

MAKING TRACKS

Roger Brown: Passion and Persistence

by Malin Clyde

It seems to me that there is something special about the early classes of Coverts Cooperators. Most of them are still active with the Coverts Project, returning their annual surveys and keeping in touch through workshops, *Making Tracks* and emails. Roger Brown, Coverts Class of 1995, is about as loyal as they come.

Roger is a familiar face at Coverts events and workshops; always wearing a hat, with a sandy moustache and a southern drawl. He's quick with a joke, and even quicker with an invitation to come visit his land in Brentwood. His infectious enthusiasm for wildlife, for learning, and for his land comes across the minute you meet him.



One of the many nesting boxes that Roger has placed around his property, this one for owls.

"Roger really loves his land, and for good reason," says Phil Auger, UNHCE Land and Water Conservation Educator, who has known Roger for many years. Roger and his wife Bonnie own 79 acres along Dudley Brook, including a series of interconnected wetlands that connect downstream to the Exeter River.

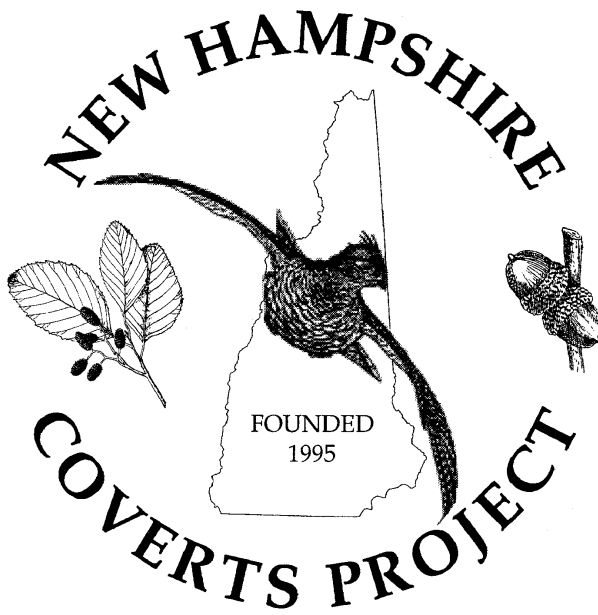
Roger's land lies in the heart of Rockingham County, the most

rapidly growing county in the state. Originally, the Browns lived nearby, on an old 14-acre farm that they had cared for and loved for many years. "My hound was buried on that land, and I had always figured I would be too," quips Roger about their old property. But shortly after Roger attended the Coverts workshop in 1995, he heard that a legendary logger, Lawrence Lyford, was selling 80 acres of woods that were part of his much larger farm. Remembers Roger, "The first time I visited the land, back in the mid-90s, I was welcomed by a singing cardinal, a wandering deer, and a flushed ruffed grouse. I knew right then that this place was special."

Roger described hearing the realtor advertise the land by telling perspective buyers that they could "get 14 houses in there." He was unsuccessful lobbying friends and acquaintances, looking for the



Roger Brown, CC95, stands alongside the wetland complex surrounding Dudley Brook, which runs along the eastern boundary of his 79-acre property.



Who else has named their property after the Coverts project?

right person to buy the land and put a single house there. "I just couldn't stand the thought of the land being developed, so I figured I would buy it, donate an easement on it, and then find a buyer." But then Bonnie asked him, "Why can't we be 'the right people' to live there?" As much as they loved their old property, the more Roger thought about the land and the wildlife, the more he liked the idea of living there amongst it all. By that evening, he had agreed with his wife that they would buy it and build a house.

