

Irish Grove Wildlife Sanctuary

Spring Work Weekend, April 9-11 2010



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The Crew



Paul Bystrak



Jennifer Elmer



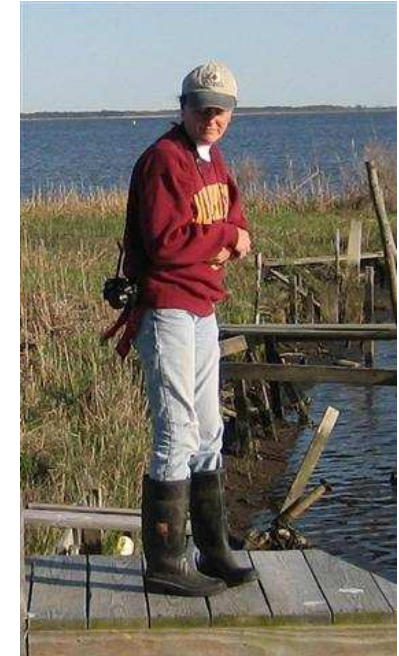
Tom Feild



Geraldine King



Dotty Mumford



Marylee Ross

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Projects Completed

- Build 20' bridge across ditch north of fire pond
- Clean and repair bird houses
- Clean Sanctuary House
- Clear barn foundation for future flower garden
- Cut up storm-damaged wax myrtles and other trees around the house and stack firewood in barn
- Go birding
- Maintenance work on Rail Trail
- Re-establish the Fresh Marsh Trail
- Remove downed trees on all lanes and trails
- Weed and Mulch (pine straw) the iris bed on the south side of the house

The Foot Bridge Being Replaced

A foot bridge across the ditch has deteriorated and needed to be replaced. A 20 foot long wooden bridge was built to replace it.



