

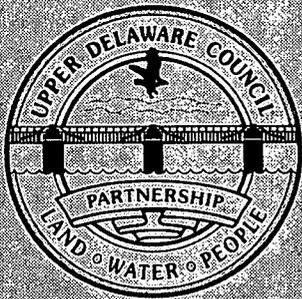
The Upper Delaware

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

Volume 12 Number 2

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Summer 1999



In This Issue...

**UDC Honors River Valley
Contributors at Awards Banquet**
Pages 1 and 4

Representative Profile:
Bruce MacMillan, NYS DEC;
DRBC's Dave Everett Retires
Page 2

**TAG Program Opens for 1999;
Local Basin Workshop a Success**
Page 3

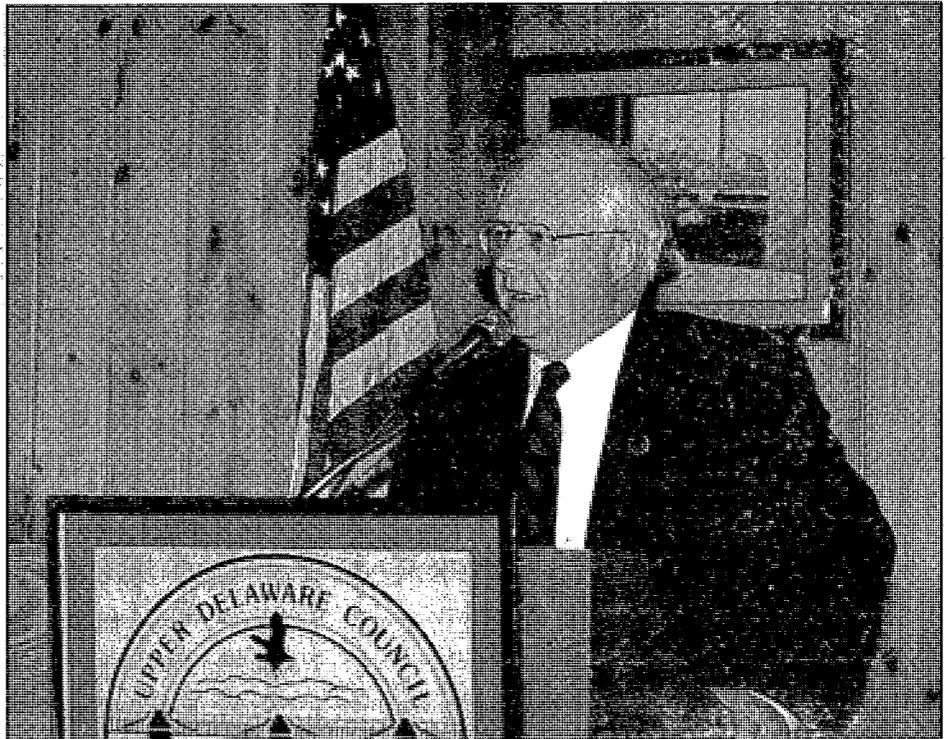
Eagles and Eels Concern UDC
Page 5

**Thomas F. Hill Municipal Building
Dedicated in Lumberland;
UDC Raft Trip & Picnic July 31**
Page 6

**In Memoriam: Geraldine Howson;
UDC Now Accessible by E-Mail**
Page 7

**UDC to Testify Before Congress
on Mongaup Visitor Center**
Page 8

**The Upper Delaware
welcomes submissions and
new subscribers (free!)
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the coupon on Page 7.**



U.S. Congressman Don Sherwood (R-PA-10th) delivers the keynote address at the Upper Delaware Council's 11th Annual Awards Banquet held April 25 at Woodloch Pines Resort near Hawley, Pa. One hundred and sixty guests attended the dinner. (Photo by David B. Soete)

Record Crowd Honors UDC 1999 Award Winners

A distinguished slate of 22 honorees and a keynote address by freshman U.S. Congressman Don Sherwood created great interest in the Upper Delaware Council's 11th Annual Awards Banquet.

Several of the award recipients had their own cheering sections on hand for the Sunday afternoon, April 25, ceremony held at Woodloch Pines Resort.

Following a social hour, the 160 banquet guests sat down to a five-course dinner and speech from Congressman Sherwood.

