

## WE NAMED IT!

Sunday, May 4th was naming day. A nice group gathered at the parking area on Putnam Road as the name sign was unveiled. Bucky Owen told people of all the work OLT people are doing in concert with other groups to preserve an area from Bangor to Hudson. The area where we gathered is the central section, about 1,600 acres, and is now officially named the **Caribou Bog Conservation Area**. President John McCarthy cut the "ribbon." (See picture by Kathryn Olmstead)



After the unveiling, Kris Sornberger with family bicycled the railroad bed. A group of 11, including special guest, Aislinn Sarnarki of the BDN's *One Minute Hike* column, hiked up Newman Hill spotting birds, mosses, lichens and Pileated Woodpecker trees. The group then continued on to Bangor Hill. No, with the grey sky, we could not see Mt. Katahdin, but we did see Mayflowers, horse tails, warblers, one of the heron nests (from afar), and a pair of Osprey on their nest. The few light showers did not dampen the enthusiasm of the group, but the sky opened up just as we got back to the cars. By all accounts, it was a fun afternoon!

To learn more about our trip, please log onto Bangor Daily News, ***One Minute Hike, Newman and Bangor Hills.***

Gail White

## Greetings Fans of SALLY JACOBS

Alix Hopkins, one of Sally's friends from Maine's conservation network, is leading a movement to erect a memorial sculpture commemorating all of Sally's interests. The sculpture, in the shape of a bird wing, (see photo of model) it will sit at Brownie's Park on the edge of the Stillwater River in Orono. The cost may exceed \$12,000. The talented sculptor, Ray Carbone of Milbridge, has been chosen, and now we need your financial help to make it happen. The Orono Land Trust offered to be the conduit for the funds so that donations are tax deductible.

PLEASE SEND DONATIONS TO:

**Orono Land Trust c/o Pat Thompson, Treasurer  
P.O. Box 4, Orono. Maine 04473**

PROPOSED WORDING ON THE SCULPTURE:

**In memory of Sally C. Jacobs  
May 15, 1936—November 12, 2012**

**With gratitude for her boundless energy to make a difference for future generations.**



# Frog Walk

What a wonderful, educational experience was had by the folks who joined John Maddaus and Kristine Hoffmann on Saturday, May 10th. John and Kristine pointed out the different egg masses. They explained how wood frogs could freeze solid every winter, thaw in the spring and move to the vernal pools to mate. There are far more females than males. The eggs must hatch before the vernal pool dries to complete the life cycle. Frog Pond, on which OLT holds a conservation easement, has both yellow-spotted and blue-spotted salamander. Lost Pond, which is behind Orono High School,

has only the yellow-spotted salamanders. Blue-spotted salamanders are uncommon. Kristine brought a wood frog, two yellow salamanders and a blue salamander to show to us. John has monitored both the Frog Pond and Lost Pond for 15 and 16 years respectively. Both ponds have been active all the years. It seems every other living thing in the woods eats wood frogs and salamanders. Kristine referred to wood frogs as “little hamburgers”. John and Kristine were a wealth of information and all attendees learned a lot. Attending along with John and Kristine were Mike Opitz, Jill Rose, Gail White and Kate Quirk with her two young sons.

*Gail White*

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## Annual Meeting 2014

On March 28, we welcomed Cheryl Daigle, Community Liaison for the Penobscot River Restoration Trust, to speak at the Annual Meeting. Cheryl, a neighbor and land trust member, filled us in on the multiple changes happening on the Penobscot. Part of what made Cheryl’s talk so interesting was her terrific photographs of dam removal and of wildlife. These salmon, sturgeon, alewives, and other sea-run fish may be swimming up the river unimpeded this spring. The goal is to reestablish the ecosystem disrupted by dam-building over the last 200 years. Cheryl emphasized the role ordinary citizens can have in this project.

The Penobscot River Restoration Project is big news—something people are reading about all over the US---but Cheryl’s talk made it clear that it came about with many small steps from determined ordinary people.

The OLT meeting included election of Board officers and approval of bylaw changes. Mike Opitz and others recognized some of the outstanding volunteers for the year. Outgoing Board President Jim Hinds discussed some of the achievements of 2013, including trail work, grant writing for conservation purchases, and progress toward accreditation. **Jim then passed the gavel to incoming president John McCarthy. Other elected officers are: Bucky Owen, Vice President; Erik daSilva, Secretary, and Pat Thompson Treasurer.**

Sandy Johnson coordinated the delicious food, featuring Jean Carville’s signature chocolate sauce.

*Melissa Burch*



*Cheryl Daigle describes the exciting changes on our Penobscot River  
picture by Gail White*

Now is the time of year to enjoy one of Nature's showy arrays of flowers in the Genus *Trillium*. Maine has four species and according to botanist Arthur Haines, who published the book *Flora Novae Angliae* that identifies the flora of New England, all of them have the common name of "wake-robin". Thus, nodding, red, white, and painted wake-robin grace various habitats in Maine. Within the week I have seen painted wake-robin in the Bangor City Forest along the east trail leading to the Boardwalk cabin. My favorite species is the red wake-robin. Every spring when I conduct a series of singing ground surveys to count American woodcock, I stop on one of the routes and take pictures of a clump of red wake-robin. Seeing them each spring always makes my day.



