annual Photo Contest & Fundraiser, Submit Your Photos by December 1, 2023*. (I wish I could enter, but my exalted position on the Board makes my recusal necessary.)

See you on the Boardwalk (or, more likely, the Hike/Bike Trail).



1 - American Toad



2 - Eastern pondhawk dragonfly, male



3 - Gnat-ogre species, a type of robber fly only about 5mm

2023 Annual Photo Contest & Fundraiser, Submit Your Photos by December 1, 2023



Give us your best shot! The 2023 Friends of Huntley Meadows Park (FOHMP) Photo Contest & Fundraiser will be held in the Norma Hoffman Visitor Center Auditorium starting December 10, 2023 and running through March 1, 2024. Submissions are being accepted from October 21, 2023 through December 1, 2023. Winners will be announced at our opening reception on December 10th.

With such a huge range of flora and fauna at the Park, we're excited to see how many different species we can feature this year! If winning a ribbon is your goal, here's a tip: historically, judges have preferred unique poses, perspectives, and movement.

Each entry is \$5.00, and there is a maximum of three (3) entries allowed per person. Youth participants (high school or younger) are not required to pay entry fees. Photos must have been taken at Huntley Meadows Park within the last two years and be predominantly nature themed.

Photos need to be matted/mounted, but not framed, and should not exceed 18 inches by 24 inches.

How to Enter

- Electronically submit photo information **and payment**: <https://forms.gle/Lr31zdm6NYH1ufGR8>
NOTE: payment will not be taken at the Visitor Center front desk, please use the online payment method by following the link above, or attach a check made out to FOHMP to your entrie(s).

- Paper entry form and complete policies can be found on the FOHMP website: www.fohmp.org.

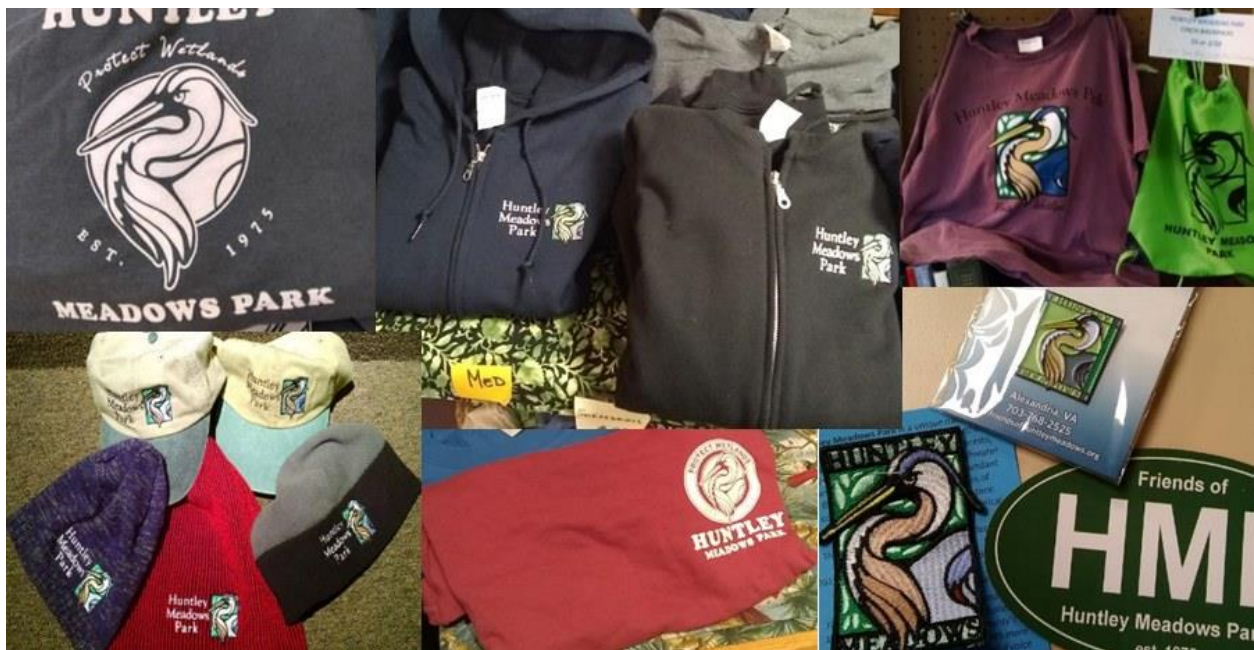
Drop off your photo(s) at the Huntley Meadows Park Norma Hoffman Visitor Center, 3701 Lockheed Blvd., Alexandria, VA 22306 by December 1, 2023. If you have any questions, please email Elizabeth Train at lizzietrain@gmail.com.

