

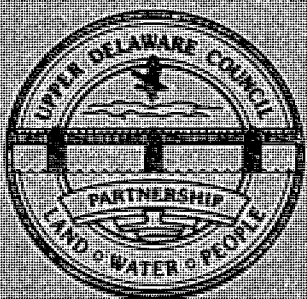
The Upper Delaware

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

Volume 12 Number 3

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Fall 1999



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The Upper Delaware
welcomes submissions and
new subscribers (free!)

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Upper Delaware Council,
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list by filling out the coupon
on Page 7. Thank you.



The view from the top makes the 590 vertical foot climb worthwhile on the Tusten Mountain Trail newly opened to the public as a joint venture of the Boy Scouts of America and the National Park Service, facilitated by Town of Tusten Supervisor Dick Crandall. (Ramie Photo)

Hiking Trail Opens to Public

Boating, fishing, swimming, camping, birdwatching, biking, hunting ... the Upper Delaware River Valley offers a variety of activities for recreation-minded visitors and residents.

But how about hiking?

Good question. Difficult answer.

With more than 85% of valley land privately owned, the National Park Service (NPS) and others have always faced a

challenge directing folks to accessible, developed trails.

The question recently became easier to answer thanks to the Greater New York Council of the Boy Scouts of America.

The Scouts entered into an agreement with NPS in July 1999 to open the three-mile Tusten Mountain Trail to public use.

"It was simply a response to an ongoing

Please see "TRAIL" on Page 4

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

Representative Profile: Marian Hrubovcak

When Marian Hrubovcak was appointed in 1992 to represent the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on the Upper Delaware Council (UDC), the first item on her agenda was to head for the river.

"I really wanted to see what the Upper Delaware looked like and why people were so committed to it," she recalls.

The timing was perfect to join a paddle excursion from Hancock to Matamoras organized by former Citizens Advisory Council Representative Barbara Yeaman.

"I canoed the entire stretch. I got to see how the classifications were determined. It was a very pleasurable experience," Hrubovcak says.

As Conservation Partnerships Division Chief for the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR), she is now among those dedicated to protecting and preserving the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River.

Hrubovcak has been involved in water resources and river programs since 1980, when she joined PA DCNR, known as the Department of Environmental Resources (DER) before reorganizing in 1995.

"The initial focus was on protecting Pennsylvania's outstanding rivers by including them in the PA Scenic Rivers System. We have now expanded our focus to all rivers, providing funding to local organizations to develop River Conservation Plans to restore, maintain, or enhance their rivers. Plans are being developed across 42% of the state right now," she says.

Hrubovcak oversees the PA Scenic Rivers Program; the Rivers Conservation Planning, Implementation, Development, and Acquisition Program; the Coldwater Heritage Program; a federally funded Recreation Trail Program; the PA River Resources Advisory Council; and the PA Recreation Trails Advisory Board.

She is a member of the Society of Women Environmental Professionals.

Soete Photos Featured In Millennium Calendar

Two photographs by Upper Delaware Council Senior Resource Specialist David B. Soete will be featured in a Millennium Collector's Calendar sponsored by the Economic Development Council of Northeastern Pennsylvania (EDCNP).

Soete's photos of the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River received a first place and third place showing in the contest that attracted 150 entries from a seven-county region.

The glossy, 12" by 12" calendars, which were released in September, are available for \$5 each by contacting EDCNP at (570) 655-5581.



Marian Hrubovcak, PA Representative

Before partnerships became such a 1990s "buzzword", Hrubovcak points out that the National Park Service, the states of PA and NY, local communities and citizens were creating their own "very enlightened approach to manage the Upper Delaware" nearly two decades earlier.

It's a partnership to which she is proud to belong.

"I enjoy seeing the kind of issues and concerns that the members have, recognizing that they are really committed to protecting the Delaware River and the Valley. It's a good mix of people to fulfill the partnerships that were envisioned," she says.

She sees her role as bringing insights to the Council on PA's rivers programs and addressing specific concerns.

"One of the things I would eventually like to see is for Wayne County to come into the fold," Hrubovcak cites as a future goal.

