

The Upper Delaware

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

Volume 12 Number 4

Published by the Upper Delaware Council, Inc.

Winter 1999-2000



In This Issue...

Watershed Conference Success
Pages 1 and 4

Profile: Carol Collier, DRBC
Page 2

NPS Chief Ranger Retires,
News Briefs From Region
Page 3

Equinunk Historic District Named
Page 4

UDC Cites FY99 Highlights;
Sojourn 2000 Dates Announced
Page 5

Wintering Bald Eagles Return
Page 6

Heritage Alliance Gives Honors;
More Hiking Spots Suggested
Page 7

President Okays Visitor Center,
UDC 2000 Officers Named
Page 8

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

Send items to Newsletter
Editor Laurie Ramie at the
Upper Delaware Council,
211 Bridge St., P.O. Box 193,
Narrowsburg, N.Y. 12764.
Please update our mailing
list by filling out the coupon
on Page 7. Thank you.



The Delaware River Watershed Conference held at the Adam's Mark Hotel in Philadelphia Nov. 15-17, 1999, exceeded its attendance goals with 477 participants. Pictured above, Charles Barscz, Jr., Wild and Scenic Program Leader for the National Park Service, Philadelphia, leads a workshop on Municipal Land Use Regulations. (Photo contributed by The Heritage Conservancy)

Watershed Conference Motivates Future Action

"This meeting is going to send out a signal. When the word gets out that 500 people were interested in coming out for the Delaware River, the drum beat will start."

On the final afternoon of the first-ever Delaware River Watershed Conference, "Call to Implementation" keynote speaker J. Glenn Eugster issued that prediction.

The conference - more expansively titled "Flowing Toward the Future: 21st Century Directions for the Delaware River and Its Watersheds" - attracted a total of 477 participants and speakers to Philadelphia on November 15-17, 1999.

They came to learn about watershed issues, benefit from the experiences of others, network with representatives of the river's diverse segments, and to hopefully depart with practical knowledge that can

be applied to their watershed endeavors.

"We are working on a program from awareness to action," noted Conference Coordinating Committee Co-Chair Russ Johnson, the director of The Heritage Conservancy's Delaware River Watershed Initiative, in his opening remarks.

"We will create strategies to implement what we learn here and learned through the Flowing Toward the Future process," he said.

Four Steps To A Vision

Conference planning began in earnest over a year ago by a consortium of stakeholder agencies, organizations, and individuals throughout the four-state Delaware River Basin.

The first task on the agenda was to compile and analyze the approximately 25 existing regional management plans in

Please see "CONFERENCE" on Page 4

Representative Profile: Carol R. Collier



Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC) Executive Director Carol Collier addresses participants at the "Flowing Toward the Future" Regional Basin Workshop held in Narrowsburg, NY on May 5, 1999. (Soete photo)

As only the third Executive Director in the Delaware River Basin Commission's (DRBC) 38-year history, Carol R. Collier faced a daunting challenge when she began her new job on August 31, 1998.

Her professional experience and personal talents prepared her well for overseeing the Commission's membership of high-level representatives from the four basin states of New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Delaware, and the United States; the DRBC's 45-member staff; and their important work managing the water resources of the Delaware River Basin.

What she wasn't prepared for were the drought conditions that coincided with her arrival and doggedly persisted for nearly her first year.

Of course, no one can blame her for Mother Nature's deficits.

"Some people tried to," Collier jokes.

The Monmouth County, NJ native came to the DRBC with a well-rounded resume.

After obtaining a B.A. in Environmental Biology from Smith College and a Masters in Regional Planning from the University of Pennsylvania, Collier was employed for 18 years by BCM Environmental Engineers, Inc. of Plymouth Meeting, Pa., working her way up the ladder from student intern to a vice-president.

She then served two years as Southeast Regional Director for the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection before being tapped by Governor Tom Ridge to head Pennsylvania's 21st Century Environment Commission.

It was fresh from that one-and-a-half year assignment that Collier received the offer

to succeed Gerald Hansler, who retired after 20 years at the helm of the DRBC.

Since its formation in 1961, the DRBC has served as policy maker, regulator, planner, manager, and mediator on behalf of the signatories to the Congressionally-ratified Delaware River Basin Compact and the citizens of the Basin.

When she came on board, Collier saw an opportunity to strengthen that leadership role through an internal management reorganization that now features team approaches to gain multiple perspectives on issues.

Equally important to her goal of developing a holistic view of the 13,539 square mile river basin is getting out in it. Yes, that means more meetings, more time, and many miles to travel, but Collier believes that the mutual education gained is well worthwhile.

