

# Penn's Stewards

News from the Pennsylvania Parks & Forests Foundation • Fall 2011



*Congratulations to Honorable Mention winner Maggie and owner Carly Reese. See page 7 for the complete story.*

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## State Parks and State Forests and Our Quality of Life

Pam Metzger  
and Marci Mowery

We have been thinking about “quality of life” for all of recorded history. More than two thousand years ago Aristotle broadly postulated that “quality of life is determined by its activities.” A dry observation, but true in every way. And still rings true for people from all cultures and contexts so pervasively that a nonprofit group – *The Quality of Life Project* – exists solely to devote time and resources to helping people live more enjoyable, purposeful, and contented lives.

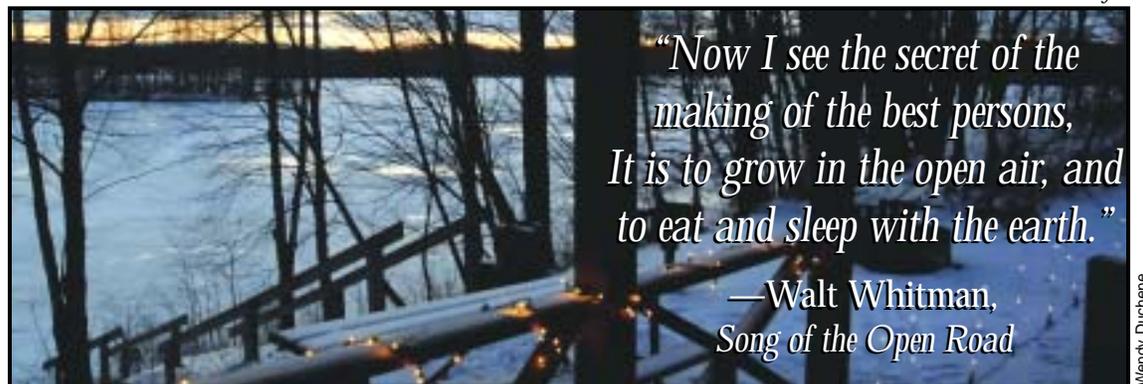
In more recent years, the south Asian Kingdom of Bhutan demonstrated an authentically new way to evaluate quality of life. They use a “Gross National Happiness” or GNH index rather than the traditional gross domestic product to define their country’s status. Their method suggests that beneficial development of human society takes place when material and spiritual development occur side by side to complement and reinforce each other. For example, environmental wellness is calculated by surveying and taking statistical measurement of metrics such as pollution, noise, and traffic. Less of those = better quality of life.

Even in its most clinical sense, physicians now use the phrase “quality of life” to evaluate and determine treatment options. It has become a common phrase in the vernacular among medical staff, patients, and their families considering decisions that must be measured against enhancing or impeding “quality of life.”

Within our public dialogue there is an idea that suggests that connecting people with nature has a profound effect on their perception of whether their life, in its simplest terms, is “good” or “bad.” Richard Louv’s 2005 book, *Last Child in the Woods*, asks us to consider what difference the outdoors has made on our lives and whether the loss of a meaningful connection to nature would make future generations less satisfied with theirs. It’s a good question. **Where do our state lands fit in as we consider how Pennsylvanians can improve their own GNH or discover those Aristotelian “activities” that will improve our quality of life?**

*continued on page 3*

*Moraine State Park cabin decorated for the holidays.*



*“Now I see the secret of the making of the best persons, It is to grow in the open air, and to eat and sleep with the earth.”*

—Walt Whitman,  
*Song of the Open Road*



Photo: Pam Metzger

Wendy Duchene

## President's Message

Marci Mowery



My autumn President's Message is typically one of gratitude for all of the hard work of volunteers, friends, and staff to make our state parks and state forests the best that they can be. And while I am grateful for the work of these fine people, there are many others who I would like to recognize this year.

From both a personal and natural perspective, 2011 has been challenging. Some of us have lost loved ones who left an ache that doesn't seem to disappear. While the adage 'time heals all wounds' may hold true, I have also come to realize that the ache we bare is a part of the new norm—it will always be there to remind us that nothing is permanent. We need to live each day to the fullest, remembering to spend time with family and friends. I am grateful for the memories of loved ones that I carry with me, and also for the generosity of strangers, family and friends. Their kind words for the loss my family suffered, and for the support they have shown as we progress towards our goal of creating a memorial playground at Sam Lewis State Park in memory of my niece Leah, helped immensely.

