



President's Pen

Reflections from the Creek Bank

Please: Do Your Part!

Now that it is summer, we tend to slow down with the increase in temperature and humidity. Oh sure, the 'list' is still longer, and getting longer! But we go through it a little slower. One thing is always on the List: Do your part! As a member of the Darby Creek Valley Association, we all have a part to do to maintain the quality of the Creek and the surrounding communities. It could be planting trees, taking part in the stream watch and insect identification workshop, the River Ramble, and our massive annual stream clean-up, to name a few of our events and activities. But summer adds a few more items to the list.

In case you have been vacationing in the desert or have been living in the cave, this past June we had record rainfall in the southeast part of Pennsylvania. That meant more water into Darby Creek from lawns and road run-off. That also means that our lawns are green and vibrant and growing really, really fast. As home owners this is great news because we all want beautiful lawns and gardens. But are we doing all we can to make sure some of the things we do that make our lawns and gardens beautiful and satisfying are not impacting the water quality of Darby Creek.

For example, a green healthy lawn needs to be fed (aka, fertilized). A healthy stream does not need to be fed in the same way. If you fertilize your lawn and garden, make sure it is being done when rain is not in the forecast. If rain is forecasted, wait a day. It's okay, the lawn and garden will survive for a few more days. The last thing we want is the fertilizer and any pesticides in the fertilizer to get washed into the stream. Fertilizer will result in algal blooms which will choke out waterways, take most of the oxygen out of the water and will result in killing off fish and bugs that we have in the stream. Any herbicides that get into the stream may affect the algal and aquatic plant populations, so important as food and areas of refuge to important components of the stream food web. Insecticides could affect the local fish and aquatic bug population.

Grass cutting; if you mow a lawn, you have grass cuttings. Dispose of the cuttings responsibly. The best way to deal with the cuttings is to add them to your mulch, but only as a small component. If you fertilize the lawn and it includes pesticides, you should not add this waste to your mulch. There could be affects to the microbes needed to break down the plant matter. Never, ever throw the grass clippings into the stream or pile near the stream, for all the reasons previously discussed. And never, ever mow your lawn to the stream bank edge, if you live along the stream.

One of the best ways to protect the stream from run-off is to have a buffer zone between the stream and your yard. It is a mazing what a few feet of untouched grass or bushes or shrubs will do to maintain the water quality of Darby Creek. We all play a very important role on the Darby Creek Valley stage. Remember to do your part!

It is never too early to start thinking about the DCVA Meeting. It is typically held in January. If you or you organization would like to present a poster that describes your organization, please let us know. Go to the DCVA web-site (www.dcv.org) and let us know (organization, contact information). We will get back to you with more information.

**DCVA Volunteers Work their Magic at
29th Annual Creek Cleanup
Submitted by Jan Haigis**

Once again the intrepid Captains and the volunteers they each recruit have done a wonderful job of cleaning up the Darby/Cobbs Creek Watershed which surrounds us. It is a blessing to live in or near the 5th largest city in our country and yet be surrounded by the refreshing greenery, open space and recreational opportunities provided by the 77 square miles of the Darby Creek Watershed. With all its tributaries, including the largest one, Cobbs Creek which flows into Darby Creek in lower Colwyn, the main stream of the Darby continues on through the Heinz Wildlife Refuge at Tinicum, then into the Delaware River and, at last, into the Delaware Bay and Atlantic Ocean.

This year 39 sites in the Watershed were cleaned by volunteers during the months of April and May, mostly on the "official" Cleanup Day, Saturday, April 27. More than 650 participants, from young Scouts to retirees worked in groups with their Captains to remove tires, tree

(Continued on page 4)



Moms and kids infront of trash pulled from Naylor's run at Drexel Gardens Park

Inside This Issue:

In Memorium.....	2
WatershedRoundtable.....	3
Tag Update.....	3
Open Letter.....	3
Stream Watch.....	6
Backyard Buffers/Rain Barrel Workshops.....	6
Creek Life.....	7
DCVA at Community Events.....	8-9
Paddle for Preservaton.....	10
Letter from Wm. Penn.....	11

DCVA remembers Joe Ackerman long time DCVA Board member

Contributed by Clyde Hunt and Fritz Thornton

Joe Ackerman, a long time DCVA Board member, passed away June 29, 2013. He, along with his wife Anne, was very active in all Haverford Township and DCVA activities. They were also very involved with activities at the Historic Grange Estate along Cobbs Creek, an important tributary of Darby Creek.

