

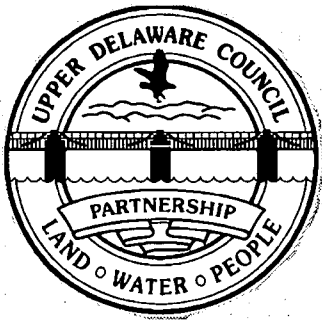
The Upper Delaware

The quarterly newsletter about the environment and people of the Upper Delaware River

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*"Highways are handy,
but if you are in search of
authentic America, seek out a river."
— the late Charles Kuralt*

**Interested in submitting
material to *The Upper
Delaware?***

Send items to Newsletter Editor
Laurie Ramie, Upper Delaware
Council, 211 Bridge St., P.O. Box
192, Narrowsburg, N.Y. 12764.

Upper Delaware Council Cements Future Role Through Year 2002



Upper Delaware Council Chairperson Charles Wieland, standing at left, welcomes participants to the UDC's Five-Year Plan Strategic Workshop held June 21 at the Narrowsburg office. Pictured from the left are Calvin F. Hite, National Park Service alternate to the UDC; Bruce MacMillan, NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation; Alan Bowers, Westfall Township; Phil Chase, Deerpark; George Frosch, Hancock; and Peter Melnyk, Lumberland alternate. Sixteen people provided input during the day-long session. (Ramie photos)

The Upper Delaware Council (UDC) is spending its summer looking into the future -- five years forward, specifically.

Closing out a decade of work toward implementing the goals and tasks of the River Management Plan for the Upper Delaware Scenic & Recreational River, the UDC is now focusing on the direction it will pursue from 1997 to 2002.

Much remains to be accomplished, according to the UDC representatives and alternates who took part in a June 21

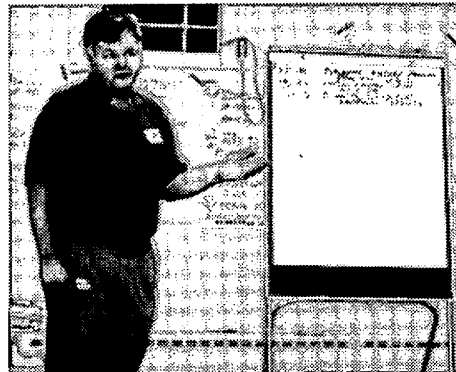
strategic workshop at the UDC office under the guidance of facilitator Tom Shepstone.

The five-hour brainstorming session yielded 58 objectives that members feel the UDC should tackle in its next operational phase.

Diversifying the Council's funding sources, remaining active on river flow issues, increasing access to public land along the Upper Delaware, and protecting private property rights garnered the highest rankings.

Once members reached consensus on the types of objectives and their priorities, specific tasks were outlined to fulfill these goals. The final draft of the Five-Year Plan will also include measurements of organizational effectiveness.

The drafting of the Upper Delaware Council's Five-Year Plan coincides with approval of a Five-Year Cooperative Agreement with the National Park Service, the budget for fiscal year 1998, and annual work plans for the Operations, Project Review, and Water Use/Resource Management Committees.



Workshop Facilitator Tom Shepstone

Most land along the Upper Delaware River is privately owned. Please be considerate and don't litter or trespass. Thanks!

The View From Here: '97 UDC Chair Says Hello

Charles Wieland's involvement with Upper Delaware River issues dates back to the 1980's, when Mike Gordon, Chuck Hoffman, and all the members of COUP framed the River Management Plan for the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River. First appointed to the Council as Town of Tusten representative in 1991, Charlie served two stints as secretary/treasurer in 1994 and 1996 before being sworn in as chairperson on Jan. 2, 1997. Currently also chairman of the Tusten Planning Board, Charlie is a former town councilman. He is employed as Assistant Superintendent of the Narrowsburg Water and Sewer Districts. What follows is his philosophy of leadership.

I don't consider the UDC a 'pride' thing. It is an obligation to accomplish the tasks necessary to keep harmony in the valley. Our backing of the landowners and the river users makes me feel good.

Some of our most important work is being accomplished at this time. There will be more in the future.

I believe the Council should recognize priorities for the different factions in the valley.

My order of importance starts with the landowners, followed by the river users and visitors, mainly because they are so diverse and have no collective backing.

Next in line are the valley businesses and commercial enterprises which are the backbone of the area economy. Showing support for these factions, I feel, shows support for everyone in the valley.

The Council is at this time in the process of writing a 5-Year Plan which has to see into the next century. This will be done by the Council representatives and advisors in the forum of the various committee meetings.

