

August 2010 Highlands Journal

Newsletter of the Delaware Highlands Conservancy

...a land trust dedicated to working with landowners to conserve the natural and cultural heritage of the Upper Delaware River region in Pennsylvania and New York

Annual General Meeting Brings Proposed By-law Update

On October 23rd of this year, the Conservancy's Board of Directors will formally propose a revision of our by-laws during a short business meeting at our annual general meeting.

The Conservancy has worked hard to become recognized in our region—and within the conservation community—as a highly professional, trustworthy and dynamic organization that has protected—in perpetuity—more than 12,000 acres on 61 properties in the Upper Delaware River Watershed.

The new by-laws that are being proposed reflect the achievements and successful current practices of the Conservancy and will ensure that more of your contributions will go directly toward our land protection work rather than toward our increasing administrative costs associated with membership communications and records maintenance.

In essence, the re-write of these by-laws updates those of December 3, 1994 and brings them in line with existing practices for land trusts across the country. It will make the Delaware Highlands Conservancy more effective as we move into an era of growing national oversight and apply for accreditation through the Land Trust Accreditation Commission, an independent program of the national Land Trust Alliance (LTA). The accreditation program recognizes land conservation organizations that meet national quality standards for protecting important natural places and working lands forever.

We have learned that it is important to update our organizational documents as we proceed with the accreditation process. It is the hope of the board that with the change to a Board of Directors corporation, we

can complete a more comprehensive amendment to the by-laws to meet national standards and ensure that the Delaware Highlands Conservancy remains a sound, transparent organization for years to come.

Changing the format of the organization does not change the important role and function that our members will continue to play in our conservation efforts.

Our members will remain important partners. **In fact we now need support more than ever** as we continue to work with willing landowners to protect land in the Upper Delaware River region.

Our work will remain a grassroots effort to help ensure the future viability of conservation in our community.

Please contact the Conservancy to serve on one of the volunteer committees, assisting with special events or helping with annual monitoring of our protected land.

Members will be voting on the bylaw changes at the meeting on October 23 as well as new additions to the Conservancy's Board of Directors.

For more information on the proposed changes to the Conservancy's by-laws, please visit our website at www.delawarehighlands.org or contact the office for copies of the original and proposed by-laws.

Annual General Meeting

October 23, 2010

10:00 am

PPL Lake Wallenpaupack
Environmental Learning Center
Route 6
Hawley, PA 18428

Delaware Highlands Conservancy

Officers:

Don Downs, President
Greg Belcamino, Vice President
Mike Uretsky, Treasurer
Scott VanGorder, Secretary

Board Members:

Joe Fowler
Denise Frangipane
Michael Geitz
Grant Genzlinger
Krista Gromalski
Marty Kuntsmann
Greg Swartz
Barbara Yeaman

Executive Director:

Sue Currier

Land Protection:

Julia Horrocks
Melinda Ketcham
Amanda Subjin

Mail us:

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

P.O. Box 219
Narrowsburg, NY 12764

Visit us:

508 River Street
Hawley, PA

Sullivan County

Government Center
100 North Street
Monticello, NY

Call us:

PA 570-226-3164
NY 845-807-0535

Online:

www.delawarehighlands.org
info@delawarehighlands.org

Upcoming Meetings:

Sept. 11 Land Protection
Sept. 16 Outreach & Development

Oct. 2-5 Land Trust Alliance Rally
Oct. 21 Outreach & Development
Oct. 22 Finance Committee
Oct. 23 Annual General Meeting



This publication is printed on recycled paper.

Upcoming Events

Sept 18 – Bashakill Canoe Trip

Join the Delaware Highlands Conservancy and the Bashakill Area Association for a Canoe and Kayak Trip at the Bashakill Wildlife Management Area. Enjoy the spectacular views and wildlife habitat of the area. Stop by the local vineyard afterwards to get a taste of the region. Reservations **required**. Limited spaces available.



