

WPT NEWSLETTER

late 1998 - early 1999



Whitesbog Preservation Trust

120-13 Whitesbog Road
Browns Mills, NJ 08019

609-893-4646

Message from the President:

Well, another summer is almost over (sorry I had to remind you). It was a very busy summer here, at Whitesbog. The restoration of the Worker's Duplex is almost finished as I write this, and it really looks terrific! Congratulations to the Whitesbog Preservation Trust Buildings Committee for the oversight of the project, Don McFarland and his workers for such a fantastic job, and to the 1772 Foundation for providing a grant which covered some of the costs.

Whitesbog Village is looking busy with more tenants than ever. It is great to see the village so alive and vibrant. The Whitesbog Preservation Trust's summer tours and events have been a success. Visitation to the village and surrounding bogs remains high. Once you come out to Whitesbog you can't help but come again. The beauty and history are irresistible!

Even with the hard work of our many volunteers and our one part-time staff person, Whitesbog's opportunities for education and enjoyment, and Whitesbog Village itself, wouldn't exist today without our visitors and members. It is your visitation and your contributions that allow the Whitesbog Preservation Trust and Whitesbog Village to continue.

The Whitesbog Preservation Trust has come far in the last few years, but still has far to go. As with any small non-profit organization, we are al-

ways short of money. We have many more projects to complete than we can finance. When you consider all we accomplish with a mostly volunteer staff, it is truly amazing. Whitesbog seems to bring out the best in people. There is something about this place that stays with you long after your visit is over. I don't know what it is, the birds, the trees, the bogs, maybe the rustic buildings, but something definitely makes an impression that you can't forget. In the middle of all the clutter and hectic pace of our daily lives, Whitesbog is a breath of fresh air. Like a cool breeze, Whitesbog makes us take a minute, forget all our demands and obligations, and sit back and smile. And that's a good thing!

Please take a moment and fill out the enclosed Whitesbog Preservation Trust donation envelope. Becoming a member now, allows you to attend many of our educational programs and hikes *for free from the fall of 1998 until the beginning of the year 2000!* Only by becoming a 1999 member can you enable us to meet our goal and break our 1998 membership record of 170; we are hoping to attract *well over 200* members before the year 2000. Most importantly, by becoming a member of the Whitesbog Preservation Trust, you will be instrumental in preserving one of the most beautiful and historically significant sites in Southern New Jersey. And that's a very good thing!

John Nardone, President



Whitesbog News Nuggets:

The 15th annual Whitesbog Blueberry Festival Blueberry Cross Country Run - Like the Blueberry Festival which followed it, this year's Blueberry 10K was a big success. Nearly 200 runners braved the course which traversed a few areas of knee deep water due to heavy rain prior to the race. And the winners were,

- ◆ Overall men's winner: Chuck Grabb @35:59
- ◆ Overall women's winner: Lauren Rhatigan @41:01
- ◆ The following men were winners in their respective age class: Kasimir Bujak, Doug Goldblatt, Matt Conover, Gary Orert, Neil Van Aartrijk, Bill Slocum, John Nitek, Herb Townsend, Bob Robbins, and Jim Routhier.
- ◆ The following women were winners in their respective age class: Denise Lavenia, Tanya Kemps, Barb Vanaman, Dawn Smith, Lisa Wilhelm, Kathy Crabb, Carolyn Bujak, Sue Jufonics, and Rita Alles.
- ◆ Fun run winners: male - Tim Crotchfelt, female - Rita Grmek.

Congratulations to the runners and the winners!

Whitesbog Blueberry Festival 1998 -

The 15th annual Whitesbog Blueberry Festival was a HUGE success. Our 2,300+ visitors were entertained by folk music, attended historic village and Suningive house tours, and learned about the ecology of the Pinelands via walking, bus, and hay wagon tours. They also relished delicious Blueberry Festival food, shopped at our craft fair, book sales, and old fashioned post office, and perused the many exhibits including arts, photography, crafts, antique engines, and Pine Barrens special interest groups. Children had their own special day at the Blueberry Festival. Children's activities which took place throughout the day included constructing a pine cone birdfeeder, blueberry games, nature games, a hay wagon ride to pick blueberries, storytelling, and a very messy, but delicious, blueberry pie (a la mode) eating contest.