That is where the Council operates most effectively. Discussions - sometimes lengthy, sometimes heated - are put in writing by an accomplished staff and brought to the full Council for a final disposition. This is why a 5-Year Plan will include all the necessary components to make it an effective "game plan" for the future.

As you can see, the chairman is not the main player in the accomplishments of the Council. It is the work of many which results in the signature of one.

Charlie Wieland



Charlie Wieland has accepted the gavel of leadership as 1997 Upper Delaware Council Chairperson. (Soete photo)

New Faces in New Places

In the box at the right, you'll notice several names that are new and others that have shuffled as a result of the Upper Delaware Council's annual reorganization.

Joining Chairperson Charles Wieland are fellow 1997 officers George J. Fluhr of Shohola Township, Pa. as vice-chair and John B. Niflot from the Town of Fremont, N.Y., as secretary/treasurer.

George, a township supervisor and Pike County historian, has been active in Upper Delaware River valley issues for nearly 30 years. He chaired the Council in 1992.

"Jack" has embarked upon his freshman year as a UDC representative after serving as an alternate since 1994. This town councilman and lifelong valley resident is founder and president of the Basket Historical Society based in Long Eddy.

Two delegates stepped down from the UDC as the new year began. Edward C. Sykes (Delaware) and Scott Haberli (Fremont) retired. Welcomed to the roster as a first-time alternate for his town was Harold Roeder, Jr. (Delaware).

The Upper Delaware Council staff also experienced a personnel change when Communications Specialist Nancie Robertson resigned on January 24 after a three-year tenure. Nancie moved on to a P.R. post with the prestigious Morristown Beard School in New Jersey.

After a three-month search, the UDC hired Laurie Ramie of Hortonville, N.Y., formerly editor of the *Sullivan County Democrat* newspaper, to succeed her as Public Relations/Fundraising Specialist.

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The Upper Delaware is a free quarterly publication of the Upper Delaware Council, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization comprised of member governments from New York and Pennsylvania directly affected by the River Management Plan for the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River.

1997 Officers

Chair..... Charles Wieland
Vice-Chair..... George J. Fluhr
Secretary/Treasurer..... John B. Niflot

New York Town Representatives

Hancock..... George H. Frosch
Fremont..... John B. Niflot

Delaware..... Walter Soepe, Alternate
..... Eric J. Nystrom

Cochecton..... Larry Richardson
..... Nicholas Michaels, Alternate

Tusten..... Charles Wieland
..... George Burkle, Alternate

Highland..... Lewis Schmaizis
..... Allan Schadt, Alternate

Lumberland..... Thomas Hill
..... Peter Malyuk, 1st Alternate

Deerpark..... Philip Chase
..... Paul Brennan, 2nd Alternate

Shohola..... George J. Fluhr
..... Melvin Decker, 1st Alternate

Westfall..... Aiar Bowers
..... Robert Cunningham, 2nd Alternate

Lackawaxen..... John S. McKay
..... Edward DeFabo, 1st Alternate

Shohola..... George J. Fluhr
..... Brian Slust, 2nd Alternate

Westfall..... Aiar Bowers
..... Henry Pridge, Alternate

Westfall..... Aiar Bowers
..... Diane Banach, Alternate

New York..... Bruce MacMillan, NYS DEC
..... Fred Garty, NYS DEC, Alternate

Pennsylvania..... Maran Hubovcak, DCNR
..... David Lameroux, PA DEP, Alternate

Del. River Basin Comm..... Gerald M. Hansley
..... David B. Everett, Alternate

UD Citizens Adv. Council..... Martin Borko
..... Peter Wulhorst, Alternate

Geraldine Howson, 2nd Alternate

Partners
National Park Service..... Marie Rust, Field Dir.
..... Calvin F. Hite, Super. UPDE, Alternate

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What Has the UDC Been Up To Lately?

Quite a lot since the publication of our Winter 1996-97 newsletter! Action items from January to July in which the UDC played a leadership role include:

- Opposing a Congressional directive for the National Park Service to begin collecting gross revenue and customer census data from **Incidental Business Permit (IBP)** holders due to the unique prevalence of privately owned land and businesses in the Upper Delaware Scenic & Recreational River area. *After rallying the liveries and guides, the UDC succeeded in convincing the Park Service to soften its reporting requirements in the Upper Delaware.*
- Encouraging the New York State Dept. of Environmental Conservation to develop a **public fishing access site** downstream from Cedar Rapids in Barryville as initially identified by UDC Highland Rep. Lew Schmalzle. *Thanks to cooperation from three levels of governmental entities, the access opened in record time on April 25!*
- Contacting the U.S.D.A. and legislators out of concern for **national milk pricing** formulas which could force dairy farmers out of business. The River Management Plan calls for protection of agriculture in the Upper Delaware Valley.
- Requesting the Delaware River Basin Commission to aid in **flood protection** for communities downstream of the Pepacton Reservoir due to extreme hydrologic conditions. *The DRBC negotiated an unprecedented agreement with New York City to*



On April 25, the Town of Highland, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, and Highland Chamber of Commerce hosted a grand opening ceremony for this new river access on Route 97 below Cedar Rapids. (Ramie photo)

lower Pepacton's storage by 5 billion gallons in February. The UDC will seek a similar release program for Cannonsville.