The Tunkhannock Republican took office on January 1, 1999, representing PA's 10th Congressional District in the seat vacated by the retirement of Joseph M. McDade.

Sherwood, a sixth-generation northeast-ern Pennsylvania resident, is no stranger

to the Upper Delaware, having enjoyed a hunting camp in Mast Hope for years.

Sherwood revealed his admiration for the unique process in which the 1978 Congressional designation of the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River protected the river's resources without removing local government control.

"What Congress wanted to do here was not to create a national park owned and operated by the federal government, not to end the use of the river, but to preserve the character of the river," he said.

"We're the stewards, and if we do it well, then our kids and grandkids will have the resource that we have been able to enjoy, and I think that's what the Upper Delaware

Please see "AWARDS" on Page 4

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

Representative Profile: Bruce MacMillan

While he is neither a native nor a resident of the Upper Delaware, Bruce MacMillan of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has tallied enough time and toil in the river valley to qualify as an honorary local.

MacMillan's direct involvement with the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River began in 1983, when he worked alongside the Conference of Upper Delaware Townships (COUP) to help draft and re-draft the River Management Plan.

His participation on the Plan Oversight and Revision Committees evolved into an assignment as the State of New York's representative to the Upper Delaware Council, incorporated in 1988.

Eleven years later, MacMillan continues in the role he originated.

"The formation of the Council lent itself very well to the issues that the Park Service and those interested in developing a Management Plan identified in the early '80s for a river corridor with private lands. I sincerely believe that the Council serves a very worthwhile function," he says.

MacMillan says his primary goal is to facilitate good communication and coordination between the UDC and the DEC.

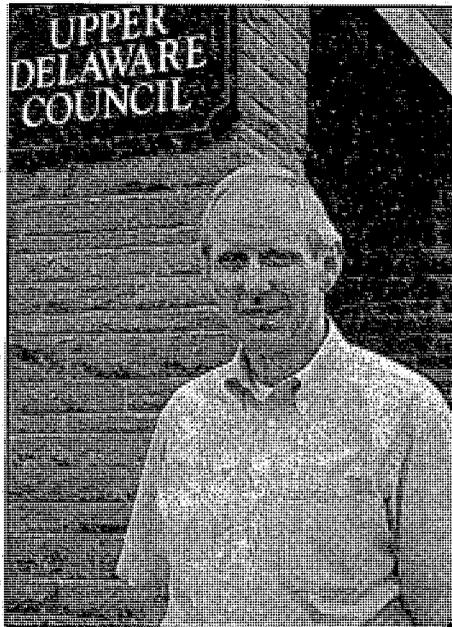
"Fred [Gerty, NYS alternate] and I try to provide a presence at meetings and be responsive to concerns," he says.

If that liaison duty occasionally involves spending time on the UDC's "hot seat", MacMillan isn't complaining.

"We've gone a long way collectively between the states and the local governments to protect the natural resources. I'd like to believe we enhanced the situation in the Upper Delaware," MacMillan says.



David B. Everett retired July 1, 1999 after 32 years with the Delaware River Basin Commission, the last 11 as Chief Engineer. He served as a UDC alternate since 1992. At the June 3 meeting, the Council presented him with a Resolution and a cake. ❖



Bruce MacMillan, Representative, NYS

Among his proudest accomplishments was working to secure New York Executive Order No. 169, signed by Gov. Cuomo on March 22, 1993, which directs all New York State agencies to act consistently with the Upper Delaware River Management Plan.

MacMillan also helped coordinate legislative efforts to authorize the DEC to enter into a 99-year lease with the National Park Service to develop an Upper Delaware interpretive visitor center within the state's Mongaup Wildlife Management Area.

Half of MacMillan's 32-year DEC career has been spent in his current position as Region 3 Natural Resources Supervisor, after his initial tenure in the state agency's Marine Program, Shellfish Bureau.

Having grown up in the Dutch fishing community of West Sayville, Long Island into a family of commercial fishermen, MacMillan carried on the tradition of eeling and clamming on the bay as a boy.

In 1963, he earned a Bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering at Drexel University in Philadelphia, then served two years in the Army, assigned to a research and development laboratory in Virginia.

Before a vacancy in the old Conservation Department caught his eye, MacMillan worked in private industry for Hamilton Standard, a division of United Aircraft.

