

Prepared by Mary E. Bowler, Bird Study Merit Badge Instructor
November 20, 2010

B.S. A. Troop 109 –
Bird Study Merit Badge
Field Trip to Edwin B. Forsythe
National Wildlife Refuge, Brigantine, New Jersey

Thank You DVOC and Nikon!!!

- Boy Scouts of America Troop 109 would like to thank the Delaware Valley Ornithological Club and the Nikon Corporation for their generosity. As 2010 recipients of the New Bins for New Birders Grant (NB4NB) the scouts are now properly equipped with amazing Nikon Action binoculars and can readily head afield to work on their Bird Study Merit Badges.
- Join us on our most recent field trip to the Edwin B. Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge and see the boys and the binoculars at work!



Scouts Mykal Harmon, Phearath Dang, Joe Nyguen, Timmy Dang, Temmy Olusa and BJ Whitfield



All binoculars are focused on a Great Blue Heron in the pond.



Great Blue Heron

All binoculars are focused on the photographer!

Joe, BJ and Phearath working on an I.D. for their team.



Joe spots a Marsh Wren.



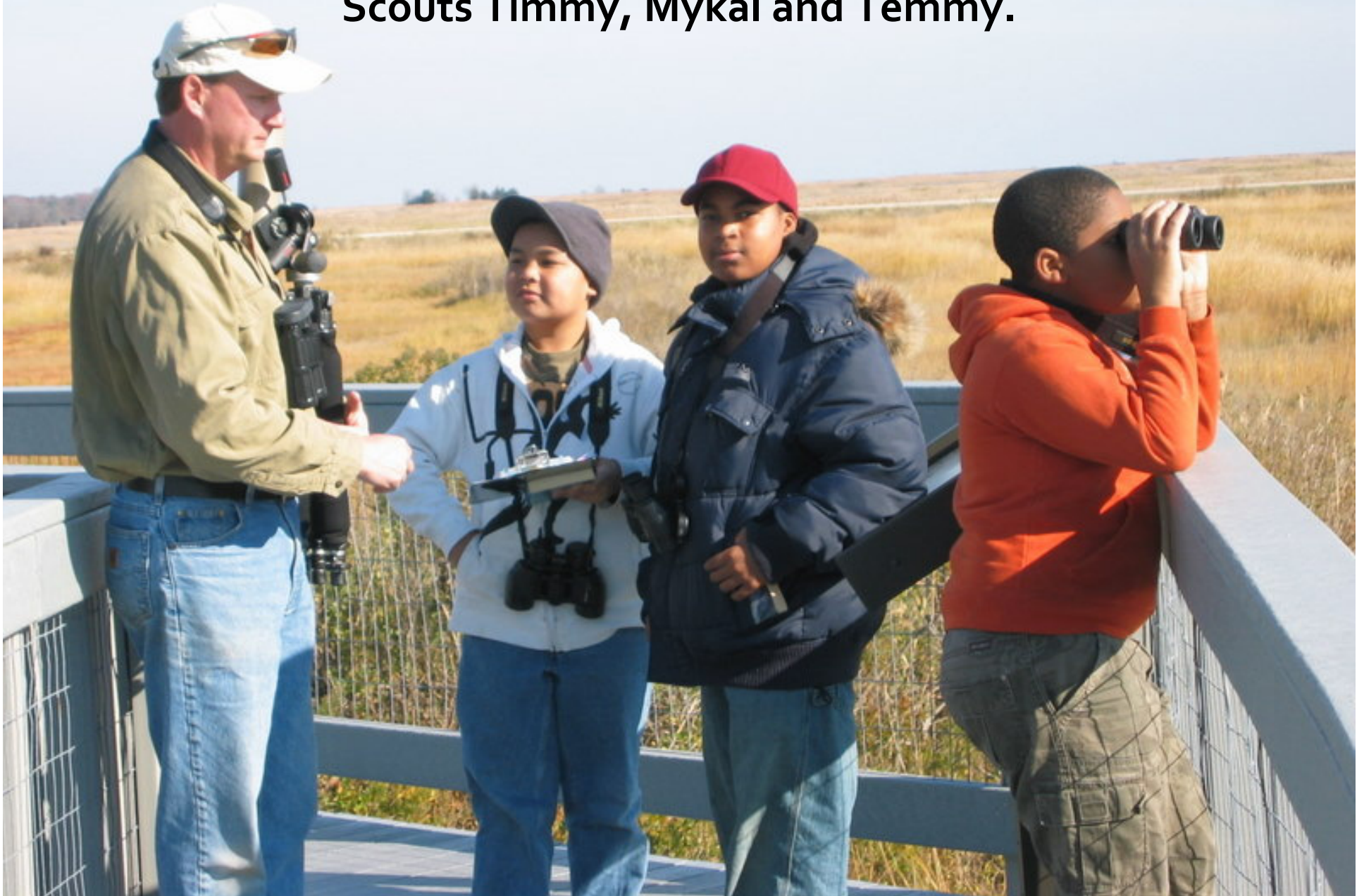
A Northern Harrier soars over the sanctuary searching for food.



**Speaking of food...the team takes a break.
Likely wondering what's for lunch!**



Volunteer and seasoned birder, David Powell, coaches Scouts Timmy, Mykal and Temmy.



Team Work:

**Temmy spots
the bird,
describes its
size, shape,
and colors.**

**Mykal and
Timmy quickly
try to I.D. it.**



Team Work:

Timmy and Mykal research and confirm the bird's I.D. using a Field Guide.

