



The Catoclin Forest Alliance Bulletin

www.catoclinforestalliance.org



Newsletter of the CFA

Vol. 15 No. 2

May 2025

Editor: Linda Sundergill

Our mission is to preserve and protect the Catoclin Mountain forest for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations

www.catoclinforestalliance.org

Artist in Residence Artwork on Exhibit at Manor Area

by Linda Sundergill, AIR Chairman



Manor Area Visitor Center

A portion of the AIR artwork is on display through September at the Manor Area Visitor Center in Cunningham Falls State Park, 6709 Cunningham Falls Park Rd. Thurmont, MD 21788. Drop by if you have a chance and see some of the handiwork of our talented Artists in Residence.

Here is the art that is included in the exhibit.



"Certain Frenzy of Air" Oil painting by Maggie Pratt 2012



"Caesar's Amiata" Archival Pigment, Pastel on fine art paper by Bridget Sullivan 2012



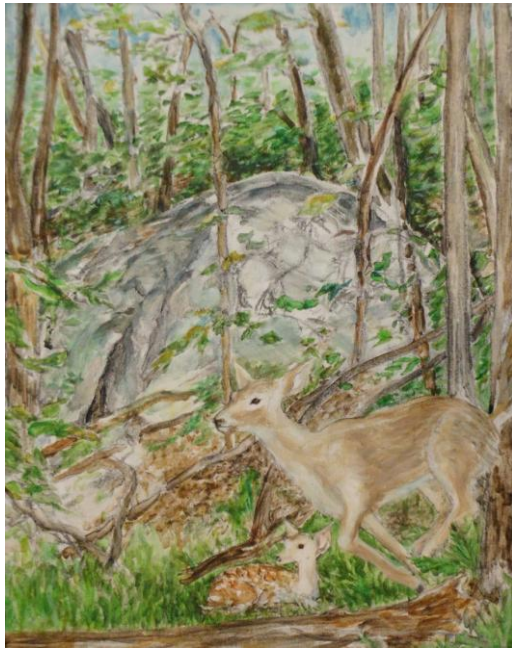
"Ghost Leaves": Memories of Catoclin Mountain" Mixed media (acrylic, watercolor, pencil and recycled cloth by Merrill Comeau 2017



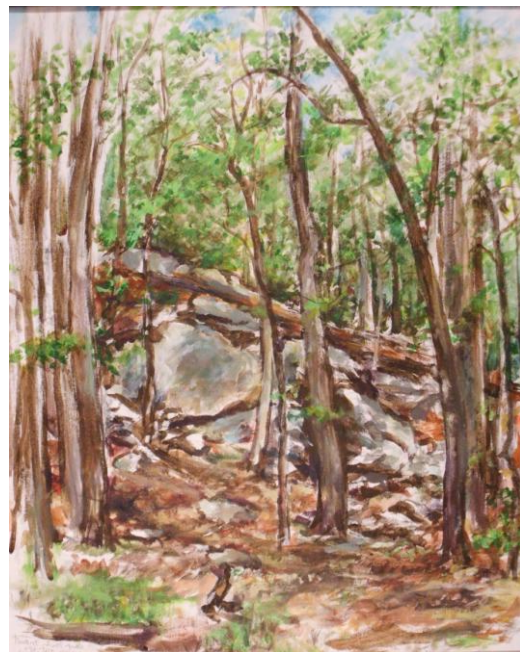
**"Second Growth" Acrylic and tissue paper by
Steve Hurley 2012**



**"Rattlesnake" Block print by
Nancy Haver 2014**



"Deer in the Woods" Acrylic by Janet Nave 2010



**"Escape to the Woodlands" Acrylic by Olan Nave
2010**

Many thanks to all of our Artists in Residence who have stayed with us in the state and national park since 2010. You have provided the artist's view of the Catoclin Mountain to our community with the many public presentations you have done and the wonderful pieces of art that you left as your legacy to the beauty of nature. This fall we will have two more artists staying and working in the parks. Watch this newsletter for updates.



