

March 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

A FAMILY LEGACY

By Barbara Lewis

When I first met Eva Havas and her daughter Laurel last September, Eva was about to protect her parents' treasured weekend retreat in Wayne County, PA with a conservation easement. By the end of 2009 Eva had brought that goal to fruition.

But the story starts long before that. Back in 1996, Eva's parents Drs. Peter and Frances Havas contacted Barbara Yeaman, founder of the recently formed Delaware Highlands Conservancy, to inquire about protecting the scenic property that they'd purchased thirty years before.



Drs. Frances & Peter Havas

But their story goes back farther yet, to Europe during World War II. Political refugees from Austria, Peter and Frances first met at an anti-Nazi demonstration in 1938. They soon married, beginning a lifelong happy

marriage of 65 years. Their

daughter Eva was born in France and a year later they were able to come to the U.S. with the help of a committee to aid scientists and the International Rescue Committee. They arrived here in 1941, became citizens in 1948, completing their education here in the States.

Peter Havas ultimately became a professor of physics at Temple University and his wife Frances was a professor of immunology at Temple School of Medicine, doing

pioneering cancer research which stressed the strengthening of the immune system, an idea ahead of its time. "My father," says Eva, "became internationally renowned in theoretical physics and believed strongly that physics should not be used for warfare. There is an endowed humanitarian scholarship in his name at Temple."

The Havas couple, according to Eva, were very committed to social justice and land protection. "They were also a strong influence on both my daughter and me," she adds. "My daughter has a Master's in public policy and works on 'The Hill' in Washington for a Congressman." Eva is retired from teaching sociology and social work at Boston University. Just as their social justice ideals impacted their family, so did their reverence for the land.

Their daughter saw them plant 14,000 evergreen trees on the former farm in Smith Hill where the family spent many weekends and vacations. "They were the first to put in ponds; afterward many of the neighbors did it," chuckles Eva. Over the years they cross-country skied in winter and enjoyed swimming in their ponds in the summer, taking long walks, picking blueberries, getting to



Photo courtesy of Barbara Lewis

Delaware Highlands Conservancy

Officers:

Carson Helfrich, President
Don Downs, Vice President
Mike Uretsky, Treasurer
Scott VanGorder, Secretary

Board Members:

Greg Belcamino
Joe Fowler
Denise Frangipane
Grant Genzlinger
Krista Gromalski
Adam Rodell
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:

Main phone: 570-226-3164
Also: 845-807-0535 (NY)

Online:

www.delawarehighlands.org
info@delawarehighlands.org

Upcoming Events/Meetings:

Mar. 13: Forestry Tax & Estate
Planning Issues
(PPL Learning Center; 8am-1pm)

Mar. 20: Land Protection/
Executive Committee

Mar. 30&31: Financial Benefits
Fair (NY & PA)

BE GREEN: SPONSOR A RAIN BARREL

Join the art students in Liberty, NY conservation students at Tri-Valley and the folks at Delaware Highlands Conservancy, Sullivan Renaissance and Sullivan County Division of Planning and Environmental Management by sponsoring a rain barrel.

For a donation of \$50 to \$75, your Sullivan County business will become associated with civic pride, clean water, and generosity. A beautifully painted rain barrel will be displayed at your place of business during the month of May in a "Sullivan County Barrel Parade" much like the cow parades of the 1990's but with an environmental twist. The parade will increase foot traffic, while promoting storm water management and student involvement. For the cost of the supplies and labor needed to create a unique rain barrel your business will be listed as a sponsor in all press releases as well as other media created to promote education about rain barrels. At the end, the barrels will be auctioned off at a benefit for the Liberty High School Scholarship Fund, an event we hope you will attend.

What is a Rain Barrel?

- Rain barrels are used to collect and store rainwater from rooftops.
- The water is used for lawn and garden watering, an activity that makes up nearly 40% of total household water use during the summer.
- The water diverted would normally turn into storm water runoff, which is the leading type of non-point source pollution in our streams and rivers.
- Diverting the water and using it during drier times helps save most homeowners about 1,300 gallons of water during the peak summer months, **which saves money and energy** and helps **protect the environment**.