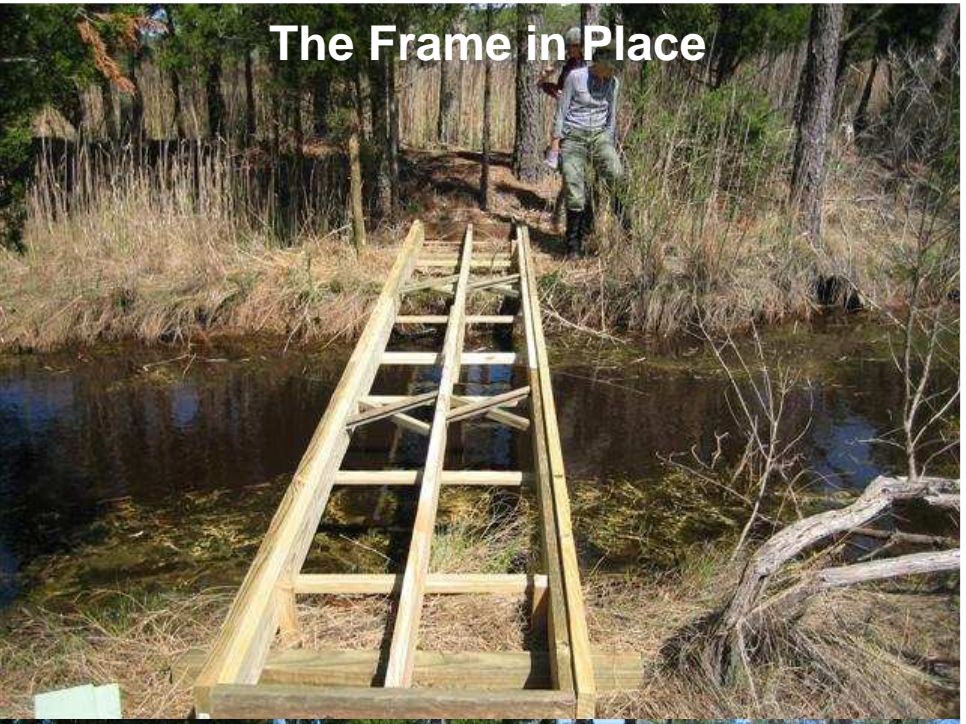
Assembling the Frame



Ready to Pull the Frame Across



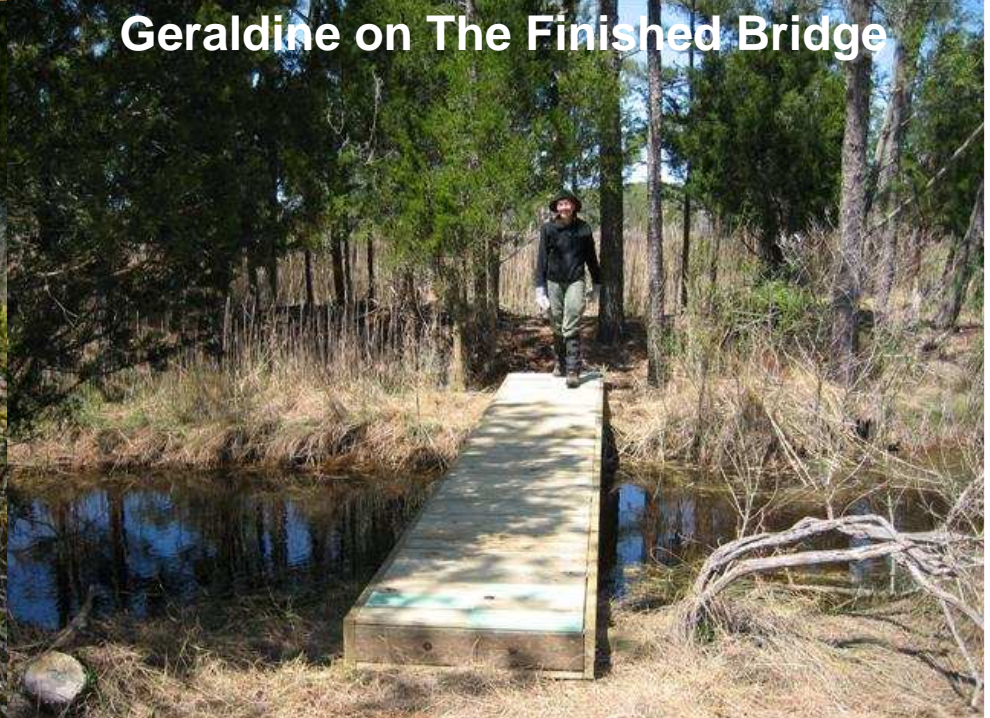
The Frame in Place



Decking the Bridge



Geraldine on The Finished Bridge



Cutting the Fresh Marsh Trail

The Fresh Marsh Trail was established about 30 years ago but ceased being used when a large pine fell across it. The pine tree has rotted away, so the trail was re-established. The aerial image below shows the trail in yellow. It connects the new bridge to the center point of the pocosin north of the sanctuary house by following an old ditch. We now have access to a large area of brackish to fresh marsh.



Revitalized Iris Bed



Birding at Rumbly Point



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Bird Species Seen or Heard

Northern Gannet	American Kestrel	Yellow-shafted Flicker	Common Yellowthroat
Double-crested Cormorant	Clapper Rail	Blue Jay	Eastern Towhee
Great Blue Heron	Virginia Rail	Common Crow	Chipping Sparrow
Great Egret	Killdeer	Fish Crow	Field Sparrow
Snowy Egret	Greater Yellowlegs	Tree Swallow	Savannah Sparrow
Glossy Ibis	Lesser Yellowlegs	Carolina Chickadee	Seaside Sparrow
Black Vulture	Willet	Brown-headed Nuthatch	Song Sparrow
Turkey Vulture	Dunlin	Carolina Wren	White-throated Sparrow
Canada Goose	Wilson's Snipe	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	Northern Cardinal
American Black Duck	Laughing Gull	Eastern Bluebird	Red-winged Blackbird
Mallard	Herring Gull	Hermit Thrush	Eastern Meadowlark
Green-winged Teal	Great Black-backed Gull	American Robin	Boat-tailed Grackle
Bufflehead	Forster's Tern	Gray Catbird	Brown-headed Cowbird
Ruddy Duck	Mourning Dove	Northern Mockingbird	American Goldfinch
Osprey	Barn Owl	Brown Thrasher	
Bald Eagle	Chimney Swift	European Starling	
Northern Harrier	Red-bellied Woodpecker	Myrtle Warbler	
Red-tailed Hawk	Downy Woodpecker	Pine Warbler	

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Other Species Seen

HERPS	BUTTERFLIES	MAMMALS	
Black Rat Snake	Tiger Swallowtail	Red Fox	
Northern Water Snake	Monarch	Cottontail Rabbit	
Southern Leopard Frog	Cabbage White	White-tailed Deer	
Green Tree Frog			