



President's Pen:

View from the Stream Bank

It is just a few days after the winter solstice that I sit down to write. It has been unseasonably warm, but winter's short days have descended on the Darby Creek valley. It is a good time to take stock of our efforts over the past year and to look forward to embracing with new vigor the opportunities ahead.

In 2006, Delaware County Planning Department initiated the Darby Creek Greenway planning process, and it is well underway. We look to the Darby Creek Greenway plan to provide a vision for linking the open spaces in the watershed to preserve natural resources such as woodlands and streams and to offer opportunities for connecting those spaces with a network of trails for recreation and alternative transportation. The Darby Creek Greenway plan will serve as a model for greenway planning for the remainder of Delaware County. We are very pleased that Delaware County has, meanwhile, undertaken to update its 1978 open space and recreation plan, demonstrating its commitment not just to planning but, importantly, to pursuing implementation of the County's Comprehensive Plan, including the Greenway plan.

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Mark Your Calendar:

New Congressman Joe Sestak to Be Guest Speaker

**DCVA Annual Meeting To Be Held
Saturday January 27**

DCVA's annual meeting will be held Saturday, January 27, 2007, 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Springfield Friends Meeting, Springfield and Old Sproul Roads. Lunch will be provided at 11:30. All members, prospective members, and interested community residents are invited to attend. There will be a report by the President on the organization's activities of 2006 followed by remarks by the newly installed congressman in the 7th district, Democrat Joseph A. Sestak, Jr. Joe will speak about environmental issues and interests.

Joe Sestak grew up in the Darby Creek Watershed in Springfield Township. After graduating from Cardinal O'Hara High School, he attended the US Naval Academy. He served in the Navy 31 years, attaining the rank of Vice Admiral. Between six tours at sea, Joe earned a master's degree in Public Administration and a Ph.D. in Political Economy and Government from Harvard University. Joe also served in the Clinton administration as the Director for Defense Policy on the National Security Council staff at the White House.

At the meeting, directors and officers of DCVA will be elected for

the coming year. The nominating committee has recommended that the following be elected to the board for a 3 year term.

**V a n e s s a
B u l l o c k**
(new nominee)

- Tim Denny (incumbent director)
- John Furth (incumbent)
- Toni McIntosh (incumbent)
- Andrew Saul (incumbent)
- Jim Stuhltrager (incumbent)

Because the by-laws allow for additional board members, nominations will be encouraged from the floor. After the annual meeting a short board meeting will be convened to elect officers for 2007. DCVA thanks the nominating committee: Carolyn Laws, Chair; Bob Shaner, Clyde Hunt, Andy Saul, and Tom Smith.



Congressman Joe Sestak will discuss his environmental views at the annual meeting.

DCVA Planning Conference

Tentatively scheduled for March, DCVA is planning a workshop: What's Up in the Watershed? What's Happening Next?

Watch for more information about this update from various environmental, civic, and historical organizations and municipal and county authorities

on activities in the Darby Creek watershed. Topics covered will include the Greenway; environmental educational programs, historic preservation programs, and more.

Go to DCVA's website: www.dcva.org. for the latest news on this event.

Twenty-Third Annual DCVA Cleanup April 28, 2007

By Jan Haigis, Co-Chair,
2007 Darby Creek Cleanup

Following DCVA tradition, the twenty-third annual DCVA Darby Creek Cleanup will be held on April 28, the fourth Saturday of the fourth month, from 9 am to 1 pm in at least 23 sites up and down the Darby-Cobbs watershed from Radnor in the north to Tincum in the south.

Actually the Tincum part of the DCVA Cleanup will occur at the Heinz National Wildlife Center the week before, on April 21 from 9 to 1, when the tides will make the work a bit easier and safer, according to Heinz Center Director Kate McManus.

Each year the DCVA volunteer captains and their crews pull the accumulated debris from storms, illegal dumping and thoughtless littering out of several areas of the watershed. The entire Darby Creek watershed system encompasses waterways in 31 different municipalities in four counties. Giving it a spring cleaning each year is a big job! With the help of donated dumpsters whose owners remove what we collect, plus the help of several municipal trash collectors and the County who pick up our accumulations at other sites, we routinely remove more than 20 tons of stuff each Spring.