Natural disasters garnered headlines throughout 2011—floods, hurricanes, and even earthquakes. I would like to extend my gratitude to those who volunteered to help during these disasters; to the utility companies

*"As we enter the season of gratitude, I encourage you to join me in the spirit of appreciation."*

that worked around the clock to restore electricity, gas, water, and sewage treatment; and to the non-profit organizations that provided services to our fellow Pennsylvanians in need. I want to thank our park and forest visitors for their patience as staff and volunteers continue to clean up the damage that nature left in her wake, and for your understanding that some repairs may take a little time.

The commitment that Pennsylvanians demonstrated to their neighbors, towns, and state are worthy of applause, and I tip my hat to you. As we enter the season of gratitude, I encourage you to join me in the spirit of appreciation. In every day there is a miracle just waiting to be discovered. May you discover many miracles—from a rainbow after a storm to a friend who says just the right words—in the year ahead.

Wishing you a holiday season filled with peace, family, and friends.

*Yours in the Outdoors,  
Marci*

## FUN, FUN, FUN! And For a Good Cause

Over 60 racers joined PPF for Lace Up for Leah, a 5K run/walk to benefit the Leah Vogel Memorial Playground Fund.

Sam Lewis State Park is the first beneficiary of a playground built from Leah's fund. The race, held at Sam Lewis State Park, was a vertically challenging 5K.

## LACE UP FOR LEAH

*Best overall male time was Corey Bires and best overall female time was Honorata Libertore. 'Play Like a Kid Day' was held at the park following the race.*

**To date, over \$20,000 has been raised for the playground.  
Only \$5,000 more to reach our goal!**



Partners gather to dedicate the Rose Trail at the Goat Hill Wild Plant Sanctuary. Rose Chase, the namesake, is wielding the scissors.

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# State Parks and State Forests and Our Quality of Life *continued*

## Can Pennsylvania's Parks Improve Our Quality of Life?

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania set about to take some of our own measurements. The Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) told a clear story about our perception and appreciation for outdoor spaces. State parks were a specific focus of a portion of the SCORP research and the findings are revealing.

Nearly half of park visitors admitted that their level of physical activity is higher during their visit than in their daily lives, and that physical activity made people more likely to visit another park. Visitors to our parks and forests demonstrate repeatedly that the time they spend with their public lands is among the most valuable of their day.

Says one survey comment: *"I have been going to Tuscarora State Park for 10 years now. I have enjoyed many fun and healing activities there over the years. What I enjoy most is the hiking trails and canoeing on the lake. I enjoy hiking there even with snow on the ground. It's fun to watch others ice fishing in the wintertime and swimming at the beach in the summertime. I couldn't imagine losing my favorite place away from home."*

Much of SCORP speaks to quality of life. State park visitors were more likely than the average citizen to cite physical health as a primary reason for being outside, and agreed that the facilities available in state parks provided a variety of opportunities to improve physical health. Those surveyed overwhelmingly supported future development of active amenities (trails, canoe launches, playgrounds) in the parks.

## Our Communities, Towns and Cities Surrounding Public Lands?

The Great Allegheny Passage is a 125-mile bike trail that links Point State Park in downtown Pittsburgh through many small towns past Ohiopyle State Park and the surrounding mountains to Cumberland, Maryland. This bike/hike trail created revenue increases by 25% among the businesses in the towns along the trail. It's no surprise that 75% of the business owners who opened a business in the two years prior to the study's publication cited the trail as a primary reason for their choosing a trail-adjacent location.

Three hundred miles east, the City of Philadelphia reviewed the impact of its park system on property values and discovered good news as well. Real estate located within a mere 500 feet of a park (measuring at least one acre in area) was worth five percent more than an equivalent property. For the city, this means millions of dollars in budget capital. But even a smaller community can translate a five percent increase in property taxes to thousands of dollars for better schools, more libraries, and enhanced community services like police and fire protection. With 117 state parks in 60 of Pennsylvania's 67 counties, the potential impact is monumental.

## State Forests Have Their Own Role

Drinking water, habitat, and air quality are all improved by the existence of forest. Forested lands provide filtration of runoff and erosion prevention. In the United States, some 60 million people receive their drinking water from watersheds containing national forests and Pennsylvania's state forests contain 215,000 acres of municipal watershed. Drink it, farm with it, swim in it—every forest acre is vital to preserving the clean water that makes life possible.



## Sometimes the Best Things in Life Are FREE...Really!

Unique among our neighboring states, Pennsylvania parks and forests are truly open to the public, with no entrance fees, access fees, parking fees, or user fees. With the changing seasons, our parks offer new ways to enjoy them every time you visit. This includes the updating and enhancing of public facilities, campgrounds, trails, and playgrounds. How valuable is it to have 2.5 million acres of protected public lands free for the visiting...you do the math

Finally, the impact of spending time outdoors "speaks for itself." When quiet is a commodity and natural beauty fills your view in every direction - you don't need a report to tell you the quality of your life has been upgraded.

