## **KEEP CONSERVATION FOUNDATION**

Autumn 2013

Volume 7



Another year has passed bringing new events and discoveries of wildlife during all seasons as we continue to manage and protect the beauty of undisturbed nature on all of our preserves.



We have seen birds return to mate and raise their young. Butterflies and dragonflies fill the air and search out the wildflowers in our meadows and young deer dart across the fields to disappear into the woods. Our careful management of fields, our mapping of trails and mowing of paths has opened up the preserve to exploration and nature study. The comments in our Kiosk box tell us that the visitors to the land are astounded by and appreciative of the peace and beauty they find there.



Keep Conservation Foundation, Germantown Preserve was on the map of the Hudson River Valley Ramble in September 2013. Don Gavin, volunteer and steward of the Preserve, held sessions every Saturday in September from 10AM to 4PM to explore the "Leave No Trace" principles of outdoor ethics.









On May 4, 2013, we held the exhibition and judging of our ongoing photo contest "Reflexions of Life on the Germantown Preserve." Held in collaboration with the Germantown Library, photos taken for Spring and Winter 2013 were exhibited in the Library and judged by Gail LeBoff, who also gave us a presentation of and discussion of her own current work.



The winners were: as follows:

ADULT: 1st -Kathy Overington "Nature's Writing", 2nd- Marie Meehan "Spring Flowers, Skunk Cabbage" 3rd - Patricia Williams " A Winter Afternoon" YOUTH: 1st -Wyatt Gibbons "Defiant" 2nd- Devin Overington "Reflexions 2" 3rd -Riley Gibbons "Lasting Beauty"



Adult-2nd



Adult-3rd



Youth-3rd.





Youth 1st



Youth- 2nd





On July 29,2013, we had the pleasure of hosting a team from the Hawthorne Valley Farmscape Ecology Program. Led by Claudia Knab-Vispo (plants) and Conrad Vispo (animals) of the Living Land Project. The team conducted a plant and insect inventory on the preserve. Keep Conservation members were delighted to learn the identity of many rare and common plants, butterflies, and dragonflies that were discovered and catalogued by the team. We have received a preliminary listing of the inventory on the land. We will post a complete listing on our web site when it is ready.

















Hurricane Sandy played havoc with our Port Republic,New Jersey Preserve knocking down scores of trees and piling up debris on the shores where river meets marsh. Never the less, we were pleased to see on an early spring walk that the land was alive with birds, The Red-bellied Woodpeckers had returned to nest. Tufted titmice were calling and our pond had been spared damage and remained a tranquil place for frogs, herons, turtles and many other species of birds and amphibians.













We are making plans to take away the debris, reopen the trails and map a new trail system that will be welcoming to those who want to explore the woodland and salt marsh.

I COME CONSERVATION PRESER Manage this Land for Wildlife RMITTED ird Watching alking/Hiking

With all of the natural disaster and disturbance of land from fire and flooding, we are grateful that our Pamela Kahn Bacca Preserve in Maricopa County, Arizona remains a pristine spot of tranquil undisturbed desert beauty. The creatures that are intertwined with the lifecycle of this land, the hawks hunting, the Jack Rabbits diving for cover, the reptiles and small mammals scurrying, all thrive in this protected spot where they remain safe from the rampant development all around.



As the years pass, the seasons change, the animals and plants reproduce and grow we remain committed and determined to protect and enhance our lands for all life dependent on them, and to provide education and exposure for children and adults so that they too will be able to fully value, have pleasure in, and commit to the protection of the natural world.

Your interest and support is vital to helping us fulfill our mission.

Thank you. Linda Atkins, President

Barbara Rosenthal, a great friend of KCF, died suddenly on March 3, 2011, in pursuit of one of her other passions, -the opera.. Barbara is missed by all who knew her. In the spirit of her love of nature and all animals, Barbara left Keep Conservation Foundation a generous bequest to support our work.

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\$50	\$100	\$250	\$ 500	\$1,000	\$5,000						
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