



**New Jersey
Meadowlands
Commission**

ELECTRONIC NEWS
NOVEMBER/DECEMBER
2010

**FLYWAY
GALLERY
"MARK DE MOS
AND FRIENDS"**



Watercolors and pastels by Morristown resident Mark de Mos and his students will be on display at the NJMC's Flyway Gallery from Tuesday, Dec. 7, to Friday, Jan. 28. A reception for the artists is scheduled from noon to 2 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 12. The Flyway Gallery is located in the Meadowlands Environment Center, in DeKorte Park, in Lyndhurst and it is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. weekends. For more information, [click here](#) or call 201-460-8300.

NJMC *Today*

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE NEW JERSEY MEADOWLANDS COMMISSION

VOLUME FIVE ISSUE ELEVEN

Greetings from Chairman Lori Grifa



Happy Holidays, and welcome to the latest edition of NJMC Today, the New Jersey Meadowlands Commission's monthly electronic newsletter. This month the Commission announced that Senator Marcia A. Karrow will become the NJMC's new executive director, effective Jan. 1. Senator Karrow is a proven leader whose success in fostering economic growth and environmental preservation make her an ideal choice to be the Commission's next executive director. Senator Karrow will succeed Robert Ceberio, who is retiring on Dec. 31, and I am confident she will continue Bob's outstanding work. Also in November, the Commission announced the creation of a solar power purchasing cooperative between two Meadowlands District municipalities that advances the Commission's ongoing commitment to economic growth, municipal assistance and environmental preservation.

Thanks for reading.

Lori Grifa

*Commissioner, New Jersey Department of Community Affairs
Chairman, New Jersey Meadowlands Commission*

NJMC Announces New Executive Director

In November the Commission announced that Senator Marcia A. Karrow will become the NJMC's executive director on Jan. 1. Senator Karrow brings a wealth of government experience and knowledge to her new role. She chaired Governor Christie's Department of Environmental Protection Transition Team and the Governor's Housing Opportunities Task Force. Senator Karrow is a former Assemblywoman, assistant director of the New Jersey Treasury Department, Raritan Township Mayor and Committeewoman, and Hunterdon County Freeholder. Current NJMC Executive Director Robert Ceberio is retiring Dec. 31, capping a nearly 30-year career at the Commission, the last eight as executive director.



NJMC Solar Program Helps District Towns, Green Economy, Environment



At its Nov. 22 meeting the Commission announced the formation of a solar power purchasing cooperative between the Borough of Little Ferry and the Town of Secaucus. The cooperative will enable the towns and their school districts to achieve significant energy cost savings by placing solar panels on and constructing solar canopies over public facilities and parking lots. The arrangement, facilitated by the NJMC under its Municipal Solar Assistance Program, also helps improve the environment and boosts the green economy by creating jobs for solar panel manufacturers and suppliers. Through its Municipal Solar Assistance Program, the NJMC provides free rooftop and open space solar assessments for District towns and school boards, and assists them in preparing requests for proposals to procure solar installations. To read more, [click here](#).

2010 Annual Report Available

The NJMC's 2010 Annual Report is available through the Commission's website. The document provides a detailed look at the multi-faceted agency's work over the past year, from its economic growth, municipal assistance and transportation initiatives to its scientific research and educational programs. The Commission produced a paperless report this year, cutting production costs and helping the environment. To view the report, [click here](#).



Blog Milestone



The NJMC Nature Blog reached a milestone 200,000th page view in November, reflecting the two-year old site's status as a trusted daily information source for Meadowlands region nature lovers. The blog, www.meadowblog.net, features wildlife and landscape photos, Tuesday Teaser bird trivia, and updates on the Commission's ecotourism events. The blog has drawn a following throughout New Jersey and beyond; its reports of rare bird sightings in the Meadowlands, including a Northern Shrike last winter, have drawn birders from the Tri-state area, Pennsylvania and Delaware to DeKorte Park in Lyndhurst, the home of the NJMC.

Wetlands Expert Visits NJMC

The Commission in November hosted a talk and site visit by nationally renowned wetlands authority Dr. William Mitsch. Dr. Mitsch visited two NJMC wetlands study sites in the marshes – one comparing natural to man-made wetlands and another measuring urban wetlands' ability to capture and contain carbon dioxide, a harmful greenhouse gas. Dr. Mitsch, a professor of wetlands ecology at The Ohio State University, gave a talk on the challenges and importance of creating wetlands.



"Green Friday" Nature Walk a Success

More than 20 birders participated in the NJMC's inaugural "Green Friday" Nature Walk and Talk on Nov. 26, choosing the tranquil trails of DeKorte Park over congested highways and packed store aisles on the morning after Thanksgiving. A Peregrine Falcon, American Black Duck, Northern Pintail and Green-winged Teal were among the avian species spotted during the walk, which was co-sponsored by the Bergen County Audubon Society. The NJMC and the BCAS will also host a free, guided birdwalk at DeKorte Park on Tuesday, Dec. 21. The walk will be followed by a talk about the Winter Solstice. For more information visit www.meadowblog.net or [click here](#).

