

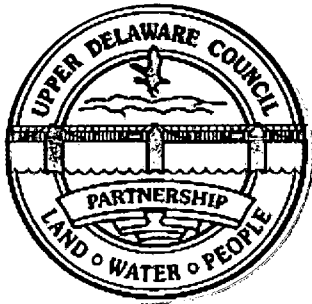
# The Upper Delaware

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

Volume 16 Number 4

Published by the Upper Delaware Council, Inc.

Winter 2003-2004



## In This Issue...

Upper Delaware Scenic &  
Recreational River Marks 25th  
Pages 1 and 4

Upper Delaware Profile:  
Eric Nystrom, Town of Delaware  
Page 2

Upper Delaware Scenic Byway;  
Valley Wildlife Journal Debuts  
Page 3

Winter Events Calendar;  
2003 Heritage Awards Given  
Page 5

Round-up of UDC Activities  
Page 6

Environmental Awards Presented  
Page 7

UDC Elects 2004 Officers;  
Seeks Award Nominations;  
Businesses Donate to Brochure  
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 192,  
Narrowsburg, N.Y. 12764.  
Please update our mailing  
list by filling out the coupon  
on Page 7. Thank you.



**SWEET ENDING:** National Park Service officials asked the next generation to cut the cake to conclude the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River's 25th Anniversary ceremony held November 9 in Lackawaxen, Pa. Doing the honors were, from the left, Priyanka Nardi, Brian Duffy, and Amanda Fuller. (Photo by David B. Soete)

## Upper Delaware River Celebrates Milestone

Twenty-five years ago, the federal government took a gamble on a radical notion to protect a prized river resource without turning the region into a national park.

The Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River is the successful result of that trust placed in local stewardship.

The National Park Service organized a well-attended reception and program on November 9, 2003 at the Lackawaxen, Pa. Fire Hall preceded by special guided tours of the nearby Zane Grey Museum and Roebling's Delaware Aqueduct.

On November 10, 1978, U.S. President Jimmy Carter signed Omnibus Parks and Recreation Act Public Law 95-925 that established the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River, extending 73.4

miles from the confluence of the East and West Branches of the Delaware River in Hancock, NY to Railroad Bridge #2 in Mill Rift, Pa.

While the designation came in accordance with the 1968 National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, the Upper Delaware's legislation was uniquely crafted to assure that local zoning authority was preserved.

The National Park Service (NPS) would have jurisdiction over the river surface and its limited property acreage only, while the vast majority of Upper Delaware land remained in private ownership.

"It was considered a grand experiment, this shared management concept between 11 towns and townships, and five counties

Please see **MILESTONE** on Page 4

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

## Upper Delaware Profile: Eric J. Nystrom

Whether serving his town, county, or country, Eric J. Nystrom says his motivation comes from helping people.

"My training in the military for 20 years taught me that when there's a situation you're capable of handling, you should step up," he says.

That philosophy has led to Nystrom's roles over the years as a U.S. Air Force retiree, Town of Delaware supervisor, Upper Delaware Council (UDC) alternate, and his current job as director of the Sullivan County Veterans Service Agency.

Reflecting on his life choices, Nystrom says, "I've always felt like I could make a difference. I just didn't know what direction it would take."

Nystrom grew up in Hortonville and Jeffersonville, graduating in 1969 from Jeffersonville-Youngsville High School.

His dad was a contractor who worked for a time on the Erie Railroad. Young Eric enjoyed fishing the Delaware, particularly during shad runs, and laughs at the memories of struggling to keep his head above water while helping his uncle construct the eel weir he operated near Callicoon.

On Dec. 18, 1969, Nystrom joined the Air Force and was assigned to Edwards Air Force Base in California. His training in aerial instrumentation photography assisted in research for new aircraft.

Nystrom came home in 1974 but, dissatisfied with his temporary jobs, opted to re-enlist the following year. Electronics became his profession. Assignments included Rome, NY; Korea; Abilene, TX; Germany; Michigan; and Turkey.

Nystrom's development of an aircraft maintenance cross-training outreach program for Reserves during Desert Storm preparations earned the Technical Sergeant a Meritorious Service Medal upon his Air Force retirement in May 1991.

Following in his father's footsteps, Nystrom started a contracting business in 1991 that he later turned over to his son.

His foray into local politics began in 1992, when he was asked to set up a computer system for the Town of Delaware Assessors' Office. He served for one year as an elected assessor before deciding to run for town supervisor.

Nystrom served as the town's CEO and member of the Sullivan County Board of Supervisors from 1994-96.

Narrowly defeated in the 1996 election, Nystrom faced an unusual situation when the victor refused to take office, leaving the town in the lurch until Nystrom agreed to carry on through the January 1997 appointment of a new supervisor.

Among his proudest achievements were bringing the town into the computer age,



Eric J. Nystrom, Town of Delaware

obtaining federal aid to solve historic flooding problems in Callicoon, and his early support of Route 97's designation as a state Bike Route and Scenic Byway.

Nystrom's association with the UDC dates back a decade to 1994.

