

# The Upper Delaware

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

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

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Lumberland Town Historian Frank V. Schwarz, right, consults with student assistants Jennifer Morley and Chris Cappello over the identities of two of the oldest gravestones in the Glen Spey Cemetery. The deterioration of the markers exemplifies the value of inventorying these historic community resources to guard against the ravages of time. (Photo by Laurie Ramie)

## Cemetery Project Records The Dead for The Living

This past summer, six cemeteries were the haunting grounds for a trio armed with notepads, measuring tape, tissue paper, a video camera and a digital camera.

Lumberland Town Historian Frank V. Schwarz and local students Jennifer Morley and Christopher Cappello were on a mission to record the size, location, condition, and inscription of every grave marker in the town's major cemeteries.

The Upper Delaware Council awarded the Town of Lumberland \$3,300 through its 1999 Technical Assistance Grant (TAG) program to implement Schwarz's idea to conduct the cemetery inventory and produce an index of their findings.

Total expenditures for the project offi-

cially completed on Sept. 25, 2000 came to \$3,525.57, with the town donating the use of audio-visual and office equipment.

"This was a very creative application of TAG funds to help satisfy a community's desire to preserve its heritage," remarked UDC Executive Director Bill Douglass. "With the thorough job accomplished by Frank and his assistants, this project may now serve as a model for other interested towns and townships in the river valley."

Active as the town's historian since 1985, Schwarz had the past and the future in mind when he proposed this project.

"We started this and followed through on it so that 25 years down the line, we will

Please see "CEMETERY" on Page 7

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

# Representative Profile: Frederick J. Gerty

Fred Gerty is a patient man. In his line of work, one has to be.

"Forestry is a real long-term project. It's not about instant gratification. You have to consider, it takes 6 to 10 years for a Christmas tree to grow," he remarks.

While he was raised as a child in urban Huntington, Long Island, Gerty grew up in the shadow of a 1,000-acre golf course surrounded by woods and always felt right at home in the great outdoors.

He decided to attend the College of Environmental Science at SUNY Syracuse and obtained a Bachelor of Science Degree in Forestry in 1963. Gerty then embarked on a two-year stint with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, working in Arkansas, Texas, and Oklahoma as a platoon leader of a construction engineer company.

In February of 1966, Gerty signed on as one of 80 foresters working throughout New York State for the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC).

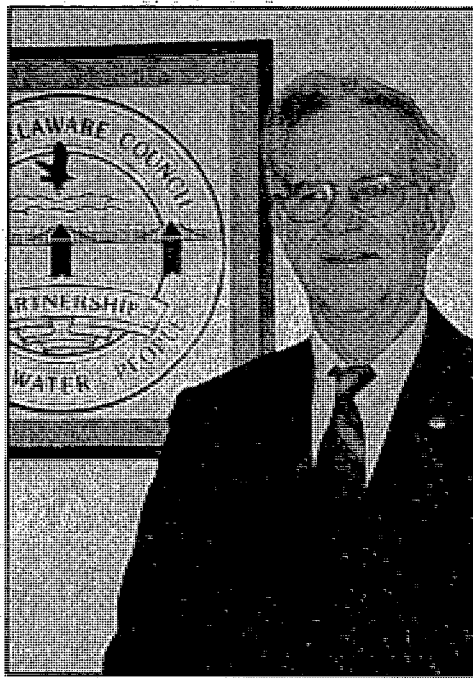
He's been with the agency ever since. In 1985, Gerty was promoted to Regional Forester. In that capacity, he coordinates the forestry program for the seven-county Southeast New York Region 3, overseeing a staff of nine from the DEC's Region 3 headquarters in New Paltz.

The job brings Gerty much satisfaction. "No two days are ever the same, and it is very rewarding and challenging to be working with a natural resource, as well as dedicated landowners and professionals with an eye toward the long-term future," he says.

Region 3 encompasses 21,000 acres of State Land and 178,000 of the 200,000-acre Catskill Forest Preserve. The DEC foresters work with private landowners on forest stewardship projects and with communities seeking advice on urban forestry issues, as well as providing vital input to agency personnel for the development of the state's Open Space Plan and various Unit Management Plans.

"Management plans serve the public and the state by focusing activities and prioritizing attention," Gerty says of the current plans in the works for the Mongaup Valley Wildlife Management Area, Stewart State Forest in Newburgh, and the final section of Region 3's Catskill State Forest Preserve.

