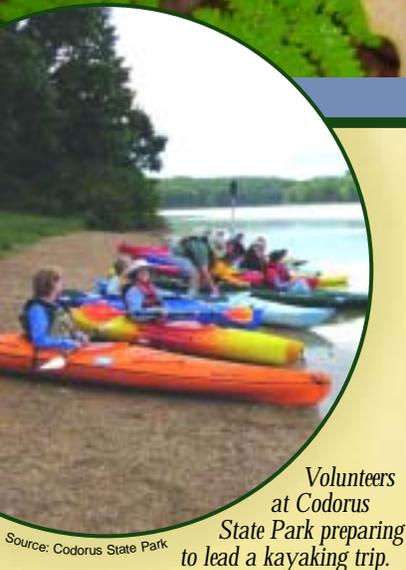


Penn's Stewards

News from the Pennsylvania Parks & Forests Foundation • Spring 2013



Volunteers at Codorus State Park preparing to lead a kayaking trip.

Source: Codorus State Park

In This Issue

- PG: 1 Oh! The Places You'll Go!!
- PG: 2 President's Message
GPOC
- PG: 3 Oh! The Places You'll Go!!
continued
- PG: 4 ECO Camp
Memorial Funds
- PG: 5 Playground Wish List
Project Partners
- PG: 6 More to Pollen
- PG: 7 Friends of Pinchot
- PG: 8 Education of the CCC
A Snapshot in Time
- PG: 9 A Day in the Life
Photo Contest
- PG: 10 7th Annual Awards Banquet
PPFF New Board Members
- PG: 11 Cinquain Poetry Contest
Winners
Keystone Fund
Membership
- PG: 12 Free Booklets
Planned Giving

Contact us:

Pennsylvania Parks &
Forests Foundation
1845 Market Street, Suite 202,
Camp Hill, PA 17011
(717) 236-7644
www.PaParksAndForests.org

Oh! The Places You'll Go!!

What would you like to do and see? What is there to learn in Pennsylvania's parks and forests? There are hundreds of opportunities for discovery in the outdoors. DCNR's Outdoor Programming Services Division within the Bureau of State Parks helps you do just that through their natural history, cultural history, environmental education, and GOPA (Get Outdoors PA) programs. In 2012 alone, park educators provided 10,501 programs for 387,055 visitors.

We Pennsylvanians are fortunate to have several state parks dedicated to environmental education, such as the Jacobsburg, Jennings, Kings Gap, and Nolde Forest environmental education centers. Nescopeck State Park and the Tom Ridge Environmental Center at Presque Isle State Park also focus on outdoor learning. Don't live close to one of these parks? Do not fret, there are many state park and state forest program options for you and your family. *continued on page 3*



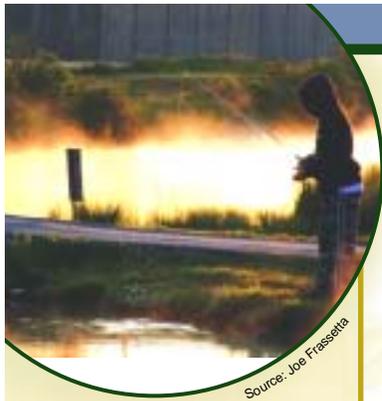
Photo credit: DCNR



Photo credit: DCNR



Photo credit: DCNR



Source: Joe Frassetta

Spring early morning fishing.

President's Message

Marci Mowery



"...spring is a great time to set goals..."

Our theme this year is *The Outdoors is for Everyone* and our plan is to provide you with the tools, encouragement, and information you need to explore your Pennsylvania. This year's first edition of our newsletter will feature informative articles relating to education... in the very broad sense of the word.

By the time you read this message, we will be well into the third month of the year. This is a great time to check in with yourself to see if you have kept the goals or resolutions that you made in the beginning of the year. Have you? If not, what happened?

Personally, I think spring is a great time to set goals—there is so much change in the air—birds are returning, trees begin to bud, and flowers slowly start to push their way through the hardened ground. Perhaps we should take a hint from nature and plan our changes for spring!

We think a lot about change here at the Foundation, which includes how we might help you meet some of your goals. To this end, we are revamping our Great Pennsylvania Outdoor Challenge. Read our teaser below, and keep your eye on our website for additional information.