During his tenure as supervisor, Nystrom served as the town's UDC alternate. When Delaware's representative, the late Edward C. Sykes, retired from the Council due to illness, Nystrom assumed his duties.

Since 1997, Nystrom has continued as alternate to current representative Harold G. Roeder, Jr., faithfully keeping up with the issues and activities of the Council.

"I think if we didn't have the UDC as a guardian, the National Park Service would have taken more control of the river valley. Now it's a working relationship that blends together well," he says.

In January of 2000, Nystrom was asked to take over management of the Sullivan County Veterans Service Agency.

"This has never been about me. It's about the veterans and the widows," he says. "I've gotten a lot of satisfaction for who I've been able to help or advocate for, to make sure everyone receives the benefits to which they're entitled."

Nystrom belongs to the VFW, American Legion, Amvets, DAV, and The Retired Enlistment Association. He is commander of the Sullivan County VFW; Worshipful Master for Delaware Lodge 561, Free and Accepted Masons; chair of the Town of Delaware Democratic Committee; member of the Order of the Eastern Star and AARP, a league bowler, golfer, and traveler.

The Kohlertown resident has been wed to Janet for 34 years. Their two sons both live in Jeffersonville. Richard is employed by T&M Woodworking. Charles, who operates Nystrom Construction, and wife Jennifer have one son, Charles Jr., age five. ❖

**Upper Delaware Council, Inc.**  
P. O. Box 192, 211 Bridge St.  
Narrowsburg, NY 12764-0192  
Telephone: (845) 252-3022  
FAX: (845) 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.

### 2004 Officers

Chairperson.....Nadia Rajsz  
Vice-Chairperson.....Alan Bowers  
Secretary/Treasurer.....Charles Wieland

### New York Town Representatives

Hancock.....F. Gerald Mackin  
Jim Serio, Alternate  
Fremont.....John B. Niflot  
James Greier, Alternate  
Delaware.....Harold G. Roeder, Jr.  
Eric J. Nystrom, Alternate  
Cochecton.....Larry H. Richardson  
John A. Reggero, Alternate  
Tusten.....Charles Wieland  
Richard B. Crandall, Alternate  
Highland.....Lewis Schmalzle  
Allan Schadt, Alternate  
Lumberland.....Nadia Rajsz  
John LiGreci, Alternate  
Deerpark.....Philip D. Chase  
Melvin Decker, Alternate

### Pennsylvania Township Representatives

Lackawaxen.....John S. McKay  
Fred Bartsch, Alternate  
Shohola.....Bruce Selneck  
George J. Fluhr, 1st Alternate  
Nelia Wall, 2nd Alternate  
Westfall.....Alan Bowers  
George R. Jerus, Alternate

### State & Regional Members

New York.....William J. Rudge, DEC  
Pennsylvania.....Marian Hrubovcak, DCNR  
David Lamereaux, DEP, Alternate  
Del. River Basin Commission.....Carol Collier

### Partner

National Park Service.....Marie Rust, Reg. Dir.  
David C. Fomey, UDSRR, Alternate

### Staff

Executive Director.....William E. Douglass  
[udcdouglass@hvc.rr.com](mailto:udcdouglass@hvc.rr.com)  
Senior Resource Specialist.....David B. Soete  
[udcsoete@hvc.rr.com](mailto:udcsoete@hvc.rr.com)  
Public Relations/Newsletter.....Laurie Ramie  
[udcramie@hvc.rr.com](mailto:udcramie@hvc.rr.com)  
Office Manager.....Carol Coney  
[udcconey@hvc.rr.com](mailto:udcconey@hvc.rr.com)

**Printing Services:** Courier Printing Corp., 24 Laurel Bank Ave., Deposit, New York 13754



Printed in the USA on recycled paper.  
Copyright 2004, Upper Delaware Council

# Upper Delaware Scenic Byway Drives On

If anyone ever needed help in thinking of "97 Reasons to Meet on the Byway," a November 8 mini-conference hosted by the Upper Delaware Scenic Byway, Inc. provided the proper stimulation.

Enthusiasm ran high for the potential offered by New York State Route 97 and its resources as a marketing tool for visitors.

"The Upper Delaware Scenic Byway is a national treasure," former committee chairman Alan J. Sorensen told participants at the Delaware Community Center.

Sorensen gave an overview of the nearly three-year local process involved to develop and present for state review a proposed Enhancement Concept plan that led to Governor George Pataki's official designation of the Upper Delaware Scenic Byway on August 6, 2002.

