



"Protecting and Preserving Lands and Landmarks"

Report to the Membership

Volume 14, Issue 3
Summer 2004

NORTHCENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA CONSERVANCY

Wilson Property Dedication Held

On Wednesday, May 19, 2004 the Northcentral Pennsylvania Conservancy organized a dedication ceremony for a project NPC helped complete. The descendents of John and Anna Mason Wilson donated to the Commonwealth a quarter acre parcel along Marsh Creek Road near Ansonia in Tioga County. NPC facilitated the transfer and used funds donated in memory of Arnie Hayden to cover the expenses.

The property is adjacent to a planned section of the Pine Creek Rail Trail and contains an area of wetlands.

The family's farmhouse was destroyed by fire in the 1950's. The garden is now covered in wildflowers and non-native cover. In a few years, residents and visitors alike will be able to stop at this site to rest and watch the wildlife that call Marsh Creek home.

Marsh Creek was once described as flowing, "so slow as to be hardly perceptible." Today that description still applies to many parts of the creek. Known to some as the Muck, Marsh Creek is one of the largest tributaries to Pine Creek. The watershed that drains into the Muck is over 80 acres in size and contains large areas of wetlands, as well as the flowing water most people envision when they hear the word "creek."

Wilson Dedication continued on page 3.

NPC Strategic Plan Moving Forward

In the last issue of the newsletter NPC highlighted a grant received from the Williamsport-Lycoming Foundation to assist with strategic planning. The effort to revise NPC's strategic plan is moving forward at a pleasing pace.

NPC's Board of Directors selected Marc Smiley to assist in developing the plan and he is now busy providing responses to 60 questions on the organization's effectiveness, organizational functioning, and board development processes. This

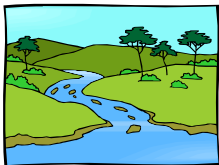
questionnaire combined with other items, such as by-laws, past strategic plans, position descriptions, and committee information will help Marc prepare for his first visit with NPC in July. During this brief stay, Marc will be conducting two focus groups and meeting with the Board and staff. The purpose is to refine his understanding of the organization and its opportunities. In September he will return for a daylong education/training session with the board followed by a daylong retreat.

One of the key reasons Marc was selected was his philosophy and approach to working with organizations. He does not write the strategic plan for

Strategic Plan continued on page 3.

"The ultimate test of a moral society is the kind of world that it leaves to its children."

~Dietrick Bonhoeffer,
German Theologian



Buffer to be Restored along Montour County Creek

The Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) is well on its way to restoring a riparian buffer along parts of Chilisquaque Creek in Montour County. NPC is working with PPL and the Natural Resource Conservation Service to plant 128 acres of forested riparian buffers.

This Spring's wet weather caused a few problems, but most of the 128 acres was seeded with a mixture of ryes, oats, and wildflowers to stabilize the soil and provide wildlife habitat. Wild rye can be found on the sites and along the banks of the creek, as well as some wildflowers. The seed mixture used will certainly help improve

CREP continued on page 5.

Inside:

Membership Activity

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...and more!

Membership Activity from 3/1/2004 through 6/7/2004

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.

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

PPL Corporation/
Montour Preserve

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

Montour Oil Service Company

American Kestrel (\$500-749)

Citizens & Northern Bank
Girton Manufacturing Co.
Keystone Forging Co.
Wayne Twp. Landfill CCSWA

Small Business (\$100-499)

Pennsylvania Bureau of Forestry (Tiadaghton)
Yoas Services Inc.
Lamar Advertising
Bob Chuck & Rich Roan Inc.
Central PA Auto Auction Inc.
Clinton Co. Economic Partnership
Mericle Commercial Real Estate
Staiman Brothers Inc.
Webb's Super-Gro Products Inc.
Wheeland Lumber Co. Inc.

Bobcat (\$1,000-4,999)

George & Shirley Durrwachter
Joanne Fisher

Black Bear (\$500-999)

Tom Corbett
Donald & Ann Alsted
William B. Heffner III
Ray & Shelly Mattie

White-tailed Deer (\$250-499)

Whistle Pig Fishing Club
J. Robert & Nancy Bower
Martin & Jean Doughty
Jerry & Joy Walls
Charles & Jane Darrow

Linda Schramm
Richard & Susan Sprout
Dr. Marshall Welch

Black Cherry (\$100-249)