One way to make a change is to be inspired by role models. As February is Black History

and March is Women's History month, we are honoring two important Pennsylvanians in "A Snapshot in Time" on page 8. Perhaps our cinquain poetry contest entries will inspire you to pen your own poem about the outdoors or start a nature journal.

Students wishing to learn more about careers in conservation may be interested in applying for EcoCamp, a free week-long camp designed to introduce students to outdoor activities and careers. Or if recreation is your gig, read about the accomplishments of state parks and find out how you can find programs of interest.

We'd also like to introduce you to our newest board members, Jim and George, and to share with you little known information about...pollen? Yes, pollen, the misunderstood by-product of flowering that is educating us about climate change.

So read on, my friend. Be inspired. Reach for a dream. Set a goal. Explore.

*Yours in the Outdoors,
Marci*

Board of Directors:

Chair

Rob Wonderling
Greater Philadelphia, Chamber of Commerce

Vice Chairman

William Forrey
Retired, Bureau of State Parks

Secretary

Brian J. Clark
Buchanan, Ingersoll & Rooney

Treasurer

Gary Smith
Retired, DCNR

Directors

Senator David Argall
Pa Senate, 29th District

George Asimos
Saul Ewing LLP

Darla Cravotta
Allegheny County Executive Office

Jim Fields
SAP America

Maxine Harrison
Chair, Friends of Lyman Run and
Cherry Springs Dark Sky Fund

Chris Joyce
Recreation Equipment, Inc. (REI)

Rep. Mark Longietti
Pa House, 7th District

Andrew Mowen
Penn State University

Joanne Raphael
PPL Corporation

Barb Sexton
Chesapeake Energy

Ex-Officio

Richard Allan,
Secretary, DCNR

Honorary Members

Linda McKenna Boxx
John C. Oliver III

Advisory Board

Hank Barnette

Staff:

Marci Mowery
President

Lisa Salvatore
Bookkeeper

Pam Metzger
Membership/Volunteer Coordinator

Brittany Howell
Public Relations/Outreach Coordinator

Get Ready...Set...Join
the Great Pennsylvania
Outdoor Challenge 2013!!

Looking for something to motivate you
to keep your new year's resolutions?

Trying to find the time to explore new

state parks and forests? Always wanted to try mountain biking

but didn't know where to start? Then tune in soon to learn more

about the **2013 Great Pennsylvania Outdoor Challenge.**

The 2013 GPOC is designed to bring people together to utilize the outdoors to improve health and reconnect to family and friends. As part of our 2013 theme *The Outdoors is for Everyone*, we'll help you discover how the outdoors is for you, while giving you the chance to earn prizes for doing fun stuff in the outdoors! **Stay tuned for more details soon!**

5th annual



Oh! The Places You'll Go!! *continued from front cover*

Organized programs and trainings include:

- **Adventure Camps** are a partnership between DCNR and various urban community organizations targeting youth between the ages of 13 and 15. Youth explore their state parks, forests, and community parks while learning to kayak, catch their first fish, or connect technology to recreation through geocaching. In 2012, eight camps were offered with 150 participants.
- **DiscoverE** is a series of outdoor programs for young people ages 4-17. Young learners explore the outdoors through structured play; reinforced by walks, exploration, stories, and crafts. Older youth are challenged and gain recreational skills by conducting special projects.
- **Exploring Careers Outdoors** is a week-long camp for students in grades 10-12 who participate and learn about the diverse career opportunities that exist throughout our state parks and forests (see ECO Camp on page 4).
- Pennsylvania State Parks partners with Gander Mountain to offer a program for **First-Time Campers** at participating parks. For only \$20, campers get two nights of camping, discounts, equipment rental, and hands-on camping instruction from state park expert campers. In 2012, 19 state parks participated; 74 camping reservations were made as part of the First Time Camper program; nearly 300 visitors experienced camping in a state park for the first time!

Public programs are offered on a wide range of topics. Hike through a bog and discover insect-eating plants, bike down an old railroad bed, taste freshly made maple syrup, or sneak up on an American woodcock to view its mating dance up close!

In the spirit of starting the new year by "Getting Outdoors PA!", 13 state parks offered First Day Hikes on January 1, 2012. There were 457 participants.

