



**2010 WAS A PIVOTAL YEAR** for the Delaware Highlands Conservancy. It was the best of times, and sometimes the worst of times. We knew the exhilaration of completing of our application for *Accreditation*. We felt the sting of natural gas exploration and what that may mean to our conservation efforts. We found comfort in our exceptional staff and active board of directors, but are startled by the diminishing level of financial support in 2010. Meanwhile our land protection efforts continue to grow and enable us to conserve open space, scenic wonders, water quality, and working forest and farm lands. In 2010 we accomplished much:

## LAND PROTECTION

A central element of the Conservancy's land protection success lies in being landowner-centric. We emphasize recording comprehensive baseline data, and explain the need for annual monitoring. The Conservancy's land protection staff use their expertise to build the personal relationships necessary for easement creating and monitoring.

**The Mongaup Sanctuary** conservation easement that closed in 2010 protects 102 acres of forest. It contains a creek and wetlands, has a limited amount of open fields, but no improvements or buildings of any kind. It does contain important wildlife habitat including a timber rattlesnake hibernacula, and protects public scenic views from four highways. The old farm lies within the Mongaup River watershed and is near the Rio Reservoir. The easement does not allow for any future improvements, unless they are recreational or agricultural in nature.



The owners of the "Mongaup Sanctuary," Michael and Linda Smith, live in Anchorage, Alaska, but this land is located in Glen Spey, NY. It has been owned by the Smith family since the 1800's. Aware of the potential for loss of the biological diversity found in this prime habitat of hemlock-northern hardwood forest and open fields, they were anxious to protect this rich habitat. With our help the owners drafted a conservation easement that provides protection against loss of biodiversity by allowing only agricultural and woodland uses. This easement will also provide significant public benefit and ensures the availability of open land for future generations of birds, amphibians, mammals and aquatic species.

## ACCREDITATION SOUGHT

Much of our energies in 2010 were consumed by our efforts toward accreditation by the national Land Trust Accreditation Commission. The rigors of this process have strengthened the organization and enabled us to be more effective. Our credibility is enhanced, as is our ability to communicate our mission and goals to the community at large. The seven volumes comprising our Accreditation application will put us at the leading edge of management practices for land trusts.



*One complete application — submitted in triplicate*



*Call the Conservancy at 570-226-3164 or 845-807-0535 to see how you can be involved.*

## BY-LAW CHANGES

After 16 years the Delaware Highlands Conservancy By-Laws were revised in October 2010's Annual Meeting. The changes recognize our growth in land protected, educational outreach, staff, and overall responsibilities.

They now formalize standing committees composed of volunteer members who will work in defined roles to advise the Board and improve operations. This updates the 1994 by-laws, and brings them in line with land trusts across the country.

## PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

The October annual meeting also recognized a new strategic plan for the next five years. It organizes goals and actions for the board, committees, and staff. The plan up-dates our goals and will ensure that we are serving the Upper Delaware River region to the best of our ability. Also it lays the groundwork for increased professionalism and success in the coming years. Interested in learning more? Call the Conservancy to request your copy of the Strategic Plan.



