

# The Upper Delaware

Volume 1 Number 2

Upper Delaware Council

Summer 1988

## \$90,730 Allocated To Local Projects

### UDC Awards Grants To Local Governments

Town and County projects to plan for the future of the Upper Delaware Corridor received a boost in August when the Upper Delaware Council awarded the first series of grants to member governments. Totalling \$90,730, the projects approved by the UDC covered a broad area of concern, ranging from architectural studies, to master plans and zoning ordinances, to aquifer studies and a wildlife inventory.

"These funds are the proof of the partnership," said UDC Chairperson Phil Fitzpatrick. "We are pleased to be able to assist our member towns in such a variety of ambitious projects that will make this river corridor a safer place, and a place with local governments well prepared to

meet the environmental and economic challenges of the years to come."

"Through these grants, the UDC, working closely with local governments, is able to stimulate a range of activities that will do far more good, and do it far more sensitively, than if either the state or the federal government attempted these projects on their own."

### Fifteen Projects Funded

The Council approved fifteen projects for funding. The Town of Lumberland received approval for \$15,000 to do an engineering study of traffic and pedestrian safety

*(Continued on Page 7)*

### Council Hires First Staff Members

The Council completed two busy months of searching and interviews in May when it hired Kathy Johnson of Cocheton as the Council's Administrative Director and Janice Fischer, also of Cocheton, as Clerk/Typist. The search for the Council's first Executive Director was still in progress at deadline.

The hiring of these two capable people will help the Council to move more efficiently in its efforts to coordinate the Upper Delaware plan.

Johnson, formerly the Secretary for the Conference of Upper Delaware Townships (COUP) and bookkeeper for the Town of Cocheton, has years of experience in her field, and she has a unique and valuable perspective on her new position gained during her four years with COUP. Her role



*Administrative Director Kathy Johnson, left; Clerk/Typist Janice Fischer, right*

with the Council is to ensure smooth functioning of all administrative operations. This includes management of the financial systems, the office operation, and coordination

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## Big Water

# The Chairman's Perspective

The Delaware River was recently referred to as "Big Water" in the title of an article featured in a national sporting magazine (Outdoor Life, May 1988). This is surely true. Even the headwater streams are larger than many rivers throughout the country and the Delaware's mainstem, beginning at the confluence of the East and West Branches in Hancock, is a substantial body of water by anyone's standard. The article's title referred further to "Little Men" and although the flow and power of the river can dwarf anyone, the Delaware also adds something and enriches our lives and ourselves. This river deserves to be protected--and shared.

The Delaware River is already shared by many elements in the region. Water is diverted to New York City, the flow of the river maintains the salt-front so the lower basin communities can tap the Delaware for drinking water, and the tributaries generate electric power for numerous businesses and homes. Many visitors come here to enjoy the fishing, boating or just the quiet of an evening along the shore.

I share the river with people important to me. My children and I canoe or swim to steal some time together

from the rigors of our hectic schedules. I share the river with my fishing partner and seek much more than the magnificent rainbow trout that reside there. Friendship, solitude, and the tired, contented feeling at the end any day on the river is the result of the sharing.

The Delaware is certainly "big water" with lots of great things to see and experience. The river is an important part of my life. It provides peace of mind and the river with its beautiful valley serves as a touchstone in my life. My wish is that you and I--and our children--always have a river worth sharing. Take the time to share the magnificent Delaware with a friend or loved one. And then invest some time and interest in protecting this wonderful "Big Water", our Delaware River.



Phil Fitzpatrick  
Chairperson

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### Officers

Chairperson.....Phil Fitzpatrick  
Vice-Chairperson.....George Frosch  
Secretary-Treasurer.....Bruce Selneck

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.....Myron Knight, Alternate  
Delaware.....Bill Dirie  
.....Edward Sykes, Sr., Alternate  
Cochecton.....Richard Gutzzeit  
.....John Poley, Alternate  
Lumberland.....Thomas Hill  
.....Peter Melnyk, Alternate  
Deerpark.....Frank Hartmann  
.....Bob Levin, Alternate