• Seeking an interpretation from the NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation of the Douglaston Manor legal opinion regarding **underwater land ownership** on the Salmon River as it may apply to the Upper Delaware. *The UDC was analyzing*

the contents of a letter of decision from the DEC at press time as to whether the Delaware River is "navigable in fact or navigable in law."

• Supporting a proposal in the River Management Plan to build an **Upper Delaware Visitors Center** in the Town of Deerpark's Mongaup area. *Subsequent size and cost estimate concerns for this project endorsed by the UDC in July of 1995 have prompted diligent investigation.*

• Offering support to the **Delaware River Basin Commission** in its quest for federal funding after the DRBC was shut out of the 1997 spending plan. *As of July, the DRBC's \$534,000 allocation was still unsettled, as is their fate for 1998.*

... See Projects, Page 8



The Upper Delaware Council reorganized for 1997 on January 2. Pictured seated in front are Vice-Chair George Fluhr (Shohola); Chair Charlie Wieland (Tusten); and Secretary/Treasurer Jack Niflot (Fremont). Middle row: Peter Melnyk (Lumberland); Phil Chase (Deerpark); David Everett (DRBC); Marian Hrubovcak (PA); David Lamereaux ((PA); Harold Roeder, Jr. (Delaware). Back row: John McKay (Lackaxen); Cal Hite (NPS); Alan Bowers (Westfall); Bruce MacMillan (NY) George Frosch (Hancock); Peter Wulffhorst (CAC); Larry Richardson (Cochecton); and Lew Schmalzle (Highland). (Soete photo)



U.S. Senator Arlen Specter (R-PA) picked up information on the UDC when he visited Wayne County on July 1st. (Ramie Photo)

Upper Delaware Council Presents Annual Awards

Spotlighting the cooperative effort devoted to the protection and enhancement of the local river valley, the Upper Delaware Council hosted its 9th Annual Awards Banquet April 6 at Ehrhardt's Waterfront Restaurant on Lake Wallenpaupack, Pa.

"We are recognizing those individuals, organizations, agencies, and groups that help to make the Upper Delaware River a nicer place in which to live, work and play," said William E. Douglass, executive director of the UDC.

Awards were presented in 10 categories by 1997 UDC Chairperson Charles Wieland, Town of Tusten. Irene B. Brooks, Pennsylvania's director on the Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC) and Special Assistant for Intergovernmental Affairs to the Pennsylvania Secretary of the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), delivered the keynote address.

Growth and Protection

"If you can imagine a map of Pennsylvania, you can see that our waters extend far beyond our boundaries," Ms. Brooks said. "Almost every drop of water that falls in Pennsylvania must flow through our neighbor states before returning to the sea."

Ms. Brooks emphasized the importance of strengthening the partnerships that are responsible for overseeing Pennsylvania's interstate watersheds, which serve 98 million people - roughly 37 percent of the United States' population. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, which contains more than 53,000 miles of rivers and streams, shares basins with 15 states.

Pa. Governor Ridge's appointee characterized the primary challenge of today's watershed management as balancing the growing demand and competition between river users with protection of the natural



Keynote Speaker Irene Brooks



Surprise! The tables turned when Joseph Bertolini, left, on behalf of "Friends of the Upper Delaware," presented the Council with a plaque in appreciation for the UDC's work "watching out for the river and monitoring its quality." A delighted Chairman Wieland, center, noted, "Well, we certainly didn't expect an award," as Executive Director Bill Douglass, right, shared the honor. Mr. Bertolini was the UDC's 1995 Volunteer of the Year. (Soete photos)

resource.

She credited the Upper Delaware Council for achieving "a true partnership of federal, state and local" interests which has produced a model plan for preserving a river while respecting the prevalence of private land ownership.

"The Delaware River is the healthiest it's been in centuries. The states have been working together to protect their communities," Brooks said.

Perhaps the best example of this cooperation came when the Delaware River Basin Commission facilitated the unprecedented action by the New York City Department of Environmental Protection to lower the water level of the Pepacton Reservoir this February to guard against upstate flooding potential. The DRBC's philosophy, according to Brooks, centers on managing the resource "from the bottom up rather than the top down."