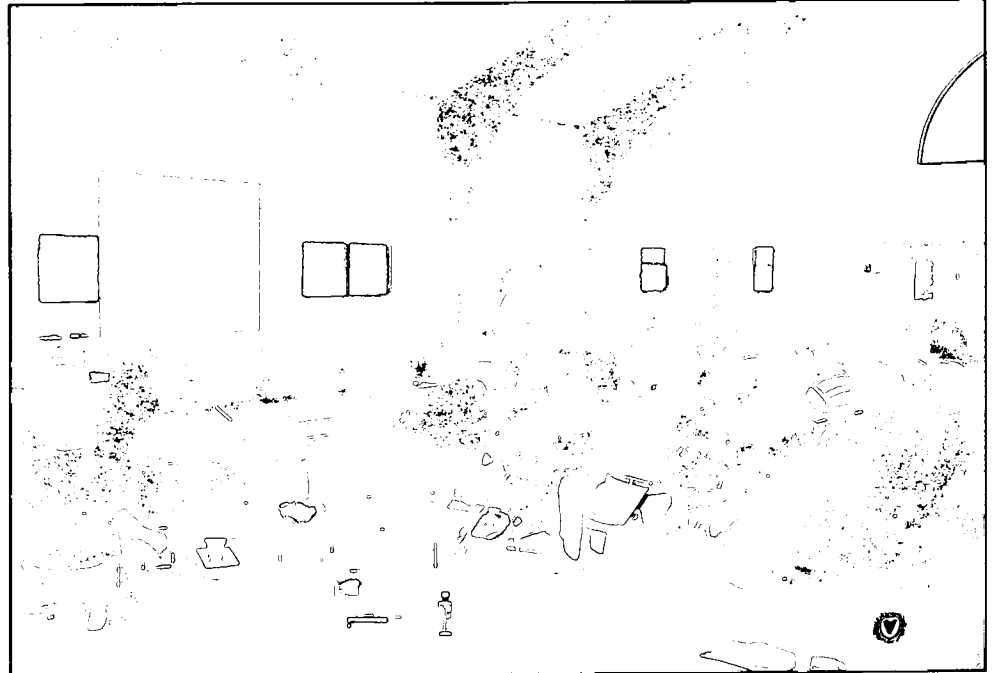
For some advice on how to begin implementing those enhancement goals, conference organizers turned to Teresa Mitchell, one of the original crafters of the 1991 New York State Scenic Byways legislation and executive director for the past 17 years of the 454-mile Seaway Trail in upstate NY.

"Now that you've got the all-important designation as a scenic byway, I'm here to share my experiences on what happens next," she said.

Mitchell encouraged the organization to solicit both tourism and planning expertise, and to get byway area businesses directly involved in this win-win program.

"Partnership is your strongest asset," Mitchell said. "Tell the story of what your byway is as a whole and what the communities are individually."

Mitchell offered numerous tips on organi-



**TIPS FOR SUCCESS:** Teresa Mitchell, standing, shared her perspectives as executive director of the Seaway Trail National Scenic Byway with participants at the Nov. 8 Upper Delaware Scenic Byway mini-conference in Callicoon. (Photos by David B. Soete)

zational management, fundraising, marketing, and technical planning considerations.

The conference included exhibits, lunch, and a silent auction of donated prizes.

### Other Developments

Highway route marker signs, which feature the four-color Upper Delaware Scenic Byway logo on a brown background, were installed in the gateway communities of Hancock and Port Jervis in November.

The rest of the route was expected to be fully signed by the end of 2003.

To help raise the public profile further, the byway has received a \$45,000 marketing and interpretation grant from the Federal Highway Administration, administered by the New York State Department of Transportation's Scenic Byways Program.

This matching funds grant will assist the non-profit byway organization in developing a web site, visitor guide, brochures, and other promotional materials.

Good news also came this fall with the Sullivan County Legislature's approval of a \$10,000 Upper Delaware Scenic Byway allocation in its 2004 budget.

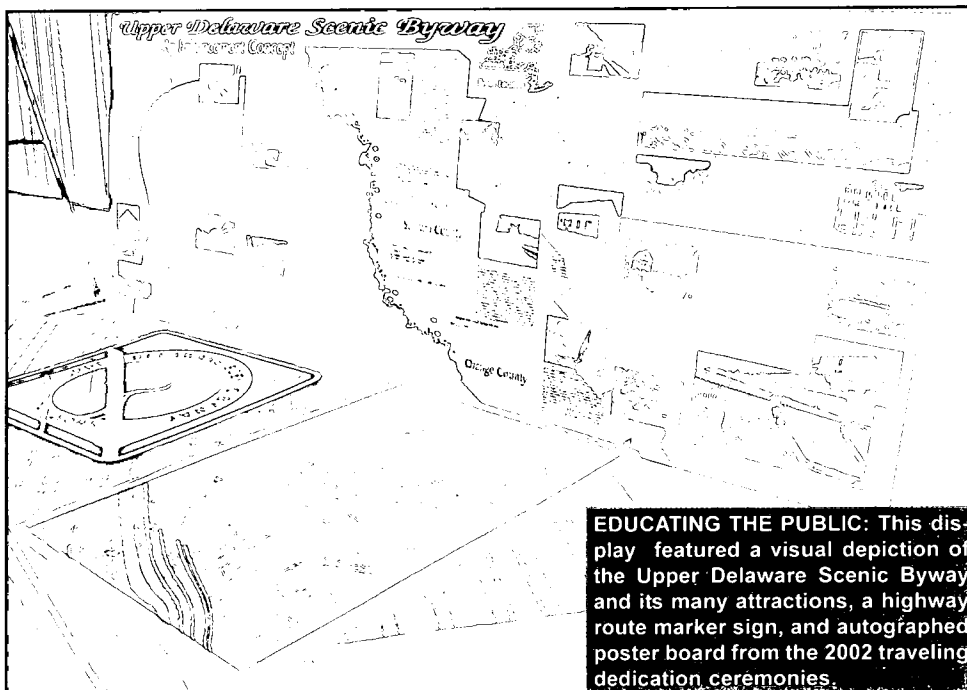
Under the leadership of Acting Chairperson Larry H. Richardson of Cohecton and Secretary-Treasurer Peter Osborne of Port Jervis, the Upper Delaware Scenic Byway, Inc. meets every fourth Monday at 7 p.m. at the Upper Delaware Council office, 211 Bridge St., Narrowsburg. All are welcome. Call (845) 252-3022 for information. ❖