Mr. & Mrs. Seth Keller
David & Sally Craig
Thomas & Laurie Burkholder
Stephen & Stephanie Budman
Dr. & Mrs. Robert Burns
Bob & Nell Carnein
Kay Crisanti
Doug & Frani Doherty
James A. Ely/James A.
Ely Insurance Agency Inc.
James Geurts
Harvey & Anne Katz
James P. Lazorka
Edward & Judith Lyon
Robert & Virginia MacIndoe
Paul Millinghausen
C. Edward S. Mitchell
David Napoli, M.D.
Peter & Linda Schultz & Family
R. Bruce & Jeane Smay
Judith E. Styrcula
Chalmer & Ruth Ann Van Horn
Mr. & Mrs. H. W. Wieder
Mrs. William F. Williams

Red Oak (\$50-99)

Joseph H. Radley
Lloyd Forcey
Rich & Alice Trowbridge
Ronald & Martina Johnson
Stephen E. Jaquith
Henry F. Hartmann Jr.
Susan Joshi
Ms. Idell Ludwig
Jack & Joann Rishel
Herman & Rita Bocher
Jessica M. Abernathy
Andrew Bamford
Patty L. Bowman Esq.
Peter & Christie Brooks
Jonathan & Sally Butterfield
Michael Casale
Jack & Michele Davidson
Rebecca Davis
Dr. & Mrs. Herbert A. Ecker Sr.
Daniel Glunk &
Margrit Shoemaker
William & Kelly Hastings
Skip Heller
Charles & Fay Lindrooth
William Logue
T. Jug & Mary Jo McKeever
Honorable Malcolm Muir
Michael P. O'Brien
Pete & Deb Purcaro
James & Evelyn Reeder
Darrel & Elaine Reibson
Carl W. Schlappi
Alex & Tracie Witter
Charles R. Woltz

Sugar Maple (\$35-49)

Wayne Laubscher
Warren R. & Mary Lou Baldys
Anthony C. Ferraro
Gladys Lewis
Don & Jean O'Brien
Tom & Marsha Person & family
Dan & Patti Alters
Larry R. Bason VMD
Mike & Donna Bastian
Dale E. & Harriet J. Cooper

Katherine Durrwachter
Donald Gephart Jr.
Bonita E. Hannis
Dr. & Mrs. Ira G. Masemore
Bob & Donna McCoy
Joseph R. Musto
George E. Rizzo & Family
David L. Shollenberger
James Temple
John & Carol Wagner
Margaret Wettling
Harold & Beulah Yerck

White Pine (\$25-34)

Mr. Raymond Chernikovich
Mr. & Mrs. William R. Bailey
Bear Hollow Rod & Gun Club
Molly Costello Daly
Frederick S. Crafts
Jay Wilkinson/
Eagles Mere Village Inc.
Donald Faulkner
Richard C. Gleockler
David J. Gregg
Mr. Steele Hahn
Rep. & Mrs. Mike Hanna
Karl A. Herzog
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Lundy
Mike & Betzi Lyon/
Lyon Camping & Supply
Mark Newruck/
Mountain Graphics
Ed & Tink Reish
Sandy Rife
Becky Sanguedolce
Conrad Schlesinger

Steve Stroman
Susquehanna Longbeards NWTFF
Edwin & Merlene Young
Chris Young
Merrill J. & Dorothy F. Dodge
Pamela Gass
Jack Kramer
Mark Shuman

General Contributions

Anne Brovey

Donation to Alfred & Helen Buck Land Acquisition Fund

Alfred Buck

In-Kind Gifts

Blair Brothers Goldsmiths
DiSalvo's Pasta Products
Northcentral Digital Services
Slate Run Tackle Shop

Memorial Contributions

In memory of
Arnold Hayden
from the Arnold Hayden Memorial Fund

In Memory of
Robert B. Waldeisen and
Clarence "Scott" Wilhelm
by Mr. & Mrs. Henry Perciballi

Annual Appeal Gifts

Ron Butler
Michael & Mary Wolf

New Board Members, Officers Elected

During the business portion of the Annual Dinner four people were elected to three-year terms on the Board of Directors. Three are new faces to the board: Alex Witter, Matt Cramer and Gail Zimmerman. Sue Sprout currently serves on the board and was re-elected to another term. George Durrwachter, who had served on the board before, will return for another term as well.

At its first meeting after the election, the Board elected officers for the current year: George Durrwachter, Chairman; John Best, Vice Chairman; Rich Schluter, Secretary; Christine Sleboda, Treasurer. In addition, the Board appointed Matthew Cramer to the position of Assistant Treasurer. Board members appointed to serve on the Executive Committee with the officers include: Jay Alexander, Les Noelk and Sue Sprout.

