

The Green Way

KINGSTON GREENWAYS ASSOCIATION

A NEW JERSEY NON-PROFIT CORPORATION

www.kingstongreenways.org

April 2010 No. 15

COMING EVENTS

FRIENDS OF PRINCETON NURSERY LANDS ARBOR DAY CELEBRATION

Saturday April 17, 10 to 11:30 AM and 1 to 4 PM, (Rain date--April 18, 1 to 4 PM)

The day's events begin at 10 AM with a history-oriented walk led by the D&R Canal State Park's historian, Vicki Chirco, starting at the D&R Canal State Park Headquarters at 145 Mapleton Road in Kingston. The history of the canal and the Princeton Nurseries will be highlighted. Pre-registration for this walk is requested (609-924-5705 or <http://www.dandrcanal.com/>).

At 1:00 PM, Jim Consolloy, former Head Grounds Manager for Princeton University, will lead a tree walk that focuses on spring-flowering trees and the unique tree varieties that grow at the Mapleton Preserve. Following the walk, learn the proper way to plant a tree, as the Friends of Princeton Nursery Lands and participants install the newest specimens in the Flemer Arboretum.

The tree planting will be followed at 3:00 pm by traditional seasonal dancing, performed by four different dance groups: *Princeton Country Dancers* (Maypole dancing), *Handsome Molly* (traditional "Mollie" dances from East Anglia), *Griggstown Lock Rapper Sword Team* ("rapper dancing" from the coal mining villages of Northumbria), and *Millstone River Morris* ("Morris" dances). Everyone will receive a baby flowering or evergreen tree to take home. The event takes place at the D&R Canal State Park Headquarters, 145 Mapleton Road in Kingston. It is free and open to all. For more information, call Karen Linder at 609-683-0483 or visit www.fpnl.org.

KGA ANNUAL EARTH DAY CLEANUP

Thursday, April 22, 9:30 AM AND Saturday, April 25, 11 AM to 1 PM

Help clean up Kingston! Each year, in conjunction with Earth Day, KGA holds a cleanup session. This year, we are offering two:

Cleanup #1 will take place on Earth Day, Thursday April 22, and will target the area near Rockingham and along Laurel Avenue on the Franklin Township side of Route 27. Meet at the entrance to Rockingham at 9:30 AM. The "host" of this cleanup session has offered to stand all volunteers to pizza! For more information, please email Tari at tari@kingstongreenways.org.

Cleanup #2 on Sunday, April 25 will focus on the Cook Natural Area, and parts of our Green Belt that adjoin Ridge Road, Division Street, and Mapleton Road in South Brunswick Township. Gather at the Cook Natural Area Parking Lot (junction of Heathcote Road and Ridge Road) at 11

AM. South Brunswick Township supplies the bags, gloves and safety vests. For more information, call 609-924-3399. ***Boots, hats and long pants are recommended attire!***

WALK IN MARQUAND PARK, guided by Roland Machold (Sunday, May 2, 1 PM)



Pamela and Roland Machold



Threadleaf Maple, by Pamela Machold

KGA member Roland Machold has graciously offered to take us on a tour of Marquand Park, one of Princeton's special treasures. Located at the junction of Stockton (Rt. 206) and Lovers' Lane (parking is off of Lovers' Lane), it serves as a public park, arboretum and recreational area. In 1842, Judge Richard Field purchased a 30 acre farm, and, impressed by the horticultural discoveries of 19th century explorers and the landscaping of the great estates of England, he began the collection of trees and shrubs that was continued by subsequent owners. In 1885, the property was purchased by Professor Allan Marquand, whose wife Eleanor bequeathed it to Princeton Borough in 1954.

A guide to the park (available at Bainbridge House at 158 Nassau Street, Princeton) lists 173 varieties of trees and shrubs in the park, including spruces, firs, cedars, oaks, magnolias, tulips, ash and maples, and rarities such as the dove tree and the franklinia.

The trees and shrubs in the park are maintained by the Marquand Park Foundation, whose Chairman is Kingston's own Sam deTuro of Woodwinds.

The tour will be a leisurely walk of an hour or so. Participants are invited to bring a picnic lunch to enjoy before or after the walk.

KGA ANNUAL MEETING (Thursday, May 20, 7:30 PM)

After a brief business meeting, Jeffrey Hall will give a slide show entitled "**Winter Woods, Winter Seas.**" Nature takes on a different character as the days grow shorter and the air grows colder. Leafless forests seem dormant under a blanket of snow. Many animals have departed or stay hidden, waiting out the stresses of the season.

Yet there is much to be seen—visitors from higher latitudes share habitats with residents who are adapted for survival in conditions we regard as harsh. . Jeff Hall will present insight into the many strategies for making it through the winter, beautifully illustrated by striking photos.



