



President's Pen

Reflections from the Creek Bank

What an honor to share thoughts with such an outstanding all voluntary organization that has survived and thrived and done really good local work for 25 years!

This is a huge year for DCVA with really exciting plans for the Sunday November 15th 2009 DCVA 25 Luncheon. Under the focused direction of DCVA 25 Chair Robin Mann, we are planning a Darby Creek Map, a Slide Show or 2, honoring and recognizing people who have brought us to where we are today, sponsorship opportunities, our former US Congressman as Keynote... Please mark your calendars, invite your friends and be part of this historic, noteworthy and fun celebration.

Please also read all about some of our local stars who do so much in this edition of *The Valley* - 72 new trees planted because of Barbarann Keffer and Clyde Hunt this spring; Kathy Doms promoting Back Yard Buffers; John and Jan Haigis growing the 25th Darby Creek Clean Up; Rosemary Kesling shifting from editing to Membership; Olga Thornton for taking on the editing of *The Valley*; Jaclyn Rhoads planning the Canoe event; Alan Samel monitoring with Stream Watch; John Furth on TAG and more - the list goes on and on.

I came to DCVA via Fritz Thornton who saw my work on Haverford State and convinced me "HSH, DCVA, it's all the same thing!" I believe my 10 years of volunteering as a community activist on HSH helped tweak the project from a bad plan to one that preserves 80% of the 207 acres for nature and community, and the 40 acres of development at Haverford Reserve are top shelf with storm water considered for the head waters and the Darby Creek. Last year, I was a Haverford Township Commissioner for 8 months of an interim appointment - it was a fascinating experience and I got most of my agenda passed. Now our Rushforth Solar business takes much of my time.

To quote Carl DuPoldt: "The sustainability of the DCVA is in the hands of the current Board of Directors and the current membership. Let's all do our part to pass the legacy of the mission of the DCVA on to the next generation. The 25th Anniversary Celebration is a tribute to the organization founders, who had the vision for the protection and improvement of the Darby Creek Watershed."

I couldn't have said it better.

Jan Marie Rushforth

Mark Your Calendars

**Come celebrate the
25th anniversary of the
Darby Creek Valley Association**

at our DCVA 25 Anniversary Luncheon
Sunday, November 15, 2009, 12:30 PM
\$35 per person, \$65 per couple
Paid reservations deadline, October 31st



**Special Guest Speaker:
The Reverend Dr. Robert Edgar**

Reunite with and recognize founders and board members past and present.
Share your DCVA experiences;
More info found on page 3
Sponsor and ticket info on page 9

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DCVA 25 Years
An organization of volunteers,
Just look what we have done and continue to do!
And you can be a part of it?

Accomplishments over the years.....

- Organizing 25 annual Darby Creek Clean Ups at multiple (20-35) sites along the Darby Creek and Cobbs Creek and their tributaries, from 1984 through 2009
- Planting hundreds of trees and shrubs along the stream banks to stabilize the banks, prevent erosion, assist with storm water, enhancing shade, beauty, and more.
- Producing the state approved Rivers Conservation Plan for the Darby Creek watershed under a Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) grant
- Technical Assistance (TAG) Grant: funds working with a consultant, hired under an EPA grant to publicize and interpret for local citizens the EPA cleanup of Superfund sites on the lower Darby Creek
- Stream Watch: monitoring the creek's water quality by assessing the invertebrate animals living at several different sites on the creek
- Leading hikes and nature walks along the creek, Back Yard Buffers and Rain Garden education
- Funding a memorial bench along Glenwood Trail to remember walks with the late Bill Miehle
- Helping to energize a Greenway Trail (Ribbon of Green) along the creek
- Networking with municipalities, businesses and other organizations to educate and inform citizens about watershed and stormwater issues
- Running both summer and school year creek education programs at schools throughout the watershed
- Sponsoring and publicizing recreational boating, hiking, bicycling, educational and historical programs throughout the watershed
- Agreeing to receive and distribute funds for the HSH Environmental Assessment and Action Plan grant for the former Haverford State Hospital site and advocating for preservation of green space for many years to come
- Coordinating with the Environmental Advisory Councils within the 77 square mile watershed
- Working with Delaware County Conservation District and the Delaware County Environmental Network, the Philadelphia Water Department, Chester, Ridley Crum Watersheds Association, John Heinz Wildlife Refuge at Tinicum, PA Environmental Council, Swedish Cabin and others with environmental interests.
- Encouraging the preservation of The Grange Estate
- Coordinating activities with the 31 municipalities within the watershed