Congratulations to all of our newly elected and re-elected board members and officers. NPC is deeply grateful for these individuals' willingness to voluntarily serve NPC in such a selfless manner.

Community Conservation Partnership Program

Just a reminder that the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Community Conservation Partnership Program's (C2P2) application period opens in July. Communities and non-profits who are working on recreation or trail projects should obtain an application packet and plan to attend the July workshop on how to apply.

Don't forget if the project is an implementation project from the **Lower West Branch Susquehanna River Conservation Plan**, you should contact René Carey, at 570-323-6222 or email rcarey@npcweb.org. Projects resulting from River Conservation Plans where the river segment has been listed on the Pennsylvania River Registry are eligible for funding through the River Conservation Program. More information can be found at www.dcnr.state.pa.us.

Strategic Plan continued from cover.

the group, or tell them what to do. Instead, he teaches the organization how to identify and address its needs. He understands that at some point, he goes away and the organization needs to function on its own.

To quote his website at www.marcsmile.com, "Nonprofit organizations live and breathe on the effectiveness of their people. While people have time to give, they don't have time to waste.... Well-developed committees and committed advisors support effective boards of directors while giving people several options for their participation.... Using people's time well also requires thoughtful planning. Effective organizations develop clear plans that define where they want to go, and how they expect to get there. The plans possess both vision and detail, serving as a compelling prospectus for action. Most importantly, these plans are developed in a way that builds strong teams and committed involvement."

Another key to selecting Marc is his experience. In addition to working as the Executive Director of a land trust for five years, he is currently serving on a board of directors and has presented at the past ten Land Trust Alliance conferences as well as the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the American Bar Association's conferences, and the National Urban Forestry conferences. More information will be in the next issue of the newsletter!

Wilson Dedication continued from cover.

At one time the Marsh Creek valley floor was covered with forests and wetlands, but this changed during Pennsylvania's lumbering era. The forests were harvested to feed the sawmills in the area and to provide logs for mills down Pine Creek and points farther south. In the 1890s the trees were gone and farms sprung up. Commercial celery and lettuce production began, assisted in part by the rail line running through the valley floor. Production for these crops began to drop off in the 1910s and 1920s and other crops took over.

Today the Muck has few farms left. Some of the farms have been subdivided into residential homes and camps. The Department of Conservation and Natural Resources is in the process of designing a trail for the rail bed which will link Ansonia and the Pine Creek valley with Wellsboro Junction.

Jerry Wilson, one of John and Anna's sons, explained at the dedication that this property was once part of his grandmother's farm. Jerry's brother Leroy pointed out the patch where corn and potatoes once grew, and siblings spent summer days hoeing the rows. The family talked about how the Muck has changed.

Arnie's wife Helen asked their son Jim to say a few words. Jim explained the importance of the habitat in the Muck. Arnie was a biologist with the Pennsylvania Game Commission and took his sons to Marsh Creek frequently. The family was pleased that donations made in memory of Arnie could help accomplish this project.

Thank you to Wilson's descendents, Tioga State Forest personnel, Arnie Hayden's friends and family, and members of the Northcentral Pennsylvania Conservancy. It took all four groups to complete this project, and this is a great example of how NPC works to unite common goals to achieve lasting results.



River Conservation Plan Survey in Progress

The PA Environmental Council is busy conducting interviews in the Middle West Branch River corridor. A questionnaire has been mailed out to residents and property owners in the corridor to assist in understanding the local communities' views and opinions. The NPC newsletter and website will contain updates as the plan progresses.

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Annual Dinner and Silent Auction Raise Money for Conservation

Members and friends of NPC gathered at DiSalvo's Restaurant on May 4, 2004 to celebrate another year of conservation in northcentral Pennsylvania. It was another wonderful event!

New to the dinner this year was a silent auction, featuring products and services donated by NPC supporters. The auction was a great success. We are extremely thankful for all those who donated items and those who bid on the items. We thank the following businesses and organizations for their donations:

Marc Lewis	Montour Oil
M&T Bank	Service Company
George & Shirley Durrwachter	Tracie Witter Pottery
Parsons Hot Glass Studio	Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation
William & Kimberly Van Campen	Pennsylvania Game Commission
PPL Corporation/Montour Preserve	Leslie & Adrienne Noelk Terry Wild Studio
Carved Rocks by Bobby Maguire	Donald & Ann Alsted Tory Leather Co.
Susan Sprout	Peters Sporting Goods
Ron Beach/Wildlife 'N Nature Studio	Jack Rishel Equinox, Ltd.
Wayne Township Landfill/CCSWA	Gander Mountain
Woolrich, Inc.	Winstraw

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Stream Clean-up

Listed below is a list of recipients of Stream Clean-up funding since the last newsletter. This program provides funding for disposal costs associated with volunteer cleanups. NPC received a Growing Greener grant to administer funding to eligible groups. Funding is still available; visit our website, or call the office for more information on how to apply.

