



PINELANDS
PRESERVATION
ALLIANCE

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New Tales from Old Haunts

Saturday, June 22
8:00 pm - 9:30 pm

Join us around the
campfire with master
storyteller Paul Evans
Pedersen Jr. for stories
and songs about the
Pine Barrens.

See page 7 for more
information.

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INSIDE THE PINELANDS



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ORV damage in a southern New Jersey forest.

Woodbine ORV Park Triggers New Requirements

by Jaclyn Rhoads, Ph.D., Assistant Executive Director

The term off-road vehicle (ORV) refers to any motor-driven vehicle which is not authorized to be licensed by the New Jersey Department of Motor Vehicles for use on public highways. These all-terrain, three to six-wheeled vehicles or two-wheeled dirt bikes may seem like a great way to enjoy the outdoors, but they can cause more damage than a car driving off-road in the forest. Today, public lands in the Pinelands are suffering a massive assault from ORVs, trucks and dirt bikes.

New Jersey has made significant progress in advancing protections against unrestrained, illegal off-road vehicle use on public and private lands,

including the opening of a new state-run ORV park in Woodbine, but real enforcement and significant policy changes are still necessary to protect and restore the state's important natural resources.

After a 10-year campaign, conservation groups led by PPA were successful in winning the passage of state-wide legislation in 2009 that increased fines and penalties for operating ORVs on public and private lands without a permit or written permission. It also required the identification and registration of off-road vehicles by the NJ Department of Motor Vehicles. Registration and numbering of these vehicles is a critical element allowing

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Remembering Nan Hunter-Walnut

by Carleton Montgomery, Executive Director

When I first came to PPA in 1998, Nan Hunter-Walnut was the first trustee to take me by the lapels (well, figuratively) and make clear what she expected from me in leading PPA as an unwavering advocate for the Pinelands. From that moment on, Nan was my conscience, always present in spirit and very often in person to make sure we did not pull our punches, but always spoke out clearly and strongly for the Pines. We lost Nan, who passed away in March at the age of 86. Yet I think she will always be with those of us who had the privilege of knowing her and working with her to save the Pinelands.

Nan grew up in Jenkintown and lived in Pennsylvania until she and her husband Rick Walnut, a New Jersey native, moved to the Pine Barrens of Southampton Township in 1970. They explored the woods and sand roads, and took Betty Woodford's course about the Pinelands.

In 1973, Nan and Rick started the Concerned Citizens of Southampton because they saw that the town was heading for excessive development of its forested and agricultural landscape. They had an impact, and Nan became the first woman appointed to Southampton's planning board, serving for an astounding 25 years on the board. Touring Southampton, one can see she and colleagues like Ted Gordon really made a difference in their own community.

At the same time, Nan became active in the movement to protect the Pinelands far

beyond the boundary of her own town. Nan joined the Pine Barrens Coalition at its inception in 1977 and soon came to lead this vocal group of citizen activists. In 1977 Governor Brendan Byrne placed a moratorium on development in the Pinelands and established the Pinelands Review Committee to plan and coordinate state actions to protect the Pine Barrens. The Governor selected Nan to serve on the Committee. When New Jersey passed the Pinelands Protection Act and created the Pinelands Commission, Nan continued to serve as a leader of citizen advocates who pressed successfully for adoption of a strong Comprehensive Management Plan.

Most dear to my heart, Nan was a founder of the Pinelands Preservation Alliance. She served on PPA's board of trustees from its founding to the day she died. But after helping found PPA, she did not leave the advocacy to others. She remained an active and staunch voice for preservation in innumerable statements before the Pinelands Commission. Her perseverance and clarity of vision inspired younger generations of Pinelands conservationists. Among many awards that Nan and Rick received for their volunteer work, PPA was privileged to honor Nan in 2007 by inducting her into the Pine Barrens Hall of Fame.

Nan set a high bar for me and the rest of the staff at PPA, but she always supported us and helped us understand the importance of what we do. We miss her humor and her passion.