Sept 25 – Deer Management for Forest Landowners, 9am-12pm: Promised Land State Park

This program will give participants a hands-on look at options for managing deer in your forestland. Presenters include those from the PA Department of Natural Resources and Conservation and the PA Game Commission. Please call the Conservancy to register and received additional information regarding the program.

Oct 8 – Autumn Skies Star Watch, Butterfly Barn: 8:30pm

Local astronomers will share their telescopes and sky charts. Observe sky objects and how to locate the constellations. The program lasts about 2 hours; bring binoculars, and folding chairs, if you have them, and dress for cool weather.

Oct 26 – 27 Financial Benefits of Land Conservation, 7-9pm

Landowners will learn how to keep cherished lands in the family and protect the landscape in perpetuity. Delaware Highlands Conservancy staff members will discuss how conservation and agricultural easements are key tools for Sullivan County (Oct. 26) and Wayne County (Oct. 27) residents.

Nov. 6 – Women and Their Woods

Join other women forest landowners to learn more about your land. The Women and Their Woods group holds 3-5 meetings per year and is open to all women who own forestlands. Please call the Conservancy to register and received more information.

Nov. 6 – You are What you Eat, CVI Building, Liberty, NY 10am-3pm

Learn more about the importance of our local agricultural community with speaker **Joel Salatin from Polyface Farms**. See article for details. **Space is limited** and a \$25 reservation is required so please call the Conservancy to reserve your spot.



Joel Salatin

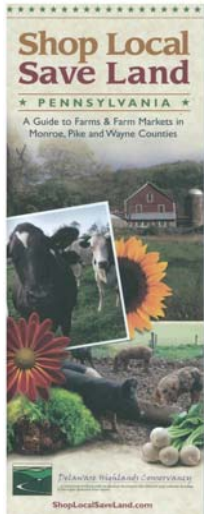
THANK YOU!

We at the Conservancy would like to thank Marty & Hedy Kunstmann for our new computer server. We would also like to thank Barbara Yeaman for purchasing our new color printer, scanner, and fax machine.

Thank you all for your support!



Did you renew your membership?



Shop Local Save Land

The Conservancy is proud to announce the third edition of the *Shop Local Save Land Guide to Farms and Farm Markets* for the Pike, Wayne and Monroe County area. To receive your copy, stop by the Conservancy office, your local library, visitors bureau or download a copy from the shoplocalsaveland.com website.

Interactive Shop Local Save Land Website, Coming Soon! All farm and forest product providers listed in our Shop Local Save Land will soon be searchable on the shoplocalsaveland.com website.



Legacy Leader Spotlight: Alfred Lees and Ronald Nelson

Why Should I Become A Legacy Leader?

The Delaware Highlands Conservancy has a special group of people called **"Legacy Leaders"**. These are people who leave a charitable bequest or an estate gift in their will to the Conservancy. These bequests may consist of a monetary donation, donating property to the Conservancy or donating a Conservation Easement to the Conservancy. By becoming a **Legacy Leader** you are giving an exceptional gift back to the Conservancy and the environment and you have the satisfaction of knowing that **you** contributed to protecting the **special places** of the Upper Delaware River region.

Two special people that have given back to the Conservancy are:
Alfred Lees and Ronald Nelson.

Alfred and Ronald decided to leave a bequest in their will to the Conservancy "to assure this preservation beyond our lifetime by placing restrictions on the development of this property we have held in trust some 40 years". When we asked Alfred and Ronald why it is important to support the work of the Delaware Highlands Conservancy they said "To preserve the natural beauty of the Upper Delaware region" "...the region retains a rustic beauty and charm already lost to many scenic areas of the Northeast. To lose the Upper Delaware would be a tragedy from which the Northeast could never recover".

The Delaware Highlands Conservancy would be happy to work with you to ensure that your desires are adequately documented in your will. For more information please contact the Delaware Highlands Conservancy to find out **how you can become a Legacy Leader and make a lasting difference.**



Pike Wayne Conservation Partnership Legislative Breakfast Another Success



Win this KAYAK!