Thanks to the following groups for organizing cleanups:

- *Black Hole Creek Watershed Association
- *Little Shamokin Creek Watershed Association
- *Muncy Creek Watershed Association
- *Penns Valley Conservation Association

Silent Auction Winning bidders:

Day of Fishing with George Durrwachter: *Ed Alberts, Don Alsted, John Best, Vince DiSalvo, and George Rodgers*

Oakleaf & Acorn Necklace and Earring Set by Parsons Hot Glass Studio: *Kevin Drewencki*

Hand-knit Italian Silk & Merino Wool Scarf by Kim Van Campen: *Shirley Knade*

Ken Hunter Print: *Mark & Mary Stern*

Carved Rock by Bobby Maguire (Welcome with Fern): *Brian Haas*

Carved Rock by Bobby Maguire (Welcome with Bird): *Stephen Sleboda*

Carved Rock by Bobby Maguire (Welcome with Red Background): *Marc Lewis*

Carved Rock by Bobby Maguire (Every day is a school day): *Marc Lewis*

Carved Rock by Bobby Maguire (2 Teach Is...): *Sue Best*

Carved Rock by Bobby Maguire (Penn State Logo): *Joanne Fisher*

Plant ID with Picnic by Sue Sprout: *Adrienne Craig*

Ron Beach Print ("Winter's Glow"): *John Case*

Driving Range Passes from Route 87 Driving Range: *Jay Alexander, Joe Reighard, Gary Harris*

Woolrich Gift Certificate: *Jerry Walls*

100 Gallons of Home Heating Oil from Montour Oil Service Company: *Nan Young*

Filet Knife Set: *Nan Young*

Pottery Bowl by Tracie Witter Pottery: *Shirley Durrwachter*

Big Sky Carvers Antlered Dish: *Jason Kline*

Susan Bankey Yoder Print ("The Homesteader"): *Jay Alexander*

Private Canoe Instructions by Marc Lewis: *Ed Alberts*

Wooden Bird Feeder – *Stephen Sleboda*

Loyalsock Creek Watershed Association Denim Shirt: *Kim Van Campen*

Arrowheads: *Marc Lewis*

Framed Photo by Terry Wild: *Mark & Mary Stern*

Barbara Ertel Print ("Providing River Otters"): *Mark & Mary Stern*

Tory Leather Bag: *Cheryl Redmond*

Marjolein Bastin Decorative Stand: *Ann Case*

Fishing PFD Vest: *Kim Van Campen*

Barbeque Sets: *Jay Alexander, Joe Reighard*

Stained Glass Candle Holder: *Kim Van Campen*

Fleece Blanket/Maple Syrup Combo: *Nan Young*

Fleece Blanket: *Beth Lazorka*



Kayaking the Susquehanna

All skill levels welcome! This year we are providing an opportunity for members and others (ages 13 and up) to learn a bit about paddling and enjoy a leisurely kayak trip down the Susquehanna to Muncy, starting in Montoursville. The trip will take place on Saturday, August 7, 2004.

Cost of the trip is \$40 which includes boat rental, life vest rental, shuttle service and expert instruction. We will team up with Canoe Susquehanna to provide rentals and instruction to those of you who want to experience the Susquehanna in a boat of your own.

For more details or registration information, contact Julie Adams at 570-323-6222 or email jadams@npcweb.org.

Prints Available for Sale

Due to a generous donation by NPC members Don and Anne 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. 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!

CREP continued from cover.

the site's ability to support wildlife in many shapes and sizes, as well as add to the aesthetic attractiveness of the sites.

The trees and shrubs will be planted over the next couple of years. Spreading the plantings over several seasons should improve the success of the plantings. Williams Forestry and Associates planted over 33 acres with a mixture of hardwoods, shrubs, and conifers in May. A tree list was created to provide wildlife habitat, add to the area's aesthetic value, and eventually provide a recreational and educational resource. In total, 8,625 seedlings were planted.

