



# august 2005 HIGHLANDS JOURNAL

newsletter of the Delaware Highlands Conservancy

Dedicated to conserving the natural and cultural heritage of the Upper Delaware River region in New York and Pennsylvania

## BRADLEY WOODS

Susan Bradley Hartney has fond memories of childhood weekends spent on her family's Pike County property. When her father died and she received the land, she had moved too far away to be able to enjoy it herself. Still, she wanted to see her property, and others like it, protected. So she donated the twenty-two acre property to the Delaware Highlands Conservancy with the intention of all profits from the land's eventual sale going towards the Conservancy's land protection efforts.



These twenty-two acres are now protected by a conservation easement that restricts the property's development to a single residence. The land was sold and the buyer, fully aware of the conservation easement restrictions, will abide by these conditions. Because of Susan's generosity many acres of land, not just her father's property, will be protected forever.

In June, Susan Hartney gathered with other members of her family and representatives of Delaware Highlands Conservancy to dedicate the property to the memory of

her father, D. Cameron Bradley (1916 – 1979). We parked our cars along the quiet country road; the Reverend Michael Hartney, Susan's husband, hurried ahead to the memorial plaque and placed a pitcher of water on a small table. He led a dedication service of hymns and prayers and sprinkled the water to consecrate the land.



*Susan Hartney with cousins Chris and Albert Bradley*

Cameron Bradley was described by Susan as a serious animal lover who often lectured on animal identification. Susan feels that by preserving her father's land she is maintaining a permanent refuge for Cameron's beloved wildlife.



*Susan Hartney was presented with a framed photograph by David B. Soete of the stream on the property in recognition of her generous donation to the Conservancy.*

## Delaware Highlands Conservancy

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### Upcoming Meetings:

Land Protection Sept. 10  
Annual Meeting Oct. 22

## \$2.3 MILLION FOR FOREST LEGACY IN PIKE

On Tuesday August 2, Congressman Don Sherwood announced that together with Republican Senators Rick Santorum and Arlen Specter, they jointly secured \$2.3M for our History of Forestry Pike County Forest Legacy applicants.

Fantastic news! We thank the Senators, the Congressman and their staff for shepherding our application through many rounds of negotiations and funding cuts.

However, there is still a lot of work to do to protect these properties. The funding received is less than half of what is needed, even with all three property owners 'selling their development rights' at significant bargain sale prices, well below the appraised value.

Don Sherwood said it best in a recent River Reporter article: "This grant is not totally able to purchase the three forests, but it's a start. We will be looking for more funding in the future to make the entire project happen." The next step is to find matching funds through grant programs from other organizations as well as the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

There is much more to do, yet we pause to celebrate and remind ourselves what the protection of these 2,581 acres will achieve:

and so much more all towards preservation of the rural and scenic character of Pike

- significant protection of water quality and quantity for adjacent communities
- extended wildlife habitat connected to State game and Forest lands
- protection of scenic vistas and the rural sense of place tourism depends upon
- improved tools for forest management through implementation of ideas from the Milford Experimental forest and a continual resource for local timber industry

County. An achievement worthy of our continued dedication.



Congressman Don Sherwood talks with Barbara Yeaman, Carson Helfrich, Sandy Schultz and Sue Currier.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Sept 18 Protecting our Hunting, Fishing and Outdoor Recreation Landscape 12:00 – 5:00 pm

Learn how landowners including clubs, individuals and municipalities can work together to ensure the future of the outdoor recreation we currently enjoy. At the PPL Lake Wallenpaupack Environmental Learning Center on Route 6 near Hawley, PA.

### Sept 29 Land Conservation: A Foundation for Healthy Waters 7:00 – 9:00 pm

Paul DeBarry from the Borton-Lawson engineering firm will discuss the intimate connection between land use changes and their impact on our water resources. The program is part of the Pike Conservation Partnership workshop series and will be held at the Pike County Conservation District.

### Sept 30 Autumn Skies Star Watch 8:00 pm at the Butterfly Barn Rain Date: Sat. October 1

Local astronomers will share their telescopes and sky charts. Observe deep sky objects and how to locate the constellations.