Raffle supports the **DELAWARE HIGHLANDS CONSERVANCY**

FIRST PRIZE Old Town Otter 9.5' kayak & paddle
(courtesy of Alice's Wonderland, Greeley, PA)

TWO SECOND PRIZES Overnight for two at The Settlers Inn, Hawley, PA and Overnight for two at the Sayre Mansion in Bethlehem, PA

THIRD PRIZE \$50 Gift Certificate from Alice's Wonderland

Drawing Sept. 19, 2010

Accreditation Sought

Delaware Highlands Conservancy, is pleased to announce its application for accreditation through the Land Trust Accreditation Commission. The accreditation program recognizes land conservation organizations that meet national quality standards for protecting important natural places and working lands forever.

Independent accreditation provides the assurance of quality and permanence of land conservation the public is looking for and is essential for building public confidence in land conservation. "This important step in the Conservancy's organizational growth indicates to the public, regulators and the land conservation community that we take the call for self-regulation seriously," says Conservancy Founder Barbara Yeaman.

During the accreditation process, LTA's Accreditation Commission will conduct an extensive review of the Conservancy's policies and programs. "Accreditation has become the national standard for land trusts, and we are pleased be on the leading edge of conservation by ensuring that our work in the Upper Delaware region will

continue in a sustainable way," says Conservancy Executive Director Sue Carrier.

A public comment period on the Conservancy's accreditation application is now open. The LTA's Accreditation Commission invites public input and will accept signed, written comments—which must relate to how the Delaware Highlands Conservancy complies with national quality standards, which address the ethical and technical operation of a land trust. For the full list of standards see www.landtrustaccreditation.org/getting-accredited/indicator-practices.

Public Comments on the Conservancy's application are welcomed.

To learn more about the accreditation program and to submit a comment related to the Delaware Highlands Conservancy, visit www.landtrustaccreditation.org.

Comments may be submitted to the Land Trust Accreditation Commission, before December 31, 2010 by fax to 518-587-3183 or mail to 112 Spring Street, Suite 204, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866.

A Convenient Way to Donate

By instituting an "Automatic Periodic Payment Plan" with your bank, you can spread your annual donation to Delaware Highlands Conservancy evenly over the whole year. For instance, a check will arrive at our office each month (if you elect for monthly payments) for the amount you authorize your bank to send the Conservancy. You have the convenience of not having to write checks (or pay for postage) and the withdrawal will appear on your monthly statement. You can stop or change any part of this arrangement at any time just by logging into your Internet Banking account.—no account numbers or credit cards numbers are involved. This service is part of your bank's **Internet Banking Program**. Generally **Internet Banking** allows you to perform various transactions on your computer from any location, as long as you have access to the Internet and a secure browser. One of our members "loves the convenience. It is so easy". Check with your bank's website.



Stairway Ridge Botany Walk with Dr. Ann Rhoads

On Saturday, June 26, a group of 50 folks gathered at the Conservancy's newest conservation easement property located in Westfall Township, Pike County, PA. Senior botanist and author Dr. Ann Rhoads led participants on a native plant walk through the property and along a stream classified as "Exceptional Value". The 708 acre property is currently managed by DCNR and is open to the public for hiking, fishing, and hunting. Thanks Dr. Rhoads and all staff and volunteers for helping with this exciting event.



Delaware River Trip

If you did not join us for our June canoe trip, you missed a great outing: a beautiful day, sparkling clean water, a lunch stop where Kathy Maloney talked about the successful New York eagle program and a time to enjoy refreshments at the end of the trip. Plan to join us next year.



Ready to cast off



Don leads the group in "Itsy Bitsy Spider"



Happy Staff: Melinda Ketcham, Julia Horrocks, Sue Currier, Amanda Subjin, and Vicky Waldron



Conservancy Attire

You saw them at the open house, monitoring, or at the latest events — hoodies and golf shirts with the Delaware Highlands Conservancy logo in front and some with a butterfly on back. Now you can have one too (although yours won't be courtesy of a generous donor — thanks Steve!):

Golf Shirts — \$25 per (logo only)

Hoodie — \$55 per (logo and butterfly)

Call the office for more details
and to order yours by
September 30, 2010.



