Welcome to the new look of The Upper Delaware! We hope to make this newsletter more fun for you to read, more informative, and concerned more with Council programs affecting the river valley. Let us know how you like it, and please feel free to suggest any story ideas you think would interests our readers.

Feature
UDC’s Water for Millions conference has become a major meeting on Delaware River water politics.

UDC News
The Council is seeking nominations for the upcoming awards banquet.

A series of questions and answers about the organization and operation of the UDC.

River News
DRBC staff proposes upgrade of water quality standards.

Lordville Bridge to go to bid early in 1991.

River Life
The Town of Delaware has a rich history to share with the people who live and visit there.

Water Quality and Fishing
Big Issues at Conference

Three major initiatives affecting the Upper Delaware and Catskill regions were the topics of discussion at the Upper Delaware Council’s recent “Delaware River Headwaters: Water for Millions” Conference. The event, the Council’s second major conference on the Delaware River, took place at the Days Inn in Liberty October 29th and 30th.

The conference, on water management in the Upper Delaware River Basin, brought together over 120 people representing the City of New York, state, regional and federal agencies, environmental organizations, farm groups, the business community, and private citizens from New York, Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

Three major issues were on the agenda: the proposed upgrade in water quality standards on the Delaware’s Upper and Middle designated Scenic and Recreational River segments; New York City’s proposed revisions to its reservoir watershed rules; and the State of New York’s plans for a trout fishery in the Upper Delaware tailwaters.

WQ Standards Upgrade

The Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC) announced a staff proposal recommending that an interstate water quality management program be established for what is termed the “scenic rivers region”. This region is defined by the DRBC as the drainage area of the Delaware River Basin above the Delaware Water Gap, not including the areas above major water impoundments.

The DRBC proposal is contained in a staff report released to the public at the conference. Concerned that the Delaware River’s high water quality will be degraded by pollution from future development, the DRBC looked at ways to protect the river’s existing water quality.

(The Please see “Conference,” page 4)
UDC Seeks Nominations for Annual Awards

Do you know someone who has done something to protect the Upper Delaware River, help the environment, or enrich the lives of those who live here? Every year, the Upper Delaware Council honors those individuals, groups, businesses, and agencies whose efforts have made the Upper Delaware Region a better place to live, work, and play. The UDC wants you to help us find and honor such deserving individuals and groups.

Anyone can make an award nomination. Simply call the office at (914) 252-3022, or send us a note or letter with the nominee's full name, award(s) category (it is O.K. to nominate someone for more than one award, or to nominate more than one person for the same award), a brief description of the nominee's accomplishments, your name and phone number. The closing date for nominations is January 31, 1991. Award winners will be honored at the UDC Awards Banquet scheduled for March 9, 1991 at Woodloch Pines Resort in Lackawaxen Township, Pike County.

Following is a list of the award categories. The award winners for 1988 and 1989 are shown in parentheses.

Distinguished Service Award

This is the Council's highest honor, given to that individual who acted with distinction in support of the goals and objectives of the Management Plan. It is given for any of the following reasons: hard work on a successful project; acts of heroism in river or emergency rescue situations; environmentally outstanding designs for site plans within the river corridor; or for similar reasons. (George Fluhr, Phil Fitzpatrick)

Community Service

This award is for the community, civic, sportsmen's, or conservation group that has taken action during the past year to protect a section of the river corridor, or one or more of its valuable resources, or to improve management of the corridor as a whole. (National Canoe Safety Patrol; The River Reporter)

Outstanding Community Achievement

This award is for the town, township, or county that has taken significant action to protect the river corridor. (Town of Delaware, Town of Lumberland)

Recreation Achievement

This award is for the recreation provider (canoe livery, campground, etc.) that makes an outstanding effort to educate river users about water safety, conservation, litter control, river etiquette, and property rights. (Jules Robinson, Wild and Scenic River Tours, Inc.; the Jones family, Kittatinny Canoes)

Certificate of Merit

This award is for a state, regional, or federal agency that has instituted new programs or policies that protect the natural resources of the river corridor. (National Park Service; Delaware River Basin Commission and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania)