So we can use your help! As the Darby Creek Valley song we wrote says: "When you picnic, don't leave any garbage and when hiking leave nothing behind, for the Creek lives in delicate balance. Leave it just as it's found humankind!" Beyond that, please come and join the fun in April. We can ALWAYS use another set of hands! If we don't have a Cleanup at your favorite watershed spot, why not get a group together, volunteer to be a Captain, and we'll get you some nifty T-shirts, which our sponsors help provide every year. Or perhaps your company would like to be a sponsor and get its name on our Cleanup placemaps used at select

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Ribbon of Green Becoming a Reality

The long-held DCVA dream of a ribbon of green along Darby Creek is moving closer to reality as the Delaware County Planning Department, assisted by consultants from Urban Research and Development Corporation (URDC) in Bethlehem, continues work on the Darby Creek Stream Valley Park Master Plan.

The first public meeting was held September 26th at the Springfield Township Municipal Building and was well-attended. A presentation was also made November 28th to the Delaware Valley Environmental Network. Ten key person interviews and eight focus groups have been conducted with more interviews to be scheduled. Two more public meetings are planned for later in the process. "Both the interviews and focus groups gave us a lot of good input and insight," said Steve Beckley, who is coordinating the effort for the county. "We have been busy analyzing the results and updating our maps, talking to more people, as well as writing and organizing for the plan."

An initial 3-mile segment of the greenway from Upper Darby to Darby Borough, passing through Aldan, Clifton Heights, Yeadon, and Lansdowne, has been identified as a target area for detailed study and includes features of an earlier 1987 plan. "At this point, we believe that a 'greenway' already exists in the target area and simply has not been recognized," said Bob Kriebel of URDC. "We are very enthusiastic about the possibilities for a trail and other recreational facilities along the greenway because the county already owns much, if not all, of the necessary land." Kriebel praised the county for its foresight in acquiring the land over the past few years.

Analysis maps for the greenway are available for public viewing at the Delaware County Planning Department during regular hours. Anyone is welcome to visit with questions and comments, and the Planning Department is also accessible by phone or email: 610-891-5200, beckleys@co.delaware.pa.us

TAG Committee Chair Informs Public of Efforts to Monitor Cleanup of Landfills

The following letter to the Editor of the News of Delaware County was written by John Furth, the Chair of the TAG Committee of DCVA. The letter explains the purpose of the grant and the progress made so far on implementing the project.

To the Editor:

In the lower reaches of Darby Creek, adjacent to the John Heinz Wildlife refuge at Tincum, there are two superfund sites, the Folcroft and Clearview landfills. In days long past they were the depositories of public and private trash. Among the 14 contributors to the landfill were Boeing and the Delaware County Solid Waste Authority. In 1980 Congress authorized the purchase of one of the defunct landfills, the Folcroft landfill, now a 20 foot high, 62 acre mound of construction debris, oil wastes, solvents, acids, pesticides, heavy metals, fly ash, asbestos, radioactive materials and hospital waste. After years of inaction, in November an agreement was reached between the EPA and the PRPs (potentially responsible parties) responsible for creating this superfund site. These potentially responsible parties agreed on funding for a remedial investigation of the site. This is indeed a milestone and we commend both the parties and the EPA for reaching an agreement

As an organization dedicated toward improving the Darby Creek watershed, the DCVA has been concerned about this landfill and the nearby Clearview landfill for many years. Two years ago we entered into a TAG [technical assistance grant] with the EPA. Under this grant we were to hire a Technical Advisor to help understand the process. Essentially, the

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An Orphan Historic Site

Located along Route 420 north of I 95, the Morton Homestead is among Pennsylvania's most historic sites. An oasis in the riverfront community of Prospect Park, one can sit on one of the benches and visualize over 350 years of history.