A Note from our President, Jim Robbins

Summer is just around the corner and the mountains will be full of fun, laughter, adventures and explorers of all ages. Be kind to each other and take the time to enjoy where you are. Be respectful of the beauty and the animals that you see as you visit their home. Come hike the trails, take in the wonderful views. Experience the changes, take in the smells of the forest and visit the vistas. Check with the visitor center for information on new trails or future ones to come and see what new changes have been made in the Parks. Please stay safe as you do all these things. "Happy trails to you"

SUCCESS

Hard to believe that we have reached the end of our SUCCESS program for this year. All 5 youth have done an amazing job on the projects in the Catoclin Mountain Forest. We are so looking forward to next September for the youth to return and have many more adventures in the mountains. This is the end of 14 years that the program has been making differences in the lives of young people that get to enjoy the wonders of nature and experience being part of the mountains in the jobs that they do to make the parks a better place for all of us. We look forward to beginning our 15th year this September.



Clearing brush at Lewis House and pond



Stacking wood at Misty Mount for campers

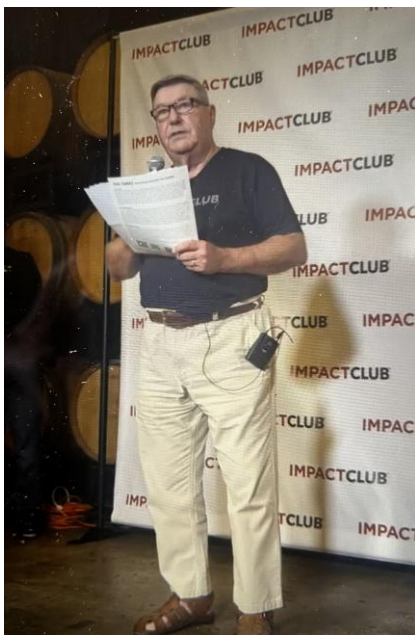


Working with the Amish at Misty Mount



Learning to use a backpack blower at the Manor Shop

CFA Receives Money from IMPACT Club by Linda Sundergill



Jim Robbin's presentation
for IMPACT Club 5-20-25

On May 20th Jim Robbins, President of CFA, was one of three presenters for the IMPACT Club in Frederick. On a quarterly basis, the club selects three of the non-profit organizations that have registered with them, to give a presentation and compete for funds that have been donated by the club members. Each club member gives \$100 quarterly and after each competition, the bulk of the money is given to the winner and the runners up get a smaller amount. CFA was a runner up this time and received \$2,090.00. Congratulations to Jim Robbins for his presentation and for being awarded money to augment the SUCCESS program that he has been leading in the parks for the past 14 years. SUCCESS is a program of the Frederick County Public Schools. It is for students with learning disabilities who do not learn well in the classroom setting. About 5-6 students per year have been doing their SUCCESS program in Catoctin Mountain Park and Cunningham Falls State Park under the mentorship of Jim Robbins and one school staff member for 5 hours, 5 days a week. The students do trail maintenance, learn to use and care for tools, learn CPR, do outdoor cooking, grow plants and many other tasks to help them attain life skills. Jim hopes to expand the program to include a

path that would lead to paying jobs in the parks. Many thanks to Jim for his years of work with SUCCESS. You have made a positive difference in the lives of the youth you have served.

A Note from Shelley

Submitted by Shelley Miller, Membership and Fundraising Chairman



Hello CFA Family. If you have already renewed your membership with CFA, thank you! If you have not, please do so now. Our new website makes it easy! Simply go to www.catoclinforestalliance.org. If you have not visited the new CFA website please take some time to see all of the new components. Joining or renewing from the website directly is easy. If you prefer, you may still send the completed newsletter membership page to CFA, PO Box 411, Thurmont, MD 21788 with a check made out to CFA. Building a strong membership base is critical to maintaining and growing the positive impacts of CFA. CFA strives to preserve the Catoclin Mountain forest for present and future generations. Many exciting things continue to happen in CFA and many new undertakings are on the horizon. Please join us as we reflect on the highlights of the past several months and embark on navigating the exciting events of the year ahead. Thank you to all who make these things happen!