For as long as the Upper Delaware Council has been in existence, Gerty has been part of its membership. In March of 1988, Region 3 Natural Resource Supervisor Bruce MacMillan and Gerty were appointed as the state's Representative and Alternate, respectively. Upon MacMillan's retirement from the DEC last sum-



Fred Gerty, NYS DEC

mer, Gerty assumed the status of UDC Representative.

"The Council has certainly served a very valuable role in coordinating the work going on at the national, state, and local level, and serving as a meeting ground," Gerty notes. "I try to bring a state perspective to issues that arise and deal with them honestly and factually. There's a lot of rumor and misunderstandings out there. My role is to be an information source."

With tentative plans to retire from the DEC in April of 2001, Gerty has no shortage of personal projects to pursue.

Fred, 59, and his wife of 35 years, Carol Ann, a registered nurse, reside in the Ulster County town of Gardiner on a three-horse and chicken farm. They have two daughters, Alice Marie, a veterinarian in Britton, SD, and Audra Beth of Rhinebeck, who works for the Poughkeepsie Chamber of Commerce.

A member of the Society of American Foresters, Gerty has done volunteer work since the 1970s with the Dutchess-Putnam County Appalachian Trail Management Committee. He enjoys hiking in this national linear park.

Gerty is also active with the Dutchess County Dominica Partnership, an international effort to aid the Caribbean, tropical forested Leeward Island with small scale development and improvement projects.

Other hobbies are photography, gardening, and sailing. Gerty is also a science fiction writer and has already completed one manuscript for a trilogy of books set in the year 2150 for which he would like to test out publishing markets after retiring. ♦

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The Upper Delaware is a free quarterly publication of the Upper Delaware Council, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization composed 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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# Rt. 97 Scenic Byway Committee Aims To Educate Officials on Plan

The Route 97 Scenic Byway Committee will offer a presentation targeted to local town officials when the group meets tentatively on Thursday, January 18, in Narrowsburg, NY. Inclement weather date is Jan. 29.

Over the past several months, the Tourism, Roads, and Management Subcommittees have engaged in monthly discussions on important issues related to the proposed designation of Route 97 as a New York State Scenic Byway.

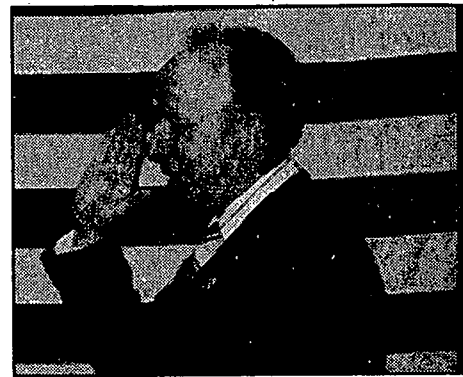
Working with consultants, representatives from the Towns of Hancock, Fremont, Delaware, Cochection, Tusten, Highland, Lumberland, Deerpark, City of Port Jervis, Village of Hancock, and Sullivan County, have been developing the components of a Route 97 Enhancement Concept Plan that is slated for unveiling to the New York State Scenic Advisory Board in April 2001.

The Upper Delaware Council, National Park Service, and Sullivan County Visitors Association have also been actively participating on the committee.

January's presentation is designed to share the information gathered to date, explain how the nomination process works, and get input. A second presentation for the general public is being planned.

For further details on the meeting time and its specific location, call the Sullivan County Division of Planning and Community Development at (845) 794-3000, ext. 5028.

To learn more about the Scenic Byway effort and to review minutes from the monthly meetings, log onto the web site: <http://www.portjervisny.org/scenicbyway97.htm> temporarily hosted by the City of Port Jervis and maintained by City Historian Peter Osborne. ♦



2001 Chairperson Larry Richardson

## UDC Elects Officers

The Upper Delaware Council has nominated Larry H. Richardson from the Town of Cochection as Chairperson for 2001.

Alan Bowers, Westfall Township, Pa., was tapped as Vice-Chairperson while Lewis Schmalzle, Town of Highland, will serve as Secretary-Treasurer.

The swearing-in ceremony for the new officers was slated at the Council's Annual Meeting on January 4, after this newsletter's printing deadline. Additional coverage will follow in the Spring issue of *The Upper Delaware*. ♦

## Growing Greener in Pennsylvania

Close to 400 people turned out for a pep rally/conference held October 13-14 in State College to celebrate the first 303 days of Growing Greener in Pennsylvania.