The P.I.N.E.S. Program is restoring a small building for classroom space -

The classroom space will be located in a small cottage on the north end of Whitesbog Village. Restoration funding is provided by the Whitesbog Preservation Trust along with the Pinelands Institute for Natural and Environmental Studies (P.I.N.E.S.). Last seen, they were busy painting the inside walls.

Pinelands Antique Engine Association (PAEA) continues to be a great benefit to Whitesbog Village - The PAEA is continuing the restoration work on Whitesbog's brick Power House and they are continuing to care for our Blueberry Festival pick-your-own blueberry field. They will also be assisting a future Eagle Scout on his project of replanting a small portion of that field as a demonstration plot of old blueberry varieties from Elizabeth White's era. They also have volunteered in many other ways. A big thanks goes out to the PAEA for their work to benefit Whitesbog Village.

Two additional Whitesbog buildings have been rented - Currently Whitesbog Village has seven occupied rental units. The two buildings recently rented are the Boarding House and the Old General Store. The renters at Whitesbog all have an interest in the restoration and interpretation of the historic village. Every December they play host to Whitesbog members and volunteers during our annual holiday membership party and candlelight house tours. Eighty percent of Whitesbog rental income is used for restoration and upkeep of the village buildings and twenty percent is used for administrative purposes.

The Whitesbog Archives have been preliminarily organized by the P.I.N.E.S. and the Trust staff - In order for the research library to be available to the public, we are looking for a volunteer or an intern to further organize, make copies of, and categorize the documents by keywords (using the Microsoft access database). Please call 609-893-4646 if you are interested, or have a lead for us to contact.

1772 Foundation Grant restores a Worker's Cottage - The restoration of the worker's cottage next to the Barrel Factory is nearly complete - the inside restoration is almost finished. The cottage originally housed four families for year-round Whitesbog workers. In the early 1900's, the cottage was remodeled to house two families. One half of the building will be interpreted to the public as a quad and the other half as a duplex. We are currently seeking donation of appropriate furniture for the period.

Up and Coming at Whitesbog ... (also see the enclosed 1999 Calendar)

Fall 1998 Events: (unless otherwise noted all events are \$5/person, \$10/family)

- **CRANBERRY HARVEST TOURS:** We have 3 upcoming Cranberry Harvest Tours. The tours are on consecutive Sunday mornings at 9am (they are held on Sunday mornings because that's the only part of the weekend that the cranberry farmer works). The dates for the tours are Sept. 27, Oct. 4, and Oct. 11. You are more likely to see the harvest in action on the last two dates. On September 27, it's "touch and go" whether we will get to see the harvest or not. If the farmer is not harvesting that day, we will still show the cranberry slide show, hike out to the active and inactive bogs, and hike around an abandoned blueberry field to pick the wild cranberries that grow there. Please wear boots or old shoes!
- **CELEBRATE PINELANDS MONTH! OCTOBER 4TH IS THE 3RD ANNUAL PINELANDS MONTH OPENING CELEBRATION:** The day will begin at 9am with a Whitesbog Preservation Trust Cranberry Harvest Tour (see above for the tour fee). Opening ceremonies start at 11am. Other scheduled highlights include Pinelands art, music, and poetry, folklore legends, cranberry food favorites, children's environmental activities, and Pinelands exhibits. All events, except the cranberry harvest tour, are free. For further information, contact the Whitesbog Preservation Trust at 609-893-4646 or the Pinelands Preservation Alliance at 609-894-8000.

Pinelands Month
Calendar of Events



OCTOBER IS PINELANDS MONTH!

The month is an opportunity for organizations dedicated to Pinelands preservation, interpretation, and education to coordinate their activities and events. The goal is to highlight the importance of the Pinelands region. The effort is spearheaded by the Pinelands Preservation Alliance (PPA), the group responsible for getting the proclamation by Governor Whitman in 1996. For a free Pinelands Month event calendar, locator map, and ecotourism tips, call the PPA at 609-894-8000.