In retrospect:

A BIG CONGRATULATIONS shout out to Jim Robbins for securing \$2090 for the SUCCESS program at the Impact Club event in May. Way to go, Jim! Thank you to those who came out to support Jim's presentation. If anyone would like more information about Impact Club Frederick please see Jim or Shelley.

CFA'S ARTIST IN RESIDENCE (AIR) EXHIBIT pre Mother's Day event

A BIG HEARTFELT THANK YOU to all who made the third annual CFA AIR pre Mother's Day event a wonderful day! This year's event took place at the Cunningham Falls State Park (CFSP) Visitor's Center in the Manor area. Artwork from the CFA's Artist in Residence (AIR) program remain on display in the visitor's center for all to enjoy. Thank you, Claudia Padilla and Sarah Rodriguez, for allowing CFA to exhibit in CFSP's visitor's center. Activities throughout the day included creating wood cookie necklaces (thank you Jim) and Mother's Day cards to take home (thank you Debbie and Michael). Of course, there were lots of delicious refreshments (thank you Wegmans) including freshly popped popcorn (thank you Dennis). All the while those who joined us learned about CFA and the many positive impacts the

organization makes (thank you Linda and Jim for hosting the information table). Jim and Linda also get a huge thank you for setting up the AIR artwork in the visitor's center. We were fortunate to have AIR artist 2020-2021, Nancy Arbuthnot, and her husband join us with a display of her work including her book "Remember Me Singing A Catoclin Mountain Alphabet". Thank you, Nancy for sharing your experience and talents with us.

If you would like to purchase a copy of Nancy's book please click [HERE](#). Below is a glimpse into the well-attended day.





Jim engages guests in creating a wood cookie necklace (above and below)



Ron Albaugh, original CFA member and Jim have the chance to reconnect (above/below)



Shelley and Dennis keep the popcorn poppin'





Linda, Jim, Nancy, and Ron... It's all about connecting and making a difference!



There's always time to discuss nature as Debbie Mills and Mr. Arbuthnot demonstrate.



Many visitors stopped in throughout the day.



Great fun resulting in artful cards. Thank you, Debbie and Michael!



Nancy Arbuthnot's ABC book about the Catoclin Mountains and her lovely watercolor notecards

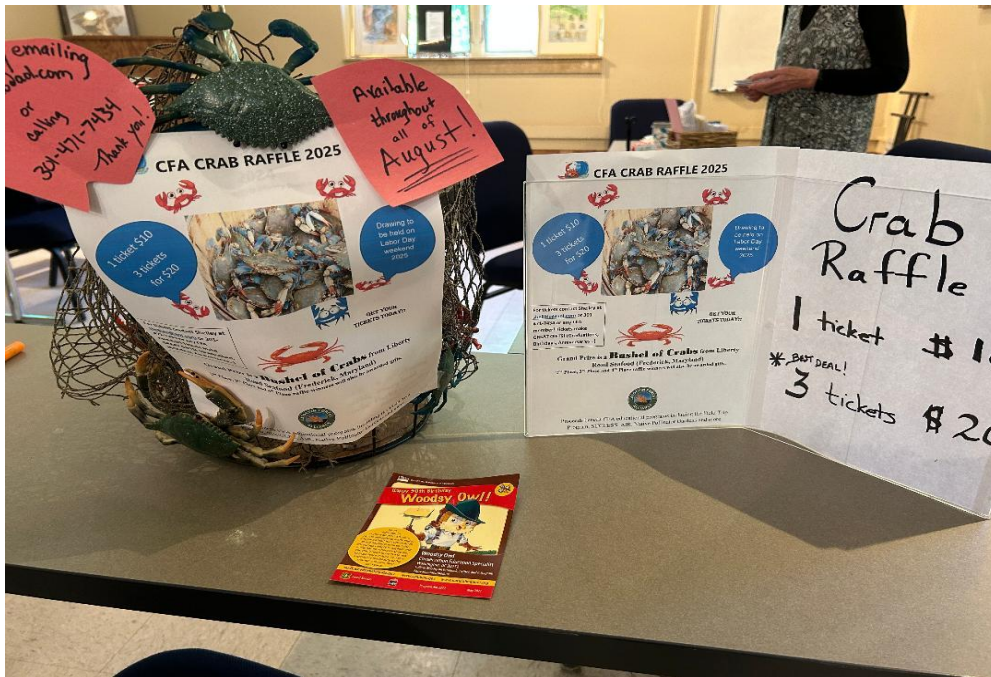
Thank you Wegman's!!!!!!!!!!!!



