



***Preserving and Protecting the Historic Princeton Nursery Lands***  
**[www.fpnl.org](http://www.fpnl.org)**

**2015 Spring Newsletter: *An interim report of what's been happening on the Nursery Lands***

**Dave Reed**

The tragic death of our neighbor David Reed, owner of Mapleton Nurseries, came as a great shock. Dave was a really good friend to FPNL: an advisor on tree-related issues; a supplier and planter of trees for the Flemer Arboretum; and with his love of people, an active host for some of our events. He will be much missed by all who knew him, and our hearts go out to his family in their loss.



*Dave Reed in the Seedling House*

**Three walks on the Nursery Lands**

***Thanksgiving Day 2014, Nature Walk***



***First Day Walk, Jan 1, 2015. Quite a crowd!***



Photo by Tari Pantaleo

***Signs of Life in the Winter Landscape***



On a cold, snowy, wintry, February afternoon, Karen Linder led a walk through the fields of the Mapleton Preserve, observing signs of life in the winter landscape—buds, insect galls, animals and birds, evidence of feeding, tracks, and scat.

*A beautiful place to wander in winter*

## 2015 Martin Luther King Day of Service



On a brisk, sunny January afternoon, an enthusiastic crew took on multiple tasks—clearing vines and brush from an overgrown tree row, cleaning up the butterfly garden, cutting back wisteria along the fence opposite the ginkgo row, removing invasive plants adjacent to the Education Building, and collecting litter. Special thanks to the civic minded families that joined us, and to the students of the American Boychoir School who turned out in force to help!



## 2015 Earth Day Cleanup

In this joint effort with Kingston Greenways Association, an energetic group of volunteers collected and disposed of an abundance of trash that had accumulated in the Mapleton Preserve and along neighboring roads during the recent long winter. Many thanks to those who joined us in the effort to keep the preserve looking good!

## “Eat Your Weedies” Foraging Workshop

Debbie Naha, an experienced naturalist and foraging expert with an MS degree in Food and Nutrition from NYU, gave an indoor slide talk to an enthusiastic group, followed by a foraging walk and taste testing in the Mapleton Preserve. Amongst the edibles we found were garlic mustard (shown right), Japanese knotweed, dandelions, violets, spring beauty, purple dead nettle, trout lilies, wood sorrel, sheep sorrel and redbud flowers.



## The results of our 2014 fall membership drive.

We received fifty five memberships—including nine from new members. Another excellent membership drive! We are also pleased to announce that there is now just over \$2500 in our David Knights Special Fund, which is dedicated to the restoration of the Princeton Nurseries propagation building and greenhouses, in recognition of David Knights’ deep commitment to this cause. ***A big THANK YOU from the trustees of FPNL to all our generous supporters!***

## ***Still to Come: Mark Your Calendars!***

**FPNL 2015 Annual Meeting: Tuesday June 16, 7:30-9:00 pm**

**In the Education Building, Mapleton Preserve, 145 Mapleton Road, Kingston**

**An illustrated talk, by Aura Star, Professor Emerita of Botany, the College of New Jersey**

## **Witches to Windrows: The Culture of Landscape**

**From Stonehenge through Versailles and Central Park to Princeton and Trenton...**

**concluding with a glimpse of post-modern landscape design.**

***FREE—all are welcome***

***The talk will be preceded by a short business meeting and the election of trustees.***

*From the FPNL Trustees: Karen Linder (President), Anne Zeman, Robert von Zumbusch, Tari Pantaleo, Gwen Southgate, Tony Dorrian*