

OLT's 2020 Annual Meeting to feature wildlife talk on beavers

The Orono Land Trust Annual Meeting is scheduled for Friday, March 27 at 6:30pm at The Keith Anderson Community House, 19 Bennoch Road, Orono. This is a good chance to gather, meet and greet members old and new. This year we have

invited members of Hirundo, Bangor Land Trust and the general public to enjoy our keynote program and refreshments.

2020 OLT Annual Meeting: Friday, March 27

The OLT 2019 Corporate Annual Meeting and Board Meeting will take place after the public portion of the evening.

This year's keynote presentation is by Master Naturalist and Maine Guide Christy Stout. The topic will be "Beaver: Ecosystem Engineers."

This subject is very timely for the OLT stewardship teams. Beavers are a big part of the Maine landscape, and we have been working with and around this busy species as we care for wetlands and manage trails. Come learn about "Beaver Deceivers" and the antics both human and rodent around the Orono area habitat system.

Mark your calendars: All are welcome! See page 3 inside for more details.

OLT Board members to join in blight-resistant chestnut program

by Bucky Owen

The OLT Board voted to join folks at the University of New England (UNE) and Syracuse University in an exciting new endeavor to create blight resistant American Chestnuts.

Scientists at Syracuse recently determined that introducing a single gene controlling the production of oxalic acid makes the chestnuts blight resistant. They introduced that gene from wheat into the chestnut genome and now have a breeding orchard with resistant trees.

UNE has received federal permission to begin a similar breeding program in Maine and is looking for NGO partners. OLT will be one of those partners and eventually will establish small orchards of blight



resistant chestnuts on some of its properties.

This is exciting news and we are looking for a few OLT members to help us on this project. If interested please contact Bucky Owen (buckyandsue@gmail.com) for additional information. We will be holding an informational meeting on March 11th just before our March Board meeting.