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Lackawaxen.....Edward DeFebo  
.....Ross Rosencrance, Alternate  
Shohola.....Bruce Selneck  
.....George Fluhr, Alternate  
Westfall.....Phil Fitzpatrick  
.....Doug Hay, Alternate

### State and State/Federal Members                      Representatives

New York Department of Environmental  
Conservation.....Bruce MacMillan  
.....Frederick Gerty, Alternate  
Pennsylvania Department of Environmental  
Resources.....Roger Fickes  
Delaware River Basin Commission.....Gerald M. Hansler  
.....Robert V. Everest, Alternate

### Observers                      Representatives

National Park Service.....James W. Coleman, Jr.  
.....John T. Hutzky, Alternate  
UD Citizens Advisory Council.....Larue Elmore

### Staff

Executive Director.....Vacant  
Administrative Director.....Kathy Johnson  
Clerk/Typist.....Janice Fischer  
Consultant.....Hoffman, Williams, Lafen & Fletcher  
.....Arlington, Virginia

# Zane Grey House Protection Nears

*"For a long time he traveled in the bed of the brook, wading where the water was shallow, and always stepping where there was the least possibility of leaving a footprint."*

The footprints left by Zane Grey as he walked the banks of his beloved Upper Delaware River are long gone, but he left to us these words, and many more, in his great western novels. For those of us in the river valley, he left yet another gift: the house where he started his career and spent thirteen productive years as the best known writer of western novels.

## Dentistry and Curve Balls

Zane Grey was born Pearl Zane Gray in 1875 in a town that already bore the family name. Zanesville, Ohio, was named after his pioneer ancestors, contemporaries of Daniel Boone who labored in the settlement of the Western frontier.

Zane's father wanted him to continue in the family business, and Zane tried to oblige him by attending dentistry school at the University of Pennsylvania. He was known for his strong arm and exceptional ability to pull teeth, a skill generally attributed more to his fine curve ball than to diligent practice on human bicuspid. During these college years, Zane loved to pitch in the still young game of baseball.

## Finding Dolly and Success in Lackawaxen

Zane could also fish as well as anyone alive at the time. He frequently took summer vacations in Lackawaxen, where he tried the waters of the Delaware and Lackawaxen Rivers. He also wrote about fishing, and his first published work was an article titled "A Day on the Delaware".

During one of these summers, he met a young woman who was later to become Dolly Grey. In 1905, after their marriage, they used money from her family legacy to acquire their home in Lackawaxen. In that same year he published his first novel, "Riders of the Purple Sage", an instant success that enabled him to pursue his desire to write novels for a living. Over the next thirteen years he wrote a dozen western novels, including "The Lone Ranger", "Desert Gold", "Heritage of the Desert", and "The UP Trail".

Usually, Zane wrote not at a desk but in a Morris chair,

with a lapboard balanced on the arms. Dolly would edit and proof read his drafts.

In 1918, the Greys moved west, though they retained title to the house in Lackawaxen. They never returned to live there on a permanent basis, although they wished to be buried there. Zane Grey passed away in 1939. He is buried next to his Dolly, near the river.

## The Zane Grey House and HAB Survey

The house today is owned by Al and Helen Davis, whose family were friends of the Grey family and acquired the house from them in the 1940's. It was placed on the National Register of Historic Places on May 6, 1983. The house contains an important museum of Zane Grey ar-



*The Zane Grey House in Lackawaxen Township; the house and museum collection soon will be restored by the National Park Service*

tifacts, including rare Frederic Remington prints used to advertise Grey's novels in book store windows, artifacts from his dentistry student days, photographs, and the Morris chair and lap board where he worked.

The Davis family wishes to sell the house to the NPS, and the Upper Delaware River Management Plan identifies the site as one to be acquired if the seller is willing. The property is currently being appraised, and if terms can be arranged, it will be acquired and by the National Park Service. NPS has also sent a team of historians and architects to perform an Historic American Buildings (HAB) survey of the house, as well as the nearby Toll House and Roebling Bridge. They will prepare measured drawings and perform historical studies, work that will provide information for future generations of historians.