Cultural Achievement

This award is for the group or individual that has protected, enhanced, or interpreted cultural resources in the Upper Delaware Corridor. (Edward Petras; Equinunk Historical Society)

Volunteer

This award is for the organization or individual whose volunteer efforts has furthered the goals of the river management plan. (Clint Rodell; Roland Flora)

Award of Recognition

This award recognizes those who have made substantial contributions to protecting the resources of the Upper Delaware River. (Larue Elmore, George Frosch; and Congressman Matt McHugh, Helen Davis)
Welcome to the Upper Delaware

Welcome to the Winter 1990-1991 issue of The Upper Delaware, the Upper Delaware Council’s (UDC) newsletter about the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River. Because we have expanded our mailing list over the past year, we have many new readers who may not be familiar with the UDC, what it is, why it exists, and what it does. So, here are the answers to some of the most commonly asked questions about the UDC.

What is the Upper Delaware Council, and what is its purpose?

The Upper Delaware Council’s purpose is to help manage the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River, 73.4 miles of beautiful river and adjacent lands in New York and Pennsylvania stretching from Hancock to Sparrowbush, New York. This job is shared by federal, regional, state, and local governments, and private citizens. The Upper Delaware Council brings these agencies and people together to make more effective decisions that protect the river, a national treasure. The UDC’s specific powers and responsibilities are spelled out in the Management Plan for the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River. The Council oversees administration of the Management Plan which was developed by local citizens who care about the river in cooperation with the states of New York and Pennsylvania, the Delaware River Basin Commission, and the National Park Service.

Who is eligible to join the UDC?

The UDC’s members are governments and agencies affected by the scenic river designation. Those eligible to join include: the fifteen towns and townships along the river; New York; Pennsylvania; the Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC); and the Upper Delaware Citizens Advisory Council (CAC). Each of these members uses its traditional powers and authorities to protect the river. As of December 1990, the New York Towns of Hancock, Fremont, Delaware, Cochecton, Tusten, Highland, Lumberland, and Deer park, the Pennsylvania Townships of Lackawaxen, Shohola, and Westfall, the State of New York, and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania have joined as full voting members. The DRBC is a non-voting advisory member. The CAC serves in an ex officio member capacity. The National Park Service works cooperatively with the UDC, but is not a member.

What are the benefits of joining the UDC?

Council members participate in the major decisions governing the management of the river corridor. Since the Council speaks for many agencies at once, it is recognized as a significant force in the river valley by federal and state agencies and by industry. Negotiating as a group with one voice on important resource management issues puts local governments on a much stronger footing than they would be acting alone. The joint efforts of the Council also increase the visibility of issues in the river valley and help these issues to achieve higher priority with outside decision-makers. Local government members of the Council are also eligible for technical assistance grants for plans, projects, and studies that further the River Management Plan.

What kind of projects are eligible for UDC technical assistance grants?

The grants are part of the UDC’s Technical Assistance Program. Grants must be for river-related plans and studies; they can’t be used for “bricks and mortar” building projects. This limita-
New York City: New Flexibility

The reservoirs of the City of New York supply high quality drinking water to almost half the population of New York State, including approximately eight million people in the city, plus almost a million residents of upstate counties. The public health impact of waterborne disease in a water supply of this magnitude would be widespread and disastrous. The city has determined that the quality of the water in its reservoirs is threatened by contamination or degradation due to changes in development and land use in the reservoir watersheds. The city wants to revise the existing watershed regulations and establish standards for activities in the watersheds to prevent degradation.

New York City's Environmental Commissioner, Albert Appleton, keynote speaker at the conference banquet, promised to be flexible in setting new rules and regulations for the watersheds. He pledged to work with local governments and interest groups to hammer out rules and regulations that everyone can live with.

Said Appleton, "The Upper Delaware Council found, as many regionally cooperative efforts have also found, that if you sit down and are candid and forthright [with each other], you can solve these problems."

Appleton expressed a particular willingness to work with farmers to modify proposed rules and regulations so they do not place an undue burden on agriculture in the reservoir watersheds—an issue of major concern to the farmers in the region.

"The city is very committed to agriculture as a land use—it is a beneficial use and it is a historic use," he explained. "We are aware of the fact that most farms in the 19th century were built next to streams. We are equally well aware of the fact that they are not going to be moved, nor do we want them moved. We are prepared to work all of that out."

