

THE WHITESBOG

PRESERVATION TRUST NEWSLETTER



Summer 1994

The Burlington Day Program: Continued Success and Increased Cooperation with the Trust

Over the past ten years, the Burlington Day Program, working in conjunction with the Trust and Lebanon State Forest, has played a critical role in the ongoing effort to restore Whitesbog. Administered by the New Jersey Department of Human Services, the Day Program is an alternative to incarceration for juvenile non-violent offenders.

Based at Whitesbog, program participants receive vocational skills training through restoration work, field and classroom education, and group counseling to address interpersonal and social relationships. The Day Program's work has ranged from early clearing of brush from the village to the return and restoration of the Field Office - one of the earliest buildings at Whitesbog. This year's projects include continued restoration of the schoolhouse and completion of the pumphouse restoration, as well as a number of stabilization projects around the village.

During 1994, the Trust has been increasing its efforts to provide the Day Program with environmental education. Teachers provide classroom education on Pinelands ecology and Trust Director Hazel England conducts nature hikes around the Whitesbog tract. The Trust has high hopes for the continued success of this mutually beneficial partnership, which can serve as a model for other Day Programs around the state.

Trust Receives William Penn Foundation Grant!

In December of 1993, the Whitesbog Preservation Trust was awarded a three year grant from the William Penn Foundation totaling \$135,000. This generous grant will fund the environmental portion of the Whitesbog Interpretive Project, which will interpret environmental, historic and cultural resources of the village for the general public. The grant will enable the Trust to:

- *Develop self-guiding nature tours of the Whitesbog tract, including publishing a Whitesbog Nature Trail Guide.

- *Offer a series of environmental education activities at Whitesbog including hikes and tours of the village and its surroundings.

These activities will augment the interpretive events already offered like the cranberry harvest tours, wildflower walks and moonlight hikes.

Look for more information on this program in future mailings.



A Message From Hazel England

**Whitesbog Preservation Trust's
Executive Director**

The past year has been one of change and progress for the Trust. This newsletter outlines some of our recent achievements. In December 1993, we secured a three year \$135,000 grant from the William Penn Foundation enabling us to offer a comprehensive environmental education program at Whitesbog.

Over the coming months, three self-guiding tours will be produced using funds from this generous grant. And look for a summer session of educational hikes and activities. This will start off with tours offered at the Blueberry Festival in June.

The Trust continues to broaden the scope and number of events it offers. In May, a Trust team participated in New Jersey Audubon Society's World Series of Birding and raised much needed funds through pledges. In June, we held our first "piney-peddling" mountain bike event. Look for another planned for late September.

The Trust continues to act as a concerned citizens' group protecting, restoring and interpreting Whitesbog. To enable use to continue our work, we need your support - as members, volunteers and as participants at our many events. There's something here for everyone!

Hazel England

Cheers to Our Volunteers!

The Trust wishes to thank all of the volunteers who have generously donated their time! Extra thanks to two particularly active members:

Bruce Atkinson of Country Lakes who has helped with a number of events including the Halloween Evening in the Pines and the Christmas Party. Bruce is contributing his graphic design skills to the Trust creating a map of Whitesbog which will be on display at this year's Blueberry Festival.

Lois Morris of Whiting for her continued assistance with leading wildflower walks and bird tours at Whitesbog, and helping with the garden restoration project at Suningive.

Rowan College's PINES Program Brings Schoolchildren to Whitesbog

The Pinelands Institute for Environmental Studies (PINES) provides an opportunity for children from various school districts to experience the natural and cultural environment of the New Jersey Pinelands. Through PINES, administered by Rowan State College, thousands of children participate in field studies each year at Whitesbog, where they study Pine Barrens ecology, history and culture. Activities can be tailored to meet the specific needs of a given class. For more information contact:

**PINES, 120-13 Whitesbog Rd., Browns Mills, NJ 08015
(609) 893-1765**

Join Us!!

Got a few spare hours you're desperately trying to fill? We have the solution!

We could use volunteers to get our mailing list in top shape; to help us in our fundraising efforts and give our green thumb a hand with the restoration of Elizabeth White's garden. We also need help running the office and with our many events.

Or show us your artistic talents! We need sketch artists and other creative souls to help us with publicity material preparation!