A native of the coal regions in Schuylkill County, Hrubovcak earned a Bachelor's degree in Medical Technology from Pennsylvania State University in 1965. She conducted research and clinical testing in private laboratories for 15 years.

As she took on more supervisory responsibilities, Hrubovcak found that she enjoyed management and earned a Masters of Government Administration degree from the University of Pennsylvania in 1977.

Marian and her husband of 32 years, John Hrubovcak, an environmental attorney in Harrisburg, reside in Camp Hill, Pa. Son, John, 22 and a recent college graduate, is a financial advisor in Washington.

In her free time, Hrubovcak enjoys canoeing, kayaking, hiking, aerobics, and traveling to international and domestic locales.

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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.

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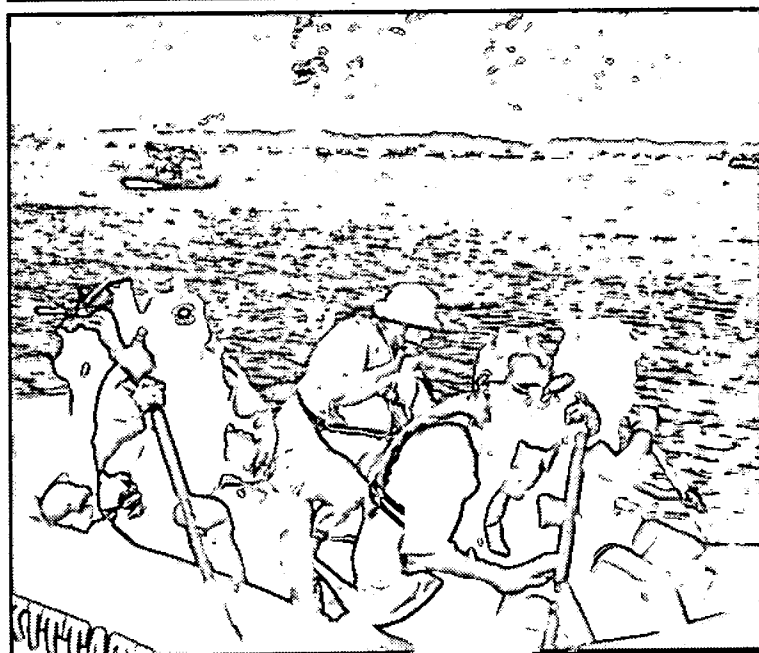
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The Upper Delaware Council hosted its 11th Annual Raft Trip and Summer Picnic on July 31, 1999, attracting 97 adventurous rafters of all ages and 69 guests for a barbecue at Eddy Farm Resort Hotel in Sparrowbush, NY. Above, Kittatinny Canoes instructed participants prior to the three-hour raft trip from Staircase Rapids. A five-hour trip from Pond Eddy was also available. Pictured at left, Natalia and Peter Melnyk (Lumberland), and UDC Chairman Phil Chase (Deerpark) and wife Merle, enjoyed the food. Bottom left, preparing to launch were father & son Richard and Nicholas Jones, sisters Sharon and Cindy McGiffert, and Josh Robbins of Eyewatch News. Below, Bernie Kozykowski and Cal Hite relaxed on Eddy Farm's famous porch. (Ramie Photos)



"TRAIL," continued from Page 1

request that we've never really had a satisfactory answer to, along with the inspiration of a local town supervisor and the fortunate cooperation of the Scouts," explains Superintendent Cal Hite of the Upper Delaware Scenic & Recreational River.

Tusten Mountain Trail, located about four miles south of Narrowsburg, NY off Route 97, is part of the 13,000-acre Ten Mile River Scout Camps property in the Towns of Tusten, Cochection, and Bethel owned by the Greater New York Council of the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) since 1927.

Bob Madsen, manager of Properties and Facilities for the Greater New York Council, says that Town of Tusten Supervisor Dick Crandall started the ball rolling.

"My motivation was that we need hiking trails and most of the ideal sites were controlled by the Boy Scouts of America," confirms Crandall, an avid recreationist whose father served

as a BSA superintendent while he himself was a camp ranger.

He also thought it would be a logical extension of the current lease between NPS and BSA for the Ten Mile River Public Access Site, with excellent opportunities for visitor parking and on-site staff interpretation.

