The nearly 90 participants in Day 1 of the 7th Annual Delaware River Sojourn (June 16-23) paddle around a bend of the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River to land at the Callicoon, PA Access for a lunch break. The Sojourn’s first leg featured a 15-mile river trip from Hankins, NY to Milanville, PA. Seen in the background, above, is the former St. Joseph’s Seraphic Seminary, now the Delaware Valley Job Corps Center, in Callicoon, NY. Pictured below, Yardley, PA residents Emily Kraeck, 5, and Janina Rudolph, 6, fortify with fruit before the launch. Day 2 took the Sojourners from Milanville to Ten Mile River Access. The Sojourn raises awareness of the Delaware River’s diversity and special values. (Photos by Laurie Ramie)
Upper Delaware Profile: Allan Schadt

Juggling a full-time job to earn a living, a part-time elected position with around-the-clock responsibilities, community service, and a desire for quality family time keep Town of Highland Supervisor Allan Schadt constantly on the go.

"I come home to eat and sleep basically," Schadt says.

Since 1996, Schadt has been Highland's supervisor and an alternate representative to the Upper Delaware Council.

Schadt credits his understanding family, a supportive employer, his motivated Town Hall colleagues, and the conscientious service of Highland's UDC Representative Lew Schmalzle with enabling and assisting him to meet all his obligations.

Schadt works a 5 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. shift as Non-foods Manager at Shoprite supermarket in Monticello so that he's available for afternoon office hours at the Highland Town Hall, and to attend night meetings and town-related functions.

"It's a little tough but I try to be there every day. I put in 25-30 hours a week at the Town Hall but people always know where to find me otherwise," Schadt says.

Public service has always been a part of the 46-year-old's life. The one-time captain of the Highland Lake Fire Department served as a Town Councilman for six years before running for Supervisor. With his victory at the polls in November of 1995, Schadt became Highland's first supervisor to serve the town exclusively as Sullivan County moved from a Board of Supervisors format to a nine-district Legislature.

Now in his third term as supervisor, Schadt is pleased by the teamwork of the all-Democrat Highland Town Board to make careful and informed decisions.

He runs what he calls deliberately "loose" public meetings to offer plenty of opportunity for local input in town affairs.

"I think audience participation is important because they might have a better idea on how to do something than we do. What I really like is working with the people," Schadt says.

Schadt's most pressing goals for the Town of Highland are to stabilize the equalization rate for the tax situation and to encourage economic development.

He would like to see the construction of a new town highway barn, development of a town recreational park, and the restoration of town-owned historic buildings.

Born in Goshen, NY, Schadt and his family - parents Alex and Helen, and brothers Tim and Steven - made their weekend retreat at the Excelsior Sportmen's Club in Eldred their permanent home when Allan was nine years old.

Schadt graduated in 1974 from Eldred High School and the Office Practices & Bookkeeping Program at Sullivan County BOCES.

His first jobs were working at Eldred Preserve and for the U.S. Postal Service as a rural mail carrier in Eldred with a three-year stint working for a maintenance firm. He's been employed by Shoprite for 20 years.

Allan and his wife of 25 years, Alice, a cafeteria assistant at George Ross Elementary School in Glen Spey, reside in a home they built in Eldred. The couple has two daughters, Alicia Schadt, 20, and Amanda Gore, 24, and are the doting grandparents of Patrick, 5; Christine, 2; and Codie, 11 months.

In his rare free time, Schadt enjoys taking Patrick lake fishing, as he has fond memories of doing in his youth here. Schadt loves the outdoors and the scenic beauty of the Upper Delaware River Valley.

Having had opportunities for permanent work transfers, Schadt turned them down, noting, "The same thing that attracts the tourists here is what keeps me here."

In addition to his duties as Town Supervisor and UDC alternate, Schadt is president of the Excelsior Hunting Club, a member of the Supervisors' Association of Sullivan County and the Highland Lake Fire Department, and an honorary member of the Highland Senior Citizens Club.

Far from having any qualms about growing older, Schadt looks forward to aging so that he legitimately qualifies for the programs at the Highland Senior Center.

"I can't wait to join. There's such a great attitude everywhere I go there. The people really enjoy themselves and there's always, something going on," he says.

Maybe then Schadt can slow down.
UDC Accepting Applications for Technical Grants

The Upper Delaware Council (UDC) is pleased to announce the availability of planning or study funds to its member towns and townships for projects related to the implementation of the River Management Plan for the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River.