The Growing Greener initiative, signed into law by Governor Tom Ridge on Dec. 15, 1999, pledged \$650 million over five years to fund environmental improvement projects in the Commonwealth.

The successful "Pennsylvania Watershed Conference: Restoration and Protection" was sponsored by the PA Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and the PA Organization for Watersheds and Rivers (POWR).

"What this is really about is energizing people," DEP Secretary James Seif told the enthusiastic participants. "Each of you is a clean stream dream team."

"The beauty of Growing Greener is that this is taking the decisions back to the local, watershed levels," Seif added.

Growing Greener offers grants to address local needs and has provided \$1 million to fund watershed specialist positions in each PA county.

In addition to offering a report card on the program and information on how to participate, the conference also featured helpful workshops on watershed issues. ♦

## Lower Delaware River Named Wild & Scenic

On October 17, 2000, the U.S. House of Representatives passed legislation to designate 65.6 miles of the Lower Delaware River in New Jersey and Pennsylvania as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

The bill, first proposed 22 years ago, awards federal money for conservation efforts and prohibits federally financed dams, highways, and other infrastructure from encroachment on the river section.

A citizens advisory committee coordinated through the Delaware River Greenway Partnership will implement the Lower Delaware River's general management plan.

Twenty-four municipalities that the Lower Delaware flows through passed resolutions supporting the designation. The area includes Belvidere, NJ south to Washington Crossing, Pa. on the main stem, as well as three tributaries.

The Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River and the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area (Middle Delaware) were each designated to the System in 1978, representing approximately 110 river miles.

With this latest addition, over half of the longest free-flowing river in the East will come under various levels of federal protection. ♦

### 'Ed Web' Benefits Watershed Educators

A new on-line resource is available to help teachers and students of all ages learn about the Delaware River Basin and general water issues.

'Ed Web' was created by the Delaware River Watershed Education Task Force and is hosted by the Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC).

It can be found at [www.drbc.net](http://www.drbc.net) (choose Ed Web) or [www.state.nj.us/drbc/edweb](http://www.state.nj.us/drbc/edweb). Visitors can access maps, general watershed information, educational resources and lesson plans, environmental field trip ideas, and upcoming educational opportunities throughout the Delaware River Basin.

The Delaware River Watershed Education Task Force is an informal group including representatives from Alliance for a Sustainable Future, DRBC, Heritage Conservancy, National Park Service, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Partnership for the Delaware Estuary, Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Pocono Environmental Education Center, Princeton University, and Stroud Water Research Center.

Persons interested in contributing to Ed Web should contact DRBC Assistant Public Information Officer Clarke Rupert at (609) 883-9500 ext. 260, or by e-mail at [crupert@drbc.state.nj.us](mailto:crupert@drbc.state.nj.us). Anyone interested in joining the task force is invited to call Russ Johnson at the Heritage Conservancy, (215) 345-7026 ext. 107. ♦

# Shad Numbers Are Back on Track

By David B. Soete  
UDC Senior Resource Specialist

American shad (*Alosa sapidissima*) numbers for 2000 appeared to return to the levels observed in previous years after the yet unexplained low estimate in 1999. Overall, the shad run this past year could be considered an average one, considering the similarity in estimates of the past eight years.

Fish counts were made by echo-integration this past Spring. The State of New Jersey, Division of Fish and Wildlife, in cooperation with the Delaware River Basin Fish and Wildlife Management Cooperative - Fisheries Technical Committee, conducted a hydroacoustic sampling of American shad, as they have done for six out of the last nine years.

The Cooperative is made up of fisheries experts from the Delaware River basin states of New Jersey, Delaware, New York, and Pennsylvania, as well as the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The cost of the monitoring program is quite expensive and shared by the Cooperative's member states. With a price tag totaling approximately \$50,000, the monitoring is not done every year.

Transducers strategically placed on the Route 202 Lambertville Toll Bridge (River Mile 150) emit sound (sonar) waves which bounce off the fish. The technology is very similar to the fish finders used by anglers.

Each span of the Bridge is monitored. Different species of fish reflect the waves differently, so they are distinguishable from each other.

The returning waves are intercepted and then processed by a computer using calculations, including time, speed of the fish, and the volume of water, to give an estimate of the number of shad that pass by.

Since shad travel in large schools, it is necessary to use interpolation methods to make an estimate from the dense mass of fish. The idea is to give an estimate of the general trend of the run, not a specific number of individual fish, though the results are often used for that purpose.