A New Enduro Map for Wharton State Forest

by Jaclyn Rhoads, Ph.D., Assistant Executive Director

Enduro motorcycle clubs, also known as dirt bike clubs, have a long tradition of holding organized events in South Jersey forests. An “enduro” is a long distance, cross-country time trial competition over a marked trail. It is an event that tests the ability of the rider against a pre-determined course which must be ridden under very specific time constraints. Enduros can have as many as 400 riders per event.

Some clubs date back as far as the 1970’s. Enduro clubs are required to obtain permits to hold organized racing events in state forests. But even these permitted events come with problems such as illegal trails and riding after permitted events are finished. These events require significant oversight by state agencies and state park employees.

Under the off-road vehicle law passed in 2009, dirt bikes are classified with other off-road vehicles and must be registered and titled. This provision will help in curtailing problems with individuals riding in the state forest outside of permitted events and on private lands.

Still, a significant amount of time is needed by state agencies and state park employees in reviewing, monitoring and enforcing enduro club event permits. In the past four years, enduro clubs in the Pinelands used 950 miles of trails, some of which were new trails created specifically for the enduro events.

To deal with this extensive management of the recreation permits, the State Park Service has introduced a new approach to managing organized motorized recreation in New Jersey State Forests. According to Rob Auermuller, Superintendent of Wharton State Forest, “Wharton State Forest is the first State

Forest to develop a map of pre-approved routes for this activity. These routes are comprised of plowed lines, unimproved roads and improved roads. Clubs interested in hosting events within Wharton are permitted to plan events using any subset of these pre-approved routes. This program has reduced the staff time involved in reviewing these events, streamlined the permit process for applicants, and offers a balance of recreation and resource stewardship.”

The State Park Service plans to apply this model to the other state forests throughout New Jersey and is in the process of mapping pre-approved routes for these locations. This new approach not only reduces the work load of employees, but also helps to identify illegal trail creation, reduce natural resource damages and conflict with other recreational uses of the state forest.

This approach is a significant improvement over the management that has been in place for over 30 years, and PPA applauds Wharton’s superintendent for making this happen. However, Wharton and other State Forests must have state police support in order to prevent riders from creating illegal trails on public and private property, and to ensure that riders aren’t using the state forests outside of the permitted events. There have been several incidents of trespassing and trail creation on private lands which require extensive time on the landowners’ part to file the complaint, identify the areas of damage and determine who is responsible.

To improve on this situation, the Pinelands Preservation Alliance recommends that Enduro clubs be required to escrow funds for permitted

events in order to cover any resulting damage to the natural resources. PPA also recommends that enforcement by state police is increased.

Pinelands Preservation Alliance shared these suggestions with the Pinelands Commission and State Park Service. PPA will continue to track progress on these changes, but will need the general public to share their support for these plans and be the eyes and ears for our public spaces. For more information on this issue or to send a letter of support contact Jaclyn at 609-859-8860 ext. 18 or email jaclyn@pinelandsalliance.org.

DEFINITIONS

Off-Road Vehicle (ORV)

Off-road vehicle is a broad category and refers to any motorized vehicle with two or more wheels or tracks capable of being operated off of improved and maintained roads including, but not limited to, motorcycles as defined at *N.J.S.A. 39:1-1, Motor Vehicles and Traffic Regulation*, snowmobiles and all-terrain vehicles, and dirt bikes.

All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV)

An ATV refers to a motor vehicle, designed to travel over any terrain, of a type possessing between three and six rubber tires and powered by a gasoline engine not exceeding 1,000 cubic centimeters (does not include golf carts).

Dirt Bike

Any two-wheeled motorcycle that is designed and manufactured for off-road use only and are not considered street legal motorcycles

Fire Ecology and the Wild Lupine

by Nora Laberee

Nora is a homeschooled high school junior from Medford. She has worked as a volunteer at the Academy of Natural Sciences for four years and has competed in local, regional and international science fairs. This summer she will be studying sustainability and environmental science in Malaysia and Singapore through a scholarship from the US Department of State and the American Youth Leadership Program.

Living in the Pine Barrens of New Jersey has sparked in me a curiosity about its unusual landscape and ecosystem. When I was very young, my family participated in night-time frog hunts, explored Pinelands ghost towns and canoed the tea-colored rivers. From an early age I gained respect for undisturbed beauty in nature. I love the quirky beauty of the New Jersey Pine Barrens.