Note on Norma Hoffman Visitor Center Hours: October - November: Noon - 5pm weekends; Mondays and Wednesdays - Fridays 9am - 5pm. Check this website for holiday hours, <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/holiday-hours>. Click on the holiday in question to expand the menu for each holiday.

December - February: Wednesdays - Mondays 11-4pm. Check above website for holiday hours.

Background Photo: 2022 1st Place Overall winner Eric Steiner's *Yellow Reflection*

FOHMP Merch is Back!



By: Elena Ryan

With the Norma Hoffman Visitor's Center Gift Shop reopening on October 25, Friends of Huntley Meadows Park (FOHMP) hats, T-shirts, and other items will be on sale again. All proceeds from sales are used to support Park activities and resource needs. The FOHMP Merchandise Team is in the process of designing new Huntley shirts and other items for spring, so please drop in when you're at the Park, and see what we have available.

FOHMP would like to give generous thanks to **Ann Stat** who has been in charge of merchandise and sales since joining the Friends Board in 2013 after retiring from Huntley Meadows Park as staff Volunteer Coordinator. Annie did an amazing job with designs and complex orders. Astoundingly, she raised over

\$15,000 for the Park with her “pop-up” sales that she ran during COVID when the Visitor Center was closed. What a juggernaut of creativity and organization! A shout out to **Martha Orling** as well, who supported Annie with storage, restocking, and design assistance. Annie will be moving with her husband to North Carolina over the winter. It is a great loss to FOHMP and the Park, but we all wish her well in the next chapter of her life. Enjoy your new home and thank you for everything!

Background Photo: Annie sporting a FOHMP shirt during one of the many COVID pop-ups.

In Honor of Fred Hoffman



By: Carolyn Gamble and Suzanne Lepple

Fred Hoffman, husband of Norma for whom the Huntley Meadows Park Visitor Center is named, died June 24, 2023 at age 100. [Norma died June 11, 2017.]

Fred was a big supporter of Huntley Meadows Park (HMP), Historic Huntley, and Park staff and volunteers. He lovingly cheered Norma on during her successful 15-year campaign to keep a highway from being built through the Park. He conducted research on Historic Huntley when it was first acquired. After retiring, Fred became a Volunteer-on-Duty at HMP. He was always willing to undertake tasks at the front desk, and he excelled at cutting and coloring craft materials for children’s programs. This amused the staff because of the stark contrast with his former job at the Pentagon. We had all seen him on television speaking for Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger.

Fred and his daughter Lisa created the Norma Hoffman Financial Assistance Fund in 2017. This fund supplements half of the HMP field trip fees for schools that cannot afford to pay the full amount. Every year, hundreds of children can visit Huntley Meadows and learn about wetlands because of this fund.

We miss Fred and his many stories of working as an Associated Press reporter. He reported from Vietnam during the war, sometimes near active conflict. He traveled with presidents and visited many countries across the globe. Fred read voraciously, especially about history.

Farewell Fred! Thank you for your friendship, integrity, knowledge, and humor and especially for sharing Norma with all of us.

