

Goldstein honors Whitesbog volunteers

By Ina Z. Cabañas

Honoring volunteers usually takes place in April to coincide with volunteer month, but at Whitesbog Sue Goldstein chooses to honor her volunteers in the fall.

Goldstein is the volunteer program coordinator and works with all of the volunteers from the office staff to the Antique Engine Society and on to the restoration of the buildings and gardens. She, with the help of other volunteers, held an invitation only, catered luncheon to say THANK YOU to everybody who volunteered their time to keep Whitesbog the success that it is.

No matter how many hours a person volunteered each and everyone was awarded a certificate of appreciation along with a photo magnet of Whitesbog and a sticker decal for their car.

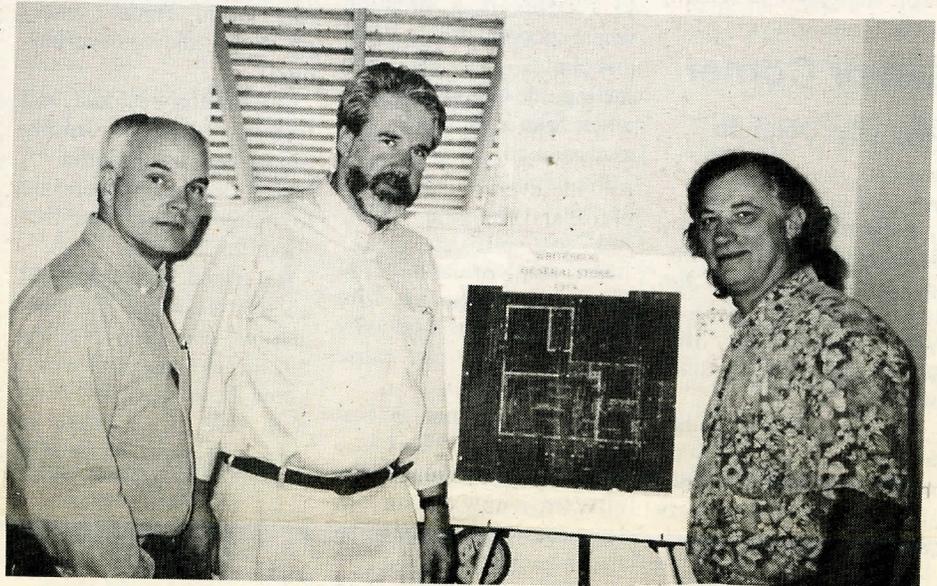
Goldstein keeps track of all volunteer's time so she can thank each one properly. She praised each volunteer as they were called up for their recognition.

"Some people put in a tremendous amount of time", says Goldstein, "There's always so much to do around the village."

Some volunteers received extra gifts. Tom Darlington, Elizabeth White's nephew, received a bag of throat lozenges since he lectures frequently about Whitesbog. Another volunteer received a bottle of bubbles for her bubbly personality.

For much dedication at the blueberry festival one volunteer received a pair of sandals for all of the walking he does, another received a whistle to use coordinating hikes, and another received a battery operated hand fan to cool off in the heat.

Volunteer help is always needed at Whitesbog Village. With only one and a half paid employees the village couldn't exist without its volunteers. "We'd



Stefan Thompson, Bill Bolger, and Dave Orleans, attend the Whitesbog Visitor Appreciation Day held this weekend at the Whitesbog Village. Photo by Ina Cabañas

love to have volunteer help on a regular basis in the office. We could use help just a couple of hours just to help out with filing, copying, or whatever", continues Goldstein.

Bill Bolger has been a volunteer at Whitesbog for the past 18 years. He serves on the board of trustees and is the official historian of the village. His association at Whitesbog started with a research project in 1981. It was an historic study of the farm funded by a grant received by the NJ Conservation Foundation.

The grant was to study the farm & evaluate its historical significance. A few years later the NJ Conservation Foundation formed the Whitesbog Trust and Bolger agreed to serve on the board.

"This relies heavily on volunteer work", Bolger says about the trust, "We're trying to do a lot."

Volunteers have restored buildings, gardens, and blueberry fields, run tours and festivals, staffed and managed the office, archived documents, and collected interviews from people who worked and

lived at the village.

"We don't have adequate funding to hire people but the great thing is to see people come forward vol-

untarily to do it (the work) because they love it. It's a very important site", Bolger says about Whitesbog.

Goldstein and the trustees are currently looking for volunteers to help with upcoming projects such as refinishing the general store. They are in need of carpenters or carpenter's helpers. Whether you have any woodworking skills or would like to learn some, your help could be used.

They could also use help running the store on weekends and want to find a store manager. Goldstein could always use help with clean ups, gardening, spe-

cial projects, Pineland Festival, or Blueberry Festival.

The trustees are looking for artifacts from the 1920s to the 1950s that might have been used or is similar to what might have been used at Whitesbog. They are in the process of trying to stock the general store so it will look as it did in the past. They are focusing on agricultural artifacts, store products, and any furniture that might have been used to decorate the worker cottages.

For volunteer information call Sue Goldstein or Stephan Thompson at 893-4646.



Natural surroundings

photo by Ina Cabanes.

Nature Conservancy members, Stefan Thompson, Bill Bolger, Fred Gibbs, Judy Norcross, Tom Darlington, and Save Orleans pose along the outdoor part of the Nature Conservancy located in Whitesbog.