



"Protecting and Preserving Lands and Landmarks"

Report to the Membership

Volume 14, Issue 4
Autumn 2004

NORTHCENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA CONSERVANCY

Conklin Run Project Dedicated

NPC has closed the books on another project that will permanently protect 243 acres adjacent to State Game Lands 13 in Laporte Township, Sullivan County. This project was done in partnership with the Mokoma Conservancy and Foundation, a group working to preserve the ecosystems of the Lake Mokoma watershed and surrounding areas for future generations.

The land protected by this project is significant to the water quality of both Lake Mokoma and Loyalsock Creek. The tract drains almost entirely into Conklin Run, the largest sub-watershed to Lake Mokoma. In turn, Lake Mokoma drains into Loyalsock Creek, a stocked trout stream that is a major tributary to the West Branch Susquehanna River.

Completion of the project also provides recreational benefits. The Mokoma Conservancy and Foundation plans to keep the property open for appropriate public recreational use.

This project is an example of how two groups
Conklin Run continued on page 3.

Annual Appeal Crucial to NPC Funding

It seems that each year the holiday shopping season starts earlier. We are surrounded by messages of gift-buying and gift-giving. As you focus on giving, please consider the kind of gift you want to leave for future generations. The gifts you buy at the store this year are only temporary, but the gift of conservation is

something that can be enjoyed by generations to come. At a time when development outpaces population growth, our generation is in the unique position of determining the quality of life for generations we have not even met yet. The opportunities that we have today are ones that must be

taken today or lost forever.

The Annual Appeal provides vital operational funding to keep our doors open and the office ready when property owners are ready to talk about conserving their special properties. Your gift to the Annual Appeal this year helps to underwrite the cost of our offices, equipment, travel to properties, staff training, outreach, and much more. All of these things make it possible for

Annual Appeal continued on page 4.

"Climb the mountains and get their good tidings. Nature's peace will flow into you as sunshine flows into trees. The winds will blow their own freshness into you... while cares will drop off like autumn leaves."

~ John Muir,
American environmentalist



Strategic Planning Process

Organizational consultant Marc Smiley has been assisting NPC with its strategic planning process over the past months. Marc held several focus groups and conversations this summer with NPC members and project partners. These conversations provided him and the Board with insight and information on how NPC is perceived, what people see as NPC's role and mission, and what opportunities they feel exist for NPC.

These conversations and the information they generated were summarized by Marc and provided to the Board in preparation for a two day work session. On September 25 and 26 the board met to discuss the information Marc gathered, to discuss their own thoughts, and to make decisions on NPC's future direction.

Now a committee is working to draft a strategic plan based on these conversations, discussions, and decisions. Once the plan is finalized it will be provided to all of NPC's members.

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Membership Activity from 6/8/04 through 9/9/04

Please take note of our **CORPORATE MEMBERS** who have shown they care about the future of our communities with their corporate membership, and show YOUR support to them by utilizing their services.

Osprey (\$1,000-1,999)

M & S Conversion Co. Inc.
Mark C. Oberheim DMD

Small Business (\$100-499)

WNB Bank
Irion Lumber Company

American Kestrel (\$500-749)

Glenn O. Hawbaker, Inc.
Jersey Shore State Bank
Lycoming County Resource Management

Black Bear (\$500-999)

John M. Confer
Matthew & Lisa Cramer
William & Kimberly
Van Campen

Jack & Suzanne Murray
Dr. & Mrs.

Robert W. Newcomb
Mr. & Mrs. John E.
Person Jr.