"We have our mission provided by the Compact but how we implement it needs to be discussed with a number of stakeholders. It's really important that we communicate well with the citizens of the basin. The more we talk to people, the more we can understand the issues and find ways to educate the public on water resources management," she says.

While it's the DRBC's role to consider the "big" watershed picture, Collier believes that decisions on how to improve conditions in local watersheds are best made and implemented on the grassroots level.

The Upper Delaware Council (UDC) provides an effective example of just such a forum that relies on partnerships with the

Please see "COLLIER" on Page 3

Upper Delaware Council, Inc.
P.O. Box 192, 211 Bridge St.
Narrowsburg, NY 12764-0192
Telephone: (914) 252-3022
FAX: (914) 252-3359

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.

2000 Officers

Chair: Harold G. Roeder, Jr.
Vice Chair: John S. McKay
Secretary/Treasurer: Larry H. Richardson

New York Town Representatives

Hancock: George H. Frosch
Fremont: John B. Nilot
Delaware: Walter Sipple, Alternate
Harold G. Roeder, Jr.
Eric J. Nystrom, Alternate
Cochecton: Larry H. Richardson
John A. Reggero, Alternate
Tusten: Charles Wisland
Richard B. Grandt, Alternate
Highland: Lewis Schmalz
Alan Schadt, Alternate
Lumberland: Peter Menyik
Paul Brennan, Alternate
Deerpark: Philip D. Chase
Mevin Decker, 1st Alternate
Robert Cunningham, 2nd Alternate

Pennsylvania Township Representatives

Lackawanna: John S. McKay
Frederick Banson, 1st Alternate
Edward DeFabo, 2nd Alternate
Shohola: Bruce Calbeck
George J. Fluh, 1st Alternate
Henry Proge, 2nd Alternate
Westial: Alan Bowers
Diane Banson, Alternate

State & Regional Members

New York: Bruce MacMillan, NYS DEC
Fred Gery, NYS DEC, Alternate
Pennsylvania: Marjorie Hutovcak, PA DCNR
David Lamereux, PA DEP, Alternate
Del. River Basin Commission: Carol Collier

Partners

National Park Service: Marie Rust, Reg. Dir.
Calvin F. Hite, USFS/RR Supr., Alternate

Staff

Executive Director: William E. Douglass
Senior Resource Specialist: David B. Soete
Public Relations/Newsletter: Laurie Barme
Office Manager: Carol Conroy
Bookkeeper: William McAllister, CPA

Printing Services: Tapco, Inc., P.O. Box 307
Pamerson, N.J. 08068, Tel: 609/894-2288

Printed in the USA on recycled paper
Copyright 2000 Upper Delaware Council, Inc.

"COLLIER," continued from Page 2

two states, the National Park Service, and the DRBC, according to Collier.

While the DRBC has been a non-voting member of the Council since 1988, the UDC is also an active constituent of the Commission and its subcommittees.

"We are true partners," Collier notes. "I think that the UDC is a really unique institution that allows for a win-win situation. It's an interesting way to approach protection of the river resources while allowing the voices of the local communities to be heard."

As the DRBC's representative, Collier or her designee listen to Upper Delaware concerns at the monthly meetings, share data, and provide a basin-wide context to the Council's discussions.

The recent "Flowing Toward the Future" project of regional workshops and a watershed-wide conference revealed to Collier that beyond the continuation of the DRBC's water resources management responsibility and regulatory authority, the public wants the DRBC "to be a provider of good science and a disseminator of information throughout the basin."

The DRBC is currently developing a comprehensive Water Resources Plan that will address water demand, flow needs, water quality, watershed management, and overall objectives for the Delaware River Basin. A Watershed Advisory Council is being formed to provide a path for direct input.

Keeping on top of the many activities in which the DRBC is simultaneously engaged can be demanding, but Collier says that the Executive Director's position is fulfilling her expectations.

"I really do love the job," she says.