In recognition of the work that the DRBC put into negotiating this feat, the UDC included among its 1997 awards a "Certificate of Merit" which Ms. Brooks accepted on the Commission's behalf.

She was also personally presented with an inscribed desk plaque for her service in directing Pa.'s Office of River Basin Cooperation and her lifetime commitment to protecting the environment.

And the Winners Are . . .

The highlight of the banquet came with the presentation of awards to recipients who had been selected based on nominations from the community-at-large.

The Council's highest honor, the "Distinguished Service Award," went to George Frosch, UDC representative from the Town of Hancock, described by

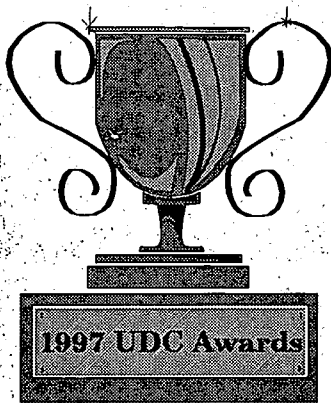
Douglass as "a very outspoken protector of the rights of local people" who has worked for more than 30 years to lay the groundwork which would assure the harmonious implementation of the Upper Delaware Scenic & Recreational River Management Plan.

Mr. Frosch's self-proclaimed "obsession" with river issues mobilized with his co-chairmanship of the Equinunk-Lordville Upper Delaware River Association and extended through the Conference of Upper Delaware Townships (COUP) to the present Upper Delaware Council. He was a charter member of the Upper Delaware Citizens Advisory Council and chaired the UDC in 1995.

An acknowledged bluestone industry expert, Frosch served on the original Hancock Planning Board. Diverse interests carried Frosch from the football field to the harness race track. His most recent career enterprise has been the start-up of his own sand and gravel business in Kilgour Spur.



Distinguished Service: George Frosch



• **Outstanding Community Achievement**

- *City of Port Jervis*, for its rehabilitation of the historic Erie Railroad turntable. City Councilman Michael McCarthy proudly noted that after a 50-year absence, 77,000 people came to witness the return of steam trains to Port Jervis.

• **Cultural Achievement Award**

- *Pennsylvania Dept. of Transportation*, for publishing "Of Pulleys and Ropes and Gears: The Gravity Railroads of the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company and The Pennsylvania Coal Company," accompanied by a video documentary.

• **Recreation Achievement Award** - *Tony Ritter* of Narrowsburg, proprietor of Gone Fishing Guide Service, for nurturing an appreciation of the river and helping people become better anglers.

• **Award of Recognition** - *Donald "D.J." Jahn* of Lackawaxen, Pa., founder of the Upper Delaware River Partnership, promoting a regional tourism initiative.



At the UDC's Annual Awards Banquet held April 6 at Ehrhardt's Waterfront Banquet & Conference Center on Lake Wallenpaupack, Pa., honorees included, from left to right in front row, Jamie McIntyre of Penn DOT (Cultural Achievement); Michael McCarthy, Port Jervis (Community Achievement); George Frosch (Distinguished Service); Kathleen Bartsch for the late Andrew Bartsch (Community Service); Matthias Southwick (Lifesaving Award); and D.J. Jahn (Award of Recognition). Back row: Irene Brooks for the Delaware River Basin Commission (Certificate of Merit), Lew Schmalzle (Oaken Gavel), Paul Pratti (Lifesaving Award), Tony Ritter (Recreation Achievement) and Charles Wieland (Appreciation Plaque).

• **Oaken Gavel Award** - *Lewis J. Schmalzle* of Barryville, 1996 UDC chair, who reported attending 104 meetings related to Upper Delaware issues during his tenure at the top of the Council as the Town of Highland's representative.

• **Community Service Award** - It was an emotional moment when the UDC honored the late *Andrew Bartsch*, UDC's Shohola, Pa. alternate representative. "What he did for the community of Shohola in a short time was more community service than most give in a lifetime," reflected Bill Douglass. (See Page 7 for an "In Memoriam" tribute).

• **Volunteer Award** - *Chris Nielsen* of Long Valley, N.J., founder of the National Canoe Safety Patrol, vice-president of the American Canoe Association, and member of the Upper Delaware River Safety Committee and the UDC's Water Use/Resource Management Committee. This intrepid, senior citizen canoeist has also volunteered as a Safety Officer for the Delaware River Sojourn.

• **Robin M. Daniels Memorial Lifesaving Award** - *Matthias Southwick* and *Paul Pratti* for their individual deeds of heroism. (See photo caption to the left for a description of their selfless courage).