Alvin L. Snowiss

Linda Stein

Jim & Lynn Tooley

White-tailed Deer (\$250-499)

Charles & Helen Schwarz

Russ Kimura &
Denise Hamby
Mr. & Mrs. Henry
Perciballi

John & Susan Best
Henry & Michelle Frey
Mr. & Mrs. Law Groner
Willem J. &
Tamara D. Lubbe
George I. Rodgers Family
Rich & Beth Schluter
Robert & Jean Teufel

Red Oak (\$50-99)

Russell E. &
Linda M. Campbell
Harry and Becky Webster

Kenneth & Ann Lundy
David & Ruth McCord
Heidi Schwarz-Hosler
Alvin C. & Betty Bush
Bruce & Betty Buckle
Ron Butler
James D. &

Maria C. Casale
Victor & Tamara Eberly
Joan C. Gingrich
Rudolph Holtzman
Kathie L. Hunter
Rudy & Carol Kafer
Scott & Karen Keck

C. Herbert Larson
Harold & Shirley Loud
John & Cathy Miller
Mark & Kim Oberheim
Casey Pfitzenmayer
Birch &

Ann Marie S. Phillips
Mr. & Mrs. Charles
Plankenhorn
Dave Rockey

James & Celia
Van Campen
Robert G. &
Rose Ann Wallace
Bill & Pam Worobec

Sugar Maple (\$35-49)

Annie Sanders
Romey Fagnano
Alan & Diane Himes
Charles W. Hummer Sr.
Dave Barsky
Robert & Joan Bauder
Mr. & Mrs.

John M. Carpenter
R. James Dunham
David K. Gilpin
Mr. & Mrs. Donald King
Richard and Mary Lou Kyle
Ed Lawrence &
Catherine McLaughlin
Jack & Joan McKee
Vance & Sue Miller
Roger & Nancy Shipley
Dr. Dora E. Vandine

White Pine (\$25-34)

Valerie Beggs
Dr. & Mrs. John L. Brown
Russ & Christine Cowles
Ann Devine
Michael & Mary Ditchfield
Max Geise
Gary W. Glick
Maryanne Griscavage
Donald E. Houser
Earle & Pattie Laysen
Harold Lehman
Ann F. Rhoads
Linda C. Murray

Max Persun
Jeff Prowant
B. J. Van Ess
Craig & Mary Vuccola
James R. &
Sandra L. Watson
William V. West
Dave Winton
Mrs. Mabel Huggins

ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS

General Contributions
Gail Zimmerman

Memorial Contributions

In memory of
Dr. Frank Perna by Karen
Eiswert Daly

In memory of
Arnie Hayden by Ann
Devine

Honorariums

Kim Van Campen
by Anne Rice

Chris Dwyer
by Les Noelk

Matching Gifts

Textron, Inc. for previous
gift from Michael and Mary
Wolf

In-Kind

William R. Hoffmann, Ltd.-
Professional Services

2

Black Cherry (\$100-249)

Marc & Diane Lewis
Karl K. Baldys Esq. &
Karen M. Baldys
James & Cheryl Redmond
Steven Uzupis
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Drs. Eberhard &
Mary F. Passarge
Jay & Juli Alexander
Ron & Sondra Beach
Richard & Grace Carey
Larry Entz
Mr. & Mrs. Brett Feese
Richard Karp

Correction

Thank you to member and careful reader Bob Ross for pointing out our error in the last issue of the newsletter. In the article that detailed the dedication of a donated property in the "Muck" in Tioga County, we listed the size of the watershed as 80 acres. The correct size of the Marsh Creek watershed is 81.8 square miles (this figure thanks to Lycoming College Clean Water Institute volunteer Kristen Colgan).

CREP Enters Next Round of Planting

Preparations are underway for a second round of planting! Another 40-acres is set to be planted this Fall with trees and shrubs. The rows of tree tubes are increasing near PPL's facilities at Washingtonville. As you may remember there are 128 acres that are enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP). The idea is to plant approximately 40 acres each growing season to decrease the risk of weather related problems.

Steve Jaquith, Scott Singer and Paul Yankovich examine a seedling in one of the tree tubes.

The areas planted this Spring are doing well. As part of the contract with Williams Forestry, the plants were checked by NPC's Charlie Schwarz to locate any unsuccessful trees so they can be replaced. After working his way through 5 to 6 foot high ragweed in some sections, he found that approximately 95% of the trees he checked were doing great. Some had even grown enough to "escape" out of the top of the tree tube.

If there are any hardy volunteers, willing to assist in the Spring check of the areas planted this Fall, please let the office know. We are looking for volunteers to assist in checking the trees and determining if they survived the winter.

