



Friends of the Taylor Wildlife Preserve

News --- # 11

7 Taylor's Lane, Cinnaminson, NJ 08077-1609

Voice and FAX: (856) 786-0809 email: ktmizuno@erols.com

June 2008

Debut of the FTWP website —

In July 2007 our own web site was launched:
<http://www.taylorwildlifepreserve.org/>

The site is arranged in the following categories:

- Photos
- Map
- Trails
- Newsletters
- History
- By-Laws
- Land Management Agreement
- Minutes
- Officers, Contacts and Membership
- Directions
- Links

Updates for 2008 include photographs by Brian Hart, Sandra Keller, Bennett Landsman, and James Sutton. Our thanks to these folks for contributing their photographs taken of the preserve for our web pages. These photos truly capture the beauty of the preserve. The Photo Gallery subject areas include:

- Amphibians
- Birds
- Insects
- Plants
- 2008 Scenery
- 2007 Scenery

The "Map" tab displays the existing trail map as hand-drawn by Joseph H. Taylor Sr. (See elsewhere in this newsletter for an update on the trail sign project.) The "Trails" tab contains the text of all the original trail signs.

Please visit the site and send your comments to the ftwpwebmaster@verizon.net as listed on the "Officers, Contacts and Membership" page. Ideas for additions to the site are welcome. Photos taken on the preserve would be appreciated.

.....

Sixth Annual Spring Bird Walk —

Friends of Taylor Wildlife Preserve's annual bird walk gathered on a sunny morning, Saturday May 17, 2008, near the green and white farmhouse of Kitty and Takashi Mizuno. Tom Bailey led twelve other binocular laden walkers around the trails of the preserve mixing pauses to identify and see birds with explanations and lore.

Tom's excellent ear meant we frequently heard a bird before we saw it. While many knew calls and songs of the familiar residents and seasonal visitors, Tom seemed to know every sound we heard. But Tom is not only expert at identification of birds, he also is a fine, patient teacher. He explained carefully and clearly regardless of the experience or sophistication of a walker's question.

The first exciting view was of a Parula Warbler in the tree above the laundry line of the cream and maroon farmhouse. We headed downriver, around the trail at the southwest end of the swamp crossing Tom Bujak's bridge over the exit channel from the swamp. The channel was flowing freely, a tribute to Takashi's daily efforts to break the beaver dams.

We quietly passed the area of dredge fill on the back side of the swamp hoping to see the Red Shouldered Hawk nesting nearby but only heard its tense, descending cry. The trail beyond the old sand pit heading toward the township leaf dump runs between two high courses of trees. Tom explained that the birds liked the breezy opening between the tree tops. Here we paused the longest and saw a Towhee, a Magnolia Warbler, Vireos, Orioles, Redstarts, a Carolina Wren, and cormorants and laughing gulls (flocks high overhead.)

Alders beside the narrow driveway lane provide the habitat for (among others) Yellow Warblers. As the driveway bends toward the horse pasture-white barn junction, we saw a nest of loosely woven threads. As the Yellow Throated Warbler parents flitted nervously nearby, we inspected the partially constructed nest. (NB: observed a week later, the nest was completed: CM) High above on the opposite side of the driveway was a coconut shaped Oriole nest with strands woven loosely enough to see the sky through the nest.

Tom was most excited as we approached the white barn and he spotted a White Crowned Sparrow. As it picked in the gravel of the driveway we could see the diagnostic wide lines of white on its head. It is a rare visitor to Taylor Wildlife Preserve.

A Great Crested Flycatcher showed off in the dogwood at the top of Tatum's driveway as we ended and separated.

Mike Zickler, Susan Zickler, and Sandy Rea continued to the end of Orchard Way, the sand spit that protrudes southeast into the swamp. We hoped to see the nest of the Red Shouldered Hawk from that vantage point. As we neared the sauna, we saw a Yellowthroat low in the brush. From the end of Orchard Way there were huge turtles, and a female Mallard tending her two young. Soaring out of the area of the sycamores trees where it nests, the Red Shouldered Hawk appeared. But the nest was not in evidence through the foliage.