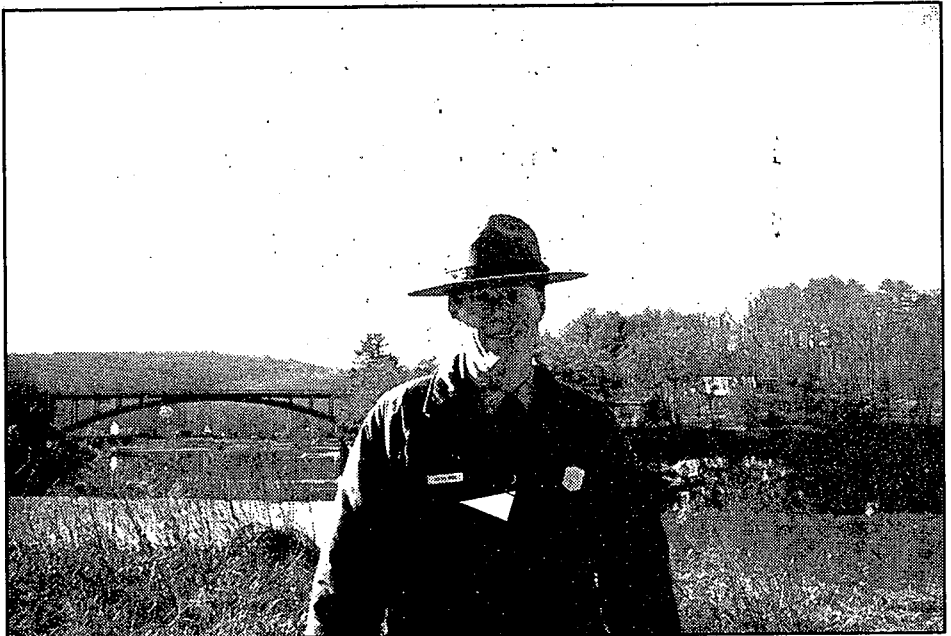
The 48-year-old is also a wife and a mother. She and her husband Richard, an environmental planning consultant, reside in Ft. Washington, Pa. with their son Andrew, 15, a high school freshman. Their 18-year-old son Christopher is in his first year at Dartmouth College, studying physics and music.

Much of her free time revolves around her sons' activities, including Boy Scouts and church, and attending their musical and athletic events.

"My husband and I met sailing and we still like to do that when we can. I also enjoy water pond gardening," she adds.

Collier receives numerous public speaking requests and has published widely on environmental and water-related topics.

She was recognized in 1998 as a "Woman of Distinction" by the *Philadelphia Business Journal* and other organizations in the greater Philadelphia region, and was presented with the "Touchstone Award" by the Society of Women Environmental Professionals in 1997. ♦



Glenn Voss, who served as Chief Ranger for the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River since July 1984, retired at the end of 1999, capping off a career with the National Park Service that lasted precisely 33 years and three months. The Beach Lake, Pa. resident notes, "All the geographic areas I've been to in the country have been beautiful, but what makes the Upper Delaware special are the people I worked with here." (Ramie photo)

News Briefs

UDC Updates Visitor Guide

The Upper Delaware Council is currently revising its "Visitor Information Map and Guide for Touring the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River, New York and Pennsylvania" for a planned Spring 2000 release.

Notices will be sent to the businesses that are now listed under five categories: Accommodations, Bait and Tackle, Canoes and Camping, Restaurants/Food, and Fishing Guides; with an appeal directed to new businesses as well. Businesses must be located within the boundaries of the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River to be eligible for a free listing.

The UDC's 1998 supply of 25,000 brochures has been depleted earlier than expected. Donations are being gratefully accepted to offset the printing costs of this popular 17 x 22-inch, 12-panel publication containing useful information, references, and a detailed corridor map.

For information, contact Public Relations Specialist Laurie Ramie at the UDC, (914) 252-3022, or udcramie@ezaccess.net.

Interstate Signs Proposed

The National Park Service Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River has applied to erect "Upper Delaware" directional signs on Interstates 84 and the future 86 (now Route 17).

As a preliminary step, a series of "trail-

blazer" signs are proposed to mark the route from I-84, through the City of Port Jervis, NY to State Route 97. Similar signs will be requested at the river corridor's northern boundary in Hancock, NY.

Canal Group Meets Quarterly

The D & H Transportation Heritage Council will meet quarterly in 2000, on the third Wednesdays of January, April, July, and October, at the Common Council Chambers in Port Jervis, NY.

All are welcome. For times and agendas, contact Sandra Schultz at (570) 729-8251.

Coldwater Conference Set

Pennsylvania Trout, a chapter of Trout Unlimited (TU), will host its fourth Keystone Coldwater Conference on February 19 at the Penn Stater Conference Center Hotel in State College, Pa.

Instream habitat is this year's theme. Topics will concern how habitat is formed, biology and geology of instream habitat, man's effects, trout spawning areas, importance of large, woody debris, and fluvial geomorphology.

Entomologist-angler-author Greg Hoover will give an illustrated evening talk on "Some Great Trout Rivers of America."

The Saturday conference is co-hosted by the PA Fish and Boat Commission, PA Dept. of Environmental Protection (DEP), PA Dept. of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR), and National TU.

Registration, which includes lunch, is \$20. Call 814-863-5100 for more details.

"CONFERENCE," continued from Page 1

operation throughout the watershed.

Under the leadership of the Delaware River Basin Commission, the next step was to solicit public opinions on their ideal concepts for a healthy and sustainable watershed in the next century.