New York Assemblyman Richard Coombe, himself a farmer, expressed optimism that the city will listen to the concerns of the region’s farmers and foresters. "Everybody wants clean water. What I tried to bring out today, was that the largest landowners in the watershed area are the farmer and forester, and they are dam good stewards of the land when properly operating on their land. Unfortunately, the regulations as put forth by the City of New York would force the subdivision of that land, because under them agriculture would no longer be viable. But I think the public understands that...and I think the city does too. I am firmly convinced that there will be changes in the draft regulations to enable agriculture and forestry to survive in the region."

Appleton stressed that the proposed revisions are a "discussion draft" and that the city encourages individuals and organizations to submit comments. No date has been set for completing the process of obtaining comments.

Fishery Plan Spurs Continued Debate

A New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) report titled "A Draft Fishery Management Plan for the Upper Delaware Tailwaters" released last April is still generating a great deal of interest and controversy. This "tailwaters" described in the plan consist of the East and West Branches of the Delaware below the Pepacton and Cannonsville Reservoirs and the main stem of the Delaware River down to Callicoon. The draft report presents strategies and recommendations for achieving the long-term goal of establishing a high quality, nationally renowned trout fishery in these waters through improvements in reservoir releases, public access, angling regulations, and trout stocking programs.

Panelist Kay Sanford, Senior Aquatic Biologist for Region 4 of the DEC, stated "It is only a draft, put out for
At the UDC "Delaware River Headwaters: Water For Millions" conference, the Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC) released a report titled "Staff Report on Scenic Rivers Water Quality Protection." The report proposes a water quality management program for what it calls the "scenic rivers region," defined by the DRBC as the drainage area of the Delaware River Basin above the Delaware Water Gap, excluding those areas above major reservoirs.

One of the reasons that Congress added the Upper Delaware and Middle Delaware segments to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System was to protect the river's excellent water quality. Many people have voiced concern that future growth and development could increase point and non-point source pollution and degrade water quality.

A co-operative DRBC/NPS study was initiated in 1987 to develop a water resources plan for the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area. In September of 1989, the Watershed Association of the Delaware River (WADR) and Delaware Riverkeeper petitioned the DRBC to increase the level of water quality protection provided to the Delaware River from Hancock, New York to the Delaware Water Gap. The DRBC staff report was developed in response to the DRBC/NPS study findings, the content of the WADR petition, results of the ongoing water quality monitoring program in the Upper Delaware, and other general concerns voiced in the region about water quality.

The DRBC staff report concludes that existing water quality in the Delaware River can and should be protected from degradation. According to the report, this means raising water quality standards to reflect existing water quality and other non-degradation policies, stringent sewage treatment requirements, non-point source controls for new sewage service areas, and adequate resources to expand management activities in the scenic rivers region.

The DRBC staff anticipates the proposed new rules will not affect existing development in the watershed, but will affect discharges from new developments and from the expansion of existing treatment facilities. Noting that this new program will increase the cost of development and infrastructure improvement in the region, the report states that the increased cost should not impede proper local growth and development. Any added cost is seen by the report as an investment in the economic future of the region. However, the report adds that negative impacts could be felt in some sections of the economy.

The Upper Delaware Council will be the focal point of continuing deliberations on the merits of the various proposals under consideration.

For copies of the report, contact the Delaware River Basin Commission, P.O. Box 7360, West Trenton, NJ 08628, (609) 883-9500.

Conference Continues Last Year's Dialogue

The conference continued a dialogue begun last year at the Upper Delaware Council's successful "Flowing to the Future" conference. Says Phil Fitzpatrick, Conference Chair, "We need to think of the river as a single system. To best manage this system, we need to improve the dialogue among competing users of the river and its resources. Through efforts like this, we can ensure that better management decisions are made for the benefit of the Upper Delaware, and the river basin as a whole."
RIVER LIFE

Delaware: A Short History

Editor's Note: This is the fifth in a series of articles exploring the rich and fascinating history of the Towns and Townships that border the Upper Delaware River. Information for this article is adapted from "History of the Town of Delaware" published by the Town of Delaware Bicentennial Committee, 1976, Mary Curtis, author.