The section of the house on the left was built around 1698; that on the right by 1758, and the center section is probably late 18th century in origin.

One can imagine the isolation that the Swedish settler felt way back in the 1650s. In front of you is your log residence. To your right is the marsh and Darby Creek. Erasing I 95 from your mind's eye, you can follow Darby Creek flowing into the Delaware River and then the Atlantic Ocean. Home is thousands of miles away and unless you are Johan Printz, the Royal Governor, you will never go home. The view is more easily imagined from inside the log structure with the view of the marsh and Darby Creek framed by the south (glassless) window.

The primary purpose of the Swedish colony was to trade with Native Americans, convert them to Christianity and to grow tobacco. The colony, begun in 1643, lasted only until 1655, when the Swedes were conquered by a Dutch army from New Amsterdam. The Dutch were soon to be conquered by the English.

Original ownership of Morton Homestead can be traced to 1672, when the property was deeded to Jan Cornelious, Matty Mattysen, and Morton Mortonsson, Swedish and Finnish immigrants to the colony of New Sweden. A Finn, Morton Mortonsson arrived here as a soldier in 1654 aboard the *Orn* (Eagle). The Mortonsson family, its name now shortened to Morton, continued to be a part-owner or sole owner until 1758. In the early 20th century, it was conjectured that this was the birthplace of John Morton, signer of the Declaration of Independence. However, no documentation has been found to support that supposition.

Archaeological studies have suggested that this Swedish-style homestead as it stands today was built in three phases. The northern-most unit was built around 1698. The southern unit was most likely in existence by 1758. The center portion was completed last, probably sometime in the late 18th century.

Walk around this oasis; read the historic panels. One can see the corduroy road delineating the ferry landing. From this site, the Morris family operated the Darby Creek Ferry for three generations. In 1758, the Darby Creek Ferry was recorded as having a waiting room and a house for the ferryman. This ferry provided access to Tinicum Island from the mainland side of Darby Creek. The ferry has been described as a flat bed boat drawn back and forth via a system of ropes and pulleys. During archaeological investigations in 1978, a portion of the ferry landing and its corduroy road were discovered. This ferry was in use until 1840, when a bridge was built over Darby Creek.

The site is owned by the State and was state-administered until the summer of 2005, when the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission's budget cuts closed it to the public. However, realizing the site's historic value, the State is now looking for an organization to assume responsibility for the building and to open it to the public at least on summer weekends.

Any takers?

Environmental Summit To Be Held February 24

On Saturday February 24, 2007, the 2nd annual Delaware County Environmental Summit will be held at the Cusano Environmental Education Center, John Heinz National Wildlife Refuge at Tinicum. All residents of Delaware County are welcome and encouraged to attend from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Topics discussed will be Environmental Education; Environmental Justice: Landfill and Air Quality; and Global Warming and Energy Use. The summit is free to the public; breakfast will be provided. For more information and to register, visit <http://delcoenvironmental.tripod.com> or call 267-784-9443.



Draft Copy of Cobbs Creek Connector Trail Feasibility Study Available for Review

In early 2006, the Clean Air Council sponsored a feasibility study of the Cobbs Creek Connector Trail; a proposed multi-use, bicycle and pedestrian trail that would link existing trails within the John Heinz National Wildlife Refuge at Tinicum to Fairmount Park's Cobbs Creek Bikeway. The proposed trail would travel along the Darby and Cobbs Creeks in both Philadelphia and Delaware counties. The Council subcontracted with the architectural and planning firm Campbell Thomas & Company to conduct the study.

A draft copy of the Cobbs Creek Connector Trail feasibility study is now available for review and input. Draft versions of both the feasibility study and the executive summary, in PDF form, are available to download at www.cleanair.org/Transportation/fmtrail.html.

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Rocky

By Kathy Doms



The phone rang at 10 PM. Late calls alarm me, and I waited with some dread while my husband Bob answered it. He put down the phone and pulled on his coat. His demeanor indicat-

ed that he was not possessed by fear, but by curiosity. "Do we have an old guinea pig cage? Any extra rabbit food?" he asked. "George thinks he has caught a chinchilla! He knew we would have an old cage."