If, as demonstrated by SCORP, 46 percent of Pennsylvanians find relaxation, peace of mind, the opportunity to be in nature or simple fun, to be the chief benefits of outdoor recreation, then Pennsylvania has something for you.

## Wendy & Company Do It Up Right

*"It started over 15 years ago," says Wendy Duchene of Pittsburgh. "Our friends Howard and Claire Davidson, along with a couple of their friends and kids, reserved a cabin at Moraine State Park for the week between Christmas and the New Year. Other friends joined in, and before we knew it we had five cabins reserved. It's been that way ever since. (See bottom photo on page 1) In our group, we've got wonderful musicians and incredible cooks. They bring their guitars and their favorite recipes and we each take turns playing host in our cabins. I find myself taking more hikes, watching more sunsets, taking more time to connect with the people in my life that matter to me while we're at Moraine than any other time during my year. And our kids - who have all remained friends over the years - have grown from snowball fights to joining the old guys in the band - although they can still be counted on to mount the occasional snowball ambush."*

# 2011 PPF Award Nominations

Franklin D. Roosevelt often said that “forests are the lungs of our land, purifying the air, and giving fresh strength to our people.” Let’s take the time to recognize the individuals and groups who spend so much time focused on the importance of caring for our “lungs!”

Nominate a park, forest, friends group or person that you think should be recognized for their good work this year. The Pennsylvania Parks and Forests Foundation established an awards program in 2007 to draw well deserved attention to the outstanding service, programs and exemplary work being done at state parks and forests. The awards will be presented at the 5th Annual Banquet to be held on May 1, 2012 at the Harrisburg Country Club.



TO SUBMIT  
A NOMINATION or  
for information about  
sponsoring an award,  
please visit our website:  
[paparksandforests.org](http://paparksandforests.org)  
or contact Marci Mowery  
(717) 236-7644,  
[mmowery-ppff@pa.net](mailto:mmowery-ppff@pa.net)

DEADLINE FOR  
AWARD NOMINATIONS  
is December 30, 2011

## AWARD CATEGORIES

- **Cliff Jones Keystone Legacy Award**

This is the top honor, given to a group, individual, or business—chosen at the discretion of PPF.

- **President’s Award**

This award recognizes outstanding citizens or businesses that have made an impact in protecting opens space, conservation, outdoor recreation or volunteerism.

- **Joseph Ibberson Government Award**

This is given to a person or department at any level of government to recognize their work in the stewardship of Pennsylvania’s state park and forest system.

- **Park of the Year**

This award is designed to recognize a park for their exemplary or innovative work in any or all of the following: customer service; education; programming or recreation; stewardship of the natural, cultural, or historic assets; and/or accommodation of special needs of visitors.

- **Forest of the Year**

This award is designed to recognize a forest district for its innovative and exemplary work in both forest management and recreation for a wide range of activities.

- **Volunteerism Awards**

Four awards are given for recognition of achievements made by friends groups, individuals, or non-profits. These include awards for volunteerism, improvement, and education.

- **Young Volunteer Award**

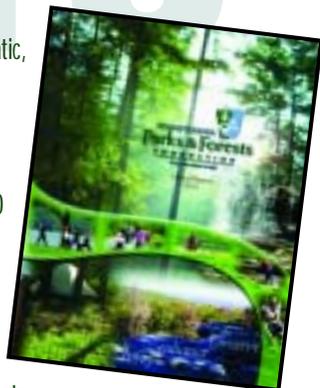
This award recognizes a significant contribution to a park or forest by a person under the age of 25. The contribution could be in volunteer hours, a significant project, an innovative idea, or more.

## 2010 Annual Report

Looking back at our accomplishments in 2010, we couldn’t help but feel a sense of pride in the work of our friends groups and of our staff.

### DID YOU KNOW?

- Ninety percent of all PPF expenses are programmatic, with only ten percent used for administration and fundraising. Donations to parks, forests, and friends groups support their efforts 100 percent.
- Over 38,000 volunteer hours were logged in 2010 by friends groups – the equivalent of \$820,801 – in labor to state parks and forests.
- Our friends groups completed over 300 service projects and special events and raised more than \$211,000 for park and forest programs and improvements.
- To read more, download the report at [www.paparksandforests.org/press.html](http://www.paparksandforests.org/press.html)



## What’s Ahead in 2012

We’ve been busy at PPF, looking ahead to the year to come. Some of the items that lay on the horizon include:

- A partnership with Keystone Smiles Americorps to place three Americorps volunteers in state parks. These volunteers will work towards engaging local youth and seniors in outdoor recreation and volunteerism as well as assisting the parks’ friends groups
- Enhancement and development of inclusive recreation programming and events to accommodate people of all abilities
- A focus on play—why you need it, what it does for you
- Fundraising to build playgrounds in state parks
- Corporate partnerships for projects in state parks and state forests
- A new and improved Great Pennsylvania Outdoor Challenge
- Volunteer opportunities and creation of additional friends groups

## Volunteer Recognition



Volunteer Tom Frazier

The Beatles once sang, “I get by with a little help from my friends,” and in our state parks and state forests, volunteers play an important role. **Tom Frazier** volunteers at Marsh Creek State Park, keeping areas of the park—like the Main Day Use Area—beautiful. He volunteers like clockwork every Wednesday – unless it rains – and then he’ll come Tuesday. He’s Marsh Creek’s ‘Wednesday, unless it’s Tuesday Guy’ and his reliability is sincerely appreciated.

Like the motto of the US Postal Service, Tom ignores snow and other inclement weather because he knows he is needed. Park staff appreciated his dedication more than ever during the past year’s heavy snowfalls. His many years of experience allow him to anticipate potential concerns.

This mighty volunteer is 88 years old and still going strong. Grateful staff say mere words do not cover the scope of his dedication and hard work.

*Tom is a great friend to the Marsh Creek State Park, staff and the visitors who enjoy the results of his labor.*

*“I get by with a little help from my friends”*

## Lake Habitat Improvement at Gifford Pinchot State Park

The Friends of Pinchot State Park held a workday to construct turtle basking platforms. Within fifteen minutes, the first turtle was spotted basking in the sun. Forty-three turtle basking platforms were completed by 22 volunteers and park staff with the assistance of the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission. The project, funded by ArcelorMittal, will include ArcelorMittal employees in the next phase - fish habitat enhancement structures.



## In Memory

It was with much sorrow that Laurel Hill State Park and the Friends of Laurel Hill State Park shared news of the death of long-time volunteer **Janice Boyko**. Janice passed away on August 29, 2011 from cancer. For ten years, she devoted countless hours at Laurel Hill State Park Complex. So very often, Janice could be found working at the visitors’ center, in the concession stand on movie nights, organizing events or helping wherever she was needed. An avid runner, she ran many races across the US to help raise money for worthy causes and worked tirelessly to organize the Friends’ Annual Mountain Laurel 5K race. The Friends were fortunate enough to spend time with Janice at the Bluegrass Festival and Mountain Laurel 5K just this past August because she was determined to help even in her frail condition. Says Volunteer Coordinator for the park complex Chris Albright, “Janice loved volunteering and spending her time at Laurel Hill and we will never forget her.”



Volunteer Janice Boyko on Earth Day 2009

# 4th annual



## The Fourth Annual Great Pennsylvania Outdoor

**Challenge** concluded on October 9th, a glorious sunny day throughout most of the Commonwealth. The GPOC raises funds for state parks and forests through individual or team outdoor challenges, while also building awareness of the exceptional outdoor recreational opportunities available here in Pennsylvania. Our Challenge to all was to make a commitment to 30 minutes of outdoor activity during the 30 days of the GPOC, believing that from that small beginning could a healthy new habit be born.

We're still waiting for all the participants' activity logs to be returned (so we can award our prizes) but we think the message resonated especially with kids this year. Hannah Martin of Mohnton logged 23 hours and 15 minutes on activities ranging from badminton and hula-hooping with her sister to hockey with her brother. Tony Reilly of Wormleysburg logged 1791 minutes (that's almost 30 HOURS) during the 30 days of his GPOC. Tony's accomplishment results in some "wallet exercise" for Dad since he pledged 5 cents for each minute of activity in Tony's log.

**GREAT JOB! ...but don't stop now!** Every season brings new ways to enjoy the outdoors. We challenged you – now challenge yourself!



*GPOC Participant Lori Young of Butler logged 33 hours during her Challenge, most of it on the water. And she did it all while working two jobs!*



On Saturday, October 1st PPFJ joined with the Friends of Colonel Denning to host the second annual Bark in the Park in celebration of Pennsylvania's dog-friendly state parks. A full and fun schedule of presenters included the Fieldwood Dog Training Center's Steppin' Woofs doggie dancers, Target's 2010 Iditarod Teacher on the Trail Herb Brambley and his sled dog team, and Dandy Dog Training's agility course. In spite of afternoon rain and cooler than hoped for temperatures, the event was enjoyed by a few hundred pups and their human companions.