Born and educated in Pittsburg, a graduate of the University of Pittsburg, Joe had a long career as a commercial photographer, retiring at age 70. A founder of Haverford Township Day he was active in it's Civic Council and the Grange for over 40 years.

Joe backed up his finding of Darby Creek Polluters with photos as well as taking action to get them to stop. One of Joe's more memorable action items was related to the location along Darby Creek now known as Merry Place. Joe came to a DCVA meeting with photos of the little park covered with large piles of soil, grass and rocks. Truck loads had been dumped there. Joe motivated DCVA action to protect this flood plain. He pressured the township insisting: "It's a flood plain, not safe to just dump waste there"; "are you waiting for another flood or hurricane to move it downstream"; "you didn't even put protection around the piles to prevent sediment from washing into the creek"; "it looks like the township is creating a bank – a soil bank!". DCVA followed Joe's motion to request a formal plan for the scheduled removal of the soil by Delaware County Soil Conservation District to ensure appropriate removal of the debris – didn't want egg in our face, or as Joe said "mud in our eyes" for simply dumping it somewhere else.

Joe is survived by his wife Anne two sons, Ken and Bill, 3 grandchildren and 8 great grandchildren. We at DCVA will sorely miss him.

In Memoriam: John E. Pickett, P.E., AICP *Article from APAPASE.org*

"As a society, we need to learn to grow, develop and live in a sustainable manner, so that future generations have the resources they need to prosper." – John Pickett

John E. Pickett passed away on Friday, May 10, 2013 at the age of 68 after a battle with lung cancer. John had previously survived a battle with prostate cancer. He leaves behind three children – Amy, Evan and Doug.

John was a civil engineer and urban planner with over 40 years of experience. As Director of Planning and Community Development at Delaware County, he managed both the Planning Department and the Office of Housing and Community Development. John began at the Delaware County Planning Department in 1977 before becoming co-director in 1982 and director in 1985. Prior to his over 30-year tenure with Delaware County, John was a project manager for the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation. John received a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from Swarthmore College and a Master of City Planning from the University of Pennsylvania.

John Pickett was a Charter Member of the American Planning Association (APA) and its professional institute, the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP). He joined APA upon its inception in October 1978 and completed the AICP examination in July 1979. He was the President of the County Planning Directors Association of Pennsylvania. He was an active member of the APA and Pennsylvania Planning Association which later became known as the Pennsylvania Chapter of APA (APA-PA). He served many roles including on the



Joe Ackerman

2007 APA National Conference Local Program Committee, as the Southeast Section Chair, and on the APA-PA board as Vice President. He represented Delaware County on the board of the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission, was on the board of directors of the Delaware County Transportation Management Association, and chaired the Darby Borough Community Development Corporation.

A registered professional engineer since 1970, Mr. Pickett was a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers. He also served as Director of Delaware County's Uniform Construction Code Appeal Board. The Delaware County Chapter of the Pennsylvania Society of Professional Engineers named John E. Pickett "2006 Engineer of the Year."



John Pickett at his desk.

“WATERSHED ROUNDTABLE: Sharing Best Practices”

Submitted by Kate Doms

“Watershed RoundTable: Sharing Best Practices” will occur on November 9, 2013 at the Cusano Center at the John Heinz National Wildlife Refuge. The Darby Creek Valley Organization is the initiating organization. The goal of the workshop is to draw together local watershed organizations to share ideas on their best practices over the full spectrum of activities of such organizations. This neighbor-helping-neighbor style meeting complements very informative recent conferences in the Delaware River Watershed at which lectures on public policy and scientific research have been presented. The structure of the workshop will be roundtable discussions with moderators and note takers at each table.

Robin Mann (Darby Creek Valley Association), Jaclyn Rhoads (DCVA), Kate Doms (DCVA), Jamie Anderson (DCVA and Collaborative of Southeast Delaware Co), Dee Ross (Partnership for the Delaware Estuary), and Karen Holm (Delaware Co.) are the meeting organizers.

We will invite approximately 30 watershed organizations in southeastern Pennsylvania which have similar types of ecosystems and concerns knowing that not all will be able to attend. County watershed specialists will also be invited. If this conference is successful, we could invite our neighbors in other states and more estuarine watersheds to a future conference. Each watershed organization will be invited to send 3-4 representatives to attend the one-half day workshop followed by lunch.