*Clump of red wake-robin flower*

## **NEW ORONO BOG BOARDWALK IS BEING INSTALLED**

After boardwalk volunteers, working on the ice, completed the preparatory work of replacing the infrastructure that holds up sections that cross the lagg, Steve Merriam (Engineer who designed the new boardwalk) joined them to demonstrate how to connect all the pieces. During his two-day visit in early May sixteen sections and the first interpretative station were put in place. Volunteers have continued to work rain or shine and have now placed thirty-eight sections, including the first wheelchair turnout station. This is a great start, but much remains to be completed before the target opening date of June 15th. If you want to contribute to this community project contact Jim Bird, Director (Cell 944-0434; Home 866-3104; email [Jim\\_Bird@umit.maine.edu](mailto:Jim_Bird@umit.maine.edu)).

*pictures and article by J. R. Longcore*



*Jim Bird and crew learn from Steve Merriam*



*Setting in the bulkhead.*

# SPRING TRAIL DAY

OLT had a very successful trail day on May 3rd thanks to our many old and new volunteers. **THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS!** The accomplishments include:

**OHS:** The section of trail at the foot of the hill from OHS land to Rampe CE is now high and dry. Culverts were laid and wheel-barrows of fill were dumped and spread. This was a heavy job; but workers had plenty of fun and laughter. Workers were: **Glenn Rampe, Greg Sivik, Ryan Tipping-Spitz, Cindy Smith and daughter Mary-Kate, Melissa Burch, Lin White and Nancy Rampe.**

**DAVIS CE:** The back boundary line was cleared and can now be seen and walked. Lots of invasive honeysuckle was battled back. We were treated to the sound of a Pileated woodpecker. There was a lot of camaraderie. Workers pictured on right: **Jill Rose, Glenn Koehler, Sue Estler, and Gail White.**

**PINEY KNOLL CE:** Trail 11 East Improvement continued on Piney Knoll. This trail segment is one of the nicest on PKCA, but it is very wet and rough in several areas. To improve the trail we planned to build a rock culvert. Good community team work, hard manual work, mixed with some fun moved the project forward. Work started in December with the delivery of rock by the Orono Public Works to the top of Piney Knoll. Half a truck load was moved by David Thompson on his small trailer pulled by his ATV to the trail site. The trailers were loaded and unloaded by hand by 10 UM students from the Alternative Break Program at 8F. The work continued on Spring Trail Day. But this time Dana Smith' agreed to move the rocks to the trail site two days before trail day.

Because the trail is narrow and rough and not accessible by machinery the rocks had to be moved by hand again. So, we created a bucket brigade and 9 students from the Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity and 5 community volunteers, lead by the OLT President ,John McCarthy carried "tons" of rocks in buckets to the different trail culvert sites for 2 ½ hours straight. We had three fun breaks. While Finn Bondeson, the leader of the student group, filled rocks into a bucket by hand he saw and picked up a blue-spotted salamander. He released it in a safe place and it slithered away under some wet leaves. A barred owl was "coo-hooing" at us complaining about the racket we made. Kathy Pollard, who knows the area like her backyard, spotted the owl and all went to the hemlock tree and 15 volunteers and one owl stared at each other for a few minutes. The owl held her place and the volunteered retreated to carrying buckets filled with rocks until the next short break to munch some energy bars. This was a terrific group of volunteers. We all left with sore hands and aching back but satisfied



*picture by Nancy Rampe*



*picture by Sue Estler*

because the trail is passable now without the need to wear rubber boots. Thank you to all the volunteers!!: Finn Bonderson, Joshua Jones, Jared Escobar, Kevin Bois, Kody Price, Alex Leather Jordan Carr, Spencer Warwith, Kyle Franklin, Ethan Klein, Kathy Pollard, Genevieve Smith ,and John McCarthy. The group was briefly joined by Lise Albert who had battled Invasives on Penobscot Shores: multi-floral rose, Japanese Knotweed, buckthorn, honeysuckle and garlic mustard.

**CARIBOU BOG CONSERVATION AREA:** Workers got right down to business and demolished an old hunting cabin near Pine Ponds. Tar paper was removed and carefully disposed of. A large pile of debris is set to burn. Kris ran away with the sink!



BEFORE and AFTER pictures of old cabin demolition at Caribou Bog Conservation Area.

*Photos by Kris Sornberger*



*Workers included: front l-r: Kris Sornberger, Jim Hinds, and Merek Skacel  
back: Harry Cunningham, Jim White, Peter Macintosh, and Bucky Owen*

**VEAZIE:** Devon Carter, John Manter, Jim Iannazzi, and Kent Tableman cleared trail at the Buck Hill Conversation Area. There were a couple of blow downs that were removed as well as many, many branches. The trail looks so much better!



Visit our website:  
[www.oronolandtrust.org](http://www.oronolandtrust.org)

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**ORONO  
-LAND-  
TRUST**

Orono Land Trust  
P O Box 4  
Orono, Maine 04473

RETURN SERVICE  
REQUESTED

**Calendar**

**June 4, 2014 - Monthly Board meeting**  
**July 2, 2014 - Monthly Board meeting**  
**August 6, 2014 - Monthly Board meeting**

Please check for membership expiration date on your address label.

**ORONO LAND TRUST MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Preferred Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Preferred Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ \$10 Student Membership

\_\_\_\_\_ \$100-\$999 Supporting Membership

\_\_\_\_\_ \$25 Individual Membership

\_\_\_\_\_ \$1000 Life Membership

\_\_\_\_\_ \$50 Family Membership

I'd like to make an additional \$\_\_\_\_\_ donation to help protect green space in Orono.

Please send my newsletter by: \_\_\_\_\_ Email only, \_\_\_\_\_ U.S. Postal Mail

Get involved-VOLUNTEER! Go to ([http://oronolandtrust.org/?page\\_id=16](http://oronolandtrust.org/?page_id=16)) to learn more and to volunteer for OLT projects, activities, and committees by completing the Online Volunteer Questionnaire listed on this volunteer webpage.