Hite agreed, extolling the trail's attributes which include a wide

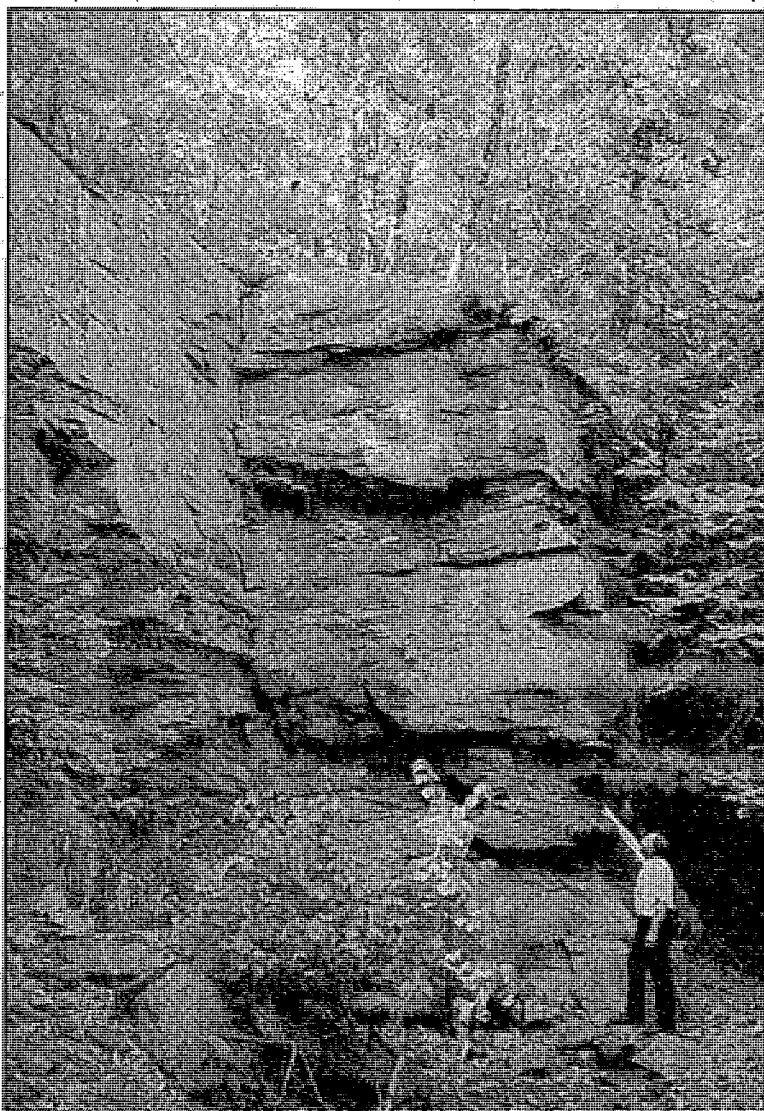
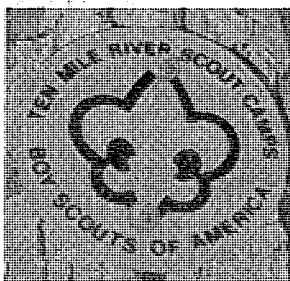
variety of plant and tree species, wildlife, and terrains, along with remnants of the local industries that were active in the Tusten Settlement era of the 1830s and '40s, such as bluestone quarries, a tannery, gristmill, and sawmill.

"There's an opportunity to learn a lot about the natural and cultural history of the river valley in that little three-mile loop," Hite says.

Crandall began with a letter and formal proposal to the Scouts Council, then arranged a meeting between BSA and NPS officials. Issues concerning liability, maintenance, safety, and publicity related to the trail were quickly resolved.

"It took about six months from the concept to the lease agreement," Crandall says.

Interpretation rangers from Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River produced a first-ever site bulletin in late July titled "Hiking Opportunities Along the Upper Delaware"



Impressive geological formations and rock piles, including remnants of the region's once-thriving bluestone industry, are prevalent along the Tusten Mountain Trail. Below, a footbridge marks the trail's end. (Ramie Photos)



which features the Tusten Mountain Trail.

