

Orono Bog Boardwalk Annual Report 2018

On May 1, 2018 the Orono Bog Boardwalk (OBB) opened for its 16th season. Ben Sprague, Mayor of Bangor and Chair of the Bangor City Council was our honorary opener. Ben gave a very well received talk. He noted how well liked the Boardwalk is and congratulated all of our volunteers who keep it operational. In his talk he noted that the Boardwalk really contributes to the quality of life in Bangor. We had great media coverage including an article by Aislinn Sarnacki in the Bangor Daily News (5/1) and TV coverage by both WABI and WVII, Fox 22 Bangor. Thirty-three people attended the opening.

Much work was done to get ready for opening day: Snow/ice shoveled off the Boardwalk, 23 deck boards replaced, some railings installed, a 5.5' section installed, 8 pie-shaped wedges installed, railings tightened, signs put out, the Boardwalk was swept, money and brochure boxes put up, the cabin was cleaned, new t-shirts folded and put in bins, + other things. The work was accomplished by Gerry Dwyer, Donna Dwyer, Dave Easler, Dick McClay, Steve McKay, Jerry Longcore, John Fitzgerald, Aaron Putnam, Phil Locke, Laura Whitney, Tim Cough, Karl Hill, and Jim Bird. Twenty undergraduate students also helped out one morning. A big thank you to everyone.

Because of the dedication of UM Professor Andy Reeve we have a fairly accurate count of visitors in 2018. We had approximately 27,000 visitors between May 1st and October 15th. Based on visitors who signed our guest book we had visitors from 44 states and 15 foreign countries. See **Appendix 1** for a graph of the count.

In the sections that follow we provide information about publicity, events attended, docents, guided group walks, nature walks, maintenance, OBB finances, the capital campaign, our Facebook page and website, and OBB reconstruction. We feel fortunate to have a core group of volunteers that have stayed active over the years and a number of new volunteers, especially on the maintenance team who have joined us in the past few years. We realize, however, that as with any volunteer-run organization, it is important to increase the volunteer base. Our two primary goals for the coming year are 1) to raise \$6,154 to finish the fund raising for the OBB reconstruction project by July 2019 and 2) recruit, train, and retain volunteers.

As Director, I thank the many individuals who have volunteered their time and talents this past year, especially the Group Leaders, the Management Committee, the Capital Campaign Committee, and our Facebook and website coordinators: Al and Nancy Larsen, docent scheduling; Phil Locke, maintenance coordinator; John Maddaus guided tours coordinator; Helen Koch, tour guide scheduler; Capital Campaign Committee members Donna Dwyer, Gerry Dwyer, Cindy Mehnert, Jerry Longcore, Jen and Cason Snow, Judy Round, and Jim Bird; Donna Dwyer, Facebook coordinator, Jerry Longcore, Orono Land Trust representative to the Management Team, Endowment Fund coordinator and record keeper of the Operating Fund; Erik Blomberg, University of Maine representative to the Management Committee and OBB webmaster; Tracy Willette, City of Bangor representative to the Management Committee; Jim

Bird, Boardwalk Director; and Laura Whitney, our summer intern. I also thank all of the docents, guides, reconstruction, and maintenance volunteers who have contributed greatly to the operation and mission of the OBB. A list of all dedicated volunteers is in **Appendix 2**. We again calculated the number of hours volunteers worked at or for the Boardwalk this year and the total equaled a minimum of 3,200 hours. Based on the figure of \$22.53 / hour as a benchmark value for a general volunteer hour in Maine (as reported by Independent Sector (http://independentsector.org/volunteer_time)), we will be able to report a minimum of \$72,096 of in-kind support when completing grant proposals.

Our year at the OBB was successful in many ways, as described in the sections that follow.

Publicity, Events Sponsored or Attended, and Other Activities

The OBB had an information/sale table at the Eastern Maine Sportsman Show, March 17-18. Overall we made \$473 in sales and donations. Thanks to Sharon & John Fitzgerald, Jen & Cason Snow, Dave Easler, Kathy Burns, Tim Cough, Joyce Longcore, Gerry & Donna Dwyer, Becky VanBeneden, Al Larson, Helen Koch, and Jim Bird for staffing our booth. And a big thank you to Woody Higgins of the Penobscot County Conservation Association for donating our booth space and for Jerry Longcore for facilitating!

This year the Hope Festival was not held. However, the Boardwalk had an information table at the Earth Day/Transportation celebration in Pickering Square, Bangor on April 22nd. Thanks to Phil Locke, Helen Locke, and Bob Jackson for setting up and staffing our table.

Jerry Longcore made the following presentations: 1) Veazie Garden Club, April 10th, 24 people, history of the OBB; 2) Senior College Class, April 24th, 16 people, history of the OBB; and 3) Downeast Outing Club, May 10th, 55 people, brief OBB talk before giving 2 tours.

