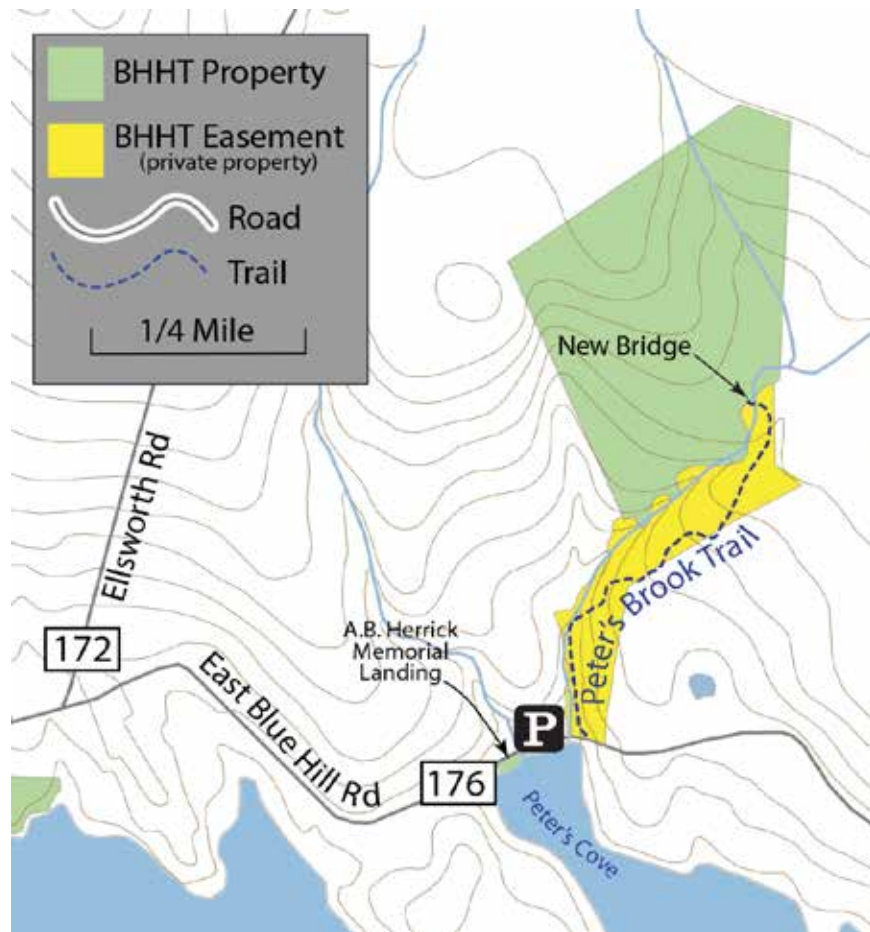


Peter's Brook is one of our most popular trails, located as it is, so close to downtown Blue Hill. In only a half-mile walk you come to the falls, tucked in a little hemlock hollow, with the brook sliding over slabs of granite outcropping. It's a truly lovely spot.

In 2015, Doug and Posie Cowan donated a large piece of land north of this spot, and we have been planning a trail expansion over the brook and onto this property ever since. Many of you have

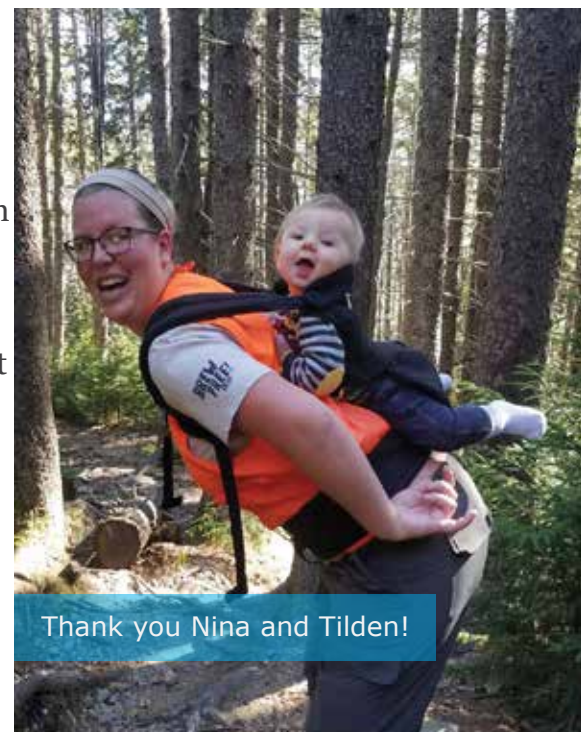


likely rock-hopped across and explored, but now construction is beginning on a the bridge near the falls. By the end of the year you will be able cross, and we will begin creating a trail loop on that side.