- **LANDSCAPE AND TRAILS VOLUNTEER WORK DAYS** - Oct. 3 & Nov. 7, 10am-12noon (free)
- **FULL MOON HIKES** - Oct. 3 at 7pm & Nov. 7 at 6pm (the Nov 7 hike includes a "star party" with Toms

River Astronomy Club).

- **CRANBERRY HARVEST 10K RUN** - see the included flier.
- **HALLOWEEN STORYTELLING FOR FAMILIES AND YOUTH GROUPS** - see the included flier.
- **HALLOWEEN EVENING IN THE PINES** - see the included flier.
- **SLED DOG DEMONSTRATION** - November 21, 10am-1pm.
- **MEMBER HOLIDAY PARTY AND CANDLELIGHT HOME TOURS** - for members and volunteers only (free), Dec. 11, 6pm.

Membership Campaign:



The 1999 Whitesbog Preservation Trust membership campaign is underway ... and this year we have a goal!!! We would love to have over 200 members by the year

2000 --- please help us to meet this goal. With all the Trust accomplishes, your membership dollars go a long way.

Your support will enable the Trust to continue preserving historic Whitesbog Village and to continue providing educational, recreational, and volunteer opportunities. Because the Trust receives no State appropriations, the level of membership support we receive is directly proportionate to the amount of work we can do at Whitesbog.

To support the Trust, and the preservation and interpretation of Whitesbog Village, please return the enclosed membership envelope with your contribution to the Trust.

Members have free admission for our "Seasonal Series" programs, tours, walks, and hikes (excluding the Blueberry Festival and Halloween Evenings). Members are also invited to our annual Holiday Party/Candlelight Home Tours. All new members receive our four booklets for free - the Old Bog Nature Trail Guide, Trees of Whitesbog, the Whitesbog Driving Tour, and the Fire Ecology booklet.

Whitesbog Preservation Trust gives a Thumbs up to Pinelands groups:



The public-private partnership cultivated between Lebanon State Forest, the Pinelands Institute for Natural and Environmental Studies, the Pinelands Antique Engine Association, and the Whitesbog Preservation Trust continues. The above groups are collectively sustaining, restoring, and promoting the beautiful Pinelands Village of Whitesbog.

The Whitesbog Preservation Trust also promotes the work of other "Pinelands groups" and their achievements in Pinelands preservation, interpretation, and education. Messages from a selection of these groups follow. To talk to representatives from these groups and to view their displays, come to the Pinelands Month Opening Celebration at Whitesbog on Sunday, October 4, 1998.

❖ P.I.N.E.S. -

Pinelands Institute for Natural and Environmental Studies:

The Pinelands Institute, an Institute of Rowan University, is a center offering quality educational experiences for school children in the Pinelands National Reserve. Activities originate at the Whitesbog General Store and are designed for a 10am to 2pm session. Pine Barrens educational topics include "Life in a Company Town", "The Cranberry Industry", and "Pine Barrens Ecology". The staff at PINES represents a diversity of expertise in Environmental Education and Pinelands Education.

The Pinelands Institute looks forward to working with school programs to develop a better understanding and appreciation of this unique eastern wilderness - the Pine Barrens.

Teachers and school administrators can contact PINES at 609-893-1765 for information or reservations.

❖ Rancocas Conservancy

Did you know that the village of Whitesbog is in the Rancocas Creek watershed? The bogs all empty into the Cranberry Branch, which drains into the Rancocas Creek's north branch just upstream from Browns Mills. The Rancocas Conservancy is a non-profit organization, whose mission is "to preserve, protect, enhance, and sustain, the ecological and cultural integrity of the Rancocas Creek Watershed". The Conservancy carries out its mission by acting as a land trust: it acquires land for conservation purposes, accepts conservation easements of private properties, and works with governments at all levels to improve the environmental conditions within the watershed. The Conservancy owns 265 acres of forest and easement along the North Branch of the Rancocas Creek, and is presently working to acquire conservation easements in the Arney's Mount district of Springfield Township, Burlington County.

Volunteers are needed to monitor and maintain the preserves: Pemberton Beech Woods, in Pemberton Borough, and North Branch Preserve, in Pemberton Township. If you are interested, please call David White, Science and Education Chair of the Board of Trustees, at 609-877-7950.