Environmental Education Programs for Students and Educators

Did you know that Pennsylvania state park educators offer programs designed to help students meet academic standards and provide professional development for classroom teachers?

Here are a few of the parks' education programs:

- **Watershed Education** is an educational, watershed-based, interdisciplinary program for students in grades 6-12, promoting classroom and field research, hands-on ecological investigations, networking, partnerships, stewardship, and community service.
 - 6,151 students are active participants in the program;
 - 177 schools are active in the program;
 - 96 watershed education programs were offered during the 2011-12 school year, serving 3,424 participants

- **PA Land Choices** is a grade 6-12 program filled with activities and information to develop an understanding of the value of natural resources, sustainable communities, and the importance of land use planning. In 2012, 61 programs reached 3,397 participants.

- **Teacher Workshops** for 2,743 educators included instruction on topics such as songbirds, watersheds, biodiversity, monarch butterflies, mushrooms, survival, spiders, nature journaling, archaeology, forestry, wild edibles, and wildlife management. ❖



Photo credit: DCNR



Photo credit: DCNR

To learn more about DCNR programs, visit:
<http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/Calendar/list.asp>

ECO Camp

Each year the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources offers a unique week-long residential camp for high school youth from across the state. **The camp is called Exploring Careers Outdoors Camp or ECO Camp for short.**

The week is filled with action-packed, hands-on activities and recreational adventures in Pennsylvania's state parks and forests. Kids enjoy learning about conservation, recreation, and careers in natural resources. Key topics and programming surround the themes of water, land, forests, and wildlife. Activities include camping, fishing, hiking, river rafting, biking, and geology explorations just to name a few.

Youth participating in the camp may have opportunities for continued involvement with agency staff and programs through an established mentoring program and other options such as internships or job shadowing.

This year camp will be held July 7 – 12 and is offered free of charge to youth entering 10th – 12th grades. Camp is at the Kirby House, near Nescopeck State Park located about ten miles south of Wilkes-Barre, PA. The facility offers beautiful surroundings and comfortable sleeping accommodations.

For more information about the camp and the application process please visit: <http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/ecocamp/index.htm>



Photo credit: DCNR

Photo credit: DCNR

McCurdy and Sloboda Honored at Linn Run State Park

One of the most humbling ways the Foundation can help the parks and forests is through the management of donated funds. We always take our role as steward of contributions seriously but there is something extraordinary about an account established to honor the memory of a beloved friend or family member.

Family and friends of the late Vanda McCurdy of Latrobe and of the late Matthew Sloboda of North Huntingdon each established just such an account at Linn Run State Park. The families have been working with Douglas Finger, the Park Manager at the Linn Run/Laurel Mountain complex, to select and install two handcrafted benches surrounded by native trees and shrub plantings. "The families wanted to have something done at the park in memory of their loved ones, and at the same time do something of benefit for the park," said Mr. Finger. Each family worked to raise \$3,500 and then helped with the installation of the benches and placement of native plants.

The families gathered together for installation of the memorials in July 2012 and shared an afternoon of happy memories. At the end of the day, they pledged to continue to support the kinds of projects at Linn Run that both Vanda and Matthew would have enjoyed.

Donating to a fund is a tangible way to see your best intentions shared with others.

For more information go to www.paparksandforests.org and click on "Be a Supporter – Donate."

Memorial or Honorary Gifts You can honor the memory of a special person or joyous occasion while supporting PPF's work in conservation, recreation, education, and volunteerism in our state parks and forests. Send gifts to: PPF, 1845 Market St, Suite 202, Camp Hill, PA 17011 or download a form at www.PaParksAndForests.org

Playground Wish List



When you wish upon a star, you can make dreams come true! As you know from reading our publications and eCommunications, the Leah Vogel Memorial Playground Fund is a cause near and dear to our hearts. What began as a commitment—now fulfilled—to build a playground at Samuel Lewis State Park in memory of Leah (see the Fall 2012 issue of Penn's Stewards) has expanded to a larger goal of placing a playground in every state park that needs one.

To that end, you'll see events and campaigns popping up everywhere in support of the Fund. And as each wish is granted and each playground is built, every red star on our map will turn to green. For more information go to www.paparksandforests.org and click on "Be a Supporter – Donate."