Over the past 13 years, the UDC has awarded $451,241 through the Technical Assistance Grants (TAG) program.

Applications are due by July 31. A special meeting of the UDC's Project Review Committee has been set for August 14 to review the proposals with a representative for each applicant on hand for questions.

Final funding decisions are expected to be announced at the UDC's September 6 meeting.

The Technical Assistance Grants are a benefit offered exclusively to the eight New York State towns and three Pennsylvania townships which comprise the Council, as well as their four encompassing counties of Sullivan, Delaware, and Orange in NY and Pike in PA.

Municipalities may work with non-profit partners, subcontractors, or in-house personnel to carry out their projects.

TAGs have been awarded for the planning, preparation, and updating of zoning ordinances, laws, and other regulations; for drafting feasibility studies and plans; and for educational outreach projects such as brochures and maps.

For more information on the 2001 TAG program, contact UDC Senior Resource Specialist David B. Soete at (845) 252-3022 or udcsoete@ezaccess.net.

Donation Fund Set

The 10-year-old son of the late Andy Bartsch, who served on the Upper Delaware Council as an alternate representative for Shohola Township, is battling a rare type of brain cancer.

Chris Bartsch had surgery to remove a cancerous brain tumor on March 23 and has been undergoing radiation and chemotherapy treatments. The community has rallied to support Chris, his mother Kathy, and two brothers.

Donations to help offset the medical costs may be sent to The Chris Bartsch Fund, Shohola Township Volunteer Fire & Rescue Department, Route 434, Shohola, PA 18458. For more information, contact Shohola Fire Chief Donald Warn at 570-266-2815.

Presenters at "From the Ice Age to the Information Age: An Upper Delaware Symposium" which took place on May 5 in Beach Lake, Pa., were, from the left, John Conway, Lance Metz, Peter Osborne, Robert Dadras, Dr. Robert Titus, and Dr. Robert Grumet. (Photo by Laurie Ramie)

Symposium Offers Insights Into Upper Delaware's Development

Dinosaurs sipping from the Upper Delaware River...Native Americans leaving evidence of their Upper Delaware settlements in their garbage...Surveyors disagreeing over the boundary where New York would end and New Jersey would begin...Entrepreneurs banking on the economy of canals to transport coal...Historic structures reflecting the Upper Delaware's social evolution...

Presenters at "From the Ice Age to the Information Age: An Upper Delaware Symposium" painted vivid pictures of the river valley's natural, cultural, technological, and social development for the 82 guests in attendance May 5 at the Central House Family Resort in Beach Lake, Pa.

The event that also offered historical exhibits, published proceedings, and plenty of food, was coordinated by the Upper Delaware Heritage Alliance in celebration of the bi-state volunteer group's 20th anniversary in 2001. Co-sponsors were the Upper Delaware Council, National Park Service Upper Delaware Scenic & Recreational River, and the Pennsylvania Humanities Council.

Five experts took to the podium throughout the day to offer insightful slide shows, then joined together for a roundtable discussion with audience input moderated by Sullivan County Historian John Conway.

"Catskill Geologist" Dr. Robert Titus from Hartwick College discussed the Upper Delaware's ice age and earlier. National Park Service Anthropologist Dr. Robert Grumet from Philadelphia shed light on the region's Lenape and Iroquois tribes. The New York-New Jersey boundary dispute was the subject of Minisink Valley Historical Society Executive Director and City of Port Jervis Historian Peter Osborne's talk. Commonwealth Speaker Lance Metz from the National Canal Museum in Easton, Pa. focused on the technological innovations of the Delaware & Hudson Canal System. Liberty, NY-based architect Robert Dadras offered examples of the valley's vernacular architecture.
UDC Recognizes River Valley Contributors

The Upper Delaware Council (UDC) hosted its 13th Annual Awards Banquet on April 22, 2001 at The Waterfront Banquet Room at Ehrhardt's in Tafton, Pa.

In his opening remarks, UDC 2001 Chairperson Larry H. Richardson (Town of Cochequet, NY) encouraged the audience of 112 guests to follow the example reflected in the good works of the honorees.

"As you watch these proceedings, please think about how we can educate more people about the need to preserve, protect, and enhance our environment so that the land we borrow from our children can be given to them in a state better than what we inherited," Richardson said.