Bob took the cage and the food pellets over to our former neighbor's house. George and his family explained that they had looked out into the dark night at the bird feeder on their porch railing. They spied a small furry animal eating bird seed! George's brave young son easily trapped the little creature in a coffee can. They all concurred that they had in their possession an expensive little pet chinchilla that had escaped from some neighboring house. Bob peered into the coffee can, and laughed. "Sorry" he said, "What you have there is a flying squirrel!" "No, they all exclaimed! It's a chinchilla! It looks just like the picture on the internet!" Bob worked hard to convince them, explaining that flying squirrels frequently visit the bird feeder on our bedroom window at night. George's son let the little fellow go, and he swooped to a hemlock tree and dashed up to join some other flying squirrels. They dove and leaped between the trees, the porch railing, and the feeder. Bob teased George and his kids, "See, you have a whole family of escaped chinchillas!"

Flying squirrels are well known to folks who have them nesting in their attic or chimney, but otherwise, few people in our area know about them. They prefer to nest in tree cavities. They prefer abandoned woodpecker holes with small entrances that are inaccessible to larger squirrel species. Flying squirrels are smaller than gray squirrels, but larger and more rotund than red squirrels. Their small round ears stand up on either side of their heads, and in George's defense, they do look a bit like a chinchilla. They have large bulging dark eyes that allow them to see at night; they are strictly nocturnal. They do not, of course, actually fly, but glide. They are able to stay in the air much longer than gray squirrels because of the sheets of skin that are suspended between their front and rear legs, from wrists to ankles. These fur-covered skin flaps are called patagia (Merritt, 1987). In addition, flying squirrels have very flat tails that help them to glide. They can steer to the left or right or up and down when they are aloft! They do this by changing the angle of their patagia and tail (Whittaker and Hamilton, 1998).

The flying squirrels in southeastern Pennsylvania are

southern flying squirrels (Merritt, 1987). Their backs are dark gray, and their bellies are white. When seen in fish this pattern is called counter shading because a white belly makes it difficult for a predator from below to see the fish against the light sky; the dark back makes the fish difficult to see from above against the dark sea. The flying squirrel undoubtedly enjoys the same benefit from this color pattern adaptation. Another species of flying squirrel, the northern flying squirrel, is found in the northern and western part of Pennsylvania and has a hint of red on its back (Merritt, 1987).

I first saw flying squirrels in a cage at the college at which I teach. They had been caught in the department secretary's attic. "I don't think we have these animals around my house" I said. "I am sure that you do," laughed my colleague, "They are everywhere, they are just very elusive." In fact, there are estimated to be about 1 to 11 flying squirrels per acre (Merritt, 1987). So when one perched on my window bird feeder one night, I knew who my visitor was. We named him "Rocky" the flying squirrel. Our dinner guests are frequently dragged to the window to see him.

In fact, we have up to four "Rockys" in the feeder at night; they can clean out a feeder full of sunflower hearts. Their natural foods are fruits and seeds, particularly beechnuts and acorns which they store for the winter in tree cavities. They occasionally eat tree buds or flowers, berries, maple sap, mushrooms and even bark (Merritt, 1987). The flying squirrels provide great amusement or consternation, we are not sure which, for our two cats who wait for them every night on the inside sill. Cats are among their enemies; other predators of the southern flying squirrel are black rat snakes (which can climb trees), raccoons, foxes, barred owls and great horned owls (Merritt, 1987).

The southern flying squirrel does not hibernate, but may have long periods of rest during the winter. They huddle in groups of ten, sometimes even more, to stay warm in icy weather. They line their nests with leaves, bark and grasses which all help to keep them warm. They have two broods of babies a year. The tiny flying squirrels are about 2.5 inches long, pink and hairless, but already possess their patagia (skin flaps). After about 7 weeks they have grown all of their fur, and are nearly weaned. They can take short glides—they measure the distance to their target mentally, lower their heads and leap! Adult flying squirrels usually glide about 26-40 ft. (Merritt, 1987).