The Boy Scouts Council was pleased with the results, according to Madsen.

"It's nice to see when the Scouts, the National Park Service, and the local community work together," he says.

The approximately 12,000 Boy Scouts who annually visit Ten Mile River Scout Camps will continue to hike the Tusten Mountain Trail as a side loop of the 35-mile Ten Mile River red dot trail which circles the perimeter of their property.

Public use of the Tusten Mountain Trail, blazed with yellow dots, is targeted to the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. only, with no camping or fires permitted. Sturdy shoes are vital to handle the loose rocks, inclines, and forested floors. Allow a minimum of 1-1/2 hours to complete the three-mile hike.

NPS has classified Tusten Mountain Trail as "moderately strenuous." Leading to a

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"TRAIL," continued from Page 4

summit atop Tusten Mountain that is 1,236 feet above sea level, however, inexperienced hikers would be particularly well-advised to take it slow and bring plenty of water to drink.

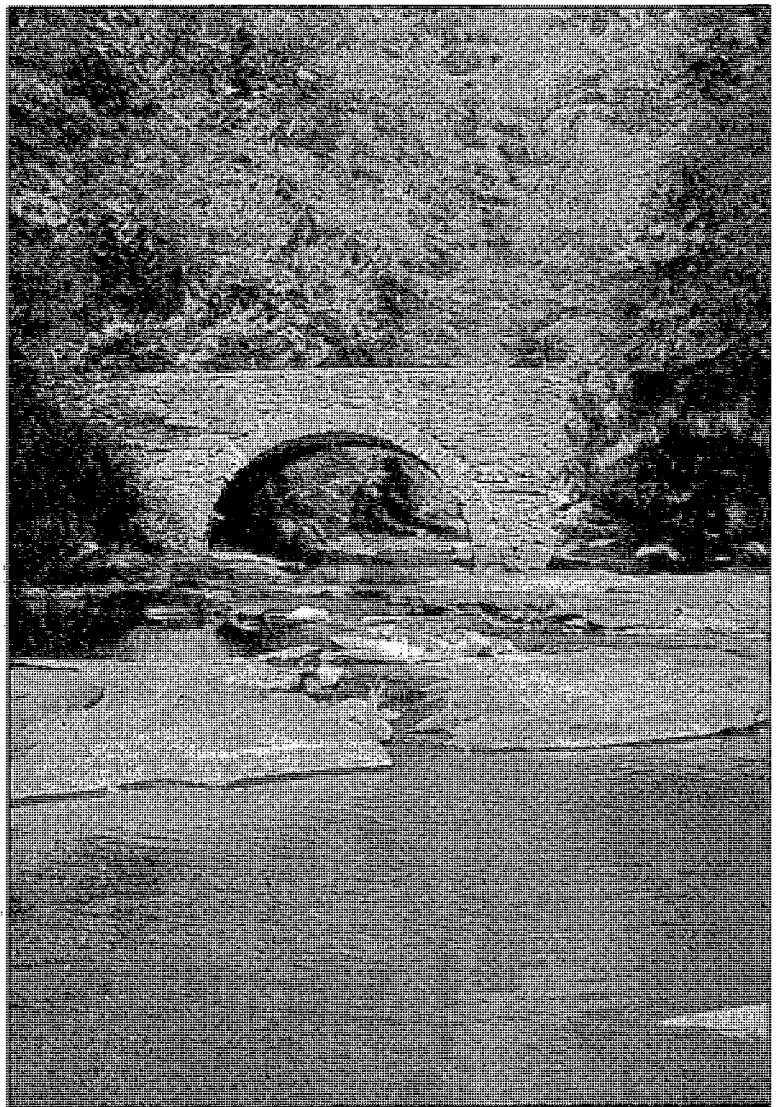
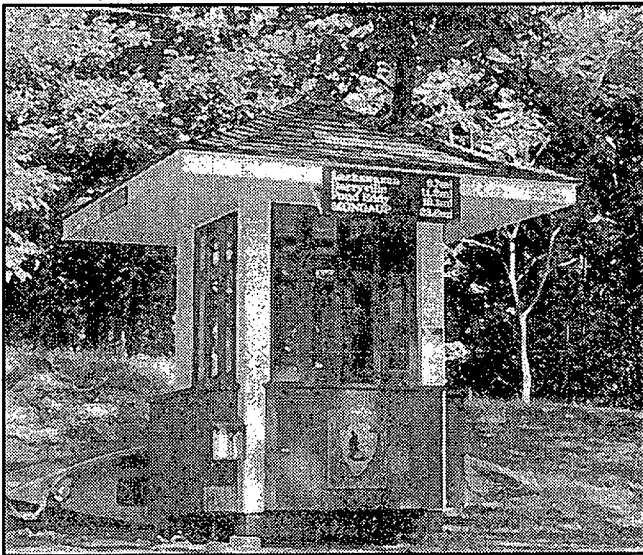
"It's moderate to strenuous because of the steep climb at the beginning, but it's very worthwhile when you get to the top. It's a beautiful overlook of the river valley," Madsen says.