Bruce, 60, and his wife, Joan, reside in Walkkill, NY. Their two children, Susan, an elementary school teacher, and John, an attorney, live in Maryland. The MacMillans have one granddaughter, Courtney, six.

MacMillan is a member of the Walkkill Reformed Church and Ducks Unlimited. He still enjoys fishing whenever he gets the chance, as well as hunting and hiking. ❖

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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.

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Upper Delaware Council Offers '99 Technical Assistance Grants

The Upper Delaware Council is pleased to announce that it will make planning or study funds available for the eleventh consecutive year.

The Technical Assistance Grants (TAG) program is open to member towns and townships, and county governments, for projects related to the implementation of the River Management Plan for the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River.

A pool of \$20,000 in grant funding has been budgeted for this fiscal year.

Applications are due at the UDC office in Narrowsburg, NY by 4:30 p.m. on Friday, July 30.

Over the past decade, the UDC has awarded a total of \$409,441 in TAG funds. This has enabled the recipient municipalities to move forward with vital projects that would otherwise rely on taxpayer funds.

TAG Timetable

- June 11** - Application packets mailed to municipalities
- July 30** - Deadline for submitting completed applications
- August 10** - Special Meeting of the Project Review Committee with applicants represented
- September 2** - UDC Resolution to Award 1999 Grants

◆◆◆◆◆

Available Funding: \$20,000

Program Administrator: David B. Soete, UDC Senior Resource Specialist, (914) 252-3022

UDC grants have been given for planning, preparation, and publication of zoning ordinances, laws, and other regulations relevant to the River Management Plan. These include floodplain, wetland, sewage disposal, stormwater management, subdivision, and comprehensive plans.

In addition, UDC grants have funded a number of publications and educational programs, including maps and informational brochures.

TAGs are not available for "bricks and mortar" construction or capital improvements.

The applicant municipality may opt to partner with a professional subcontractor or non-profit organization to implement

Summer 1999

their projects.

Grant terms are limited to one year, with a maximum of two six-month extensions possible upon request.

Eligibility for TAG funds is one benefit of membership in the Upper Delaware Council. The four non-participating townships in Wayne County, Pa. - Berlin, Buckingham, Damascus, and Manchester - could compete for this annual funding opportunity if they joined the Council.

In 1998, TAG projects included town zoning or subdivision law updates in Fremont, Cohecton, Deerpark, and Tusten; a sign inventory in Delaware; production of an eagle viewing brochure by The Eagle Institute in Highland; an historical markers pamphlet and land use laws training ses-

sions open to the public in Lumberland; and development of a township community map and guide in Shohola.

The UDC's Project Review Committee will meet on August 10 at 6:30 p.m. at the UDC office to review the completed applications. Each applicant must send a representative to that meeting to answer any questions.

It is expected that the full Council will vote to approve the 1999 slate of TAG recipients at its September 2 meeting, 7:30 p.m. at the Tusten Town Hall in Narrowsburg.

To receive a TAG brochure with guidelines and a directory of past projects, or a 1999 application packet with the criteria and submission form, please contact the UDC at (914) 252-3022. ♦



The "Flowing Toward the Future" Regional Basin Workshop held in Narrowsburg on May 5 attracted more than 80 participants to offer their visions for the Delaware River Watershed in the 21st Century. UDC Chair Phil Chase was enthusiastic about the opportunity: "We let everything get off our chests about what we wanted for the river. I think it was extremely successful and it's going to help give us what we need here." Above, members of the Preservation/Advocacy interest group rank their priorities. Pictured clockwise from the bottom are Peggy Simons, Frances Hodson, Steve Fleckenstein, and Norma Rutherford. The raw data gleaned from the series of 10 workshops held around the basin in April and May can be found at www.state.nj.us/drbc, the Delaware River Basin Commission's web site. A "Directions" report is being prepared in time for a Sept. 29 Governors' Summit. (Ramie photo)



Award recipients honored at the UDC's April 25 banquet were, seated from left to right: Kitty Womer, Henry McKean, Carl Vogt, Barbara Yeaman for the Delaware Highlands Conservancy, Ed DeFebo for Lackawaxen Township, and Mary Anne Danielsen. Standing from the left are: Andrew Helgesen for the D & H Transportation Heritage Council, Alan Bowers, Cal Hite, Mike Reuber for the National Park Service Celebrate '98 Team, Bill Harkness, Clem Fullerton for Trout Unlimited Upper Delaware Chapter, Peter Becker, Michael Padua, Bill Asnip, David Sauro, Donald de la Peña Jr., and Donald de la Peña, Sr. Award winners unable to attend the ceremony were Distinguished Service Award recipient, retired Congressman Joseph M. McDade, and Lifesaving Award recipients Paul Bjorklund, Daniel Morris, and Barbara Moreau. (Soete photo)

"AWARDS," continued from Page 1

Council is all about," Sherwood added.