The house is located at the end of a long dirt drive, situated between what Roger calls his two "deity trees," a large shagbark hickory and a huge red maple. The house is new but feels old, with bricks and boards salvaged from old buildings in Brentwood, including the demolished town jail. All the

trails and features of the property seem to have a German moniker (Roger is a Professor of German at UNH): Buchholdez Weg ("Beech Wood"), Indian Spring (where it won't freeze even at 40 below), Braunhain ("Brown's consecrated woods"). And everywhere you look; there are treasures and tokens from other Coverts Cooperators, a testament to Roger's passion for the Coverts Project. There are benches and chairs from Ken Marvell (CC96), a coat rack from

Freddi Olson's (CC96) equestrian antiques shop, and sign posts made from Bill Schmid's (CC98) black locust trees cut on his land in New Durham years ago. Those posts hold up an entrance sign that stands at the beginning of the Brown's drive. It reads "Coverts Corner of Keeneborough."

How many Coverts Cooperators have named their land after the Coverts Project? But that's Roger. "When he gets excited about an idea, he just goes nuts!" laughs Roger's good friend Phil Auger. "When I first got to know him, I helped him with the stewardship of his 14-acre Brentwood woodlot – a small timber sale, encouraging the fruit trees, things like that. And then I mentioned the idea of conserving his land – something I try and bring up with all landowners." The next thing Phil knew, Roger had donated an easement on his land to the Rockingham Land Trust, paving the way for him to later do the same with the 79-acre parcel.

The wetlands on the Brown's land are key conservation priorities for the town of Brentwood. Their 77-acre conservation easement is right in the middle of what hopefully will become a large block of conserved land in the town. In the last year, Roger opened the door for the town of Brentwood's Open Space Committee to work with a neighboring landowner to conserve 80 acres of woodland next door. Now the total conserved block is almost 160 acres along Dudley Brook. Howard Cadwell (CC02), head of the Open Space Committee, attended the Coverts workshop at Roger's urging, as did fellow Brentwood volunteer Victor Schmalzer (CC04). Howard and Victor were heavily involved in the process of getting a \$2 million open space bond passed in 2003. "Roger has always been very helpful, particularly behind the scenes," says Howard. Roger worked to get broad participation in Brentwood's Community Profile, which Howard credits with pulling the community together on the issue of conserving land and stabilizing taxes. "He also speaks his mind, challenging the bureaucrats in town when they're acting like bureaucrats."

Roger has supplied his trademark enthusiasm and persistence to the stewardship of his land, doing most of the thinning work himself while applying the lessons derived from the Coverts Project. He has a management plan for his land, with wildlife habitat improvement as the top priority. He has installed bat and bird boxes, done wildlife plantings of red osier dogwood and hawthorn, protected vernal pools and den trees ("and basswood, for sapsuckers" says his plan), maintained hemlock stands for deer yards, and created lots of brush piles to attract wrens, sparrows and rabbits. Working on a WHIP-funded plan over the past few years, he's also completed several patch cuts to promote early-successional growth and aspen regeneration, released mast trees and a few apple trees, and improved his road system.



Roger Brown and one of his favorite wildlife snag trees.

continued on page 4

HAPPENINGS

Harmony Anderson (CC02) of Center Strafford shares an exciting sighting: "Last month I was very happy to be able to help a Blanding's turtle on his ill-advised trip across highway 202A near the Strafford/Rochester line. It was my first Blanding's sighting ever but it was unmistakable with that bright yellow throat and high speckled carapace. It was a big one with about a nine-inch long carapace, so I guess it has survived other road crossings without me in many years past. I reported the sighting to Fish and Game Headquarters in Concord and signed up to be an official reptile and amphibian reporter."

Roscoe Blaisdell (CC97) of Raymond shares some interesting shots from his Deerfield property. "I had another great season last year photographing critters with my remote animal triggered cameras. I got photos of most types of the 4 legged animals in my area including another close up one of a bobcat. I had one of these kitties hissing at me in my cave in Raymond last summer. Recently a logger using a forwarder and Timco unit selectively harvested part of my Deerfield woodlot and created two one-acre clearcuts for the wildlife. I am spending most of my free time creating foodplots on my Rockingham County woodlots and Vermont woodlot. The results have been outstanding."