The 2011 wildfire in Shamong, which was not far from my home that burned 175 acres of Wharton State Forest, made a big impression on me, and marked the beginning of my intense curiosity of the role of fire in the balance of things. It was after reading about the role of fire in the Pines and meeting with Dr. Amy Karpati, PPA's Director of Conservation Science that I became inspired to build a research project on the benefits of fire to the preservation of unique plant life in the Pine Barrens.

In New Jersey and elsewhere, native plant populations decline due to habitat destruction. Development and urbanization can introduce invasive species and pollution, or just deter the natural disturbances like fire or floods, which are actually helpful.

Specifically, in the case of the wild lupine (*Lupinus perennis*), fire suppression in the Pinelands restricts the open, sandy habitat it likes.

To explore potential adaptations of a native plant to fire, I designed an indoor greenhouse experiment to determine the role of the smoke from a fire in the germination rates of *Lupinus perennis*.

I collected pine needles, dried oak leaves, pine cones, and other organic material from the Pine Barrens woods litter layer around my home and burned them in an outdoor grill along with an aluminum tray of water. As these materials burned, smoke infused the water. I soaked *Lupinus perennis* seeds in the smoke-infused water that remained in the aluminum tray. I had two control treatments (*Lupinus perennis* seeds soaked in plain well water and seeds soaked in grill-heated water without smoke) and ran several trials. The highest success of *Lupinus perennis* seed germination resulted from the seeds soaked in the smoke water, demonstrating a beneficial effect of fire on this Pine Barrens plant.

I was thrilled when my project was accepted in the 2013 International Sustainable World Science Olympiad held in May. But, I was more delighted to imagine that smoke technology could be introduced in seed production, perhaps creating a new technology as part of an active management system to simulate the role of fire in maintaining NJ Pine Barren habitats. And beyond!

Thanks to Dr. Amy Karpati for inspiring me, meeting with me and pointing me in the right direction with all of my questions!

FAIRS & FESTIVALS

SUNDAY, JUNE 9

BURLINGTON COUNTY EARTH FAIR

Smithville Park, Eastampton

10:30am - 4 pm

SATURDAY, JUNE 29

WHITESBOG BLUEBERRY FESTIVAL

Historic Whitesbog Village, Browns Mills

10:00 am - 4:00 pm

JULY 17 TO JULY 20

BURLINGTON COUNTY FARM FAIR

*Burlington County Fair Grounds,
Springfield Twp.*

10:00 am - 11:00 pm

Stop by the PPA table and check out our selection of books, DVDs, clothing, and gift items!

Or go to

www.pinelandsalliance.org/store
to browse our online store

Pinelands Commission Meetings

Thursday, June 13, 7:00 pm

Fri., July 12, 9:30 am

Regular monthly meetings are open to the public and they need to hear from you.

NJ Pinelands Commission
15 Springfield Rd.
New Lisbon, NJ 08064
Phone: (609) 894-7300

Woodbine ORV Park Triggers New Requirements

continued from cover

law enforcement to more easily identify vehicles that violate the law. It is difficult for law enforcement to catch trespassing riders because they can't access the same areas in a standard motor vehicle and they can't legally stop the trucks on which these vehicles have been loaded to get them into the State Forest.

The 2009 ORV law is just now being implemented due to a last minute condition added to the legislation that required the designation of at least one state-run ORV park before provisions of the bill took effect. Over four years later, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) designated the site in Woodbine and is required to find two additional state ORV park locations – one in central and one in north Jersey. This condition was favored by the New Jersey legislature as a compromise to the law-abiding riders who wanted legal places to ride.

Still, significant evidence shows that parks alone will not deter the illegal riding of these vehicles. A Pennsylvania Dept. of Conservation and Natural Resources study conducted in 2000 found that there was no correlation between the availability of legal trails and diminished illegal riding. In fact, the seven state forests with official all-terrain vehicle (ATV) trails had an average of 50 more miles of illegal motorized trails.