# WINNERS OF THE 2011 DOGS IN THE OUTDOORS PHOTO CONTEST



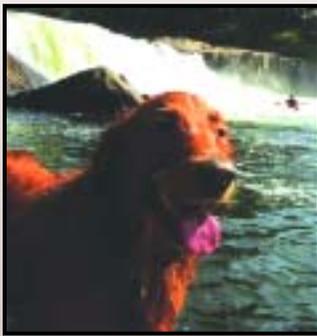
**OVERALL WINNER!**  
Sasha • owner Beth Camp



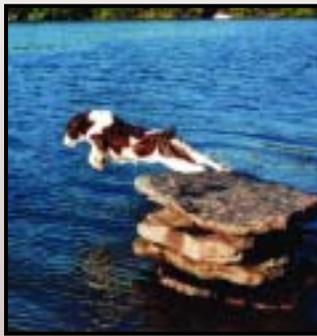
**PUPPIES WINNER!**  
Isabelle • owner Peter Silver



**HONORABLE MENTION!**  
Maggie • owner Carly Reese



**1<sup>ST</sup> Place • Murphy**  
owner Justin Sharick



**2<sup>ND</sup> Place • Copper**  
owner Carrie Campbell



**3<sup>RD</sup> Place • Zeus**  
owner Sam Zacour

## ACTION



**1<sup>ST</sup> Place • Libby**  
owner Michele Weight



**2<sup>ND</sup> Place • Tequila Mae**  
owner Shelli Merrifield



**3<sup>RD</sup> Place • Sunshine**  
owner Dale Starry

## CONTEMPLATION



**1<sup>ST</sup> Place • Woobie**  
owner Todd Gunn



**2<sup>ND</sup> Place • KO**  
owner Samantha Tufts



**3<sup>RD</sup> Place • Milee**  
owner Ashley Will

## COMPANIONSHIP

Thank you to all who entered our 2011 contest. We were amazed at the beauty and variety of the photos we received. Stay tuned for news of next year's competition.



# SNAPSHOT:

## Friends of Nolde Forest Environmental Education Center

The Friends of Nolde Forest group was formed in August 2006 as a chapter of PPF

**Contact:** Jennifer Stinson, *Chair*  
email: stinsonbio@gmail.com or 610.233.4595

**Volunteer opportunities:** Volunteers are always needed for the monthly Mansion Open House. The activities associated the Open House include native plantings, trail maintenance and the annual Race for the Ages.

**Current needs:** Active, interested members for the Friends group and for two new committees. The History Committee is committed to researching the Nolde family history and the history of the land. The Native Plant Committee recently formed this past spring.

**To make become a member** or make a donation or support the work of the Friends of Nolde Forest visit the PPF website at [www.PAParksandForests.org](http://www.PAParksandForests.org) and click on Donate Now to find the Nolde Chapter's page. You may also send a check (made payable to "PPFF" with "Friends of Nolde Forest" on the memo line) to Nolde Forest Environmental Education Center, 2910 New Holland Road, Reading, PA 19607-9448.

Nolde Forest Environmental Education Center is one of four centers dedicated to providing environmental education programs to schools and public groups. Located in Reading, Berks County, the center covers more than 665 acres of deciduous woodlands and coniferous plantations. Open to the public year-round, there are ten miles of hiking trails under tall trees and near creeks. A short ADA-accessible trail is located near the mansion.

### VISIT

[www.DCNR.state.pa.us/stateparks/findapark/noldeforest/index.htm](http://www.DCNR.state.pa.us/stateparks/findapark/noldeforest/index.htm)  
to learn more about the history of Nolde Forest and its programs.

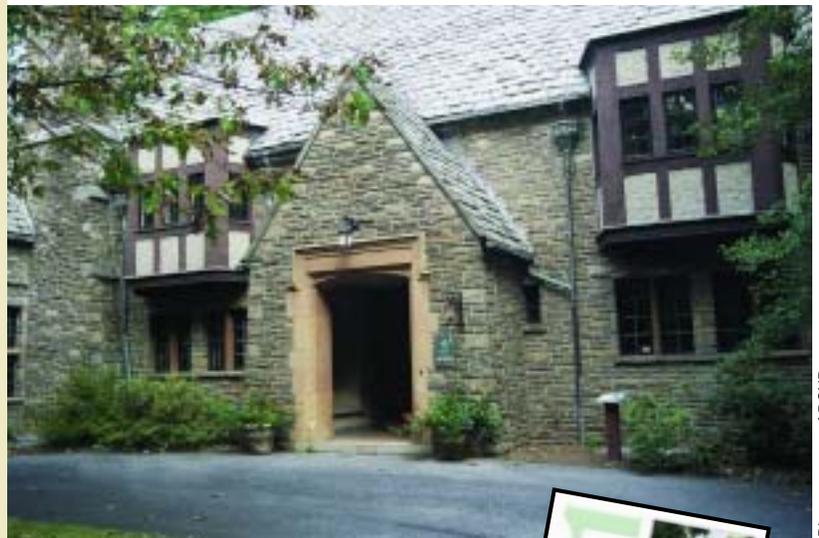


Photo courtesy of DCNR.

