

Friends of Crab Orchard Refuge

Quarterly Newsletter

ISSUE 07 January 2019

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ATTENTION!!

The Friends Board of Directors voted, unanimously, to replace the current group logo. The Board would like members to consider suggesting and or sharing a proposed design for the new logo that best represents the mission and focus of the Friends group. Please contact Jim Osborne or a current Board member with your suggestions. Thank you

VOLUNTEER OF THE QUARTER

Our **volunteer of the quarter** is Ron Hamberg.

Ron is a longtime Refuge volunteer who has donated hundreds of hours of labor in many programs. He assists with deer counts, works in the bookstore and does a weekly volunteer patrol of the Refuge. He is also an active participant of the merchandising committee of the Woodland Bookstore (the Friends Visitors Center Gift Shop). Ron has been a longterm Friends member and has Served on it's Board. Thank you Ron for all you do!



Deer Firearm Season

Preliminary numbers for the 2018 Deer Firearm Season are in and it looks like a successful take for Illinois hunters.

The total number of deer kills reported to the IDNR was 80,896, up over 700 deer from last year. Williamson County placed seventh in the state with 1,847 deer harvested, up about 50 from last year. Jackson County came in at number one with 2,439 kills. That was followed by Adams County, 2,340; Randolph County, 2,271; Pike County, 2,053; Fulton, 1,898; and Jefferson County, 1,902.

These numbers reflect the November 16-18 and November 29-December 2 (Crab 1 and 2) hunts. Muzzleloader season numbers have not been released, and Archery season continues through January 20.

Numbers from the same dates for Crab 1 and Crab 2 show a harvest of 189 total deer taken by 618 hunters. In Crab 1, 43 deer were taken, with 59 going to the youth and disabled hunt. Crab 2 harvest stood at 87. This year's largest buck was a 17-pointer.

Going back, the largest deer harvest at Crab Orchard during the two seasons was in 1997 when 687 deer were taken by 1,554 hunters

GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

Due to the government shutdown, the newsletter has been shortened. The refuge visitor center is closed and various events are on a tentative schedule

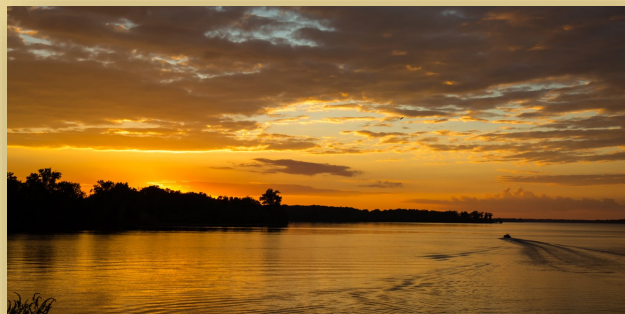
Photography Group Remains Active

The Crab Orchard Photography Group now has over 50 participants on its mailing list. The group has remained active even though the weather has turned colder. Outings continue to be enjoyed to public locations within the refuge. In October the group was treated to the sight of a group of four coyotes. After playing around in a field for a while one of the coyotes walked within 50 yards of the group. Shutters were clicking away! Anyone interested in joining can participate with no advance registration. Starting in February, the group will meet on the 3rd Wednesday of the month from 8am to 11am at the Visitor Center. Bring your camera!!

In January, the Photography Group will have the opportunity to travel together on the annual Eagle Tour. Sunday, July 27 at 8am has been reserved for Photo Group members who have attended at least one monthly meeting this year. Because of limited transportation, only 25 members can participate. Members interested in joining the Photo Group Eagle Tour should call the Refuge after December 26 to reserve your place on the tour. Be sure to tell them you are in the Photo Group and that you want the tour on January 27 at 8am.

As a result of the high interest in photography on the Refuge, three Saturday programs have been scheduled for 2019. Check the Calendar of Events for the Refuge for the dates and times.

James Osborn



Creature Feature

Q. Do you know the difference between a caterpillar and the larval stage of a butterfly or moth?

A. There is none!

Q. What is a pupa?

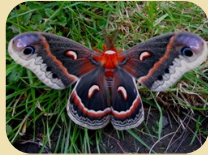
A. The pupa is a resting stage of the larval form before it metamorphoses into the adult form of the butterfly or moth.

Q. Do you know the difference between a chrysalis and a cocoon?

A. “A chrysalis is the hardened body of a butterfly pupa, whereas a cocoon is an external structure constructed by larvae (of silk and other materials) to protect themselves during the pupal stage.” Cocoons are largely associated with moths and some other insects, but only rarely with butterflies. <https://animals.mom.me/differences-between-chrysalis-cocoon-7964.htm>

Can you match these adults with their cocoons and caterpillars?

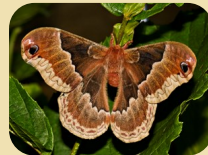
A. Cecropia Moth



a.



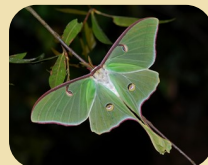
B. Prometheus Moth



b.