Not only is the damage to land a significant problem, but the

number of deaths and injuries is increasing, especially among young riders in the United States. The families of people killed while riding ATVs created a website, www.atvsafetynet.org, where the public can find out how dangerous this recreational activity is. Since 1982, the US Consumer Product Safety Commission has been collecting ATV death and injury data. Their current report states that since 1982, there have been 74 ATV rider fatalities in New Jersey, including 11 in the last 4 years alone.

To deal with this safety problem, the ORV law states that anyone under the age of 18 must complete a safety training course and have a copy of the certificate with them when riding the vehicle. A person under the age of 14 is not allowed to ride an ORV on public lands or across public highways, which includes an ORV park owned and operated under the State of New Jersey. Additional elements of the legislation include:

- An additional \$5 fee at registration is deposited into a fund for creating ORV parks.
- The identifying number assigned to an ORV must be displayed at all times.
- All owners must have insurance with limits as noted by the law.
- Fines increase for multiple offenses up to \$1,500, and vehicles can be impounded by law enforcement.
- ORVs used strictly for farming purposes are excluded from the provisions of the law.

PPA and our partner organizations are extremely grateful to the legislative sponsors, Assemblyman Reed Gusciora and Senator Bob Gordon, for working so hard to make sure the legislation passed. We also thank the DEP for designating the first ORV park, so that all elements of the legislation can be implemented. State Police will need to increase enforcement, so that this law truly protects New Jersey's open space from the impacts of illegal riding.

PPA looks forward to working with these agencies and the Pinelands Commission in reducing other types of off-road motor vehicle damage, like the damage caused by enduro events, monster trucks and jeeps.

For additional information on how dirt bike permitted events, known as enduros, can damage public land, read the article "A New Enduro Map for Wharton State Forest," in this newsletter and visit PPA's website to follow our efforts on this campaign.

Stay Informed!

Here are two quick ways to stay informed about Pinelands events and issues.

Email ppa@pinelandsalliance.org with the subject "Add my Email" to get our weekly emails.

"Like" us on Facebook for daily updates at facebook.com/pinelands

The Making of a Pine Barrens Botanist, Historian and Advocate

*Editor's Note: Ted Gordon has done vital work documenting and teaching about the Pine Barrens' unique ecological and historic resources for five decades. His work on rare plants of the Pine Barrens has been published in issues of *Bartonia*, *Journal of the Philadelphia Botanical Club*, and in scores of reports – often playing a decisive role in protecting these critical resources. We honored Ted and his work at the 2012 Pine Barrens Hall of Fame event and want to share his story with you.*

It was a great privilege to be inducted into the Pine Barrens Hall of Fame last fall. I am aware of the enormous contributions made to Pinelands protection and preservation by each of the fourteen previous honorees and my co-honoree and friend of more than 40 years, Jeanne Woodford. I also honor the many pioneering conservationists, some still with us and some gone now, who became friends, teachers and sources of inspiration – activists like Ruth Spendelow, David Moore, Nan Hunter-Walnut and Mort Cooper, and experts like Budd Wilson, Joe Arsenault, Bob Zappalorti, Bill Hawkins, Jack McCormick, Elizabeth Woodford, Lou and Eileen Hand, and Dot and Brooks Evert, to name just a few.

Born in 1937 in the farming village of Hockenheim, in the Rhine Valley of Germany, I lived through World War II and its tumultuous aftermath. My father, a German soldier, was killed in action early in the war, so I never got to know him. My hometown was a scene from the Middle Ages: horse and ox-drawn wagons moving thru cobblestone streets to barns and stalls that were located in town, not in the country. Fields, diked meadows and community forests played an extensive role in all our lives. In school, nature study with weekly field trips and local history were my favorite classes.

In 1948, when I was 11, my mother married an American G.I., who was transferred to Ft. Dix, which led to our settling in historic Burlington City. I spoke no English but learned quickly. A unit in Burlington City history in 8th grade brought me in touch with three major Burlington County historians: Nathaniel Ewan, Dr. Henry Bisbee (author of *Place Names, Sign Posts, and The Martha Furnace Diary*), and Watson Buck (charter member of the Batsto Citizens Committee and authority on old tools, mills, and the Pine Barrens). These men and the books they urged me to read launched my deep interest in exploring and documenting the natural and human history of the Pine Barrens.

