

## Annual Meeting Set For April 5

Once again The Hole-in-the-Wall Gang Camp will be the setting of the Joshua's Trust annual meeting, scheduled for Wednesday, April 5.

The 300-acre camp on the Ashford-Eastford line was established in 1988 by Paul Newman to serve children with cancer and other life-threatening illnesses. If you have never been to this special place, be sure to join us this year. A tour of the frontier-style premises will begin at 5:30 p.m. Wear sturdy walking shoes.

Beverages and appetizers will be served at 6 p.m., and a terrific buffet dinner will start at 6:30 p.m. This year's main speaker will be announced on the Trust's website: [www.joshuaslandtrust.org](http://www.joshuaslandtrust.org).

The cost for the evening is \$17 per person, and any pro-

ceeds will be donated to the camp. Be sure to mail your reservation as soon as possible because we have sold out in past years. *(Please use the form on this newsletter's back page.)*

Following the dinner, annual reports will be made, conservation awards given, and new trustees elected. New members are especially welcome!

**Directions:** The entrance to the camp is on Route 44, about 2.7 miles east of the junction with Route 89 and .5 miles east of the blinking yellow light at the intersection of Route 44 and North Road. The driveway into the camp is marked by a high wooden arch on the north side of Route 44. Signs will direct you into the center.

## Church Farm Field Station Continues To Inspire Trinity Students

By SARAH ARNOLD  
*Trinity College Class of 2006*

With my roots in small, rural towns in Connecticut and Maine, I have developed a deep appreciation for the beauty of my environmental settings and the intricate, yet fragile, interconnectedness within nature.

Over the last four years as a student at Trinity College, I have been most fortunate to study and conduct research at Trinity's Field Station at Church Farm. The Field Station has proved to be an invaluable resource for me as a Biology major, minoring in Environment and Human Values.

With its forest, open field, shrub land, and freshwater habitats, the natural landscape of the Field Station is a wonderful natural laboratory that plays an important role in the education of many Trinity students. I have taken numerous classes including Botany, Ecology, and Methods in Environmental Science in which we documented the Field Station's biodiversity, examining several aspects of its flora and fauna including lichens, salamanders, ground beetles, and aquatic insects.

In my research activities conducted with Dr. Scott Smedley, a member of the Biology Department at Trinity, much of our work examining the biological and chemical basis of anti-predator defenses in insects has been carried out at this site.

With its commitment "to interdisciplinary student and faculty research and learning in the natural sciences," the Trinity College Field Station has served a pivotal role in my educational growth and development as a scientist.

*Sarah Arnold, a native of Goshen, is a Goldwater Scholar, the most prestigious undergraduate honor in the sciences. Admitted to Cornell University for doctoral studies in insect ecology, Sarah plans a career in environmental research and teaching.*



**Sarah studies leaf decomposition at Church Farm.**





## Joshua's Tract Conservation And Historic Trust, Inc.

P.O. BOX 4  
MANSFIELD CENTER, CT 06250

Email: [joshuastrust@snet.net](mailto:joshuastrust@snet.net)  
[www.joshuaslandtrust.org](http://www.joshuaslandtrust.org)

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**Chief Steward:** Hill Bullard

**Membership:** Marietta Johnson

**Newsletter Editor:** Paul Stern

### Joshua's Tract Conservation

and Historic Trust was formed in 1966 to receive gifts of money and land, or to buy land of historic, aesthetic, or scientific value, for the benefit of future generations.

It is designed to supplement the open space efforts of federal, state and local governments. The Trust protects over 3,000 acres in the region, maintains trails which are open to the public, and publishes *The Joshua's Tract Walk Book*.

The office is located in the historic Eagleville Schoolhouse, South Eagleville Rd., in Mansfield. Office hours: Thurs. 1:30-3:30 pm. Call 860-429-9023.

This newsletter is published three times each year.