Barnes-Williams Environmental Consultants, LLC, the firm that did the actual monitoring, produced an unpublished report titled "2000 American Shad Spawning Migration Hydroacoustic Monitoring Study."

The Executive Summary of that report included the following:

1. The American shad migration-monitoring program began on 1 April 2000 and continued through 31 May 2000.

2. Using the hydroacoustic tech-

## SHAD PASSAGE ESTIMATES FOR SELECT YEARS DELAWARE RIVER at LAMBERTVILLE, NEW JERSEY

YEAR	STUDY PERIOD	SHAD PASSAGE ESTIMATE*
1992	7 April to 6 May	327,800 +/- 8,600
1995	1 April to 9 May	289,900 +/- 9,600
1996	1 April to 31 May	524,300 +/- 2,800
1998	1 April to 31 May	392,700 +/- 2,500
1999	1 April to 31 May	24,700 +/- 300
2000	1 April to 31 May	382,200 +/- 2,700

(\* 95% Confidence Interval)

Source: 2000 American Shad Spawning Migration Hydroacoustic Monitoring Study, Barnes-Williams Environmental Consultants, LLC

nique of echo integration, American shad upstream passage in the Delaware River at Lambertville, NJ was monitored from the Interstate 202 Toll Bridge piers.

3. American shad schools were visually distinguished from other large fish targets by their distinct echo pattern. In recent years, gizzard shad (*Dorosoma cepedianum*) have become prevalent in the Delaware River. It was assumed that American shad schools could be visually distinguished from gizzard shad (and other resident species/schools) based on their observed distinct hydroacoustic echo pattern, school size, and unique behavioral characteristics (individual spacing, spatial & temporal distribution, etc.) at the site.

4. Shad passage was highest on 8 and 13 April, and 1 and 3 May. Approximately 91% of the 2000 upstream American shad run passed the toll bridge during these four days.

5. Shad passage was generally greatest in wetted bridge span 4, which has the greatest cross-sectional area. Approximately 87% of the 2000 shad run passed the toll bridge using span 4.

6. Shad passage was highest in the daylight hours from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm (eastern standard time) with peaks at 8:00-9:00 am and 4:00-5:00 pm. Shad passage was low during darkness periods.

7. Delaware River discharge was slightly below normal (relative to historical flow data) in the first two weeks of April and in the first week of May. Discharge was above normal in the last week of April and in the last week of May with peaks on 23 April and 26 May. American shad passage was generally greatest during periods of reduced flows.

8. Total American shad passage at Lambertville during the 61-day monitoring

period was estimated to be 382,200 +/- 2,700 fish (95% Confidence Interval). This estimate is significantly greater than the 1999 estimate, but it is similar in magnitude to estimates derived for other previously monitored years at the toll bridge location.

It should be noted that the Barnes-Williams report also presents an alternative method for estimating the shad passage using a different figure for the "Shad Density Extrapolation Volume (m<sup>3</sup>)" which is plugged into the calculations.

That new figure is based on migration behavior in that there is a greater density of shad near the bottom of the river in the volume of water being sampled. All previous year's estimates assumed that the shad were uniformly distributed in the water column from the top surface to the river bottom, which is just not the case.

Using the alternate sampling method, the shad estimate for 2000 is only 262,800 with a 95% confidence interval limit, instead of 382,200. The alternative method would also result in considerably lower estimates for the other years sampled.

Juvenile American shad samples taken in August, September, and October were the sixth highest on record - an encouraging sign.

### Unanswered Questions

This year's adult American shad counts were highly variable and fish seemed to pass the transducers sporadically throughout the spawning run.

There is a concern that this hydroacoustic sampling method may be missing individual shad and small schools. The interpolation methods used make some assumptions that could result in misleading data.

Some shad were counted on the first

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The Upper Delaware

**"SHAD," continued from Page 4**

day of the monitoring on April 1st, so it is possible that some shad could have passed by before that and were not counted. Shad were recorded on only 18 of the 61 days monitored.

Remarkably, an estimated 219,933 shad passed the monitoring site on a single day - April 13, 2000. The last day any shad were recorded was May 5th.

Anglers caught shad in low numbers during most of the run near the Route 178 Bridge when none were recorded at the monitoring site less than a quarter mile up-river.

Shad behavior needs to be better understood. What flows, water temperatures, or other factors trigger the upstream migration? There are still a lot of unanswered questions.

There remains no reasonable explanation for the low index count of 24,700 recorded in 1999.