OLT, Bangor Land Trust reach milestone in Caribou Corridor project

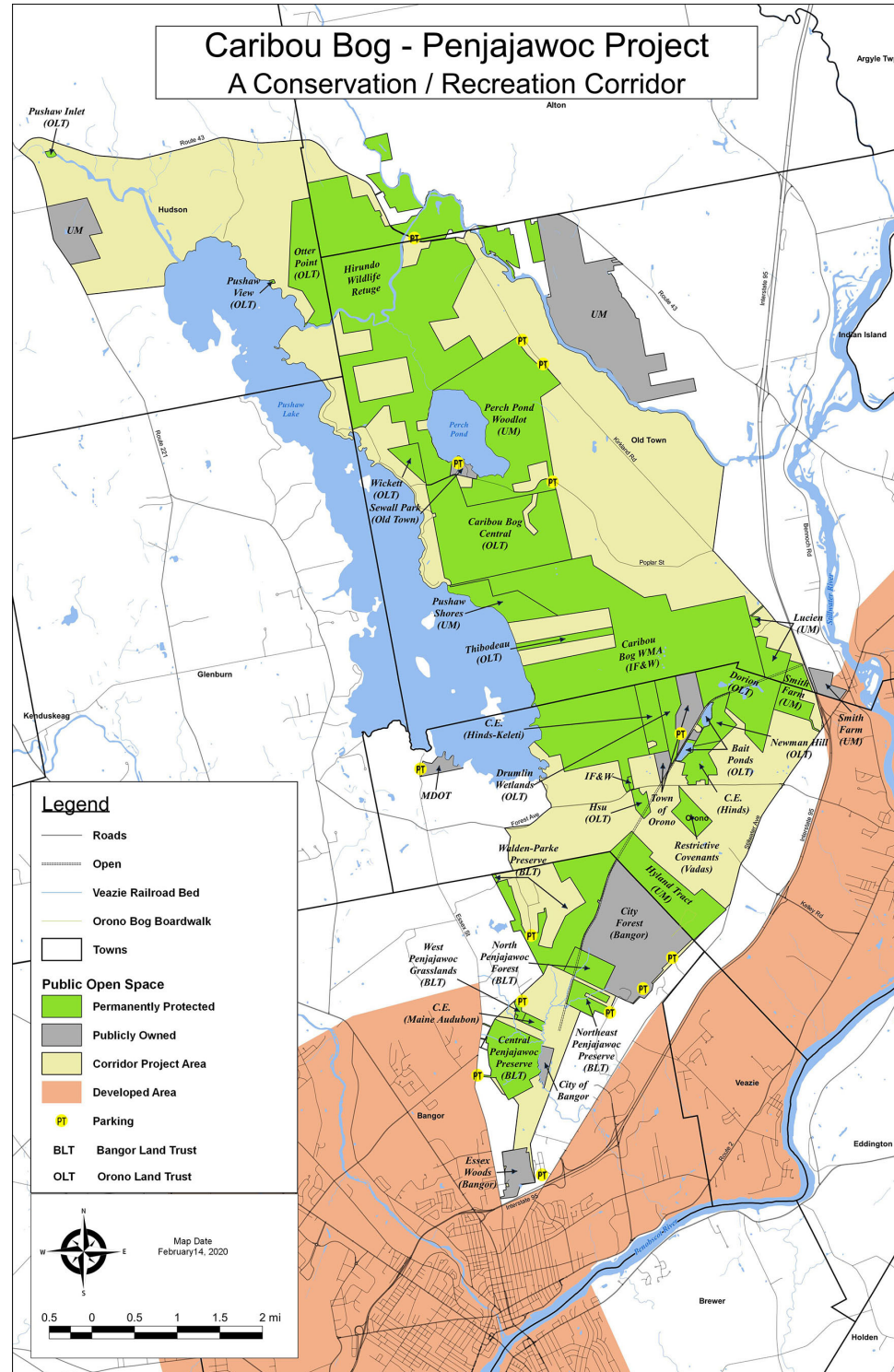
by Bucky Owen

More than 25 years ago, the Orono and Bangor Land Trusts joined in an effort to conserve an 18,000-acre wildlife and recreational corridor extending from Bangor to Hudson.

In fall 2019, OLT received a \$330,000 wetlands mitigation grant from the Maine Natural Resources Conservation Program to purchase 880 acres of the Caribou Bog (referred to as Caribou Bog Central on the Corridor map, right).

With this purchase, we have conserved most of the key lands in the northern and central portion of the Corridor. We continue our efforts to conserve land around Penjajawoc Marsh.

The 8,000-acre Caribou Bog Wetland Complex is the largest of its kind in Maine and the 6,000-acre Caribou Bog itself is the third most significant peatland in the state and up until now the only one not fully protected.



If you are interested in helping with OLT trail work please contact:

Bucky Owen (buckyandsue@gmail.com) 866-4892

Bucky has assembled a master list of volunteers and sends out a weekly project description, where to meet, and any tools or equipment needed. Note: We will be working both during the week and on weekends.

Orono Land Trust 33rd Annual Meeting

Keith Anderson Community House,
19 Bennoch Road, Orono

Friday, March 27, 2020

6:30 p.m. - Social Gathering with Refreshments

Program: Guest speaker Christy Stout on
"Beaver: Ecosystem Engineers"

7:30 p.m. - Annual Corporate
Membership Meeting

Secretary's Annual Report - Tim White

Treasurer's Annual Report - Gerry Dwyer

President's Annual Report - Pat Thompson

Old Business

New business: Election of new Board Members

Announcements / Recognitions

MLTN 2020 Land Conservation Conference

Adjourn

2020 Program Keynote Speaker:

Christy Stout

Physical Therapist, Registered Maine Guide,
and a Maine Master Naturalist.

"Beaver: Ecosystem Engineers"



"This presentation is about
interdependence and water management...
the beaver is our main character
linking it all together."

Presentation: "Coyotes: America's Song Dog" set for May 2

There will be an entertaining and informative presentation to be held, Saturday, May 2, by carnivore conservation biologist Geri Vistein of the Coyote Center. The program is 6 pm, at the Keith Anderson Building, 19 Bennoch Road, Orono. This program is being held in partnership with Hirundo Wildlife Refuge. Admission is free.

Geri Vistein has consulted with farmers, state agencies and the public about coyote's complex relationship with the life of Maine's ecosystems and coyote's relationship with us. Come join us for this social and educational gathering!

On May 16, at 1pm at Hirundo (1107 West Old Town Rd., Old Town) there will be a children's program (for kids ages 6 to 12): "Coyote Family" also by Geri Vistein, with stories, role-playing and teaching about this charismatic species that lives alongside us in this area. Contact hirundowildlife@gmail.com, or 394-1100 for information.