Ten regional basin workshops were held in Dover, DE; Philadelphia; Bridgeton, NJ; Narrowsburg, NY; and Bethlehem, PA. Trained facilitators led interest groups through a three-hour process in which they described vision elements and ranked the results according to priority.

The common themes which emerged from the workshop series were documented in a "Directions" report that includes recommended actions to attain these goals.

On September 29, New Jersey Governor Christie Todd Whitman hosted a "Flowing Toward the Future Governors' Summit" at the State Aquarium in Camden to endorse the report and challenge the basin community to develop a unifying vision.

Governors Whitman and Thomas R. Carper of Delaware, along with PA Dept. of Environmental Protection (DEP) Secretary James Seif, representing Gov. Ridge, and New York State Dept. of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Commissioner John Cahill, representing Gov. Pataki, participated in this third step of the process.

They were joined in signing a compelling "Resolution on the Protection of the Delaware River Basin" by representatives of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Army Corps of Engineers, and the National Park Service.

The Summit also featured the inaugural presentation of "Flowing Toward the Future Awards" by each basin state, which included two Upper Delaware region recipients.

Pennsylvania recognized Ruth Jones, owner of Kittatinny Canoes & Campgrounds, for her ongoing stewardship of the river, most publicly exemplified by Kittatinny's annual river clean-ups that have removed more than 170 tons of trash over the past 10 years.

Raymond Christensen, chairperson of the Delaware County Board of Supervi-



Panelists at the Flowing Toward the Future Governors' Summit were, seated from left, New Jersey Gov. Christine Todd Whitman, Delaware Gov. Thomas R. Carper, Pennsylvania Dept. of Environmental Protection Secretary James Seif, New York State Dept. of Environmental Conservation John Cahill, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region II Administrator Jeanne Fox; EPA Region III Administrator Michael McCabe; Brigadier General M. Stephen Rhoades, commander of the North Atlantic Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; and Marie Rust, regional director of the National Park Service Northeast Region. (Douglass photo)

sors, was honored by New York State for his advocacy on behalf of local governments in the drafting of the New York City-Catskill Watershed Agreement.

Restore the River's Soul

One of the most important conference goals was to encourage the conceptualization of the Delaware River Watershed as a whole, rather than divided by geographical, political, organizational, and human-made boundaries.

Irene Brooks, director of the PA Office of Interbasin Cooperation, challenged participants to put the resource above the program and balance all decisions.

"We must realize that our local actions have regional impacts," she said.

Brooks evoked the spirit of the river valley's first Native American inhabitants: "Let's learn from the Leni-Lenape that we are part of a much larger scheme and let's work together to restore the river's soul."

The conference began on Nov. 15 with field trips and intensive seminars. Nov. 16 and 17 featured a "State of the Watershed" report by a panel of high-ranking officials from the four basin states, multiple work-

shop sessions, and keynote addresses by nationally prominent speakers.

Workshop themes focused on watershed planning and management, sustainable development and livable communities, success stories and model solutions, and, finally, a call to implementation.

Topics ran a wide spectrum from personal stewardship ethics to cutting-edge resource protection tools, and from smart growth to intergovernmental cooperation.

J. Glenn Eugster, employed by the EPA but currently on detail as the Potomac American Heritage River Navigator, said that he was "struck by the marvelous diversity of the Delaware River Basin" as he looked over the conference agenda and the background of the attendees.

"The Delaware Valley has been a valley of innovation," said the former National Park Service Chief of Planning for the Mid-Atlantic Region. "It is here that we learn the value of local efforts. This forum is a good example of working together to help you help yourselves."

Conference organizers are optimistic that the outcomes will extend well beyond the three-day event as a result of the education and inspiration gained, new contacts made, and partnerships that could evolve.

The resolution signed at the Governors' Summit lays out the ambitious plan to collectively protect the basin's resources into the 21st century. On the grassroots level, many of the eight work groups that convened at the end of the conference have agreed to continue meeting. The Conference Coordinating Committee will remain intact as the "Flowing Toward the Future Roundtable" to facilitate those work groups and gauge the proper timing for future watershed-wide activities. ♦

Equinunk, Pa. Becomes Historic District

The National Register of Historic Places officially added the Equinunk Historic District to its listings on Nov. 12, 1999.

As chronicled in the Spring 1999 *The Upper Delaware*, the circa 1830 Village of Equinunk (Wayne County) now becomes the largest historic district in the Upper Delaware River Valley with 56 contributing historic features comprising most of the community.

National Park Service Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River Historian Mary Curtis prepared and submitted the nomination with the assistance of the Equinunk Historical Society, the Upper Delaware Heritage Alliance, and private property owners.