UDC Executive Director Bill Douglass served as Master of Ceremonies for the event that included an hors d'oeuvres reception, full-course dinner, keynote speech by Mike Stevens from WNEP TV-16, and the prestigious awards ceremony.

The Distinguished Service Award was presented to 33-year New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) employee and UDC charter member Bruce MacMillan, who moved to Maryland after his July 2000 retirement.

MacMillan's professional and personal involvement with the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River coincided with his 1983 appointment as Natural Resource Supervisor for DEC Region 3.

As the state agency's representative, MacMillan worked with the Conference of Upper Delaware Townships and National Park Service to help draft the River Management Plan. Upon the UDC's establishment in 1988, then-Governor Cuomo appointed him to sit on the board.

During his 12-year tenure with the UDC, MacMillan's accomplishments included securing the Executive Order which outlines New York State's formal compliance with the River Management Plan, coordinating legislative efforts to allow the National Park Service to site an Upper Delaware Visitor Center on state-owned land in the Mongaup Wildlife Management Area, and facilitating communications between the state and UDC members.

MacMillan compared the development of the River Management Plan, with its unique partnership model, to a marriage. The courtship was often rocky as the partners got to know and trust each other. When the union was consummated by the U.S. Department of the Interior, it didn't necessarily signify happily-ever-after.

But MacMillan said that, due to the true partnership foundation on which the relationship is based, occasional disagreements and tension have not led to divorce. "No one quit. Everyone stayed, we worked together, and the Council is still here. That's the good news," he said.

Fellow UDC honorees were:

- Upper Delaware Council Chairperson Larry H. Richardson, left, presents Bruce MacMillan with his plaque as the recipient of the Council's highest accolade, the Distinguished Service Award. (Photo by David B. Soete)

- Keynote speaker and television personality Mike Stevens shared amusing anecdotes from his "On the Pennsylvania Road" features for WNEP TV-16. (Photo by David B. Soete)

- keynote speaker and television personality Mike Stevens shared amusing anecdotes from his "On the Pennsylvania Road" features for WNEP TV-16.
Honorees at the UDC's 13th Annual Awards Banquet held April 22, 2001 at The Waterfront Banquet Room at Ehrhardt's in Tafton, Pa. included, seated from left: Harold G. Roeder, Jr. (Oaken Gavel); Karen Bliss (Special Recognition); Gardie Mueller (Special Recognition); Susan Beecher, Bernadine Lennon, and Shirley Coutts (Community Service Award to Pike County Conservation District), and Alan Sorensen (Partnership Award to Route 97 Scenic Byway Committee). Standing in back, from the left, are Clarke Rupert (Special Recognition), Kurt Mueller (Special Recognition), Bruce Bergmann (honored by the Equinunk-Lordville Upper Delaware River Association), Frank V. Schwarz (Cultural Achievement Award), Christopher Hall (Lifesaving Award), Wes Rusk (Recreation Achievement by the Scenic Delaware River Paddling Club), Mark Cooke (Lifesaving Award), Don Downs (Volunteer Award), Jack Burcher (Recreation Achievement by the Scenic Delaware River Paddling Club), J.J. Hanson (Lifesaving Award), Bruce MacMillan (Distinguished Service Award), and Richard Crandall (Outstanding Community Achievement by the Town of Tusten). (Photo by David B. Soete)

"AWARDS," continued from Page 4

River Basin Commission); and Senator John J. Bonacic and Assemblyman Jake Gunther (securing $50,000 in grant funding for the New York river valley towns to improve river access, enhance economic development, and promote tourism). While personally accepting his award, Senator Bonacic said, "We kind of set a precedent by committing state funds to a river that I think is a hidden treasure. It's our intention to continue this program and build on it. I would like to see some initiative come from the PA side and maybe we can encourage them to participate."

Prior to the awards ceremony, the affable Mike Stevens took to the podium. "With the attendance here today, I feel almost obliged to say something important... but I guess I won't," Stevens quipped as he launched into humorous anecdotes about his nearly two-decade assignment creating the Moosic, PA-based station's "On the Pennsylvania Road" features.

Stevens is also a published author and newspaper columnist. He was presented with a photograph of Delaware's Roebling Aqueduct taken by UDC Senior Resource Specialist David B. Soete in appreciation of his participation in the banquet.