The goal of watershed management unifies the UDC, he suggested.

"The work of the Upper Delaware Council has established and maintained the partnership we need to accomplish the goals we have for this Scenic and Recreational River. It has been an involvement of caring citizens from the communities of two states on both sides of the river which has made this effort a success. It has been their dedication that has made the future look so bright.

"As with any partnership ... there are times when the partners do not see eye to eye. I'm sure it hasn't all been smiles and hugs. But your perseverance to take this federal designation and make it work is not just a tribute to you, it's a gift to our nation, now and in the future," he said.

In deference to his Upper Delaware constituency in Pike and Wayne Counties, Representative Sherwood noted that he actively sought membership on the House Resources Committee, and its National Park and Federal Lands Subcommittee.

Sherwood has co-sponsored legislation to extend the Upper Delaware Citizens

Advisory Council (CAC) for another 10 years following its Feb. 6, 1999 term expiration, as well as funding authorization for the planning and design of the National Park Service's Mongaup Visitor Center, as called for in the River Management Plan.

Awards in 10 Categories

The highlight of the banquet came with the presentation of awards in 10 categories based on public nominations.

The Council's highest honor, the *Distinguished Service Award*, recognizes an individual's contributions in support of the goals and objectives of the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River (UDS&RR) River Management Plan.

It was a fitting tribute for the man who made the creation of the UDS&RR a reality, **Congressman Joseph M. McDade**.

In addition to his role as the drafter of the pioneering 1978 UDS&RR enabling legislation, McDade's strong advocacy for the river valley brought necessary funding to reopen the Roebing Bridge and acquire the Zane Grey Museum.

Mr. McDade retired from Congress at the end of 1998 following a remarkable 36 years of service to Pennsylvania's 10th District and the nation. Having moved to Virginia, he sent along his regrets at not

being able to attend the Awards Banquet, but thanked the Council for its "kindness and generosity in recognizing me in this manner... The designation of the Upper

Please see "AWARDS" on Page 5



UDC Executive Director Bill Douglass with an eagle friend representing the Delaware Highlands Conservancy's Puppet Players. The Conservancy took home the UDC's 1999 Volunteer Award. (Soete photo)

The Upper Delaware



UDC Community Service Award honorees Henry McKean, left, and Carl Vogt, at podium, of Shohola, were accompanied by a large cheering section from their township, including Supervisor George J. Fluhr, center, who made the presentation on behalf of the UDC and Shohola. Mr. McKean and Mr. Vogt served a combined 58 years on the Shohola Township Planning Commission and were early supporters of the River Management Plan for the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River. (Soete photo)

"AWARDS," continued from Page 4

Delaware Wild and Scenic River was one of the great moments in conservation in our country," he wrote.

The Distinguished Service Award was accepted on Mr. McDade's behalf by Congressman Sherwood and McDade's aide for all 36 of his years in office, Mike Russen.

Eight individuals received *Robin M. Daniels Memorial Lifesaving Awards* for their heroism in coming to the rescue of near-drowning victims in two incidents last summer.

Bill Asnip, Donald de la Pena Sr., Donald de la Pena Jr., Paul Bjorklund, Dan Morris, and Barbara Moreau helped save the life of a 24-year-old man on June 26 when he plunged into a drop-off while attempting to swim from the NY to PA shore.

National Park Service Volunteer Patroller **Mary Anne Danielsen** and Kittatinny Canoes transport driver **David Sauro** assisted a 12-year-old boy after he took off his lifejacket to swim and panicked after plunging underwater while on a July 4th family vacation.

His parents, and the individual saved in the first incident, attended the banquet to personally thank their rescuers for their selfless acts of bravery.