The attending organizations will be asked to submit a list of their greatest concerns prior to attendance, but the tentative topics include: (1) educational projects for the public (adults), children, and schools, (2) influencing public policy (3) budget, grants, and fund raising, (4) Stream monitoring and sharing monitoring data on a website that would be accessible for the public and schools. Attendees will have the opportunity to join approximately three roundtable discussions on different topics during the course of the meeting.

DCVA board members and members at large can contact Kate Goddard Doms at kgoddard@ursinus.edu or 610-409-3327 to volunteer to help with greeting the guests, setting up lunch, and other fun tasks on the day of the conference.

TAG Update: Getting closer to cleaning up the Clearview Landfill

Submitted by Jaclyn Rhoads

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is nearing the final stages of remediating the Clearview Landfill. The agency plans to release its list of potential options for remediating the landfill this summer. Upon release of the PRAP, individuals normally have 30 days to provide comments, but DCVA and Eastwick Friends and Neighborhood Coalition requested an extension to 60 days.

The list of many potential options for cleaning up the landfill will include options like capping the landfill with an evapotranspiration cap that allows vegetation including trees to grow on top. This option allows the area to be forested and serve an ecological function as opposed to an impermeable cap that can only have grass as its vegetative cover. The impermeable cap requires much more maintenance with mowing and potentially prevents use by people as a walking trail or other low-impact recreation.

After the release of the PRAP, EPA will hold a public hearing to share the information with the public, collect verbal comments and answer questions. DCVA will notify the public and its members of the hearing and the start of the public comment period by posting information on its website with a link to <http://www.epa.gov/reg3hwmd/npl/PASFN0305521.htm>

DCVA through its technical consultant, EnviroAce, will submit comments on the plan and share this information on its website. As always, DCVA is available for questions on landfill work through its Technical Assistance Grant (TAG) manager, Jaclyn Rhoads – 267-221-5274.

EPA will provide a response to comments document after the public comment period ends. At that point, EPA will develop its final remediation plan which allows for the EPA to begin the process of cleaning up and capping Clearview Landfill.

Open letter To My Fellow “Darby Crickers” Spring 2013

Submitted by Bob Doherty, Founding Member

Once again I received my copy of our newsletter, “The Valley”. Once again I read it over from front to back. How happy and prideful I was to see my name mentioned. First with the story of tribute to Bob and Vickie Shaner, and then to see pictures of two members getting award “Ribbon of Green”, Tim Denny and Alan Samel. You’ll never know how prideful I felt about seeing this. It makes me feel a little like Doctor Frankenstein (only in a good way). I didn’t help create a monster. I helped create a great live group of citizens who are examples of what good citizens should be. Again, I say no one will ever know the good feeling I have when I read edition after edition of the many and worthwhile things our organization is doing. I regret only the fact that I cannot be active as I once was but my Mother and Father stepped in-that’s Mother Nature and Father Time. However my thoughts are all good for the organization.

With sincere regards,
Bob Doherty

PS: You will notice I call you “Darby Crickers”. This is what we are called in Darby area..... with love

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(Continued from Page 1)

limbs and other remnants left behind by winter storms and human litterers. Gathering together on an April morning to spruce up our trails, picnic spots, parks and fishing holes, as well as spaces for quiet contemplation, is an annual rite of spring for the Darby Creek Valley Association, which has held a Cleanup every year since its founding in 1984.

In this 29th Cleanup year, 13.72 tons of trash and debris were hauled away in 9 dumpsters donated by these local haulers: Jack Clark; Hart & Son, Inc.; J & K Trash; Opdenaker; Suburban Waste; and Waste Management. These volunteer haulers were arranged by the Delaware County Solid Waste Authority. We thank the haulers and the Solid Waste Authority. We could not do the Cleanup well without their participation! An additional 4.48 tons was collected in donated dumpsters at the Heinz Wildlife Refuge part of the DCVA Cleanup in Tinicum, captained gain this year by Mike McMeniman. This brings the total of dumpster trash collected in the 2013 Cleanup to 18.2 tons. Around the watershed, local municipalities kindly picked up piles of debris and bagged trash at none dumpster sites, adding considerably to the tonnag removed from creek areas.s. We are indebted to all of the municipalities who made trash collections for us as well.