Background Photo: Norma and Fred Hoffman excited to help out at Huntley Meadows Park, circa 2014.

Summer 2023 Interns



This summer the friends groups, Friends of Huntley Meadows Park (FOHMP) and Friends of Historic Huntley (FOHH), were able to support 11 interns to help with Historic Huntley (HH) projects, Huntley Meadows Park (HMP) natural resources projects, and HMP nature camps. Below are brief recaps about how summer 2023 interns assisted with the latter two at HMP. Find out about the HH intern by joining FOHH to receive their newsletters.

All the interns (including a Virginia Native Plant Society Intern and a Natural Resource Management Intern) were able to interact with Huntley staff and to explore the natural habitats of a truly unique

wildlife sanctuary. HMP interns bring their own talents and backgrounds to their summer positions with aspirations of improving their knowledge base. As they learned, these interns also gave back to the Park in more ways than can be listed here.

Background Photo: 2023 Natural History Interns, from Left to Right: David Nichols, Jennifer Hunsinger, Isadora Karathanos, Emmy Rummel, Hannah Lewis, Kamilla Betz-Pabon, and Joesph Caro

My name is **Renee Ok**, and I was honored to hold the position of the 2023 Virginia Native Plant Society Intern at HMP. I am a senior at Virginia Tech studying Ecological Restoration with a minor in Environmental Science. Over the course of my 12-week internship, I was able to gain experience in a wide array of activities to support the Park's biodiversity and community. Activities such as pulling invasive species like false hawksbeard and purple loosestrife, managing cattail populations, re-stuffing mallard tubes with hay, and shearing overgrown plants/removing fallen branches out of trail paths are just a few examples. Along with everyday environmental management, I was able to participate in several studies, including vernal pool monitoring, dip netting to identify macroinvertebrates for water-quality testing, turtle trapping and release to study population and diversity, as well as snake scale swabbing for fungal diseases and their microbiomes.

Another venture that I had the opportunity to complete was devising my own study to help better understand the health status of the beech tree population within HMP. I was specifically looking for any signs of a newly emerging disease affecting beeches, known as Beech Leaf Disease (BLD). This disease is thought to be analogous to the American Chestnut Blight, which has completely wiped out the once expansive American Chestnut tree. The first cases of BLD in Fairfax County, Virginia were discovered in 2021, so I found it significant to try and survey the population of beech trees in HMP as the Virginia Native Plant Society intern. Simultaneously, I recorded other beech tree diseases and/or ailments. Out of my sample group of 100 beech trees, I can happily say that there were no signs of BLD on any trees included in the sample! Although common diseases and ailments such as Anthracnose, Erineum patches, and rolling beech leaf were found, they were not remarkable enough to pose significant health effects to any of the trees.

The opportunity to intern at HMP was something that I will always be grateful for. The internship allowed me to gain a tremendous amount of experience in the world of environmental park management, ranging from turtle and insect rescuing to removing a Plexiglas barrier in the Norma Hoffman Visitor Center. I even adopted the important skill of dodging spider webs in the forest while scanning the ground for wasps and yellow jackets at the same time! As I entered my last year in college, my one goal was to be able to apply what I've learned in school to a real-world occupation, and I think my experience at HMP was just the right job for that. Lastly, I'd like to thank the Virginia Native Plant Society – Potowmack Chapter for sponsoring the internship as well as, Chris King, HMP Natural Resource Manager, the HMP staff, FOHMP, and HMP volunteers—all the incredibly knowledgeable individuals who provided me with such valuable insight and support along this journey.

My name is **Lily Kenyon**, and I was HMP's 2023 Natural Resource Management Intern. I am a senior at Virginia Tech majoring in Environmental Conservation and Society with a minor in Biodiversity Conservation. HMP was a big part of my childhood while growing up in the Alexandria area. As children, my sister and I attended multiple summer camps there, and my family would often go for boardwalk nature hikes on the weekends. Those experiences at HMP are a part of the primary reasons that fostered my love for the outdoors and piqued my curiosity on how to make a positive difference. The opportunity

to complete this internship and give back to the Park and community that gave me so much as a child has been amazing. Thank you to the FOHMP for providing this experience!