Attendees: Tom Bailey, Leader; Peg Barker, Sam and Kathy Carswell, Peter Kinney, Steve Larkin

and Judith Vianden, Chuck Mattern, Kitty and Takashi Mizuno, Sandy Rea, Mike Zickler, Susan Zickler.

Legend: v = seen s = song heard

Common

Robin v
Cardinal v
Mourning Dove v
House Finch v
Catbird v
Great Blue Heron v
Red Winged Blackbird v
Starling v
Grackle v
House Sparrow v
Flicker v
Red Bellied Woodpecker s
Canada Goose v
Blue Jay v

Waders and Waterfowl

Great Blue Heron v
Green Heron v
Wood duck v
Mallard (female, with 2 babies) v (by MZ, SZ, & SR after large group ended)
Laughing Gulls v
Cormorants v

Raptors

Osprey v
Coopers Hawk pair v
Red Tailed Hawk v
Turkey Vulture v
Red Shouldered Hawk v by MZ, SZ, & SR after large group ended

Songbirds

Common Yellowthroat v
Yellow Warbler v
Blue Gray Gnatcatcher v
Yellow Rumped Warbler v
Yellow Warbler v including pair
and a nest at early stage of construction v
Magnolia Warbler v
Black Throated Blue Warbler v
Wood Thrush s
Veery v

Warbling Vireo v
White Eyed Vireo s
Parula Warbler v
American Redstart v
First summer American Redstart v
Towhee v
Baltimore Oriole v
Orchard Oriole male/female pair
& two oriole nests v
First Summer Orchard Oriole v
Carolina Wren s
House Wren v
Tufted Titmouse s

Meadow Birds

Goldfinch v
Rough Winged Swallow v
Tree Swallow v
Great Crested Flycatcher v
Eastern Kingbird v
Cedar Waxwing v
Chipping Sparrow v
Song Sparrow v
Brown Headed Cowbird v

Rare Visitor

White Crowned Sparrow v

By Sandy Rea

.....

Clean Up Day —

More than twenty people of all ages worked together on Saturday, April 5 to clean up the wildlife preserve, especially the area fronting on River Road, and along the riverbank on the northern edge of Wright’s Cove. We cleaned up 130 tires (127 from the garden area and 3 from along the river) that had been dumped on the Preserve, and lots of other trash. We also sawed up trees that have fallen through the winter and early spring.

Thanks to all of the following people for their help, not only this year, but in the past:

- Jimmy Griffin
- Elizabeth, Emily and Catherine Tatum
- Sandy Rea
- Stephanie Judson
- Mike Zickler

Suzanne Day
Nick Kakaroukas
Carolyn and Thomas Bujak
Amy and Maya Brooks
Patti Farley
Rebecca Fergosi
Tori Fergosi and two of her friends
Jim Mann
Takashi and Kitty Mizuno

By Kitty Taylor Mizuno

.....

Deer Population Management --

In recent years the population of White-tailed deer that are living on the Wildlife Preserve has been growing rapidly. We have learned that having more than 10 deer per square mile leads to over-browsing that threatens ecological balance. In particular it destroys the undergrowth necessary to the habitat of many species of birds. Since deer have no natural enemies here, and because so much of their habitat in the surrounding area was being destroyed for housing developments, shopping centers and the like, the size of the herds here had been growing. In the fall of 2006 we asked the Cinnaminson Police, as professional marksmen, to assist us with deer population control, which they have been doing ever since. We have been granted permission by the NJ Department of Fish and Wildlife for them to do this year-round. This has been extremely helpful. Some of the naturalists who come here often have told us that they notice the improved condition of wildlife habitat as a result of this.

By Kitty Taylor Mizuno

.....

Letter to Cinnaminson Township—

We agreed at the 2007 annual meeting of FTWP to write to the mayor of Cinnaminson Township to express our interest in the riparian land between here and the Cinnaminson Harbour housing development. Michael Robinson drafted the following letter, Kitty signed it as chair, and it was sent in January.