# Good Things Keep Happening!

As you can see from a glance at this newsletter, good things keep happening. One of the great joys of my role is that it brings me into contact with so many wonderful people.

One afternoon at the office, a young man came in and said he wanted to join the Trust.

As we talked, I learned that David had grown up in

Mansfield, always loved the outdoors, and was now a student at UConn majoring in philosophy and forestry. He filled out the membership form and handed me a significant amount of money.

Having expected him to join at the student level for \$5, I was startled and asked if he was sure that he wanted to give me so much.

"Yes," he said, "I'm flush with Christmas cash and want to do something worthwhile with it."

Next time someone bad-mouths the

younger generation, tell him about David!

At the beginning of the new year, I wrote to people who had recently donated land to the Trust, and received in return some very touching responses.

One from David Chapin, who donated the 134-acre parcel at Coney Rock included the following com-

ments:

"I have never second-guessed my decision to turn the Coney Rock acreage to the Trust, and I can rest assured that the property is in very good hands. All the members can be proud of the work and aims of the Trust."

To all of you who continue to support the Trust through dues, donations, and volunteer work, I give heartfelt thanks. I hope to see you at the annual meeting. If we haven't met yet, please introduce yourselves. I'd like to thank you personally.

A Note From  
The President



Madge Manfred

## Neat Stuff To Do This Spring

**March in the Moss Sanctuary:** Sat. March 25, 1-2:30 p.m.

UConn Prof. Robert Thorson will lead a walk to explore the geology of the 157-acre preserve in the heart of Storrs. Refreshments afterward. Co-sponsored with Mansfield Parks and Recreation. Dept. Meet at community center community room. Fee for Joshua's Trust or Friends of Mansfield Parks members is \$3, maximum \$10 per family. Non-members: \$5/15. Register online at [www.mansfieldct.org](http://www.mansfieldct.org), (click on Community Center logo) or call 429-3015.

**Nature Book Discussions:** Thurs., April 6; Thurs., May 4 — 7:30 p.m.

Jean Haskell and Madge Manfred lead a discussion about *A Naturalist Buys a Farm* by Edwin Way Teale and *Suburban Safari: A Year on the Lawn* by Hannah Holmes. Co-sponsored with Mansfield Parks and Recreation Dept. No fee. Call 429-3015 to register for one or both discussions



## Stewardship Report...

# Boundary Projects Move Forward

One of our priorities is to identify and mark the boundaries of all Trust properties, an undertaking which often involves negotiations with abutters.

We recently completed a boundary agreement with a neighbor on the Preston Nature Sanctuary in Hampton. The next focus will be on locating the eastern line of Proposal Rock in Mansfield. Member **Bob Dahn** has donated many hours of surveying work in this area.

**Christopher Czarnowski** completed an Eagle scout project at Utley Hill Preserve in Columbia. He organized a crew to build three sections of boardwalk near the beginning of the main hiking trail.

The boardwalk, which spans a wetlands, will improve use of the trail.

Another Eagle Scout candidate, **Nicholas Waleszczk**, completed a wetlands crossing bridge on the Byles Sanctuary under the guidance of Bill O'Keefe.

**Connwood Foresters**, a contractor for Joshua's Trust, completed the first stage of invasive spraying on a 3.6-acre area of Pigeon swamp. This is percent reimbursed by the federal WHIP grant, which will also help with costs of clearing brush at Pigeon Swamp and Tinkerville Brook.

Rainy weather dampened plans for a work party to clear trees in the Sumac field area of Pigeon Swamp, but we were fable to clean up the blow downs in November. Helping with the clean up were **Art Runnels, Joe Charon, Gary Griffin, Hill Bullard,** and **Dick Schleicher.**

New committee members **Ken Metzler** and **Jane O'Donnell** will supply much needed technical and ad-

ministrative help. Ken will coordinate planning to develop stewardship plans for properties that currently do not have plans. Jane is putting together a manual for our stewards.