Contact the NY office or email nyland@delawarehighlands.org for more information.

THANKS JACK!

Jack Gearhart is a welcome volunteer at the Conservancy whose knowledge of GPS (Global Positioning System) has helped us immensely in monitoring our easements. Recently retired from the Pennsylvania Bureau of Forestry, Jack has made himself



Jack Gearhart, Cindy Wildermuth

available to advise the Conservancy on forestry concerns as well as help with our mailings. After graduating from Penn State with a degree in Forestry, he served in the Air Force in Korea and Thailand. He is a member of the Wayne-Lackawanna Forest Landowners Association. When not volunteering his time for environmental organizations, he likes to fish and play golf (fishing rod in his golf bag?). **Jack...thank you!**

If I had the money, I would preserve every piece of natural land in the world. This is the piece I have, so that's what I'll protect...I have tremendous devotion to what's wild. — Lou Barr, Fisherman, easement Donor, Bethel, NY



Photo courtesy of Barbara Lewis

(continued from page 1)
Eva's daughter Laurel made her first trip to her grandparents' country home when she was just two months old, and she strongly supports her mother's decision to protect her grandparents' land. After Peter and

Frances died in 2004, within just a couple months of each other, "I decided to follow through on their commitment," says Eva.

"I was told the Conservancy [Delaware Highlands] assured the strictest oversight of the land so there would be real follow-through of the restrictions. And I wanted to be sure that many years from now the land would still be protected and that the agreement couldn't be changed." Eva also chose to exclude her property from gas drilling, an option that landowners can choose but isn't necessary for all, as each easement is individually tailored to the owners' wishes.

In protecting her parents' 47-acre pristine hillside property of open meadows and forested woodlands with a conservation easement, Eva Havas is carrying out her parents' wishes. Assuring that the land so dear to them will be exempt from subdivision or development, no matter who owns it in the future, is her way of honoring her parents, their values, and their precious piece of Mother Earth.

Barbara Lewis is a freelance photographer and writer who resides in Honesdale, PA.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO MAP TRAILS IN SULLIVAN

Are you looking for a reason to get outdoors and explore the many trails throughout Sullivan County? Then sign up as a volunteer to help the Conservancy and our partners map the trails in Sullivan County. The Delaware Highlands Conservancy, in partnership with Sullivan County Division of Planning and Environmental Management, Sullivan County Visitors Association and Sullivan Renaissance are in the process of gathering information about all of the hiking and walking trails open to the public in Sullivan County.

We need volunteers to walk the trails and mark them on a GPS unit. We will then create maps.

The end result: helpful and user friendly maps that both residents and tourists can utilize as a tool to explore the wilderness and habitat of Sullivan County.

If you are interested, please contact Melinda Ketcham at our NY office at 845-807-0535 or email nyland@delawarehighlands.org.



Conservancy staff & members exploring a trail on a protected property.



RAISE YOUR HAND!

The Delaware Highlands Conservancy relies on their volunteers to help with everything from staffing booths at conferences or events to helping with our mailings that take place during the year.

If you are interested in volunteering some of your time, please contact the Conservancy where we will talk to you about your interests and availability.

We need help both during the week and on the weekends. Whatever your talent or expertise is, chances are we need help in that area. We have mailings and our list of events is provided with this newsletter.

If you are interested in volunteering please contact the office at 570-226-3164 or info@delawarehighlands.org.

I volunteer for the Conservancy to support their work in maintaining the beauty of our region. In tough times like these, volunteer support is so important to non-profit organizations. — Jan Maressa, Hawley, PA

CELEBRATE AT FOODS OF THE DELAWARE HIGHLANDS GALA

Celebrate 12,000 protected acres and 16 years of service with the Delaware Highlands Conservancy on **Saturday, April 24** during the third annual "Foods of the Delaware Highlands" gala, a five-course dinner and wine tasting at The Settler's Inn. Wine Tasting begins at **6:30 pm followed by dinner at 7 pm**. Reservations are requested by April 1st for this popular event, which sells out each year.