It was during this period that my father, now a company commander, introduced me to several Pine Barrens haunts on or near Ft. Dix, such as Brindletown and its lake, Hanover Furnace, its slag heaps and swimming opportunities, and Whitesbog cranberry and blueberry village. When I received my driver's license in 1957, I began a more systematic exploration of the Pines, and as I became entwined in the conservation movement during the 1960s, I began to focus on increasing my knowledge of plants and ecosystems.

1959 was a momentous year for me: I met my future wife, Patricia, and I also met Budd Wilson, a classmate at Rutgers University. Budd encouraged me to visit Batsto, where he was an apprentice archeologist. This led me to study abandoned towns of Wharton State Forest.

In the 1960s, Lou Hand and Elizabeth Woodford became two of the most influential people in my life. Lou Hand, one of the greatest Pine Barrens botanists of the 20th century, became my botanical mentor, and Betty taught me close-up photography and photo

composition. Betty also encouraged me to conduct jeep tours of the Barrens, which I began in 1970, along with teaching courses on the Pine Barrens. Armed with geologic survey maps and my 4-wheel drive vehicle, I was now able to systematically negotiate virtually all of the sand trails of the Barrens from Monmouth County to northern Cape May County, photographically documenting our vanishing historic sites and both common as well as the rare and endangered plant and animal species. Friends and family members thought that I was obsessed when I would spend 10-12 hours a day exploring during summer and school holidays. But the effort paid off. When the Pinelands Commission came into being in 1979, I was able to provide them with valuable data and was later privileged to serve as a member of the Commission.

I am especially proud of my rare species surveys conducted over the past 33 years for private, municipal, county, state, federal, and conservation agencies that have resulted in the preservation of thousands of acres. In 1972 I joined the Philadelphia Botanical Club, where a world-renowned sedge specialist, Dr. Alfred E. Schuyler, became my mentor and friend. Together we have conducted numerous surveys in the Barnegat Bay drainage of the Pine Barrens for the Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia. By way of example, our work on the Oyster Creek watershed formed the basis for the Pinelands Commission's re-designating several thousand acres of the watershed from a growth to a conservation zone.

It is wonderful to see a young person like Nora (see her article in this issue) take an interest in the botanical heritage of the Pinelands in creating a valuable scientific experiment.

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Pinelands Preservation Alliance

Programs and Field Trips

June & July 2013

We temporarily replaced the Pinelands Calendar of Events with a listing of all PPA events and field trips this summer.

Pinelands Preservation Alliance (PPA) is located at 17 Pemberton Rd., Southampton NJ.

Pre-registration is required for all programs. PPA members get a 10% discount.

Visit www.pinelandsalliance.org and click on **Exploration** and **PPA Programs** for a complete listing of PPA programs and trips.

To register contact Tom at 609-859-8860 x 14 or email tomdunn@pinelandsalliance.org

The New Jersey Pinelands and the Revolutionary War

Wed., June 12, 7pm at PPA Headquarters, Southampton

Joe Laufer, Burlington County Historian will chronicle the people, places and events of the New Jersey Pinelands that played critical and strategic roles in the nation's war for freedom. Learn about the privateers and smugglers at Little Egg Harbor along the Mullica River and the October, 1778 clash at Chestnut Neck; the roles of Count Casimir Pulaski and Benedict Arnold, the Osborn Island Incident and other stories. Cost is \$10/person.

How to Get Things Done without Being Elected

Tues., June 18, 7pm - 9pm at PPA Headquarters, Southampton

Are you a concerned community member or on a Green Team or Environmental Commission? Join The Citizens Campaign's Renee Koubiadis to learn how to save your town money and see the implementation of Pinelands friendly and socially equitable practices. You will learn how to advocate as a Citizen Legislator, Citizen Journalist or how secure an appointed position on a board or commission. Everyone receives a copy of The Citizens Manual. A joint program with The Citizens Campaign. **This is a free program.** Registration required.