Epic Sports' Rabbit Run took place in the Rolland F. Perry (Bangor) City Forest on April 29th. The Boardwalk was co-sponsor of the race. Brad Ryder of Epic Sports made a donation of \$1,000 to the Boardwalk reconstruction fund. Thanks Brad!! A big thank you to the following Boardwalk volunteers who helped during the race: Jim Mitchell, Barb Friedman, Nancy Larson, Cason Snow, Jerry Longcore, Jim Ecker, Tim Cole, Gerry Dwyer, Christa Schwintzer, John Tjepkema, Hope Brogunier, Danielle Levesque, Christopher D'Amico, and Jim Bird.

The OBB had an informational table at the annual University of Maine Retirees Homecoming in June. Several people stopped by the table to find out about the OBB. Jim Bird staffed the table.

The 14th annual Boardwalk yard sale was held on June 16/17. We made \$5,939 for the Boardwalk reconstruction project which was amazing given what we had for sale. Both days were beautiful weather-wise and people came in droves. We even had TV coverage from WABI! I want to thank the 40+ families and individuals who donated items for the sale. A BIG thank you to the volunteers who helped with the sale: Becky VanBeneden, Jerry Longcore, Tim Cole, Barbara Cole, Ron Lamb, Cal Longcore, Carolyn Longcore, Al Larson, Nancy Larson, Erik Blomberg, David Cox, Jen Lund, Judy Round, Chris Jones, Dick McClay, Kathy Burns, Christa Schwintzer, John Fitzgerald, Dan Fitzgerald, Steve McKay, Dave Easler, Roxie Easler, Gerry Dwyer, Donna Dwyer, Aaron Putnam, Mark Anderson, Adrienne Leppold, Jim Mitchell, Ryan Tipping, Kate Ruskin, Phyllis Leeman, Hope Brogunier, Anne Surprenant, Thomas Gillette, John Pickering, John Maddaus, Laura Whitney, Tim Cough, Rocky Robichaud, Phil Locke, Karl Hill, Melissa Burch, Nancy Forster-Holt (our neighbor who provided breakfast on Saturday), Mart and Mary Lapin (next door neighbors who let us use their lawn), and Mary Bird and Jim Bird. This was our last year sale. We have given up the storage unit that has been generously donated to us over the years by Mr. Golding at Kelley Road Storage. It has been an amazing 14 years with many memories. Who can forget Smoochy and the crib, the Toulouse Lautrec drawing, the missing wheelbarrow, the wedding centerpiece, the price switching dealer, the year of the big rain, dealers showing up before 6am, the wood stove's new owner and his "burley woman", the stolen Guitar Hero operating disk, etc. This yard sale has raised more than \$55,000 over the 14 years to support the Boardwalk reconstruction campaign and operations. Quite an accomplishment!!

Jim Bird was invited to the Bangor City Council meeting on June 25th to give a Boardwalk reconstruction update. Instead of the update the Bangor City Council presented the Boardwalk and all of us with a wonderful recognition proclamation that was read by Councilor Gibran Graham. The proclamation reads:

Bangor City Council
 Recognition
 Recognizing the Orono Bog Boardwalk

Whereas, The Orono Bog Boardwalk, completed in 2003, is a collaborative project between the City of Bangor, the University of Maine and the Orono Land Trust; and

Whereas, The Orono Bog Boardwalk is a 4,200 foot walkway that allows visitors to explore the unique natural features of the 616 acre bog; and

Whereas, Created by more than 100 volunteers over 8 months, it continues through the thousands of volunteer hours dedicated both to regular maintenance and the ongoing capital replacement project of the original wood sections of the Bog Boardwalk; and

Whereas, With benches for rest and reflection every 200 feet, and broad flat pathways, the Boardwalk is wheelchair and handicap friendly, inviting all to explore the outdoors; and

Whereas, Along the Boardwalk, there are full color illustrated identification stations that depict and provide information about the various plant and bird species that inhabit the Bog; and

Whereas, Adjacent to the Bog Boardwalk, comprised of 680 acres of wildlife habitat, more than 4 miles of access roads, and 9 miles of trails, is the Rolland Perry City Forest; and

Whereas, Combined, the Orono Bog Boardwalk and the Rolland Perry City Forest are an irreplaceable natural resource, recording approximately 30,000 visits each year.

Now, Therefore, I, Benjamin A. Sprague, Mayor of the City of Bangor, on behalf of the City Council and the citizens of Bangor, do hereby recognize the efforts of all involved with the Orono Bog Boardwalk, as it is an outstanding complement to our parks and open spaces.

Given this the 25th day of June, 2018.

Benjamin A. Sprague, Mayor

UM Professor John Daigle teaches Forest Recreation Planning (PRT 470). This year tish carr brought John's class to the OBB on September 24th to hear presentations by Jim Bird and Deb Gendreau (Assistant Director of Bangor Parks and Recreation). The students were also taken on a tour of the Boardwalk.