# Meet Your UDC Representatives

*(The representatives to the Upper Delaware Council are individuals with diverse backgrounds and interests that have put aside their differences and committed themselves to the success of the Upper Delaware river management plan. The following paragraphs introduce you to three more UDC representatives. - Editor)*

## Bruce MacMillan

Bruce MacMillan is the State of New York's representative to the Upper Delaware Council. He has been involved with river planning since 1983, and served on the Plan Oversight and Revision Committees during the rewrite of the Upper Delaware river plan.

As Regional Supervisor of Natural Resources for Region Three of the NY Department of Environmental Conservation, Bruce acts as liaison between various state and local agencies. He helps to coordinate the implementation of state programs having to do with land, forests, fish, and wildlife. This job as coordinator and liaison has prepared him well for his role on the Council.

Bruce also serves as UDC's source of information about programs inside New York State government.

Bruce need not do any research, however, to answer how he feels about the river. "Without a doubt, the Upper Delaware is a beautiful river that should be cherished and protected by all who know and love it."



## George Frosch

George Frosch is the Upper Delaware Council representative from the Town of Hancock, New York. He is also Vice-Chairperson of the Council. George is especially active in bridge issues and has worked particularly hard for the construction



of a new bridge to replace the one removed for safety reasons between Lordville and Equinunk.

George is a dedicated sportsman who has played football, fished, and hunted. He has bred, trained, and raced harness horses; farmed, lumbered and quarried; and designed and built many different projects, including the last covered bridge built in Hancock. He has been living in the area since 1947 and is a major landholder along the river.

George's involvement in river planning began in 1972, when the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation announced plans to buy all the property along the river front. "We thought that would ruin the valley. One of the unique things about the area is the fact that 97% of it is in private hands."

"People lived on that land, paid taxes on it, and had the right to keep and use it. So a group formed and stopped the acquisition plan, proposing instead that the towns protect the river corridor through zoning." This became the centerpiece of the 1978 legislation.

George has been Co-Chairman of the Equinunk-Lordville group of the Upper Delaware River Association, a

charter member of the Upper Delaware Clearinghouse, the Vice-Chair and Acting Chair of the Upper Delaware Citizens Advisory Council, and Vice-Chair of the Conference of Upper Delaware Townships.

## Ed Sykes

Ed Sykes is the UDC alternate representative from the Town of Delaware, and Chair of the Water Use Committee. A retired businessman and a resident of Delaware for some thirty years, he is also an elected representative to the Delaware Town Council. He is the proud father of five children and eight grandchildren.

Some thirty years ago Ed used to operate a hotel in Hankins, New York. In conjunction with his hotel business, he sometimes would organize river



trips for his guests in johnboats. He believes he may have been the first person to rent canoes on the river.

As a member of both town government and the Council, Ed looks forward to the day when all fifteen towns sit at the Council table. "With the Council, the towns have an opportunity to take part in decisions that directly affect them. Some towns are letting a vocal minority keep them from having any clout with the states and the federal government, but I'm confident that one day they'll realize what a minority those people really are, see what they're missing, and come into the fold."

## New Faces on UDC Committees

There have been a few changes in the Upper Delaware Council Committee membership.

Ed Sykes, from the Town of Delaware, has moved into Bruce's position as Chair of the Water Use Committee.

Bob Levin and Frank Hartmann, formerly the representative and alternate, respectively, from Deerpark, have switched places on the Council. Hartmann, long active in conservation issues around the state of New York, will retain his Chairmanship of the Resource Management Committee.

Three new alternates have also been named to fill Council positions. Doug Hay, a former member of the Conference of Upper Delaware Townships and editor of the Pike County Dispatch, has been named alternate from Westfall Township.

The Cochection Town Board has named John Poley, a member of the Planning Board, as alternate from that town. The Town of Lumberland has also named Peter Melnyk as alternate to representative Tom Hill.

### Committee Changes

Bruce Selneck, representative from Shohola Township, has moved from the Operations and Water Use Committees to the Resource Management Committee. The Township thought it could best serve the Council in its new committee assignment.

Delaware River Basin Commission representative Gerald Hansler and Alternate Bob Everest have moved from the Water Use Committee to the Resource Management and Project Review Committees. Also joining these committees is Fred Gerty, alternate representative for the State of New York.