❖ PPA - Pinelands Preservation Alliance:

The Pinelands Preservation Alliance is an organization of environmental groups, volunteers, members, trustees, and staff. Its mission is to "preserve and protect the resources of the New Jersey Pinelands".

PPA monitors public agency decisions and activities, and advocates appropriate land use and resource management. PPA also seeks to raise public awareness of the value of the Pinelands and support for preservation.

PPA monitors the activities of the Pinelands Commission, the state agency charged with implementing the Pinelands Comprehensive Management Plan, and the many municipalities in the Pinelands. PPA works to influence these agencies in the cause of preservation.

We work to spread public appreciation of the Pinelands through "Inside the Pinelands", PPA's newsletter, educational videos, displays at fairs and festivals, and a Speaker's Bureau. "Pinelands Month", a month long celebration of the scope and spectrum of the Pinelands, takes place every October.

If you are interested in preservation, would like to get involved in conserving the Pine Barrens eco-system, or know of violations taking place in your area, please give us a call. Our phone number is 609-894-8000 or you can e-mail us at PINELANDSPRES@skyhigh.com

Mail List: we love to send you our information - but our long mail list needs "streamlining". Please let us know if you are no longer interested in receiving our mail, if you are receiving duplicate copies, or if we have botched the spelling of your name or address.

NAME & ADDRESS TO BE REMOVED FROM THE MAIL LIST, OR THE INCORRECT ADDRESS OR SPELLING TO BE CORRECTED (please include the correct information in the box to the right) - Please Print!!	NAME & ADDRESS TO BE ADDED, TO REMAIN ON THE LIST, OR CORRECTIONS TO BE MADE TO THE MAILLIST - Please Print!!
Name:	Name:
Address:	Address:
Zip:	Zip:
Return to: Whitesbog Preservation Trust, 120-13 Whitesbog Rd., Browns Mills, NJ 08019	

NOTE: Due to the expense of mailing to so many people, after this mailing, we plan to discontinue mailing to those who *have not* visited Whitesbog (signed our guest log or registered at the kiosk), called the Trust office, or become a member of the Trust since before 1996. If you feel that you may be in this category, and you still wish to continue receiving our mailings, call the Trust office at 609-893-4646, leave your name and address on the answering machine, and indicate that you would like to continue receiving our mailings (or fill out and return the right-hand form above).



A Contest to Name the Whitesbog Newsletter: send a name suggestion to the Whitesbog Preservation Trust Office at 120-13 Whitesbog Rd, Browns Mills, NJ (include your name, address, and phone number), and you could win a set of Whitesbog coffee mugs and a membership for a year.

Whitesbog Volunteer Notes:



Thanks ...

A big thanks goes to our many volunteers who have given Whitesbog a successful 1998 – without our volunteers we would get nowhere. I wish I could thank all of our volunteers by name (but I'm afraid I'd leave someone out).

So far this year, here's what our wonderful volunteers have accomplished: they have been guest leaders on seasonal series walks, worked in Elizabeth White's native plant garden, replanted the circular native plant bed, cleaned up village trash, put up self-guided trail signs, trimmed branches from the nature trail, reconstructed foot bridges, repaired the power house building, cleared brush from blueberry fields, driven hay wagons, worked at every imaginable Blueberry Festival job, rebuilt an old outhouse, updated our mail list program on the computer, organized Whitesbog archive files, entered names into our mail list and other miscellaneous office work, staffed the blueberry festival 10K run, and were docents (tour guides) for village tours.

As you can see, our volunteers do an incredible amount of work – we are proud of them!

Janet visits Alaska ... and discovers Arctic blueberries and cranberries!

Janet Robbins, recipient of a 1997 New Jersey State Park Service volunteer certificate of appreciation, and who continues to be involved so much that we consider her *our* "volunteer of the year", recently took a trip to Alaska.

She sent us a postcard from Alaska – and believe it or not, she spent some time picking blueberries & cranberries on the tundra at the Arctic Circle. Wherever Janet goes, those blueberries & cranberries seem to follow!