Following dinner is a **live auction and raffle of a case of fine wines**. Raffle tickets are available in advance through the Conservancy, or at the April 24th celebration.

Tickets for "Foods of the Delaware Highlands" are \$125 per person, which includes a \$75 tax-deductible charitable gift to the Delaware Highlands Conservancy.

Business or corporate sponsorships are available at the following levels:

\$1,000 Platinum (includes 4 tickets and an \$800 charitable contribution)

\$500 Gold (includes 2 tickets and a \$400 charitable contribution).

Sincere thanks to current Platinum Sponsors: Michael & Elizabeth Geitz, Sigrid Wilshinsky and Gold Sponsors: Albert and Bonnie Albinson, Marty and Hedy Kunstmann, Robert O'Hara, and Barbara Yeaman.

2010 MENU

GATHERING

Crispy Polenta with Fallsdale Farm Chevre & Pepper Jam
 Smoked Blooming Grove Trout Mouse on Brioche with Cucumber & Apple Chips
 Barbeque Forks Farm Chicken Turnovers
 Delaware Highlands Artisan Cheese Board
 CANELLA Prosecco, N/V Veneto Italy
 FOLIE À DEUX "Ménage à Trois" Zinfandel, Merlot & Cabernet Franc, 2007, California

FIRST COURSE

Liberty Gardens Greens
 tossed in Honey Dijon Vinaigrette, Apricots & Toasted Almonds
 MONTES Sauvignon Blanc Limited Selection 07,
 Leyda Vineyard, Leyda Valley, Chile

SECOND COURSE

Pennsylvania Cheese & Charcuterie Plate-
 Amish Cheddar
 Jamison Farm Lamb Sausage
 Campanelli Farm Rabbit Tourchon
 (Vegetarian Option: Crudites with Unique Dipping Sauces)
 BEAULIEU VINEYARDS, BV Coastal Estates, Pinot Noir, 07,
 Vin de Pays D'OC, France

INTERMEZZO

Strawberry-Rhubarb Sorbet

THIRD COURSE

Jurgenson Farm Duck over Tonjes Farm Ricotta Gnocchi, Brown Truffle Butter,
 Pennsylvania Mushrooms, Ramps
 (Vegetarian Option: Gnocchi without Duck)
 SHOOFLY "Aussie Salute" Shiraz/ Grenache 06, Australia

FOURTH COURSE

Forks Farm Grass Fed Skirt Steak, Marinated & Grilled over Roasted Red Potatoes
 & Spring Vegetable Fricasee
 (Vegetarian Option: Marinated Tofu, Spring Vegetable Fricasee)
 KENWOOD VINEYARDS, Yalupa, Cabernet Sauvignon, 06, California

DESSERT

Settler's Inn Toffee Pudding



Without the generous support of these individuals, and others who give so generously of their time, resources and talents, the Conservancy could not continue to accomplish its important land protection work in the Upper Delaware.

For gala tickets, information or to become a sponsor, contact the Delaware Highlands Conservancy at info@delawarehighlands.org or 570-226-3164. Reservations are requested by April 1st.

Host Committee for the gala includes Co-Chairs Michael Geitz and Krista Gromalski, Auction Chair Jeanne Genzlinger, Grant Genzlinger, Don Downs, and Barbara Yeaman.

I have been providing legal advice on a pro bono basis to the Conservancy for over 15 years. It has been rewarding doing so because there is much satisfaction in conserving land in our region for all time. — Tony Waldron, Real Estate Attorney

ANNUAL PROPERTY MONITORING

Monitoring is a great opportunity to get outdoors, meet new people and experience the lands that the Conservancy has protected with conservation easements.