## Larue Elmore Appointed CAC Chair

Larue Elmore, a resident of Milanville and long active in river planning, has been appointed Chair of the Upper Delaware Citizens Advisory Council by U.S. Secretary of the Interior Donald Hodel. Mr. Elmore has also been appointed as the federal member of the CAC. The Citizens Advisory Council is a body created by the Upper Delaware law to provide for citizen input into the river planning process, and to make recommendations for improvement when necessary.

Larue has served on the CAC since its inception, and he has been acting Chair since Deerpark resident Karen Ridley stepped down as Chair last year. He represented the CAC on the Plan Oversight, Land Use, Water Use, and Plan Revision Committees during the rewrite of the River Management Plan. He will be attending Upper Delaware Council meetings as the official CAC observer.

The UDC offers its congratulations to Larue and wishes the CAC much success in the coming years.

## Volunteer Members

Several new faces have joined the workers at UDC committee meetings as volunteer committee members. Encouraged to participate due to their expertise or their interest, the involvement of volunteer members is one means the Council is using to add breadth to its decisions.

The committees are pleased to report that the following volunteers are participating in committee work: **Water Use** - Chris Nielsen, National Canoe Safety Patrol; Leon Brill, Federated Sportsmens Clubs of Wayne County; Thomas Hoffman, The Park Project, NYC; Matthew Frieda and Charles E. Mills, Callicoon Kiwanis; **Resource Management** - Clinton Rodell; Roland and Louise Flora, Federated Sportsmens Clubs of Sullivan County; **Project Review** - Diane Carlton, Sullivan County Planning Department; Citizens Advisory Council participants (for all committees) - Larue Elmore and Geraldine Howson.

The UDC wishes to thank everyone for their effort.

## Ross Rosencrance Passes Away

The Upper Delaware Council began its July 7 meeting with a moment of silence to mourn the passing of Ross U. Rosencrance, life long river valley resident, who passed away on the third of July. Ross was active for over thirty years in Lackawaxen Township public life, including many years as Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, and represented the Lackawaxen Township on the Conference of Upper Delaware Townships and more recently on the Upper Delaware Council.

Ross was well known for his active involvement in civic life. He was a member of the Greely Volunteer Fire Department, served on the Pennsylvania Fish Commission, and was a Lifetime Waterway Patrolman. In honor of his 38 years of dedicated service to Lackawaxen Township, the Planning Board adopted a resolution renaming the Lackawaxen Town Park to the Ross U. Rosencrance Memorial Park.

We offer our condolences to his family and to Lackawaxen Township on his passing. He will be missed.

## River Corridor Maps Here

A series of three large maps of the Upper Delaware River Corridor is now available, free of charge, from the Upper Delaware Council. The 1:24,000 scale maps, prepared by the National Park Service, indicate the boundaries of the Upper Delaware River corridor, township and county lines and individual property lines. (Property line information was not available for Pike County and is not indicated on the maps.)

The maps are available at the UDC office in Narrowsburg which is open from 8 AM to 4:30 PM, Monday to Friday. Maps may also be ordered from the UDC by telephone at (914) 252-3022, or by mail (P.O. Box 217, Narrowsburg, NY 12764).

# River News

## Drought Update; New Zoning in Deerpark; New Access Point; Landfill Dumped

### Drought Has Little Effect on River

The early summer heat and drought have affected the flow and water temperature of the Delaware River, according to Wayne Elliot, Fisheries Manager for Region Three of the New York Department of Environmental Conservation. However, the changes are different from what might be expected during drought in a river not influenced by reservoir releases.

According to Mr. Elliot, Reservoir storage in the Pepacton, Cannonsville, and Neversink Reservoirs were at or above average levels before the onset of the June hot weather and drought. Consequently, there were no procedural curtailments of normal flows. Furthermore, because many natural feeder streams slowed to a trickle during the drought, the River Master ordered additional reservoir water releases to ensure the required minimum of 1750 cubic feet per second river flow at Montague, New Jersey. Since reservoir releases are from the deep, cold water at the bottom of the reservoir pool, the releases had a substantial cooling effect on the main stem river flow. Thus, while uncontrolled natural streams were over-heating, the waters of the Delaware remained relatively cool. This is an especially important consideration for the blue ribbon trout fishery, since trout require cool water.