This will be a 1.25-mile-long loop, which will touch on the southern edge of Albion Meadow. We hope to be able to announce a further expansion in early 2018.

Volunteer Profile — Nina & Tilden Milliken

In 1907, a distant relative of mine traded shares in a granite company for some land in East Blue Hill. He sent family and friends a telegram that read, "I found paradise! You must come at once!" I got here as soon as I could, and became a year-round resident in 2011. My partner Jesse Wessel and I welcomed a son, Tilden, this year and Tilden and I do not like sitting still! We try to hike every day, and I feel very fortunate to have the time and strength to adventure with my baby boy. Since I want my child to be actively involved in volunteering opportunities in his community, we went to the Blue Hill Heritage Trust office to ask if there was some way we could be useful. Tilden and I got our first volunteering job together! We love being Trail Stewards for the Becton Trail! We also love participating in the Trusts' many awesome events!



Thank you Nina and Tilden!

2017 Fall News

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Hans M. Carlson, Executive Director

I'm currently reading *Rightful Heritage: Franklin Roosevelt and the Land of America*, which chronicles the 32nd President's conservation legacy. We tend to identify FDR strictly with the economic disaster of the Great Depression, and the flurry of New-Deal initiatives that relieved a struggling nation. FDR's distant cousin Teddy gets most of the credit for presidential advocacy for land, water, and wildlife, but this overlooks the principal place that conservation held, both in FDR's personal philosophy, and in the country which grew out of the New Deal. TR created the national will to protect wilderness in the West, but it was FDR who connected human communities with the land which supports us, and put this at the forefront of conservation in the US.

This is the legacy you are supporting here at the Trust – the philosophy of conserving land and people together – and while FDR was passionate about parks and trails, what I am taking from this book is something more. New-Deal conservation was about restoration as well as protection and recreation. American farmland during this period was depleted, our forests were cutover, and we were fast losing the wildlife which had been the hallmark of this continent. The nation was in crisis, and FDR believed that it could not be healed unless the land was healed too, and nearly every aspect of government and society were marshalled in that effort to conserve land and people.

Many of us grew up with the happy results of this great public effort, and this is what I am thinking about, at the end of my first year running BHHT. This is the legacy that we carry on, here on the peninsula, and it is the idea which you are supporting with your time and resources. Together, we are creating common good, and all of us at BHHT want to thank you for believing in that, and being part of the effort. I am looking forward to doing more.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Hans'.

You Can Be Part of the Heritage Society Too

“We joined the Heritage Society of BHHT to be part of the investment in land conservation and our community. The return on that investment has been phenomenal – for ourselves, and our family, and for everyone who lives or visits on the Blue Hill peninsula. Abundant walking trails and strategically placed wildlife corridors are providing humans, birds, and animals with opportunities to recreate and thrive. We also take advantage of the Trust's electronic giving method which makes it so easy to be part of this great effort.”



Katrina Parson



John & Carol Merrifield

“I give to the BHHT Heritage Society because I know that it provides a solid financial base for the organization. The staff raises money above and beyond this base for land acquisition and other conversation projects, but relies on us for regular operating expenses.”

When I was a teenager I would sometimes lie in bed listening to a baseball game on my transistor radio. I loved the voice and descriptions of the Yankee's announcer, Red Barber. He was a son of the South and often punctuated his reporting with folksy expressions. My favorite, without really understanding what it meant, was "sitting in the catbird seat."

I subsequently learned that the expression more or less means being in a privileged position, and as President of BHHT, for the past two years – with apologies to my friends at the Audubon Society – I truly have been "sitting in the catbird seat."