On October 25th we held our annual potluck social at the Birch Street Senior Center in Orono. Approximately 35 people were in attendance. Jim Bird gave a brief overview of the OBB year. Longtime OBB volunteers John Maddaus, Phil Locke, John Pickering, and Al and Nancy Larson were presented with well-deserved Boardwalk distinguished service awards. Congratulations John M., Phil, John P., and Al and Nancy! New OBB sections will be sponsored in their names. Our student summer intern Laura Whitney was presented with a gift certificate to LL Bean in recognition of her outstanding work and her graduation from the University of Maine. We will all miss her at the Boardwalk!!

In November the Orono Brewing Company (OBC) released “Bog Monster”, a double IPA, in support of the Boardwalk campaign. We received several hundred dollars from Abe and Heather for the Boardwalk campaign. Thanks Abe and Heather!

On November 6th, Jim Bird gave a presentation about the OBB to the Orono/Old Town Kiwanis. Thirty-five people attended. His talk was very well received based on comments Jim received at the end of the talk.

On December 1st volunteers Jim Bird and Jerry Longcore staffed the OBB table at the University of Maine, Page Farm and Home Museum Holiday Shoppe. This was the 11th time we attended this event. This was a great opportunity to talk with visitors about the OBB. We made more than \$400 for the OBB Capital Campaign fund through the sale of OBB merchandise and donations. Jessica Wade made some wonderful pendants by encasing wood, lichens, and moss from used deck boards in clear resin. She also made Boardwalk bookmarks. We thank Patricia Henner, Director, Page Farm and Home Museum, for hosting this annual event and we look forward to next year’s Holiday Shoppe.

Thanks to Boardwalk volunteer Dave Easler, we now have a new first aid kit in the cabin. Dave will monitor the first aid supplies. Thanks Dave!

The OBB continues our bottle deposit at Burby and Bates in Orono. We typically make about \$60-\$150/year. Thanks Jerry.

Jim Bird was interviewed by all three TV stations during the year. Other Boardwalk volunteers and our student intern Laura Whitney also participated in some of the interviews at the Boardwalk.

Docents and Student Intern

Docents are volunteers who daily open and close the OBB gate, greet visitors, inform users of rules, maintain the appearance of the cabin and OBB, answer visitors’ questions about bog natural history, report any problems with the OBB to the Director, sell boardwalk t-shirts, hats, bog bling, and other items, provide local area information and insight, and generally oversee the day-to-day workings of the OBB. Without these volunteers, a visit to the OBB would be a much less satisfying experience. Laura Whitney, a 4th year biology and ecology student at the University of Maine was our summer intern. She did an outstanding job! Jim nominated Laura for the UM Student Employee of the Year award and both Laura and Jim attended the awards presentation on April 9th. Over the past 3 years Laura has contributed much to the operating and maintenance of the Boardwalk serving as a docent, tour guide, and maintenance worker. We will miss Laura very much. Thanks Laura!

A list of OBB docents is provided in **Appendix 2**. We were extremely fortunate to have Al and Nancy Larsen as our docent calendar schedulers again this year.

Boardwalk Tour Report – 2018

By John Maddaus

There were 18 volunteer-led tours and 9 self-guided tour in the 2018 season (May 1-Oct. 13). 878 people participated in these 27 tours. School tours included 364 participants from 8 schools. Five tours were provided for children and youth groups, with 246. There were five college tours with 109 participants. And 9 tours for adults had 159 participants.

For the 18 volunteer-led tours, there were a total of 15 volunteer tour guides: Grace Bartlett, Jim Bird, Kathy Burns, Ron Davis, Donna Dwyer, Deb Gendreau, Rachel Hobbs, Al Larson, Phyllis Leeman, Jerry Longcore, John Maddaus, John Pickering, Kate Ruskin, Christa Schwintzer, and Laura Whitney.

Some tour feedback:

May 30, 2018:

Brooklin Garden Club and Blue Hill Garden Club

What a great afternoon. Thank you and the other docents for a wonderful tour. We will all recommend visiting the walk.

Sincerely,

Julie Boardman

Aug. 1, 2018

Veazie Garden Club

The Veazie Garden Club went on a guided tour of the Orono Bog Boardwalk with docent, Christa Schwintzer last night. She pointed out countless interesting plants that most of us would have walked past unnoticed. Christa brought the bog to life for us! She taught us how to recognize various habitats and how the changes in vegetation signal a change in environment.

Many of us will return with friends and family in tow to share one of the area's hidden treasures.

Thank you!

All the best,

Lisa Colburn

Sept. 21, 2018

Mattanawcook Jr. High (4th grade)

Thank you for the tour of the bog walk for my 4th graders last Friday. We appreciate your time and the time of the volunteers. My students particularly loved the hands-on experience. Being able to see the bog brought our learning topics to life. They liked being able to handle the example piece of peat, and seeing carnivorous plants. Using the turkey baster to see the water inside the pitcher plant was a creative idea.

Is there an address that we could send a thank you card?

Thanks again!

Meloney Marquis

See **Appendix 3** for a list of our guided and unguided walks

See **Appendix 4** for a list of tour guides in 2018. Helen Koch coordinated the scheduling of the guides.