- Participating in the Mid-Atlantic Council of Watershed Associations, East Coast Greenway and Haverford Township Civic Council
- Rewarding leaders with Ribbon of Green Awards
- Hosting Canoe Race and Ramble for past 6 years

If you think we missed anything or want to share a story about DCVA please contact us at:

email: message@dcva.org

snail mail: DCVA, PO Box 732, Drexel Hill, PA 19026

Also: check our website

www.DCVA.org

for information on all DCVA programs and opportunities

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. Just look at the list on this page. As you can see a lot of work 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.

If you want to be involved in a bigger way there are opportunities throughout this newsletter. We hope you will support DCVA by attending the DCVA 25 Luncheon and consider the sponsorship opportunities. We look for volunteers with the Darby Creek Clean Up, education, leadership on the TAG grant. We hope to see you Sunday, November 15, 2009 for the DCVA 25 Luncheon.

Come join us – we are a great group doing good work. Membership and support forms can be found on page 9.



Darby Creek Valley Association: 25 years of Protecting and Connecting in the Darby Creek Watershed

DCVA 25 Luncheon Highlights
Sunday, November 15, 2009 - 12:30 PM

About our Special Keynote Speaker:
The Rev. Dr. Bob Edgar

Dr. Edgar, President and CEO of Common Cause, is well known for his service as a six-term member of the U.S. House of Representatives in Delaware County, where he was the first Democrat in more than 120 years to be elected from the heavily Republican Seventh District of Pennsylvania. His election and service demonstrated the bipartisan, ecumenical quality that has marked his whole life and ministry.

Serving in Congress from 1974 to 1987, he led efforts to improve public transportation, authored the community Right to Know provisions of Super Fund legislation, co-authored the new GI bill for the all-volunteer service, fought wasteful water projects and supported environmental goals. Among other appointments, he served as chair of the Congressional Clearinghouse on the Future (1982-86) and as a member of the Select Committee on Assassinations (1976-78) that investigated the deaths of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and President John F. Kennedy. In 1987, true to his belief in term limits, he voluntarily stepped down from office.

His wide-ranging career has also included pastorates at United Methodist congregations and stints as a teacher, college chaplain, community organizer, and director of a "think tank" on national security issues. He served as general secretary of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA.

Dr. Edgar received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Lycoming College, Williamsport, Pa., and a Master of Divinity degree from the Theological School of Drew University, Madison, N.J. He holds four honorary doctoral degrees.

Many national organizations have recognized his work with awards, including the American Legion, Vietnam Veterans of America and the National Taxpayers Union.

About the luncheon location:
McCall Golf and Country Club
An Historic Landmark in the
Darby Creek Watershed

"It was 1912 when McCall Field was purchased for baseball team competition among companies that would one day become PECO Energy. The site quickly became a popular location for track, soccer, tennis and family picnics. Originally an old farm complete with rolling corn fields, house and barn, the land eventually emerged into the conference center and recreation complex it is today with 77 acres for golf, baseball, football, tennis, volleyball, corporate meeting and social events.



Original Clubhouse Circa 1919
McCall Golf and Country Club,
201 N. Lynn Blvd.
Highland Park, PA 19083

**For additional information or to
volunteer to help please contact:**

Robin Mann
610 527 4598

RobinMann@earthlink.net

Individual Tickets: \$35

Two Tickets: \$65

**Deadline for paid reservations:
October 31**

for reservation information

www.DCVA.org

For Sponsor information see page 9

Tree Planting Project

By Barbarann Keffer

Last fall, I received the Neighborhood Excellence Initiative Award from Bank of America for my work spearheading the single-stream recycling initiative in Upper Darby Township. Part of the award was a \$5,000 grant which I donated to the Darby Creek Valley Association. The DCVA allowed me to use some of the money to purchase trees which would be planted at schools, parks and libraries throughout Upper Darby Township. I thought this would combine the environmental angle of the award, the watershed stewardship aspect of the DCVA and the Upper Darby community.