Summer 2001

The recipients of the UDC's Robin M. Daniels Memorial Lifesaving Award were reunited following their heroic collaboration on July 1, 2000 to rescue a 21-year-old New Jersey man from drowning in the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River. The church group participant's canoe capsized in Cedar Rapids after hitting a rock and his loose life vest came off. J.J. Hanson of Yulan, NY, Mark Cooke of Edison, NJ, and Christopher Hall of Eldred, NY, pictured from the left, spotted the danger. Hanson and Hall swam out and helped get the man into Cooke's passing raft, where they revived him to consciousness. (Photo by David B. Soete)
UDC Highlights
Recent Projects

Upper Delaware Council (UDC) activity highlights from mid-March through mid-June 2001, not mentioned elsewhere in this newsletter, include the following:

CELL TOWERS
The UDC continued to research the issue of siting wireless communications towers in the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River corridor.

Two comment letters were approved for cell tower proposals in the Town of Delaware, NY and Lackawaxen Township, PA, in which the UDC acknowledged the need for wireless communications in this region while recommending the least obtrusive visual impact, among other concerns with the respective applications.

A July 9 workshop on cell towers organized by the UDC and geared toward river valley towns and townships will be reported on in the next issue.

SCENIC BYWAY
Representatives of the Route 97 Scenic Byway Committee, including UDC Executive Director Bill Douglass, appeared before the New York State Scenic Byways Advisory Board in Albany on April 11 to offer a preliminary presentation of the draft Enhancement Concept Plan for the proposed "Upper Delaware Scenic Byway." Recommendations by the advisory board, expected to be received this summer, will be incorporated into the final draft plan before approval is formally requested.

VISITOR CENTER
Plans to construct the Mongaup Visitor Center at the gateway to the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River moved ahead significantly with the National Park Service's selection of an architectural and engineering firm from an initial list of 13 applicants. Final contracts to bring the firm on board are in process.

TOWN GRANTS
The eight New York State river valley towns that obtained $6,250 each from a $50,000 grant pool secured by Senator John J. Bonacic and Assemblyman Jake Goering as Chief of Interpretation for the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and SECDEC Regional 3.

OUTREACH
In public outreach efforts, the UDC assisted NPS Upper Delaware in the publication of the "Local Officials 2001" environmental directory; presented at a workshop on river corridor development at the North Country Local Government Conference in Watertown, NY; purchased 11 CD-ROMs entitled "Pennsylvania Best Land Use Principles and Results, Interactively Shown" (PA BLUPRINTS) from Penn State University to distribute free to all UDC member towns and townships; had information booths at the Lackawaxen Shad Fest May 26 and Hancock Bluestone Festival/Summer Celebration June 30; and issued seven news releases.

PASSAGES
A moment of silence was observed at the June 7 meeting of the Upper Delaware Council to mourn the May 23, 2001 death of former New York State Senator Charles D. Cook at age 86. The Delhi resident served the people of the 40th District with grace and distinction for 20 years until his retirement in 1998.

In professional advancements:
- Fran P. Maiella was named the new director of the National Park Service (NPS)
- Erin Croddy took over as Commissioner of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC)
- David Hess was appointed Secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)
- NPS Upper Delaware welcomed Loren Goering as Chief of Interpretation
- William J. Rudge was tapped as Natural Resources Supervisor for NYS DEC Region 3
- Kyle Myers, Water Specialist at Cornell Cooperative Extension of Sullivan County, moved to Idaho for a new position.
Battle of Minisink Observed July 22

The 222nd anniversary of the Battle of Minisink will be commemorated on July 22. The Revolutionary War battle fought on July 22, 1779 pitted Joseph Brant's army of Indians and British loyalists against colonial militiamen from Orange and Sussex counties. Brant claimed short-term victory.

The bodies of the approximately 47 colonials killed in the bloody skirmish lay in the wild woods for 43 years before many of the bones were recovered for burial in Goshen and Barryville. One militiaman's skeleton, undiscovered until the 1847 construction of the Delaware & Hudson Canal, is now interred at the Grave of the Unknown Soldier in Lackawaxen, Pa.

The July 22 ceremonies will begin at that gravesite on River Road at 2:30 p.m. with a service organized by Pike County Historian George J. Fluhr. Keynote speaker will be Raymond "Bud" Haupt from the Ecker-Haupt VFW Post.