"It's a rigorous climb," cautions Hite, "so if you want some good exercise, it has that capability."

Hikers may park at the Ten Mile River Access. From the kiosk area, turn left onto the paved road and left again to cross the historic stone arch bridge. Proceed a half-mile along the wide gravel roadbed until reaching a large boulder on which "Lenape" had been stenciled in red. The yellow arrow indicates a right turn to the Tusten Mountain Trail. The 1.8-mile loop begins about 100 feet beyond the rock on the hiker's left. Yellow dots and markers blaze the way.

To obtain the Tusten Mountain Trail site bulletin from the National Park Service, call (570) 685-4871.

The Upper Delaware welcomes input regarding other publicly accessible hiking areas in the river corridor region to publish in future issues. Please call (914) 252-3022. ♦



The trailhead for Tusten Mountain Trail starts at the NPS Ten Mile River Access (kiosk shown at left). Cross the 1875 stone arch bridge (above) and watch for the "Lenape" rock directing hikers to the first yellow dot.

Delaware River Watershed Conference A First

The Delaware River Basin, including the Delaware River Estuary, is home to nearly eight million people living in 868 municipalities in 42 counties in four states.

Over 350 agencies and organizations are working throughout the basin on issues affecting the environment and the quality of life of the watershed's residents.

Numerous private enterprises and a multitude of interested citizens are active at all levels, over the entire geographic area of the watershed, in addressing issues of sustainable use of land and water.

The first ever watershed-wide conference will take place November 15, 16, and 17, 1999 at Adam's Mark Hotel, City Avenue, Philadelphia, Pa.

The Upper Delaware Council is among the 15 entities that have been working for

Dates: Nov. 15-17 in Philadelphia
Hotline: (215) 345-7020, ext. 122
Web: www.heritageconservancy.org

more than a year to plan "Flowing Toward the Future: 21st Century Directions for the Delaware River and its Watersheds."

The conference culminates three major activities: a compilation of the more than 25 water management plans in operation; a series of 10 regional workshops held in April and May to collect input from citizens on future watershed goals; and a Governors' Summit held Sept. 29 at the New Jersey State Aquarium which featured the debut of the "Directions" report.

During the conference, 170 speakers will conduct 65 workshops and 11 seminars centering on six "Directions" themes: Good

Science, Watershed Education, Watershed Image and Marketing, Land Resources, Water Management, and Working Better Together. Field trips, plenary sessions, keynote addresses, and work groups are on the agenda. Most meals are included.

For a conference brochure detailing fees, program schedules, and sponsors, write to Heritage Conservancy, 85 Old Dublin Pike, Doylestown, PA 18901; or contact Russ Johnson by phone at (215) 345-3020, ext. 107 or e-mail at rjohnson@heritageconservancy.org. The brochure can be accessed online at the Heritage Conservancy's web site. Register by Oct. 15 to avoid a \$10 late fee. Refunds will not be given after Oct. 30.

Accommodations for the conference may be booked by calling Adam's Mark Hotel directly at 1-800-444-2326. ♦

Riverkeeper to Host Watershed Monitoring Congress October 30

Volunteer monitors, watershed association members, water watchers and stewards are invited to participate in the first "Delaware River Watershed Monitoring Congress" on Saturday, Oct. 30, 1999.