OLT Membership List as of February 2020

2020 Annual Members

Randy & Lyn Adkins
 Beverly Antonitis
 Ted & Ann Atkinson
 Molly MacLean & Eisso Atzema
 John Banks & Cheryl Robertson
 Kristine Birkel
 Warren Black
 Jack & Cindy Blease
 Erik Blomberg
 Stanley Borodko
 Kathy Bourgoin & David LaBreque
 Alice & Mitchell Bruce
 Pat Burnes
 Sandra Butler
 Polly Camp
 Jean Campana
 Drs. Adrienne & David Carmack
 Lynn Caron
 Mike & Teri Carr
 Cody Carter
 Ed Brazee & Connie Carter
 Lea & Tom Cassidy
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 Margaret Clancy & Beth White
 Paula & Clayton Cole
 Beth Cuddy & Harry Cunningham
 William Cunningham
 Rose Marie Curtis
 Barbara Daigle
 Merrill Milham & Ann Davidoff
 Christina Diebold
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 Downeast Outing Club
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 Cynthia Dunlap
 Gerald & Donna Dwyer
 Mary Ann & Rick Eason
 Gregory Edwards
 Max J & Stefanie Egenhofer
 Susan Elias
 Shirley Ellis
 Victoria Erker
 Sandra Feher
 Lisa Feldman
 Cecile Ferguson
 Brent & Paula Folster
 Jay Fortier Family

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 Irja Frank
 Kathy Lyons & David Frankel
 Brian Frederick
 Fred Gagne
 Marion & Mac Gray
 Alan Gray
 John & Carol Gregory
 Edward Grew
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 Eric Griffin
 David R. Griffin
 Christopher Gross
 John & Ginny Hackney
 Terry & Frances Haines
 Ben Hale
 Fiona Sorensen Hamilton
 Kenneth & Cathy Hanscom
 Karen Hartman
 Dan Haskell & Amber Roth
 Leslie Hudson
 Nancy Jacobson
 Sandra Johnson
 Jeffrey Jones
 Harvey & Patricia Kail
 Alice & Joe Kelley
 Fran & Robert J. Kelly
 Laurie Hicks & Roger King
 George Knightly
 Rissa Moore & Linda Koehler
 Eric & Janette Landis
 Eric Peterson & Kristin Langellier
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 Julian Wiggins & Kate Locke
 Stephanie & Greg Lull
 Natalie Machamer
 Bruce & Terry Malmer
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 Elizabeth Mares
 Ben McAlexander
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 Virginia Nees-Hatlen
 P. Scott Nichols

Todd & Laurie O'Brien
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 Marc Veilleux & Jennifer Pickard
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 Kim Miller & Paula Pietrowski
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 Sarah Nickerson Ploch & Taylor Ploch
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 Marek Skacel
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 Jessica Smith
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 Jeff & Brenda Stevenson
 Jennifer Story
 Elizabeth Stretch
 Judith Sucec
 Linda Swackhamer
 G. Kent Tableman
 Karin Tilberg
 Thomas Spitz & Lenore Tipping
 Adam Toothaker
 Gail Tunstead & David Flewelling
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 Norman Van Valkenburgh
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 Barbara Wicks
 Marian & Clair Wood
 David Yarborough & Nancy Leavitt

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 Sarah & William Clark
 Betsy Weiss & David Clement
 Ron & Lee Davis
 Mary Louis Kurr Davitt
 Evelyn Dearborn
 Mary Cathcart & Jim Dearman
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 Olivier Putzeys & Pauline Kamath
 Steve Keleti
 George Kurr
 Thela & Roger Leach
 Valerie & David Levy
 Meg & Ron Logan
 Joyce & Jerry Longcore
 Leigh A. Smith & Gretchen Luxenberg
 Nancy MacKnight
 John Manter
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 Janet & Paul Murphy
 Stephen & Natalie Norton
 Sue Erich & Stom Ohno

Kathryn Olmstead
 Michael Opitz
 Jeff & Susannah Owen
 Sue & Bucky Owen
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 Pernille & David Renado
 Kris & Steven Sader
 David Sewall
 Jessica Leahy & Bob Seymour
 Kay & Dick Storch
 David & Patricia Thompson
 Sharon & Paul Tisher
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2020 Business Members

Contact oronolandtrust@gmail.com if you would like information about this program.

\$1000+ Eagle Membership

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 Penobscot Valley Ski Club

\$500+ Loon Membership

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 of Maine

\$250+ Cardinal Membership

\$100+ Chickadee Membership

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Thank you for your support!

Spring Fever! Hey, get rhythm when you get the blues! Circadian Rhythm!

During long winters with short day lengths, cold weather, and an overcast sky about half the people who live in states in the Northern Hemisphere experience a noticeable seasonal change in their moods and they get the "winter blues", according to Dr. Michael Terman (Director, Light Therapy Unit, New York State Psychiatric Institute at Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center in Manhattan). Furthermore, about 5 percent who suffer the "winter blues" are affected so severely that they are diagnosed as suffering from Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD).

The beginning of the end of the "winter blues", according to Dr. Terman, "is the spring equinox", which occurs in March. "That's when the population as a whole starts to report a higher energy level, decreased sleep, reduced eating and an alleviation of depression."

