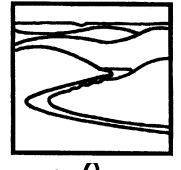


# Highlands Journal



AUGUST  
2004

*Quarterly newsletter of the Delaware Highlands Conservancy*  
dedicated to preservation of open space and environmental quality in Wayne  
and Pike counties, PA & Sullivan and Delaware counties, NY



## TWO NEW EASEMENTS 3,540 ACRES NOW PROTECTED

### Birds Find Sanctuary on South Canaan Meadows

Helen and Walter Hauck bought their Wayne County land in the mid-1980's because of its wildlife and its varied habitats. Their small farm includes a forest, a sparkling stream and pond, a diverse number of plants and animals, and, most important to Helen, many species of birds. Over the years, the Hauck's have accomplished much to improve their beautiful land. Throughout the last decade they have restored the small barn and planted hundreds of trees for wildlife habitat improvement.

To ensure its future as a wildlife sanctuary, Helen and Walter signed a perpetual land preservation agreement called a Conservation Easement that will protect the future of their 38-acre farm.

According to the Easement, subdivision and residential/commercial development of the land is now prohibited. And now it is the Conservancy's responsibility to ensure that the Easement continues to protect the habitat no matter who owns the land in the future. The indigenous wildlife, especially the birds, will be able to co-exist on the Hauck's meadows, forest and wetlands.



*Helen working in her meadow*

Helen is an avid birder who spends a great deal of her time admiring the beauty of her land and wildlife. Now she is especially pleased to know that the birds she loves will always be able to find food and shelter on her land. However, the couple's greatest satisfaction comes from knowing that their decision to protect the property with a Conservation Easement will ensure that future generations can enjoy its beauty much as the Hauck's do now.

### Spruce Lake Farm Diversity Protected

Floyd Schnakenberg is a man ahead of his time. In 1973 he bought an electric ride-on garden tractor that is still mowing and snow-blowing with a sturdy quiet engine. He heats his home with a geothermal system that extracts heat energy from 280 feet down in the earth. The system uses no coal, or oil, and very little electric energy to heat and cool his home and heat his water. He built a south facing greenhouse sunk three feet into the earth that collects solar energy to propagate exotic plants. This summer Floyd signed an agreement with Delaware Highlands Conservancy that will forever conserve nearly 190 acres of his Wayne County PA land.



*Floyd in his solar greenhouse*

Floyd planned the easement with foresight and imagination. Nearing retirement, Floyd decided to give up the care of the 240 acres his family purchased in 1938, and to sell most of the property. With the Conservancy he crafted an easement that excludes 10 acres along the road where his home, barn, greenhouse workshop and a small pond and stream are located. He will continue to live on this remnant of the family homestead.

The remaining acres include the totally undisturbed and unpolluted Spruce Lake and a glacial kettlehole bog surrounded by orchids, sundews and pitcher plants. The easement will ensure that the acres surrounding this rare habitat are never disturbed

The balance of the land may be divided into no more than two tracts with one residence on each. The easement also reserves land use rights for future land-owners including fishing, hunting, sustainable forestry and planting of native trees and plants. Floyd's foresight benefits us all. By conserving his property he helps to maintain the community's rural quality of life, protects water quality, aids water recharge and

*(Continued on page 2)*

## Delaware Highlands Conservancy

### Officers:

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### Upcoming Meetings:

Land Protection September 11  
Board Meeting October 16

**Annual General Meeting**  
**October 16, 2004**  
**10:00 am—12:00 noon**  
**All Welcome**

## SEVEN EAGLES SPOTTED ON TRIP WITH PETER NYE!!

Blue skies, crystal clear water, and our guest, Peter Nye combined to make a wonderful trip on the Delaware River for 45 canoeists and kayakers.

Peter Nye is the director of New York DEC's endangered species unit and headed the team which helped to restore the American bald eagle to New York State. Obviously the restoration program has worked; our binoculars got a good workout. Thanks Peter for an engaging day on the river!



## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: KELLY BELIVEAU

Kelly Beliveau, started out helping a couple hours after classes finished at Wallenpaupack High School then continued to help out a few hours every week through the summer. A recent graduate, Kelly found

time to help between a summer job and getting ready to head off to college. Kelly conducted research to identify potential parcels that would be good candidates for conservation. She wrote letters, articles and press releases in support of our outreach. Kelly drafted three grant applications to help us find additional funds to support our work. Her dedication and support this summer were invaluable. We wish her well and will miss her enthusiasm and dedication.



*Spruce Lake*

*(Spruce Lake Farm Continued from page 1)*

conserves important plant and animal habitat. Floyd's action will protect the natural beauty and pristine quality of the property so its diversity will be enjoyed for years to come.

We are grateful that Floyd chose the Conservancy to protect Spruce Lake Farm, and are proud to be the stewards of his easement. Our mission is to ensure that Floyd's unusual and very beautiful tract of land is protected for all future generations.