Plans are underway for a site visit this Fall at one of the planting sites. If you are interested in attending, please call NPC or send an e-mail message to office@npcweb.org.

Celebrity Waiter Night

Gloria and Marcia Miele from the Peter Herdic House in Williamsport, once again hosted a successful fundraising evening for the Northcentral Pennsylvania Conservancy. Celebrity Waiter Night took place on Friday, March 19, 2004, and raised over \$3,400 to directly benefit NPC’s conservation efforts.

Thanks to the generosity of Blair Brothers Goldsmiths, NPC raffled off a gorgeous necklace and earrings set with garnets valued at over \$750. In addition to the pieces of jewelry, we also gave away a Woolrich gift certificate courtesy of Woolrich, Inc., a sleeping bag and maple syrup courtesy of PPL Corp/Montour Preserve, and a beautiful hand-knit wool and silk scarf made by Kim Van Campen.

Many, many thanks go out to Gloria and Marcia for hosting the evening, and to the staff at the Peter Herdic House for their patience with us!

We owe special gratitude to our Celebrity Waiters for the evening, for their good-humored willingness to give of their time and energy on a Friday night. Celebrity waitstaff included:

Ed Alberts	Dr. William Judson
John Best	Jack Kramer
Michael Casale	Ernie Larson
Frank J. Concino Jr.	Rick Mason
Laura Flynn	Mark Shuman
Richard Gahr Esq.	Kirby Smith
Dr. Angela Haas	Jerry Walls
Gary Hutchinson	Mary Wolf
Sarmite Judson	Mike Wolf

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Thanks also to Terry Wild & Friends, for their musical addition to the evening’s entertainment.

Pine Creek Watershed Conservation Plan Moving Forward

Work is progressing with the Pine Creek Watershed Conservation Plan. This effort is being led by the Endless Mountains RC&D, and NPC is a Steering Committee member. The Steering Committee has been working to review the questionnaires that were returned and is writing the sections of the plan that deal with historic conditions and existing conditions in the watershed. Watch for more information on upcoming meetings!

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

Non-Profit Rate
PAID
Permit No. 107
Williamsport, PA
17701

Return Service Requested

2004 NPC Activities

August 7

Kayaking the Susquehanna

August 15

Rail Trail Bike Trip w/ Alpine Club

September 18

“Canyon Vista/Flynn Property” Hike

September 27

7th Annual Autumn Classic Golf Tournament



Rail Trail Bike Trip on New Section of Pine Creek Rail Trail

This year we will partner with the Alpine Club to provide our members with the opportunity to ride the new section of the Pine Creek Rail Trail with guidance from NPC and Alpine Club member Charlie Schwarz. Charlie plans to lead the group on the new section of the trail starting in Waterville (or Jersey Mills if the group is so inclined) and ending in Jersey Shore.

This ride will feature a view of the Townsend Property, the very first project NPC completed. The property is surrounded on three sides by State Forest land, has nearly a mile of frontage on Pine Creek, and contains meadows, mountain land, wetlands, and two small tributaries to Pine Creek. Acquisition and transfer of this property to state ownership assured protection of the property and public recreational access to Pine Creek.

For more information, or for meeting time and location, contact Julie Adams at the NPC office.

Mark Your Calendars for the 2004 Golf Outing!

Mark your calendar now for the 7th Annual Autumn Classic Golf Tournament to take place on Monday, September 27, 2004. Last year's tournament was so successful we nearly sold out! Make your plans to attend early this year so you don't miss out on a great day of golf at the beautiful Williamsport Country Club. This is also a great opportunity for sponsors to get their names out to the community. Sponsorships include publicity at the event, in the Williamsport Sun-Gazette, and also here in our newsletter. For more information on playing in or sponsoring this year's tournament, please contact Julie Adams at 570-323-6222.

“Canyon Vista/Flynn Property” Hike

Hike with us on September 18 to Canyon Vista at World's End State Park for a view to behold! After we experience the vista, which overlooks Loyalsock Creek and the valley it formed, we will hike to a rock labyrinth area for a bit of exploring. This is the second hike this year that will revisit a property that we have been able to protect through your support. The Flynn property was purchased by NPC at an auction and transferred to state ownership in the early 1990's. Visitors to World's End State Park now enjoy the view that we protected. We recommend that you wear sturdy hiking shoes and comfortable clothing. Also, bring water and a snack/packed lunch. Contact Julie Adams at the NPC office for meeting time and location.



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