Three new sites were cleaned this year: the creek area behind the Darby Town Center on MacDade Boulevard in Darby, captained by Jim Mullarkey of Hilldale Kitchen, with help from John Bush of Sav-A-Lot, and the creek area behind Har Yehuda Cemetery in Drexel Hill, accessed from the footbridge at the Bond Avenue Playground, where new Captain Ann Jackson met her recruits, including a number of Girl Scouts with their leaders and families. The third new site was the creek area in Clifton Heights near K-Mart between Shadeland and Baltimore, which was captained by Cleanup Volunteer Coordinator Barbarann Keffer.



Rachel Walker rejoices about the amount of trash hauled from Naylor's Run at Drexel Gardens park.



Rachel and Mike Walker, Kelly and Jeff DeLong and children. Rachael Walker enlisted 51 volunteers for the Clean Up. Rachael had requested that DCVA captain the clean up but she got most of the volunteers with support from her husband Mike and Kelly and Jeff DeLong.



Dad teaching little ones the finer points of cleaning up the creek



Father and son team up to haul a grocery cart full of gathered trash



Jeff DeLong supplied his truck and hauled huge amounts of trash back to the pick up point in Drexel Gardens Park..

Thank You to Our Hard-Working Captains -
Without them and the volunteers they recruit, there could be no Cleanup!

DCVA Cleanup Sites and Captains
April 27, 2013 (unless noted *)

Briarcliff/Crescent Park Lisa Simmonds	Haverford Twp/Grange Estate (*Apr20) Roy Sandstrom
Bryn Mawr/Ithan Creek Jan Marie/Alan Rushforth	Haverford Twp Bus Yard/Rt3/HilltopRd Peter Pugliesi
Clifton Heights/Kent Pk to Swedish Cabin Michael Wenk	Haverford Twp/Merwood Pk Greg Bannett
Clifton Heights/Rockbourne Falls Kelly Gidzinski	Lansdowne/Hoffman Park Bonnie McShane and John Pecko
Clifton Heights/Swedish Cabin Grnds Matt Silva	Lansdowne/Pennock Terrace (*4/28) Jack Kelly
Clifton Heights/Shadeland& Baltimore Barbarann Keffer	Lansdowne/Marlyn Park Dave Eldredge
Collingdale Pk/Jackson/Hermasproda Joe Ciavarelli	Newtown Square/Fox Run Marty Milligan
Colwyn/ 500 Block of 4th St Freddy Leshner	Norwood/Morton Morton House Judy Anastasi
Darby/Trolley Bridge/Springfield Rd Jan and John Haigis	Norwood/Various Areas Jaclyn Rhoads
Darby/12th St/ Bartram Pk Laura Craig	Philadelphia/BlueBell/Cobbs Crk (*5/4) Frank Tarant
Darby Town Center/MacDade Blvd John Bush, Jim Mullarkey	Radnor Robin Mann
Drexel Hill/Bloomfield&Rosemont Joyce Fortunato	Secane/Muckinapates/Primos Lbr (*4/13) Kathy Dollymore and Jack Bergin
Drexel Hill/DrexelGrdnsPlayground Diana O'Connor	Sharon Hill Faith Thomas
Drexel Hill/Bond Av Pk Footbridge Ann Jackson	Springfield Swim Club/Indian Rock Park Dave and Melanie Damon
Drexel Hill/ Collen Brook Farm Clyde Hunt	Tinicum/JohnHeinz Wildlife Refuge Mike McMeniman
Drexel Hill/Mansion Pk (*pre-4/27) Tom Hamilton	Upper Darby/Glencoe/Afton/Cobbs Crk Betsy Piette (*Apr 13)
Drexel Hill/Idle Hour Tennis Club Jaime Santora	Upper Darby/Marshall Rd/Old Church Ln Joanne Davis (*May18)
Folcroft/Glenolden Ruth Nowrey	Upper Darby/Naylpr's Run Pk/Garrett Rd. Pete Leahy, Upper Darby Marine Corps
Glenolden Joe Dolan	Upper Darby/Naylor's Run/S. of Garrett Robert Davidson
Haverford Twp/Glendale Pk/Merry Place Tim Denny	Yeadon, Cobbs Creek Pk/65th & Chester Vanessa Bullock

Stream-Watch a Huge Success!