Nature Walks

Every year the Boardwalk Director arranges for a variety of “by reservation-only” nature walks led by experts in particular subject areas. In March or early April, potential leaders are contacted to see if they would like to lead a nature walk related to their area of interest or expertise. This year we hosted a number of nature walks. See **Appendix 5** for a list of OBB nature walks.

Maintenance, Construction, Replacements (contributed by Phil Locke)

Maintenance jobs listed below:

1. Replace rotting toe rails & deck boards on old Boardwalk
2. Scrape and repaint top & seats of picnic table (green paint will be supplied)
3. Help with leveling and shimming on old Boardwalk
4. Sweep the Boardwalk clear of debris (leaves, needles, twigs) as needed.
5. Trim back encroaching vegetation as needed.
6. Re-label faded section numbers. (New markers are in a jar in the cabinet on the right.)
7. Weekend cleanings of the outhouse.
8. Organize and tidy up the storage cabin (inside and underneath.)

This Boardwalk season the front of the cabin and the outhouse was repainted. Also the outhouse door was sanded and repaired. Thanks to Phil Locke, Laura Whitney, Karl Hill, Tim Cough, Ron Davis, and Al Larson for their hard work.

On August 1st 3 yards of pea gravel was delivered to the cabin area by Bangor Parks and Recreation workers. Thanks to Phil Locke, Karl Hill, Steve McKay, Gerry Dwyer, and Jim Bird for spreading the gravel around the cabin area. And thanks to Tracy Willette for arranging the delivery.

List of maintenance volunteers:

Grace Bartlett, Jim Bird, Tim Cough, Christopher D'Amico, Donna Dwyer, Gerry Dwyer, Dave Easler, Jim Ecker, John Fitzgerald, Karl Hill, Brandon Keim, Fred Kirchesis, Helen Koch, Al Larson, Adrienne Leppold, Phil Locke, Jerry Longcore, Dick McClay, Steve McKay, Genevieve Trafelet, Laura Whitney.

Deserving of special recognition:

Dave Easler, for heroic weekly cleanings of the outhouse
 Jim Bird, for organizing Wednesday morning work sessions (and seldom missing one)
 Jerry Longcore, for installation of number plates on new composite sections
 Laura Whitney, for being a reliable intern and a companionable co-worker.

We ordered 300 4-foot hemlock deck boards for replacement of broken or rotting ones as needed. Karl Hill and Phil Locke picked them up from Parker Brothers Lumber and cut them in to 4' lengths.

Weekly maintenance and leveling sessions during the 2018 season were mostly scheduled on Wednesdays. Thanks to the regular Wednesday maintenance crew: Phil Locke, Gerry Dwyer, Dick McClay, Karl Hill, Dave Easler, Steve McKay, Christopher D'Amico, Jerry Longcore, John Fitzgerald, Tim Cough, Laura Whitney, and Jim Bird. (Note: a list of maintenance volunteers is in **Appendix 2**.)

Financial Information: Fund-raising (contributed by Jerry Longcore) Fiscal Year 2018

The Operating Fund began the fiscal year with equity of \$5,242.91. The Operating Budget is based on the current University of Maine 2018 fiscal year, which extended from July 1, 2017 thru June 30, 2018. During this period income was \$1,414.58 and expenses were \$5,888.21 for the Operating Fund. Money pipe cash donations for 2018 equaled \$7,090.72 and donations from

products equaled \$3,889.50 (does NOT include \$465.30 from Page Museum Christmas sales and donations). No Festival Day was held by the Town of Orono, but a “donation can” at the Natural Living Center in Bangor yielded \$416.12 during June thru October. Total income from all these sources was \$11,861.64. Temporary investment income on Operating Budget was \$33.09. Expenses were Wages (Student Intern) (\$1,218.21), Postage and Shipping (\$58.80), Printing and Copying (\$814.46), Supplies and Materials (\$509.85), Telephone and Website (\$147.48), and restocking our T-shirt and cap inventory (\$3,139.41).

Endowment Fund gift income was lacking for FY-2018, reflecting the switch to focus on raising money for the Capital Campaign. Endowment earnings were \$4,000 in calendar year 2018, which were transferred to the Capital Campaign Fund in FY 2019. The total Endowment Fund principal as of June 30, 2018 was \$183,697.26, which is still short of our \$200,000 goal.

For the Capital Campaign Fund as of July 1, 2018 the beginning Principal value was \$143,197.81 and the fair market value (FMV) was \$153,995.06. Income added to this fund was \$125,146.35 in cash gifts, \$11,230.47 in cash sales, \$125.41 transfer from closed Friends of OBB account, \$2,015.00 transfer of Endowment Fund earnings equalling \$138,517.23. This amount added to beginning balance (\$191,858.40) equalled \$330,375.63 from which \$187,095.00 was disbursed leaving a balance of \$143,280.63. This amount is \$82.82 more than Foundation reports, but may represent management fees.