It will take place from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Delaware Valley College, located on Rt. 202 in Doylestown, Pa. Pre-conference field trips and an evening reception are slated for Friday, Oct. 29.

Organizing the Congress are the Delaware Riverkeeper Network, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Academy of Natural Sciences, Pennsylvania Dept. of Environmental Protection, Delaware River Basin Commission, Delaware Valley College, Delaware Dept. of Natural Re-



sources and Environmental Control, and the NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation.

The Upper Delaware Council (UDC), Delaware River Greenway Partnership, and Delaware Estuary Program are co-sponsors.

The Congress will facilitate better scientific understanding of the Delaware's waterways, water quality, water quantity, and the impact of pollution; while also offering mobilizing monitoring tools and techniques; exhibits; and networking opportunities on a watershed-wide basis.

Congressman James Greenwood (PA-8) will offer welcoming remarks. The closing speaker will be Michael J. Caduto, author of "Pond and Brook: A Guide to Nature in Freshwater Environments." Every participant will receive a copy of the book.

Registration for the day-long Congress is only \$30 (\$15 for students and senior citizens). Scholarships are available. The Oct. 29 activities are free of charge. Oct. 15 is the refund cutoff date.

Call the Delaware Riverkeeper Network at (215) 369-1188 to register or visit their web site at www.delawariverkeeper.org for more information. ♦



Emily Roebling (a.k.a. Sandra Schultz, assistant superintendent of Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River), leads Day 1 Sojourners along the National Park Service's D & H Towpath Trail under the Roebling Bridge, where they put ashore for programs. (Ramie Photo)

5th Delaware River Sojourn Features Record Participation

The Fifth Annual Delaware River Sojourn, held June 20-26, attracted more paddlers than ever thanks to an increased emphasis on involvement by students and dignitaries.

The seven-day participation total was 557, compared to 453 in 1998. Attendance figures included multiple day paddlers and volunteer staff who provided land support. Twenty-two canoeists braved the entire length of the Sojourn from Barryville, NY to Yardley, PA, paddling various stretches of the river by day and camping out under the stars at night.

Educational programs highlight the experience. The Sojourn's goal is to foster stewardship of the resource by increasing awareness of the Delaware's natural, cultural, and historical attributes. A tri-state consortium of agencies, tourism concerns, and non-profit organizations, including the Upper Delaware Council, spend nearly a year planning each Sojourn. The 1999 co-chairs were Ted Evans of Bucks County Audubon and Susan Taylor, representing the Friends of the Delaware Canal.

Among those to share "Lord/Lady High Admiral" honorary designations this year were PA State Rep. Chuck McIlhinney Jr. of Bucks County, who secured a \$15,000 grant to enable the Sojourn to expand its educational offerings; Carol Collier, executive director of the Delaware River Basin Commission, which also provided funding support; and, in the Upper Delaware section, retired National Park Service Ranger Kitty Womer and former Upper Delaware Citizens Advisory Council Chairman Bernie Kozykowski.

The June 20-21 Upper Delaware Sojourn days carried a theme of "Exploring the Delaware & Hudson Canal," which included programs on canal-era family life, a close-up view of remaining structures such as locks and barns, a look ahead at future D & H projects, and canal songs by "The Barefoot Boys." Co-sponsoring the Upper Delaware days were the UDC, NPS, Minisink Valley Historical Society, and Kittatinny Canoes. ♦

Shohola Landmark Celebrates 150th Anniversary

Rohman's Inn celebrated its sesqui-centennial on July 24, 1999 with all the pomp due to this establishment recognized for its historical significance by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the National Register. What follows is an excerpt from George J. Fluhr's historical brochure published in 1997.

On March 28, 1997, the Shohola Glen Hotel, in Shohola Township, Pike County, was placed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The old hotel, since 1909 called Rohman's, stands in the village of Shohola, near the railroad tracks, overlooking the Delaware River, near the bridge to Barryville, NY. It has a long and interesting history.

In 1851, Harper's New York and Erie Railroad Guide Book described the hotel which Chauncey Thomas had built in Shohola in 1849: "A neat little hotel stands opposite this station, and the tourist, tempted to explore its beautiful creek, will find here those luxuries (so rare in this region): a clean bed and private room."