The Pennsylvania Register of Historic Places accepted the Equinunk Historic District for inclusion in the Commonwealth's listings in September 1999. ♦

UDC Cites FY99 Highlights

As the Upper Delaware Council (UDC) enters its 12th operating year as a non-profit organization tasked with carrying out the goals of the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River Management Plan in partnership with the National Park Service, its list of accomplishments grows.

What follows is a partial list of projects that occurred during Fiscal Year (FY) 1999, which began October 1, 1998 and ended September 30, 1999.

The UDC's FY 99 Annual Report includes these highlights as well as objectives for FY 2000, a message from 1999 Chairperson Phil Chase, financial data, and more. To obtain a copy, please call the office at (914) 252-3022.

▶ Testified before a U.S. House of Representatives subcommittee on behalf of legislation to authorize construction of the Mongaup Visitor Center

▶ Supported the National Park Service's application to the Dept. of Transportation for FY 2000 funding to cover the Visitor Center's preliminary design work

▶ Awarded \$21,400 to nine UDC member town/ships in the UDC's FY 1999 Technical Assistance Grants program

▶ Served on the coordinating committee to implement "Flowing Toward the Future" projects, which included: compiling existing regional management plans; co-hosting two Regional Basin Workshops in Narrowsburg on May 5; and assisting with a four-state Governors' Summit on Sept. 29 in Camden, NJ, and a Delaware River Watershed Conference to be held Nov. 15-17 in Philadelphia

▶ Convened a Special Forum on Eel Weirs April 14 to promote a dialogue between river users in the effort to avoid conflicts and to clarify existing NYS regulations

▶ Obtained a seat on Pennsylvania Power & Light's (PP&L) Lake Wallenpaupack Relicensing Team as the utility prepares its application for the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

▶ Requested inspections and test results from remediation projects at the Barnes Landfill (Town of Highland) and Cortese Landfill (Town of Tusten) Superfund sites, and monitored clean-up of contaminated soils at the former Tri-State Diesel/O&R property (Town of Lumberland)

▶ Commented on the National Park Service Washington office's Proposed Rulemaking which would impact commercial operators in the Upper Delaware by converting the existing Incidental Business Permits to Commercial Use Authorizations

▶ Researched and conducted a site visit

relative to the NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation's Interim Management Plan for a Primitive Access Site on a two-acre parcel in the vicinity of the Lower Mongaup River, Town of Lumberland

▶ Registered concern over a proposal by the PA Fish and Boat Commission that would require boat rental businesses in the Upper Delaware to apply to the agency for annual livery operator's permits

▶ Supported the National Park Service's applications to install directional signage for the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River on Routes I-84 and 17

▶ Favored legislation that would permit New York State to join the Northeast Dairy Compact

▶ Invited NYS DEC Endangered Species Unit Leader Peter E. Nye to address a UDC committee on conflicting state policies pertaining to the Late Canada Goose Hunting Season and on the status of Bald Eagles in the Upper Delaware

▶ Monitored the takeover of Conrail holdings in the Upper Delaware by Norfolk Southern Corporation as of June 1, 1999 and helped update contact information in Conrail's "Emergency Response Guide"

▶ Reviewed and commented on Columbia Gas Transmission's Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed Millennium Pipeline project

▶ Attended the annual meeting of the New York-Pennsylvania Joint Interstate Bridge Commission and acted on a resolution by Shohola Township Board of Supervisors regarding repair or replacement alternatives for the Pond Eddy Bridge

▶ Through the Project Review Committee, made formal comments on new ordinances, amendments, and developments in the Towns of Delaware, Highland, Tusten, Hancock, Fremont, and Cocheton

▶ Monitored the divestiture plan and transfer of Orange & Rockland Utilities' FERC licenses for hydroelectric holdings on the Mongaup River to Southern Energy-New York as of June 21, 1999

▶ Announced that the Pennsylvania Organization of Watersheds and Rivers (POWR) approved a nomination submitted by the UDC to highlight the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River in its first "Pennsylvania's State of the Rivers Report" released in Nov. 1998

▶ Installed new computer systems, obtained Internet access, updated *The Upper Delaware* newsletter database program, and assured Y2K compliance for all equipment in the UDC business office

▶ Co-sponsored the D&H Canal Trek and Symposium, NPS Towpath Trail Clean-up Days, Water Snapshot '99, and the 5th Annual Delaware River Sojourn