Submitted by Alan Samel

The DCVA annual Stream Watch was April 20. Thanks to the small army of volunteers who helped make this a great day. Everyone had a chance to get in the creek, work with the samplers and see what is living in Darby Creek. It turned out to be a beautiful day to get wet! We had a lot of rain the previous week and the Creek was running high and fast. Samples were taken from five locations on Darby Creek: Bartram Park in Darby, Darby Creek Road in Havertown (downstream from the Haverford Reserve), Skunk Hollow in Radnor, the Brandywine Preserve at Waterloo Mills in Easttown, and the Swedish Cabin in Upper Darby. What a great way to meet others and learn more about Darby Creek!! The day started off a little rough, weather-wise but ended as a bright sunny pleasant day for all! The weather provided us a chance to take out time, enjoy each others company, and enjoy the sites in our watershed.

Backyard Buffers Rain Barrel Workshops

Submitted by Jamie Anderson

In 2012 and 2013, DCVA in partnership with the Pennsylvania Resources Council (PRC) and with support from the Eastern Delaware County Stormwater Collaborative (EDCSC) held 4 workshops to educate watershed residents on creek friendly yard care techniques. Each participant received a free rain barrel made from recycling 50 gallon food grade containers with detailed instructions on installation and use. A total of 240 rain barrels were distributed. Workshops were held on October 10, 2012 at the Upper Darby Senior Center, March 27, 2013 at the Collingdale Borough Hall, April 30, 2013 at the Upper Darby Senior Café, and May 29, 2013 at the Twentieth Century Club in Lansdowne.

Education at each workshop focused on simple changes homeowners can make around their homes to reduce stormwater pollution. These simple steps include such things as setting the mower blade higher to allow better root growth of grass and shade out weeds; using natural alternatives for pests and weeds; using native trees and shrubs to create habitat and support local bird populations; reducing the overall amount of lawn area; planting trees that will absorb rainwater reducing stormwater runoff; installing rain-barrels to capture runoff from roofs; and to consider creating a rain garden to absorb and infiltrate water.

The addition of 240 rainbarrels throughout the watershed, particularly the more densely populated lower watershed, will greatly reduce stormwater runoff and associated pollution and will go a long way to improving the health and water quality of the Darby Creek and its tributaries.



Alan Samel, Ann Jackson, Steve Tessler, John Furth, Rocco Masricol, Bruce Bayne and Derron LeBrake.

The insects and bugs we collect provide a snapshot of the health of Darby Creek. This is the ninth year of intense sample collections and identifications. From this long-term sampling, a trend of the stream health at each site has been determined. Each year we compare our findings from the water quality determinations from the previous years. It's a way of getting the big picture from a lot of very small bugs! But getting into the stream and collecting the bugs is only part of the streamwatch program.

The next step will be to identify the bugs pulled from the stream. We then can identify the level of water quality for that section of the creek. The Insect Identification Workshop will be scheduled for this coming Fall. Please check the DCVA web-site for more information as we get closer to this time.



*Left: Jamie Anderson at a rain barrel workshop
Right: Example of rain barrel's given away at workshops*

DCVA, PRC, and EDCSC will continue to seek funding to continue this vital educational program into the future. For information on creek friendly yard care techniques or rain-barrels, contact DCVA at message@dcva.org

Creek Life

The Search for What Ails the Water

Article written by Kate Goddard
with photographs by Jeffrey Morgan,
first printed in the Ursinus Magazine



Many early mornings Biology Professor Kate Goddard wades through Darby Creek collecting samples of the invertebrates that live there. The creek flows along the northwest side of the Delaware Bay and was once a vital source of water for the early inhabitants of southeastern Pennsylvania. The Darby Creek watershed arises just south of Valley Forge in Berwyn and Radnor and is separated from the Schuylkill River watershed by ridges that parallel Route 202. It grows larger as it collects water from tiny tributaries and winds through Waterloo Mills in Berwyn, owned by the Brandywine Conservancy. Eventually, it flows into the John Heinz National Wildlife refuge marsh, an area that is invaluable to migrating ducks, geese, swans, eagles and many other birds.

Goddard's research in the Darby Creek watershed examines how storm water and the soil and contaminants that it carries affect creek life. In a second project, she and her students are examining the effects of the removal of a dam on the organisms in the creek.