Since the start of Fiscal Year 2019 on July 1, 2018 gifts have equaled \$59,1757.00 and non-gift income \$7,387.25 equaling a total of \$67,144.25 added to previous balance (\$143,197.81) equals \$210,342.06. After disbursement of \$125,340.15 the fund balance at the end of January 2018 was about \$85,000.

University of ME, Fiscal Year: 2017 / 2018 OBB, Operations Account, Income						
UM codes	43631 43695	44199	43660 / 43640	46300	43670	
Month	Endowment Fund, Interest	Temporary Investment Interest	Gifts and Donations	Sales T-shirts & products	Misc.	Totals
	<i>a</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>D</i>	<i>e</i>	<i>f</i>
July 1, 2017		4.05	1,356.49			1,360.54

Aug		3.74				3.74
Sep		3.59				3.59
Oct		2.24				2.24
Nov		2.34				2.34
Dec		2.32				2.32
Jan '18		2.65				2.65
Feb		2.95				2.95
Mar		2.74				2.74
Apr		3.09				3.09
May		2.35				2.35
June 30, 2018		1.03	25.00			26.03
Totals		33.09	1,381.49			1,414.58
Net Balance as of June 30, 2018: \$						

University of Maine, Fiscal Year: 2017 - 2018: Orono Bog Boardwalk, Operating Account, Expenses											
	<i>A</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>d</i>	<i>e</i>	<i>f</i>	<i>g</i>	<i>h</i>	<i>i</i>	<i>j</i>	<i>k</i>
Month	(a)Wages (b) Transfer from Endowm	Student Wages 53301	Empl oyee Benefit s	Membership Dues/Fees (Tng/ Award) 60305	Postage & Shipping	Printing & Copying 60603	Rentals , Leasing Pro services	Supplies & Material s 61000	Telephone & Website 64000	Other T-shirts, Product s Supplies	Totals
July 1, 2017		104.62							T5.91		110.53
Aug		290.80			58.80			263.59	T5.91	663.61	1,282.7 1
Sep		119.80							T5.91	279.59	405.30
Oct		78.19							T5.91	1,677.21	1,761.3 1
Nov		1.12							T5.93		7.05
Dec		-0-							T5.93		5.93

Jan'18		-0-							TW 81.15		81.15
Feb		-0-							T6.17		6.17
Mar		-0-							T6.17		6.17
Apr		-0-				328.81			T6.17		334.98
May		145.28						120.12	T6.16	519.00	790.56
June 30, 2018		478.40				485.65		126.14	T6.16		1,096.35
Totals		1,218.21				58.80	814.46	509.85	147.48	3,139.41	5,888.21
Totals	UM Fd										
Balance as of June 30, 2018:		\$4,473.63		NET BALANCE as of end of July 2018 =							
*This value is off by a few cents because Temporary Investment Income is missing for July.											

Boardwalk Reconstruction Campaign Committee

The Capital Campaign Committee met a few times in 2018. Members of the committee are Jerry Longcore, Judy Round, Jim Bird, Donna and Gerry Dwyer, Jen and Cason Snow, and Cindy Mehnert. Jim Bird and Jerry Longcore continued to prepare grant proposals. We had a very good year raising funds for the OBB reconstruction. We received \$10,000 from An Environmental Trust and many donations from supporters both at the University of Maine Foundation and at our money box at the Boardwalk.

We removed the donation can at The Natural Living Center. We made \$416.12 in donations and want to thank The Natural Living Center for allowing us placed the donation can at their business. Thanks Jerry for this great idea.

In November Jim Bird sent out a one page letter to all OBB campaign donors about the status of the Reconstruction capital campaign. The letter included photographs by Donna and Gerry Dwyer. The layout of the letter was done by Mary Bird. The letter resulted in more than \$10,000 in campaign donations over an eight week period! We plan to continue sending out campaign updates every November. Thanks Mary and Donna and Gerry!

Orono Town Manager Sophie Wilson again donated \$1,000 to the OBB reconstruction campaign to sponsor a new OBB section for the Town of Orono. Thank you Sophie!

Boardwalk Director Jim Bird hand wrote more than 100 “thank you” notes to our donors.

As of February 2019 we have raised approximately \$1,052,000 since 2010 and now have \$6,154 (as of 3/1/2019) left to raise to complete the reconstruction funding!

Boardwalk Reconstruction

On Monday (10/8) Al Larson, Dave Easler, and Jim Bird picked up 3 Home Depot carts and brought them to the cabin area. They also returned the carts in November.