Bobcat and buck caught by Roscoe Blaisdell's wildlife-activated cameras.



Paul Dionne (CC01), who incidentally will be presenting a talk on Stewardship of Public Lands at the fall session of Coverts training, sends the following update. "I am working on a final update of our Forestry Management Plan for all town conservation areas with forester, Charlie Moreno. I expect that to be completed this summer, with implementation beginning this fall and winter 2006. I have also worked on another conservation area, working on farm field restoration and habitat improvement. It is the Shepard Family Area; 35 acres of agricultural soils donated by the Alan Shepard family about 5 years ago. The main hay field hadn't been worked for close to 20 years. I brush-hogged this weekends this summer. John Brown & Sons worked their magic here also, with fantastic results. I haven't been there to check for woodcocks, but I expect the same result as Broadview. It should also be large enough to support at least a pair of two of Bobolinks. There were migrating bluebirds and an Ipswich Sparrow spotted late last fall, in the newly cleared hay field.

The town, in a non-binding referendum in March 2004, voted to expend a 6 million dollar bond for open space protection. The town council formed a Land Advisory Committee to formulate a process and make recommendations for protection. I was appointed as the Conservation representative. Over the past 10 months, this group of 7 has met 25 times with more than 100 hours in those meetings. We also had several sub panels that had specific tasks that met several times independent of the Committee. The report was finalized Friday and it is being printed this week. The LAC has a public hearing with the council next week. From there, I look forward to the council support of our recommendations." In a recent update, Paul shared that the committee is currently in negotiations for over 300 acres of land to put under a conservation easement.

Paul's work on the Conservation Development Zoning Committee is also close to bearing fruit. After several meetings with engineering and legal professionals and the Planning Board, the committee will present a proposal for Open Space Zoning in a public meeting in August. Paul hopes that it will be positively received and result in the support of the town council shortly thereafter.

Joyce El Kourati (CC03) in her role with the Moose Mountain Regional Greenways shared that nearly 100 paddlers made their way down four scenic miles of the Branch River in June to explore the relationship between land and water in the area. Representatives

from Branch Hill Farm, the Cocheco River Watershed Coalition, Moose Mountains Regional Greenways, the NH Department of Environmental Services, and UNH Cooperative Extension shared their knowledge with the group.

Bill and Marge Jahoda (CC96) share, "The ospreys that have a nest on a dead tree in the Water Resources beaver pond bordering our Johnson Memorial Forest in Pittsburg have two young ospreys in the nest. We have temporarily closed off to public use the trail on our land bordering the pond to avoid possible nest failure due to too close human activity. We'll let you know later if we were successful in getting the young through the very critical early nesting period."

Alan Johnson (CC04) of Walpole writes, "Saturday, July 2, 2005 - Black Bear sign in thick raspberry cover throughout a three acre clear cut created six or seven years ago. Like clock work, this non-resident bear appears every year for berry season and stays until after the corn is chopped in a six acre field nearby. This year we will fool him and plan on leaving all six acres of corn standing for him, deer and turkeys. We have also built serious brush piles to provide hopeful denning opportunities. This same weekend observed twin fawn tracks along with mothers in newly created food plot. I have seen a yearling buck in velvet and another two year old, but doe sightings have been rare.

"I am pleased to have two coveys of grouse fledging at different openings created for them. They seem to have an affinity for small young clover at this age. I have a male grouse that is quite attracted to running machinery. A week ago, he appeared all puffed up one afternoon and followed beside me on a dozer for fifty yards. This weekend he appeared again; this time attracted to my tractor while I harrowed a new food plot.

"This spring and summer have seen more yellow-bellied sapsuckers than ever before. A pair just fledged their young, hatching them in a cavity in the dead top of a hemlock on the edge of a field. A pair of downy woodpeckers used a bluebird house in the same field, on the edge of a small Christmas tree plot, for the second year in a row."