Are you generally a handy person to have around? We could use gifted labor from carpenters, plumbers, electricians and other artisans.

In fact, you name the task, we could use your help to accomplish it! Contact the Trust office to sign up!

Whitesbog Board of Trustees 1994

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Whitesbog Welcomes New Trustees

The Trust is pleased to welcome five new trustees to the Board this year.

JoAnn Cubberly, of Medford, works for the Tidelands Management Program in the Department of Environmental Protection and Energy. Prior to joining the Board as Secretary Ms. Cubberly has served as a volunteer to the Trust and has performed with her musical group "Musica Antiqua" at the Blueberry Festival for the past several years.

Robert Elder, of Medford, is Superintendent of Schools for Pemberton Township. Bob's link to Whitesbog dates back to curriculum development work with the former conservation and environmental study center.

Patrick McAndrew of Haddon Heights is a land use planning attorney with Brandt, Haughey, Perberthy and Lewis in Moorestown.

John Nardone joins the Board as Treasurer. A resident of Mt. Holly, Mr. Nardone's link to Whitesbog goes way back to his father who worked at Whitesbog. John himself has been an active volunteer with the Trust for several years. As Treasurer he will devise better accounting methods for the Trust and will chair the Finance and Personnel Committee.

Betty Wilson, a resident of Burlington City, is former Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Protection and Energy. Ms. Wilson helped establish the Pinelands Preservation Alliance. She is currently a member of the city's Historic Preservation Commission and served as Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer.



Trust Joins World Series of Birding

This year the Whitesbog Preservation Trust's team joined in the 11th annual World Series of Birding! Sponsored by the New Jersey Audubon Society, this event is designed to focus public attention on the plight of migratory birds. Teams of birders from around the country scurry around New Jersey to identify the greatest number of bird species within 24 hours. The teams collect pledges which fund a variety of projects around the state.

The Whitesbog team identified a total of 178 species, a count which earned them 15th place out of a total of 48 teams - a very impressive start for their first year! Team members included Dan Lane, Eric Reubel and Donna Traylor. The Trust extends its thanks to the team and to the Montclair Bird Club for their generous donation of the team's registration fee.

Happenings at Whitesbog

Highlight of 1994 events thus far...

April 9

Pickeral Catch in the Bogs! 44 people participated in this event. The winning pickeral was 23" long and was caught by Georgia Douglas of Mount Holly.

April 15

Highly successful Trustee retreat generously facilitated by Elaine Steuber of the Partnership in Philanthropy where the Board explored its mission and objectives.

June 5

The first Mountain Bike Event at Whitesbog! with over 20 "piney-peddlers".



For information on Whitesbog Halloween and Christmas events, as well as other autumn activities, contact the Trust office at (609) 893-4646.

Calender of Upcoming Events

June 25 Saturday, 8am-12pm

Blueberry Cross-Country Run

June 25 Saturday, 11am-6pm

11th Annual Blueberry Festival

August 20 Saturday, 7am-9pm

Moonlight Hike

September 10 Saturday, 9am-1pm

Garden Clean Up

September 11 Sunday, 10am-1pm

Very Berry Hike

September 17 Saturday, 7pm-9pm

Moonlight Hike

September 24 Saturday, 10am-2pm

Fall Colors Tour

September 25 Sunday, 9am-12pm

Mountain Bike Event

September 25 Sunday, 9am-12pm

Cranberry Harvest Tour

October 2 Sunday, 9am-12pm

Cranberry Harvest Tour

Membership Form

I'd like to join the Whitesbog Preservation Trust, and help them in their work to restore the beautiful village of Whitesbog. Please enroll me as a member. I've checked the level at which I'd like to help. Please make checks or money orders payable to "The Whitesbog Preservation Trust," and send to:

Whitesbog Preservation Trust
120-24A Whitesbog Road
Browns Mills, NJ 08015

Name _____ Phone No. (____) _____

Address _____

City/Town _____ State _____ Zip _____

I'd like to join as: Individual (\$20)

Family (\$30)

Friend (\$50)

Patron (\$100)

Sponsor (\$500)

I'd like to find out more about volunteering for the trust.

I can't join now, but enclosed is a donation of \$ _____

All donations are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law.