Clyde Hunt was invaluable to this project. He ordered the trees through the Tree Vitalize Program and I sent letters to school and library officials notifying them of the DCVA's offer. They were bare-root trees packed with starch gel which makes for easier transport but also requires planting within a couple of weeks or they need to be potted. It was of primary importance to me and Clyde that the trees be planted quickly to avoid inevitable potting and storage until fall or later. We visited with school and library officials to determine the number of trees that could be planted on the sites.

Clyde coordinated with the Upper Darby School District to pick up the trees towards the end of March at Evansburg State Park and to distribute them to all of the sites. Two UDSD employees, Don Strunk and Mike Fahy, were especially helpful planting and staking the trees at the Hillcrest Elementary, Westbrook Park Elementary, Beverly Hills Middle School, Garrettford Elementary and Primos Elementary Schools. Clyde also enlisted folks at the Department of Leisure Services to do the plantings at Clark Playground in Drexel Hill and Aronimink Elementary School. St. Andrews (with the help of volunteer Fran Sherman), St. Bernadette's, Holy Child and Archbishop Prendergast/Monsignor Bonner were the private and parochial schools that received trees and took care of the plantings on their own.



Jim Mullen, John Scharpf, Barbarann Keffer and Clyde Hunt: April 4, 2009 at Sellers Library



Barbarann Keffer, John Scharpf, Clyde and Gila Hunt with Jan Marie Rushforth in between show off their newly planted tree

At Collenbrook, Clyde, Barbara Marinelli, Andy Saul and volunteers from the Upper Darby Historical Society planted trees. Another volunteer tree and bulb planting took place at Sellers Library in Upper Darby on a blustery Saturday with the help of Jan Marie Rushforth, Clyde and Gisela Hunt, John Scharpf, Barbarann Keffer, Laura Matika and Jim Mullen. The last of the trees, an Appalachian White Dogwood, was planted April 23 in a special ceremony for Monsignor Grous at St. Andrews celebrating his birthday.

In just over three weeks, the total number of trees planted was seventy-two at a cost of \$1659. Upper Darby Township recognized the plantings during their Arbor Day celebration held this year at Primos Elementary. Although the planting project is technically over, work still needs to be done, namely, the watering of the trees by their new caretakers, particularly during the summer months. Transplanted trees need this special attention through the first two years at their new homes. April was a relatively wet month and we have recently had some rain these past two days but it is important for the life of the trees that they get at least five gallons of water per tree per week without rain. Clyde and I will follow up with the new caretakers about watering.

This project was a real eye-opener for me and I have a new appreciation for just how much work and planning and coordination needs to go into the relatively simple proposition of "Would you like a tree?" and a great appreciation of all the work that Clyde has done over the years for our community. Long live the trees! I would like to paraphrase Monsignor Esposito as he blessed the trees: "All these trees are a blessing to the schools, to the watershed, to all of those who helped plant and take care of them and to their children and grandchildren".

Annual Membership Meeting Introduces New President Features Joe Sestak as Speaker

This year's annual meeting was held January 31st, 2009 with Robin Mann presiding.

Nominations to the board were approved and Jan Marie Rushforth was introduced as the nominee for President. Jan spoke about the many visions of DCVA and the intention in this 25th anniversary year to honor our roots, strengthen our trunk, to allow our branches to flower into the future.

Annual Meeting updates included: DCVA Spring Darby Creek Clean-Up: which occurred on April 25th a fitting date for the 25th anniversary clean-up ; Stream Watch: Alan Samel reported the stream monitoring has been in effect for over 5 years and he reviewed the results of the 5 years at 4 different sites; *The Valley*: Robin thanked Rosemary Kesling for her long service editing the newsletter; Tree Vitalize: Barbarann Keffer and Clyde Hunt updated the group on the future plans for tree vitalization; Education Committee: Kathy Doms reported that the Backyard Buffer program at Radnor Township was very successful in January, with 200 people attended; Gov. Printz Canoe Challenge: Jaclyn Rhoads reported about 20 kayaks and canoes participated in the 08 challenge – on a lovely late summer day in September. Jaclyn hopes to have the canoe challenge in 2009; Bicycling: Dave Bennett discussed the plans for regular bicycle events. The East Coast Greenway Project: Scott Maits said the overall greenway committee has decided to site the trail to go past Bartram's home, the Blue Bell Tavern and the Heinz Refuge. Scott said he hopes to get some canoe ramps placed near the Blue Bell; Haverford State Hospital: Jan Marie Rushforth said she is pleased with the environmental assessment and report Natural Lands Trust has done on the 124 acres of open land, surrounding the 40 acres of private development. Don Barber, who is on the HSH Grant Committee with Jan and Tim Denny, thanked Jan Marie for spearheading the work. In response to the NLT report, Jan Marie noted Haverford Township has removed 38 large white tailed deer. DCVA's help was appreciated; Tag Grant: John Furth noted he hoped to rollover the contract with the EPA by the spring of 2009.