Cheryl Kimball (CC98) of Strafford writes of her observations of her barn bats this year. "...our bat babies seem exceptionally late this year. I was just telling someone I hadn't seen any yet, but just last night I found two, one alive and (probably, sadly, from the cats), one dead. We did have the front of our barn completely redone last fall and I am wondering if the colony has been reduced because they're not happy with the new tighter arrangement (the back is still wide open)! Or are other people experiencing a similar slow bat year? When we first moved here twelve years ago we tried to drive them out of the barn (they make QUITE a mess) but we were unsuccessful and I have since become quite enamored of them. I suspect we would be dragged away by mosquitoes by now if it weren't for the bats and dragonflies!"

Betsy Kruse (CC01) shares updates in Candia and their need for advice on ATV issues, "I will be working on a zoning revision committee for Candia. My hope is to incorporate more conservation language into our ordinances, in keeping with our new master plan.

"I have been asked to represent Candia on the Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission. I am waiting to hear whether the selectmen approve my appointment, which shouldn't be a problem.

"The Candia Conservation Commission is in final (we hope) negotiations to make our first conservation purchase - a key property in one of the Bear-Paw greenways. As a note of warning to others, and a plea for input, we are running into resistance from some residents who feel we shouldn't spend town money on property we intend to post against motorized wheeled vehicles (i.e. ATVs). The seller wants no ATVs, EVER! Of course, if we don't buy it, ATVs wouldn't have use of it for things like hiking, biking, snowmobiling or horseback riding, either.

"We're trying to include a clause that allows motorized wheeled vehicles, IF an ATV trail maintenance/rider supervision plan can be approved. We have big problems with the ATV riders, which will need serious consideration before we can expect to ask the town for more conservation money at Town Meeting in March '06." Betsy found everyone's feedback from the email version of this update very useful and is saving the responses to share with her CC. You can reach Betsy at poods@comcast.net, if you have more information to share.

Jerry Langdon (CC99) writes, "The Epping conservation commission has been busy building an interpretative trail along the Lamprey River. Led by Kevin Martin our Forestry Committee has built a kiosk (map of trail), signs, wet area bridge crossings, and pamphlets for trail. These are almost complete at this writing." The Epping CC welcomes visitors - if you're interesting in seeing their work, the trailhead is located at the Route 87 Bridge (Tilton Bridge). There is parking at the bridge and the kiosk is visible from the trailhead.

"We have had many sightings on my own property this summer. We did a biomass harvest in 1998 and built a 4 acre gold driving range. This has improved the biodiversity and habitat greatly. We have seen a large cow and her calf moose at the 150 yard flag, porcupines, turkeys, red-tailed hawks, barred owls, an many turtles. Coyotes, fishers, great blue herons, many deer have also been spotted, and it seems like there are more robins this year than ever before."

Dick Mallion (CC99) shares several updates: "The Whitefield Conservation Commission has completed the Natural Resource Inventory for the Town. With assistance from Watershed to Wildlife Inc. partners John Severance (CC00) and Elise Lawson (CC98), Whitefield now has a state-of-the-art NRI added to the town's GIS in addition to hard copy booklets with the information and maps. Conservation Commission member Rita Chadwick (CC01) also did a lot of field work and mapping as part of a project towards her degree. An NRI briefing was presented to the town officials and citizens at the end of June. Four large laminated maps produced for the NRI are now hung in the Town Office for general use, and they also serve as attractive decorations.

"Mark Sullivan (CC98) recently moved from Whitefield to California. He had been a member of the Whitefield Conservation Commission since joining the Coverts program.

"The Whitefield Conservation Commission chaired by Dick Mallion (CC99) has helped to expedite the town's approval and subdivision for adding 499 acres to Pondicherry Wildlife Preserve in June. The Nature Conservancy purchased the land for immediate transfer to US Fish and Wildlife Service. Since 2000, the preserve has grown from 300 acres to over 5,300 acres in the towns of Whitefield and Jefferson."