New Tales from Old Haunts
Sat., June 22, 8pm-9:30 pm at PPA Headquarters, Southampton

Join us around the campfire at PPA as master storyteller and Grammy-nominated singer/songwriter Paul Evans Pedersen Jr. shares stories and songs about the Pine Barrens. Paul puts his unique spin on such legendary local subjects as the Jersey Devil and dancing bandit Joe Mulliner. These weird and wondrous tales from the author of *The Legendary Pine Barrens: New Tales from Old Haunts* come alive in a performance the whole family will enjoy. We will supply the marshmallows, a seat by the fire, and an evening of thrills, chills, and harmonies you'll never forget! Cost is \$10/person. Registration required.

National Moth Week: Moth Mania

Wed., July 24, 8:30 pm-11pm, at PPA Headquarters, Southampton

This nighttime program is part of National Moth Week, a global citizen science project and celebration of nocturnal biodiversity (www.nationalmothweek.org). See a slide show presentation about the important role of moths in the ecosystem and then look at these fascinating insects attracted to a black light in our field and gardens. Speakers are Elena Tartaglia, PhD Rutgers University and Matt Sichel of Stockton College. **This is a free program.** Registration required.

Movie Under the Stars @ PPA

July 19th & August 23rd at PPA Headquarters, Southampton

Enjoy a fun family night as we show an environmental film under the stars. Chirping crickets and shooting stars will serve as our backdrop. Popcorn and refreshments provided. Check our website for movie titles and start times. This is a free program and donations are welcome. **Registration required.** In the event of rain the movie is shown inside.

Kids Nature Program

Thur., July 25th, 10am-noon at PPA Headquarters, Southampton

Take a fun tour of PPA's Bishop

Farmstead and learn about birds, insects, animals, plants, rocks, water and other natural wonders that you might have in your own backyard. Children (ages 4-12) must be accompanied by an adult. Pack a lunch and watch the movie *The Pine Barrens: Up Close and Natural*. Cost is \$5/person (adult or child). **Registration required.**

Canoe the Batsto River

Sat. July 27, 8am - 4pm, Atsion NJ

Amy Karpati, PPA's Director for Conservation Science, will lead this day-long tour of the beautiful and historic Batsto River. Foliage and wildlife make this an exhilarating experience. Explore a characteristic Pine Barrens wetland savannah along the river - home to several rare plant species. We'll stop for a brown bag lunch along the way. Cost is \$15/person and canoe rental is extra (\$40-\$45 per 2 person canoe). Registration required. **You must have canoe experience.**

Art Exhibit:

The Pine Barrens at First Light by Ernest Cozens

On display at PPA Headquarters from April to September 2013.

Viewing Hours: Mon-Fri 10am to 4pm. Other hours by appointment. Call 609-859-8860.

This exhibit opened April 7th and Mr. Cozens sold over 18 pieces that day - a record for a PPA art opening! He has now hung new images to replace the ones that sold. We hope you can stop by and see his amazing work.

See stunning photography of the Pine Barrens and Jersey Shore in handcrafted wooden frames.

Many of these images were taken from vantage points that are only accessible by boat. Mr. Cozens has a wooden 18-foot Simmons Sea Skiff that he built himself. The design allows him to go into very shallow water. "By boat, you can find places you never knew existed in New Jersey," says Mr. Cozens. See more images at www.photoutback.com.



Pinelands Preservation Alliance

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Southampton, NJ 08088

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SCAN: Scan this code to get to PPA's website



*This code can be scanned and read by a
Smart Phone using a QR Code Reader app
available from iTunes or Android web stores*

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ County: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone (Day): _____ (Evening): _____

E-Mail: _____ Referred by: _____

Check enclosed payable to PPA

Mastercard Visa Discover

Card Number: _____ Exp. Date: _____ 3 Digit Security Code: _____

Signature of Card Holder: _____

Membership Categories

Basic \$35

Family \$60

Sponsor \$100

Patron \$250

Benefactor \$500

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Other _____

ALL MEMBERS RECEIVE:

A PPA membership card
A year's subscription to Inside the Pinelands
A PPA window sticker
Discounts on PPA merchandise and events

Sponsors receive a copy of *The Pine Barrens: Up Close & Natural* DVD
Patrons receive John McPhee's seminal book *The Pine Barrens*
Benefactors receive *The Pine Barrens of New Jersey*, a photographic history of this region
Chairman's Circle members receive the book *Seasons of the Pines* and a personalized tour of the Pinelands

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