### Oct 8 Exploring the Autumn Forest 10:00 am

Join naturalist Ed Wesely on an autumn walk to discover how plants and animals prepare for winter. Participants will meet at the Butterfly Barn and carpool to the site.

### Oct 18 Save our Land, Save our Towns 7:00 pm

Tom Hylton, renowned author of the book *Save our Land, Save our Towns*, will discuss the actions communities can take to protect their rural character and quality of life. The program is part of the Pike Conservation Partnership workshop series and will be held at the PPL Environmental Learning Center in Hawley, PA.

## 9<sup>th</sup> MEADOW PARTY SEPT 17 NOON—5:00 pm

Once again our annual Meadow Party promises fun for all ages. Bring your friends and family and help us celebrate. Admission is free. All money raised from the day's activities will help support the Conservancy's work.

We have a great line up of live entertainment from around the region. Renowned local folk singer **Janet Burgan** will perform songs from her two albums ***The Coyote Sessions*** and ***Janet Burgan – the cd***. A resident of Equinunk, Janet performs throughout the region, as well as in New York City.

**Bill Engel**, resident of Callicoon Center, will play the **hammered Dulcimer** — an instrument that is gaining prominence as more than just a regional folk instrument. You may have heard his music at local farmer's markets and traditional music festivals.



Our very own **Barbara Yeaman** will kick off the festivities with a short musical performance on her new harp, accompanied by harpist, **Barbara Kaighn**.

Wildlife presenter **Bill Cutler**, an amateur herpetologist, will bring **live native snakes and amphibians**. **Jen Naugle**, Promised Land State Park Naturalist, will talk about local mammals. **Daryl Speicher**, from the Pocono Avian Research Center, will discuss **banding birds** for research. **Don Hamilton**, from the National Park Service, with a **tank of aquatic life** from the Delaware River, will discuss the diversity in the river.

Author **Malachy McCourt** will entertain with his **Reflections on Life**. Malachy is the author of numerous books including: *A Monk Swimming*, *Singing by Him Song*, *Danny Boy*, *Voices of Ireland*, *Harold be Thy Name*, and a *History of Ireland*. Malachy has appeared on radio, on stage,

on television, on the big screen and this September on the shores of the Delaware River at 2:30 pm.

And there will be lots of fun for children too including story reading for the young ones by local children's author and illustrator **Lindsay Barrett George**. Lindsay's books include: *The Secret*, *Inside Mouse/Outside Mouse*, *My Bunny and Me*, and *In the Woods: Who's been here?*. Other activities for children include our kid's activity tent, bird house building, and puppet shows in the Butterfly Barn.

Beyond the scheduled events, many local groups will set up **displays** providing information.

Let's not forget the wonderful **food**. Once again, many local restaurants are donating to our fabulous food buffet. Be sure to vote for your favorite dish in our second **Annual Delaware Delights awards**. This is a wonderful opportunity to sample the best dishes of many local restaurants and pick up a map to direct you to new favorite dining locations. The suggested donation for the buffet is \$7.00 per Adult, \$3.00 per child.

If that isn't more than enough, don't forget our **Silent Auction**. Take the opportunity to bid on local items or help us in advance by donating your talent or service to the auction. Call the office at 570-226-3164 to donate a service.

Don't miss your **chance to win** in our raffle. Tickets will once again be available at the Meadow Party.



First prize: **Perception Swifty 9.5 kayak**, courtesy of **Alice's Wonderland** in Greeley (Retail value: \$420)

Second prize: **One night for two at the ECCE Bed & Breakfast** in Barryville (Retail value: \$250)



Third prize: **\$25.00 gift certificate** for **Alice's Wonderland**

We are very grateful to Alice's Wonderland and Ecce Bed & Breakfast for their donations. We also thank Varco Printing House for donating the tickets for this year's raffle and local photographer, David B. Soete who donated a print for our early bird draw. Tom Hoff, from Milford, was the lucky winner of this lovely framed print. Congratulations Tom!