My primary project this summer was completing a turtle survey in the Park. This project was also performed last year, and its purpose was to measure species diversity as well as the health of the turtle population in the central wetland. Before my HMP internship, I had experience with wildlife surveys, but most of those were very hands off and strictly observation based (such as completing bird counts). The turtle study, however, was very hands-on, which was an amazing new experience! The Natural Resources internship learning experiences included invasive plant identification and removal, trail-maintenance techniques, vernal-pool surveys, and water-quality monitoring (including macroinvertebrate collection and identification). The many experiences made me feel much more prepared for whatever future career I pursue after my graduation in spring 2024. This feeling is largely due to the supportive and welcoming environment I experienced at HMP. Everyone I met was extremely helpful, positive, and passionate about their work. Volunteers and staff alike were always more than willing to share their expertise, and I am truly grateful for all the knowledge that was shared with me this summer. Again, I cannot thank the FOHMP enough for providing me with this opportunity!

My name is **Adeline Muras**, and I was the Water Quality Intern at HMP for the summer of 2023. I am a junior at Virginia Tech majoring in Water: Resources, Policy, and Management (WRPM) and minoring in Wetland Science, Environmental Science, and Biodiversity Conservation. I was extremely fortunate to be selected as one of the Natural Resource Management interns at HMP and loved learning more about the Park this summer. I plan to pursue a career in water quality after I graduate, so getting to have this real-world experience at a park like HMP has been a blessing.

My main project over the summer was testing the water-quality in the Park by using macroinvertebrate samples from different areas in the wetland. This involved donning waders and dip netting throughout the Park for macroinvertebrates and then writing a report analyzing the findings. Macroinvertebrates are a useful and accurate way for resource managers to judge the health of a waterway as these animals are easy to collect and differ in their tolerance to pollution. Although the water-quality at HMP has been declining in recent years due to urbanization, the results from the Park's inflow showed an "acceptable" rating - an improvement from last year's "partially acceptable" rating. The water quality reports can be used in the future to track changes in the Park and biodiversity throughout the years. Before this internship, I didn't have much hands-on experience with aquatic macroinvertebrates, so working at HMP has allowed me to increase my understanding of identifying and classifying insects.

In addition to testing water quality, I assisted Renee Ok, Virginia Native Plant Society Intern and Lily Kenyon, Natural Resource Management Intern, with a beech tree leaf disease study and a turtle survey. These projects were important for study of the Park's flora and fauna, particularly assessing how the Park habitat is changing over time. We were also able to shadow and learn about natural resource management through Chris King, Huntley's Natural Resource Manager. Related tasks included vernal-pool monitoring, invasive-species management, trail maintenance, and much more. It was extremely helpful to see the day-to-day endeavors of managing a nature sanctuary and wetlands park. All these experiences have furthered my interest in a career in natural resources after graduation.

I absolutely loved getting to work in HMP this summer and appreciate all the staff and volunteers that work to keep the Park maintained. Seeing the love staff and volunteers have for the Park, and their passion for protecting birds and other animals was inspiring. I want to thank FOHMP for allowing me to

participate in this internship. A special thanks to Chris King, Brooks Long, Assistant Resource Manager, Carl Meadows, Maintenance Crew Chief, and Jackie Den Otter, Maintenance Assistant, for being so welcoming and for answering all of my questions. I am going to miss HMP and can't wait to visit again next summer!