They record it for the team:

American Black Duck



**Volunteer David Powell sets up the Spotting Scope.
Northern Pintails, Buffleheads, and Red Breasted Mergansers
await identification by the scouts.**



**Mykal researches a new duck
while Temmy gets ready
to record their new sighting.**



All of the scouts are eager to use the spotting scope ...

← Look this way for
Ducks

Look this way for
Atlantic City →



**Scout BJ Whitfield gets a good, long, gander at some geese....
and a few swans, too, sighting the Brant Goose, the Canada
Goose, the Snow Goose, the Tundra Swan and the Mute Swan.**



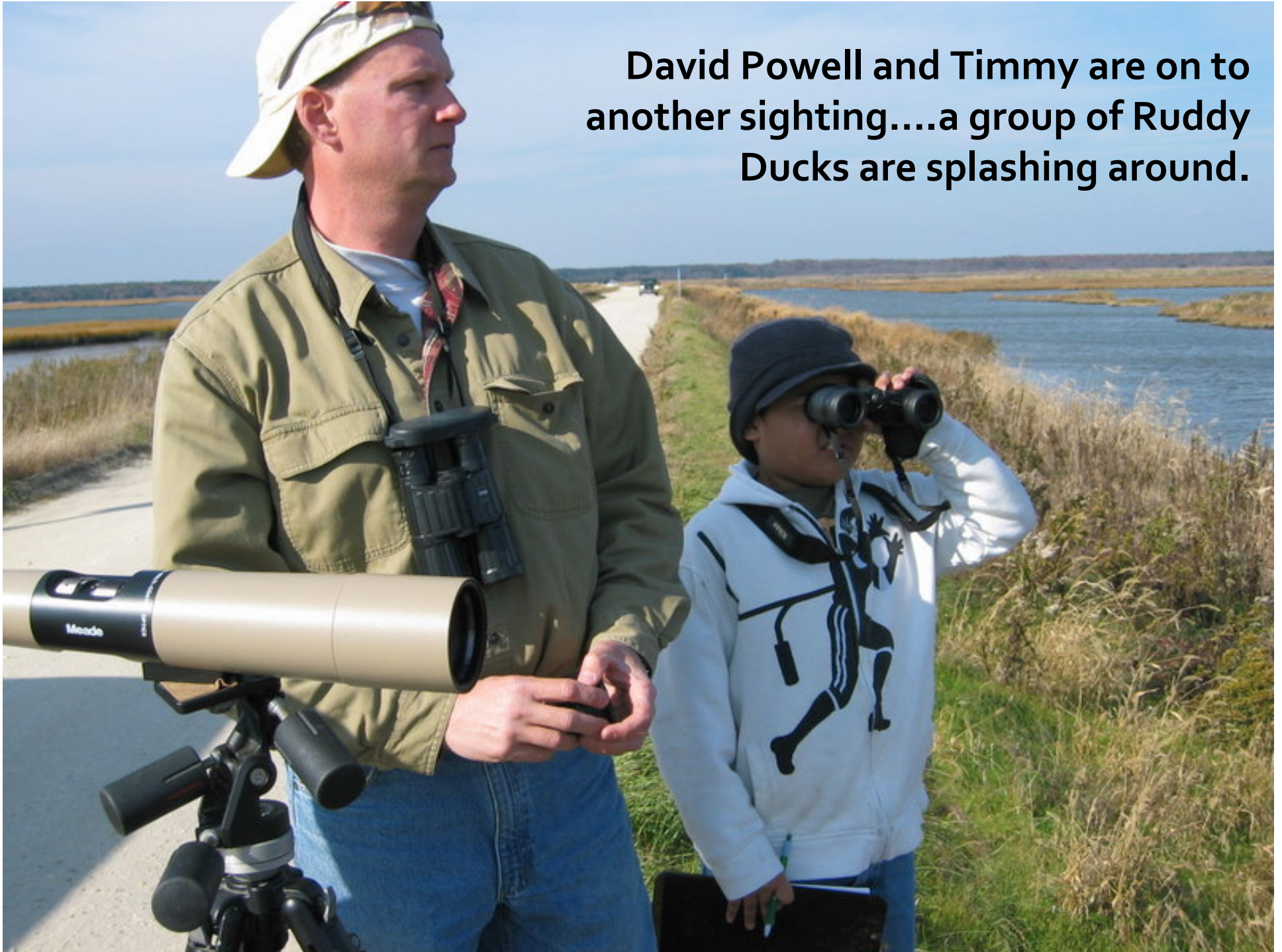
**Scout Timmy Dang is thinking through the identification.
Iridescent green head, white chest, rusty sides,
and spoon shaped bill.....**



One more quick look through the spotting scope for Timmy to confirm that the dabbling duck is a Northern Shoveler!



David Powell and Timmy are on to another sighting....a group of Ruddy Ducks are splashing around.



Scout Phearath Dang spots an American Coot...with its distinctive short white bill and black body.



Scout Phearath Dang takes note of the Atlantic City skyline in the background of the wildlife sanctuary.





**Troop 109 Boy Scouts of America
Bird Study Merit Badge November 2010**

Birds Identified: 26 Species

1. Double-crested Cormorant
2. Great Blue Heron
3. Tundra Swan
4. Mute Swan
5. Snow Goose
6. Brant Goose
7. Canada Goose
8. Green-winged Teal
9. American Black Duck
10. Mallard
11. Northern Pintail
12. Northern Shoveler
13. Gadwall
14. Bufflehead
15. Red-breasted Merganser
16. Ruddy Duck
17. Turkey Vulture
18. Northern Harrier
19. American Coot
20. Black-bellied Plover
21. Lesser Yellowlegs
22. Dunlin
23. Sandpiper
24. Herring Gull
25. Great Black-backed Gull
26. Marsh Wren