Pine Creek Watershed Conservation Plan

As you may recall reading in past issues of the newsletter, NPC is serving on the steering committee for the Pine Creek Watershed Conservation Plan. The steering committee is working on its second draft of the plan with the goal being to have a draft plan ready for public review sometime over the winter.

Kristin Colgen, a senior biology and education major at Lycoming College, is assisting NPC in preparing the cultural section of the plan. Kristen and her classmate (a former NPC intern) Kristina Kleintop, worked for the Lycoming College CleanWater Institute this summer, collecting data and water samples within the Pine Creek Watershed.

Scott Singer and Kevin Drewencki discuss the rye they found growing along the edge of the field.

Conklin Run continued from cover. with similar goals worked together to leverage limited resources. NPC, as a qualified land trust, was able to apply for grant funding through the Community Conservation Partnership Program from the Department of Natural Resources. The Mokoma Conservancy and Foundation worked to secure matching funds for the grant funding.

In August, the Mokoma Conservancy and Foundation held a celebration to commemorate the completion of this project, the result of years of work by both organizations.

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Carey Discusses Land Trusts with Forestry Task Force

In August Reneé Carey, NPC's executive director, had the opportunity to discuss the role of land trusts in acquiring forested properties with the Joint Legislative Air and Water Pollution Control and Conservation Committee's Forestry Task Force. Carey, along with Andy Loza, executive director of the Pennsylvania Land Trust Association, discussed some of the reasons land trusts in Pennsylvania acquire forested properties.

The Forestry Task Force, chaired by Senator Roger Madigan also heard from Dick Sprenkle, Deputy Secretary for Conservation and Engineering Services at the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, and Paul Lyskava, Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Forest Products Association.

Several New Faces at NPC

If you stop by the NPC office, you will see new and returning faces here. Charlie Schwarz recently joined the staff as our new part-time Land Protection Specialist, and Connie Livingston has come on board to provide bookkeeping and clerical support. In addition, the Board of Directors has appointed two people to fill vacancies on the board.

You may recall from last year's Annual Appeal that NPC's Board of Directors saw a need to add an additional staff member to take on some of the land protection duties. Charlie has already begun meeting with property owners, completing conservation easement monitoring, and inspecting tree plantings for our Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) project. He recently retired from the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Bureau of Forestry, and his experience will be an invaluable resource to NPC. Charlie lives in South Williamsport with his wife, Helen.

Connie started working at the NPC office in June, and has combined the job duties of bookkeeping and database management that were formerly done by two people. Connie holds a degree from Susquehanna University and lives in the Williamsport area with her husband, Wayne. She enjoys spending time with her grandchildren, and says she is happy to be working at NPC because of her love of the outdoors.

The NPC Board took action to fill two vacancies on the board, following the resignation of board members Don Alsted and Rebecca Burke. At the August board meeting, Kevin Drewencki (former NPC Board Chairman) and Bill Worobec were appointed to fill the remaining year of each term. Congratulations to both Kevin and Bill; thank you for your willingness to serve NPC with your time and talent.

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Stream Clean-up

Several groups have completed clean-ups or have them planned. Lycoming Creek Watershed Association, Black Hole Creek Watershed Association and the Clinton County Chapter of PA CleanWays have all recently used the stream clean-up program.

Keep in mind that **funds are still available!** If your group is planning a fall stream clean-up, it is not too late to secure funding to cover disposal costs.

August Bike Trip Enjoyed by All

On August 15, NPC and the Williamsport Alpine Club held a joint bicycle trip on miles of the lower section of the Pine Creek rail-trail from Jersey Mills to Jersey Shore - NOT in the state to the east of Pennsylvania, but in Lycoming County Pennsylvania.

Seventeen riders had a leisurely trip. They stopped to look at English Island below Waterville, which was settled by John English in 1784, and at the Townsend Tract, NPC's first completed project (1991- the 54 acres were subsequently transferred to the Bureau of Forestry for inclusion in the Tiadaghton State Forest). A short walk took some of the riders to an old flagstone quarry to discuss the methods of cutting stone before the advent of modern equipment and the flagstone industry's economic impact on the turn-of-the-century (20th Century) Pine Creek valley. In another touch of history, near Ramsey the riders passed over the Tidewater Pipeline, the world's first long-distance oil pipeline which now carries a fiber-optic telephone line instead of oil.