• **Certificate of Merit** - *Delaware River Basin Commission* for a year's worth of work related to sensitive water basin issues and its timely negotiations with New York City for reservoir flood relief.

Guests at the 1997 Upper Delaware Council Awards Banquet enjoyed hors d'oeuvres, a full-course dinner and a beautiful view of Lake Wallenpaupack from the deck of Ehrhardt's.



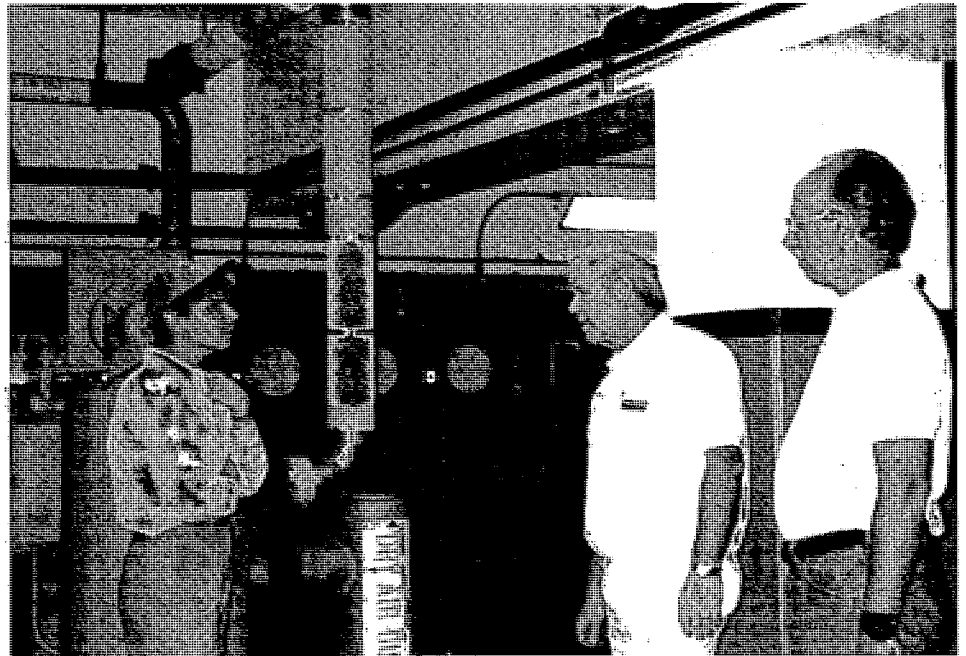
The Robin M. Daniels Memorial Lifesaving Award, given in tribute to the respected National Park Service Ranger and volunteer EMT who died in 1989 during an ambulance call, was presented to two individuals. At left is Paul Pratti, a Sullivan County Sheriff's Deputy and volunteer firefighter from Yulan, who came to the rescue of four firefighters when their diving boat crashed into an ice chunk on the flooded Delaware River on Jan. 19, 1996. Securing himself with a rope, Pratti logged four hours in the frigid river south of Minisink Ford commanding the successful mission. Fifteen-year-old Matthias Southwick of Lititz, Pa., right, matched physical ability with compassion during a visit to the Upper Delaware Sept. 20, 1996 when he swam over 75 yards in the river north of Callicoon to bring an autistic young woman in distress to shore and comfort her until help arrived.

Third Annual Delaware River Sojourn Makes A Big "Splash"