The featured speaker was Congressman Joe Sestak, who spoke about the stimulus package Congress is working on and how it might affect us, and he took questions for 15 or 20 minutes. The closing treat was John and Jan Haigis singing their Ground Hog song for February 2nd and then DCVA's special version of Red River Valley followed by a delightful lunch prepared by Toni McIntosh.



*Outgoing and Incoming DCVA Leadership:
Barbarann Keffer, new VP; Clyde Hunt; John Furth, outgoing VP; Robin Mann, President to 1st VP; Andy Saul, outgoing Secretary;
Jan Marie Rushforth, Sec. to President; Jaclyn Rhodes, new Vice President; Katherine Goddard Doms, outgoing VP*

TAG update June 1, 2009 Prepared by John Furth

The DCVA is the recipient of a Technical Assistance Grant (TAG) from the EPA to oversee clean-up of two Super-Fund sites, the Folcroft landfill and Clearview landfill. The Folcroft landfill is in Folcroft, and the Clearview landfill is in Darby Township, both in Delaware County. The Folcroft landfill is currently part of the John Heinz Wildlife Refuge at Tinicum; the Clearview landfill is privately owned.

The grant is primarily to hire an environmental consultant to assess and communicate to the Public the results of studies conducted by the EPA as to what contaminants are in the landfills and what should be done in terms of remediation. These studies, remedial investigation/feasibility studies (RI/FS), are ongoing. The RI/FS has not yet been issued by the EPA.

The TAG was initiated four years ago. It was a three-year grant, but was extended for a fourth year and has recently (April 2009) been extended for a fifth year. The DCVA established a Committee, Bill Frasch, Chair, to oversee the grant. [Bill had been instrumental in obtaining the Grant (which was a competitive submission)]. The Committee, after a search, chose Mary Rooney to be the environmental consultant. Bill resigned from the Committee after two years and John Furth took over as Chair. Now John wants to step down. If anyone wishes to lead or participate in this Committee contact us at message@DCVA.org or for information about the Grant contact John Furth [610-622-3939 or jjfurth@excite.com].

Haverford State Grant Project and DCVA

by Jan Marie Rushforth

In 2006, an outstanding group of academics, community volunteers and I wrote a \$45,000 grant to National Fish and Wildlife Foundation to fund a Nature Study and Action Plan for the former Haverford State Hospital (HSH). Including matching funds, it was a \$108,000 project. Rather like Gilligan expecting a "3 Hour tour", our valiant volunteers didn't anticipate the project taking 3 full years or running into as many snags and high adventures. But after we wrote the RFP and subsequently hired Natural Lands Trust to conduct the Assessment and develop the Action Plan, the project was concluded on time and on budget.



At the Celebration before the Final Report and Public Presentation by Natural Lands Trust on December 15, 2008: (From rear row left) Commissioner Jeff Heilmann; Dr Victor Donnay, Math Science Partnership of Greater Philadelphia, Mathematics Professor, Grant Committee; Alan Rushforth; Jan Marie Rushforth; Professor Kathy Doms, DCVA Vice President; Dr Don Barber, Bryn Mawr College; Lucetta Alderfer, Grant Committee & Quadrangle hostess; Commissioner Tom Broido (mostly hidden); Dr Blythe Hoyle; Grant Committee; Bob Freedman, Goldenberg (developer); Commissioner Dan Siegel (mostly hidden); Commissioner President Bill Wechsler; Michelle Alvare; Tim Denny, Assistant Township Manager; Flavia Rutkosky, US Fish and Wildlife Service; Todd Pohlig, Pohlig Builder (developer); (front left) on knees: Christopher Rushforth; attending and not in photo Barbara Hickman; and Dr. Michelle Francl.