We are very fond of the "Rockys". We never tire of watching them dart from the feeder to the chimney and back again. They grab some sunflower seeds, sit back on their hind legs, and hold the seeds up to their mouths with their front paws. A window feeder may very well attract them at night to any home in an area with abundant tall trees.

Bibliography:

Merritt, J.F. 1987. Guide to the Mammals of Pennsylvania. University of Pittsburgh Press for the Carnegie Museum of Natural History. Pittsburgh, PA.

Whittaker, J.O. and W.J. Hamilton. 1998. Mammals of the Eastern United States. Comstock Publishing Assoc., Cornell University Press, Ithaca, NY.

Environmental Planning Grant Earned for Haverford State Hospital Site



Pictured with the big check are Tim Denny, Director Haverford Township Parks & Recreation; Dr Victor Donmay, Co-Principal Investigator of the Math Science Partnership of Greater Philadelphia; Jan Marie Rushforth, chair Citizens Haverford State Advisory Board; Tom Kelsch, Conservation Director from National Fish & Wildlife Foundation (NFWF); and Brian Barrett, Program Director Dept Parks & Recreation.

The Citizens Haverford State Advisory Board Project Oversight Committee, under the leadership of DCVA board member Jan Marie Rushforth, submitted a grant proposal to the Delaware Estuary Watershed Grants Program (DEWGP) in July 2006. The proposal, an Environmental Assessment and Action Plan for the Haverford State Hospital site, was approved in full in December 2006.

The grant will allow the Citizens Haverford State Advisory Board to develop a stewardship plan to preserve and restore 129 acres of riparian, wetland and hardwood forest habitat including investigating removing barriers to fish passage along the brooks that drain into Darby Creek. The plan will also have a strong environmental education element, propose water monitoring stations, integrate a trail system associated with key habitats and involve outreach to the public.

The grant for \$45,000 is to be matched by \$62,800 from other partners. Partners include Haverford Township; its Parks and Recreation Department; the Haverford Township School District; the Math Science Partnership of Greater Philadelphia; developers Haverford Hills Associates; Bryn Mawr College and numerous other community organizations.

The award was announced on December 18. Chair Jan Marie Rushforth praised an incredible group of volunteers who edited the technical document with cooperation and professionalism. Darby Creek Valley Association had written a letter of support for the grant proposal.

The year of 2006 has seen significant progress for the future at Haverford State. A new Agreement of Sale was ap-

proved and signed November 14th, 2006, to sell 39.96 acres to the developer, Haverford Hills Associates, for \$17 million plus \$500,000 for a nature center and walking trails. The developers will build 198 age restricted condos and 100 carriage homes. The development parcel is limited to 19% of the 209 acres; 169 acres will be saved for green space and recreation for posterity. The environmental planning grant will help to make the green space even better: testing water before, during and after construction; designing walking trails; and engaging school aged young people in learning about the first order streams and green space.

For more information, contact Jan at rushforth@com-cast.net.

Annual Insect Identification Workshop a Success! Next StreamWatch Will Be April 14

On December 2, 2006, we had our second insect identification workshop to identify the insects we sampled from 4 locations on Darby Creek on March 25. The 4 locations were in Darby (Bartram Park), Havertown, Radnor (Skunk Hollow), and the Brandywine Conservancy. It is important to take samples because the bugs tell a story about the water quality of Darby Creek at that particular site.

A group of 10-12 people got together to process the samples collected. Our collection and identification procedures were based on the PA Snapshot worksheet provided by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, Citizens Volunteer Monitoring Program. After we identified the insects, we categorized them as either sensitive, moderately sensitive (facultative), or tolerant, based again on the PA Snapshot information.

Here is what we learned. The water quality at Bartram Park, the most downstream site sampled, and the Havertown site were found to have a 'Fair' water quality rating. The Radnor and Brandywine Conservancy sites were found to have a 'Good' quality rating. Fair indicates that a stream location is stressed; good indicates that the stream conditions are such that it can provide adequate habitat and environmental conditions for some sensitive species.