# MEADOW PARTY SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

**12:00**

**Silent Auction Opens**

**12:30**

**Jen Naugle - Naturalist**

**Barbara & Barbara on the Harps**

**12:45**

**Bill Engle - Dulcimer Music**

**1:00**

**Lunch buffet Opens**

**1:30**

**Bill Cutler – Herpetologist: snakes & amphibians**

**Lindsey George: Story Reading for the young ones**

**2:30**

**Malachy McCourt – Reflections**

**River Explorations with Don Hamilton**

**Puppet Show in the Butterfly Barn**

**3:00**

**Bird banding demonstration**

**Lindsey George: Story Reading for the young ones**

**Lunch Buffet closes**

**3:30**

**Janet Burgan – Folk Musician**

**4:00**

**Puppet Show in the Butterfly Barn**

**Auction Closes**

**4:30**

**Raffle Drawing**

**Ongoing**

**Silent Auction**

**Fly-fishing Lessons**

**Educational Exhibits**

**Kids Tent**

**Aquatic Display**

**8 Foot Caterpillar**

This schedule of events is sponsored by the River Reporter Newspaper

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Members provide the lifeblood support for the Conservancy's work with their annual donations. To increase our membership base, we'll be conducting a direct mail appeal to potential members in November. Volunteers are needed to help us copy, collate, stuff, seal, stamp and send out hundreds of appeals. Have a couple hours to spare? No previous experience necessary. Join us anytime on November 11<sup>th</sup>, the 12<sup>th</sup> in the afternoon, or anytime on the 14<sup>th</sup>. All are welcome!

## LAND TRUST "STANDARDS AND PRACTICES"

By Barbara Yeaman, a founding director

When the Delaware Highlands Conservancy was founded ten years ago, we were constantly referring to a phone-book sized volume called *"The Standards and Practices Guidebook, An Operating Manual for Land Trusts"* published by the national Land Trust Alliance (LTA). There were times, in the beginning, that we would have to look up advice before taking the first step toward a complicated proceeding. That was in 1995.

Now, in 2005 the old phone-book sized *"Standards and Practices"* manual has been revised down to just 12 standards. To quote the new volume: "This is a living document ... to reflect changes in land trust practices and regulations governing nonprofit organizations."

The new *"Standards"* continues: "The nation's more than 1,500 nonprofit land trusts have conserved millions of acres of wildlife habitat, farms, ranches, forests, watershed, recreation areas and other important lands ... Implementing *'Land Trust Standards and Practices'* helps land trusts uphold the public trust and build strong and effective land conservation programs."

The Land Trust Alliance now requires that members adopt the new *"Land Trust Standards and Practices"* as the guiding principles for their operations in order to uphold the public trust and the credibility of the land trust community as a whole. Our Board of Directors voted to do this at their June meeting.

The LTA ensures the highest standards of operations for the nation's land trusts. We are pleased to work with them and their new *"Standards"*.

## RECENTLY ON THE RIVER



Dr. Ann Rhoads, Director of Botany at the Morris Arboretum in Philadelphia, explains the life cycles of some of the riparian zone Upper Delaware River plants. Over 25 members and friends of Conservancy spent a rewarding morning on July 16<sup>th</sup>, canoeing along the river between Milanville and Narrowsburg. They observed many common and unusual, even rare plants, and learned the history and ecology of each. They stopped along the way several times to collect both submerged aquatic as well as emergent plants and their flowers.



A relaxing moment looking over the Delaware River during a hike to the ledges earlier this summer.

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## A CLEAN AUDIT

In 2004 our income reached the Government threshold which requires a full audit of our year end financial records. The audit went smoothly and we received a clean report from our accountants, Ginader Jones, from Scranton. Copies of the report are available from the office.

## 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.

## WE WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Jason Alford, Grady Avant, Donald Bucher, Daria Dorosh, John and Vina Miller, Zintis Muiznieks, Kevin Neely, Robert Neely, Robert and Carolyn Neely, Marcia Nehemiah and Patrick Carullo, Nancy Nyitrai, Richard Plunz and Maria Paola Sutto, Trix Render, and Janet and Steve Roberts.

## WISH LIST

- Chairs (for the office and lawn chairs for programs)
- Folding tables (for programs)
- Bookcase
- Bulletin Board
- AA rechargeable batteries (for GPS and camera)
- Silent auction donations
- Access database knowledgeable programmer as resource for work in the office

## AND THANK OUR RENEWING MEMBERS

Our work is possible only with your continued support.

## DELAWARE HIGHLANDS CONSERVANCY

serving New York and Pennsylvania  
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