It is thought that low flows and high water temperatures might have resulted in an early run, causing the shad to pass the Lambertville Bridge before the monitoring equipment was set up.

Predation and harvest from unknown fisheries could have played a role.

The hydroacoustic gear was also offline for a period of time during April.

Another theory is that, with the better water quality in the lower part of the Delaware River, more shad may be finding suitable spawning habitat below the Lambertville Bridge and thus never pass the transducers.

Was the monitoring flawed, or was it just a bad year for shad?

#### **Future Monitoring**

In light of these unanswered questions, the Delaware River Basin Fish and Wildlife Management Cooperative is considering ways to improve and better verify the hydroacoustic monitoring in the future.

Hydroacoustic sampling in 2001 is scheduled for ten weeks starting earlier in mid-March. Sampling programs will continue as a result of requirements in the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission Shad Management Plan.

If funding can be obtained, proposed plans are to use radio telemetry to investigate the timing and duration of movement of shad into the Delaware River.

American shad spawning immigration in the Delaware River lasts for about eight weeks, approximately mid-March through mid-May.

It is proposed to release radio-tagged fish in groups of 10 in two-week intervals over the eight-week spawning period.

Fish will be captured by hook and line or electrofishing and fitted with radio tags through stomach implant.



**Shad caught in the Upper Delaware River**  
(Photo by David B. Soete)

Capture location will be approximately at Trenton, NJ (River Mile 130). Fish will be released at their capture location.

Tracking will consist of aerial and boat surveys. Fish finders will be used to locate aggregations of fish below the Lambertville Bridge.

**Anyone catching a shad with a tag is asked to please call 1-800-448-8322 to report the date, location, method of capture and tag number.**

Mark (tag)/recapture methods are also proposed to provide understanding of current shad movement and harvest patterns in the river.

One complication of the tagging and radio telemetry is that shad are sensitive to being handled. Some could die as a result or return back to the ocean without spawning. Once a shad is removed from the school, it is uncertain how its behavior will change or if it is more susceptible to predators.

The States will recruit log book cooperators from anglers who routinely fish near the Lambertville Bridge to help identify movement and presence of shad in the area. Fishing Guides' reports for the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River will also provide useful information.

A creel survey is planned for 2002. The goal is to have a comprehensive, river-wide log program in place in 2002 for comparison with the intercept surveys. ♦

## **Upper Delaware Fishery Interests Appeal for Consistent River Flows**

A delegation of proponents for a healthy Upper Delaware fishery attended the Nov. 15, 2000 meeting of the Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC) in Langhorne, Pa. to emphasize the need for steady river flows and releases.

Members of Trout Unlimited (TU) and the newly formed Delaware River Foundation chartered a bus to transport Upper Delaware River fishing guides, outfitters, conservationists, municipal leaders, business operators, tourism promoters, and others impacted by the angling industry to the DRBC meeting. The Upper Delaware Council and National Park Service Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River were also represented.

The delegation impressed upon the Commissioners the correlation between river flows and the aquatic ecosystem, focusing on the spin-off effects that can result from inconsistent water levels.

In first-hand accounts, they spoke of the negative impacts that the low flows which were experienced during the past year on the Upper Delaware River, its West and East Branches, and the Neversink River have had on the region's cold-water trout fishery.

Not only does low water jeopardize the protection of the fish and their habitat, delegation members said, but also poor fishing conditions significantly affect the local economy through a reduction of income by angling-related businesses and from a loss of important tourism trade.

"Our objective is to improve the flow release system from the three (New York City water supply) reservoirs to positively impact trout fishing and the economy. Our goals are to increase flows and help develop a better flow management regime in conjunction with New York City's needs," TU Catskills Coordinator Nat Gillespie remarked.

Trout Unlimited has recently hired hydrology and fishing experts to compile data based on sound science to develop recommendations for improving the Upper Delaware fishery. The DRBC-commissioned study, "Strategy for Resolving Interstate Flow Management Issues in the Delaware River Basin," is also progressing toward an expected Spring 2001 completion. Consultants have been in contact with more than 100 groups and individuals to gather data concerning flow needs for various river uses and experiences. The Upper Delaware Council has contributed information for that study. ♦

# Zane Grey's Birthday Celebrated Jan. 26-28

Prolific author Zane Grey (1872-1939) will be remembered locally with a series of events in proximity to his January 31st date of birth.

Grey and his family resided in Lackawaxen, Pa. from 1905 to 1918, where the man later to be known as "The Father of the Western Novel" honed his career writing about his fishing exploits along the Upper Delaware River. The small riverside community is also the final resting place for Zane and Dolly Grey.