## 2010 MEMBERS

Patricia Aakre - Helen Adair - Joseph and Kathryn Adams - Edward Ahern - Mary Albert - Albert and Bonnie Albinson - Daniel and Kathleen Allen - Anonymous - Anonymous - Anonymous - Dr. Anita Auerbach - Walter and Marilyn Barbe - William and Carol Barnes - Lou Barr - Bob and June Barrett - Catherine Barron - Kristin Barron and John Ogozalek - Martha and Alexis Barron - Al Bartl - Susan and Ben Baxt - Jerry Beaver - Lois Becker - Carl and Inge Beidleman - Gary Beilman - Greg Belcamino - Brett Berk and Tal McThenia - Richard and Helen Berkenstock - Donald Bernhard - April and Bruce Bidwell - Alice Bloom - Roy Borgfeld - Patricia and Jack Bradt - Richard and Valerie Brairton - Kevin and Debra Brennan - Michael Brennan - Barbara and Richard Brown - Graham and Lorna Brown - James and Elizabeth Brown - Sandy & Bebe Brown - T. Scot Brown - Ed Brylawski and Eva Erichsen - Fred Buchholz and Helen Ripple - Boyce Budd - Karen Budd - Laurel Burns - Bob Campbell - Richard and Kathleen Campbell - Francis Cape and Liza Phillips - Richard and Bernadette Caridi - Benjamin and Sarah Cart - Dave Chant - Cimmino Family - Jo Clearwater - Robert and Valerie Cocchi - Chuck Coccodrilli - Jeffrey Cohen - Anthony Como - Peter and Marsha Comstock - Bud Cook - Kevin and Maria Coutts - Bill and Nancy Cribbs - Sue Currier - Ralph and Marie Curtis - Carrie Davis - Chip and DeFord Davis - Jim and Joanne Dearlove - Robert and Marion DeGennaro - Bertrand Delanney - Dave and Barbara Demarest - Peter and Dori Deubler - Thomas Didato - Karen and Joseph DiPane - Robert Dirig - Pat and Tom DiSilvio - Kathy Dodge and Pete Snyder - Barbara and Dale Dohner - Alan and Patricia Dolge - Edith and Donald Downs - Pamela Downs and Peter Otersen - Ajax Eastman - Richard Eckersley - Robert Eckersley - Alice Ehrhardt - Ehrhardt Family - Carolyn Evans - Mary Evans - John and Diane Farley - Lynn and Edward Farrell - Joseph D. Fashano - Barbara Finamore - Michael "Zoot" Finamore - Heidi Finkelberg - Judy Fitzpatrick - Joseph and Diane Foster - Joe and Bernice Fowler - Denise Frangipane - Cecily Friedman - Alice Froelich - Janet and Roland Fuller - Jackson Gearhart - Michael and Elizabeth Geitz - Grant and Jeanne Genzlinger - Justin Genzlinger - Sandra and Alan Gerry - Karen Gibbons and Peter Reich - Elaine Giguere - Martin Gilgallon, President - Dale Goodman - Jan Goodwin - Kingdon Gould, Jr - Mary Greene - Margaret Gulino - Charles R. Gumble - Dana Gumble - George and Margaret Gumble - Doug Guyer - Don Hamilton - Beverly and Ed Harrity - Tom and Jen Hauber - Doug and Linda Hay - Sonja Hedlund and Dick Riseling - Gerald and Germar Heitmann - Carson and Kathleen Helfrich - Andrea and Chuck Heyn - Tom and Jean Hoff - Homans Sims Family - James and Jayne Hopkins - Alfred Howell - Larry Hoyle - Richard and Margaret Hunter - John and Dorothy Hurley - Lynda and Bill Hutton - Nicholas and Susan Iwanisziw - Sam Jackson - Chip and Meg Janusewski - Dave and Sandy Jobson - Judy and Lloyd Johnson - Nancy Johnson - Todd and Anni Chen Judy - Reuel and Barbara Kaighn - Edward Kaminski - Thomas Kappner and Augusta Kappner - Chris and Penny Keating - Ed and Dawn Kendall - Virginia Kennedy - Frances Mege Kerwin - Bob and Jennifer Kiesendahl - Bill Kiger - Robert and Eleanor Kiley - Jim and Denise Kilgore - Marilyn Kneeland - Greg Kopich - Robert Kramer - Astrid Kromayer - Jeffrey Kroutil - Martin and Hedy Kunstmann - Paul Labounty - Fred and Donna Lackland - Isabelle Lang - Ralph and Myrna Langer - Chris and Shelly Lanning - Bill Lazor - Alfred Lees and Ronald Nelson - Bill and Sandy Leiser - Barbara Leo and Georgette Pascotto - Kenna and Walt Levendosky - Barbara Lewis - Scott Linde - Rebecca and Richard Lindsey - Worth and Winnie Linen - Tom and Sharon Lisenbee - Amy and Bob Litzenberger - Orm and Dot Long - Sandra Long - Krista Gromalski - Susan and Earl Lory - Bob and Gail Lowden - Jane Luchsinger - Richard Lupinsky, Sr. - Betsy Lyman - Harold MacGregor - Rita MacNeal - Joseph and Sandy Maculaitis - Fort Manno and Ray and Mary Lou Dee - Melvin Maron - Shirley Masuo - Elizabeth McAllister - Allan and Betsy McAlpin - Malcolm and Judy McAlpin - Louis and Patricia McCarter - Lori McKean - Bill and Marianne Mebane - John and Meg Menke - Jet and Bob Mermell - Dorothy Merrill - Thelma Miller - Robert and June Mills - Jim and Therese Montemarano - Jeffrey Moore - Sally Moretti and Enrico Moretti - Roy Morsch and Joann Puskarcik - Zintis Muiznieks - Greg Myer - Forrest and Debra Myers - Kenneth and Kathleen Myett - Paul and Adelaide Nicholson - Thomas Nicholson - Nick and Maggie Niles - Lin and Jerry O'Connor - Bill and Donna Oliver - John and Sandra Olson - Craig and Janet Olver - Michael and Bonnie Padua - Mr. and Mrs. J.R. 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Wagner, Jr - Joan and Albert Waldman - R. Anthony Waldron, III - Ingrid Warshaw - Louise Washer - Joanne Wasserman - Arthur Watres - Jeff and Candy Watson - William and Wendy Wehrmann - Bruce and Anna Weidenbaum - Gene Weinstein - Meg Welker - Dan and Linda Wescott - David Westpfahl - Joseph and Dorothea White - Loretta Wickstrom - Gordon Wildermuth - Robin and Cindy Wildermuth - Sigrid Wilshinsky - Jonathan Wind - Peter Wulforst - Jerold and Judith Yavarkovsky - Barbara Yeaman - William Yeaman - Yvonne I. Arch Trust - Sean Zigmund