Hi, my name is **Jennifer (Jenny) Hunsinger**, a 2023 HMP Naturalist Intern. I'm a student at the University of Virginia, studying classics and environmental science! I have been interested in wetlands, and marshes, in particular, since I was in middle school. I was excited about this internship, because I wanted to learn more about the incredible wildlife of Northern Virginia, and I wanted to help inspire that love in future generations. I have learned more about grasses, trees, vines, and animals than I ever knew before, and I hope that this knowledge will guide me as I begin thinking more about conducting my own research. In a world where communication is everything, I also found it incredibly helpful to practice interpreting for perhaps the world's most curious, but also most easily distracted, age group! I am so grateful to FOHMP for giving me the opportunity to explore the wetland from top to bottom. Thank you for this, and for all you do to protect this beautiful natural oasis!

Hello! I am **Emmy Rummel**, a 2023 HMP Naturalist Intern. I am a sophomore at James Madison University studying Geographic Science. Growing up, I was fascinated by the outdoors, specifically wildlife. Since then, I have always loved animals and wanted them to be able to live peacefully with little human interference. This passion is what made me so excited to begin working in the environmental field this summer. I am incredibly grateful for the opportunity to have served HMP as a Naturalist Intern. I applied hoping to expand my knowledge of the natural world and how humans could positively impact the restoration of animal habitats. This summer I have learned how much human life impacts native wildlife and plant species. From identifying invasive species of plants and animals, to understanding how our actions affect animal behavior, I have achieved my goal. I greatly appreciate this internship and those who made it happen. Thank you!

Hello, my name is **Joseph (Joey) Caro**, a 2023 HMP Naturalist Intern. I am a junior at Virginia Commonwealth University majoring in Environmental Studies. I discovered this HMP internship through the Fairfax County Park Authority website. I found it appealing as it was environmentally focused and correlated with my prior work experience. Throughout the course of this internship, I have greatly improved my skills as both a naturalist and interpreter and have learned many things from campers, my fellow interns, and Huntley staff.

I would like to extend my immense gratitude to the FOHMP for providing me with this opportunity to develop my abilities as both a naturalist and educator. Going forward, I aim to utilize these abilities in future possible internships and job opportunities. I hope to eventually work for an aquarium or in other marine-related positions, and I believe my experience at HMP has brought me closer to that goal. Thank you so much for the opportunity!

My name is **Isadora (Isa) Karathanos**, a 2023 HMP Naturalist Intern, and I am a senior at Georgetown University. I am majoring in Culture and Politics with a concentration in Environmental Anthropology. The internship experience has allowed me to gain valuable experience and essential knowledge about the natural world, local environments, and cultivating meaningful relationships with nature. I believe that developing respect for nature and a sense of environmental stewardship is of the utmost importance in our modern world and that our relationships with the Earth begin in childhood. That is why the opportunity to work with children, teach them about wildlife at the Park, and see the looks of

awe and joy on their faces when they encounter a beautiful flower, frog, or butterfly has been so meaningful to me. Over this past summer, I have been able to grow my knowledge of and appreciation for the local ecosystems and the serene beauty of Huntley Meadows. I was particularly affected by the stunning wetland, and it was such a privilege to be able to share my passion for the environment with the young minds—and future leaders—of our community. I am deeply grateful to the FOHMP who made this internship possible. I learned and grew so much through exploration of the beautiful Park, and I cannot wait to continue sharing my love for HMP with others!

Hello FOHMP. My name is **Kamilla Betz-Pabon**, an HMP 2023 Naturalist Intern. I am from Miami, Florida and a junior at George Mason University, pursuing a degree in Environmental Sustainability Studies. As I contemplated completion of my undergraduate degree, I realized I needed more hands-on experience in the environmental field. Discovering this internship was like finding a key to open the door into the world of environmental fields.

Throughout this enriching summer, I absorbed a wealth of knowledge. Who would have thought that five-lined skinks possess the remarkable ability to shed their tails when danger looms? Or that beavers rank as the second-largest rodents globally. And the surprising fact that swamp roses are indeed edible. My understanding of Virginia's wildlife has expanded beyond my imagination. This newfound awareness fuels my aspirations to engage in conservation efforts post-graduation.