Building Business and Community Partnerships

We've been gathering up a lot of wishes lately. Aside from the playgrounds, we asked staff at our state parks and forests to dream a little dream...only bigger. They came up with a list of things they know you would love to have — like enhanced educational opportunities, improvements to the campgrounds or other visitor facilities, new construction or accessibility improvements. Whatever they thought visitors would need and enjoy, we wanted to know about it.

We've collected those ideas and organized them on our website and will be working with corporate and business partners to match available funds and manpower to unfulfilled projects. If your business (or your employer) is seeking a way to give back to their local community, you might check out the list for yourself. If you visit the 'Be a Supporter – Donate' page of our website, you'll find a link to the wish list. Each one of those red stars represents a wish (or series of wishes) for the state park or forest in question. Click the star to find out what's needed. If you see a match, please contact Marci Mowery at either mmowery-ppff@pa.net or 717.236.7644.

We Can Cross That Off the List!

Recreational Equipment Incorporated (REI) Bedford Distribution Center granted the first wish from our list of projects and needs in state parks and forests. The Rangers at Canoe Creek and Trough Creek State Parks wanted to step out of their cars and patrol the parks via bike. Leaving the cars allows the rangers to have better interaction with visitors, reduces pollution, models active behavior for visitors, saves wear and tear on vehicles, and is healthier for the ranger.

REI agreed to provide two Novara bicycles for the rangers to develop a bike patrol program. In addition to training the park rangers on bicycle maintenance, REI staff will offer the training program to the public. **Thank you REI** for your commitment to our parks and forests. Next time you visit these two parks, say hi to the rangers and check out their new wheels! To learn more about REI, visit REI.com.



PPFF's Brittany joined REI's Jill Latuch, Andy St. John (park manager), Chris Joyce and Tom Porreca.

There's More to Pollen than Meets the Nose!

DID YOU KNOW...

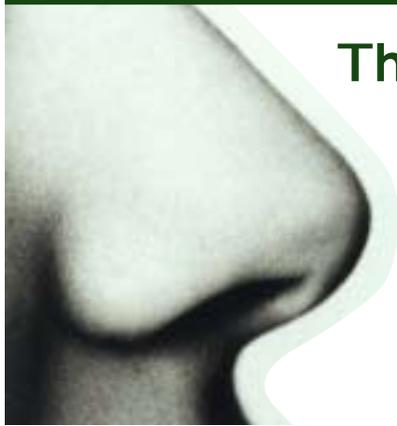


photo credit: Beatriz Moisset

Pollen From Pine Tree photo taken at the Peace Valley Nature Center in Pennsylvania.

- When most of us think of springtime pollen we picture cars, walkways, and lawn furniture covered with a greenish yellow film. This is generally pollen from pine trees. It is heavy in weight and falls out of the air easily and surprisingly is NOT the tree pollen that triggers most pollen allergies even though it gets a lot of the blame.
- Pollens most likely to trigger allergies are light-weight and as such can remain in the air for long periods of time, are easily carried by the wind and travel great distances to germinate.
- Trees whose pollen is most likely to affect those with allergies include the male Ash, Box Elder, Elm, Hickory, Pecan, and Mountain Cedar. When you landscape, select female versions of these same trees as they produce no pollen. Many trees such as the Cherry, Magnolia, Dogwood, and Redbud offer a wonderful addition of color while still being allergy friendly.



photo credit: PA Horticultural Society

For new tree plantings, select "allergy friendly" species such as Redbud or Dogwood.



- Weather can greatly affect the intensity of the season as well as the daily count. A late winter freeze of snow or ice can greatly reduce pollen production. A winter of mild temperatures followed by a spring of warm weather causes increased production. Dry windy days enable the almost invisible grains to spread for miles, whereas a heavy rain can clear the air and literally provide a breath of fresh, pollen free air—at least for a little while. Give yourself an advantage by checking the local weather for the pollen count in your area, and save outdoor activities for days when the pollen count is low. Levels of pollen tend to be highest from early morning to mid-morning, from 5a.m. to 10a.m.
- Because many of the allergy-triggering pollens are invisible, they can easily infiltrate your home and office by clinging to clothes, pets, book bags, brief cases, or by being blown in through open doors as you come and go. Using a high efficiency particle arresting air purifier will eliminate all types of pollen from your indoor air.

So what's GOOD about pollen?