### Protected Forever

Shortly after signing this conservation easement Floyd Schnakenberg sold his property. The new owners (and any future owners) are also bound by the terms of this land preservation agreement, and Floyd is assured that the property will be protected in perpetuity. To date the Delaware Highlands Conservancy protects over 3,540 acres across 25 parcels. Of these, 11 have already changed owners at least once. With the continued support the Delaware Highlands Conservancy members, the legacy the original owners put in place will continue and those 3,540 acres will remain forever protected.

# CELEBRATE AT THE 8<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEADOW PARTY

## SEPTEMBER 18, 2004 • NOON – 5:00

### YEAMAN FARM • MILANVILLE, PA



September means Delaware Highlands Conservancy Meadow Party. This is our eighth party. Each party has been bigger and better than the previous due to the support of members, friends and area businesses.

We have a wonderful line up of live performers, that include Folk singer **Janet Burgan**, vocalist **Meryl McCusker** and the **Northeasters Barbershop Chorus**. Wildlife programs will include a presentation by **Darryl Speicher** on Owls, including the Northern Saw-whet Owl. Local Monarch butterfly expert **Ed Wesely** will be on hand to guide you through the wondrous transformation of the Monarch from a green caterpillar to a striking orange and black butterfly. Natural Resource Specialist **Don Hamilton** will take you on a river exploration along the banks of the Delaware.



Many fun and interesting **children activities** are planned. **Marilyn Joyce Lehren**, accompanied by **Pauline Barrett** of Big Truck fame, will entertain the whole family with songs and music. There will be puppet shows in the Butterfly Barn, the labyrinth will be open, and the kids tent will offer many engaging projects to work on.

This year there will be even more **environmental exhibits** by area organizations and agencies - offering information on a wide array of topics from deer resistant plants, to managing invasive species to fly-tying, to water and wildlife conservation. There are many other activities to fill your afternoon with fun. Try your hand at fly fishing, peruse the Silent Auction tent, and savor our food buffet, which promises to be as enticing as always.

**Food, Food, Glorious Food** This year will mark our 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Delaware Delights awards given for the best main course, side dish, and dessert, so be sure to vote for your favorite dish. This is a wonderful opportunity to sample the best dishes of many local restaurants. The suggested donation for the buffet is \$7.00 per Adult, \$3.00 per child.

On September 18 join us on River Road, one mile south of Milanville, PA. Bring your friends and family and celebrate with us an unwavering commitment to blue skies, green fields, towering forests, clean water and close-knit communities. Admission is free, and all money raised from the day's activities will help support the Conservancy's work to protect land in the region. For more information call the office in Hawley 570-226-3164 or Helle Henriksen at 845-252-7546.

#### Silent Auction — A Call for Service Items

Do you or someone you know have a talent or a job that is service related? If so, the Conservancy needs you. We are still looking for services for our auction. Ideas include house cleaning, handy man, gardening, haircuts, diner or lunch for two, weekend stay at Summer cottage, massage, pedicure, dance or yoga lessons, etc. To donate call Helle at 845-252-7546. Services donated so far:

- Fruit tree from Delaware Valley farm and garden
- Martini set from Narrowsburg Fine Wines
- Box of artist's pastels
- Dinner for 2
- Dinner and Canoe Trip for Four

**Kayak Raffle** Don't miss your chance to win a Kayak. Tickets will once again be available at the Meadow Party.

**1st PRIZE** Perception Swiftly 9.5  
courtesy of Alice's Wonderland

**2nd PRIZE** Canoe Trip for Two  
from Cedar Rapids Canoe

**3rd PRIZE** Gift Certificate  
from Alice's Wonderland

We are very grateful to **Alice's Wonderland** for donating this year's top raffle prize, a Perception Swiftly 9.5 kayak. Visit their store on Route 6 near Greeley and check out their wonderful selection of sporting goods, clothing and footwear. Thanks also to **Cedar Rapids Canoes** and **Kittatinny Canoes** for their donations.





## Meadow Party Programs

**12:00** Silent Auction Opens

**12:30** Janet Borgan - Folk Musician

**1:00** Buffet Opens - Cast your vote for the Best!

**1:15** Reading by Cass Collins

**1:30** Meryl McCusker - Vocalist  
Puppet Show in the Butterfly Barn

**2:00** Darryl Speicher — Owls of the Delaware Highlands

**2:30** Songs for the whole family by  
Marilyn Joyce Lehen & Pauline Barrett

**3:00** Janet Borgan – Folk Musician  
River Explorations with Don Hamilton

**3:30** Northeasters Barbershop Chorus

**4:00** Puppet Show in the Butterfly Barn  
Auction Closes

**4:30** Raffle Drawing

Our August 1st Early Bird draw for a trip for two with Kittatinny Canoes was won by Linda Corshen and Ronnie Morgenstein.