On Thursday, October 11th, 65 new OBB sections and 3 wheelchair turnarounds arrived from Great Northern Docks on 2 semi-trucks at the Tripp Drive parking lot. After several hours the new sections were unloaded and moved to the cabin area. Thanks Christopher D’Amico, Steve McKay, Gerry Dwyer, Jerry Longcore, and Jim Bird for “walking” the new sections to the outhouse area and cabin. On Sunday October 14th OBB volunteers started the preparation for the removal of old sections and new section installation. Much work needed to be done before we could take out the sections:

Remove all railings

Remove all chains and float ropes and washers holding the sections together and to the floats

Remove the 3 benches at the wheel chair turnarounds

Remove the 3, 2’x8’ sections at wheelchair turnarounds

Several OBB volunteers also did all that was required to close the OBB for the season: remove and replace signage, clean and cover interpretive stations and kiosks, remove brochure box and money box, remove thermometer, remove “No Picking” and “Stay on the Boardwalk” signs from the bog, and remove water pipe and explanation sign. We finished on October 15th. Thank you to Jerry

Longcore, Dave Lambert, Donna Dwyer, Gerry Dwyer, Steve McKay, Al Larson, Dick McClay, John Fitzgerald, Will Somes, Ashlie Crabtree, Laura Whitney, Chris Jones, and Jim Bird.

On Tuesday OBB volunteers were joined by a 5 Trustie crew from the Mountain View Correctional Facility. These trustees worked for 3 days and removed 65 old OBB sections, taking them to the cabin area where OBB volunteers loaded them on the trailer provided by Steve McKay and moved them to the outhouse area. The Trustees used carts loaned to us by Home Depot to wheel the old sections to the cabin area. Since we have 6-7 old sections in good shape to use as replacements we did not save any of the old sections. We did publicize that the public could have any of the old sections as long as they picked them up. Donations to the reconstruction campaign were encouraged. Ninety-three old sections were picked up for reuse! This includes sections left over from last year.

We provided lunches to the Trustees and OBB volunteers on October 16-18. Thanks to Pat's Pizza, Hannaford Old Town, Olive Garden, Moe's BBQ, and Shaw's Supermarket in Bangor for donating food, water, and soft drinks. Thanks as well to Trudy Tremblay, Fred Kirchesis, and Mary Bird (food pick-up and distribution). Thanks also to Roxie Easler for delicious home-baked pumpkin-spice muffins, Ann Worthley for homemade cookies, and all of the daily donut elves who kept us supplied with breakfast treats.

One afternoon UM Professor John Daigle brought his class to the Boardwalk to help us stage new sections. Eighteen+ students worked for 2 hours and accomplished much. Thanks John and students!

Installation of all sections and 3 wheel chair turnarounds was completed in just 4 days! It was an amazing effort! Thank you to: Jerry Longcore (who oversaw installation) Gerry Dwyer, Donna Dwyer, Dave Easler, Dave Lambert, Dick McClay, Steve McKay, John Fitzgerald, Adrienne Leppold, Laura Whitney, Will Somes, Ashlie Crabtree, Brandon Keim, Thomas Daniels, Ronda White, Jack Kerns, and Jim Bird, and the 5 Trustees from the Mountain View Correctional Facility and their supervisor Leon Gerry. Thanks also to Corey Hill, Mountain View Correctional Facility, for arranging for us to have the help of the Trustees.

After the sections were installed we still had to tighten the sections bolts on the sections around the turns. We completed this task in one day thanks to Dave Easler, Steve McKay, Jim Bird, Dave Lambert, and Jerry Longcore.

We thank all of the above volunteers who worked for 352 hours to complete the above tasks.

We now have just 48 sections to go!

Boardwalk User Survey

We conducted a user survey of OBB visitors in 2004 and 2010. A third user survey was to take place in 2018. Unfortunately this did not happen due to time constraints. We hope to conduct the survey in 2019.

Webpage and Facebook page

Our webpage managed by Erik Blomberg, is updated on a regular basis. Our Facebook page managed by Donna Dwyer is updated frequently and we now have 6,486 “likes” and 6,535 “follows” as of March 11, 2019. Both our Facebook and Web pages helped us recruit volunteers and publicize the OBB. Our “donate now” button on the Facebook page has been used several times in 2018 to help us with our reconstruction campaign. Thank you Erik and Donna!

Boardwalk Camera

The City of Bangor is now maintaining a night-time camera at the start of the Boardwalk.

Boardwalk Vandalism:

We had a very low number of vandalism incidents this year. All involved railings thrown into the bog. All were repaired very quickly. Each incident was reported to the Bangor Police Department.

Moose Seen!

On May 22nd, Boardwalk summer intern Laura Whitney saw and photographed a moose near the pile of old sections at the outhouse area! It was posted on our Facebook page and received scores and scores of “likes”.