At 3:15 at the Minisink Battleground Park in Minisink Ford, NY, National Park Service Historian Mary Curtis will speak about the battle's historical significance. The ceremony atop the hill at the Minisink Battle Monument organized by the Sullivan County Historical Society will begin at 4:00 p.m. Keynote speaker is Mrs. Libby McKee, State Vice-Regent of the National Society, Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR).

Immediately after that service will be a discussion sponsored by the Upper Delaware Heritage Alliance about the effect that the Minisink site terrain had on the battle action. Speakers will be Jon Inners, chief of the Geologic Mapping Division of the PA DCNR's Bureau of Topographic and Geological Survey; Peter Osborne, executive director of the Minisink Valley Historical Society; and Mary Curtis. Participants are then welcome to join the UDHA for a potluck picnic at the pavilion.

Riverfest Celebrates the Delaware

Before heading to the Battle of Minisink observances on Sunday, July 22, consider visiting "Riverfest 2001."

The 11th annual music, art, and environmental festival celebrating the Delaware River will take place from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Main Street in Narrowsburg, NY. The day includes a juried artisans' fair, information booths from such organizations as the Upper Delaware Council, a fundraising auction of originally created Riverfest posters, food, and live music.

The event is co-sponsored by the Narrowsburg Chamber of Commerce and the Delaware Valley Arts Alliance. For more information, call (845) 252-7576.

PA and NY Bike Routes Converge Locally

The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation unveiled on April 23 its newly signed "Bicycle PA Route Y," which begins in Lackawaxen and runs 409 miles through the northeast counties of Pike, Wayne, Lackawanna, and Wyoming, generally paralleling U.S. Route 6.

On June 14, 1997, New York State Department of Transportation introduced "Bike Route 17," running 435 miles through the Southern Tier from Lake Erie to the Hudson River. This route, which follows the old Rt. 17 highway corridor, includes State Route 97 in the Delaware River Valley.

Experienced cyclists seeking a bi-state travel route should note that Bicycle PA Route Y and NY Bike Route 17 converge on opposite ends of the Roebling Bridge.

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.

--

The Upper Delaware
18TH ANNUAL UPPER DELAWARE COUNCIL
FAMILY RAFT TRIP AND SUMMER PICNIC
SATURDAY, AUGUST 4, 2001

Enjoy an eight-mile (estimated 4.5-hour) raft trip from Ten Mile River Access in the Town of Tusten to Luke’s Landing at the Kittatinny Campground Barryville Base. No boating experience is required. Rafts, paddles, life vests, and safety instructions are provided. Children must be at least four years of age and weigh 40 lbs. Minimum occupancy per raft is four people. Bring drinking water, wear sunscreen and foot protection, and dress to get wet. Small coolers for food and beverages (no glass containers) will fit in the rafts. Store personal items in waterproof bags. Carry out what you carry on the river!

The UDC’s Summer Picnic, open to the public, will be held after the raft trip at the Kittatinny Campground Pavilion in Barryville. The appetizing menu includes barbecued chicken halves (chicken pieces for kids), baked potatoes with sour cream and chives, tossed salad with dressings, macaroni salad, rolls and butter, fresh fruit, soda, iced tea, and pudding cake snacks.

August 4th Itinerary:
9:30-10:30 a.m. - Park in Kittatinny’s Adventure Center lot (located on State Route 97, 2-1/2 miles north of Barryville, NY) and check in at the UDC registration tent. All members of your party must sign waivers before the river trip.
10:30 a.m. - Kittatinny shuttle buses depart for the Ten Mile River Access.
11:00 a.m. - Launch your rafts and float downriver at your own pace to Kittatinny’s Luke’s Landing, located across the road from the Adventure Center parking lot.
3:00-5:00 p.m. - Chicken barbecue served at the Kittatinny Campground Pavilion (separate reservation)

Activity Costs:
- Raft Trip: Adults $17, Children ages 8-18 $10, Children ages 4-7 are free
- Picnic: Adults $10, Children age 8 and under $6.50

Advance reservations and payment are requested by July 20. Checks should be made payable to “Upper Delaware Council.”

NAME: ____________________________________________ ADDRESS: ____________________________________________

PHONE/E-MAIL: ____________________________________________

Please list the names of all members of your party and the ages of any children (continue on a separate sheet if necessary):

Total Enclosed: $_____

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.