Please welcome **Corrine Rueb** of Mansfield as the new steward for Michael's Preserve and the Western portion of the Grist Mill property. Corrine's first job will be to help the Chief Steward locate the boundaries. Corrine is also assisting **Warren Church** with the annual inspection of Mansfield properties under conservation easement.

In November, Steward **Dale Grenier** led a work party of **Gary Griffin, Bob Schoff,** and **Bill O'Keefe** to

clear the trail through the Pinkham property in Ashford, connecting Colt's Pond Road with the Trust's Friedman Forest. At the same time, **Sam Dodd** and Hill Bullard located and marked 4,000 feet of the adjacent Colt's Pond Parcel boundary,

The remaining 1,500 feet was completed several weeks later by Bullard and Schoff. Several encroachments were found during this portion, but resolved.

—Hill Bullard, Chair

*Committee members: Gary Griffin, Sam Dodd, Lance Magnuson, Mike Hayden, Bob Schoff, Art Runnels, Jane O'Donnell, Ken Metzler, Dan Donahue, Bill O'Keefe.*



**This new wetlands crossing bridge at the Byles Sanctuary in Mansfield was built by Eagle Scout candidate Nicholas Waleszczk under the guidance of retired E.O. Smith science teacher Bill O'Keefe.**



## Recent Contributors to Joshua's Trust

*The Trust deeply appreciates the generosity of all those who responded to the appeal for contributions. The following is a list of donors as of Feb. 1, 2006. (Our apologies in advance for any misspellings.)*

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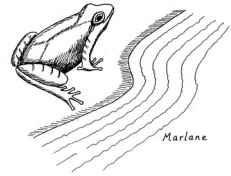
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## Walk Book Now Available Throughout The Region

*The Fourth Edition of the Joshua's Tract Walk Book is now available at a number of locations around the region, opening a world of local adventure for anyone who likes to roam the back woods.*

*Written by longtime Joshua's Trust leader Sam Dodd, the Walk Book has information on a wide variety of Joshua's Trust trails, both old and new. The book costs \$15. An order form can be found on the Joshua's Trust website: [www.joshuaslandtrust.org](http://www.joshuaslandtrust.org).*



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Community Center 429-3105  
Town Clerk 429-3302  
UConn Coop 486-5027  
Mansfield Centre General Store  
Senior Center 429-0262  
Thompson G. Merritt & Sons 429-9377  
Mansfield Supply 429-2990

### Willimantic

Food Coop 456-3611  
Nassiff's 450-7090  
Ashford Town Clerk, 429-7044  
Chaplin Town Clerk 455-9455  
Hampton Town Clerk, 455-9132  
Goodwin Conservation Center, 455-9534  
Scotland Town Clerk, 423-9634

Tolland Rec. Dept. 860-871-3610  
Willington Town Clerk, 487-3131  
Coventry  
Booth-Dimock Library 742-7606  
Visitors' Center  
Town Clerk 742-7966 or Rec. Office 742-4068  
Edmondson's Farm Shop 742-6124

### Columbia

Saxon Little Public Library 228-0350  
Town Clerk 228-3284

### Pomfret

CT Audubon Society 928-4948

### Lebanon

Sports Center 886-2477  
Public Library 642-7763  
Town Clerk 642-7319

## Recent Contributors (Continued from Page 4)

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# Join us for this year's annual meeting... ...at The Hole-In-The-Wall Gang Camp

*This year's annual meeting and dinner will begin with tours of Paul Newman's Hole-in-the-Wall Gang Camp in Ashford and includes wine, appetizers, dinner and good company. New members are encouraged to attend!*

**Joshua's Trust annual dinner reservation form  
Please submit by March 30.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Please make reservations for \_\_\_\_\_ people (\$17 per person)

Number of people who will take the 5:30 tour \_\_\_\_\_  
Total enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to: Joshua's Trust

Mail to: Joshua's Trust, P.O. Box 4, Mansfield Center, CT 06250-0004.

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