Nanci Mitchell (CC02) of Gilmanton writes of an interesting discovery, "My husband and I received a FLEP grant to develop a forest management plan for our property in Gilmanton. We were walking through a stand of mixed hardwood and pine in late June when our forester, Brenda Brown, noticed a hawk nest 40-50 feet up a white pine tree. We noticed something move in the nest and were excited to think that we might see an adult or juvenile hawk. But then we noticed ears and then a nose. Suddenly we realized that a bear cub was peering out of the nest to see who had intruded upon his woods. We took a couple of pictures and then began to wonder where Mom was so quickly left the area. But what a memorable sight!"



Quite a surprise for Nancy Mitchell on recent walk with forester Brenda Brown.

Michelle Veasey (CC03) shares news from the Atkinson Conservation Commission: "With funding from the Moose Plate Grant, we have spent the last two years organizing volunteers and gathering GPS, historical and natural data to create a guide to Atkinson Trails. I was inspired by the work of the Peterborough Conservation Commission, which Francie Von Mertens (CC99) shared with the '03 class of Coverts. Our conservation commission hopes that more people will enjoy the natural landscape of our community and thus, feel more connected with it when it comes to protecting it." You can view the trail map on their website, www.atkinsonconservation.org.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

The UNH Cooperative Extension web calendar just keeps getting bigger and better. If you have access to the web and want to find out about local and statewide workshops, check it out! Go to: www.extension.unh.edu (and click on the "Forests & Trees" button, then the Calendar button).

Extension Website Highlights

August 19 – 21, Cornish Fair and Belknap County Fair

August 25th, 9 – 5, National Forest Centennial Celebration, Mt. Washington Auto Road

August 31 – September 5, Lancaster Fair

September 1 – 5, Hopkinton State Fair

September 2, Wildlife Habitat in Your Backyard, presented by Matt Tarr

September 9 – 11, Hillsborough County Fair

September 16 – 25, Rochester Fair

September 29 – October 2, Deerfield Fair

And many more events, including canoe trips, wildlife presentations and forestry events!

Coverts Cooperators Alumni Dinner

Thursday, September 8, 6:00 pm
Sargent Center, Hancock

Don't forget! Come and meet the new Coverts trainees and meet up with other alumni at the Dinner and Campfire at the Southern Lodge on the Sargent Center campus. Bring stories of your latest projects or observations – including wild tales for the campfire!

Walk or Wheel on into the Emerson Brook Forest

Sunday, August 21, 10 am - 2 pm
Parking at Gilsum Elementary School

The Sustainability Project invites one and all to join in on a day of merriment in the forest. Bring your friends and family, pack a lunch, take a hike and experience playful forest entertainment and education. Northeast Passage and White Mountain Adaptive Ski and Sports will provide non motorized adaptive equipment for those who are unable to access wilderness areas on foot. Take advantage of this opportunity to explore all your options at the wheelchair accessible Emerson Brook Forest Outdoor Education Center.

General Parking for the event is at the Gilsum Elementary School with shuttles to the forest site. In case of rain, activities will take place at the Gilsum Elementary School Community Center.

The Sustainability Project Inc, a non-profit conservation organization promotes educational, social, and recreational activities designed to enhance the individual and collective well being of all community members. For additional information on August 21st event visit www.emersonbrookforest.org or contact The Sustainability Project at 352-1887 or e-mail info@emersonbrookforest.org.

Granite State Woodlot and Wildlife Management Course

Monday, September 19 thru Friday, September 23
Brown Lane Barn, Hollis

This 5 day course covers land stewardship, tree identification, boundary location, trail design, tree measurement, forest ecology, woodlot harvesting, wildlife management, timber inventory skills and wetland identification. Brown Lane Farm covers 2,000 acres of wetlands, forests and fields, abundant in wildlife. The cost of the course is \$250 and includes meals, overnight accommodations and education materials. Access registration materials on the web at <http://www.ceinfo.unh.edu/Forestry/Docs/woodlot.pdf>.