What's next? We keep sampling, of course! Our database is very small and needs to be expanded. We need to determine water quality over time for a long period of time. We also need to increase the number of sample sites to get a better picture of Darby Creek. Here's where you come in; we need your help. We need more volunteers for both the streamwatch and the insect identification workshop. The next StreamWatch will be April 14; the insect identification workshop will be in October.

Many thanks to everyone who helped make the insect identification workshop a success.

Pea Soup Benefit

The Friends of the Swedish Cabin will sponsor its annual Pea Soup Benefit on Saturday March 24th. Once again traditional Swedish "Thursday night fare" will be served.

The event will begin at 5:30 pm with punch and nibbles at the Lansdowne Presbyterian Church, and a program of music will follow. The cost is \$12 for members; \$15 for nonmembers. Reservations are required by March 7th. Mail your check payable to Friends of the Swedish Cabin to Bob Scott, 316 Owen Avenue, Lansdowne 19050.

President's Pen

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We will continue to encourage our members to be involved in this important initiative, lending their knowledge of Darby Creek and the watershed's resources to the process.

Planning is also underway for DCVA's various stewardship and educational efforts in the coming year. We hope to have more friends of Darby Creek than ever before join us for the annual stream census and the Darby Creek Clean-up. Our Education Committee is brainstorming about how to enhance the very successful summer of '06 education program in Yeadon and other educational projects. Scouting of locations for planting Tree-Vitalize saplings is also underway. And participation in some possible projects to restore stretches of Darby Creek's tributaries is also under consideration. Meanwhile, the oversight of the environmental clean-up of the Folcroft and Clearview landfills, under the EPA technical assistance grant, proceeds deliberately.

As important as the incremental improvements in the health of the Darby watershed we achieve with our activities is the awareness of the watershed and sense of stewardship that our endeavors engender in participants of all ages. We hope you will join us at one or more of our upcoming events, and bring a friend!

Robin Mann

Tag Grant

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Advisor would monitor the process of evaluating the landfills and determine what should be done to eliminate the deleterious effects of the toxic materials in the landfills that were (and are) leaching into Darby Creek and the aquifer below, and may be entering the air above. The Technical Advisor is to receive regular reports on the progress of the evaluation and the proposed remedial action. The Technical Advisor will hold public hearings to report to the Community what is going on and report on proposed remedial actions.

The DCVA has hired Mary Rooney of EnviroAce as Technical Advisor. While the Technical Advisor is not an advocate of any particular course of action it will be her responsibility to explain to us and the Public what exactly is in the landfill, how it affects our environment, what has been proposed to address the health concerns of the community and what use can be made of the landfills. She will relay concerns expressed at public meetings to the EPA.

The least expensive course of action is to do nothing; the next is to seal off the entire site. The most expensive remedy would be to dig all the "stuff" up and cart it somewhere else [as has been proposed for the material dredged from the Delaware River to deepen the channel]. While a "cost benefit" analysis is obviously necessary, we in the DCVA believe that a solution that allows future use of most of the site can be achieved.

A nation that can put a man on the moon and a rover on Mars should have not only the resources but also the will to clean up our backyard.

Feasibility Study Available

—Continued from page 3:

Comments can be submitted in writing, either by mail or (preferably) by e-mail, by Wednesday, January 31, 2007, to: Emily Linn, Program Director, Clean Air Council, 135 S. 19th Street, Suite 300 Philadelphia, PA 19103 [elinn@cleanair.org]

Cleanup Plans

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restaurants throughout the watershed. Not up to cleaning yourself? Help us publicize the Cleanup and recruit other cleaners or other sponsors. Suggest to your school group or bridge or golf or video gamer friends that their help is needed, too! The watershed provides beauty and recreation opportunities for all, and we all need to help keep it clean and functioning well as an ecosystem or it will not survive.