## 2011 State of the Parks/State of the Forests Report

The 28-page report is now available on-line or by requesting a copy from [mmowery-ppff@pa.net](mailto:mmowery-ppff@pa.net) or calling 717-236-7644. The report examines current conditions in our park and forest systems and their value to our people, our economy, and ecology of Pennsylvania.





Jacob Nolde and his single white pine

The history of Nolde Forest reads like a fairy tale. The story begins with Jacob Nolde arriving in the Reading area from Germany and making his fortune by operating one of the country's largest knitting mills. Nolde purchased the land (which would become the Center) in the early 1900s where he found a single white pine among the meadow grasses.

Nolde dreamed of the forests of his youth in Westphalia and set about replacing the trees which had long been cut as fuel for the local iron furnaces. Under the guidance of professional forester William Kohout, a half million Douglas fir and Norway spruce were planted by Nolde's death in 1916.

In 1926, Hans Nolde, a son of Jacob, initiated work on the Tudor-style mansion. When this year-round home was finished, it overlooked the sawmill pond and the lights of Reading. A garden featuring native wildflowers is adjacent to the mansion. The C. H. McConnell Environmental Education Hall near the mansion is the indoor site for year-round programming.

An Open House at the mansion, hosted by the Friends on the first Sunday of each month, allows visitors the opportunity to see the intricate iron work and beautiful stained glass windows created for the Nolde family in the late 1920s.

Nolde Forest was the first of the Commonwealth's four environmental education centers. Project 500 bond money and grants from both the federal government and the Berks County Intermediate Unit were used to first purchase then establish the center in the 1960s and 1970s.

The Friends of Nolde Forest are a small but committed group who take pride in their unique offerings and partnerships. Particularly rewarding is the Friends' relationship with Nolde Forest Pottery, a well-known red ware potter. The Nolde Forest Pottery holds a show in the mansion yearly, donating a portion of the proceeds to the Friends. Attendees eagerly anticipate the Pottery's commemorative bird plate also to benefit the Friends – this year it's a screech owl. Mark your calendar for the next show on Saturday, March 24, 2012!

The Friends' monthly Open House often includes seasonal activities. They conduct stream studies, lead butterfly or native plant walks, and fall foliage and winter walks. Seasonal creative crafts such as fish print t-shirts, Critter Creations (making Christmas decorations with natural products), Eggstra Special Eggs (decorating eggs with natural products) and nature photography are Open House favorites as well.

New in 2010 was the Run for the Ages race held by the Pagoda Pacers Athletic Club of Reading – the largest running club in Pennsylvania. The Run for the Ages is time handicapped (based on age) so anyone can win. Among the top ten winners this year was a woman in her 70s! Projected date (to be confirmed) for next year is Sunday, June 24.



Run for the Ages 2011

Jennifer Stinson

*“The Friends of Nolde Forest fill a programming niche providing non-traditional offerings to the Reading-Berks community. The First Sunday Open House draws in curious visitors who otherwise do not get the opportunity to explore the Mansion. Many attendees, after getting to know us, return for events facilitated by our Environmental Education staff. Our Friends of Nolde Forest is not a very large group but a very dedicated group – individuals who come together in their appreciation and support for Nolde Forest Environmental Education Center’s service to the community and commonwealth – and have a good time doing so!”*