The Upper Delaware Council also presented the following awards:

Partnership Award - National Park Service Celebrate '98 Team, for their creative programs commemorating the 150th anniversary of Roebling's Delaware Aqueduct in 1998.

Outstanding Community Achievement Award - Lackawaxen Township, Pa., for the exemplary efforts of the 200th Anniversary Celebration Committee to mark the township's bicentennial with numerous activities and the publication of a high-quality history book.

Volunteer Award - Delaware Highlands Conservancy, for building a successful land trust program in four counties and educating the public on environmental themes.

Community Service Awards - (individuals) **Henry McKean** and **Carl Vogt** of the Shohola Township Planning Commission; and (organization) **Trout Unlimited Upper Delaware Chapter**, for thousands of hours of volunteer conservation efforts.

Cultural Achievement Awards - (individual) **Kitty Womer**, for conducting over 100 vital oral history interviews on behalf of the National Park Service; and (organization) **D & H Transportation Heritage Council**, for its dedication to promoting appreciation for the resources of the Delaware & Hudson Canal and its gravity railroads.

Recreation Achievement Award - Michael Padua, Sweetwater Guide Service, for imparting to the public his knowledge of the Upper Delaware River's ecology and folklore.

Awards of Recognition (3) - **Peter Becker**, County Editor, *Wayne Independent*, for his outstanding work on the Wayne County Bicentennial Issue; **Cal Hite**, Superintendent, UDS&RR, for his calming and confident leadership capabilities; and **Bill Harkness**, former Deputy Delaware River Master, upon his March 1999 retirement after 15 years in that position, capping off a distinguished 35-year career with the U.S. Geological Survey.

Oaken Gavel Award - Alan Bowers, 1998 UDC Chairperson, for his leadership, faithful meeting attendance, and common sense approach to river valley issues. ❖

Council Hosts Eel Weir Forum, Welcomes Eagle Expert Peter Nye

In a desire to broaden its knowledge and facilitate public discussions, the Upper Delaware Council tapped expert sources this spring to gather timely information on fish, fowl, and America's national emblem.

Close to 50 individuals attended an April 14 Special Forum on Eel Weirs hosted by the UDC in Narrowsburg, NY.

The audience included strong representation from operators of the eight eel weirs presently located on the Upper Delaware River and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) which has regulatory authority over those licenses. Also present were canoe livery operators, fishing guides, sportsmen's clubs, town officials, the National Park Service, and interested citizens.

The intent of the forum was to address long-standing concerns about the compatibility of the eel weir fishery with other river uses. Safety issues related to the construction of the man-made structures, the width of the river channel, and vandalism of the racks were openly discussed.

The UDC, which supports the preservation of the commercial eel fishery as a traditional use of the river, received praise for fostering a dialogue between the stakeholders that will carry over into individual solutions when future problems arise.

On May 18, the UDC invited Peter Nye, leader of the NYS DEC's Endangered Species Unit based in Delmar, to update the Water Use/Resource Management Committee on the status of the experimental late Canada goose hunting season and the Upper Delaware's wintering bald eagle population.

Nye reported that discussions are ongoing between New York and Pennsylvania to promote consistency in regulations to permit the harvesting of the few geese that can be found in the Upper Delaware while avoiding disturbance of the threatened bald eagle species.

One protective strategy involves developing a comprehensive management plan to address the needs of the 77 eagles recorded on the main stem of the Delaware from Port Jervis to Hancock.

Nye also confirmed that the location of the proposed Upper Delaware Visitor Center within the DEC's Mongaup Wildlife Management Area is not a critical eagle habitat since no birds nest there. ❖

Town Dedicates Municipal Building In Memory of Lumberland's Tom Hill

A grateful community lauded the contributions that their late supervisor made to improving Lumberland by dedicating their town offices in memory of Tom Hill.

Following through on an Oct. 8, 1997 resolution of the Lumberland Town Board, the Thomas F. Hill Municipal Office Building was dedicated in a festive and poignant public ceremony on May 15.

Hill, who died on August 25, 1997 at the age of 46 after battling leukemia, served as Lumberland Town Supervisor from 1984 until his illness.

He was also a charter member of the Upper Delaware Council who had logged seven years on the Conference of Upper Delaware Townships, helping to draft the River Management Plan for the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River.

