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New Jersey Audubon Society



The Meadowlands Marsh Hawks

World Series of Birding Pledge Sheet- May 10, 2014

Bird migration is here, and the World Series of Birding is just around the corner. We are pleased to announce that the Meadowlands Marsh Hawks will defend our title for the second year in a row. We couldn't have won last year without your support. This season, our team is asking for your help again as the title defense is going to be a real challenge. Every time a team wins the Limited Geographic category, its par total goes up by five -- which means the par for Bergen County has now increased by 10 species in the past two years.

The overwhelming support from all of you last year helped us raise enough money to do an overhaul of the Kingsland Overlook Trail. We are in the designing phase right now, and we'll be planting native plants this spring. Please come out in May to see the trail's new look.

This is how it works: If, say, 130 species are found by the Marsh Hawks and your donation is for \$.25 per species, then your donation would be \$32.50. Or you can just make a lump-sum donation. Donations may be tax-deductible.

But that's not all. For a donation of \$50 or more, you will receive a free T-shirt of your choice at the Tideland Treasures Gift Shop. With a \$100 donation you can get a t-shirt and a Marsh Hawk hat. For a \$150 donation you can get a signed copy of Jim Wright's "The Nature of the Meadowlands" book. With a \$250 donation you can schedule a personal birding tour for up to 3 people with team leader/Meadowlands Commission naturalist Mike Newhouse, to birding hot spots normally closed to the public, including Harrier Meadow, Marsh Resources, and the Richard P. Kane Natural Area.

After the conclusion of the World Series of Birding, which will be held on Saturday, May 10, we will send you a complete list of the birds counted and a letter documenting your generous donation.

This year, the Marsh Hawks want you to decide which of the following projects your donation helps to support:

Add a Purple Martin Colony – Bergen County Audubon Society donated a martin gourd complex to the Meadowlands Commission last year. Purple Martin expert Tim Shaheen, who is assisting us with this project, suggested two locations at DeKorte Park. He said two separate complexes would increase our chances to get a colony of martins -- or two different colonies if we are lucky. We are looking to add another complex at DeKorte.

Increase native plant diversity to Harrier Meadow – Again, BCAS assisted the Meadowlands Commission is obtaining a grant through the National Audubon Society for adding shrubs to Harrier Meadow. There is still plenty of room for more, and we would like to add native shrubs to attract more avian diversity to this wonderful marsh.

Add to a fund for creating a warm-season grassland – Pheasants Forever is donating \$1,000 to create a grassland on top of the 1E Landfill. All donations dedicated to this project will add to the fund to create this habitat. Grassland is the one habitat that can't be found in Bergen County. The Marsh Hawks are excited to participate in creating the only existing warm-season grass habitat in the county to provide breeding habitat for threatened grassland species such as Grasshopper Sparrow and Bobolink.

Thanks for your pledge and your support!

Yes, I want to support the Meadowlands Marsh Hawks for their World Series of Birding adventure.

Name: _____ Phone: _____ - _____

Address: _____

Town: _____ City _____ Zip _____

Email: _____

My pledge per bird species:

\$.25 _____ \$.50 _____ \$1.00 _____ Other _____

I would prefer to make a lump sum donation of \$ _____

Please mail pledge forms to Mike Newhouse at: New Jersey Meadowlands Commission
One DeKorte Park Plaza
Lyndhurst, NJ 07071

\$50 Donation
Receive a free T-shirt

\$100 Donation
Receive a free T-shirt and
a Marsh Hawk hat.

\$150 Donation
Receive a signed copy
of "The Nature of the
Meadowlands" by the
NJMC's Jim Wright

\$250 Donation
Receive a tour of restricted
access areas of the
Meadowlands

You may fax forms to **201-460-8434** or email to **michael.newhouse@njmeadowlands.gov**
Make checks payable to the New Jersey Meadowlands Commission.