Thank you to Wegman's for donating the wonderful refreshments for the participants of this event. The refreshments were delicious and enjoyed by all.

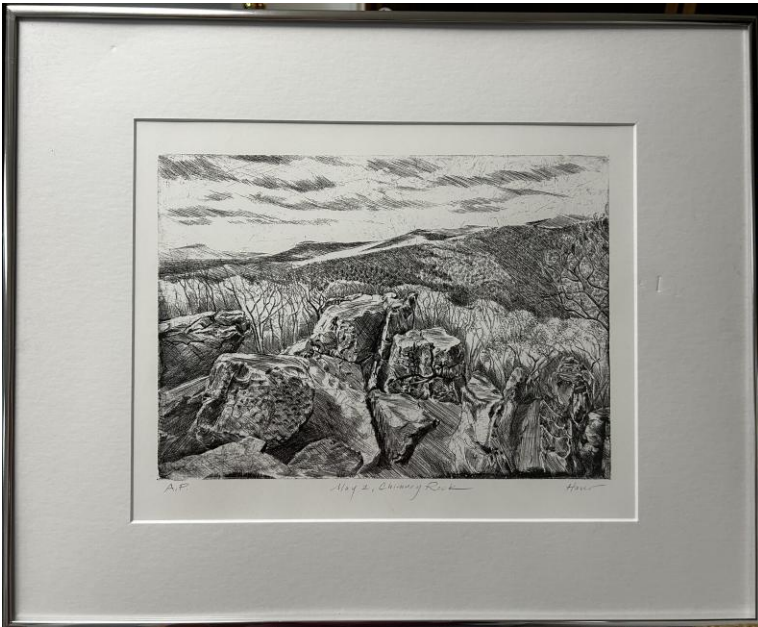


Annual Crab Raffle



The 2025 CFA CRAB RAFFLE is here! Running all the way up until the drawing on Labor Day weekend 2025. The drawing will offer multiple chances to win varied prizes. GET YOUR TICKETS!! Winners need not be present to win. The winner of the GRAND PRIZE (A BUSHEL OF CRABS FROM LIBERTY ROAD SEAFOOD!) will receive a coupon allowing him/her to pre-order a full bushel of crabs (absolutely free). Second, Third, and Fourth draw prizes, including the art print below,

will be awarded also. Don't miss your chance to be a BIG winner while supporting CFA's educational programs. Tickets are \$10 each or 3 for \$20 (best deal!). Raffle tickets make GREAT gifts (graduate, Father's Day, birthdays, anniversaries, treasured friendships...). Get yours today! Looking forward to a WONDER-full fund raiser! Contact any board member or Shelley (Shellbio@aol.com or 301-471-7434) to get your ticket(s) for a chance to win great prizes. Lots of opportunities to win! Great fun! ☺



This framed etching print by artist Nancy Haver, "Chimney Rock" will be one of the raffle prizes included in the Annual Crab Raffle.

GET YOUR TICKETS NOW!

Contact Shelley at
Shellbio@aol.com or
 301-471-7434)

GET INVOLVED!

CFA remains a vital group of caring individuals who are making a positive impact in our community. Please consider being an active part of this incredible service organization by joining or renewing your membership today! Remember, you may go to the CFA website, www.catoctinforestalliance.org, to join or renew. Or, you may send the filled-out newsletter membership page to the CFA PO Box (CFA PO Box 411 Thurmont, MD 21788) with a check made out to CFA.