Turns out those irritating specks are great communicators. All flowering plants produce pollen grains. Their distinctive shapes can be used to identify the type of plant from which they came. Since pollen grains are well preserved in the sediment layers in the bottom of a pond, lake or ocean, an analysis of the pollen grains in each layer tell us what kinds of plants were growing at the time the sediment was deposited. They are the most abundant, easily identifiable, and best-preserved plant remains. Simply put — we can track climate change over very long periods by identifying pollen in core samples. The more we know about what has occurred, the better informed we are about what WILL occur as our global climate changes.

To learn more about climate change and allergens, please visit:
<http://www.cdc.gov/climatechange/effects/allergens.htm>

Focus on Friends Friends of Gifford Pinchot State Park

The 2,338-acre Gifford Pinchot State Park, located in Lewisberry, offers many recreational opportunities to its visitors. The large lake provides access to boating, fishing, and swimming. Last year more than 505,000 visitors enjoyed the campground, one of the state's largest. When Bob Deffner became park manager at Gifford Pinchot, he recognized the high-use of both the campground and hiking trails. His goal was to make those areas more accessible, safe, and usable for all visitors.

Fortunately, he has a great group of park staff and Friends volunteers to help him accomplish that mission. "The Friends of Pinchot work very closely with management and adhere to park guidelines," said Beth Kepley-McNutt, Gifford Pinchot State Park environmental education specialist. "They are very hardworking, dedicated to the park, and always willing to help in any way that they can."

The Friends of Pinchot, formed in 2009, have accomplished several projects in their short history. They have worked with the Fish and Boat Commission to develop and implement fish habitat structures and turtle basking platforms. "We enjoy working with the Commission to build the structures," said Jim Merlino, Friends Group Chair. The Friends also maintain and improve the trail network. "Sections of the trails were becoming overgrown," said Merlino. "The Friends' goal is to keep them clear enough to provide access by a ATV in the event of an emergency on the trails."

Another great idea? The Friends sell ice and firewood to campers. "This is a huge asset to the visitors because they don't even need to leave the campground to get those items," said Kepley-McNutt. Indeed the campers enjoy this luxury. Initially, the Friends gauged interest by surveying 100 campers and over 90 percent were thrilled with the potential option of purchasing ice and firewood within the park. The volunteers set to work splitting and bundling wood and providing ice. They posted a list of community stores where those items could be bought as well.

The Friends also raise funds through clothing sales, grants, donations, and memberships. These funds are then invested back into the park through various projects.

Currently the Friends are working on a three-phase playground goal. They have completed 'Phase I' by installing a playground in the Quaker Race location. They have plans for another in the campground area, and yet a third in the Conewago Day Use area.



photo credit: Friends of Pinchot State Park

The Friends enjoy interacting with Pinchot visitors. Every year they hold several wildflower walks, a Friends of Pinchot open house, and a joint event with the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources called Pinchotween. "We had over 350 people involved with Pinchotween last year," said Merlino. Adults and children dress in costume and trick or treat through the campground at the fall event. The park, along with the Friends, provides awards for best costume and best decorated campsite.

The Friends of Pinchot have 39 members and 30 active volunteers. "The majority of the campground hosts are members of the Friends of Pinchot, and go out of their way to make time for all activities and requests," said Merlino. Both Kepley-McNutt and Merlino agree that the success of the Friends of Pinchot is due to an excellent partnership with park management and a dedicated board of directors.

To learn more about this Friends group, visit their website or facebook page at: <http://www.friendsofpinchot.org/home> <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Friends-of-Pinchot/>



Firewood sales are a win-win. In this photo, members bundle firewood for sale.



photo credits: Friends of Pinchot State Park

(L) The Friends purchased and assisted Park personnel installing benches at various locations. (R) The Friends built much needed porcupine cribs Jr. to be placed at various locations in the lake to give fish shelter for spawning. They also give shelter from predators for young fish.

Education at the CCC — By John Eastlake

In the early days of the Civilian Conservation Corps, the Army and the Department of Forests and Waters saw a need to educate the young men enrolled in the program. Many of the boys only had a 7th grade education. Bernie Nye, who was an enrollee at the Scotland CCC camp, said that he was one of only two in his Company (200 men) that had a high school education. His camp developed the Caledonia State Park.