## New Wildlife Journal

A new quarterly publication entitled "The Delaware Valley Wildlife Journal" debuted in November with a Fall 2003 issue.

Editor-in-chief Yoke Bauer DiGiorgio intends for the journal to promote awareness and understanding of the beauty and heritage of the river valley's wildlife. Article submissions are welcome.

To be placed on the free mailing list, write to Nature's Art LLC, P.O. Box 498, Narrowsburg, NY 12764 or send an e-mail to JYD630@aol.com. ❖



**EDUCATING THE PUBLIC:** This display featured a visual depiction of the Upper Delaware Scenic Byway and its many attractions, a highway route marker sign, and autographed poster board from the 2002 traveling dedication ceremonies.

encompassing two states," explained NPS Upper Delaware Superintendent Dave Forney during the celebratory program.

The unique approach had its roots in public outrage, according to Mary Curtis, retired NPS Upper Delaware historian.

"The beginning of what we have here happened in August of 1955 when there was a devastating flood," Curtis said.

The damage led Congress in 1962 to call for the construction of a dam at Tock's Island in the Delaware River.

Upper Delaware residents watched in dismay as the federal government used eminent domain powers to condemn properties in the present Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area, only to abandon the dam project years later.

"People here learned a lesson from that and it planted the seed for the concept of the Upper Delaware," Curtis said.

The Upper Delaware was named as a study river for protection under the 1968 Wild and Scenic Rivers Act in recognition of its outstanding qualities.

Local activist groups immediately began organizing against any notion of large-scale federal land takeovers.

With passage of the 1978 Upper Delaware legislation sponsored by Congressmen Matt McHugh (NY), Ben Gilman (NY), and Joe McDade (PA), the National Park Service arrived in August 1979 in the form of Superintendent John Hutzky.

Hutzky had his work cut out for him as he and his new staff encountered public sus-



**Mary Curtis, former NPS UDS&RR Historian** pication and often outright hostility. The situation was enflamed when NPS superiors made major tactical errors in their attempts to write a management plan for the Upper Delaware from afar.

After two drafts met with vocal outrage, NPS conceded to enter into a cooperative agreement with the Conference of Upper Delaware Townships (COUP) in 1984 to write an acceptable version.

The primary recommendation of the Final 1986 River Management Plan was the creation of an Upper Delaware Council to oversee the plan's implementation. Its voting members would be the two states and local governments that border on the river.

The effectiveness of that local-state-federal partnership was celebrated on Nov. 9.

Speakers representing more than a dozen organizations and agencies associated with NPS offered their reflections on the 25th anniversary.



**Superintendent Dave Forney**

*"Where will our road take us in the next 25 years? The NPS, UDC, and partners will be put to the test."*

*~ Dave Forney*

Consistent throughout the remarks was recognition of the integral role that John Hutzky played in the success of the Upper Delaware "experiment."

"John set the course and allowed us to be where we are today. He was a visionary," Curtis said of Hutzky, who was unexpectedly sidelined from attending by injury.

Dave Forney, who succeeded Hutzky (1979-1995) and Cal Hite (1995-2001) in 2002 as the Upper Delaware's third superintendent, said it's time to look ahead.

"Where will our road take us in the next 25 years?" Forney asked. "The NPS, UDC, and partners will be put to the test."

He cited hot-button issues such as uncontrolled growth and development; loss of open space, farmlands and ridgelines; escalating property costs; increased traffic; and the encroachment of invasive species as perhaps the biggest challenges that the river valley will have to face.

"How do we build on the great success over our first 25 years in times of tighter budgets and increasing need for NPS to support its partners and communities?" Forney questioned.

"Part of the answer is to use the lessons of the past and apply them to our future. Successes in historic preservation, natural resource management, and education have been accomplished through partnerships, outreach, and innovation," the superintendent said.

NPS is committed to expanding its science and educational programs, and to updating the River Management Plan to reflect new developments and technology.