Now that the area drought has apparently been broken by a series of rains, natural stream flow has increased and reservoir releases are not needed to ensure minimum flow at Montague. The abnormally hot midsummer weather is warming the river and could threaten the trout fishery if unchecked. However, the State of New York is taking steps to prevent any harm from taking place. Says Elliot, "The DEC has been making withdrawals from the conservation flow bank in order to lower water temperatures. These cold water releases help to cool off the river and protect the blue-ribbon Upper Delaware fishery."

### New Master Plan for Deerpark

The Town of Deerpark will develop a new master plan to cope with rapid development that is taking place in the town and to assist in town conformance with the Upper Delaware Management Plan. The comprehensive plan will address patterns of population growth, soil and water conditions that impact upon growth patterns, traffic and highway patterns and restrictions that may result from increased development, and strategies and plans to cope with all of the challenges that growth poses to the southern-most town on the New York shore.

The project will take four to six months to complete at an estimated \$60,000. The UDC special projects grant program will assist Deerpark in its effort to develop the new master plan with a grant of \$20,000.

One product of the planning effort will be a series of maps of the town with overlays showing the impacts of various factors such as soils, water percolation, wetlands, municipal services, and traffic considerations on the development opportunities in the town. The plan will also review the matrix of local, state, federal and regional laws, agreements, and regulations that will impact the development process in Deerpark.

UDC Chairperson Phil Fitzpatrick cited the Deerpark and Shohola efforts as prime examples of how the cooperation of local governments and the UDC can result in real benefits for the valley. "I am convinced that both Deerpark and Shohola, with the guidance of the Upper Delaware Management Plan, and the financial support of the UDC, will be able to provide their citizens a far more sensitive and effective master plan than could either the federal or state governments, or than either of the towns could acting on their own."

### New Access Below Cherry Island

The New York Department of Environmental Conservation announced that it will acquire a small tract immediately downstream from Cherry Island, the lowermost part of the protected segment of the Upper Delaware, for use as a public access point.

The access point will solve a number of problems on that reach of the river. Boaters have been leaving the river at this point for years, causing problems such as trespass, litter and bank erosion. To be located on the New York bank, the site will have easy access to Route 97, an advantage for users and for emergency vehicles. The Mongaup Rapids, immediately upstream, is one of the most dangerous stretches along the river.

### Barnes Landfill Expansion Nixed

The operators of the Barnes Landfill in the Town of Highland had their plans for expansion set aside when the owner of the proposed expansion site decided not to sell the property. The landfill operators incurred further setbacks when the site received four serious citations from the Department of Environmental Conservation.

The proposed expansion, if approved, would have permitted up to 110 new truckloads per day to be hauled to the site for disposal. Hundreds of Highland residents spoke out against the proposal.

The landfill, located largely within the boundaries of the river corridor, is a land use that existed prior to the approval of the management plan and therefore is not subject to acquisition. New landfills or expansions to existing landfills are classified as incompatible uses under the plan. Any such proposal would be prevented.

*("Funding", Continued from Page 1)*

problems at the Pond Eddy Bridge. The Town of Delaware was awarded \$14,000 to complete an architectural design study for downtown re-development in Callicoon. This total supplemented funds already committed by the New York State Council on the Arts for the first part of the study, which will recommend ways that the existing and new development in Callicoon can better take advantage of the views of the river.

Three major awards for local planning went to Shohola Township, the Town of Deerpark, and the Town of Han-



*The Council will prepare a River User Information Guide to inform visitors about river safety, hunting and fishing regulations, public lands, private property, and local establishments that cater to the recreation trade.*

cock. Shohola was awarded \$10,230 to revise its Municipal Land Use Control ordinances, Deerpark will develop a new master plan with \$20,000 in UDC assistance, and Hancock will receive \$12,000 to develop ordinances and procedures for comprehensive site plan review.