January 16, 2008

Mayor Beau C. Adams
Cinnaminson Township
1621 Riverton Road
Cinnaminson, NJ 08077

Stephanie Judson, Nick Kakaroukas,
Louisa Khanlian, Bennett Landsman,
Catherine Landsman, Jim Mann,
Takashi Mizuno, Jonathan R. Snipes,
Samuel Snipes
Regrets: Michael Zickler

Dear Mayor Adams and Members of Township
Committee:

The Friends of the Taylor Wildlife Preserve
(FTWP) is concerned about the future of the 19.60-
acre State of New Jersey riparian land adjacent to
the downstream border of the Preserve (Block 307
Lot 3.01).

This largely unspoiled tract of riverfront woods
serves as a much-needed buffer between the
wildlife area and the Cinnaminson Harbour
development, in addition to being the last
significant wooded area in the township and an
important environmental resource in its own right. It
is our view that preservation of habitat and passive
recreation (e.g., trails) should guide thinking about
this property. A summer walk down the dirt road
that passes through the land is like a return to a
Cinnaminson that has almost disappeared, but
which can still be saved for future generations.

The FTWP is registered with the NJ Tidelands
Bureau as an “interested party”, whose views must
be considered if a change in status is proposed for
the site. It is our hope that you will include the
FTWP in any planning that Cinnaminson might
undertake regarding this property. We would be
happy to serve in an advisory capacity, now or in
the future. Thank you for considering our request.

Respectfully submitted,
Kitty Taylor Mizuno

.....

**FTWP 2006 Annual Meeting—
February 24, 2008**

Attendees:

Kitty Taylor Mizuno, Suzanne Day,
Sandy Rea, Patti Farley, Karl
Anderson, Tom Bailey, Tom Bujak,
Brent Deisher, Rebecca Fergosi,

Kitty Taylor Mizuno, Chair of Friends of Taylor
Wildlife Preserve (FTWP), opened the meeting and
presented the tentative agenda for review.

- *Introductions*
- *Agenda Review*
- *Approval of 2007 Annual Meeting minutes*
Correction required as noted by Suzanne Day in
the explanation of item 4c Tidelands Bureau
Negotiations. The minutes were approved as
corrected.
- *Treasurer’s report*
Treasurer Sandy Rea submitted the Treasurer’s
Annual Report for February 2007 through
February 2008.
Sandy reports it has not been necessary again this
year to file the IRS 990EZ form for non-profit
financial reporting, since FTWP income has not
reached the minimum required for filing.
The Treasurer’s Report was accepted.
- *Last Year’s Activities*
 - a. Annual Meeting held Feb. 25, 2007
 - b. Bird walk with Tom Bailey
 - c. Cleanup day was held Sat., March 31
 - d. Deer population control
 - e. Trails grant application made to NJDEP
was approved for \$2,300 in Dec. ‘07
 - f. Executive Committee met in Dec. ‘07
and Jan. ‘08 to discuss how to carry out
the new trail signs project.
 - g. Inauguration of the FTWP website
 - h. Tire dumping
- *Update of Ongoing Activities*
 - a. Trail signs project grant
Work is continuing. Kitty is tracking the
hours FTWP invest for “in kind” credit. Karl
Anderson has written drafts for new signs for a
5/8-mile trail in “McCarter’s Field”. He also
reviewed the text of the existing signs and has

proposed changes. Karl suggests we consider how to integrate the existing trails with the new trail.

Rebecca noted that the police say they cannot effectively help in patrolling after dark unless there are signs plainly stating the preserve hours. Suzanne made a motion to direct the Executive Board to use either grant funds or funds from the FTWP budget for 2 large signs stating the park is open sunrise to sunset and any other prohibitions necessary; signs to be placed conspicuously on the lane. Motion seconded by Patti; motion carried on unanimous voice vote.