In 1867 the "tavern house" was sold to Daniel Decker who owned and managed it until 1872, when sparks from a coal train set the building on fire.

It was rebuilt and greatly expanded in 1885 by George Layman who was involved in development of Shohola Glen, the amusement park which, from 1881 to 1907, attracted tens of thousands of people to Shohola. The hotel, earlier called the Shohola House, then became known as the Shohola Glen Hotel.

Layman sold the hotel to John Fletcher Kilgour, who had made his money by selling locally quarried bluestone.

Kilgour had great plans for Shohola Glen, and with his connections to the Erie Railroad management, was anticipating profits from the large numbers of tourists who would come on excursions.

Arthur Rohman became proprietor of the hotel on February 10, 1909. He was to be active there for 64 years, becoming "a leg-



In this photo from the personal collection of Pike County Historian George J. Fluhr, the Shohola Glen Hotel (now Rohman's Inn) is depicted at the turn of the 20th century.

end in his own time."

Near tragedy struck the old hotel on April 24, 1941, when a fire was discovered in a barber shop which occupied one end of the building. The upper stories of the front and main portion of the hotel were severely damaged.

Rohman's clientele over the years included novelist Zane Grey, ball players Smokey Joe Wood and his friend from Red Sox days Babe Ruth, swimmer Gertrude Ederle, aviator Charles Lindbergh, and movie stars Mary Pickford, Clara Bow, Gloria Swanson, Ronald Coleman, Bette Davis, and Paul Newman.

In addition to famous visitors, local workmen found Rohman's a gathering place at the end of the day, and thousands of visiting hunters, fishermen, weekenders, and tourists frequented the tavern.

After World War II, returning veterans brought their military campaign patches to hang on the wall, and today the patch collection has grown to include hundreds of patches of all kinds. The hand-set, four-lane bowling alley on the second floor

installed in the 1940's also remains in use.

During the American Bicentennial in 1976, a special ceremony was held at Rohman's to commemorate the July 15, 1865 Civil War Train Wreck which occurred about a mile and a half from the old hotel.

Under Art Rohman, the old hotel, which had served as a polling place and election headquarters since 1852, continued to be a powerhouse in state, county, and local politics.

At the death of Art Rohman, the hotel was operated by his nephew Nicholas A. Rohman until 1974, when it was purchased by James R. Duffy, Jr., past Pike County Commissioner and one-time bartender.

Duffy ran the hotel for 10 years. Today, Rohman's is owned by Sheila Farrell, Martin & Gil Sheridan, who are committed to preserving the historical character of the building. ❖

(Mr. Fluhr is the author of "Pike County Notebook," published in August 1999 and available in limited quantities for \$10 at the Pike County Administration Building in Milford or by contacting the author.)

New Subscribers and Address Changes Welcomed

If you have friends or colleagues who would be interested in receiving our free newsletter, we will be happy to add them to the mailing list. Please also advise us of any address changes to help update our records. Return this notice to the Upper Delaware Council, P.O. Box 192, Narrowsburg, NY 12764, or call (914) 252-3022.

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Upper Delaware Council Awards 1999 Technical Assistance Grants

The Upper Delaware Council (UDC) awarded \$21,400 in Technical Assistance Grants (TAGs) at their Sept. 2 meeting for nine projects which will further the goals of and address needs identified in the River Management Plan for the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River.

The latest grant round raises the UDC's cumulative TAG funding to \$430,841 for 105 projects implemented since 1988.

TAGs are annually awarded for research, planning, and studies by the UDC's eight New York towns and three Pennsylvania townships or the four encompassing river corridor counties. The Wayne County, Pa. townships of Berlin, Buckingham, Damascus, and Manchester would be eligible to compete as well upon joining the Council.

These UDC grants can provide seed money for a municipality to embark on a feasibility study or design plan without having to tap local tax dollars. They have funded a number of publications and educational programs. TAGs are not available for construction projects.

The call for applications was issued June 11 with a July 30 deadline. The Council's Project Review Committee convened August 10 to meet with applicant representatives and make recommendations on the proposals to the full Council.