You Are What You Eat

with keynote speaker **Joel Salatin**
of **Polyface Farm**



Saturday, November 6th

CVI Building, Cable Vision Drive, Ferndale, NY

Cost: \$25 for the entire day, including lunch.

Are you concerned about where your food comes from? Then join us for a seminar with renowned farmer, author and speaker Joel Salatin from Polyface Farm.

Joel Salatin will speak about how local food can help save our economy, environment and our health. Using dirt-under-the-fingernails personal experience with mischievous humor, Joel Salatin passionately defends small farms, local food systems and the right to opt out of the conventional food paradigm.

Mr. Salatin will speak about how our culinary skills and local food connections have been replaced with “no trespassing” signs, bureaucratic paperwork, unpronounceable labels, bar codes and beeping cash registers.

Using first hand stories from Polyface Farm, Joel will also explain the marketing and production methods for his farm. His talk will empower otherwise reluctant marketers to go for it and inspire new ideas for the farm. The seminar will be a great opportunity to learn, network and to connect his presentation to resources and new ideas for our local agriculture industries.

Contact the Conservancy to register. **Space is limited.** Please avoid disappointment by registering early.

Session 1: 10:00am – 12:00pm.

For the Consumer — learn how you can help your local community and improve your health.

Lunch: 12:00pm— 1:00pm.

Lunch will provide an opportunity to enjoy local food and networking. Various organizations will have booths at the seminar.

Session 2: 1:00 – 3:00pm.

For the Farmer — Joel will speak about relationship marketing, using his farm’s success stories as a basis. He will also explain his Farm’s production methods. By using pictures the audience will take a virtual tour around his grass-based multi species livestock farm.

Seminar Sponsors:



The A. Lindsay and Olive B.
O'Connor Foundation



Cornell University
Cooperative Extension
Sullivan County

Why I Support the Conservancy

We need your help at the Conservancy value all our supporters. We are gathering quotes (and corresponding photos) from members, local business owners, board members, and volunteers, to tell us why they support the Conservancy. We will keep the quotes in a database and use them on a variety of printed and online materials to encourage people to support the Conservancy, and the mission that we strive to achieve.

If this is something you are interested in helping us with, please fill out the form below, and return it to info@delawarehighlands.org, or PO Box 218, Hawley, PA 18428 or call us at 570-226-3164 or 845-807-0535.



Yes, I _____ give permission to the Delaware Highlands Conservancy to use this quote (and photo, if applicable) on any printed or online material produced by the Delaware Highlands Conservancy for up to five (5) years (from date received), unless permission is otherwise revoked. (Photos must be high-resolution in either jpeg, tif, gif or Photoshop files with at least 300 dpi.)

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Why do you support the Conservancy? _____

How would you describe your role with the Conservancy (member, volunteer, etc.):

Name: _____ **Address:** _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____ **Email:** _____

Phone: _____

Member Spotlight

My wife and I support the Delaware Highlands Conservancy because we want to help them in their mission of preserving the Rural and Scenic character of our region while helping to develop and promote a sustainable local economy.

- Keith & Elizabeth Fitzpatrick

*Keith Fitzpatrick Custom Carpentry
donates 1% of their profits to support the
Delaware Highlands Conservancy's mission.*



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 ___ American Express 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.

OFFICE WISH LIST

- Computer speakers and microphone for webinars/conferences
- Volunteer gardeners needed to plan, plant and/or maintain our garden. Perennials also wanted
- Silk plants/flowers for inside
- Volunteer assistance with Access and Database development
- Rug (max 48" x 56")
- Boot tray

INSIDE

Proposed By-law changes
Annual General Meeting
Accreditation sought
A convenient way to donate
Food Seminar—Joel Salatin
Kayak raffle tickets available



serving New York and Pennsylvania
P.O. Box 218 Hawley, PA 18428-0218

DELAWARE HIGHLANDS CONSERVANCY

Non-Profit Org.
Hawley, PA
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 42