The National Park Service acquired the Grey homestead in 1989. Now a museum and gift shop, tours are offered seasonally for a nominal fee. Each birthday weekend, however, the ranger-guided tours are free.

Throughout the month of January, the Pike County Public Library located at 201 Broad St., Milford, will host "Celebrate Zane Grey."

The library's exhibit will include special displays and a collection of Grey's most famous works. For information and hours, call (570) 296-8211.

On Friday, January 26, a 7:30 p.m. program titled "Zane Grey and *The Vanishing American*" will be presented by Zane Grey's West Society in the Foundation Room at The Columns, the museum of the Pike County Historical Society, located at 608 Broad St., Milford.

The program will detail how Harper & Brothers refused to publish the ending that the author wanted for this 1925 book. Grey's son Loren intends to re-publish *The Vanishing American* with its original ending.

The National Park Service will be on hand with displays at the Friday evening program as well. For more information, call the Pike County Historical Society at (570) 296-8126.

On January 27 and 28, the free tours of the Zane Grey Museum on Scenic Drive in Lackawaxen will be available from noon to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

Afterwards, head to the Lackawaxen Fire Hall on Route 590, where members of Zane Grey's West Society will have refreshments, door prizes, informal discussions, and exhibits.

They will also be showing movies and videos, including "White Death" (starring Zane Grey himself), "Vanishing American" and "A Tribute to Zane Grey."

For more information on all the Zane Grey activities, see the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River's web site at [www.nps.gov/upde/ZGBday](http://www.nps.gov/upde/ZGBday) or call (570) 685-4871.

Zane Grey's West Society also has a web page: [www.zanegreysws.org](http://www.zanegreysws.org). ♦

## Documentary Focuses on Delaware River

A one-hour video documentary on the Delaware River was released in December following seven months of filming and production by Blue Ridge Communications.

"Down the Upper Delaware: A Sojourn Through Time and Place" explores the history, wildlife, and ecological balance of the river valley from glacial formation to contemporary recreational playground.

TV-13 Eyewatch News Bureau Chief Paul Kargo wrote and hosts the documentary co-produced by Robert Lasky. Steve Tanczyn served as chief videographer for the ambitious project which followed the Delaware River from its headwaters in the Catskill Mountains to the Delaware Bay

Estuary through changing seasons.

The video also includes interviews with river experts, archival photos, and an original musical score by Gary Owen.

Blue Ridge Communications plans to air the special this month then market the documentary nationally. Copies are available for sale via [www.brctv.com](http://www.brctv.com) or by contacting Dean Hoiser at (610) 826-9123. ♦

## Watch That Ice!

Ever wonder how to tell if ice is strong enough to support you?

According to a chart produced by the American Pulpwood Association, clear lake ice of 2 inches will hold one person on foot while 3 inches will do for a group walking in single file. The permissible load for a passenger vehicle is 7-1/2 inches of ice. A foot of ice is required to support a heavy truck (7-8 ton gross).

Strengths for clear, blue river ice should be reduced by 15% of above.

## Calendar of Events

### BALD EAGLE FIELD TRIPS

The Eagle Institute has scheduled guided habitat field trips on **Jan. 20** and **Feb. 24**. The cost of \$35 (\$30 members) includes a slide show, bus transportation, eagle viewing, and lunch. Call (845) 557-6162. Advance registration is required.

### WATER MONITORS SUMMIT

A Summit of Volunteer Watershed Monitors will convene **Feb. 23-24** in State College, Pa.

Sponsors are the PA Department of Environmental Protection Citizens' Volunteer Monitoring Program, the Volunteer Watershed Monitoring Network Steering Committee, and the PA Organization for Watersheds and Rivers.

Call (717) 787-5259 or e-mail [citizens.monitoring@dep.state.pa.us](mailto:citizens.monitoring@dep.state.pa.us).

### RIVER VALLEY SYMPOSIUM

The Upper Delaware Heritage Alliance and Upper Delaware Council will sponsor "From the Ice Age to the Information Age: An Upper Delaware Symposium" on Saturday, **May 5**, at Central House Resort in Beach Lake, Pa.

Experts in such fields as history, geology, and architecture will address the development of the Upper Delaware region. Lunch, refreshment breaks, the publication of proceedings, and historical exhibits will be part of the day.