—Linda Ingram, Center Manager  
Nolde Forest Environmental Education Center

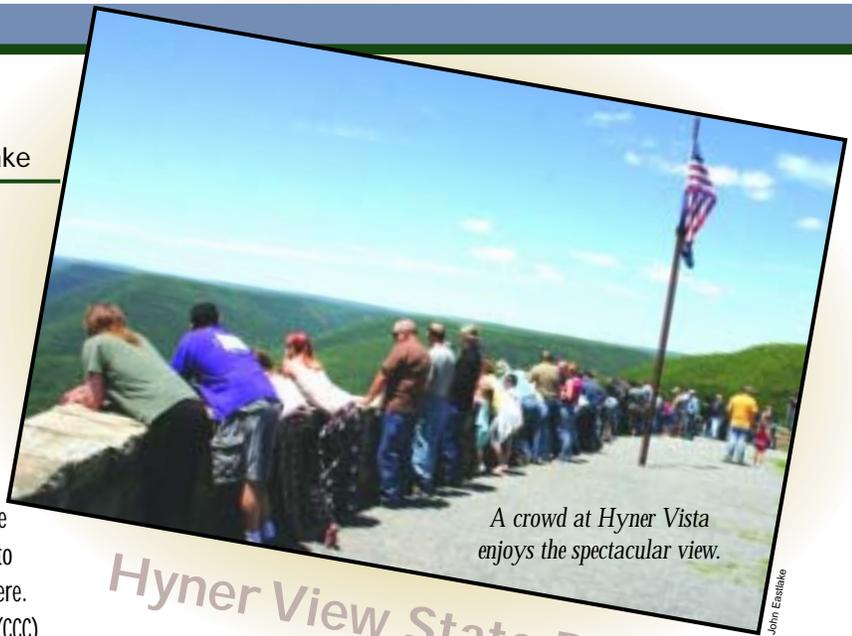
## CCC Reflections — By John Eastlake

### Quality of Life Enhanced by CCC Life and Work

Why does traffic bottleneck on the Route 15 Bridge across the Susquehanna River in Williamsport every Friday? Because so many of us are heading to the "Big Woods." The "Big Woods" are home to many of Pennsylvania's state forests, parks, and game lands. Visitors can hunt, fish, bicycle, hike, camp, raft, or simply take it easy. Our state public lands enhance quality of life for all Pennsylvanians and the many tourists who travel miles to visit. These "Big Woods" are a giant aspirin - people feel better just being there.

From 1933 to 1942, the young men of the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) followed this same Susquehanna River corridor to the many CCC camps located across north central Pennsylvania. During the early years of the corps, the boys first spent a week at one of the army training camps in Maryland or Virginia where they underwent physical examinations, received immunizations, and participated in basic training activities. They traveled by train to the CCC camps, living in tents and later in wooden barracks. For nine years, CCC recruits spent their days developing our state parks, planting trees, and building roads and trails. The spectacular vistas, pristine wilderness areas, and state parks of the "Big Woods" are accessible today because of the roads and trails forged by the CCC.

One of the most famous CCC works is the Hyner Vista in Hyner View State Park. This project was developed by the S-75 Hyner Camp. The actual camp was located along Hyner Run, north of the present-day camping area. The Hyner Camp boys built a road leading to the vista and an impressive stone wall at the site's pinnacle. No doubt these young men never envisioned the sight of hang gliders propelling from their vista. This hang gliding launching site is one of the best in the eastern United States. The vista is also the focal point of the Hyner Challenge - a 16 mile endurance race that starts in the valley below. Recently, a statue honoring the CCC initiative and its participants was erected at Hyner Vista.



A crowd at Hyner Vista enjoys the spectacular view.

### Hyner View State Park

The S-136 Sunken Branch Camp developed the Cherry Springs State Park. The park's remote location - far from urban light pollution - makes it one of the best places for stargazing in the eastern United States. Kids are wowed when they learn about and view the stars, planets, and satellites at one of the many stargazing programs offered by the park.

CCC projects immeasurably enriched the boys' lives. These fellows, now aged 90 or older, often say that Roosevelt's dream completely changed their young lives. They went from having little at home to three meals daily and a cot to sleep on at night. Their lives had purpose. They learned discipline and how to get along with one another. They learned trades and went to night school to earn their GED certificates. Wholesome food and hard work improved their health and well-being.

The CCC program provided our country and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania immeasurable benefits we still enjoy today. And while they could not know it at the time, the program mentally and physically prepared these same young men for World War II.

Seventy-five years later, we know them as **The Greatest Generation.**

## Gabby Glinski's Native Plant Garden GOES FOR THE GOLD

### Why plant a native garden?

Plants that evolve in a specific place are adapted to that area's soils and climate and can usually find the nutrients they need and survive on the region's normal rainfall. They are part of an area's ecosystem.

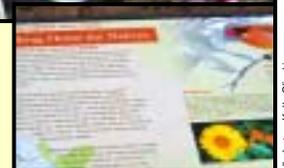
Senior Girl Scout Gabby Glinski worked with state forest staff and together they designed the plan, selected the plants, and planted and mulched this new native garden at the Loyalsock State Forest office. The species for the garden were selected for deer resistance and their ability to attract pollinators and birds. Some of the species include asters, blazing star, bee balm, butterfly weed, and white beardtongue.

To accompany the garden, Gabby designed a brochure to educate visitors about native plants and their importance in a natural or planned area. The Native Plant Garden Project earned Gabby her Girl Scout Gold Award. Support from donations to the PPF Living Gifts Habitat Fund assisted Gabby in this project.

**Congratulations Gabby on a great project and on achieving your Gold Award!**



Senior Girl Scout Gabby Glinski and volunteers worked with state forest staff to complete her native plant garden.