There was an Education Advisor at most of the camps. They taught Spelling, English, Mathematics, etc. The Army and forestry personnel were also important in the education process. The camp's doctor would teach first aid and the camp commander might teach 'Social Courtesy'. The forestry personnel taught carpentry, stone masonry, and blacksmithing. Most of the forestry education was on-the-job training in the field. Even some of the enrollees taught subjects such as plumbing, electrical wiring, taxidermy, etc. I wrote about George "Bud" Bush previously, (see *Penn's Stewards Newsletter*, Spring 2012) who taught Art at the Worlds End Camp.

The Educational Advisor also oversaw the camp's newspapers. These had great names such as "Bag Puncher," "Black Forest News," "Green Guardsmen," "The Rattler," "Woodland Whispers," "Chip Chop Chats" - to name a few. The camp newsletter taught enrollees journalism and art. All the education enrollees were required to write and submit articles.



This photo was taken at the S-121 Monument Camp located in the Sprout State Forest, Centre County. The Instructor was Capt Potter.

The education process was strictly voluntary and most of the subjects were taught in the evening on the enrollee's free time. Several of the former CCC boys said that they started long distance education and often had to travel 50-60 miles in the back of a truck to such places as the Williamsport Technical Institute. For you Penn State fans, Rocky Graziano told me that he took a class in Welding in the basement of Old Main. He went on to Piper Aircraft for 30 years. In a nutshell, the CCC boys really appreciated the opportunity for some education.

A SNAPSHOT IN TIME

In honor of Black History Month and

Women's History Month, we present to you a piece of Pennsylvania History

Mira Lloyd Dock 1853-1945

Mira Lloyd Dock, born in Harrisburg, served as a surrogate mother to her younger siblings after the death of their mother. Twenty years later, at the age of 45, she graduated from the University of Michigan, where she studied botany, chemistry, and geology.

Mira loved forestry and was involved in the city beautification movement in Harrisburg. She worked diligently to reverse the trend of streets strewn with sewage, garbage and coal ashes into a city with parks, clean water, and paved streets.

In 1901, Mira earned a seat as the first woman ever appointed to a governmental position on the State Forestry Commission. During her 12 years of service on the Commission, one million acres of forest became reserves.

It was through the new school of forestry (Mont Alto) that Dock had her greatest influence on forestry. From its first year in 1903 until it was subsumed by the Pennsylvania State College in 1929, she was the professor of botany. Fortright and charming, Mira Lloyd Dock left her students enlightened and Penn's Woods healthier.

An historic marker about Dock's life can be found on Front Street in Harrisburg.



Pennsylvania State University

Ralph Brock 1881-1959

Ralph Elwood Brock was among the first class of foresters to graduate from the Pennsylvania State Forester Academy (now Penn State Mont Alto) in 1906. But this was not the only first. . . .Ralph is believed to be the first African American to be trained in the field of forestry in the United States.

Brock was born February 15, 1881, near Pottsville. After graduation from the Howard School in Wilmington, DE, he became a student at Mont Alto. It is believed Brock's interest in plants was cultivated by a high school principal, a friend of Dr. Joseph Rothrock (the father of forestry in Pennsylvania). While employed at the former Mont Alto Reserve, now Michaux State Forest, Brock's passion for forestry grew, and he became a student of forestry at the school.

Upon graduation, Brock served as the Mont Alto State Forest Nursery Superintendent from 1906 to 1911. He established and oversaw a nursery at the campus, where records indicate he perfected the idea of using compost as an amendment to maintain healthy soil. He then entered the field of private forestry, serving the Chester and Philadelphia county area, along with New York City.

An historic marker about Brocks life can be found at the Penn State Mont Alto Campus.