Please contact Laurie Ramie at (845) 252-3022 or [udcramie@ezaccess.net](mailto:udcramie@ezaccess.net).

### DELAWARE RIVER SOJOURN

The 7th Annual Delaware River Sojourn "2001: A River Odyssey" will kick off in Hankins, NY on **June 16** and end **June 23** at Pea Patch Island, DE, paddling canoes and kayaks through four states.

To register, contact the Delaware River Greenway Partnership at (908) 996-0230 or [drpg@earthlink.net](mailto:drpg@earthlink.net).

### DATE CHANGE FOR D & H

New dates have been announced for the Delaware & Hudson (D&H) Symposium, now to be held **October 26-28** at the Salvation Army Ladore Lodge and Conference Center in Waymart, Pa.

Sponsored by the Wayne County, Carbondale, and Waymart Area Historical Societies, Far View Tracks to Trails, and the D&H Transportation Heritage Council, the three-day event will feature speakers, exhibits, and field trips. On-site lodging and meal packages are available.

Contact Jane M. Varcoe at (570) 488-6750 or [janev@socantel.net](mailto:janev@socantel.net).

**"CEMETERY," continued from Page 1**

have this record," he said, hefting the four-volume product that resulted from the year-long planning and implementation effort.

The impressive index includes maps of and directions to the six cemeteries inventoried (Glen Spey, Berme, Andrew Paye, Upper Mongaup, Lower Mongaup, and Van Tuyl), with digital photographs of 905 stones or markers, measurements of each, and copies of the inscriptions when legible.

Each cemetery was also videotaped one stone at a time for future physical cross-reference purposes and inscription enhancement. Schwarz also researched the process of grave stone rubbing to accentuate hard-to-read wording.

To help with the data collection,

**"We hope that this will be the beginning of some kind of long-term preservation for the cemeteries."**

**- Town of Lumberland Historian Frank V. Schwarz**

Schwarz asked Eldred High School to announce the availability of two summer jobs as Historian Assistants to its graduating senior class.

Jennifer Morley of Mohican Lake and Christopher Cappello of Glen Spey were hired to work from late June to mid-August. They earned every penny of their \$8 hourly wage, according to Project Director Schwarz, who was impressed by their work ethics and computer proficiency.

Cappello said he responded to the ad because the work sounded interesting and would give him a chance to learn more about his hometown history.

Morley, who admitted to being a little "creeped out" about spending so much time in cemeteries at first, was dismayed at the toll that age has taken on many of the gravestones rendered indistinguishable.

The students were challenged along the way by heat, weeds, bugs, and equipment failures that sometimes necessitated repeating phases of the project.

"We had goals in mind to keep on track

but toward the end, it got hectic," recalled Schwarz. "I thought if we did three cemeteries it would be a great accomplishment but in the back of my mind, I hoped for six."

The undaunted attitude of the students helped make that possible.

Both 18 years old, Morley currently studies music and theater at Orange County Community College, while Cappello is a math major at the University of Scranton.

The index that the trio created is an invaluable time-saving tool for anyone attempting to find local burial sites or research their ancestors.

It has also opened up new insights into Lumberland's heritage. At Schwarz's recommendation, the town has ordered several historic markers to highlight noteworthy cemetery findings that will refer back to the index for further information.

The earliest legible grave found through the inventory belongs to J. Van Tuyl, who died in 1814 and is appropriately laid to rest in the Van Tuyl Cemetery.

Easily the largest memorial fashioned in the shape of a pyramid in the Glen Spey Cemetery belongs to the founder of that hamlet, George Ross MacKenzie (1820-1892) of Singer Sewing Machine Co. fame.

There are also numerous poignant examples of infant graves, unidentified veterans, stones that have eroded beyond any recognition, and epitaphs lost forever to weather and neglect.

"This project captured the identity of our early Lumberland settlers and residents," Schwarz said, noting that the town dates back to 1798.

But it also raised a troubling question:

"We inventoried about 900 graves in the six major cemeteries, but census records tell us that over 1,600 people lived here in the 1800s...so where are they all?" Schwarz asked.

He suspects there are unmarked grave yards and stones in Lumberland that have not yet been identified.

On that basis, Schwarz anticipates the need for a second phase of this project that would seek out those currently unknown burial sites and further explore newer or

# In Memoriam ...

## Karl L. Werkheiser UDC Accountant

Karl L. Werkheiser of Newfoundland, Pa., died December 10, 2000 at Mercy Hospice in Scranton. He was 74.