Two corridor counties were awarded major grants to do natural resource studies. The Pike County Planning Commission will receive \$10,000 to complete a natural features

inventory. The Sullivan County Planning Department will undertake an assessment of aquifer re-charge zones that affect stream flows and well levels with \$21,000 of UDC grant support.

Four smaller grants were awarded to the Town of Lumberland. A total of \$8,500 was approved for the preparation of brochures relating to archaeological history and historic sites, to develop an ordinance to establish an Environmental Management Board, and to establish guidelines for engineering submissions to the Town for development proposals.

The Council also decided to fund four special projects that it will undertake on its own. Budgets were approved for a Hazardous Materials Risk Assessment for \$7,224, for a local government directory for \$2,968, for a design guide for property owners and developers for \$21,100, and a river user information guide for \$6,228.

The Hazardous Materials Risk Assessment will be done in response to concerns raised in the valley about the transport of hazardous materials in the corridor and in response to the toxic spill that occurred last year near the river at the Cochetton-Delaware town boundary line.

All projects were reviewed by the UDC Project Review Committee and Operations Committee prior to their approval by the full UDC Board.

The grants were available to UDC member towns and counties for projects that would advance the goals of the river plan. The projects will produce publications or ordinances that will be valuable to all communities, and the Council ensures that the results of these grants are well publicized and made available to all member communities. The Council will make a new series of grants in 1989. UDC member communities will once again be encouraged to develop projects that will qualify for funding under the program.

## Change of Address or Ownership?

If your address has changed or you no longer own property in the Upper Delaware River valley, 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 Upper Delaware Council, P. O. Box 217, Narrowsburg, NY 12764. Thank you for your assistance.

### Old Address

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address1 \_\_\_\_\_  
Address2 \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

### New Address

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address1 \_\_\_\_\_  
Address2 \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

## Calendar of River Events

### September

1	7:30 pm	UDC Meeting	Tusten Town Hall
13	7:00 pm	Res. Mgmt Committee	UDC Office
13	8:00 pm	Project Review Committee	UDC Office
20	7:00 pm	Operations Committee	UDC Office
20	8:00 pm	Water Use Committee	UDC Office

### October

6	7:30 pm	UDC Meeting	Tusten Town Hall
18	7:00 pm	Res. Mgmt. Committee	UDC Office
18	8:00 pm	Project Review Committee	UDC Office
25	7:00 pm	Operations Committee	UDC Office
25	8:00 pm	Water Use Committee	UDC Office

### November

3	7:30 pm	UDC Meeting	Tusten Town Hall
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## Need Information?

The UDC office in Narrowsburg (next door to the fire department) can answer questions you may have about the plan and its effects on you and your town or township. The office is open from 8 AM - 4:30 PM. Call us at (914) 252-3022 or write to: UDC, P. O. Box 217, Narrowsburg, NY 12764.

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("Staff", Continued from Page 1)

with the Council membership on areas of administrative concern.

Among her duties is the scheduling and coordination of the Council's monthly meetings and four committee meetings, coordination of special events, and management of the computer system, projects that require preparation, timing and proper follow-through.

Kathy takes a broad view when looking ahead to her role as Administrative Director. "I am really looking forward to getting down to the basic job of protecting the resource. I think that is paramount: keeping the river clean and flowing freely, and developing the cooperation between state, local, and federal officials needed to do that. Part of my job is to facilitate the communication between parties necessary for such cooperation to work."

Janice Fischer is new to the program, but she also sees her role as one of facilitation. "I believe in the Council and its mission, and I want to help it along. I am also looking forward to working in an office environment, meeting people, and working with the Council representatives."

We wish them both well in their new positions.

## Local Artist Honored for River Painting

A local artist is among one hundred finalists in the national "Arts for the Parks" competition sponsored by the National Park Academy of the Arts.

The artist, Edward Petras of Port Jervis, submitted a painting of the river in the Hawk's Nest area. One of 2,650 original entrants in the competition, Mr. Petras will be taking part in the awards ceremony to be held September 17th in Jackson Hole, Wyoming, near Grand Tetons National Park.

The Upper Delaware Council is proud that a painting and an artist from this area would be so highly honored. We extend our congratulations to Mr. Petras and hope that we can report on his taking first prize in our next edition.