Conclusion

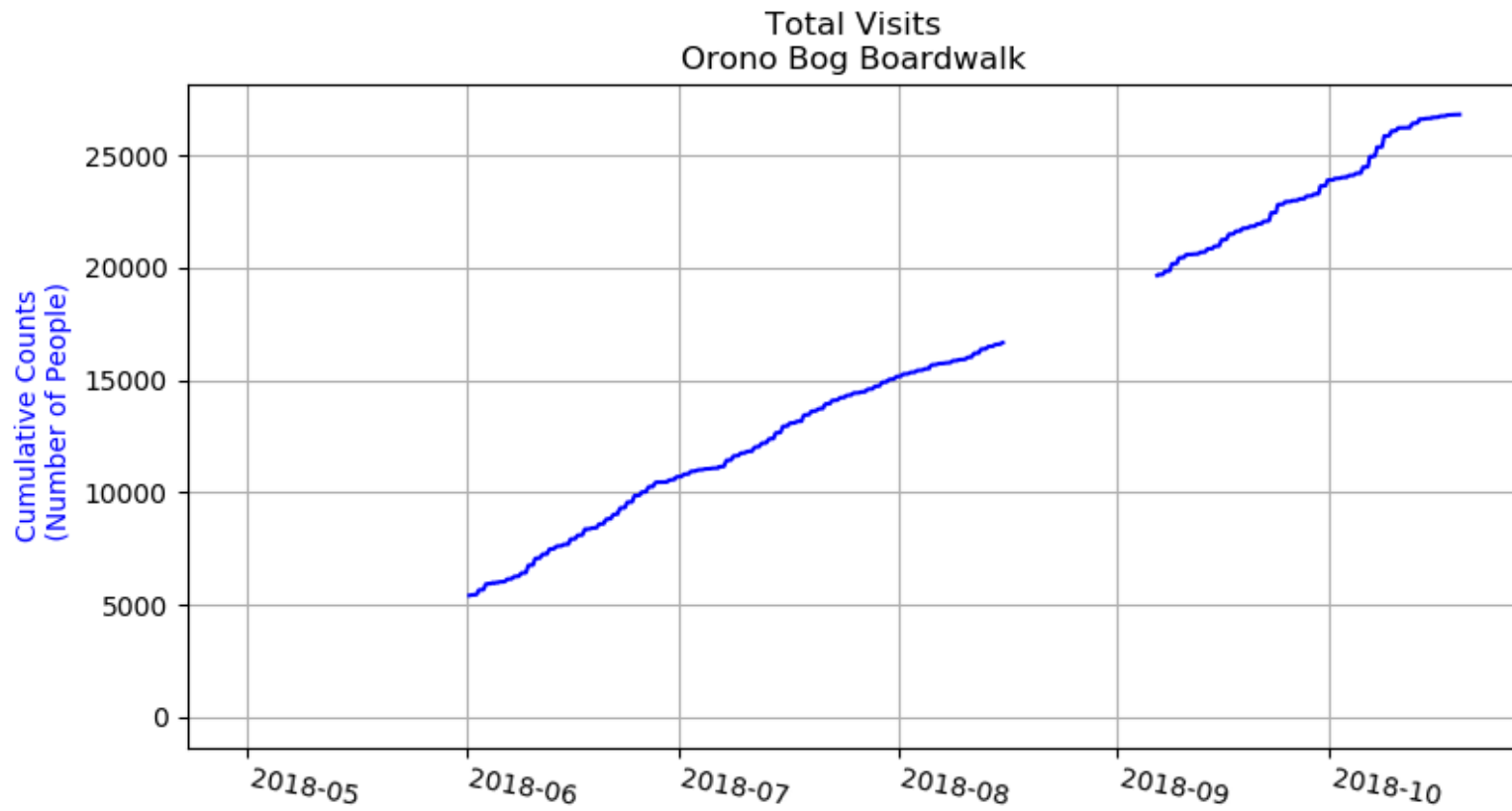
We have accomplished much this year. I look forward to our next season as we continue to raise funds and install OBB sections, expand our volunteer base, and increase our educational outreach to area schools and other groups. I have tried to include all that we have accomplished this year, but if I have missed something or neglected to mention someone, please let me know.

Thank you all!

Jim Bird

Orono Bog Boardwalk Director
James.Bird@maine.edu
3/11/2019

Appendix 1: 2018 Counter Numbers.



Appendix 2: 2018 Boardwalk Volunteers.

Note: 1=docent, 2=general volunteer, 3=maintenance volunteer, 4=walk guide, 5=walk leader, 6=committee leader/co-leader, 7=reconstruction volunteer, 8=yard sale volunteer

Mark Anderson (2)

Grace Bartlett (4)

Jim Bird (1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8)

Mary Bird (2,5,8)

Erik Blomberg (2,5,6,8)
Hope Brogunier (1,2)
Melissa Burch (8)
Kathy Burns (4)
Mountain View Correctional Facility trustees – 5 (7)
Barbara Cole (8)
Tim Cole (8)
Tim Cough (3,7)
David Cox (8)
Ashlie Crabtree (7)
Thomas Daniels (7)
John Daigle (2)
Christopher D'Amico (3,7)
Lee Davis (1,4)
Ron Davis (1,2,4,5)
Christina Diebold (1,2)
Donna Dwyer (1,4,7,8)
Gerry Dwyer (3,7,8)
Dave Easler (3,7)
Roxie Easler (2)
Jim Ecker (2)
Sharon Fitzgerald (2,7)
John Fitzgerald (2,7,8)
Dan Fitzgerald (8)
Barb Friedman (1,2)
Allie Gardner (5)
Deb Gendreau (4)
Thomas Gillette (8)
Karl Hill (3,7)
Rachel Hobbs (4)
Bob Jackson (2)
Brandon Keim (7)
Jack Kerns (7)