Forney urged all who care about the Upper Delaware to continue engaging in "dialogue, education, and action to transform the way people think and feel about the corridor and instill in them the inspiration and empowerment to act." ❖



**HISTORIC OCCASION:** Upper Delaware Council 2003 Chairperson Bruce Selneck of Shohola Township and NPS Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River Chief of Interpretation Loren Goering listen to the historic account of the Upper Delaware's 1978 federal designation and congratulatory remarks from partner organizations at the well-attended 25th Anniversary event held Nov. 9 at the Lackawaxen Fire Hall. (Photos by David B. Soete)

## Winter Events

### 3rd Eaglefest Set for Narrowsburg Jan. 17

The Third Annual Eaglefest will be held on Saturday, January 17, in Narrowsburg, NY. Approximately 150 bald eagles migrate to the Upper Delaware/Catskills region every winter.

Festivities begin at 9:30 a.m. with Opening Ceremonies at the Narrowsburg School auditorium.

There will be three live "Birds of Prey" exhibitions at that location at 10:30 a.m., 1 p.m., and 3 p.m.

Other activities during the day include a puppet show, movies, ice and wood carving demonstrations, photography exhibits, and informative talks. Ongoing eagle viewing will be assisted on the Big Eddy deck by volunteers from The Eagle Institute.

Among the keynote speakers will be Thomas Ricardi of the Massachusetts Bird of Prey Rehabilitation Center, Matthew Hoyt of the Connecticut Audubon Society, Peter Nye of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's Wildlife Diversity Group's Endangered Species Unit, Ron Rohrbaugh of the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, and Lori McKean of The Eagle Institute.

Food and eagle-oriented items will be available for purchase. There will also be an eagle-themed poster auction.

Event organizers include the Narrowsburg Chamber of Commerce and Nature's Art LLC. For more information, call Chamber President John Grund at (845) 252-7409 or visit [www.narrowsburg.org](http://www.narrowsburg.org) to obtain the complete schedule. ❖

### Look for Eagles at Jan. 24 Field Trip

The Eagle Institute will sponsor a Guided Habitat Field Trip on Saturday, January 24.

Join this guided excursion to eagle watching locations. Learn about the eagle's comeback and help collect data.

The day's program includes lunch. Reservations are required and the cost is \$30 for Eagle Institute members or \$40 for non-members.

Call (570) 685-5960 or (845) 557-6162, or e-mail [eagleinstitute@yahoo.com](mailto:eagleinstitute@yahoo.com) to find out more or to make reservations.

Please note that every Saturday and Sunday, from January 3, 2004 through mid-March, trained Eagle Institute volunteers are posted at public eagle viewing areas to assist eagle watchers.

Observation areas can be found in

Narrowsburg, Lackawaxen, Minisink Ford, and Barryville along the main stem of the Delaware River, as well as at the Rio Dam and Mongaup Falls in Sullivan County, NY.

Volunteers provide spotting scopes and have extra binoculars on hand.

Stop by the Eagle Institute's winter field office at 176 Scenic Drive in Lackawaxen, Pa. to learn more by viewing an educational video and picking up free literature.

The [www.eagleinstitute.org](http://www.eagleinstitute.org) web site offers updates on the best viewing opportunities and road conditions. ❖

### Keystone Coldwater Conference Feb. 28

Pennsylvania Trout will host the sixth Keystone Coldwater Conference on Saturday, February 28, at the Penn State Conference Center in State College.

This year's theme is "Managing Runoff - Urban and Rural." Keynote speaker will be Trout Unlimited activist and author Joe Armstrong.

Urban runoff sessions will include topics such as handling storm water and sewage, and how to deal with development and transportation issues. Rural runoff sessions will focus on problems associated with forestry, agriculture, mineral recovery, and dirt and gravel roads.

Following an optional Saturday evening dinner, outdoor writer Marcia Bonta will give a presentation entitled, "An Appalachian Year."

This conference will be of interest to watershed organizations, Trout Unlimited chapters, environmental professionals, and students. The \$30 registration fee includes lunch. Please call (814) 863-5100 or visit [www.outreach.psu.edu/C&I/coldwaterconservation](http://www.outreach.psu.edu/C&I/coldwaterconservation) for program details. ❖



**REMEMBERING ZANE GREY:** As part of his presentation at the Upper Delaware's Nov. 9 25th anniversary event, Henry Nardi of Zane Grey's West Society displayed his photos from around the country of sites associated with the author. The Society will host a Zane Grey program free for the public at the Pike County Library in Milford, Pa. at 7 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 30. (Photo by David B. Soete)

### Zane Grey Birthday Marked January 31

The National Park Service Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River will have a special opening of the Zane Grey Museum on Saturday, January 31, to celebrate the author's birthday.

The museum in Lackawaxen, Pa. will be open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. In addition to guided tours of the Grey family's former home, refreshments including cake, coffee, tea, and hot cider will be served. Zane Grey's West Society experts will be on hand and children's activities available.

For information, please call NPS at (570) 685-4871. ❖

### UDHA Presents Heritage Awards

The Upper Delaware Heritage Alliance sponsored its 22nd Annual Heritage Awards on September 28 at the Central House Family Resort in Beach Lake, Pa.

