



Pelican Briefs

A periodic newsletter of the Chase Lake Foundation
PO Box 311, Medina, ND Summer 2007

Pelican Briefing Set for Sunday, June 24



Chase Lake President Karl Limvere, and Directors Marvin Dockter and Ray Heupel display one of the signs that have been put up in the Medina Community for the new Visitors and Information Center.

Chase Lake Annual Meeting

Dan Buchanan, a well known birding enthusiast from Jamestown, presented a program on Birding on the Coteau at the annual meeting of the Chase Lake Foundation held March 11 at the Fellowship Hall of the Zion United Church of Christ in Medina.

Buchanan spoke of the unique assets and beauty of the Missouri Coteau region in which Chase Lake is a prime spot for birders and naturalists.

Chase Lake Foundation President Karl Limvere outlined the organization's plans to continue the development of the Chase Lake Visitors and Information Center in downtown Medina, to add billboard signs for the center on Interstate 94, and to begin planning for the 100th anniversary of the refuge which will take place next year.

Elected to three-year terms on the board of directors were Marvin Dockter, Patty

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Open House from 2 - 4 PM

Medina - The first annual Pelican Briefing will be held at the Chase Lake Visitors and Information Center in downtown Medina, Sunday afternoon at 2:30 PM.

Natoma Buskness, Manager of the Chase Lake National Wildlife Refuge, will present the report. Buskness was named the manager of the USFWS refuge two years ago. Previously she had served as the Deputy Manager of the Long Lake Wetlands Management District.

The Pelican Briefing will provide an update on the nesting activities of the American White Pelican at Chase Lake, which is the largest rookery of its kind in North America.

Chase Lake made international news in recent years when American White Pelicans abandoned their traditional nesting area three years ago.

A variety of factors were possible explanations of the abandonment, including disease, weather, and disturbance of the nesting area by coyotes. However, the cause of the abandonment could not be verified.

Last year the refuge recorded the second highest count of pelicans at the refuge - a total of 34,604 pelicans

The Pelican Briefing is sponsored by the Chase Lake Foundation to provide an opportunity for area residents to learn more of what is happening at Chase Lake as a result of the high interest in recent years. The Foundation is planning to make it annual event.

In addition to an update on the pelican nesting conditions, Buskness will also report on the work and activity plans for the USFWS in the management of the Chase Lake National Wildlife Refuge. An open house will be held from 2 to 4 PM as part of the event.

Now Open Sundays

The Chase Lake Visitors and Information Center is now open seven days each week. Through the cooperation of the Medina City Council, the Center will be open daily from 8 AM until 5 PM each day. Previously the Center had been opened Monday – Saturday. The Chase Lake Foundation thanks the Medina City Council for making it possible to keep the Center open every day.



Looking over one of the birding booklets available at the Chase Lake Visitors Center at last year's grand opening.

Annual Meeting (cont)

Hofmann, and Brenda Guthmiller, all of Medina.

Elected officers were President Karl Limvere of Medina, Vice-President Deb Hoffmann of Medina, Secretary Kimberly Murray of Jamestown, and Treasurer Brenda Guthmiller of Medina.



Ray Heupel of Medina and Marc Jensen of Jamestown, representing the Jamestown Chamber of Commerce do the ribbon cutting at the grand opening of the Foundation's Visitors Center.

Buchanan Joins CLF Board

Dan Buchanan of Jamestown has been named to the Chase Lake Foundation's Board of Directors. Buchanan, who helped organize and served as President of Birding Drives Dakota was named by the CLF board to fill a vacancy on the board.



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Enclosed \$ _____ to help the Chase Lake Foundation, PO Box 311, Medina, ND 58467 to move forward in its interpretative and educational programs and activities.

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