"In both studies our subject is community of insects and other invertebrates (animals without backbones)," says Goddard. "These animals are food for the fish, and the fish are food for herons, egrets, and kingfishers, so they are vital to the ecosystem. If one takes a water sample, it is unlikely to find measurable amounts of chemicals unless you sample right below where chemicals are released into a creek, but these animals are bathed in contaminants every day of their lives, so they can tell us a lot about water quality by their presence and absence. Some have been shown to be tolerant of pollution and others are intolerant. We analyze which species are present and which are absent to get a measure of water quality. The invertebrates are the animals emulated by the hand tied fly-fishing flies created by fly fishermen."

It has been surprising to see how building on the land can affect lakes and streams, she says. "The building of towns throughout the Darby Creek watershed led to a high percentage of land being covered up by impervious surfaces

such as roads, roofs, and parking lots – thus there is less open ground there is to absorb the rain. The storm water pours rapidly into the creek leading dangerously fast moving and deep waters. The creek escapes its banks and floods roads and even homes. In addition, as the rain runs directly into the creek from roads, it collects road salt in winter and heat from hot asphalt in summer. As the rain drains from lawns and golf courses it carries fertilizers, herbicides and pesticides into the creek. All of these manmade factors, including the heat, can affect the fish and other inhabitants of the aquatic environments."

Plain old dirt has proven to be a major problem for the aquatic life of the creek today. "The shallow roots of grasses (as opposed to trees and bushes) do not hold soil well and allow the land along and near creeks to melt away. Rapid flow of water across impervious surfaces adds to the rush of water into creeks and the resulting erosion that turns creeks cafe au lait color after a storm." About 20 students have participated in the Darby Creek research. Goddard is pleased to have five students working on these projects as well as alumni who now are working at the Long Island Aquarium, applying to grad school, in grad school, in the Army, in med school or applying to med school and teaching high school. "It is exciting for my students and me to investigate questions that have a practical local application- providing data that will help to improve our interaction with this waterway that has been important in our region for centuries



Students work with Goddard collecting water samples and invertebrate specimens..



From left: Emily Short, Maria Abatuno, Melanie Phillips and Sarah Polekoff examine samples of creek life with Goddard.



Goddard and students examine and identify collected specimens

DCVA Presence at 7th Annual Heritage Festival June 2, 2013

*The event is sponsored by Haverford Township Historical Society
The event held annually along Karakung Drive near Nitre Hall*



DCVA President Alan Samel shared a mini Stream Watch/Insect Identification demo that captured the kids curiosity. Photo is Alan and enthusiast in search of the caddisfly larva and/or black fly larva just taken from Cobbs Creek along Karakung Drive.



DCVA board member David Bennett mans the Philadelphia Hiking Meet Up Table until Scott Maits arrives. Later David help Ann Jackson at the DCVA table. Thanks David we kept you busy!



DCVA board member Scott Maits takes over the Philadelphia Hiking Meet Up Table after conducting a hike from Township Line station of SEPTA #100 Norristown High Speed Line to the Karakung Drive (Haverford Heritage Festival). A side trip to the Grange Estate highlighted the hike.



Jan Marie Rushforth, former DCVA President, and other members of the Haverford Township Environmental Advisory Committee provided information about solar energy, recycling, and other environmentally friendly practices.

Riddles for the Young at Heart

1. What animals are well educated?
2. What has a bed but never sleeps?
3. What has a bank, but never any money?
4. What runs but never walks?
5. Why is it easy to weigh fish?

Answers to the Quiz on Page 11

More can be found on <http://kids.niehs.nih.gov/>

Volunteers for DCVA are Welcome!

Come Join Us – You will have fun!

As you read through the pages of this newsletter you are learning about the work done by the members of the DCVA - all of whom are volunteers. As you read through the articles you can appreciate the work that has and continues to be done by some very talented and enthusiastic people.

You can be one of them!

Even if you don't volunteer directly, you can help just by picking up trash as you are enjoying walks along the creek and being observant and reporting problems that you see along the creek bank or anywhere in the watershed to: message@dcva.org

If you want to be involved in a bigger way there are opportunities throughout this newsletter. We look for volunteers with the Community Liaison group, Darby Creek Clean Up, Education, the TAG grant.