The Springhouse Commons received the 2003 Preservation Award for its impressive restoration and adaptive commercial use of an old boarding house in Barryville, NY. Retired National Park Service employee Gene Woock won the Tom Hill Award for Excellence in Public Service for his years of assistance to local projects.

Also honored were: 1804 Woodland House owned by the Knapp family, Delhi, NY; Town of Mamakating D&H Canal Linear Park Commission's D&H Trailhead Project; Joanna Szakmary, director, Fort Delaware Museum of Colonial History, Narrowsburg, NY; Donald Kaszner, historical photographer, Equinunk, Pa.; Liberty Museum and Arts Center, Liberty, NY; Hortonville Presbyterian Church, National Register of Historic Places designation, Hortonville, NY; Basha Kill Area Association, towpath trail interpretive walks; Town of Highland Sesquicentennial Committee for August 9, 2003 ceremonies; Kurt A. Reed and Walter B. Barbe, authors, "The Glass Industry in Wayne County, PA, 1807-Present"; Frank T. Dale of Hope, NJ, author, "Bridges Over the Delaware River: A History of Crossings"; Emily Hallock of Narrowsburg, NY, author of the genealogical work, "Those Who Came Before"; Paul O'Hara of Pleasant Mount, Pa., author, "Pleasant Mount in Vintage Postcards"; Joseph Freda of Kenosha Lake, NY, author, "The Patience of Rivers"; and Leota Hermann, *Sullivan County Democrat* columnist for "Down the Decades." ❖

# UDC Highlights Quarterly Activities

Upper Delaware Council activity highlights from mid-September to early December 2003, not covered elsewhere, include:

## POWER LINE

While a Sept. 18 meeting with the president of Canadian firm Pegasus Power Systems, Inc. was indefinitely postponed due to a work visa issue, more details about the proposed high-voltage transmission line were revealed in an Oct. 6 "strategic overview" release.

Pegasus' estimated \$1 billion Niagara Redevelopment Project would start near Utica, NY and run a 500-kV, Direct Current circuit 357 miles to New York City via a western route to Binghamton, down the 73.4-mile Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River corridor, to Weehawken, NJ before crossing the Hudson River.

Right-of-ways would be leased primarily from existing railroads. Cables extending through the Upper Delaware are proposed to be buried underground.

The company anticipates filing its initial state utility regulatory applications in approximately six months. If all necessary permits were received by October 2005, construction would begin in spring 2006. The system could be online by 2008.

As this issue went to press, action was pending on a draft preliminary comment letter reiterating the UDC's position that the Upper Delaware River Management Plan defines major electric lines as an incompatible land use in the river corridor.

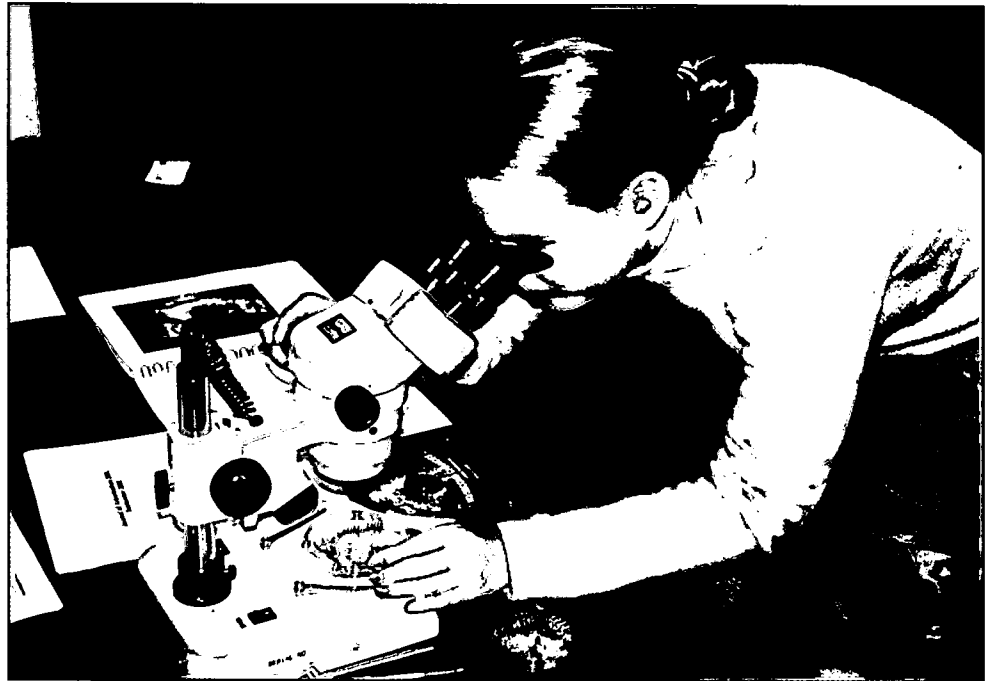
## RIDGE PROTECTION

The UDC received notice that the Town of Delaware has taken legal action against a developer who allegedly violated Town Zoning Law by clearcutting an estimated 5.3 acres of ridgeline land south of Callicoon, within the Delaware River Zoning District, without a permit.