Whiteshog's successful Eagle Scout Projects:

Jay Marsh, from Troop 47 in Tabernacle, NJ earned his Eagle Badge by putting up signs along the nature trail, rebuilding several footbridges, and constructing the small kiosk that delineates the start of the trail. Congratulations Jay!

James Tomasino, also from Troop 47 in Tabernacle, NJ earned his Eagle Badge by replanting Elizabeth's circular native plant garden. Congratulations James!

Matt White from Scout Troop 112 in New Egypt, NJ is nearing completion of his Eagle Badge. He put up the number signs along the five mile driving tour. A special thanks also goes out to Junior Girl Scout Troop 4263 of Tabernacle, NJ. Their troop made the wooden driving tour signs.

Two or three additional Eagle Projects are pending for the end of 1998 and 1999. Please give the Trust a call at 609-893-4646 if you would be interested in donating supplies or expertise to help an Eagle Scout project.

How you can help the Whitesbog Preservation Trust:



Publicity – newspaper watchers:

We need volunteers who take one (or more) of the following newspapers to become a newspaper watcher. I fax events to the following papers, and have heard that the events do not always get into the paper's calendars. Your job will be to watch the papers for events. I will call you and let you know when I have faxed publicity so you know when to keep watch. Also, if you notice any articles in the paper about Whitesbog, please write the date and name of the paper on the article and neatly cut it out and send it to us for our newspaper scrapbook. Thank you!

To volunteer as a paper watcher, call the Trust at 609-893-4646 and leave your name, the paper(s) you will watch, and your phone number. Also call if you think we should be publicizing to a paper that we are not.

List of Papers: Asbury Park Press, Times Beacon, Trenton Times, Philadelphia Daily News (New Jersey section), Burlington County Times, Gloucester County Times, Toms River Ocean County Observer, Community News (Browns Mills), Surf City Sand Paper, Manchester Times, The Press of Atlantic City, Spirit of Mt. Holly, Central Record, and Courier Post.

Available from the Trust:

(items below, except for the live plants, can be purchased before or after our monthly moonlight hikes)

- ✓ Whitesbog Publications: Old Bog Nature Trail Guide, Whitesbog Village Tree Trail, Whitesbog Driving Tour, Fire Ecology of the NJ Pine Barrens - \$2.50 each plus \$1.00 each for postage and handling. One set of guides is free to new members. To receive an order form, call the Trust at 609-893-4646.
- ✓ 5"X7" modern cranberry harvest photos (matted) - \$5.00 each (only 15 left).
- ✓ Whitesbog visors - \$3.00, Whitesbog baseball caps - \$5.00.
- ✓ Cranberry T-shirts and Blueberry T-shirts from past events - \$5.00.
- ✓ Whitesbog Preservation Trust Coffee Mugs - \$5.00.
- ✓ Live potted ornamental plants. Call for the selection currently available. May possibly include Highbush Blueberry, Witchhazel, Sweet Pepperbush, Spicebush, Silky Dogwood, Sweetbay Magnolia, and Franklinia. Call for our bargain prices. Plants that you want to purchase may be picked up at our moonlight walks; however, you must call at least a week in advance to arrange this.



Volunteers are needed for the following:

1. A volunteer to check phone messages, collect the mail, and send out Halloween tickets & fliers between Oct. 14 & Oct 21.
2. Mature people to be Halloween Spooks at Whitesbog's Halloween Evenings in the Pines. We need 20 spooks each night (Oct. 24, Oct. 30, Oct. 31, and Nov.1) to haunt the hayrides and lead the haunted walking tours. We also need non-spooky (unless you want to dress up anyhow) volunteers to serve cider and donuts, and for set-up and clean-up.
3. Volunteers are needed as timers and for the registration table at our Annual Cranberry Harvest Cross-Country Run scheduled for Oct. 10th.
4. Young (also "young-at-heart") volunteers to help bag sand to make 200 luminaries and to bag cranberries for sale. This work will need to be done between October 1 and October 10th. October 3rd between noon and 6pm would be a great time to work on it.
5. A volunteer or volunteers are needed to make copies of our archives using the copy machine at the Trust office. A knowledgeable volunteer is also needed to further organize the archives and catalogue them by key words. This project could be done in the winter.
6. A sign-maker willing to donate materials and sign-making expertise for upkeep of the nature trail, tree trail, and driving tour. Nature trail and tree trail signs are "plastic" and driving tour signs are routed wood. Upkeep involves replacing those signs that get vandalized.
7. A volunteer to type updates on our Microsoft Access Mail List (this volunteer job is necessary at least once a month so we don't get so far behind prior to our mailings).
8. Youth or Scout group needed to sing carols at our Membership Holiday Party and our Candlelight Village Tours. Musically inclined youths or adults needed to provide background holiday or classical music from the General Store stage during the party.
9. Garden and Landscape volunteers are needed on the following dates between 10am and 12noon:
In 1998: October 3 & November 7.
In 1999: March 27, April 17, May 1, June 5, July 24, August 28, September 25, and October 23.