The Town of Delaware is situated on the western edge of Sullivan County. It is bordered on the North by the Towns of Fremont and Callicoon, on the South by the Town of Cochecton, on the East by the Town of Bethel, and on the West by the Delaware River and the Pennsylvania Townships of Manchester and Damascus.

Originally, this whole area was known as Mamakating. In 1798 it became part of the new Town of Lumberland. Eleven years later, another division made it part of the Town of Bethel. And, in 1828, it split off again to form the Town of Cochecton. Finally, in 1869, the Town of Delaware became a separate entity, the last town to be formed within Sullivan County.

The largest community in the Town is Callicoon. Other hamlets include Hortonville, Kenoza Lake, and Kohlertown.

Joseph Ross, the first white settler at Callicoon, came to the area about 1760. He built a cabin near the present Holy Cross Cemetery. About the same time, a Scotsman named David Young and his wife (who claimed to be an illegitimate child of George III) settled their family at Big Island.

Ross and Young moved into the region under the auspices of landowner Joseph Greswold. Greswold was a wealthy New York distiller who had invested in two lots of the Hardenburgh Patent, including much of what is now the Town of Delaware.

Daniel Skinner, an early settler on the Pennsylvania side of the Delaware, got the idea of lashing together pine logs and rafting them downriver for sale to the shipbuilders of Philadelphia. Skinner and his forehand floated their first raft from St. Tammany Flats, across from Callicoon, in 1764.

It wasn't until after the Revolutionary War that the environment was peaceful enough for the lumber/rafting industry to take hold. By 1800 lumbering was the most important business along the Upper Delaware, and new settlements began to crop up, with lumber as their basis for commerce. Kenoza Lake—then known as Pike Pond because of the fish that were present—was named for the Dutch term for wild turkey—"Kalicon." Photo by David Soete.

The lumber business, feeding thriving rafting and tannery industries, brought prosperity. The double-tracked Erie Railroad line, running along the bank of the Delaware River through the Town, officially opened for business. This line linked the New York City region through the Delaware River valley to points west. To celebrate the occasion, the company ran an excursion train carrying such notables as President Fillmore, Daniel Webster, and local State Senator James Clark Curtis. The ceremonies included speeches and festivities reserved for Delaware Depot, further west on the line.

Meanwhile, much of the farmland in the Beechwoods section of the town was purchased by German immigrants. In 1857, John Moersch introduced the custom of the traditional German fair. Each spring, farmers gathered to sell, exchange, and exhibit their livestock and farm products. Another uniquely German contribution was the stone arch bridge. A fine example of this unusual craftsmanship remains standing at the Stone Arch Bridge Park, at the intersection of Routes 52 and 52A near Kenoza Lake.

A number of Swiss brought their families and traditions into the Beechwoods, and Kohlertown sections of the town, leaving their special stamp on the location still known as Swiss Hill.

The late 1800s and early 1900s were exhilarating times for the people of the Town of Delaware. The lumber business, feeding thriving rafting and tannery industries, brought prosperity. The double-tracked Erie brought train loads of immigrants to populate the farm land and visitors to fill the boarding houses and hotels. There was a new interstate bridge across the Delaware at Callicoon Depot (completed in 1899). A creamery (built in 1882) processed and shipped out milk from local farmers to consumers in New York. And, George Robisch opened a local flagstone quarry. The growth of

(Please see "Town..." on page 7)
Lordville-Equinunk Bridge Going to Bid
Council Supports Some Parts of DEC Fishery Plan, Opposes Others

Paperwork needed to allow the Lordville-Equinunk Bridge project to go out for bids this winter is slowly but surely working its way through Harrisburg and Albany, with stops along the way in the Scranton and Binghamton regional DOT offices. Pennsylvania’s July approval of funding for its share of the project gave the green light to proceed with construction.

Construction plans have been sent back to the consultant for a final update, but this is not viewed as a major setback. All permits and right-of-way acquisition should be in place by January 21 to February 14, 1991.