Hill's dedication to the river valley, the Town of Lumberland, Sullivan County, the Pond Eddy United Methodist Church, the Lumberland Lions Club, and his many friends was extolled at the ceremony.

Flags for the Municipal Building were presented by Sullivan County Legislator Bob Lander, NY State Senator John J. Bonacic, and U.S. Congressman Ben Gilman.

Rep. Gilman's aide, Richard Mayfield, recalled Hill's understated savvy.

"Tom was truly a supervisor's supervisor. He understood probably better than any other politician the minutiae of government. He understood how to make it work for his people," he said.



Tom Hill's mother, Eleanor, and his beloved niece Maggie, proudly display the new sign that marks the Thomas F. Hill Municipal Building in Glen Spey, formally dedicated on May 15, 1999. The teddy bear perched on the flower box represents the honoree's nickname since high school, "Teddy" Tom Hill. (Photo by Bill Douglass)

Assemblyman Jake Gunther noted, "Tom was a very forthright, honest, and humble man that I was proud to call my friend."

UDC Executive Director Bill Douglass

presented Deputy Supervisor Paul Brennan with a tribute plaque to permanently hang in the municipal building that Hill's efforts made possible. ❖

Join the UDC For July 31 Raft Trip & Summer Picnic

The Upper Delaware Council invites one and all to its 11th Annual Raft Trip & Summer Picnic on Saturday, July 31, at Eddy Farm Resort Hotel in Sparrowbush, NY. All reservations must be made by July 19, so act quickly!

This year, two raft trip lengths are being offered of five hours and three hours. Park at Eddy Farm to sign in and catch the shuttle bus to the put-in locations. Rafts, paddles, and life jackets will be provided by Kittatinny Canoes. No prior rafting experience is necessary. Safety instructions will be given prior to launch. The minimum raft occupancy is four people and the maximum is six. Children must be at least four years old, weigh 40 lbs., and able to swim in order to participate.

For the five-hour trip, check in at 9 a.m. at the UDC's registration table. This early group will launch from Kittatinny's Pond Eddy Base.

Guests for the three-hour trip must report to Eddy Farm at 10:30 a.m. They will launch from Kittatinny's Staircase Rapids Base.

Take-out for both trips will be at Eddy Farm's private beach at approximately 3 p.m. depending on water levels and activities enjoyed during the float. Dress to get wet and wear river shoes. Small coolers should be tied in and all trash must be carried out.

The cost for the raft trip is \$15 for adults and \$7.50 for children ages 4-11. A Family Special will allow the fourth, fifth, and sixth child under 12 in a raft with three paid family members to go for free.

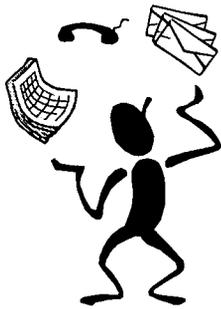
The UDC's Summer Picnic will take place under the Eddy Farm Pavilion from 3-5 p.m. A barbecue featuring chicken, spare ribs, hamburgers, hot dogs, fixings, baked beans, salads, iced tea, lemonade, and coffee will be topped off by a fun, make-your-own ice cream sundae bar. A cash bar will be available for the cocktail crowd.

Picnic guests are welcome to enjoy Eddy Farm's ambience and amenities, such as shuffleboard, fishing, bocce, a riverside walking trail, and the popular rocking chairs on the wrap-around porch. (The pool is open to registered hotel guests only.) Anyone wishing to take advantage of Eddy Farm's Par-3 golf course or tennis courts should call 1-800-EF6-5050 directly for times and rates.

The cost for the picnic is \$15 for adults, \$7.50 for children ages 3-11, and free to children under three.

To make reservations for either or both events, contact UDC Public Relations Specialist Laurie Ramie at (914) 252-3022, fax (914) 252-3359, or e-mail udcramie@ezaccess.net. Advance payments are required to facilitate the on-site registration process. ❖

Help UDC Organize Mail List



The Upper Delaware Council regrets any inconvenience that may have been caused by the transfer of *The Upper Delaware's* approximately 12,500-name mailing list to a new computer and more database modern program.

When the transfer occurred in January to coincide with the mailing of the Winter 1998-99 issue, the old computer crashed and many records were lost. In subsequent restoration attempts, a file of deleted addresses was inadvertently re-activated.