The insights and skills I acquired during the summer months are incredibly valuable. I plan on using this experience in upcoming internships and professional roles, propelling me forward on my chosen path. The gratitude I hold for this internship is immeasurable. I extend my heartfelt appreciation to all those who have played a role – the remarkable volunteers, especially PJ, who delved into the intricate world of birds and dragonflies, and the unforgettable Barry, a charismatic box turtle who brings boundless joy to Huntley.

FOHMP, I am indebted to you for this remarkable opportunity. My wish is that this door you've opened remains accessible to those who follow in my footsteps, bestowing upon them the same transformative experience.

Hello, my name is **David Nichols**, a 2023 HMP Naturalist Intern, currently a junior at the University of Mary Washington, studying geology with a minor in chemistry. I would like to start by thanking the FOHMP for giving me the opportunity to work at the Park. I grew up in Fairfax County, and went to many parks, including HMP, for camps as a child. When I saw the job offer, I thought it would be an interesting and worthwhile opportunity to give back to the Fairfax County Park Authority.

One of my biggest takeaways from this internship is that I really enjoy interpretation work and relating natural-resource facts to the general public. It feels good knowing that I can make a difference in someone's perspective about the Park and nature as a whole. I have also gained a lot of experience working with children, which has helped me with patience, interpretation, and leadership. This experience has opened my eyes to the possibility of pursuing an educational career path in the future, potentially in an interpretive setting. I have also been able to use this internship to connect more with nature and learn a lot about Northern Virginia ecosystems. One of the most interesting things I learned at the Park this summer was dragonfly lifecycles and how each stage interacts with the various ecosystems of HMP. I have been able to gain a greater appreciation for wetlands and their role in a

healthy ecosystem. Again, I am incredibly thankful to the FOHMP for making this internship possible and giving me this incredible experience.

Hi everyone! My name is **Hannah Lewis**, a 2023 HMP Naturalist Intern. I attend Cornell University where I am majoring in environmental studies, concentrating in environmental policy and governance. I was interested in this internship because it looked like a great opportunity to work on a large wetland preserve that provides a habitat for numerous native species in the middle of an urban environment. As a Naturalist Intern, I taught children the importance of native wildlife, habitat conservation, and biodiversity. I had the privilege to learn from the Park's expert naturalists, while also giving kids a fun, unique camp experience. The biggest takeaway from my naturalist internship was realizing that this position has a much larger impact on the Park than I initially anticipated. As environmental educators, we are paving the way for youth to be great environmental stewards and possess knowledge about nature that they can later teach others. I hope to use my internship experience to educate others who are also curious about Virginia wildlife. A big thank you to FOHMP for making this internship possible, allowing me to expand my knowledge on wetland ecology, while also giving me the chance to meet a great group of people who share the same love for nature and conservation as I do.



4 - 2023 Water Quality Intern Adeline Muras uses a scientific probe to measure water chemistry.



5 - 2023 Natural Resource Management Intern Lilly Kenyon holding a turtle captured and released during a turtle survey.



6 - 2023 Virginia Native Plant Society Intern Rene Ok measuring the diameter of a beech tree.

Message from Park Manager



By: Karen Sheffield

Every volunteer at Huntley Meadows Park (HMP) makes such a significant, positive impact and I wanted to again say Thank You to the team of nature, history and natural-resource volunteers of HMP.

Volunteers at the Park are ever present and assist at the visitor center, answer questions out on the trails, assist and lead programs, and engage in cultural-and-natural resource projects. The Volunteer Team is 85 people strong and collectively donated over 6,000 hours this past year. **Lark MacNeil**, the Park's new Outreach & Volunteer Coordinator, recently revived the annual Volunteer Appreciation Party to recognize each volunteer's contribution toward making Huntley the best it can be. I'm especially thankful to volunteers for their patience and dedication over the past year while we were in a staffing transition. Thanks to Friends of Huntley Meadows Park for sponsoring the party! Great food!