Prints Available for Sale

Due to a generous donation by NPC members Don and Ann Alsted, we have two limited-edition, sold-out prints available for sale. NPC is offering the following framed prints for sale:

- “Lord of the Night” by Ron Beach
- “Snow Bales” by Peter Keating

For more information on these prints, please visit our website, www.npcweb.org/artdonate.html or call 570-323-6222. If you know people you think may be interested in one of these prints, please help us get the word out and pass this message on to them. ALL PROCEEDS from the sale of these prints will go directly to benefit NPC's conservation efforts!

Annual Appeal continued from cover.

us to keep working in northcentral Pennsylvania to save the places we all love.

This year when your Annual Appeal letter arrives, please take the time to think about the things we have already accomplished with your help. Your investment in this year's Annual Appeal is an investment in the future of our region.



Golf Tournament Another Success!

The 7th Annual Autumn Classic Golf Tournament was held to benefit NPC on Monday, September 27, 2004 at the Williamsport Country Club. The tournament is NPC's biggest fundraising event of the year, and helps provide operating dollars to keep NPC's offices open and ready when opportunities to conserve lands and waterways happen.

At this year's event, hosted by *Citizens & Northern Bank*, over 100 golfers enjoyed a beautiful autumn day on the course. Winners of this year's tournament included:

Low Gross:

1st – Celia Van Campen, Jim Van Campen, Judy Conklin, Dave Conklin

2nd – Larry Coploff, Mark Huffman, Jim Lazorka, Mark Mussina

Low Net:

1st – Aaron Cunningham, William Mauck, Dave Palski, Jerry Seman

2nd – Hal Gee, Joe Reighard, Sean Remsnyder, John White

Skill contest winners were:

Chipping – Russ Kimura

Putting – Bill Tubbs

Closest to the Pin – Men: Darin Hamm

Closest to the Pin – Women: Celia Van Campen

Longest Drive – Men: Steve Sleboda, Jr.

Longest Drive – Women: Celia Van Campen

Special thanks go out to our sponsors and door prize donors:

Event Host

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PMF Industries Inc.

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CCSWA

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Thanks also to Frito Lay, Kellogg's & Pepsi for donating their products for cart bags for our players!

NPC would like to add a very special thank you to *Ray and Shelly Mattie* for serving as our tournament hosts at the country club.

A big thank you to our volunteers: Jessica Abernathy, Juli Alexander, Donna Colley, Joanne Fisher, Heidi Schwarz-Hosler, Karyn Hosler, Sheryl Hosler, Molly Logue, Ken Lundy, Mike Piaskowski, Helen Schwarz, Christine Sleboda, Rick Sprout, Sue Spout, and Bill Van Campen. NPC would also like to thank the tournament committee members for all their hard work: Jay Alexander, Jim Lazorka, Ray Mattie (Chair), Brian Pick, Bill Van Campen, and Kim Van Campen.



Northcentral Pennsylvania Conservancy
PO Box 2083
Williamsport, PA 17703
570-323-6222
<http://www.npcweb.org/>

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Looking for something to give that hard-to-buy-for person? The answer is right under your nose! You can give the gift of beautiful open spaces, rolling tree-covered mountains, golden farm fields, clean water, and historically significant places – and it's easy to do!

Just send a note to us with the recipient's name, address, phone and membership level. Mail the information to PO Box 2083, Williamsport PA 17703 or call the NPC office at 570-323-6222. We will be happy to send a gift membership for you.

The recipient will not only receive a complimentary subscription to this newsletter, but will also receive invitations to special events, registration preference on our most popular events, and the satisfaction of knowing that he/she is making a difference every day right here in northcentral Pennsylvania.



Special thanks to our corporate member, **PPL Corporation**, for its generosity in underwriting the cost of printing and mailing this newsletter to our members and friends.

Middle West Branch River Conservation Plan

The conservation plan is being extensively reworked. A draft for public review and comment should be ready within the next several months.