The 1999 TAG recipients are:

- ◆ **Town of Fremont** - \$3,900 to update Town Subdivision Regulations
- ◆ **Town of Highland** - \$3,400 to inventory signs and create a database to determine compatibility with existing regulations
- ◆ **Town of Lumberland** - \$3,300 to inventory burial sites in the town for historical

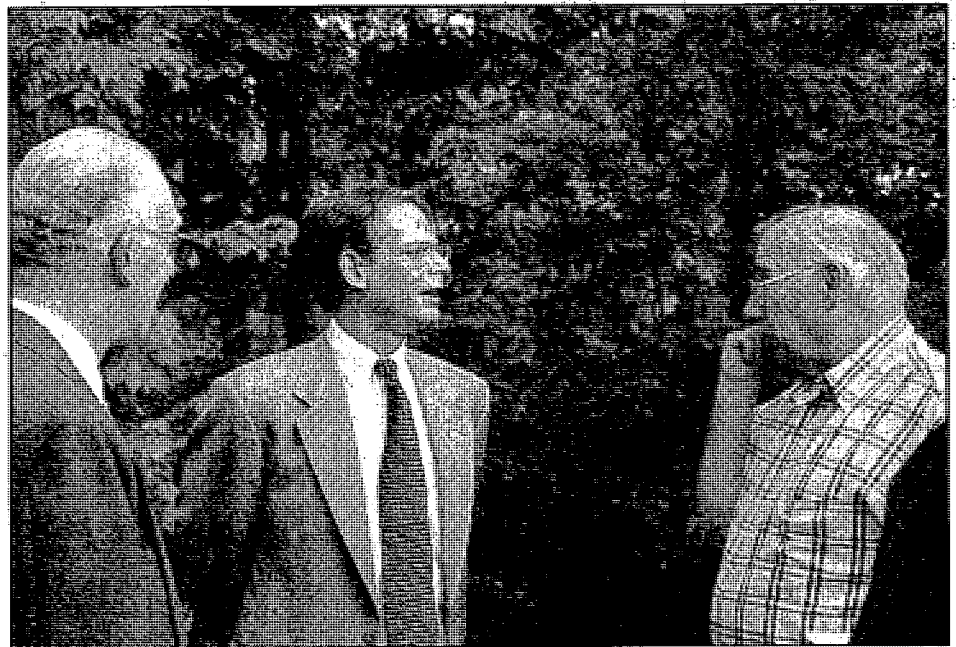
reference and public search assistance

- ◆ **Town of Deepark** - \$3,100 to draft a new Town Subdivision Law
- ◆ **Shohola Township** - \$2,000 to develop standards for haul roads and landings
- ◆ **Town of Highland** - \$1,800 to update the Town's Comprehensive/Master Plan
- ◆ **Town of Delaware** - \$1,600 to create an index for the Town's Subdivision Regulations, Zoning Law, and Flood Damage Prevention Law

◆ **Town of Tusten** - \$1,300 to contract with The Eagle Institute to develop an "Eagle Management Plan for the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River"

◆ **Town of Tusten** - \$1,000 to print 150 copies of the Town's Zoning and Subdivision Laws

For a brochure containing an explanation of TAG guidelines and a directory of past grants, contact the Upper Delaware Council at (914) 252-3022. ♦



NYS Assemblyman Jacob E. Gunther III (98th District), center, served as keynote speaker at the 220th anniversary of the Battle of Minisink held July 22 at the Revolutionary War battleground park in Minisink Ford, NY. Chatting with him are Al Etkin, left, director of the Sullivan County Veterans Services Agency, and Allan Dampman, right, coordinator of the annual commemoration on behalf of the Sullivan County Historical Society. (Ramie Photo)

The Upper Delaware Council, Inc. meets on the first Thursday of every month at 7:30 p.m. at the Tusten Town Hall, Narrowsburg, NY. Three standing committees, Water Use/Resource Management, Operations, and Project Review, meet on the third and fourth Tuesdays of every month at the UDC office, 211 Bridge Street, Narrowsburg, across from the Town Hall. All meetings are open to the public. Call (914) 252-3022 for specific meeting dates and agendas.

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