### 2010 FINANCIAL SUMMARY—Unaudited

#### Operating Income

Grants	\$ 16,440
Memberships	\$ 30,903
Cash Donations	\$ 90,475
Educational & Other Events	\$ 64,142
Service Donation	\$ 22,400
Land Protection & Related Services	\$ 86,835
Investment Income & Gains	<u>\$ 24,727</u>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 335,922</b>

#### Operating Expenses

Program Expenses	\$ 224,932
Management & General	<u>\$ 76,410</u>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 301,342</b>

#### Selected Assets as of 12/31/10

Cash & Marketable Securities	\$ 372,697
Monitoring & Legal Defense Funds	\$ 405,895
Accounts & Pledges Receivable	\$ 13,200
Real Property, 26 acres	\$ 110,000

#### Officers

Greg Belcamino, President  
Barbara Yeaman, Vice Pres  
Scott Van Gorder, Secretary  
Joe Fowler, Treasurer

#### Executive Director

Sue Currier

#### Land Protection Staff

Melinda Meddaugh  
Amanda Subjin

#### Board Members

Denise Frangipane  
Grant Genzlinger  
Michael Geitz  
Krista Gromalski



**2010 ANNUAL REPORT - JOIN US IN JUNE 2011 FOR ANOTHER MEMORABLE EXPERIENCE**

Our annual canoe trip on the Delaware River involves people of all ages.

We stop for lunch and a talk about our wonderful river valley.



**2010 ANNUAL REPORT**



**DELAWARE HIGHLANDS CONSERVANCY**  
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HIGHLANDS  
CONSERVANCY

PENNSYLVANIA  
570.226.3164

P.O. Box 218  
Hawley, PA  
18428

NEW YORK  
845.807.0535  
P.O. Box 219  
Narrowsburg, NY  
12764

Dear Member,

Last year was an extremely busy one for the Conservancy. Our directors, staff and volunteers worked on several projects not reflected in our usual metric for success, which is the number of acres protected in our four-county area. I would like to tell you what we've been doing and how it will contribute to our future successes.

2010 saw the Delaware Highlands Conservancy take two major steps. The Conservancy updated its Strategic Plan for the next five years. It had been several years since our last strategic plan, and, as you well know, we face significant new challenges.

One new challenge is the exploration and drilling for natural gas in the Marcellus Shale formation. Our new Strategic Plan requires a Gas Committee to advise the Board of Directors on the impacts of gas drilling on all aspect of our environment. This year, 2011, after the Gas Committee presents its findings, the Conservancy's board will provide new guidance for its Land Protection Committee and staff in dealing with potential conservation easements in areas affected by gas leasing.

In 2010 we applied for accreditation by the national Land Trust Alliance. This effort required a tremendous commitment of time and effort. As part of this process, the Conservancy adopted or revised its policies governing its finances, recordkeeping, potential conflicts of interest and other subjects, bringing us in line with the highest standards and best practices of land trusts nationally. We hope to become accredited sometime in late 2011.

Accreditation will help us in applying for grant funding, ensure that we comply with the best practices of land conservation, aid in fundraising, and give us credibility within the land conservation community and with our current and potential partners.

Despite these demands on our resources, in 2010 we did close on one new easement of over 100 acres and completed substantial work on several others that we anticipate closing in 2011. We continued our educational outreach activities by



WE ARE A LAND TRUST working to conserve **the natural and cultural heritage of the Upper Delaware River region.**

sponsoring or participating in over 40 educational programs or activities over the past year, including producing the third edition of the “Shop Local, Save Land Guide to Farms and Farm Markets.”

The Conservancy has been a victim of its own success. With nearly 13,000 acres protected since 1994, we have outgrown our resources, and must sometimes pass up opportunities because we lack staff or funding. To address this problem, we committed during 2010 to add an Outreach and Development Director to our excellent staff.

Having a staff member devoted to this effort will help to ensure that we have the resources to continue our growth, and to take advantage of new opportunities when they arise.

We rely on our members in addressing these resource issues. Our decision to increase our staffing in tough economic conditions means that your financial contributions this year are especially valued. We also value the contributions of our many volunteers. If you want to help in any way—from stuffing envelopes to serving on one of our committees, please contact our Executive Director, Sue Currier at 570-226-3164 or 845-807-0535.

In 2010 we addressed the Conservancy’s growing pains so that we can continue to do what we do best: protecting land and conserving what we all love so much about our region. I am very proud to have been a part of the Conservancy’s work since first joining its Board of Directors in 1995, and I hope that we can count on your continued support as we grow to meet future challenges and take advantage of future opportunities.

Sincerely,



Greg Belcamino  
President  
Delaware Highlands Conservancy