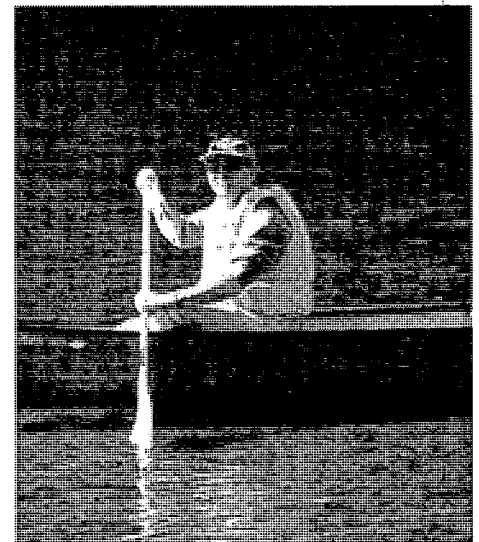
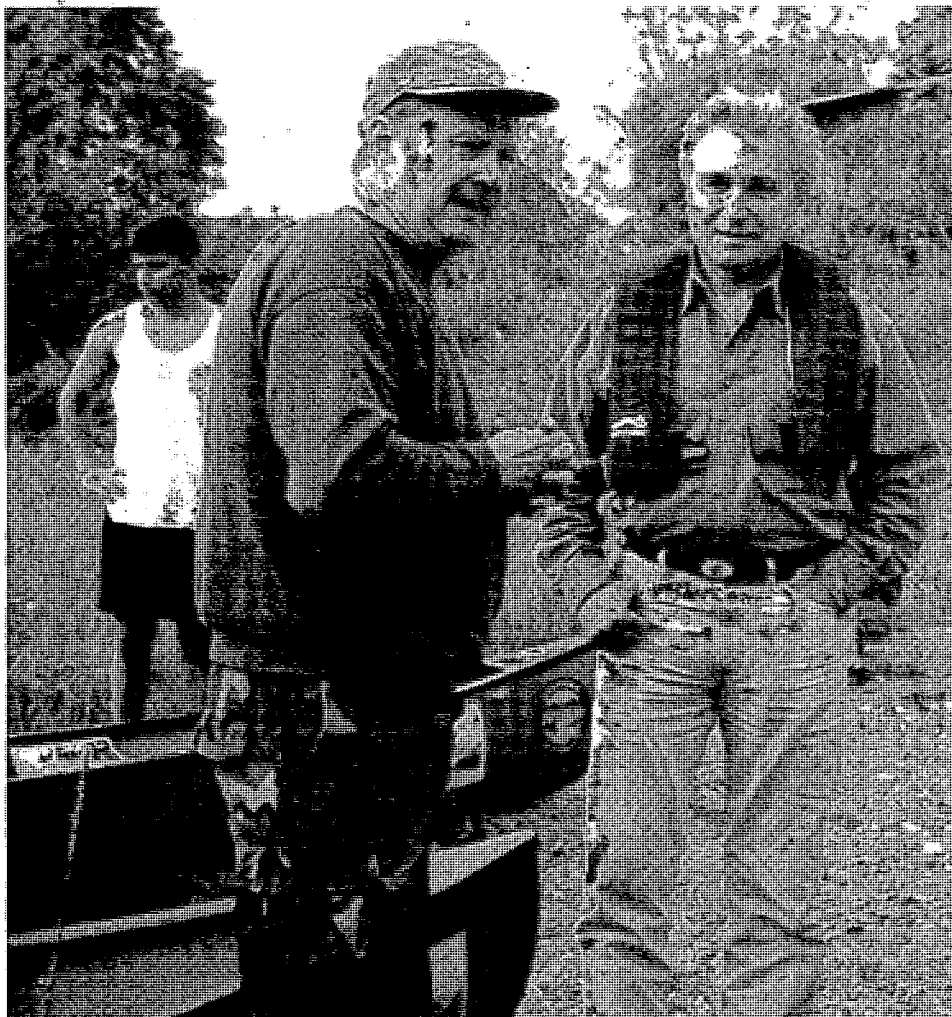
"Go With the Flow!" suggested the theme of the 1997 Delaware River Sojourn, and close to 475 people did just that on June 7-14.

Eighteen adventurers made the entire 110-mile trip from Deposit, N.Y. to New Hope, Pa. over eight-days chock full of canoeing, campouts, hearty meals, educational programs, and environmental exploits.

The Upper Delaware played host to Sojourners for the first three days of the event this year. The National Park Service Upper Delaware Scenic & Recreational River and Upper Delaware Council were among the sponsoring organizations. UDC Executive Director Bill Douglass and Public Relations Specialist Laurie Ramie served on the Steering Committee, and five UDC members participated.



A tour of the Cannonsville Dam and West Delaware Release Works was part of the pre-Sojourn activities on June 6. Above, New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Engineer Tina Johnstone explains the workings of the underground valve chamber to Upper Delaware Council representatives David Lamereaux (PA alternate), center, and Larry Richardson (Cochecton). Cannonsville Reservoir has a total capacity of 96.7 billion gallons of water, and a release capacity of 1,445 million gallons per day. (Ramie photo)



Sullivan County (NY) Manager Jonathan Drapkin served as "Lord High Admiral" for Day 3 of the Sojourn on June 9, paddling from Hankins to Callicoon. (Douglass photo)

V.I.P. Paddlers

← Gerald M. Hansler, left, executive director of the Delaware River Basin Commission based in West Trenton, N.J. chatted with U.S. Congressman Maurice D. Hinchey, Jr. (New York-26th District) of Saugerties, on Day One of the Delaware River Sojourn, June 7, before they launched their canoes on the West Branch of the Delaware at Hale Eddy, N.Y. (Ramie photo)

In Memoriam . . .