# Living Gifts...Give a gift for the future!

Want to make giving more meaningful? Eager to leave commercialism behind? Consider giving a living gift from the Pennsylvania Parks and Forests Foundation. Show someone you care about them and our environment by purchasing a gift in their name. Honor your family, friends and colleagues while preserving and enhancing our natural resources, for today and future generations!

**1 A gift of RECREATION...** Remember summer days spent on the playground? Support efforts to replace outdated playground equipment in state parks across the state by contributing to the Leah Vogel Memorial Playground Fund, and build memories for the next generation.

All donations receive a certificate of appreciation and updates on the progress of playground construction.



## Conserving our parks and forests...

**2 A gift of TREES, FLOWERS or SHRUBS...** help to purchase native plants, flowers and shrubs planted in state parks and forests, enhancing habitat, creating plant screens, controlling erosion, educating visitors and cleaning air. Visit the native plant garden at Loyalsock State Forest Office to see a project supported by Living Gifts.

Choose from the following:

- Flower... \$10
- Shrub... \$35
- Tree... \$50

*past, present  
and future!*

**3 A gift of HISTORY...** preserve our civilian conservation corps structures and history by adopting a CCC structure!

Adopt a Structure...\$35

Receive an adoption certificate.



**4 A LEGACY gift...** Help support the work of the Foundation and build a voice for state parks and forests!

Give a gift of membership... \$25

*Or, make a donation...this gift of support from you, or in a friend or family member's name, helps us to continue our work across the state.*

## Living Gifts Order Form

Fill out the information below and PPF will send the holiday cards associated with each giving category to you, along with a tax receipt for your donation. Each card will be printed with the following: "A gift has been made in your honor to support the work of the Pennsylvania Parks and Forests Foundation" and will include a brief project description and mailing envelope. If you are purchasing this as a holiday gift, please donate by December 15 to ensure delivery of your gifts. If you purchase four Living Gifts in any category, you will receive a free, year-long membership to PPF.

ITEM NAME	PRICE	QUANTITY	\$TOTAL
Flower	\$10		
Shrub	\$35		
Tree	\$50		
Recreation	\$		
Adopt a CCC Structure	\$35		
Become a Member	\$25		
Make a Donation	\$		
Gift Cards	\$		
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$</b>		

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

### Gift of Membership or Donation in someone's name

(please fill in the name and address of gift recipient):

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_



105 North Front Street  
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# conserve enhance enjoy

Following the success of the Pocket Ranger™ mobile application, we are pleased to announce the release of version 3.3. Thanks to YOUR ideas and suggestions, you'll find all-new features, improved functionality, and up-to-the-minute information to enhance your visit to Pennsylvania's State Parks and Forests.

## SMART PHONE APP!

The updated version of the Pocket Ranger™ Mobile Tour Guide includes enhanced navigation technology, high-resolution park maps with close-zoom capabilities, and an interactive GPS trail mapping guide available for on and offline use.

Navigating through parks and forests during areas of low cellphone reception is no longer a concern with version 3.3's superior offline capabilities.

Plan your visit to Pennsylvania's State Parks and Forests around upcoming events, interactive programs, and more with the optimized calendar of events newly available on this version.

With so much to see and do, you'll appreciate the amount of information and features available through the upgrade of the app. Planning your visit to Pennsylvania's state parks and forests has never been easier!

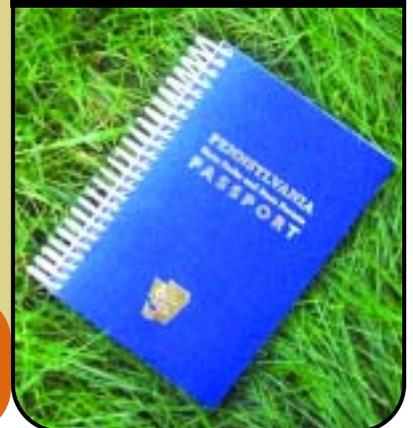


## PASSPORT TO FUN!

Looking for the perfect holiday gift?

Why not consider a copy of the Passport? Give something really special to those outdoor enthusiasts on your holiday giving list. Passport to Pennsylvania's State Parks and Forests is \$14 (includes shipping and handling) Pair it with a state park gift card (available at [www.pa.reserveworld.com/AddRetail.aspx](http://www.pa.reserveworld.com/AddRetail.aspx)) and you create a gift that keeps on giving.

[www.PaParksAndForests.org](http://www.PaParksAndForests.org)



The Pocket Ranger™ Mobile Tour Guide can be downloaded from the iTunes Store and Android's Market, or directly at [StateParkApps.com](http://StateParkApps.com). Download your Official Guide for Pennsylvania State Parks & Forests today. A product from Parks by Nature.