The Conservancy would like to thank the following volunteers for monitoring our **54** properties this year:

Francis Cope, John Crenand, Donald Downs, Elizabeth Fitzpatrick, Keith Fitzpatrick, Josh Flad, Denise Frangipane, Geoff Greulich, Laurie Kilgore, Marty Kunstmann, Kenneth Myett, Bob Pali, Liza Phillips, Adam Rodell, Clint Rodell, Dave Soete, Sharon Subjin, Mike Uretsky, Peter VanSlyke, John Villaume and Peter Wulfhurst



We'd also like to thank:
Mike Lovelace (Pilot and President of TML Aircraft), Dave Soete (for his photography) and Jack Gearhart (for the loan of his GPS).

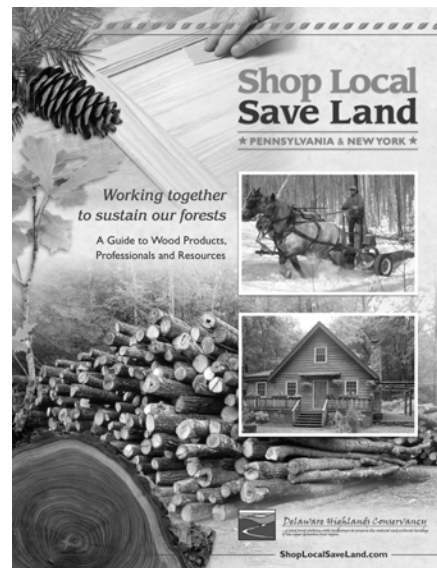
If you are interested in becoming a volunteer monitor, please contact Amanda Subjin at conserve@delawarehighlands.org.



Shop Local Save Land

With three successful and widely distributed publications under our belts, the Conservancy is continuing the Shop Local Save Land Initiative in 2010 by developing and launching the Shop Local Save Land website and searchable database. The online database will allow users to search the Upper Delaware river region for farms, farm markets, local wood building supplies, wood product professionals and artisans.

If you or someone you know would like to be listed in this year's online guides, please contact the Conservancy or email info@delawarehighlands.org



The Shop Local Save Land Guide to Wood Products, Professionals and Resources is a great resource for promoting the local businesses that will allow us to maintain our forestlands. — Dan Droppa, Aldenville Log & Lumber, PA



WOMEN AND THEIR WOODS

Throughout our region, women are increasingly responsible for the care and stewardship of private forestlands. Faced with the need to make economic decisions for their futures, these women should be knowledgeable about conservation options available for their property. In addition to providing information about their options, the Women and their Woods program seeks to instill a sense of stewardship and knowledge about the value of intact forest land. For more information or to join the Women and their Woods group, please contact the Conservancy at 570-226-3164 or email conserve@delawarehighlands.org

JOIN US ON

Saturday, May 1, Wooded Wetland 10am to 2pm
Milford Experimental Forest, Milford, PA
Come explore several wetland habitats with an ecologist from the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy. Participants will be welcome to enjoy a complimentary tour of the nearby Grey Towers Historic Site.

Sunday, August 8, Who Gets Grandma's Yellow Pie Plate? A Guide to Passing on Personal Possessions 1pm
Grey Towers National Historic Site, Milford, PA
This program will be offered as an educational session during the Festival of Wood. The Festival is held Saturday, August 7th from 10am-6pm and Sunday, August 8th from 10am-5pm.

Purpose of the Women and their Woods group:

- Recognize the growing role of women forestland managers
- Empower women by raising their basic forestry and decision-making skill levels through hands-on, fun educational opportunities
- Encourage communication among women forestland managers through the development of statewide and local networks

Become a Legacy Leader...

Contact the Conservancy to find out how **you** can become a **Legacy Leader** and make a lasting difference...



Legacy Leaders are a *special group* of people who give an exceptional gift back to the Conservancy and the environment.

Legacy Leaders leave a charitable bequest or an estate gift in their will to the Conservancy.

Legacy Leaders have the satisfaction of knowing they contributed to protecting the *special places* of the Upper Delaware River region.

