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Director's Note

Happy Spring, Chesapeake members!

I hope that you have had time to get outdoors and enjoy the glory of spring. I spent a recent weekend at a cabin near Shenandoah National Park and was treated to a cacophony of wild sounds...from barred owls and wild turkey to the chirping of spring peepers and the beautiful trilling of toads. Pairs of wood thrush and towhees were nesting in the forest and field thickets and singing their lovely melodies. I felt wrapped in nature and nourished by it.

It was great to see so many of you at our spring workshop at Gettysburg National Military Park. The sessions I attended led by John Shaffer and Dave Smalldone were outstanding and the park staff is to be

commended on a superb job as well. Particular thanks goes to our workshop co-chairs Chris Kemmerer and Kimble Talley and our publicity magician, Parker McMullen Bushman. We were particularly thrilled to have our NAI Deputy Director, Paul Caputo, join us from Fort Collins, CO! Everyone worked hard to make sure this was a meaningful and memorable event.

Please consider joining our planning team for our next multi-day regional workshop to be held in September, 2016. We will hold our initial meeting in the next month.

Get outside! (Sneeze, sniff...)

Linda Bailey

World Series of Birding

So in a past CHAT I mentioned that a group of Region II interpreters were going to compete in NJ Audubon's World Series of Birding, well we survived! Our team, The Interpretors, was made up of David Farner (Arlington Co., VA), John Callow, Rob Young, and me (Fairfax Co., VA). The event was over the 24-hour day of May 9th. We competed in the Swarovski Carbon Footprint Challenge which required that teams only walk, pedal, or paddle to burn no fossil fuels during the event. We biked and hiked a total of 37 miles during our 18 hours of active searching. We concentrated our search to just Cape May 'Island' which is the area of Cape May south of the canal. Due to heavy

fog we started at 3 am and stopped around 10 pm. Our only hiccup during the event came early at around 4 am on New England Road when David and I almost hit a startled raccoon in the middle of the road with our bikes.

We had the third highest score in our division with 96 species, but placed fifth in a field of seven teams. (Two teams tied for first and two teams tied for second.) One of the winning teams in our division was made up of locals with the Cape May Bird Observatory including Director Dr. David La Puma who had a total of 126 species. Their team covered Cape May Point as well, but the division's co-winning team biked a total



Where in the Region

Find out where this picture was taken by turning to the last page.

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World Series (continued from page 1)

of 70 miles starting well north of Cape May.

The experience was enriched by helping elementary students from Maryland scout birds on the Friday before and by interpreting the wildlife we saw to anyone we met along the way. We were raising funds for the Cape May Raptor Banding Project (CMRBP) through this bird-a-thon event. (<http://capemayraptors.org/>) You can still support CMRBP and its' unique conservation and interpretive efforts by visiting their website and using PayPal to donate mentioning WSB. Our entire tired team, was energized by the prospects of future professionals continuing to work to manage avian related resources and systems by the number of youth involved in

the event. The main winning team, with a state wide total of 208 species, was made up of Cornell University students. The highest single team state wide total was 216 species found by the YMOS Raucous Gulls, a team of high school students! With this youth involvement and the total of 262 different species found over the entire event, The Interaptors are at least hopeful that Rachel Carson's silent spring is still not a reality yet.

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Photographic Gettysburg



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NAI Regional **ELECTIONS** are coming up this November, and we have the opportunity to elect (or re-elect) all four officers
· Director (serve through 2017)
· Deputy Director (serve through 2018)
· Treasurer (serve through 2017)
· Secretary (serve through 2018)

If you would like to run for one of these positions, please send the following on or before **July 15th, 2015**: Name, Position, Short Bio, Photo
Email nominations
to: dodie.lewis@loudoun.gov



Beltway Chapter News

Plummer's Island Adventure



Bull Run Mountain



Calendar of Events

Leesylvania State Park, A Potomac Legacy

Wednesday, June 3, 2015

10am - noon, plus a self-guided tour of the history museum and lunch
Leesylvania State Park, Woodbridge, VA

Leesylvania State Park is nestled along the tidal shores of the historic Potomac River. Native Americans lived on this land for thousands of years. Capt. John Smith visited the area in 1608 on his voyage of discovery. It's also the ancestral home of Virginia's legendary Lee and Fairfax families.