News from Catoctin Mountain Park

May on the Mountain

by Phillip S. Greenwalt, Program Manager, Catoctin Mountain Park

May is the month of new beginnings around Catoctin Mountain Park. From welcoming Frederick County (MD) fourth graders on their first environmental education field trip in the park to welcoming seasonal rangers onto the park team.

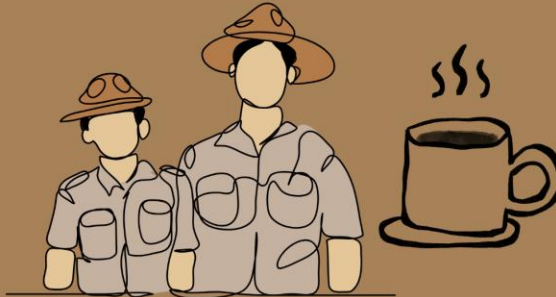
Besides new beginnings, there is also the return of park programming. The second Friday of every month starting in June, Catoctin Mountain Park will again partner with the Thurmont (MD) Library for a Tyke Hike beginning at 10:30 from the park visitor center. Also returning this year to Catoctin Mountain Park will be the popular blacksmith demonstrations. Join us on the last Saturday of every month from May to September starting at 10 a.m. in Round Meadow. Campfire programs, in Owen's Creek Campground return as well, every Saturday evening at 5p.m.

A new program, Coffee with a Ranger will also be in Owen's Creek Campground. It debuted this past Saturday and will continue Saturdays in June. Come see a ranger at a pop-up tent near the amphitheater to see what is going on around the park!

Check the park website for more details about these and programs upcoming this summer. Thank you to the Catoctin Forest Alliance for their continued support of the environmental education program and visitor service operations.

Catoctin Mountain
Park
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Coffee with a Ranger



Bring your own java and join a Ranger at
Owens Creek Amphitheater for an
introduction to Catoctin Mountain Park!

**Saturday Mornings at
9:30AM**

(Subject to change. Check website and social media
for updated schedule.)



Ranger Kelly setting up the "Coffee with a Ranger" station in Owen's Creek Campground (NPS)

Consider Donating to CFA

To help CFA continue its programs to preserve and protect the Catoctin Mountain forest, please consider, making a donation. CFA is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, so your donations will be tax deductible. Any donation over \$20 will include a one-year CFA membership. Here is what your donation could do.

- \$50 will buy notebooks or clipboards for 40 children at the week-long day camp.
- \$120 will cover the cost for one child to attend the week-long day camp
- \$125 will provide food for 40 children for one day of day camp.
- \$200 helps sponsor the Artist in Residence program
- \$364 will buy protective equipment for a SUCCESS program youth.
- \$400 will buy bus transportation for 40 children to day camp for one day.
- \$1300 will fund the SUCCESS program for one year.



Giving Levels

- **Acorn** up to \$99
- **Seedling** \$100- 499.99
- **Sapling** \$500-999.99
- **Mighty Oak** \$1000 and over

Donations checks can be made out to CFA and sent to Catoctin Forest Alliance, PO Box 411, Thurmont, MD 21788

Join or Renew your Membership to CFA

We'd love to have you join us in our mission to protect the Catoctin Mountain forest. Your support would be a great benefit to us and the forest. To join CFA or renew your membership, please send the membership application form and a check made out to **Catoctin Forest Alliance** with notation "**Membership**" to the address below. **The yearly membership dues are \$20 per person or \$30 per couple.**

You can also join online at <http://www.catoctinforestalliance.org/index.php/join>.

Kathy Byrne
CFA Treasurer
123 Ironmaster Dr.
Thurmont, MD 21788

New members will receive a CFA patch



Name(s): _____

Mailing Address: _____

Email address: _____

Committee Interest

Strategic Planning ____	Membership ____	Conservation/Education ____
Fundraising ____	Artist in Residence ____	Marketing/Publicity ____
Information Technology ____	Finance ____	

Visit our website at www.catoctinforestalliance.org