Legacy Leaders also receive special membership benefits with the Conservancy and possible tax benefits.

It is important to have organizations like Delaware Highlands Conservancy as part of a network of environmental community outreach. Preserving open space for future generations is part of the legacy we leave to our children.

— Joanne Wasserman, Business Owner, Milanville, PA

2nd Annual ON THE COURSE FOR CONSERVATION

A Golf Tournament

With spring just around the corner, golfers are gearing up for the Delaware Highlands Conservancy's second annual "On the Course for Conservation" golf tournament scheduled for **Monday, May 10th** at **The Country Club at Woodloch Springs**, near Hawley, PA.

The May 10th event schedule includes a **hearty farm-to-table breakfast** and registration starting at 8:30 AM, followed by a **10 AM shotgun start**. To cap a fun-filled day of golf in support of local land protection, a wine and cheese reception and awards ceremony begins at 3 PM.

On the Course for Conservation is captain and crew format. Cost is \$110 per golfer, which includes breakfast, golf and awards reception. Conservancy members and supporters who will not be golfing on May 10th can join in the fun during the reception and awards ceremony in the Vista and Terrace rooms at The Country Club at Woodloch Springs. Cost for the reception only is \$50 per person.

"We're planning some exciting new features for this year's tournament, which support the Conservancy's mission," says Chairperson Kelly Koch. "The farm-to-table breakfast will highlight the bounty of our local farmers and purveyors and the reception will feature local artisan cheeses and vintages. We're encouraged by the business community's support of this annual event. Maintaining the scenic and rural character of our region helps to attract residents and visitors to the Upper Delaware and drives our local economy."



The Woodloch family and staff are honored to once again host the Conservancy's golf tournament," adds Kiesendahl. "The event is an excellent opportunity to join friends in a round of golf while benefitting a worthy cause."

Members of this year's On the Course for Conservation host committee include:

Chairpersons: Kelly Koch and Linda Monahan of Paupack Hills Golf and Country Club, plus Bob Kiesendahl of Woodloch Resort, Craig Smyth of Clemleddy

Construction, Candy Watson of Wallenpaupack Area School District, Cindy Wildermuth of Woodland Management Services, and Scott Van Gorder of Van Gorder's Furniture.



We hope to
see you:

**ON THE
COURSE!**

Sponsorship Opportunities

Diamond Devotee: \$1,000 (or more)

Foursome for Golf, Breakfast & Reception
Logo in Tournament Program

Logo displayed on sponsor signs & scoreboard
Name included in all pre-event publicity

Platinum Protector: \$500 — \$1,000

Twosome for Golf, Breakfast & Reception
Logo in tournament program

Logo displayed on sponsor signs & scoreboard
Name included in pre-event publicity

Gold Guarantor: \$250 — \$500

Golf, Breakfast & Reception for One
Logo in tournament program

Logo displayed on sponsor signs
Name included in pre-event publicity

Silver Sustainer: \$100 — \$250

Logo in tournament program

Logo displayed on sponsor signs
Name included in pre-event publicity

Bronze Benefactor: \$50 — \$100

Logo in tournament program

Logo displayed on sponsor signs

Friend: Up to \$50

Name in tournament program

To become a sponsor or to RSVP,
email info@delawarehighlands.org or
call 570-226-3164.

I volunteer at the Conservancy to help preserve the aesthetic qualities of Sullivan County for my students. These lands are our canvas, our inspiration, with its vibrant colors, curved contours and flowing lines. — Laurie Kilgore, Art Teacher

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 micro-phone for webinars/conferences
- Volunteer gardeners needed to plan, plant and/or maintain our garden. Perennials also wanted
- Rechargeable AA batteries
- Volunteer assistance with Access and Database development
- Rug (max 48" x 56")
- Boot tray

INSIDE
Annual Report 2009
Calendar of Events
Family Legacy Protects Land
Foods of the Delaware Gala
On the Course for Conservation
Sponsor a Rain Barrel
Volunteers Needed
Women and Their Woods



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