In a letter to the Upper Delaware Council, Richard R. Church, P.E., Regional Director for NY DOT, stated “We are proceeding to resolve remaining procedural steps necessary to allow replacement of the Lordville-Equinunk Bridge. We anticipate that construction will begin in the spring of 1991, with likely completion in spring of 1992.”

UDC’s Comments on Fishery Plan

At its October 4th, 1990 meeting the Council voted to adopt a position paper on the NY DEC “Draft Fishery Management Plan for the Upper Delaware Tailwater.” The UDC supports some parts of the plan, but opposes several elements.

After reviewing the plan and listening to a great variety of comments from the public, the UDC position paper was drafted and approved. A brief summary of UDC’s comments is presented here.

Releases—The UDC supports: installation of a new Cannonsville Dam valve; improving the conservation releases program; increasing the size of the thermal stress bank; and work on a better overall water flows management program for the entire basin.

Stocking—The proposed stocking program is not supported by the UDC.

Access—The two to three mile access interval for fishing access sites, was determined not to be compatible with the Upper Delaware River Management Plan. Also, while not proposed by the DEC plan, the UDC stated that eminent domain must not be used to acquire fishing access sites or easements.

Regulations—The UDC opposes the establishment of “artificials only” regulations as proposed, and also opposes the proposal for catch and release regulations for the rainbow trout.

A copy of the 9-page position paper is available from the UDC office. It is anticipated that NY DEC will issue a revised version of the fishery plan early in 1991.

("Town of Delaware", from page 6—

the Roman Catholic community led to the establishment of St. Joseph’s Seminary with its impressive bluestone buildings overlooking Callicoon.

During this period, the newspaper business in town also flourished. The Callicoon Echo, a Republican newspaper begun in the 1850s, competed with the newly established (1891) Sullivan County Democrat. The Echo eventually went out of business, but the Democrat is still published by the Stabbert family.

It was during this period of growth that Callicoon Depot’s name was shortened to Callicoon. This small hamlet, which first grew because of railroad building activity, went on to become the commercial center of the town. Today it includes a bank, library, community center, a U.S. Dept of Labor Job Corps Center, and a large variety of small businesses, restaurants and hotels. A small regional hospital is located on Route 97 just south of Callicoon.

Do We Have Your Correct Address?

If your address has changed or you no longer own property in the Upper Delaware River area, please help us to maintain the accuracy of our records. Fill in your new address or the name and address of the new owner of your property and return this part of the page to the: Upper Delaware Council, P.O. Box 217, Narrowsburg, NY 12764. Thank you for your assistance.

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City State Zip

Check this line and return the form if you wish to have your name removed from the mailing list.
tion flows from the legislation that established the scenic river.

**Is the UDC limited in the things it can do?**

The UDC's role is spelled out in the River Management Plan. There is flexibility in this role, however, and it is up to the Council members to determine its future direction.

**Where does the UDC get its funding?**

Most of the Council's funding comes from an annual appropriation by the U.S. Congress. Participating towns and townships also contribute in-kind services.

The UDC is organized as a non-profit organization, gifts to which are tax-deductible. This means that it can receive grants from foundations, corporations, and the general public. It is expected that in the future some of its income will come from such sources.

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**Isn't the UDC a federal or state agency?**

No. It is organized as a non-profit organization. But, its members are state and local governments, plus the DRBC and CAC.

**Isn't the UDC just another layer of bureaucracy?**

No. The UDC can't pass laws or make regulations. It is a partnership through which agencies and the public come together to make decisions about the river. It is up to each member agency to then carry out what is agreed to, using its own powers and authorities.

For more information about the programs and purposes of the Upper Delaware Council please contact your local UDC representative or write or call the UDC office at P.O. Box 217, Narrowsburg, NY 12764, (914) 252-3022.

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**Calendar of Upper Delaware Events**

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**Legend**

* UDC Annual Awards Dinner, 6:00 pm, Woodloch Pines, Lackawaxen Township
UD Monthly Meeting, 7:30 pm, Tusten Town Hall, Narrowsburg, NY
RM Resource Management/Water Use Committee, 7:00 pm, Tusten Town Hall
OP Operations Committee, 6:30 pm, UDC office, Bridge Street, Narrowsburg
PR Project Review Committee, 7:00 pm, UDC office (Upon adjournment of the Operations Committee)