Fred Kirchesis (3,7)
Helen Koch (2,6,7)
Ron Lamb (2,3)
Dave Lambert (7)
Al Larson (1,2,3,4,7)
Nancy Larson (1,2,7)
Phyllis Leeman (1,2,4)
Adrienne Leppold (2,3,5,7)
Danielle Levesque (2)
Phil Locke (1,3,4,6,7)
Helen Locke (2)
Cal Longcore (8)
Carolyn Longcore (8)
Jerry Longcore (1,2,3,4,5,6,7)
Joyce Longcore (2)
Jennifer Lund (5)
John Maddaus (2,4,6)
Paul Markson (1,6)
Dick McClay (1,3,7)
Steve McKay (1,3,7)
Cindy Mehnert (2)
Steve Mierzykowski (5)
Jim Mitchell (1)
Brian Olsen (5)
John Pickering (1,2,4)
Aaron Putnam (7)
Andy Reeve (2,4,5)
Rocky Robichaud (8)
Judy Round (2)
Kate Ruskin (4,8)
Christa Schwintzer (1,5)
Genevieve Smith (1,2,3,4,7)
Cason Snow (3,7)

Jennifer Snow (2,7)
 Will Somes (7)
 Chris Stevens (7)
 Anne Suprenant (8)
 John Tjepkema (2)
 Trudy Tremblay (1)
 Beck VanBeneden (8)
 Ronda White (8)
 Laura Whitney (1,4)
 Tracy Willette (2)
 Jessica Wade (2)

Appendix 3: Guided Walks 2018

Date	Tour	Number	Age/Grade
April 25	BIO 310 Plant Biol. UMaine	14	College Self-guided
April 30	BIO 310 Plant Biol. UMaine	14	College Self-guided
April 10	Veazie Garden Club	24	Adults
April 24	Senior College	16	Seniors
May 10	Downeast Outing Club	25+1	Adults

May 10	Downeast Outing Club (2 nd tour)	25+1	Adults
May 17	FFA State of Maine Convention	12+2	High School
May 17	Brooksville Elem Sch	25+3	Grade unknown Self guided
May 22	4-H Clubs Houlton. Brain Boosters. Co-op Girls	13+3	Grade unknown

May 25	Penobscot Shores Belfast	10	Seniors
May 29	Orono Middle School	40+4	Grade 7
May 30	Brooklin Garden Club. Blue Hill Garden Club	18	Adults
June 12	Enfield Station School	42+8	Grade 4
June 12	MSAD 70 Hodgdon area	25+3	Grade 6

June 13	Hancock Co. Master Gardners	9	Adults
June 22	Over-the-Road Tours. S. Carolina	36	Seniors
June 24	Eastern Bird Banding	8	Adults
June 27	Corinth Rec Sum Camp	33+5	Ages 6-15. Self guided

July 6	Eastern Maine Med Ctr	10+2	Doctors/spouses
--------	--------------------------	------	-----------------

July 11	Solstice Senior Living Bangor	5	Seniors
July 18	Bangor Pks/Rec Kids cave summer camp	150+15	Grades K-5
July 21	Western Mass. Audubon	8	Adults. Self guided
August 1	Veazie Garden Club	8	Adults
September 17	UMA-Bangor – Intro Biol	15+1	College. Self guided
September 18	EES 117 UMaine	45+2	College
September 21	Mattanawcook Jr. High Lincoln RSU67	65+6	Grade 4
September 24	Orono Middle School	67+9	Grade 7
September 24	SFR 434 UMaine. Site Planning and Mgt.	18	College
October 3	BIO 464 UMaine Tax. Vascular Plants	18+2	College. Self guided
October 7	Hermon Cub Scouts	16+20	Children+parents
October 12	All Saints Catholic	30+9	Grade 4 and 7
October 12	Orono High School 2 AP Bio classes	24+2	High School. Self guided

Appendix 4: Tour Leaders 2018

Phyllis Leeman	Ron Davis	Jim Bird	Grace Bartlett
Donna Dwyer	Al Larson	Kate Ruskin	Jerry Longcore
John Maddaus	John Pickering	Kathy Burns	Laura Whitney
Ron Davis	Deb Gendreau	Rachel Hobbs	
	Helen Koch – guide scheduler	Christa Schwintzer	

Appendix 5: Nature Walks:

Date Tour Leader # attending

May 12	Migratory Birds	Brian Olsen	6
May 19	Migratory Birds	Steve Mierzykowski	5
June 9	Knit in Public Day	Mary Bird	2
July 7	Insects	Jen Lund	14

August 11	Ticks/Mosquitoes	Allie Gardner	6
August 15	Bats	Erik Blomberg	14