Unfortunately, for some, however, 'spring fever' can mean being depressed in spring, which was considered to be psychological; some people felt an increased sense of loneliness and hopelessness when they saw others enjoying nice weather according to Dr. Norman E. Rosenthal (Director, Seasonal Studies, National Institute of Mental Health, Bethesda, MD).

This year (2020) spring officially begins Thursday, March 19th at 11:50 p.m. EDT, which is when the sun is exactly above the equator in the Northern Hemisphere for the first time. This time is known as the spring equinox, a Latin word meaning "equality of night and day", which also occurs in the fall on September 22nd at 9:31 a.m. and is known as the fall equinox.



My expression of spring fever is to be lazy, just wanting to sit in the sun and soak up the warmth and listen to the birds! Roto-tilling the garden plot can wait! Spring fever really seems to exist and at first was believed to be just psychological, but as Dr. Rosenthal has stated "There is increasing evidence that it is actually physiological; the change in seasons prompts a readjustment in the body's internal chemistry."

A popular theory exists - increasing intensity and longevity of sunlight in spring is somehow measured, probably through the eyes, by the brain. This information is then transmitted to the pineal gland in the base of the cerebrum, which responds by reducing its secretion of melatonin, a

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Con't. from page 6

hormone that influences mood and energy levels. "The internal body clock, which controls circadian rhythms - the 24-hour cycles of body temperature, hormonal secretion, and sleep - is directly affected physiologically by bright light."

So, the lyrics ("Hey, get rhythm when you get the blues; Yes a jumpy rhythm makes you feel so

fine; It'll shake all the trouble from your worried mind") in Johnny Cash's song Get Rhythm is not circadian rhythm but it always cheers me up when I hear it.

Note: Quotes by scientists from an article published in the National edition, New York Times, March 22, 1989, Page 1, Section C, with headline: *Spring Fever, Down to a Science.*

Out and About with OLT

At the time of this printing, the **Great Caribou Ski Race** had been rescheduled for Feb. 29. This race is co-sponsored by the Penobscot Valley Ski Club and attracts racers of all ages.



In February, Orono Land Trust attended the **2020 Banff Film Festival** at Husson University, sponsored by Epic

Sports in Bangor. Along with local environmental groups, OLT had an informational table with sample newsletters, stickers, hats, and a large map of the lands that OLT has conserved over the last 33 years. This map drew a lot of attention as it illustrates trails and habitat stewardship by our members.



This year an OLT Board committee, headed by Jerry Longcore, is working on renewing **accreditation by the Land Trust Alliance.**

This credential is a mark of distinction in land conservation, indicating to the public that OLT meets national standards for excellence, upholds the public trust and ensures that conservation efforts are permanent. Jerry Longcore said, "This demonstrates our commitment to permanent land conservation that benefits the entire community. Our land trust is a

stronger organization today having gone through the rigorous accreditation program - and this achievement is especially rewarding because OLT is an all-volunteer organization."



More winter adventures: Ice skating has been excellent on Boulder Pond at Taylor Road, Orono. Incoming President Adam Toothaker has just completed the **OLT Six-Ponds Challenge** (above). This project entails a skating circuit of all six ponds: Little Pine, Boulder, Black, Beaver, Big Pine and Heron Ponds. As always, check the weather and ice conditions. What a wealth of all-season recreation we have in this area! The OLT membership is passionate about stewardship, community and fun!

Board of Directors

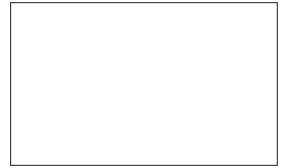
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Bucky Owen
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Linda Swackhamer, Outreach/News
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Tim White, Secretary, Tech



Orono Land Trust
PO Box 4,
Orono, Maine 04473

RETURN SERVICE
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**DATED MATERIAL
DO NOT DELAY**



Calendar

- Next Board meeting: Wed., March 11 (informational meeting on chestnut project- all are welcome)
- 2020 Annual Meeting: Fri., March 27
- Coyotes: America's Song Dogs Talk: Sat., May 2

Please check for membership expiration date on your address label above.

Orono Land Trust Membership Application / www.oronolandtrust.org

Name: _____ Preferred email: _____

Address: _____ Preferred phone: _____

	Business Memberships	Donation only
_____ \$10 Student Membership	_____ \$100+ Chickadee Membership	_____
_____ \$25 Individual Membership	_____ \$250+ Cardinal Membership	for _____
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_____ \$100- \$999 Supporting Membership	_____ \$1000+ Eagle Membership	
_____ \$1000 Life Membership		

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

Please send my newsletter by: email only _____ US Postal Mail _____

