



DELAWARE
HIGHLANDS
CONSERVANCY

Highlands JOURNAL

Fall 2017

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has.”

— Margaret Mead

The Way the World Changes

These days, it’s easy to get overwhelmed at the prospect of “changing the world.” Instead, we’ve found that it’s best to think about what we can do right here and now to make a difference in our own backyards. In fact, it’s the basis for all of our work.

Together—because of people like you making positive decisions every day—we’re protecting clean drinking water for the Upper Delaware River region and for millions downstream. We’re protecting habitat for all wildlife, from the bald eagles to the fish in the river and the butterflies and bees in the meadows. We’re honoring our shared local

history and heritage—our unique way of life. And we’re conserving the working farms and forests that provide jobs for local families, now and for future generations.

Through your support of the Conservancy and your everyday actions, you are changing the world. You are an important part of our community! Thank you.



DELAWARE
HIGHLANDS
CONSERVANCY

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Inspiring Local Students

In June, the Conservancy awarded its annual “Delaware Highlands Conservancy/Yeaman Scholarship” for \$1,000 to Truth Muller, a 2017 homeschooled graduate from within the Monticello School District, and the “Vanessa Van Gorder Memorial Scholarship” in the amount of \$1,000 to Alexandra Squatrito, a 2017 graduate of Wallenpaupack Area High School.

Truth has been homeschooled since 4th grade, allowing him the freedom to pursue his central passion: the study and protection of the natural world. He has always been enthralled by nature and has channeled his curiosity into projects and programs such as Buddies for Bats, an educational outreach program to teach the public about the critical environmental importance of bats; and Salt Marsh Solutions, an ecologically sustainable system which converts salt water into fresh, clean drinking water. Truth intends to continue his work at the College of the Atlantic in Bar Harbor, Maine, where he will pursue a degree in Human Ecology with a focus on Marine Science.



Alexandra will attend Penn State University where she will pursue a degree in Early Childhood Education. Dedicated to her school and community, Alexandra was the president of Family Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) and competed at the State Leadership Conference where she received national honors. She was also a member of the student council, varsity tennis, and the Wallenpaupack Childcare program, while maintaining her membership in the National Honor Society as a student with high honors.

Donations toward the scholarship fund and other environmental education and conservation initiatives can be made online at DelawareHighlands.org or by mail to PO Box 218, Hawley, PA 18428.



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A September Night Under the Stars

On September 16th, more than 100 of our members and friends joined us at Lemons Brook Farm, a beautiful conserved property in Bethel, NY for our annual community picnic. The picnic is our way of saying thank you to the families, local businesses, and partners that support us so generously year-round.



Together, we enjoyed a beautiful summer night under the stars with a delicious catered dinner made from local, organic ingredients; craft beer; live music; a nature walk; crafts for kids of all ages; and a star watch.

Join our mailing list at DelawareHighlands.org to be the first to know when we set the date for next year.



River Club

Land conservation is not just for today, but for the next seven generations. The River Club celebrates and recognizes investment in the Conservancy—an investment not just in protecting land and water, but in motivating and mobilizing our local community.



Members enjoy exclusive invitation-only events—like this year’s reception on October 1st at the beautiful Forest Lake Club in Rowland, PA—plus acknowledgement of your exceptional generosity to the Conservancy in our newsletters and annual report, and the recognition of being a River Club member.

River Club members will establish a legacy that lives on and helps to ensure the perpetual continuity of the mission of the Conservancy. You can become a member of the River Club with an annual gift of \$2,500 or more, exclusive of auction purchases.

River Club Members as of July 31, 2017

James Asselstine and Bette Davis
The Dime Bank

Greg Belcamino and Judith Welcom*
Don and Edie Downs
Michael and Elizabeth Drummond
Keith and Elizabeth Fitzpatrick

Michael and Elizabeth Geitz
Grant and Jeanne Genzlinger*
Douglas and Katherine Hayes*
Jorge Perez and Estelle Rojas
Peter Kellogg
Christopher King
Mike and Suzanne Kroboth
Charles Laven
Amy and Bob Litzenberger
Karen and Charles Lutz*
Michael and Roberta Martin,
Berkowitz II Foundation

Gardiner and Laura Pearson
Mary Sue Sweeney Price*
John and Donna Ross*
Sam and Brenda Ruello
Henry Skier, *Skier Foundation*
George Stone
George and Lori Varsam,
Janice Michelle Foundation
Anthony and Debby Waldron
Louise Washer
Anonymous

* Board Member



Forest Lake Club, Rowland, PA

Planning for Your Legacy

What type of legacy do you hope to leave behind? Our Legacy Leaders have included the Conservancy in their will or estate plans, or have helped a parent, partner, or loved one leave a legacy.

We can personally discuss (along with your tax and financial advisor) strategies to help you support the Conservancy’s land protection mission while also maximizing your tax and financial benefits. If you would like to learn more, or if you have already considered us in your estate plans, please contact us at info@delawarehighlands.org or 570-226-3164 so we may thank you during your lifetime.

Legacy Leaders

Sue Currier
Patricia Diness
Mary Evans
Linda Gearhart
Susanne Hand & David Kinsey
Susan Hartney
Alfred Lees & Ronald Nelson
Harold MacGregor

Dorothy Merrill (deceased)
Sally & Enrico Moretti
Mary Sue Sweeney Price
Kimberly (Mimi) Raleigh
Brenda Seldin
Richard Snyder (deceased)
Charles Victor Traeger
Sigrid Wilshinsky
Jonathan Wind
Barbara Yeaman



Eagles in Our Region

It's that time of year once again! Wintering eagles, which spend the rest of the year in Canada and upstate New York, will be returning to our region as lakes and rivers freeze over up north. The eagles arrive in search of open water to fish, and large stands of trees to perch and roost.