We pay tribute to two extraordinary men who served as our partners in the development, implementation and furtherance of the goals of the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River Management Plan.

Larry and Andy are sadly missed but their contributions to this region will always live on.

Larue "Larry" J. Elmore

Died January 12, 1997, age 85

The 1996 recipient of the Upper Delaware Council's Distinguished Service Award, Larue Elmore balanced a 35-year career in education with an equally passionate, lifelong commitment to the Upper Delaware River Valley.

Until his illness, Mr. Elmore served as the U.S. Secretary of the Interior's appointee to the Upper Delaware Citizens Advisory Council (CAC) and, in turn, the CAC's representative to the Upper Delaware Council.

The UDC was one of many organizations to recognize this special man's contributions. The honors he received over the years reflected his eclectic interests.

Mr. Elmore was named an honorary "Special Waterways Patrolman" by the Pennsylvania Fish Commission while the Pennsylvania Game Commission presented him with its Wildlife Conservation Award.

He was named "Conservationist of the Year" in 1990 by the Northeast Audubon Society, "Outstanding Boss" by the Wayne County Junior Chamber of Commerce and was awarded by the Upper Delaware Heritage Alliance for his work establishing the Zane Grey House in Lackawaxen, Pa. as a public museum site operated by the National Park Service.

Mr. Elmore founded the Upper Delaware Clearinghouse and the Damascus Upper Delaware River Association, as well as the Future Farmers of America (FFA) Chapter of the Delaware Valley.



Accepting the Upper Delaware Council 1997 Community Service Award presented posthumously to Andrew Bartsch of Shohola, Pa. at April 6's awards banquet were, pictured from the left, Andy's father, Fred Bartsch; his widow, Kathleen Bartsch; and her brother, Robert Mazellan. (Soete photo)

Other associations in which he was involved included the Damascus Township Planning Commission, Pocono Northeast Resource, Conservation and Development Council, Wayne Conservation District, Damascus United Methodist Church, and he served as a census taker of breeding birds.

In his professional life, Mr. Elmore served as an agriculture teacher, vice-principal and principal of the Damascus High School. He held degrees in science and ornithology from Penn State and Cornell Universities.

The Upper Delaware Council was pleased to host Larue's wife of 61 years, Gertrude, and daughter, Joan, at its Annual Awards Banquet on April 6.

In consideration of Larry's generosity to his community, the UDC is also participating in the Wayne Conservation District's initiative to erect a bronze plaque at the Damascus Forest in his memory.

The "Larue Elmore Memorial" comes as a cooperative effort between many of the agencies with which Larry was affiliated.

An unveiling and dedication ceremony will be announced this fall.

Andrew "Andy" Bartsch

Died January 26, 1997, age 37

Family, friends, and the community of Shohola, Pa. suffered a tragic loss when a snowmobile accident in New Hampshire claimed the life of Andy Bartsch, the township's alternate delegate to the Upper Delaware Council.

In testimony to the high esteem in which the young man was held, over 800 mourners attended his memorial service.

President of the Shohola Township Fire and Rescue Dept. and the Shohola Area Lions Club, Mr. Bartsch helped found the Shohola Railroad & Historical Society, served on the Township Planning Commission, and was an Assistant Zoning Inspector.

A self-employed contractor, Mr. Bartsch is survived by his parents and sisters, two grandmothers, his wife, Kathleen, and three children.

Do We Have Your Correct Address?

If your address has changed, or you no longer own land in the Upper Delaware River area, please help us to update our records. Fill in your new address, or the name and address of the new owner of your property, and return this notice to The Upper Delaware Council, P.O. Box 192, Narrowsburg, NY 12764-0192

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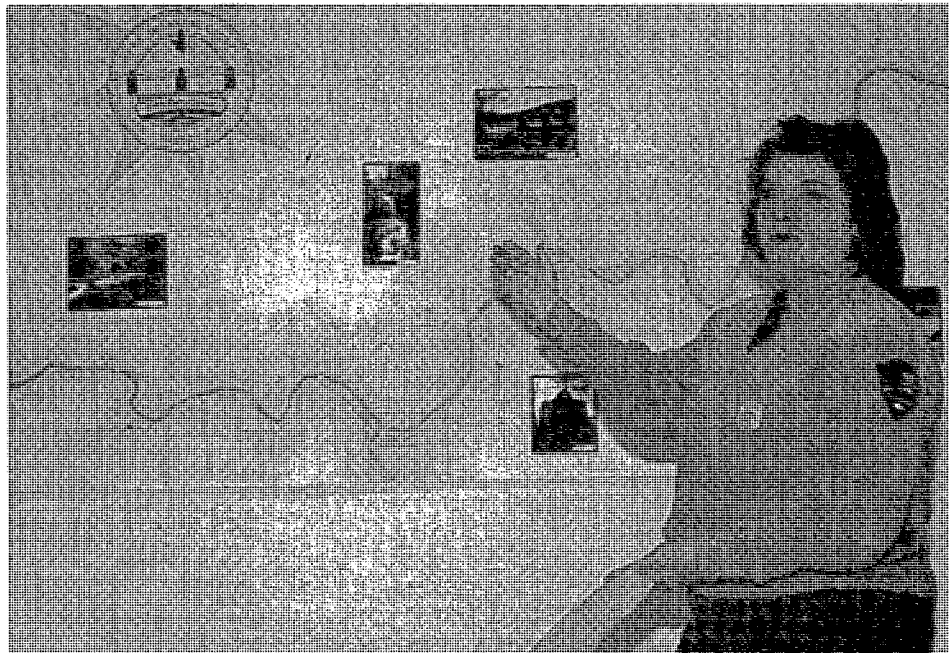
—Projects, continued from p.3—