Wood Lot Day

Saturday, October 1
Phillips Exeter Academy

Offered through UNH Cooperative Extension, the Wood Lot Day will feature a series of interesting workshops and information from supporting organizations from across the state. Coverts will be there and could use YOUR help in manning our table! Registration is not required for this event. Check the UNH Cooperative Education site as directed above for more information.

Exceptional Educational Opportunity Opens in Temple

The New Hampshire School of Falconry, the creation of Nancy Cowan (CC98), has been permitted by the USFWS as one of only two operating schools in falconry in the New England region. Nancy says "The school will be located and hold classes, demonstrations and hunt days based on falconry education at The Timberdoodle Club of Temple, NH. ... [It] is a beautiful facility owned by people who are known for their land use and wildlife protection work in the Town of Temple."



Banshee, showing off her juvenile plumage at 9 weeks.

The school will offer classes in Raptor 101 for children from 11 – 17, falconry workshops, Raptor Handling for Professionals, (and others handling raptors in a non-falconry situation), group demonstrations, and hunts. Curriculum topics will focus on conservation, protection, hunting laws and wildlife education. Nancy's youth education is unique in that none of the other schools in the country offer classes focused on children's education.

The school's latest acquisition is Banshee, a captively bred

peregrine falcon. Right now, she is living in Nancy's hallway becoming accustomed to human movement, voices, visitors and dogs.

If you have questions or are interested in learning more about educational opportunities, contact Nancy at falconers@comcast.net.



Banshee, not at all modest in her bathing routine.

Peterborough Open Space Committee Takes Unique Approach to Conservation Issues

by Francie Von Mertens

Peterborough's somewhat new Open Space Committee has two projects of interest.

Following next-door neighbor Hancock's lead, we modified their parcel ranking system and applied it to all parcels in Peterborough larger than 25 acres. Assisted by aerial photos, Fish & Game's new co-occurrence mapping for wildlife habitat, standard mapping for aquifers, wetlands, floodplain and so on, plus local knowledge for certain cultural features and spectacular scenic values, we scored each parcel.

The ranking system also was a good reflection of a survey sent out that came back with somewhat expected results: townspeople want to protect water resources; natural shorelines; forests for timber and recreation; trails; exceptional wildlife habitat; unfragmented blocks of open space; undeveloped ridgelines; agricultural heritage; and so on in that order.

Having as objective a system as possible helps avoid suspicions of bias, AND it gives good reason for the Open Space Committee to politely say No to people eager to spend committee energy and town money to protect a parcel in their backyard that lacks strong natural resource value. Of course the main reason is to give the committee a priority order for landowner outreach.

Anyone interested in a copy of the ranking grid; send me an e-mail at vonmertens@monad.net.

I also am heading up the second project, a high quality calendar that features 12 of Peterborough's great conservation lands. There are a handful of top photographers, each adopting a couple properties and shooting them throughout the year. The calendar page will feature a main photo, seasonally appropriate to that month, but with lesser photos showing the land in other seasons, perhaps skating in winter, blueberries in summer, a male Bobolink in breeding plumage. There's a good mix of landscapes and people.

Each page will have a brief narrative telling the story of the featured property's protection. They are great stories – neighbors joining to "save" a gem in their midst; a colorful character donating land to the town that now has a great trail on it up to Miller State Park; donation by an author of land for a town beach, purchased with royalties from a surprise bestseller; conservation easement land that although privately owned, provides great scenic backdrop to the town. There are so many stories.

Of course the not-too-hidden agenda is to get people aware that they, too, can initiate land conservation. We are getting lots printed up with the idea of passing them around to other Conservation Commissions and Open Space Committees, with budget information and lessons learned. As for the marketing angle, how to get them into as many hands as possible, we have lots of lessons to learn there. Ideas welcomed!