Come join us – we are a great group doing good work. Membership and support information can be found on page 11

DCVA Participates in the Delaware County Environmental Fair and Haverford Reserve Earth Day Celebraton

DCVA members provided educational materials about Creek Friendly Lawn Care, Back Yard Buffers and Rain Barrels, Stream Watch and Water Quality monitoring Stormwater Run off, Trails, and Darby Creek Stream Bank Restoration Maintenance at the Delaware County Environmental Fair on April 13, 2013 and the Haverford Reserve Earth Day Celebraton April 27, 2013.



Ever enthusiastic Jan Marie Rushforth introduces speakers at the Earth Day Celebraton at Haverford Reserve.



Earth Day attendees at DCVA Table



Karen Holm, Manager, Delaware County Environmental Planning and Jamie Anderson, Director Eastern Delaware County Stormwater Collaborative explain the consequences of stormwater run off at the Delco Envirmental Fair



DCVA Board Member Peter Puglionesi giving a presentation on purchasing green energy at the Haverford Reserve Earth Day celebraton



J0913 Jamie Anderson, Director Eastern Dela County Stormwater Collaborative shows kids how rain water flows and carries pollutants to creeks and streams



Environmental Fair Attendee reviews materials at DCVA Table



Paddle for Preservation

Darby Creek Valley Association

Darby Creek Canoe and Kayak Challenge and Ramble 2013

Sunday, September 15, 2013 – rain or shine – 11:00 AM

Darby Creek Race begins at 11:30 AM – Mass Start at High Tide – Registration begins at 11AM

Racers follow Darby Creek to island just after bridge before the Delaware River – race around island and return to starting point. Approximately 7 miles roundtrip. Light Refreshments following race.

Start Point: Cusano Environmental Education Center End Point: Cusano Environmental Education Center

Saturday, September 21, 2013 – rain or shine – 1:00 PM

Darby Creek nature and history sightseeing canoe ramble begins at 1:30PM – Limited number of canoes available – first come, first serve. (Some canoeing experience required.) Some refreshments provided at end point in Norwood.

Start Point: Cusano Environmental Education Center End Point: Morton Mortonson House – Transport back available
Canoe rentals provided by Wilderness Canoes - <http://wildernesscanoetrips.com/>

Follow signs for registration at the Cusano Environmental Education Center, 8601 Lindbergh Blvd, Philadelphia, PA.

Suggested Donation (without canoe/kayak rental): \$20/person (**Donations are greatly appreciated!**)

Bring your own canoe/kayak or rent one. For more information call 267-221-5274 or visit www.dcv.org.

If you would like to donate money to the event, you can fill out this form as well. You will be recognized in our newsletter. If you are a business, please provide your web address. THANK YOU!

Note to all participants:

- **Personal Flotation Devices and whistles are required of all paddlers and will be provided.**
- **Competitive entrants must be 18 or older.**

BRING ALL FORMS THE DAY OF THE EVENT – EXTRA COPIES WILL BE AVAILABLE or mail ahead of time to DCVA c/o Jaclyn Rhoads 301 Harrison Avenue, Norwood, PA 19074

Make all checks payable to: The Darby Creek Valley Association

Terms/Waiver

Canoeist/Kayaker agrees to operate the canoe/kayak in a safe and careful manner and to use every reasonable precaution to prevent injury to self and third person or property of third person and to indemnify owner against claim for any such loss. In consideration of your acceptance of this entry application, I hereby for myself and administrators waive any and all damages I may have against the Township of Tinticum, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, The Essington Fire Company, the US Coast Guard, FSC, DCVA, TTHS and representatives, for any and all injuries suffered by me in the Governor Printz Challenge and Canoe Ramble.

Activity (circle one):

Race – Canoe/Kayak

Ramble - Canoe

Canoe rentals at cost needed: Y or N **If yes, include \$30.00/canoe rental fee due with registration.**

I want to share a canoe for the guided trip: Y or N. Individuals will be matched on day of event.

Name of Team: _____

Participant Name (s): _____

Address: _____

Cell Phone Number (Ph # Required): _____

Signature(s): _____

Email: _____

The Ghost of William Penn: Fun Splashes with Darby Creek – Sense of Geography, Sense of History, Sense of Well Being

Tom Smith has for thirty years written articles core based on Darby Creek Valley. Tom writes most recently in the ghost voice of William Penn.