Our Wish List:

(If you are not able to supply one of these items, but would like to contribute to this wish list, the Trust would gratefully use your donation earmarked for this purpose).

- 1920's vintage furniture for interpretive use in the restored workers cottage. We need living room furniture, sitting room furniture, kitchen items, and small wood stoves.
- Old photos of Whitesbog. If you used to live in or visit Whitesbog, and took photos, we would love to have copies of them.
- A copy machine & electric typewriter.
- A comfortable office (computer) chair.
- Handsaws, pruning tools, and work gloves.
- A wooden or metal utility cabinet, 31" or less wide and 18-20" deep.
- Wood for boardwalk construction, foot bridge repair, and sign post replacement.
- Perennial plants (*varieties that would be found in the 1920's, 1930's, or 1940's*) for planting in Elizabeth White's historic garden beds.

- Plant list for the bed on the north side of the lawn: Lavender, Daffodils, Day-lilies, Irises, Shasta Daisies, Red-hot Poker, Monarda Punctata (horsemint), Rudbeckia (cone flowers), Goldcrest, Fern-leaved False Foxglove, Gaillardia, Dahlias, Dianthus (pinks), and Astilbe (false goatsbeard).

- Plant list for the crescent bed: Iris, Asters, Goldenrods, Peonies, Phlox, Daffodils, Wild Hearty Ageratum, Painted Daisies, Shasta Daisies, Chrysanthemums, Oriental Poppys, Red-Hot Poker, and Dianthus (pinks).

Whitesbog Naturalist:

Come and Visit Whitesbog this fall! Take a walk around our bogs and through our scenic pine forests and discover the experiences of our guest nature writer, Karl E. Halo II, Field Instructor, Pinelands Institute for Natural and Environmental Studies - Rowan University, in the following essay:

The Crackling Music of Fall



For many people, the crackling music of dry leaves underfoot is a soothing part of their fall strolls through the forest. It is an audible reminder of the seasonal flow. And as one walks the wooded areas around Whitesbog, one finds comfort in that seemingly familiar tune of crunch-crunch-crunch. But a brief stop to examine the source of that autumnal melody often reveals not leaves, but lichens singing the great cycles of climate, forest, and life.

Lichens are dual organisms, a fungus and an alga living together in a symbiotic relationship. The fungus weaves itself around the alga to form something of an outer shell/support system, while at the same time it provides the pair with water and minerals. This "shell" is often the most visible part of the lichen. Inside, the alga uses its chlorophyll to produce carbohydrates that will be shared with the fungus.

The specifics of reproduction among lichens may vary from species to species. But, in all cases, the fungus and compatible alga must disseminate together in order to form lichens.

There are three major classifications of lichen. Shrub-like *fruticose* lichens appear as branched plants, having upright or hanging stems. Lichens which form as a crust on flat rocks or tree trunks are known as *crustose*. Those that are locally anchored, and often have lobed, leaf-like, free form margins are called *foliose*.

Whatever the classification, lichens are hardy, pioneer plants. They grow well in conditions that severely limit competition from other plant types. For example, lichens are found to thrive on bare rock, sand, and in areas that are subject to extreme temperatures.