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UNIVERSITY of NEW HAMPSHIRE
 COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

"Making Tracks" is the newsletter of the Cooperators of the New Hampshire Coverts Project. The Coverts Project is a special volunteer education and outreach program that promotes wildlife habitat conservation and forest stewardship. Its goal is to increase the amount of New Hampshire's private and public lands that are managed with good stewardship practices. The efforts of these volunteers are shared through this publication. For more information, please contact Malin Ely Clyde, Coordinator, NH Coverts Project, UNH Cooperative Extension, 131 Main Street, 214 Nesmith Hall, Durham, NH 03824 (603-862-2166).

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Roger Brown, *continued from page 1*

As a reward for all of his work, Roger and Bonnie enjoy a great variety of wildlife on their land. They counted nineteen turkeys from their front porch one day, and they've spotted, gray fox, fisher, deer, pileated woodpecker, coyotes, raccoons, and otter. (Roscoe Blaisdell (CC97) spotted the otter tracks before Roger had seen the critter). Beaver have flooded a large area of red maple where they watch painted turtles and a green heron and hope to have great blue heron someday. Large outcrops are full of garter snakes, and they've had a porcupine on the porch. "There used to be more ruffed grouse – and I've been working on improving habitat for them," frowns Roger. "But maybe we're in a down part of their cycle."

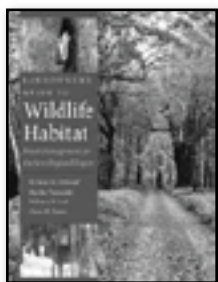
Neighboring properties have seen a lot of management lately – some heavy cutting – which has altered Roger's management plan. He wants to complement the early successional habitat created by these cuts, so now his management is focused on maintaining forest cover. He has no more patch cuts planned in the near future: "I don't want to lose our scarlet tanagers," says Roger.

In 2003, Roger helped launch a "biothon" fundraiser to raise money for Rockingham Land Trust's protection of Lamprey River turtle habitat. He and his team raised over a thousand dollars by identifying 295 species of plants and animals on his land (and another parcel). This event has become a local tradition: "For me personally there [was] the added bonus of knowing a lot more about my land," reported Roger about the event.

But I know what you are thinking. Where the heck is "Keeneborough?" Well it's an alternative name for the town of Brentwood, originally a part of Exeter named after Sir Benjamin Keene. Go see it for yourself – Roger has an open door policy to all Coverts Cooperators – he would love to show you around!

RESOURCES

The following new publication is available from the University Press of New England, 1-800-421-1561 or visit <http://www.upne.com/1-58465-467-8.html>.



Landowner's Guide to Wildlife Habitat, Forest Management for the New England Region, by R.M. DeGraaf, M. Yamasaki, W.B. Leak and A.M. Lester. An easy to read guide for enhancing wildlife habitat quality, timber values, and the appearance of forest lands. This 128 page guide includes exceptional full color illustrations. Cost is \$16.95.

THE LAST WORD

Cooperator Tracks Nesting Green Sea Turtles in Costa Rica

Judi Lindsey (CC01) an enrichment teacher at the Henry Moore School in Candia spent part of her summer in Costa Rica thanks to a grant she was awarded by the NEA Foundation. The Learning and Leadership Grant allowed Judi, after training in San Jose, Costa Rica to travel to the country's eastern coastal area of Tortuguero to search for nesting sea turtles in the dead of the night, along with a group of scientists from the Caribbean Conservation Corporation.



Judi Lindsay among "half-moons" – tracks left when turtles come ashore, but decide to return to the water.

Judi's work involved collecting biometric data and tagging forty green sea turtles. Judi says, "One night over 500 came ashore to nest. It was awesome to patrol the moonlight beaches on either the 8-12 or 12-4 shifts. Our presence warded off poachers. It was a wonderful opportunity to connect with a different culture which has the goal of protecting their environment just as we do." Her students will certainly have exciting material to cover this fall!