Y2KANOE: The 6th Annual Delaware River Sojourn, a paddling and camping adventure that brings attention to the diverse sections of the Delaware River flowing through the states of New York, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey, has been tentatively scheduled for the week of June 19, 2000. Pictured above is an exhibit designed by 2000 Sojourn Steering Committee Chairperson Sandra Schultz for display at the recent Watershed Conference in Philadelphia. *The Upper Delaware* Spring issue will provide itinerary details. (Ramie photo)

Wintering Bald Eagles Return

(Excerpt from the report, "Eagle Watch! A Volunteer Monitoring and Education Project in the Upper Delaware/Mongaup River Watersheds, Jan.-March 1999")

Eagle Watch! is a volunteer program designed to provide the safest and least intrusive eagle viewing opportunities in the Upper Delaware and Mongaup River watersheds in Sullivan County, NY and Pike County, PA, where bald eagles are known to winter. It is a program of The Eagle Institute, a non-profit organization dedicated to the protection of bald eagles and other birds of prey. (Visit www.eagleinstitute.org or call 914-557-6162).

This winter (1999) was a record year for eagles and visitors in the Upper Delaware and Mongaup River regions. The annual mid-winter count recorded 179 eagles in Southeast New York, the majority in this region. Total visitation recorded at our staffed viewing locations on the Delaware and Mongaup was 3,014, up from 1,829 people in 1998 and 1,030 visitors in 1997.

Publicity about the eagles was enormous this winter. An article in the *New York Times* on Jan. 24 prompted hundreds of phone calls and e-mails to The Eagle Institute for information about viewing opportunities. It also generated more interest from other media which, in turn, stimulated more public interest.

Did the increased visitation affect the eagles? It is most interesting to note that at both locations, the highest number of eagle sightings occurred on the same day as the highest number of visitors. At Mongaup, the highest sightings in a day (46) coincided with highest visitation (177) on Feb. 13. At the Delaware River location, the highest sightings in a day (26) was the same as the highest visitation (121), on Jan. 30, right after the ice jams broke up and the river opened up. (We leave interpretation of this information to the experts!)

There are many factors that contribute to the eagles' activity. Ice cover, temperature and precipitation, in addition to human disturbance, all play a role.

Did the added media attention induce increased visitation? At the Mongaup Falls Observation Blind, 32% of the visitors intercepted said they heard about the site through the media, most noting the *New York Times* article. In contrast, less than 1% of the visitors at the Delaware River location named the media as a stimulus (the *NYT* article never mentioned the Pennsylvania viewing location).

So how did the visitors know about the Delaware River location? Almost half at

this site - 43% - either were repeat visitors or heard about it via word-of-mouth or "just knew" about it. At Mongaup, those who came by word of mouth, or just knew or were repeat visitors, totalled 35% of the visitors intercepted or recorded. Environmental organizations/agencies prompted 11% of the Delaware River visitors and another 29% of the Mongaup visitors.

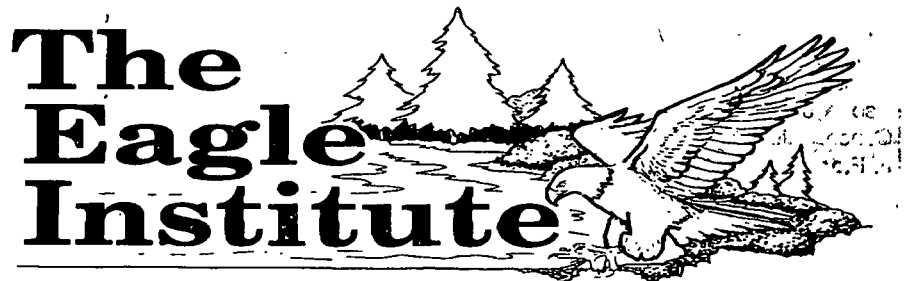
What we can learn from all this? This data shows us how we can better fulfill the mission of providing "the safest and least intrusive viewing experience." Additional effort should be made to have the media and the environmental groups/agencies act as the vehicles for sharing "eagle etiquette" literature, maps and other information that will enhance the viewing opportunity without disturbing the eagles. On-site

volunteers can continue to help the visitors who "just know" about the site or hear about it via word-of-mouth.

The on-site interpreter helps the visitor identify and spot the eagles and can provide logistical/geographic information for the visitor. On-site volunteers can also provide the personal contact that visitors expect once they arrive at the site and can answer questions that might not be addressed in the literature.

We feel strongly that if funding becomes available for paid, on-site staff, it should go to interpretation and education personnel instead of policing/enforcement. Only two enforcement incidents were reported during the season and both were dealt with promptly and professionally.

The real need is for education. ❖



Winter Habitat Field Trips Set In The Upper Delaware River Valley

Join The Eagle Institute for a full day of eagle watching. Trained guides will lead you to popular feeding and perching locations. Excursions include the services of an Eagle Institute escort, naturalist slide show about the bald eagle and the success of the reintroduction program, a heated bus and a hot and hearty lunch.