US Army Corps of Engineers allocates \$250,000 in funding to local watershed Projects.

\$250,000 in funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act has been allocated for watershed projects in Delaware and Chester Counties.

The \$250,000 requires 20% non federal matching funds. Two projects in the 7th district: The Darby/Cobbs Stream Restoration Project and the Albert's Run in Springfield Township are able to provide matching funds and are being considered.

This newly announced funding is in addition to the \$500,000 already allocated for Cobbs Creek habitat restoration which will fund the design of 1.2 miles of channel restoration from the Millbourne Dam to Marshall Road to meet up with the existing project.



Presentation at the Commissioner Meeting, Monday, April 13, 2009: Jan Marie Rushforth presented booklets to key volunteers and stakeholders. In the photo, from the HSH Grant Committee: Dr Joseph Martin, PE, Haverford Township School Board Director; Peter Hickman, ISA Certified Arborist & PLNA Certified Horticulturist; David Steckel from Natural Lands Trust; Bob Freedman one of the key developers representing Goldenberg - Pohlig; Tim Denny, Haverford Township Assistant Manager and Director of Recreation. Also Jeff Miller received the book for the Haverford Township Free Library and Township Manager Larry Gentile, received the book for Haverford Township.

The project resulted in The South Brook Trail being built and it can already be walked and enjoyed. At the NLT recommendation, a Deer Cull removed 38 deer. The magnificent full report by NLT can be found on the web at www.NatLands.org/HSH and the link includes a 2 page colorful handout summary of results, the entire 31 MB Report, Maps, Appendices, and 2 Power Point presentations by NLT and Princeton Hydro that were presented on Dec 15th. The full report, including the educational projects, is on CD at the Haverford Township Library. As of June 2009, NFWF has agreed to send the last phase of funding.

Many thanks to DCVA which received and disbursed the grant funds as contracted with NFWF, and to Haverford Township, Goldenberg - Pohlig, Bryn Mawr College, the Math Science Partnership of Greater Philadelphia, The Quadrangle, and to the outstanding team that worked together for 3 years.

Progress at EPA superfund site

The US Environmental Protection Agency reports that the area of contamination at the National Wood Preservers site along Eagle Road near Lawrence Road in Havertown, has been getting smaller since 2000. The EPA is planning the final phase of cleanup which includes excavating contaminated soil, digging a 125 foot well near the bubble gum factory to continue treatment of contaminated ground water and to flush soils, and backfilling areas with vegetation.

The Valley is published by DCVA (Darby Creek Valley Association), P.O. Box 732, Drexel Hill, PA, 19026. Website: www.DCVA.org. A regional citizen's organization, DCVA works to protect and enhance the Darby Creek watershed. Articles for this newsletter were written by: John Furth, Barbarann Keffer, Jaclyn Rhodes, Alan Samel, John and Jan Haigis, Jan Marie Rushforth, Editor: Olga Thornton

DCVA Stream-Watch A Success!

Alan Samel

On Saturday, April 18, 2009, we had our sixth annual streamwatch event. Many thanks to all who participated. We had a beautiful day to get wet! Thanks to the small army of volunteers! We collected bugs at Bartram Park in Darby, in Haverford Township off Darby Creek Road, Skunk Hollow in Radnor, and at the Brandywine Conservancy. And for the first time, we added a fifth site at the Swedish Cabin in Drexel Hill. I would urge everyone to come and visit this local gem of our community. What history! And what a great way to spend the day and meet others and learn more about Darby Creek!!

The insects and bugs we collect from the stream provide a snapshot of its health. As mentioned before, this is the sixth year of intense sample collections taken from Darby Creek. A three-year trend provides a good baseline for determining the health of the stream. After six years, we have a pretty good idea of the water quality at each of our sites. Well, it will take a few more years before we can make any determinations at the Swedish cabin site. And getting into the stream is a lot of fun, too! We had kids, we had adults, and we even had some local politicians, too! There is nothing like wading in the water, getting your hands wet, and seeing what kind of critters we have living in our underwater community. And they tell us a lot about their community.