Please consider what your role will be in the 2007 DCVA Cleanup and put the April 28 date on your new calendar now! As Co-Chairs, John and I start the process of pulling the Cleanup together in late January. If you have questions or want to be a Captain or to volunteer in some way, give us a call at (610) 583-0788 or send us an email at janhaigis@yahoo.com. We look forward to hearing from you! Happy New Year to all and to all a cleaner watershed!

The Valley

The Valley is published by DCVA (Darby Creek Valley Association), P.O. Box 732, Drexel Hill, PA 19026. Website: www.dcva.org. Articles for this newsletter were written by Kathryn Goddard Doms, John Furth, Jan and John Haigis, Rosemary Kesling, Robin Mann, Jan Marie Rushforth, Alan Samel, and Tom Smith. Proof reading by Anne Ackerman. Photographs courtesy of John Furth, Jack Kesling, and Jan Rushforth. Edited by Rosemary Kesling. ♻️ Printed on recycled paper. © 2007.



Crickers' Corner

By Tom Smith

Sunday, September 3rd, my son Nolan bent down and scooped up an Indian artifact along Ridley Creek. This recalls my own searches along Darby Creek. *Always, I came up empty.*

The artifact Nolan picked up and asked me about was roughly honed in the shape of projective point, i.e., an "arrowhead." Misinformed, my answer was close, but incorrect. I explained it was a first-stage item called a "blank." I said, in former collector times, persons called it a "Quarry blank." Simply, it was a rough-cut stone in need of total fashioning, since it lacked a profile.

At home, I punched the tag word into my computer. I learned I was not quite correct. A blank is rectangular and does not resemble anything; hence, it is blank, shapeless. I learned they are now termed "trading blanks." Tribes included them in barter exchanges. Value took into account the labor put out to find the correct stone. Also considered, was the time spent to shape them to proper size.

What exactly did Nolan find?

Nolan's stone object had the resemblance of an arrow shaped, projective point. Specifically, my reading disclosed his find is styled a "preform." This pre-shape stage--heads the artifact's final defined profile. This article is nearing its own final form.

"An uninformed person can be very dull." The forgoing is Smith's Law. Below is an example of the Law:

I confess, while tramping along Darby Creek, my eyes caught sight of not just one perform, but two. Uninformed, both times I decided the stone lacked a sharp, defined profile. Each time I tossed away a real artifact. In the tossing, I skinned the surface of Darby Creek. There they reside.

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 floodplain. 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 _____

Telephone _____ Your Municipality _____

Representative (if organization member) _____

Type of Membership: (The Board recently approved an increase in the dues structure to support our programs.)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual Member \$25.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Nonprofit Group..... \$35.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family Member \$35.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Corporate/Municipal \$50.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Citizen / Student..... \$10.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Life Member \$250.00 |

To support the many DCVA projects, I would like to make a contribution of \$ _____ in addition to my dues.

CALENDAR

- | | |
|--|--|
| Saturday, January 27, 2007
9 a.m. | DCVA Annual Meeting
Springfield Friends Meeting, 1001 Old Sproul Road, Springfield |
| Saturday, February 17, 2007
9 a.m. | DCVA Board Meeting
Springfield Friends Meeting, 1001 Old Sproul Road, Springfield |
| Saturday, February 24, 2007
8 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. | 2nd Annual Delaware County Environmental Summit
Cusano Environmental Education Center, Heinz Refuge |
| Saturday, March 17, 2007
9 a.m. | DCVA Board Meeting
Springfield Friends Meeting, 1001 Old Sproul Road, Springfield |
| Saturday, March 24, 2007 | Tentative Date for DCVA Conference. Watch for further information.
Springfield Friends Meeting, 1001 Old Sproul Road, Springfield |
| Saturday, March 24, 2007
5:30 p.m. | Pea Soup Benefit. Sponsored by Friends of the Swedish Cabin
Lansdowne Presbyterian Church, Lansdowne |
| Saturday, April 14, 2007 | StreamWatch. Stations along Darby Creek |
| Saturday, April 28, 2007
9 a.m. | Annual Creek Cleanup
Various locations along Darby Creek |

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Darby Creek Valley Association
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