### ONGOING ACTIVITIES

Silent Auction  
Fly-fishing lesson  
Environmental Exhibits  
Kids Tent  
Aquatic Display  
Eight Foot Caterpillar

This schedule of events is sponsored by the River Reporter Newspaper

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Sept 18 Owls of North America

At this year's Meadow Party, Darryl and Jackie Speicher, founders of the Pocono Avian Research Center (PARC) will deliver a program on the birds of North America with an emphasis on the owls of the Delaware Highlands region. They will discuss PARC's participation in Project OwlNet, a continent wide effort to gain insight into the migratory ecology of the Northern Saw-whet Owl, the smallest owl in New York and Pennsylvania, or as they like to put it "the cutest critter on the planet." They will also share tales of their adventures pursuing and studying birds across the continent. PARC's programs on birds are highly engaging, as they strive to make them as entertaining as they are informative.

### Sept. 25 Forest Walk with Dr. Ann Rhoads 10:00 am

Join Dr. Ann Rhoads, acclaimed botanist and author, on a walk through a Northeastern Pennsylvania forest to learn about forest plant communities. Call the office at 570-226-3164 for directions.

### Oct 9 Exploring the Autumn Forest 10:00 am

Join naturalist Ed Wesely on an autumn walk to discover how plants and animals prepare for winter.

### Oct 15 Autumn Skies Star Watch 8:00 pm at the Butterfly Barn

Local astronomers will share their telescopes and sky charts. Observe deep sky objects and how to locate the constellations. This program will last about two hours. Bring binoculars and folding chairs if you have them and dress for cool weather.

### Oct 16 Annual General Meeting

We invite all Delaware Highlands Conservancy members to attend our Annual General Meeting. This is an excellent opportunity to hear about our progress; to vote for members of the Board of Directors; to ask questions of the Treasurer; to learn about our future plans; and to meet your fellow members, new and old.

\*\*\*\*\*  
★ **Nov. 13 Evening to Celebrate !!**  
★ **Join us on this special Saturday evening to celebrate two momentous occasions: Delaware Highlands**  
★ **Conservancy's 10 year anniversary and the 80<sup>th</sup> birthday of one of our founders, Barbara Yeaman. Mark**  
★ **your calendar now, and watch for more information in the coming weeks.**  
★  
\*\*\*\*\*

Check [www.delawarehighlands.org](http://www.delawarehighlands.org) or call Sue at the office 570-226-3164 for more information on any event.

## PIKE COUNTY FOREST LEGACY UPDATE

On August 11 the birds weren't yet chirping when Executive Director, Sue Currier pulled away from the office parking lot and headed to State College, PA. Traveling with Sue were D. J. Roberts and Barbara Yeaman. Peter Pinchot was soon to follow. The purpose of the trip was to meet with the PA State Forest Legacy Program selection committee, and to defend our applications for funds to purchase development rights on three Pike County forests. The applications for three properties in Pike County were competing with numerous other applications from across Pennsylvania. If the applicants make it past this initial hurdle, they will go on to a regional selection and then to final national selection of those who will receive federal funding to conserve their forest lands. It's a very competitive program. However, our applications are strong, and we hope for the best. Keep your fingers crossed.



*Peter Pinchot  
presenting*

### CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

Delaware Highlands Conservancy now accepts Credit Cards. You can now join, renew your membership or give the gift of membership using your **Mastercard** or **Visa**.



### OFFICE WISH LIST

- bookcase or display table for the office lobby
- 4 AA rechargeable batteries and charger
- straight chairs for our meeting room
- paper shredder
- walkie-talkies

## DELAWARE HIGHLANDS CONSERVANCY MEMBERSHIP FORM

☐ YES, I want to conserve natural open space and support the Conservancy with my tax-deductible membership donation of:

☐ \$35-\$59 Friend; ☐ \$60-\$99 Supporter; ☐ \$100-\$249 Protector; ☐ \$250-\$499 Sustainer; ☐ \$500 Conservator; ☐ Other

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
(PLEASE PRINT)

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ My check made payable to Delaware Highlands Conservancy is enclosed

☐ I prefer to pay by credit card: ☐ Mastercard ☐ Visa Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Account #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail this form and donation payment to: **Delaware Highlands Conservancy, P.O. Box 218, Hawley, PA 18428-0218**

Delaware Highlands Conservancy is a tax-exempt organization as provided by IRS regulations. The official registration and financial information of the Delaware Highlands Conservancy may be obtained from the PA Department of State by calling toll-free, within PA, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.



## DELAWARE HIGHLANDS CONSERVANCY **KAYAK RAFFLE**

**DONATION: \$2 EACH or 3 FOR \$5 - Drawing Sept 18, 2004**

**1st PRIZE (\$400 Value)**

Perception Swift 9.5  
Kayak courtesy of  
Alice's Wonderland

**2nd PRIZE (\$75 Value)**

Canoe Trip for Two  
with Cedar Rapids Canoes

**3rd PRIZE (\$25 Value)**

Gift Certificate  
for Alice's Wonderland

All proceeds go to the land protection efforts of the Delaware Highlands Conservancy

Thanks to our  
sponsors:



and  
Cedar Rapids  
Kayak & Canoe  
Outfitters

## DELAWARE HIGHLANDS CONSERVANCY

P.O. Box 218 Hawley, PA 18428-0218



**MEADOW PARTY!**