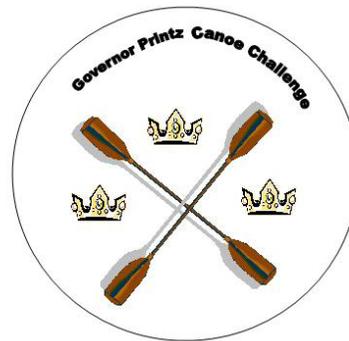
We have a very good idea of the kinds of creek critters that should be living in our creeks. If they are all there, that is a good indication that the area water quality is good. If some of the more sensitive bugs are not in our samples, the water quality is fair. If a lot of the critters are missing and only the most tolerant or insensitive bugs are sampled, the water quality is low or not good. We learn so much from such small citizens in our underwater community! But getting into the stream and collecting the bugs is only part of the streamwatch program. Part two is the identification of the bugs pulled from the stream.

The insect identification workshop is held in the fall. During the workshop we take the dust off the sample jars, pour all the crud in a pan, and identify what we sampled. We separate the bugs from the crud, the leaves, twigs, and mud that are in the sample bottles. Once the bugs are separated, they are identified and classified as being sensitive or non-sensitive to stressors. In combination with water quality measurements taken the day of sampling, we can make an estimation of the water quality of the stream at that sampling site. So, stay tuned for more information about the upcoming fall insect identification workshop. It's a lot of fun and a great way to get involved!



Row 2: Andrew Brazington, Robin Mann, Alan Samel, Mike Burns, Bruce Bayne, Derron LeBrake, Steve Freidlich

Row 1: Ethan Samel, Jan Haigis, Steve Tessler, Jan Marie Rushforth, Rhona Liggins from the office of Senator Anthony Williams, Roseanne Burns



Paddle for Preservation: Governor Printz Canoe and Kayak Challenge and Afternoon Delight 2009 Jaclyn Rhoads

This year is a special year for the Governor Printz Canoe and Kayak Challenge and Ramble, because Darby Creek Valley Association is celebrating our 25th year. To celebrate this special anniversary, the canoe ramble and race will feature a light afternoon refreshment at Governor Printz Park, 101 Taylor Avenue in Essington at 3PM.

The canoe and kayak race and ramble will both begin at the John Heinz Wildlife Refuge at 8601 Lindbergh Blvd in Tinicum next to the Cusano Environmental Education Center on Sunday, September 20th, 2009 rain or shine. DCVA's Governor Printz Challenge is the same weekend as the River Front Ramble (www.riverfrontramble.org).

The canoe ramble will be a sightseeing historic and natural resource tour of the Darby Creek ending at the Morton Homestead. The ramble will begin at 1:00 PM with registration opening at 12:30 PM at the John Heinz Wildlife Refuge at 8601 Lindbergh Blvd. Transportation will be available to bring canoes back to the starting point. Rentals are also available with advance notice.

The canoe/kayak race will begin at 2:00PM at John Heinz Wildlife Refuge, Tinicum and end at Governor Printz Park where racers can enjoy some refreshments with DCVA members and friends.

The suggested donation for either the ramble or the race is \$15/person. Canoe rentals will be available if reserved in advance. Participants will receive a free t-shirt (while supplies last), and refreshments will be available. Please see the DCVA website for registration forms and additional details – www.dcva.org. If you do not have web access contact Jaclyn Rhoads at 215-209-9637 or jaclyn_rhoads@yahoo.com. Sponsorships are also needed to help support the event and Darby Creek Valley Association and start at only \$75.

Please join us for a leisurely canoe ramble down Darby Creek or participate in the canoe and kayak competition or just sit by the Delaware River for our early afternoon delight with fellow DCVA members and friends to welcome the ramblers and racers back to the park.

Hope to see you there! All proceeds support the Darby Creek Valley Association.

A special thanks to participants, sponsors, and helpers from previous years!

Good Job...Darby Creek Valley Association

Blessed by

Wonderful Weather, Wonderful Cooperation and Wonderful People for Their 25th Anniversary Year Cleanup

John and Jan Haigis, Co-Captains Darby Creek Cleanup

The 77 square miles and 31 municipalities of the Darby Creek/Cobbs Creek Watershed are looking a bit better thanks to the efforts of 800 hundred of volunteers (300 At Heinz and 500 spread out along the remainder of the creek) who came out for the 25th Annual Cleanup sponsored by the Darby Creek Valley Association on Saturday, April 25, 2009. "It was a beautiful day and a great turnout," said Jan Haigis, Co-Chair of the annual event. "We were in 35 different sites throughout the watershed," she continued, "and 18.2 tons of trash were collected in nine dumpsters plus all the bags collected from individual sites. The Creek is a ribbon of green beauty that connects us all and it is heartwarming to see how much people care."