In the Arctic and Antarctic regions of today, lichen are by far the dominant plant group. The Arctic Circle is home to at least four hundred and thirteen species of lichen, while only one hundred and fifty-five flowering plants have been found there. The Antarctic Circle is even more amazing in this respect. Approximately four

hundred species of lichen thrive in Antarctica, but merely three native types of flowering plants survive that continent's cold climate. These modern observations lead one to consider the idea that during South Jersey's sub-glacial past, the area that would become Whitesbog would likely have been a lichen-rich tundra.

Later, as climate changed, and the Earth warmed, other plants moved up from the south and knocked lichens from their dominant position. Interestingly, the lichens may have facilitated this change of the guard.

The soil of what are now the Pinelands is generally sand. Sand is not the most hospitable of soils. It is easily eroded by wind and water. It allows rain to pass through without so much as a "How do you do?". And the nutrients it might have are not readily available for plant use. Not many plants thrive in such conditions. Lichens do, but in doing so they change the very conditions that gave them the edge over other plant types. They stabilize the soil surface, retain moisture, and through their death and decay, add nutrients to the soil, thereby improving the soil for their competitors.

This process continues even today. One need only walk the "recently" disturbed areas of the forest, the abandoned blueberry fields, the old roads. One will notice, there on the otherwise bare sand, lichens preparing the way for the forests to come. The forests whose leaves will fall and sound beneath one's feet: Crunch! But, wait a minute! Was that a leaf? Better stop and take a look.

Selected Bibliography:

- Boyd, Howard P., A Field Guide to the Pine Barrens of New Jersey, Plexus, Medford, NJ, 1991.
Hutchins, Ross E., Plants without Leaves, Dodd, Mead & Co., New York, 1966.
Shuttleworth, Floyd S., H.S. Zimm, Non-flowering Plants. Golden Press, New York, 1967.

Whitesbog in the Winter:

After experiencing Whitesbog in the fall, you will definitely have to return for a winter walk around the bogs. Nothing is quite like experiencing the melodic cooing of the shy Tundra Swans that over winter at Whitesbog.



Researchers at Long Point, Canada, the first stop for Tundra swans on their long springtime journey to their Arctic breeding grounds, are currently studying the swans migration, to determine important stopover areas.

Dr. Scott Petrie, the Research Director of the Long Point Waterfowl and Wetlands Research Fund, is using satellite telemetry to track Long Point's Tundra Swans for up to two years. To augment the migrational information that he will get from the satellite transmitters Dr. Petrie also attached neck collars to swans at Long Point. The collars are black with white letter-letter-number codes all in a row. The first character is C,E,J, or K. The second character is A,C,E,H, J, K,N, P, R, T, V, or X. The third character is a number 0-9.

If you visit Whitesbog and notice a collared swan, please contact the Whitesbog Preservation Trust at 609-893-4646. If you are able to read the three character code, also contact Dr. Scott Petrie at e-mail spetrie@bsc-eoc.org or phone toll free 1-888-448-BIRD and report the data and location.

LET'S GO SURFING NOW!!!

In order to find out more about Tundra Swans and the Tundra Swan research project, check out Long Point's web site at www.bsc-eoc.org/swans. Follow each of 4 swans as they migrate north to their Arctic nesting grounds and return to their wintering grounds along the Atlantic coast.



The Naturalist's Interesting Websites:

Whitesbog is getting a Website, thanks to Ruth Swanell at the Burlington County Library! It is currently under construction. In the future you will be able to access our site at www.burlico.lib.nj.us/whitesbog

Other web sites of interest discovered by the Whitesbog Naturalist:

The Astronomical Society of Toms River: www.monmouth.com/~zimmerman/astra

Burlington County Library - Your guide to Burlington County: www.burlico.lib.nj.us

Cranberry growing in New Jersey: www.rce.rutgers.edu/burlington/cranberr.htm

County Bell calendar of events: www.burlico.lib.nj.us/county/countybell

New Jersey Pinelands Commission: www.state.nj.us/pinelands

Ocean Spray Cranberries: www.oceanspray.com

Pineylore - history and folklore of the New Jersey Pinelands: www.telplus.net/~lopez

Plants of the New Jersey Pinelands: www.georgian.edu/bi_pines



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