The UDC has approximately 3,000 extra Winter issues (Volume 11, #4) available for anyone who did not receive a copy. The front page article featured the return of steam trains to the river valley.

The Spring 1999 (Volume 12, #1) issue was mailed on April 14. Its cover story concerned the Equinunk Historic District.

If you missed an issue, are receiving duplicates, or need to make any address changes, please contact Newsletter Editor Laurie Ramie at (914) 252-3022, fax (914) 252-3359, or mail back the coupon below.

New E-Mail Addresses

As a positive outcome of the computer system upgrades, the UDC's staff is now accessible to the public by e-mail.

To reach the four staff members with questions or comments appropriate to their particular positions, please use the following addresses:

Executive Director William E. Douglass -
udcdouglass@ezaccess.net
 Senior Resource Specialist
 David B. Soete -
udcsoete@ezaccess.net
 Public Relations/Fundraising Specialist
 Laurie Ramie -
udcramie@ezaccess.net
 Office Manager Carol A. Coney -
udcconey@ezaccess.net

In Memoriam . . .

Geraldine "Jerry" Howson Died April 10, 1999

Geraldine Howson will be remembered for all that she gave to her community, pitching in where needed and promoting the causes she believed in.

Having retired with her husband Charlie to Lake Como, Pa. in the early 1980's after residing on Long Island for 30 years, "Jerry" immediately immersed herself in local activities.

She was an early and faithful supporter of the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River Management Plan, a position that was not necessarily popular in Buckingham Township.

But her belief in the principles of the Plan, coupled with her enthusiasm for the Upper Delaware River and its ecology, caught the attention of local officials.

On Nov. 25, 1988, Jerry was appointed to the Upper Delaware Citizens Advisory Council (CAC) by the Wayne County Commissioners.

For many years of her service to the CAC, Jerry also contributed her time and energies to attend the monthly meetings of the Upper Delaware Council's Water Use/Resource Management Committee.

In a form filed with the office of the Secretary of the Interior prior to her CAC appointment, Jerry noted, "Both my husband and I are interested in preserving the quality of living and recreation in the valley."

She cited as her environmental concerns for the Delaware River the continued supervision of the quality and quantity of water; minimizing the environmental impacts of development; and assisting in educating the public in conservation and safety practices.

To facilitate those interests, Jerry served on the Buckingham Township Planning Commission for many years



"Jerry" reacted with typical humility to receiving the Upper Delaware Council's 1992 Volunteer Award during that year's Summer Picnic. (UDC File Photo)

and became in 1977 one of the first members of the National Canoe Safety Patrol (NCSP).

In addition to being a certified canoeing instructor for the American Red Cross, Jerry excelled at teaching youth groups to paddle through NCSP.

Jerry's professional and volunteer involvement with Girl Scouts dated back to 1937. Education was also a strong priority for the Bryant College business degree graduate. Jerry was recently instrumental in founding the Northern Wayne Community Library in Lakewood.

A memorial service was held on April 17 at the Lake Como United Methodist Church. Jerry is survived by her husband of 59 years, Charlie; children Judy, Lynn, Bruce, and Cathy, all of Long Island; 12 grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Memorial donations may be made to the Northern Wayne Community Library.

New Subscribers and Address Changes

If you have friends or colleagues who would be interested in receiving our free newsletter, we will be happy to add them to the mailing list. Please also advise us of any address changes to help update our records. Return this notice to the Upper Delaware Council, P.O. Box 192, Narrowsburg, NY 12764, or call (914) 252-3022.

New Address:

Name _____
 Address _____
 Box or Apt. # _____
 City/State _____
 Zip+4 _____

Old Address:

Name _____
 Address _____
 Box, Apt. # _____
 City/State _____
 Zip+4 _____

Check here to be removed from our mailing list.

On Mongaup Visitor Center:

UDC to Testify Before Congress

At press time, Upper Delaware Council Executive Director Bill Douglass was preparing to travel to Washington, D.C. at the invitation of Congressman Ben Gilman (R-20-NY) to testify on behalf of the Mongaup Visitor Center Act of 1999.

The House Committee on Resources' Subcommittee on National Parks and Public Lands scheduled a 10 a.m. hearing

on Tuesday, July 13, to take up H.R. 20.

This Gilman-sponsored bill would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to construct and operate a visitor center for the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River on land owned by the State of New York.