Sanderlings enjoy the solitude of the beach in winter

Jeffrey Hall's articles and photographs have appeared in *Living Bird*, *Underwater Naturalist*, *New Jersey Audubon*, *American Birding Association's "Foreign Field Notes"* and many other publications. Currently completing his fourth term as President of Washington Crossing Audubon Society, he is also its long-time program chair. In addition to presentations to nature, conservation, and photography groups, he is an experienced lecturer on these topics with Elderhostel. Jeffrey Hall teaches biology at the Pennington School, Pennington, NJ.

The Annual Meeting will be held in the Kingston Firehouse at 6 Heathcote Road, Kingston. Members and the general public are welcome. Come early and enjoy some refreshments and KGA hospitality before the meeting begins!

TRAILS DAY (Sunday, June 6, 10 AM)

Once again, we will focus our efforts on the boardwalk in the Cook Natural Area. Although the sections we repaired the last few years held fast through spring flooding, the far end of the boardwalk washed away, and needs to be put back in place. Please gather at the Cook Natural Area Parking Lot (at the junction of Heathcote and Ridge Road in Kingston) for an hour or two of trail maintenance, in observance of National Trails Day. To volunteer, please contact David Southgate at 609-924-3399.

KINGSTOWN TOWN PICNIC (Saturday, 9/11, 4 to 7 PM, rain date 9/12)

This much-anticipated community event will be held on the grounds of the Laurel Avenue School at the corner of Laurel Avenue and Union Street in Kingston. There will be food, music, games, exhibits, and much more. A variety of tasks are yours for the asking! To pitch in now—or closer to the date—please send an email to Celeste Twamley: ctwamley@comcast.net.

2009 REPORTS

Our annual Fall Foliage Walk was postponed due to severely inclement weather, and led a week later, in the rain, by Vicki Chirco, D&R Canal State Park Historian. The group was small, but appreciative. The Christmas Bird Count, perhaps for the first time in its long history, was cancelled due to heavy snowfall.

The Keep It Green Campaign, in which KGA participated, may have been instrumental in obtaining a majority "yes" vote on Public Question #1. Funding for the Green Acres Program, the Farmland Preservation Program, and the NJ Historic Trust will now continue for the next two years, giving New Jersey time to identify a long-term funding source for these programs.

Of the approval of the \$400 million ballot issue, Tom Gilbert of The Trust for Public Land said: "This demonstrates that even in difficult economic times, voters understand that these are wise investments, and believe we must maintain our commitment to preserving New Jersey's land, water and history."

RECREATIONAL TRAILS GRANT

In December, KGA submitted an application to the Federal Highway Administration for a Recreational Trails Grant. Funds were requested to make repairs and improvements to the boardwalk in the Cook Preserve. The plan is to pull up the boardwalk, lay crushed stone to create a sturdier, more elevated, and more level bed, then put it back in place. In addition to stone, we wish to install fabric to inhibit vegetation and soil infiltration, and to create channels underneath the boardwalk to allow for the passage of water.

A hearty round of applause, please, for Rick Lear of Middlesex County Parks, Stephanie Fox of the D&R Canal State Park, Dave Reed of Mapleton Nurseries, and trustees Robert von Zumbusch and David Southgate for brainstorming, research, and advice, and especially to Karen Linder, who compiled the figures and other relevant information, and wrote the grant with assistance from David Southgate.

KEEP YOUR EYE ON OUR NATURE GALLERY!



Photograph by Richard Wolfert

Salamanders, praying mantis movies, photos of wildlife...stop in and see what's new at <http://kingstongreenways.org/>.

NEW WAY TO RENEW

There is a new way to continue your membership, via our secure Paypal service. Just go to the "Join Us" link at the top of our homepage <http://www.kingstongreenways.org/> and click on the DONATE button to renew your membership by credit card. You may continue to renew in the traditional way by printing this form and mailing it with your check.

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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL

Please enroll (renew) membership in the KGA for the next year

Individual \$ 15

Family \$ 20

Senior \$ 10

Name(s): _____

Postal Address: _____

Township: _____ Telephone _____

E-Mail (will not be distributed): _____

I prefer to receive *The Green Way* electronically

Areas of interest:

Land Preservation

Creating Paths

Nature Walks

Bicycling

Horseback Riding

Bird Watching

Open Space Study

Helping Run Events

also: _____

Make checks to "Kingston Greenways Association".

Mail to : KGA, PO Box 391, Kingston, NJ 08528-0391

KGA is a 501(c)(3) corporation.

Dues and contributions are tax deductible as allowed by law