Each trip takes place on Saturday, with 9 a.m. as the meeting time. Snow days are the following Sundays. Accommodations packages are available.

- January 15** - Meet at the Villa Roma Resort Hotel in Callicoon, NY
- January 29** - Meet at the Griffin House B & B in Jeffersonville, NY
- February 5** - Meet at Lander's Ten Mile River Lodge in Narrowsburg, NY
- February 19** - Meet at Eldred Preserve in Eldred, NY

The fee for the winter habitat field trips is \$30 per person for Eagle Institute members, and \$35 for non-members. Dress warmly and in layers; hats, gloves and waterproof boots are advised. Binoculars and field guide books are helpful. Cameras are welcome. Bring along a Thermos with a hot beverage if desired.

Advance registration is required. Confirmations and directions will be sent upon receipt of payment. Send your name, home address, phone number, and e-mail address to The Eagle Institute, P.O. Box 182, Barryville, NY 12719 or direct inquiries to President Lori Danuff McKean at (914) 557-6162.

Readers Contribute Regional Hiking Spots

At the end of the Fall 1999 article, "Hiking Trail Opens to Public", readers were invited to share their favorite places to hike in the Upper Delaware River Valley region.

Our newsletter article focused on the Tusten Mountain Trail located outside Narrowsburg, NY and co-managed since July 1999 by the Greater New York Council of the Boy Scouts of America and the National Park Service (570-685-4871).

We have subsequently compiled this list of eight publicly accessible hiking spots. Phone numbers are provided for the agencies that hold jurisdiction over these lands to obtain additional information.

1. **Bouchouxville Wild Forest Preserve** near Lordville, NY, Delaware County, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Lands & Forests Bureau, 518-457-2475.

2. **Damascus Forest** near Milanville, Pa. Damascus Township Board of Supervisors, 570-224-4410, or Wayne County Conservation District, 570-253-0930.

3. **Florence Shelly Nature Trail**, Browning Beaver Meadow property, Manchester Township, PA, Northeast PA Audubon Society, 570-253-9250.

4. **French Woods Wild Forest Preserve** north of French Woods, NY, Delaware County, NYS DEC, 518-457-2475.

5. **Hickok Brook Multiple Use Area** near Glen Spey, NY, Town of Lumberland, NYS DEC, 518-457-2475.

6. **Minisink Battleground Park**, Minisink Ford, NY, Town of Highland, Sullivan County Department of Public Works, (914) 794-3600 ext. 5002.

7. **Shohola Recreation Area** located off U.S. Route 6 in Shohola Township, PA, Pennsylvania Game Commission, (toll-free) 877-877-9357.

8. **State Game Lands No. 316** near Mashope in Lackawaxen Township, PA, PA Game Commission, 877-877-9357.



Row 1: Emily Paulsen, Lizanne Samuelson, Peter Osborne, Eleanor Keesler, Donal Couotts, Laurie Ramie. Row 2: Carol Navitsky, Sharon Siegel, Carol Dunn, Catherine Quinn, Anna French. Row 3: Fr. Michael Quinnan, Jack Niflot, Robert White, Anita Kretchik, Matt Osterberg, Beth Waterman, Lisa Lyons, Zulma Marcial, Walter Marcial. Row 4: Robert Dadras, Karl Beard, Andy Helgesen, Kathryn Meagher, Pat Bacchicocchi, John Gogard. (Photo courtesy of Ken Schultz)

Heritage Alliance Bestows Honors

The Upper Delaware Heritage Alliance (UDHA) recognized the efforts of individuals and organizations who have dedicated themselves to preserving and protecting the history of the five-county river valley at the organization's 18th Annual Meeting held October 3, 1999 at Central House Family Resort in Beach Lake, Pa.

Twenty-one awards were presented and officers were named for 1999-2000: President Laurie Ramie, Vice-President Floyd Schnakenberg, Secretary Ed Boyer, and Treasurer Ken Baim. Outgoing President Emily Paulsen was the surprise recipient of a UDHA Service Award plaque for her contributions to the group. Fellow 1999 honorees included:

Lifetime Achievement: Ralph and Wilburta Dexter of Cochection, NY

Merit Awards: Eleanor Keesler of Equinunk, Pa.; Donal Couotts of Palmyra, Pa.; and the Historic Preservation Trust of Pike County, Pa.