The proposed Visitor Center site is located within the Department of Environmental Conservation's Mongaup Wildlife Management Area in the Town of Deerpark, Orange County. Its southern river corridor terminus location is recommended in the River Management Plan, enacted in 1986.

Representing the UDC, Douglass will join National Park Service Associate Director for Cultural Resources, Stewardship, and Partnerships Katherine Stevenson and Congressman Gilman in offering testimony and answering any questions.

"We're happy that the Congressman has chosen us to be one of three witnesses to testify on the merits of this bill," Douglass said. "Getting this Visitor Center built has been long overdue. It will serve not only local residents and school children, but also the quarter of a million people who annually visit the Upper Delaware region."

Douglass said that Rep. Gilman's invitation demonstrates his recognition of the UDC's role as a unified voice for the towns, townships, two states, and Delaware River Basin Commission which comprise its membership.

"We appreciate this opportunity and hope our testimony will be helpful," he said.

The next step in the process would be passage of an allocation bill to fund the National Park Service's planning and design phase of the Visitor Center. ❖

Shohola Glen Hotel Listed On National Historic Register

CORRECTION: In a Spring 1999 feature, "Upper Delaware Listings on the National Register of Historic Places," one such listing was inadvertently omitted from the Page 4 article.

The Shohola Glen Hotel - Rohman's property located in Shohola Township, Pa., achieved placement on the National Register of Historic Places in 1997.

This year marks the inn's 150th anniversary. A look at the colorful history of the Shohola Glen Hotel will appear in the next issue of *The Upper Delaware*. In the meantime, Rohman's is planning a sesquicentennial celebration on July 24. Please call (570) 559-7479 for details.

Other articles scheduled to appear in the Fall 1999 newsletter, due to publish in mid-October, include:

- Recipients of the UDC's 1999 Technical Assistance Grants
- Coverage of the 5th Annual Delaware River Sojourn, June 20-26
- 1999 Bald Eagle Volunteer Monitoring Program report by The Eagle Institute
- Photos from UDC's July 31st Annual Raft Trip & Summer Picnic

In & Around the Upper Delaware . . .

July 22: 220th Commemoration of the Battle of Minisink. Ceremonies slated for 4 p.m. at the Grave of the Unknown Soldier in Lackawaxen (Pike County, Pa.) and for 5:30 p.m. at the Minisink Battleground Park in Minisink Ford (Sullivan County, NY). Guest speakers: 1773 battle account. Call the Sullivan County Historical Society, (914) 434-6044.

July 24: Cracker Barrel Panel Discussion on the "Builders of Equinunk," 1:30 p.m. at the Calder House Museum. Call the Equinunk Historical Society, (570) 224-6722.

July 25: Riverfest, 9th Annual Music, Art & Environmental Festival Celebrating the Delaware River, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Main Street in Narrowsburg, NY. Call the Delaware Valley Arts Alliance, (914) 252-7576, or N'burg Chamber of Commerce, 252-7234.

July 31: Upper Delaware Council's 11th Annual Raft Trip & Summer Picnic at Eddy Farm Resort Hotel, Sparrowbush, NY. See details on Page 6. Call (914) 252-3022.

Aug. 7: Summer Picnic and Historic Barn Program, Upper Delaware Heritage Alliance, 4 p.m. at the National Park Service South District Ranger Office, Rt. 97 south of Barryville, NY. Tour given of D & H Canal-era Corwin Barn. Reservations required; bring salads and desserts. Call UDHA President Emily Paulsen at (570) 729-8682.

Aug. 15: Celebration of D & H Canal and Railroad 19th Century Laborers, 3 p.m. service at St. Mary's of the Assumption in Lackawaxen, Pa., sponsored by five Catholic parishes along the Delaware and Lackawaxen Rivers. Call (570) 559-7642. ❖

The Upper Delaware Council, Inc. meets on the first Thursday of every month at 7:30 p.m. at the Tusten Town Hall, Narrowsburg, NY. Three standing committees, Water Use/Resource Management, Operations, and Project Review, meet on the third and fourth Tuesdays of every month at the UDC office, 211 Bridge Street, Narrowsburg, across from the Town Hall. All meetings are open to the public. Call (914) 252-3022 for specific meeting dates and agendas.

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