Explore the rich history and unique resources of this 542-acre site with Jim Klakowicz. We'll begin our tour with a short video that introduces the park, its facilities and resources, especially the history. Then we'll take a 2-mile hike to some of the park's significant historic sites and the best scenery. The trail is moderately difficult but we'll proceed at a leisurely pace with plenty of interpretive stops. We'll visit two nationally registered historic sites. One is the ruins of the home site of Henry Lee II, paternal grandfather, and Henry Lee III (Light Horse Harry Lee), father of the Confederate General Robert E. Lee. The other site is the earthworks of a Confederate artillery battery that helped in a blockade of the Potomac River 1861-1862. From the 90' bluff on which the battery sits, we'll enjoy a spectacular view of the Potomac.

Our guide, Jim Klakowicz, has 32 years experience with Virginia State Parks. He was park manager during the construction of Leesylvania State Park. As chairman of the Friends of Leesylvania, he has over 1,000 volunteer hours since his retirement in 2004.

Meet at the park's Visitor Center. Bring a bag lunch (or buy food at the snack bar) for a riverside picnic afterwards. The program is limited to 50 participants. To register, please contact, Mona Enquist-Johnston, Beltway Chapter Co-chair at mogar@cox.net. We'll meet rain or shine.

Note: Tell the contact station staff you are part of this program and they will waive the park fee.

Leesylvania State Park is located at 2001 Daniel K. Ludwig Dr., Woodbridge, VA.

Directions:

Leesylvania State Park is in the southeast area of Prince William County, about 25 miles from Washington, D.C., and Fredericksburg. From I-95, take Rippon Landing Exit 156, then go east on Dale Blvd. to U.S. 1. Jefferson Davis Hwy. Turn right on Jefferson Davis Hwy. and then turn left onto Neabsco Rd. (Route 610) east for about two miles.

This edition's "Where in the Region" pictures feature Drake Well Museum and Park and come courtesy of Sarah Goodman. The first picture depicts the Standard Steel Rig By Moonlight by Jeremy Bell, October 2014. The second picture depicts Pennsylvania Crude Oil being pump from the ground by a replica of Col. Drake's steam engine.

We invite you to enjoy a visit to Drake Well Museum and Park, where in 1859 Edwin L. Drake drilled the oil well that launched the modern petroleum industry. Drake Well Museum and Park tells the story of the beginning of the modern oil industry with orientation videos, exhibits, operating oil field machinery, and historic buildings in a park setting. Visitors enjoy a variety of special events, educational programs, membership, volunteer, shopping and recreational experiences on site.

Drake Well Museum and Park offers many events throughout the year. In October, we have our annual Drake Well by Moonlight event. This special evening experience brings oil history to life. Visitors stroll throughout the site and meet different petroleum history characters and listen to colorful stories detailing how the Oil Region developed.

For details on all Drake Well Museum and Park has to offer, please visit our website at www.drakewell.org or on Facebook at Drake Well Museum.

.NAI Region 2:

Delaware
District of Columbia
Maryland
New Jersey
Pennsylvania
Virginia
West Virginia

We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.interpnet.com/2/



National Association for
Interpretation Region 2
Chesapeake

Submitting Material for the Chesapeake Chat

Each edition will be theme-based so if you have something to contribute short or long refer to the table below for upcoming deadlines and themes. Submissions for other sections can be sent at any time but if it fits in with a particular theme send it by that edition's deadline otherwise it will be used for a future edition.

Recommended lengths for submissions:

500-600 words for articles

100 words for each tip or trick

Pictures should be submitted as an attachment to your email. Other materials may be sent in the body of your email or as an attachment.

If you have any suggestions for a theme for future newsletters, please send your suggestions or requests. Themes can be anything related to interpretation that would be of interest to the region.

Newsletter submissions including calendar items should be sent to:

ChesapeakeChat@gmail.com

	Deadline	Theme
Winter Newsletter	January 15	
Spring Newsletter	April 15	
Summer Newsletter	July 15	Fall Programs (Marketing and More)
Fall Newsletter	October 15	TBA