C. Luna Moth



c.



D. Polyphemus Moth



d.



E. Eastern Bagworm Moth



e.



Key: a = D, b = C, c = A, d = E, e = B

Photo Credits:

Cecropia moth: <http://www.bitemebaitco.com/elmer/images/Deer%20Photos/Deer%20Cam%20pictures/cecropia%20moth%20to%20send.jpg> Polyphemus cocoon: http://miacy.homestead.com/polyphemus_coccoon.jpg
Promethea moth: <https://bugguide.net/node/view/437079>

Luna moth: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Actias_luna_in_Florida.jpg#file

Polyphemus moth: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Antheraea_polyphemus#/media/File:Polyphemus_Moth_Antheraea_polyphemus.JPG

Eastern Bagworm moth: <https://www.forestpests.org/vd/images/5020089-SMPT.jpg>

Luna moth cocoon: <https://6legs2many.wordpress.com/2012/06/08/luna-moths-the-final-chapter/>

Cecropia moth cocoon: <https://www.prairiahaven.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/02/hyalophora-cecropia-cocoon-10-19-08-1.jpg>

Eastern Bagworm cocoon: <http://www.marylandbiodiversity.com/viewSpecies.php?species=5521>

Promethea cocoon: <http://www.prairiahaven.com/wp-content/uploads/2009/03/promethea-cocoon-3.jpg>

Butterfly Ball

Save the Date for the Butterfly Ball

April 27, 2019

The Friends plan to host a fund-raising event this coming spring at The Haven. Plan to come, and invite others to share a fun evening in support of the Friends and our mission to support the Refuge. Preparations for food, music, silent auction, and more are underway.

Butterfly Monitors Needed

Recognize this beauty? It's a Buckeye, found nectaring in our pollinator gardens last summer. Want to help count their numbers next year?

Volunteers are needed to train for butterfly monitoring on public land sites in Southern Illinois, for the Illinois Butterfly Monitoring Network (IBMN). Not sure whether you could identify all of our most common species? No problem as long as you're willing to learn! A Spring Monitor Training Workshop is in the planning stages at Crab Orchard Refuge. Participants must commit to doing at least 6 monitoring walks, between late May and early August, at an assigned trail on a public land site. (Volunteers can help in the selection of a good site.) Watch the Friends Facebook page and notices at the Visitors Center for more information.



2018 Water Bird Counts

Volunteers have now been doing winter water bird counts of the Refuge bays and wetland areas for 5 years. As weather and scheduling permits, counts are done weekly mid-September through mid-April. The following ducks, geese and water birds have been reported for fall/winter 2018. (Note IDNR does an aerial survey which may pick up birds not visible from the shoreline. Their mid-December survey counted 38,000 waterfowl!)

Species	Sept 24	Oct 1	Oct 8	Oct15	Oct22	Oct 29	Nov 5	Nov12	Nov19	Nov26	Dec 3	Dec10
Snow G									60	2	60	50
Gr W Fr G				80	18	5		5	1352	1700	2000	2100
Canada G	2			21	37	65	86	305	177	196	66	163
Wood Duck	42	39	35	45	39	24	16	2	1	1		
Blue-W teal	553	141	21	273	33	2	6					
N Shoveler		6		44	73	91	47	58	46	26	36	11
Gadwall	1		30	364	5141	7231	7290	6697	3373	1164	1554	1251
Am Wigeon		1	10	81	95	261	198	190	210	107	50	62
Mallard	2	27	100	175	1113	901	791	5622	1929	5112	2400	6121
Black Duck								1		18	8	6
Pintail				12	36	8	9	4		1		
Gr-W teal				23	205		65	13	315	8	2	
Canvasback								1	49	6		
Redhead					7	1			13			
Ring-Neck				20	110	664	2020	2079	1592	419	890	18
L Scaup					300	350	37		68	36	1000	7
W-wing Scoter								1				
Bufflehead							1	74	46	79	18	8
C Goldeneye								1	5	37	11	44
Hooded Merganser						20	6	200	171	656	58	653
Com Merganser									2	3		4
Red-breasted Merg									90	9	18	2
Ruddy		1		14	107	270	260	138	140	2061	2123	2642
C Loon									1			
W Pelican	1427	1502	785	1156	907	571	47	299	105	79	70	4
Gr B Heron	43	47	36	38	12	17	25	14	16	18	19	21
Gr Egret	80	95	58	20	5	5	1		2	1		
Lit B Heron	10	2	4									
Bl Cr N Heron		1	1	1	1							
Osprey			2									
Bald Eagle	5	4	3	8	3	3	4	6	12	6	6	5



MEMBERSHIP

Each year, members should renew their membership dues.

Please fill out the form below and mail it to : Friends of CONWR, 8588 Route 148, Marion, IL 62959. Please send this form along with your payment of \$10.00 per person or \$20.00 per family.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____

STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

AMOUNT PAID: _____

WOULD YOU BE WILLING TO SERVE ON A COMMITTEE: YES _____ NO _____

COMMITTEE NAME: _____

FRIENDS of CONWR

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