Karl was employed by the Upper Delaware Council, Inc. as a part-time accountant from 1993 to 1995.

After leaving the UDC, Karl served as a part-time administrative assistant for the Devereaux Foundation in Newfoundland from 1995 to 1999.

A native of Hellertown, Pa., Karl is survived by his wife, Joyce (Snyder) Werkheiser; two daughters, Karen J. Miskinis of Pocono Summit and Lois Faye Misunas of Hansom Air Force Base, Mass.; brothers Kenneth and George, both of Allentown; and five grandchildren.

The World War II Navy veteran obtained his accounting degree at Rider College in Trenton, NJ. His professional career included various accounting and administrative positions at Lehigh University, Northampton Community College, and Lafayette College.

Memorial contributions may be made to the organ fund at Hemlock Grove United Methodist Church in Newfoundland or to Mercy Hospice in Scranton.

less prominent cemetery sections.

"Our next step as a town will be, how can we manage, preserve, and protect these precious historic sites; and place emphasis and respect for the physical enhancement for all of our Town of Lumberland cemeteries," Schwarz said.

UDC Technical Assistance Grants are available annually to member towns and townships for planning, studies, educational materials, and projects identified in the River Management Plan. Application materials for the 2001 round will be distributed by June. Since 1988, the Council has awarded \$451,241 through its TAG program to benefit 112 river valley projects. ♦

## 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 (845) 252-3022.

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Sandra Schultz, assistant superintendent of National Park Service Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River, waits as China International Exchange Center Travel Coordinator Henry Chou, center, translates her message to Yang Ho Bo, deputy director of the Sichuan Provincial Construction Commission, during the Sichuan National Park Delegation's fact-finding visit to the Upper Delaware on October 25, 2000. (Photo by Laurie Ramie)

## Chinese Delegation Visits Upper Delaware

Twenty-six park managers, government officials, landscapers, builders, and tourism boosters from the Sichuan Province of China included the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River on the itinerary of their nearly three-week tour of the United States.

The delegation was interested in learning about how America's national parks operate and exploring landscaping techniques.

Explanations of the Upper Delaware unit of the National Park System's unique management structure, in which federal jurisdiction is limited to the river itself while the majority of land remains privately owned, appeared to amaze the friendly visitors.

The National Park Service (NPS) Upper Delaware staff hosted the delegation and provided a fall-inspired luncheon of apple cider, potato soup, sandwiches, and pumpkin pie. NPS Assistant Superintendent Sandra Schultz and Upper Delaware Council Chairperson Harold G. Roeder, Jr. addressed the group at the NPS headquarters in Beach Lake, Pa. prior to a tour of Roebling's Delaware Aqueduct in Minisink Ford, NY.

Arrangements for the bus visit were made by the China International Exchange Center to coincide with a later stop that day at the United Nations in New York City.

Located in southwestern China, Sichuan Province is noted for its number of designated scenic spots, natural and cultural heritage areas, and a World Biosphere Reserve, and is home to more than 100 species of rare animals and one-third of the species of plants in China. The province has a population of 84.3 million. ♦

## Funds Allocated For Visitor Center

The Federal Highway Administration will provide \$791,100 for the planning and design of the Mongaup Visitor Center.

The competitive funding was included in the federal FY 2001 Transportation Bill signed into law on October 23, 2000.

The National Park Service has proposed building and operating a primary visitor contact facility at the southern gateway to the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River, on New York state-owned land within the Mongaup Valley Wildlife Management Area, Town of Deerpark.

"The visitor center will benefit our community in many respects," noted Congressman Benjamin A. Gilman, whose Dec. 1999 legislation authorized the facility. "It will serve as an educational asset, a local museum, a class room and as a driving force in promotion of the natural and historical resources of the region."

After the planning and design phase of the project is complete, funds must be secured for the construction of the center, with preliminary estimates at \$7 million. ♦

## Send Nominations

The Upper Delaware Council seeks nominations for its 13th Annual Awards Banquet to be held on April 22, 2001 at The Waterfront at Ehrhard's on Lake Wallenpaupack, Hawley, Pa.

Awards are presented to individuals, groups, businesses, communities, and agencies whose actions in the past year or over time have enhanced the river valley or protected its resources.

Nomination forms with complete details, available from Laurie Ramie at (845) 252-3022 or [udcramie@ezaccess.net](mailto:udcramie@ezaccess.net), are due by March 1st. ♦

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 (845) 252-3022 for specific meeting dates and agendas.

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