We have evolved into a more robust entity with substantially enhanced capacity to improve the lives of everyone who cares for the Blue Hill



Norm Alt, Board President, 2016-2018



Terry Moulton
Incoming Board President

peninsula, and I am very proud of our highly professional staff. Their work in community outreach and education has been particularly exemplary. And I am very pleased that our wonderful Board of Directors has been willing to take the bold steps necessary to enlarge our conservation footprint and to see that our easements and properties are properly cared for.

I am also very appreciative of the generous support of our members and friends who have helped to make our quantum leap possible. We could not do what we do without your contributions in money and volunteer time and we are very fortunate to have you as part of our team

I will be relinquishing my "seat" at the end of the year and know that our President-elect, Mr. A.R. ("Terry") Moulton, will enjoy this privilege position as much as I have.

BHHT Staff

Hans M. Carlson, Executive Director
George Fields, Associate Director
Chrissy Allen, Development Director
Laura Blandford, Membership Coordinator

On
The
Web



www.bluehillheritagetrust.org

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We are pleased to be applying for re-accreditation by the national Land Trust Accreditation Commission, which recognizes land conservation organizations that meet national standards. Blue Hill Heritage Trust

received accreditation in 2013, and renewal involves the same rigorous review of policies and programs by LTAC.

As part of the renewal of accreditation status, LTAC invites public input and accepts signed, written comments about the work of applicant organizations. Comments must relate to how an organization complies with national quality standards. These standards address the ethical and technical operation of a land trust. A full list of the standards is available online at www.landtrustaccreditation.org/help-and-resources/indicator-practices.



Announcing the Jim Dow Intern Program

The past two years, Blue Hill Heritage Trust has had great summer help from Trail Stewards and Summer Interns. We want to thank Maine Coast Heritage Trust for supporting two of these positions, and we also want to announce something new for the Trust.

In 2016, Tom Fast and Oliver Broughton provided essential help in building four new trails. This past year, BHHT had another cream-of-the-crop summer duo, with Tyler Brenton serving as the Trail Steward, and Devon Funt as the Summer Intern. They kept our properties in good shape, helped monitor easements, and carried out many other essential duties. This has been such a good experience for everyone, that we are formalizing it and creating an official program.

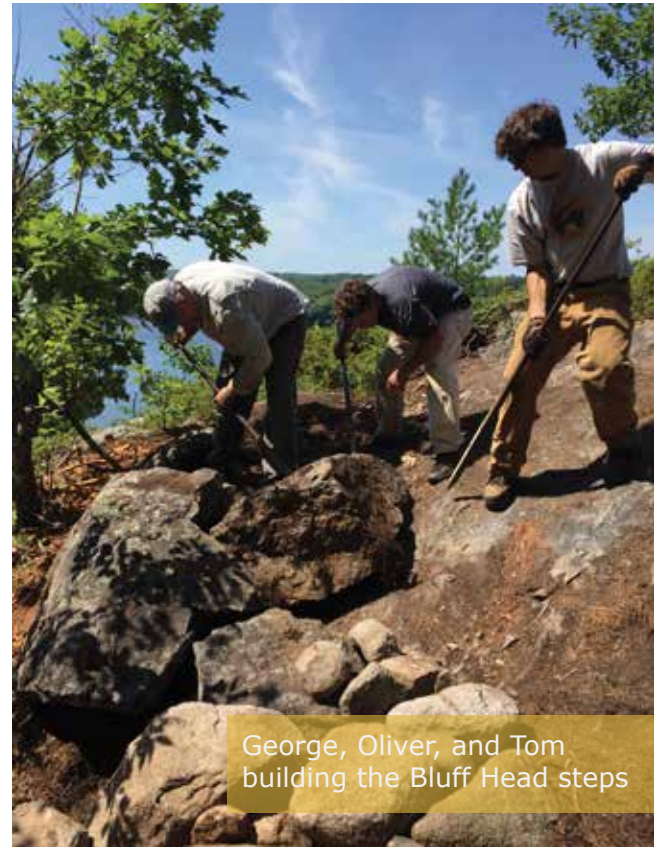


2017 interns, Tylor Brenton and Devon Funt, keeping the trail in good shape for you.

As many of you know, BHHT's first and long-time Executive Director, Jim Dow, retired at the end of 2016, and as a tribute to his service, wisdom, and love of the

peninsula, BHHT would like to announce the creation of the Jim Dow Internship Program. Going forward, we will have two young conservationists each summer learning from our staff and helping steward the lands we all love.