There was discussion regarding a kiosk, like the one at Amico Island Park. During a meeting in January with Martin Rapp, he suggested applying in the future for a grant to add a kiosk and improve the parking lot at River Road.

b. Deer population control

Members of the Cinnaminson Police Department harvested 36 deer in 2007. They have agreed to continue doing this for the coming year. Tom Bailey reports the vegetation growth has improved and does not seem as over-browsed as previously.

c. Beaver Dam

Last year the licensed trapper removed 5 of the estimated 10 beaver on the property. Takashi reports even if all were removed, more would arrive via the river. Takashi cleans up the damage caused by the beaver almost every day.

d. Riverbank repair

Nick presented a proposal totaling \$5,000 for materials for riverbank stabilization and erosion control for spring and summer 2008, noting that this effort will probably extend into additional years. Based on a request by Rebecca, Nick will re-evaluate the entire length of the riverbank and use the funds for the most critical areas. Work parties will be organized. Nick's proposal was accepted in principle.

Bennett suggested making a photographic record of the riverbank at low and high tides to document the condition of the areas.

e. Adjustment of marker for Hal Taylor

Suzanne reports the corrected site line has been identified. She will

investigate whether it is possible to shift the entire marker rather than break up the concrete to reset the marker. Suzanne will also obtain a cost estimate for the work.

f. Letter to Mayor of Cinnaminson regarding Tidelands Bureau land

A letter drafted by Mike Robinson was sent to the Cinnaminson mayor and township council that FTWP is an "interested party" if a change in status is proposed for the 19-acre site owned by the state and adjacent to the preserve.

▪ *FTWP Web Site*

The FTWP web site went "live" in July 2007. The web hosting fee of approximately \$47 is due in March. The previous web designer cannot continue this project but recommended her assistant, Pam Rivera. Her hourly rate is \$30.

The consensus was to have quarterly updates, allotting 2 hours per quarter. It was agreed to spend a maximum of \$325 on the web site this year.

▪ *Clean Up Day*

Saturday, April 5, 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. was selected for this year. Rain date is Sunday, April 6. Two areas targeted for this year are along River Road and across the lane from Wink's Pond.

▪ *Bird Walk*

Tom Bailey agreed to lead a bird walk on Sat., May 17. It will begin at 8 a.m. from 7 Taylor's Lane.

▪ *Election of officers and appointment of Executive Board members:*

EXECUTIVE BOARD

The nominating committee reports all board members whose terms are expiring have agreed to extend their Executive Board terms for 2 more years until 2009.

Suzanne Day	(2009)
Patti Farley	(2009)
Stephanie Judson	(2008)
Chuck Mattern	(2008)
Kitty Taylor Mizuno	(2009)

Takashi Mizuno (2009)
Sandy Rea (2009)
Michael Robinson (2009)
Larry Tatum (2008)
Mike Zickler (2008)

OFFICERS

The nominating committee reports Suzanne Day has declined Vice Chair for next year. Mike Zickler has agreed to serve in that capacity.

Chair: Kitty Mizuno
Vice Chair: Michael Zickler
Treasurer: Sandy Rea
Secretary: Patti Farley

There being no objection to this slate of officers and executive board members, the slate is elected.

▪ *Newsletter*

Patti Farley agreed to produce a newsletter in June 2008. The following agreed to author articles:

Sandy – bird walk
Kitty – cleanup day; deer management control; tidelands update
Patti – web site; ecological inventory (possible); notice asking for volunteer to maintain the website
Nick – riverbank project

The deadline is Memorial Day, May 26 for a June newsletter.

▪ *Other*

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned by Chair Kitty Taylor Mizuno.

♦ **ATTENTION** ♦

Any member interested in planning, managing and updating the FTWP Web site can contact Kitty Taylor Mizuno at:

(856) 786-0809

Respectfully submitted,
Patti J. Farley, Secretary

TO: Friends of the Taylor Wildlife Preserve
7 Taylor’s Lane
Cinnaminson, NJ 08077-1609

Here’s _____ as a donation to help FTWP.
(FTWP is a tax exempt organization under section
501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code and
contributions may be deducted as provided by law.)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Friends of the Taylor Wildlife Preserve

Kitty Taylor MizunoChair
Michael Zickler..... Vice Chair
Sandy Rea Treasurer
Patti Farley Secretary

7 Taylor’s Lane, Cinnaminson, NJ 08077-1609

Friends of the Taylor Wildlife Preserve
3 Taylor’s Lane
Cinnaminson, NJ 08077-1609