"Repeat Offender" Award: Peter Osborne, Port Jervis, NY

Certificates of Recognition: Catskill Fly Fishing Center & Museum; D&H Transportation Heritage Council; Carol Dunn, Beach Lake; Delaware Valley Elementary-TV (Milford) and faculty coaches Sharon Siegel and Carol Navitsky; Ecker-Haupt VFW Post, Lackawaxen; Maple City Ancient Fife and Drum Corps; Honesdale; "Dear Sister" co-authors John B. Niflot, Long Eddy, and Dr. Robert Harris, Scranton; author Matthew M. Osterberg, Milford; John and Kim Palanza, Long Eddy; Catherine Quinn and the Parishes of St. Ann's (Shohola), St. Mary's (Lackawaxen), St. Joseph's (White Mills, Matamoras), St. John the Evangelist (Honesdale), Queen of Peace (Hawley); Father Michael Quinnan; Sullivan County, NY Main Street Redevelopment Program; Robert White, Cochection; Tasha Williams, Equinunk; and John Wright, Delaware Water Gap. ❖

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.

New Address:

Name _____

Address _____

Box or Apt. # _____

City/State _____

Zip+4 _____

Old Address:

Name _____

Address _____

Box, Apt. _____

City/State _____

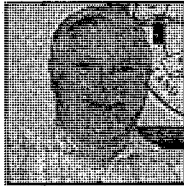
Zip+4 _____

Check here to be removed from our mailing list.

Upper Delaware Council Elects Officers for 2000

Harold G. Roeder, Jr., of the Town of Delaware, will serve as chairperson of the Upper Delaware Council (UDC) in 2000.

Roeder was nominated for the leadership role at the December 2 UDC meeting and unanimously elected at the Council's Annual Meeting on January 6, 2000.



Harold Roeder

Oaths of office were also administered to Vice-Chairperson John S. McKay of Lackawaxen Township, and to Secretary/Treasurer Larry H. Richardson, Town of Cochecton.

Roeder, a Hortonville resident, was appointed to the UDC in 1997. He is the proprietor of Roeder's Appraisal Service.

Photos from the swearing-in will follow. ❖

The Gift

by David Lamereaux, UDC Pennsylvania Alternate
Assistant Director of the Northeast Regional Office,
Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection

Someday I'll have a Son
Who will live upon this earth
And I'd like to create something
That's a measure of His worth

It must be something beautiful
All creatures can enjoy
It must be something powerful
A thing not which to toy

It must provide excitement
But have a single master
For those who would dare tame it
Its movement shall grow faster

It must contain serenity
For those who calm do seek
It must not overwhelm the world
Perhaps a meandering streak

But most of all, it should reflect
The love for His Son by the Giver
Ah yes, nothing could be more fitting
I will create a river

Alas, I will create many
But the most beautiful shall be where?
Amongst equivalent beauty
Behold! The Delaware

President Signs Visitor Center Bill

On December 3, 1999, President Bill Clinton signed into law the "Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River Mongaup Visitor Center Act of 1999."

Public Law 106-119 authorizes the National Park Service (NPS) to construct and operate a visitor center on New York State-owned land within the Department of Environmental Conservation's 11,855-acre Mongaup Valley Wildlife Management Area. It does not include any funding at this time. A separate appropriations bill or alternative funding source will be required.

The estimated planning and development costs for the Mongaup Visitor Center at the selected 55-acre site off State Route 97 in the Town of Deerpark (Orange County, NY) is \$7 million. Annual operating costs are estimated at \$300,000.

The Upper Delaware Council has been a strong advocate for the facility, envisioned by the 1986 River Management Plan to serve as a primary visitor contact facility at the southern terminus of the river corridor.

UDC Executive Director Bill Douglass traveled to Washington, D.C. on July 13, 1999 to testify before a House of Representatives committee at the invitation of the bill's sponsor, Congressman Ben Gilman, then again on October 13 in support of U.S. Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan's similar legislation.

The bill passed the House on October 12 and won the Senate's favor on November 19, at which time the bill was cleared for the White House.

A companion bill that would have authorized a 10-year extension of the Upper

Delaware Citizen Advisory Council's (CAC) charter did not pass during the first session of the 106th Congress.

"We are very grateful for the actions of our political representatives and President Clinton in moving the Mongaup Visitor Center project closer to reality," Douglass noted.

Congressman Gilman thanked the citizens of the Upper Delaware Valley for their patience in awaiting this action he characterized as "long overdue."

The visitor center, according to Gilman, "will benefit the community in many respects, serving as an educational asset, a local museum, a classroom and as a driving force in promotion of the natural and historical resources of the region."

The NPS will seek input on the design. ❖

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.

Upper Delaware Council
P.O. Box 192
Narrowsburg, NY 12764-0192

Return Service Requested

NONPROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT No. 7
NARROWSBURG, NY