The Council had recommended in an Oct. 2 letter the imposition of penalties "to send a strong message to the developer."

## ECOLOGICAL FLOWS

At the first meeting of the newly organized Subcommittee on Ecological Flows (SEF) held Oct. 16, an outline was reviewed of a proposed study on the rela-



**TREE-EATING INSECT:** Stacy Grassano from Ecoscientific Solutions based in Scranton focuses her microscope on a sample of an Eastern Hemlock tree infested by the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (HWA) invasive insect to show attendees at the Nov. 5 HWA workshop in Narrowsburg sponsored by the Upper Delaware Council and National Park Service. NYS Department of Environmental Conservation Senior Forester Jason Denham, Wayne Lake Community Association member Dr. Anees Fogley, and NPS Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River Natural Resource Specialist Don Hamilton gave presentations detailing the history and scope of the problem, and offering tips for management and treatment options by landowners. Additional input was provided by the U.S. Forest Service, PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, and PA Bureau of Forestry. (Photo by David B. Soete)

tionship between the Upper Delaware River flows regime and the life cycle needs of key species, ecological communities, and processes. The UDC participated in a follow-up meeting on Dec. 16.

It was recently announced that U.S. Congressmen Don Sherwood, Maurice Hinchey, Sherwood Boehlert, and James Walsh, sponsored a successful bipartisan effort to secure \$650,000 to continue the ongoing study of river flows and flow management on the Upper Delaware River and its tributaries.

## LANDFILL PROBLEM

On Nov. 24, the UDC facilitated a meeting between the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and the Town of Highland regarding the Barnes Landfill, preceded by a site visit.

An escrow account used by the state to maintain the access road to the former dump and have the leachate holding tanks pumped is expected to run out in 2004.

Replacing the tanks with a constructed wetland is among the long-term options that are being discussed.

## GIS SIMULATION

Craig Thompson, local GIS coordinator for the National Park Service, demonstrat-

ed the practical use of Geographic Information Systems technology as a planning tool by presenting a simulation of ridgeline visual impacts from the proposed Eagle's Nest Estates subdivision in the Town of Tusten at the UDC's Water Use/Resource Management Committee meeting Oct. 21.

The UDC continues to participate in regular meetings of the Upper Delaware River Valley GIS Work Group.

## GAVE TESTIMONY

The UDC offered testimony at a Nov. 14 public hearing on the Village of Kiryas Joel's draft Environmental Impact Statement filed for its proposed connection to the Catskill Aqueduct.

Concern was expressed that any additional water exportation from the current New York City supply could make less water available for the Delaware River.

"The proposed water pipeline will only encourage additional growth and an even greater demand for Delaware River watershed water...Since a water treatment plant is apparently part of the proposal anyway, we would suggest that the previously evaluated Hudson River water alternative be used instead of tapping into the Catskill Aqueduct," stated the UDC. ❖

## Sojourn Dates Set

Mark your calendars for the 10th Annual Delaware River Sojourn to be held on June 7-14, 2004.

Canoeists and kayakers will paddle the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River on Monday and Tuesday, June 7-8.

Click on <http://delawareriversojourn.org> for planning updates or call (570) 828-9692 to request a Sojourn brochure. ❖

# NE PA Environmental Awards Presented

Welcome attention came to the Upper Delaware River Valley during the presentation of the 2003 Northeast Pennsylvania Environmental Partnership Awards on October 29 in Wilkes-Barre.

Barbara Yeaman from the Delaware Highlands Conservancy based in Milanville, and The Eagle Institute based in Lackawaxen, were honored at the dinner attended by over 400 guests.

PA Department of Environmental Protection Secretary Kathleen A. McGinty delivered the keynote address.

The Eagle Insitute was recognized for overseeing "the fundamental need for conservation of the eagle in its habitat."

The award narrative continued, "The Eagle Insitute embodies the spirit of partnerships and cooperation. It fills a critical need in environmental education, working with and utilizing volunteers where other agency staff limitations fall short, bringing groups together, and instilling a conservation ethic and passion for wild resources."

The volunteers help teach the 4,000 eagle watchers at public viewing locations each winter to practice "eagle etiquette."

Barbara Yeaman was singled out for her 20-plus years as "a catalyst for land and water conservation in the two-state Upper Delaware region", which includes founding the Delaware Highlands Conservancy.

"In part through Barbara's efforts, the climate for land conservation in the Upper Delaware has been changing from hostile to friendly, attesting to her ability to bring people together. She is a model of community activism and volunteerism, and inspires others to become involved in natural resource conservation," the program entry read.

Also honored at the ceremony were the Milford Shade Tree Commission, Monroe County Open Space Advisory Board, Tobyhanna Conservation Association, Wyoming County Planning Commission, Dennis Collins from The Wildlands Conservancy, and retired Dallas, Pa. High School teacher Wayne Hughes.