John and Jan Haigis sing one of their Darby Creek songs in their "25th Anniversary Cleanup" tees



The last of the trash from Heinz Refuge at Route 420



Sam Chestnut (in background), Grace McNally, Sarah Jordan, Darien McAnulla head out at Idle Hour

In particular, the Darby Creek Valley Association would like to thank Delaware County Council, the Delaware County Conservation District, the Delaware County Solid Waste Authority, Delaware County Community Service Court, PENNDOT in Middletown, and all of the municipalities, the people, and the businesses, who helped with this year's cleanup. A special thanks goes to all of our Site Captains, some new this year, some stalwarts with many year's of cleanups to their credit.

DCVA would also like to gratefully acknowledge the generous contributions of the sponsors and contributors who supplied tee shirts and educational materials and made the cleanup possible. These include: Benett's Men Store/Darby; Brandywine Conference and Visitors Bureau; Condon's Flower Cart/Collingdale; the Darby Community Development Corp; Kathy & Bob Doms & Family; Robin Mann; Past Times Present; Phillips Enterprise, Aldan; The Radnor Conservancy; the Radnor Valley Country Club; Residential Mold Services; Rushforth Solar; Andrew Saul; Sharon Savings Bank/Darby; Sierra Club-Southeastern PA; Todaro's Music/Lansdowne; and Sen. Anthony H. Williams of the 8th Senatorial District.

"Twenty five years ago, the idea that Darby Creek could be recreational and beautiful seemed like an impossible dream," Haigis said. "Today, as the Darby Creek Valley Association celebrates a quarter-century of stewardship, we are seeing that dream become a reality."



*The crew at Springfield Swim Club
Phil Damon, Dave Damon, Taylor Broome, Bridget Delaney, Sara Delaney, Alicia McMahon, Abbie Rosier, Melanie Damon, Bruce Hunter, Jim Davis*



Dave Damon: He really gets into the cleanup!



Darby Creek Valley Association: 25 years of Protecting and Connecting in the Darby Creek Watershed

DCVA 25 Luncheon Sponsorship Opportunities

All sponsors will be recognized in *The Valley* and at the DCVA 25 Luncheon

For Corporate Sponsorship opportunities, please contact Jan Rushforth at rushforth@comcast.net

- Headwaters to the Heinz Patron**.....\$1000
Recognition as above + Table of 8 Tickets to the Luncheon
- Darby Creek Steward**.....\$500
Recognition as above + Table of 6 Tickets to the Luncheon
- Major Tributaries Captain**.....\$300
Recognition as above + Table of 4 Tickets to the Luncheon
- Stream Watcher**.....\$150
Recognition as above + Table of 2 Tickets to the Luncheon

DCVA 25 Luncheon Reservatons - Chair Robin Mann: 610-527-4598 - RobinMann@earthlink.net

Invitations will be mailed later, but you can reserve tickets in advance. Deadline for paid Luncheon Reservations is October 31, 2009 - Tickets are \$35 each, 2 for \$65, Table of 8 for \$250

\$ ___ enclosed for ___ DCVA 25 Luncheon Tickets - Please list names on separate sheet of paper

Memorial Gifts to honor Loved Ones

Please indicate name of the person to be honored and the address for the recognition to be sent

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

- Canoe Ramble Sunday, September 20th [check www.dcv.org for details]
- Bicycle Rides near the Creek [Contact Dave Bennett; (610) 626-1344
Dster21@comcast.net, for dates & trails]
- Fall Bug Identification Workshop [date to be posted on DCVA.org]
- DCVA 25 Anniversary Luncheon Sunday, November 15, 2009
Robin Mann; 610-527-4598
RobinMann@earthlink.net
- DCVA Board Meetings Del Co Peace Center, Springfield, PA
3rd Saturday, Monthly (Subject to Change)

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Permit #17
Drexel Hill, PA


Darby Creek Valley Association
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