Join us for one of our upcoming Eagle Events. On our Eagle Watch bus tours, you'll sit on a heated bus for a scenic drive throughout the region while you learn from an expert guide and look for eagles. On Eagle Day January 6th, enjoy live presentations from Bill Streeter of the Delaware Valley Raptor Center, and activities and fun for the whole family.

Or, stop by the Upper Delaware Visitor Center in Lackawaxen, PA and view our interpretive exhibits, watch the short film about the bald eagle's return, and pick up a map to go on your own driving tour to talk to volunteers in our Eagle Observation Areas throughout the Upper Delaware.

Upper Delaware Visitor Center Hours January – February

Saturdays & Sundays • 10am-4pm
176 Scenic Drive, Lackawaxen, PA 18435

Thank you to our partners and supporters!



*Be sure to check our website for the most up-to-date information and any additional trips. Refunds are not given in the event of cancelled reservations. In case of inclement weather, snow dates are the Sunday immediately following. Reservations are not required for Eagle Day.

WINTER SCHEDULE

Space is limited and reservations are required for all Eagle Watch bus trips.* Be sure to dress warmly in layers and wear waterproof boots. Bring binoculars, camera, and snacks.

Fee: \$15 for members, \$20 for non-members, unless otherwise noted.

Call the Conservancy at 570-226-3164 or 845-583-1010 or email info@delawarehighlands.org to register.

Saturday, January 6 • 1pm-4pm Eagle Day

Lake Wallenpaupack Environmental Learning Center
126 PPL Drive, Hawley, PA

Saturday, January 13 • 10am-1pm Eagle Watch Bus Tour

Upper Delaware Visitor Center
Lackawaxen, PA

Saturday, January 27 • 10am-1pm Eagle Watch Bus Tour

Upper Delaware Visitor Center
Lackawaxen, PA

Saturday, February 3 • 10am-2pm Eagle Photography Workshop Bus Tour

Milford, PA
\$20 Members / \$25 Non-Members

Saturday, February 11 • 10am-1pm Eagle Watch Bus Tour

Upper Delaware Visitor Center
Lackawaxen, PA

Saturday, February 17 • 10am-1pm Eagle Watch Bus Tour

Upper Delaware Visitor Center
Lackawaxen, PA

Ledges Hotel Guests Contribute to Conservation

This summer, Settlers Hospitality Group staff Terri Marcellus and Jenna Simpler (right), with owner Justin Genzlinger, presented the Conservancy with a check for \$6,144, for funds collected through the Green Lodging Partnership at Ledges Hotel in Hawley, PA. Gratefully accepting the check on behalf of the Conservancy were, from left, Bethany Keene; board member Kate Hayes; and Jason Zarnowski.

Through the Green Lodging Partnership, guests at participating hotels are invited to make a \$2-per-stay donation to the protection of the beautiful farms and forests, clean waters, and outdoor recreational opportunities that make the Upper Delaware River region such a wonderful place to live, work, and play.

The funds raised directly support the Conservancy's land protection efforts—and ensure that everything that's special about our region will remain, now and for future generations.



Learn more at [>>](http://www.delawarehighlands.org/greenlodging)

Conservancy Earns National Recognition

In 2017, the Conservancy renewed its land trust accreditation—proving once again that, as part of a network of only 372 accredited land trusts across the nation, we are committed to professional excellence and to maintaining your trust.

Originally accredited in 2011, the Conservancy provided extensive documentation and underwent a comprehensive review as part of our accreditation renewal. The Land Trust Accreditation Commission awarded the renewed accreditation, signifying its confidence that the Conservancy's lands will be protected forever.

“Accreditation recognizes that the Delaware Highlands Conservancy has demonstrated sound finances, ethical conduct, responsible governance, and lasting stewardship,” stated Tammara Van Ryn, executive director of the Commission.



Accredited land trusts must renew every five years, confirming their compliance with national quality standards and providing continued assurance to donors and landowners of their commitment to forever steward their land and easements.



Save the Date: September 6-9, 2018

Women and Their Woods Educational Retreat

Mark your calendar for an upcoming four-day retreat at the beautiful Highlights Foundation campus in Milanville, PA.

Learn about forest management in a friendly, peer-learning environment, with topics including forest ecology, wildlife, estate and financial planning, calculating the value in your forest, forest plant identification, and more. The educational retreat empowers and educates women to steward their forestlands and plan for the future.

To learn more about Women and Their Woods or to join the mailing list, visit [>>](http://www.delawarehighlands.org/watw)

Supporting our Local Community

For the first time, we participated in the Hawley, PA Memorial Day parade.

Our float, “Where Eagles Soar,” was made of all natural, reclaimed, and recycled materials. Conservancy staff from left: Amanda, Diane, Susan, Bethany, Cindy, Jason, and Avery.





Join us this winter for
an Eagle Watch bus trip!

Winter schedule and registration
information inside.

Sign up for our e-newsletter at
DelawareHighlands.org.

To learn more about...

the Delaware Highlands Conservancy or to make a donation in support of our work, visit DelawareHighlands.org.

Find us on  @DelawareHighlandsConservancy  @DHConservancy  @DHConservancy

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When our lands and waters
are healthy, we are healthy too.

© CINDY TAYLOR.

DELAWARE HIGHLANDS CONSERVANCY

SERVING NEW YORK AND PENNSYLVANIA

PO Box 218 Hawley, PA 18428-0218

"Nature is not a place to visit. It is home." – Gary Snyder

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