



# HANOVER CONSERVANCY

*Protecting land & water in our community*

## **December 2013**

**Ben Kilham**  
on "*What Bears Can  
Teach Us*"

"If we understand the conditions that have led to cooperation, altruism, and goodness and the corresponding problems of fairness, judgment, and punishment in the bear world, and if we understand that the good comes with the bad naturally, we will have a far easier time understanding why humans can be and have been so cruel. We only need to look at a stable society that has all the elements of our own to find a basis to understand our own society.

"Bears have the same independent spirit that exists in humans. Squirry's desire to dominate her resources provides a good explanation for why human societies have developed in many forms from primitive to modern.

After all, it is still the distribution and demand for resources that dictates both animal and human social behavior."

*- Out on a Limb  
2013*

## **Annual Meeting of the Membership- Thursday, Dec. 5**

We hope you'll join us for spirited refreshments and discussion on Thursday, December 5 at 7:00 pm at the D.O.C. House on Occum Pond. After a brief business meeting, we'll take an illustrated armchair tour of the Conservancy's year in review. Then it's time to consult our members about the trail that lies ahead. We're working on our new strategic plan and are looking for your good ideas. Not yet a member? Join at the door.



## **Trip Update**



Our 2013 tripping season was one of the best ever. We led 18 trips, bringing a total of 340 people from 27 towns and 7 states out to explore hidden corners of Hanover! Find a recap [HERE](#).

Our winter series begins January 11 with an old favorite, the Moonlight Snowshoe Tour of Slade Brook. Conservancy members will

receive our refrigerator door-worthy trip card just after the holidays. All are welcome!

## **Hanover Conservancy to Participate in "March Intensive"**

At the intersection of local history and landscape - that's where you'll find us during Hanover High School's annual "March Intensive." This immersion experience lets students explore special topics in ways that transport them - in this case, in time and space. The Conservancy is working with history teacher Bill Murphy on "Ghosts Hunting." After an indoor program about Hanover's settlement and how to read clues offered by cellar holes, stone walls, and landscape features, we'll lead



*Fresh buck rub at the Mayor-Niles Forest*

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a trip for students to the Trescott Company lands to visit and document historic sites, including the Town Poor Farm.

## **Moose Mountain Stewardship Fund**

We have a growing number of lands in the Moose Mountain region of Hanover: our new Mayor-Niles Forest, our Tunis Brook Mill Lot, and the 125-acre McKinley Tract, where we hold a conservation easement on Town land. The new Moose Mountain Fund will help us with many tasks, from marking boundaries to building trails to mapping and natural resource studies. [Contributions](#) are most welcome! Be sure to put "Moose Mtn. Fund" in the subject line.

## **Dec. 3 Program: "Should I Burn Wood?"**

Andrew Friedland, Environmental Studies Professor at Dartmouth College, will report on the results of studies that examine the environmental costs and benefits of cutting forests to provide wood as an energy source for home heating. Stoke up your woodstove before joining us at 6:30pm at the Montshire Museum's Community Room. Co-sponsored with the Sierra Club of the Upper Valley, Sustainable Hanover, and other partners.

## **Annual Report On the Web**

Browse our latest [annual report](#) for an update on our adventures and programs, plans and financials.