**LOCAL RECOGNITION:** Pictured above, Barbara Yeaman of Milanville, at left, accepts a 2003 Environmental Partnership Award from Kathleen A. McGinty, Secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, and Steve Saunders from the Pennsylvania Environmental Council, during the 13th Annual Evening for Northeast Pennsylvania's Environment Dinner held October 29 in Wilkes-Barre. At right, Lori McKean, founder of The Eagle Institute based in Lackawaxen, expresses her organization's appreciation. (Photos by David B. Soete)

Thirty-year PA environmental activist and Countryside Conservancy founder Rosamond R. Peck received the Thomas Shelburne Environmental Leadership Award.

The Upper Delaware Council was a 1994 recipient of an Environmental Partnership Award. UDC Pennsylvania alternate David J. Lamereaux from the DEP annually serves as Reception Committee chairperson for the coalition of dinner sponsors. ❖



## 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, call (845) 252-3022 or e-mail [udcramie@hvc.rr.com](mailto:udcramie@hvc.rr.com).

*New Address:*

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/State \_\_\_\_\_  
 Zip+4 \_\_\_\_\_

*Old Address:*

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/State \_\_\_\_\_  
 Zip+4 \_\_\_\_\_

Check here to be removed from our mailing list.

## UDC Elects Officers for 2004

Town of Lumberland Representative Nadia Rajsz holds the distinction of being the Upper Delaware Council's first female chairperson in its 16-year history following her election at the UDC's annual meeting held on January 8 in Narrowsburg, NY.

Rajsz, whose tenure on the Council began in January 2000, had served as vice-chair in 2003. She is a member of all three UDC standing committees.

The Glen Spey resident and Lumberland Town Board councilwoman is employed by Orange County Community College as an adjunct instructor in the Medical Lab Technician Division.

Elected as 2004 UDC vice-chairperson was Alan Bowers, representative of Westfall Township, Pa.

Town of Tusten, NY Representative Charles Wieland will serve as the council's secretary-treasurer for the third consecutive year.



2004 UDC Chairperson Nadia Rajsz

Coverage of the officers' swearing-in ceremony and reorganizational meeting proceedings will appear in the spring issue of "The Upper Delaware". ❖

## Businesses Contribute to UDC Brochure

Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River corridor businesses have contributed \$1,000 toward the 2004 edition of a popular Upper Delaware Council informational brochure.

The "Visitor Information Map and Guide for Touring the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River: New York & Pennsylvania," is published by the UDC as a public service and updated approximately every two years.

Starting in March, 30,000 copies of the new brochure will be distributed via visitor welcome centers, chambers of commerce, interested businesses, the National Park Service, and the UDC office.

Voluntary donations from the river recreation-oriented businesses listed in the guide help to offset the printing costs.

The UDC expresses sincere appreciation to these contributors:

Partners (\$100): Kittatinny Canoes & Campgrounds; Indian Head Canoes and Rafts; and The 1906 Restaurant.

Sponsors (\$50): Western Hotel; Cedar Rapids Inn and Outfitters; Joe McFadden's Fly & Tackle Shop; Whitewater Willies; Milanville House; Peck's Markets; Reilly's Cafe, Deli & Ice Cream Parlor; and Slumber at The Springhouse Commons.

Boosters (\$25): Crandall's Bed & Breakfast; Tom's Bait & Tackle; Whistle Stop Cafe; Hill's Twin Spruce Lodge; Jerry's Three River Canoes and Campground; East Ridge Organic Store and Diner; Catskill-Delaware Outdoor; Bonny Bank Bungalow B&B; Castillo del Rio B&B; Roebing Inn on the Delaware; Matthew's on Main; and Sandercock House B&B.

Contact the UDC to receive a copy. ❖

## UDC Seeks Award Nominations

The Upper Delaware Council (UDC) encourages the public to submit nominations for its 16th Annual Awards Ceremony tentatively slated for April 25, 2004. The nominations are due by 5 p.m. on Friday, March 26.

The UDC annually recognizes those individuals, organizations, agencies, and municipalities that have worked during the past year to protect resources or enhance quality of life in the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River Valley.

Awards are bestowed in the following categories: Distinguished Service Award (high achievement in support of the River Management Plan's goals and objectives); the Robin M. Daniels Memorial Lifesaving Award (when applicable for heroic rescues); Outstanding Community Achievement Award (NY town, PA township, county, or municipal association); Community Service Award (individual or group); Cultural Achievement Award (individual or group); Recreation Achievement Award (individual or group); Partnership Award (government agencies); Volunteer Award (individual or group); and Special Recognition Awards (individuals or organizations).

To request a nomination form, description of award categories, a directory of past recipients, or more information about the spring dinner ceremony, please contact UDC Public Relations Specialist Laurie Ramie at (845) 252-3022 or [udcramie@hvc.rr.com](mailto:udcramie@hvc.rr.com). ❖

The Upper Delaware Council, Inc. meets on the first Thursday of every month at 7:30 p.m. 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 St., Narrowsburg, NY. All meetings are open to the public. Call (845) 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. 11  
CALLICOON, NY