As part of this initiative, a dedicated endowment was created, with an initial contribution, made in August 2017, and this will eventually fund BHHT's legacy of nurturing youth involvement in conservation, nature, and sustainability. For more information, please contact us.



George, Oliver, and Tom building the Bluff Head steps

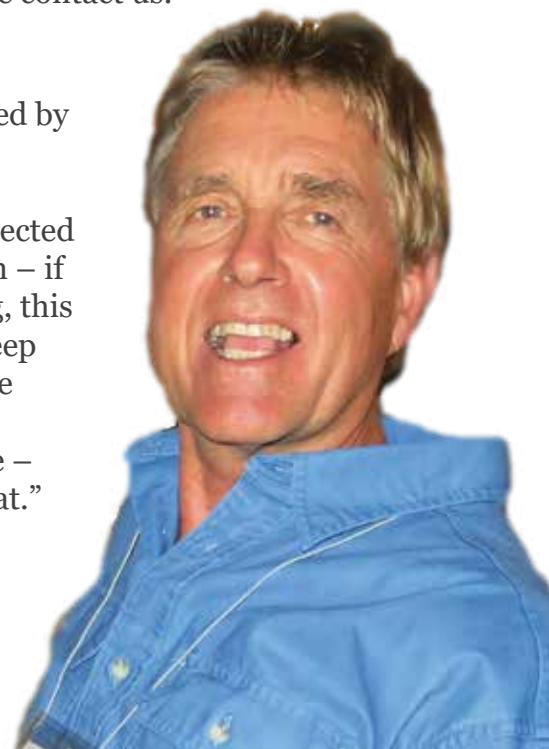


All materials for the steps at Carter Nature Preserve were carried with Intern power!

"I was surprised, and very touched by the news of the intern program. Although I feel no need to be memorialized – the land we protected over the last 16 years was enough – if there were to be some such thing, this would be it. I have long held a deep interest in finding ways to engage young people in our work – to re-seed the movement, as it were – and this program will help do that."

Jim Dow
Executive Director
2000-2016

www.bluehillheritagetrust.org



Collaborative Science Across the Hemisphere

BHHT is excited to collaborate with the Schoodic Institute, and other local land trusts, on Phenology Trails Across Downeast Maine.

Phenology is the study of cyclic and seasonal natural phenomena, especially climate data, and data on the patterns of plant and animal life. These trails are designed to let students, and anyone interested, collect phenological information, and submit it for use by researchers.

Specifically, this data will be used by Dr. Richard Feldman, a research scientist working in Mexico, and an adjunct professor at the University of Massachusetts and Schoodic Institute. Dr. Feldman is studying the fall bird migration in Downeast Maine, looking at the effects that a warming climate may be creating. Specifically, he is studying an increasing mismatch between migration timing and fall fruit production, which could ultimately lead to a lack of food for birds at this most critical time in their year.

Data from the “pheno” trails will help track these changes, and BHHT is specifically involving area students in this project. Technology will allow Dr. Feldman to talk with students from his sites in Mexico, and our hope is that by connecting kids this way it will make science and their local geography more meaningful to them. We would very much like to thank the Maine Community Foundation for funding our purchase of the computer equipment to make this possible.



Staff and volunteers from BHHT & IHT worked alongside Earthwatch Volunteers from Shell Global to create a "pheno trail" at BHHT's Hundred Acre Wood in Brooklin. The Earth Watch/Shell volunteers were from Egypt, Nigeria, India, United Kingdom, Bulgaria, Chile, and Scotland.

New Trail Guides — A Great Success!

This Fall, BHHT staff and volunteers visited many local school open-houses, handing out over 500 free regional trail guides to elementary age school families across the peninsula. The Trust was able to gift these guides, which include hiking trails and water access points across the peninsula, thanks to grant funding from the Onion Foundation, the Maine Community Foundation, and Maine Coast Heritage Trust. In addition to giving out free guides to school families and community institutions, BHHT has used this new guide to increase support for the organization. It is through this critical support that BHHT continues its work protecting important lands and providing educational programming to our communities.

If you have not picked up your copy, please stop by our office. They are \$5/each, or FREE for current BHHT members!



Liz Conlon and Naomi Bowden show off their new regional trail guides.