The volunteer program is again taking flight as Lark has posted and filled several volunteer opportunities. If you've ever thought about volunteering, I'd encourage you to visit the Park website volunteer page as it is updated regularly - [Volunteering - Fairfax County Virginia](#). Soon Lark will be posting to recruit a Natural Resource Volunteer Team, focusing on natural-resource priorities. Some of you may know Lark as she was previously a Natural History Interpreter leading programs at HMP. She has certainly been busy with her new duties, but if you have a few minutes, stop by to share your congratulations on her new role.

Doing what you enjoy through volunteering is amazing. Volunteer work improves visitor experiences and helps to create a friendly, safe atmosphere at HMP. Volunteers do so much to connect visitors to the Park, whether it's through interaction on the boardwalk or protecting trees. Thank you volunteers for sharing your passion!

Background Photo: Volunteers and staff enjoy a meal together at the volunteer party on September 23rd.

Woodlawn Historian Martha Claire Catlin to Address Friends of Historic Huntley (FOHH) Annual Meeting



By Todi Carnes, FOHH President

In the years preceding the Civil War, the Hybla Valley area presented a mix of agricultural labor practices. Some families, like the Masons of Huntley, relied on enslaved laborers. Lured by cheap acreage worn out by earlier tobacco farming, an influx of northern Quaker families moved into the area. Some of them strove to demonstrate that farming was viable without resorting to slave labor. This was the case with the Quaker anti-slavery colony established at the former Woodlawn Plantation previously owned by George Washington's step-granddaughter, Nelly Custis Lewis. Notably, the lives of enslavers and anti-slavery proponents overlapped. At least one son of Thomson and Betsey Mason attended the Alexandria school of Benjamin Hallowell, a Quaker abolitionist.

The anti-slavery Quakers will be the subject of a talk by Ms. Martha Claire Catlin during the 2:00 p.m. FOHH annual meeting on October 28 at Sherwood Regional Library. Catlin, historian of the Alexandria

Quaker Meeting at Woodlawn, will share the fruits of her extensive research into Woodlawn's antebellum anti-slavery Quaker colony. If you're a fan of local history, you won't want to miss hearing from and taking the opportunity to meet one of the area's most knowledgeable historians of the nineteenth-century Mount Vernon area, Ms. Martha Claire Catlin!

All About Herps, Northern Virginia's Reptiles and Amphibians



Presented by Friends of Dyke Marsh

October 25, 7 p.m., on Zoom

Alonso Abugattas will explore the reptiles and amphibians of Northern Virginia—frogs, toads, salamanders, turtles, lizards, snakes and more. You'll learn about their behaviors, threats they face, and how to support them. Abugattas is the founder of the Capital Naturalist, <https://capitalnaturalist.blogspot.com/>, and author of *Reptiles and Amphibians of the Washington, D.C. Metropolitan Area*.

You can register for this informative Zoom talk by going to our website, <https://fodm.org>, and clicking on the link in the meeting announcement in the left column. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. Cosponsors are the Friends of Huntley Meadows Park, Friends of Little Hunting Creek, and Friends of Mason Neck State Park.

Background Photo: Green Frog (*Lithobates clamitans*), photo by Ed Eder.

Resources to Learn More About Huntley Meadows Park



Huntley Meadows Park (HMP) is run and managed by the Fairfax County Park Authority. To find out more about Park hours, visitation rules, rental opportunities, and programs, visit the Parks' website by clicking [HERE](#).

Programs at Huntley Meadows Park and Historic Huntley provide a unique look at the diverse history and nature of HMP and its associated historic site. Program topics offer scouts, families, other groups, and individuals of all ages a chance to experience nature, art, and history with experts on this special natural area and historic home.

Learn more about available programs, and sign up to participate on the Park's website: [HERE](#).