Tom Smith, a.k.a., William Penn

Today, Ghost of William Penn touts instruction on the Darby Creek Valley, which site of European permanence was first settled by Swedes prior to the arrival of William Penn in 1682. The tiny Swedish position post-Penn arrival took the name: Darby. The stream Darby hugged became known as Darby’s Creek (and soon after Darby Creek).

Ghost instructor William Penn speaks in third person. William Penn at times slips into first person voice when he speaks from the heart. Please give greeting to Governor Penn:

“Welcome! Welcome! It is a wonderful day in Pennsylvania.”

Today instruction touts and splashes Darby Creek Valley.

Let it be front said, at every other coastal latitude, streams equal in Darby Creek points of history, sister streams hold well known. Darby Creek runs counter - needy.

Geography:

Briefly, the Darby Creek watershed comprises of a main body of current flow, Darby Creek proper, plus three branches: Cobbs, Naylors, and Muckinipattis. And, north to south different physical zones stretch list: Headwaters, Fast Flow, Tidal Flow.

Handsomely and sensibly: The three branches, the three zones, and main stream, impart instructive. Lessons herald same to those of our great-grandfather’s era. For time human eternal persons were grounded with a sense of place by a honed sense of watershed; time forward, down to recent past generations.

Time human eternal people knew immediate runlets and knew into which larger current they fed into, and though perhaps never did they follow downstream to the point where the aggregate water flowed into (be it a bay or sea or ocean), nevertheless, on some level persons possessed a sense of global positioning.

Sense of watershed gave a well grounded sense of being. It provided a sense of global positioning. Though they would not have styled it that way, they understood that to understand one’s place was comforting and exceedingly helpful at times.

They took life lessons from their watershed: not to do that – here or there – they tried not to repeat mistakes, or mediated mistakes, in their touch of surroundings.

This concludes part I of two parts.

“I close.”

“Thank you for listening.”

William Penn

Answers to Quiz

1. Fish because they swim around in schools.
2. A stream (streambed)
3. A stream (streambank)
4. A river
5. Because they have their own scales

JOIN THE DARBY CREEK VALLEY ASSOCIATION TODAY!

The Darby Creek Valley Association (DCVA) is dedicated to the protection and enhancement of all of the watershed’s resources, including water, wildlife, historical sites and the floodplains. The organization’s immediate goals are to prevent all forms of pollution in the Darby Creek and its tributaries, to prohibit dumping and construction on the floodplain and to expand our educational programs for all residents within the watershed. It also seeks to improve water quality and maintain a debris-free stream through clean-ups and public education. DCVA works to preserve historic properties, such as the Swedish Cabin and the Blue Bell Inn. The Association would like to set aside the more than 30 miles of valley for use as a greenway for all residents to enjoy. We need your support. Help us continue to protect the environment for ourselves and our children.

We invite you to fill in the form below, check member category, and mail form with your check to:

The Darby Creek Valley Association, P.O. Box 732, Drexel Hill PA 19026

Name: _____ Date _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

My phone is _____ email is: _____ Municipality _____

- Individual Member.....\$25.00
- Family Member.....\$35.00
- Senior Citizen or student.....\$10.00
- Corporate or Municipality.....\$50.00
- Non-Profit Group.....\$35.00
- Life Member.....\$250.00

Amount enclosed \$ _____ Please check all the items that apply above.

DCVA is a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit organization - All donations are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law

CALENDAR

- Rain Barrel Workshops.....August 26, 2013
Additional information: www.prc.org
- Darby Creek Trail Hike From Drexel Line Shopping Center.....Saturday, September 14, 2013, 8AM
Additional information contact Peter Puglionesi at peter.puglionesi@appliedehs.com
- Paddle for Preservation.....September 15, 2012, John Heinz WLR
See page 10 for details and registration form
- Plaster Workshop.....September 28, 2013, 9:30 AM - 1PM
Additional information at: darbyhistory.com
- 9th Annual Octrolley Fest.....October 12, 2013
<http://www.octrolleyfest.org/>
- Watershed Conference.....November 9, 2013
See article page 4
- Bug Identification Workshop.....Date TBD
Additional information at www.dcv.org
- Tree Planting.....Dates TBD
Additional information: Jeanne Angell angellsrus@comcast.net
- DCVA Board Meetings.....Delaware County Peace Center, Springfield, PA
3rd Saturday, Monthly (Subject to Change)

Except where otherwise noted, please check www.dcv.org for dates and additional information

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