• Offering input to the Delaware River Basin Commission's Flow Management Technical Advisory Committee as it studies minimum **flow release** requirements and flooding issues in the Basin. *Letters by the UDC to river-related business operators resulted in an excellent turnout at the DRBC's locally-scheduled meeting May 28 in Sparrowbush, and the UDC continues to be a player. On May 20, the Water Use/Resource Management Committee hosted a panel of flows issues experts to further the UDC's education in preparing a position paper.*

• Facilitating an effort by Conrail and the Delaware Riverkeeper Network to publish an **"Emergency Response Guide for Local Officials"** outlining procedures to follow in a train mishap. *The UDC is keeping close tabs on the application by Norfolk Southern Corporation to acquire Conrail's southern tier line due to its potential for increased railroad traffic and other impacts on the region.*

• **Meetings with government representatives:** Sullivan County Manager Jonathan Drapkin on UDC concerns at a luncheon hosted by the Upper Delaware Heritage Alliance Apr. 21 in Narrowsburg; Assemblyman Clifford Crouch on flood control Apr. 24 at the Colchester Town Hall in Downsville, and U.S. Senator Arlen Specter (PA) during a constituent visit to Honesdale's Wayne County Courthouse July 1.

• **Educating the public** through staff work to issue news releases, coordinate guest speakers at several UDC meetings, host activities such as the Annual Awards Banquet April 6 and Summer Raft Trip & Picnic July 26, accept speaking engagements before civic organizations, and have booths at environmental events, including Riverfest in Narrowsburg July 27 and the Bluestone Festival in Hancock August 2. Educating ourselves through meetings, tours, workshops, conferences.



Sandra Schultz, Management Assistant with the National Park Service, volunteered her time and talents to create a detailed map of the Upper Delaware River which now serves as a decorative and handy wall mural for the Upper Delaware Council conference room. The 32 by 4 ft. mural, based on an idea by George Frosch (Hancock), was unveiled Feb. 6. (Soete photo)

• Keeping an eye on various **studies involving our region** now underway, including the "Watercraft User Characteristics, Experiences and Preferences on the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River, June 1996 to May 1997" (SUNY Syracuse); "Upper Delaware Watershed Reconnaissance Study" by the Army Corps of Engineers; and "Delaware River Basin National Water Quality Assessment (NAWQA) Study" by the U.S. Geological Service.

• Attending the **NY/PA Joint Interstate Bridge Commission's** annual meeting on May 15 and tracking any rehabilitation or replacement plans for the Upper Delaware's eight bridge crossings. *The UDC has represented local interests at Shohola-Barryville and Pond Eddy Bridges in recent months.*

• Announcing that applications for the 10th Annual **Technical Assistance Grants (TAG)** program were due on July 31. *The Project Review Committee will hold a special meeting on Aug. 12 at 7 p.m. to review applications. A representative of the grant-seeking entity must attend. This year, a total of \$20,000 is available to member towns and townships, and counties. Awards will be announced on Sept. 4.*

• Completing work on the Upper Delaware Council's third **Five-Year Strategic Plan** (see cover article), Five-Year Cooperative Agreement with the U.S. Department of the Interior/National Park Service, the UDC's budget for Fiscal Year 1998, and Annual Committee Work Plans. *These items are targeted for completion by mid-August.*

The UDC meets on the first Thursday of every month at 7:30 p.m. at the Tusten Town Hall, Narrowsburg, NY. Committees meet on the third and fourth Tuesdays of every month at the UDC Office, 211 Bridge Street, across from the Town Hall. All meetings are open to the public. Call (914) 252-3022 for details.

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