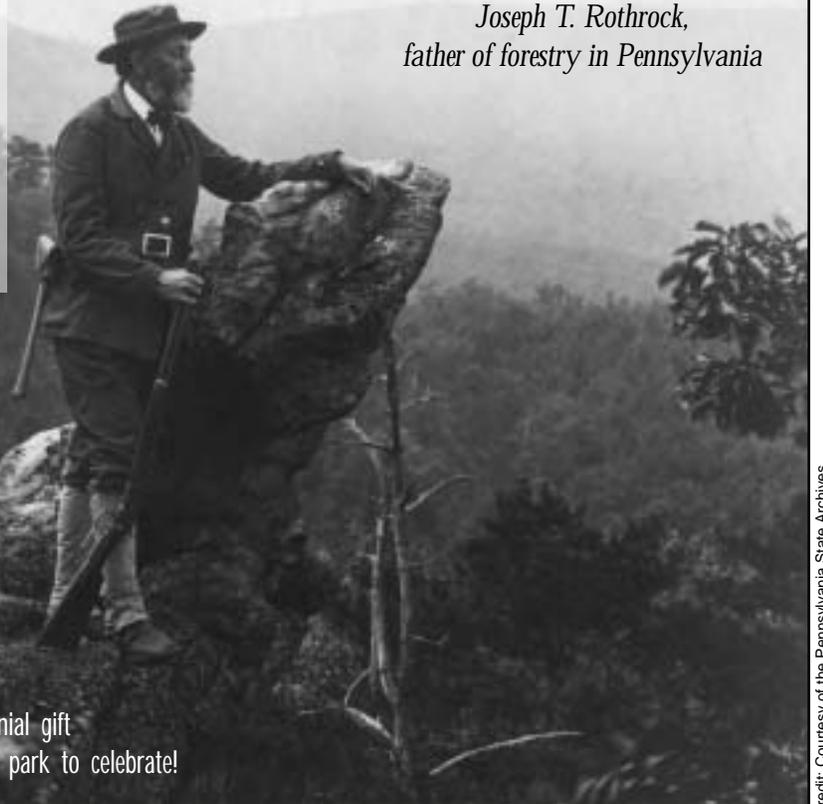


Pennsylvania State University

A Day in the Life of Pennsylvania State Parks and Forests: A Story in Photos

What wonders, vistas, and intriguing sights might you encounter during a singular visit to a state park or forest? The Foundation set aside two dates in 2013 for park and forest visitors to capture moments from ordinary to extraordinary during a day enjoying one of Pennsylvania's 120 state parks and 20 forests.

Joseph T. Rothrock,
father of forestry in Pennsylvania



Saturday April 13: Visit a state forest in honor of Joseph T. Rothrock, father of forestry. April 9th marks 174 years since his birth - what would he see in our state forests if he was still alive? Pack a lunch and your camera and take an adventure to discover the answer and share it with us.

Saturday May 25: Visit a state park in honor of the establishment of the first Pennsylvania state park, Valley Forge. In 1976, Pennsylvania donated the park to the nation as a bicentennial gift and it is now a national park. Go on a photo expedition to a state park to celebrate!

Please post photos to our Facebook page by 10 a.m. the morning after the photos were taken.

Parks and Forests Through the Seasons

There is something for everyone to enjoy in a Pennsylvania state park or forest. Show us what makes these public lands meaningful to you in pictures. Do you enjoy fishing in the spring? Hiking with your dog in the fall? Cross-country skiing in the winter? Volunteering with your family in the summer? Showcase your favorite state park and forest photos in our photo contest.

Categories include:
Appreciation of Beauty
Kids in the Outdoors
Outdoor Recreation
Volunteers in Action
Dogs in the Outdoors

2013
PHOTO
CONTEST

Three prizes will be awarded in each category. The winning photographs will be featured on the foundation's website, Facebook page, newsletter, and other electronic and print communications.

Photos may be submitted to ppffnewsletter@pa.net through the month of August. Voting begins on September 5 on the Foundation Facebook page through ShortStack at www.facebook.com/PennsylvaniaParksandForestsFoundation. All photos must be taken in a Pennsylvania state park or forest. Check www.paparksandforests.org for a complete set of rules.



Last year's winner of the "People's Choice - Best in Show"



7th Annual Awards Banquet Celebrates Leadership and Service

This is the 7th year for our parks and forests awards banquet, and this year we celebrate in a new venue. Join us on May 7th, 2013 at the West Shore Country Club in Camp Hill to celebrate the accomplishments of:



Members of the Friends of the State Line Serpentine Barrens enjoying the 2012 Awards Banquet.

For more information visit: www.paparksandforests.org and select Events, Contests, and Awards

- Keystone Legacy Award:** Western Pennsylvania Conservancy
- Government Award:** Representative William Adolph
- President's Award:** John and Jan Halter, Codorus State Park
- Park of the Year:** French Creek State Park
- Forest of the Year:** Tiadaghton State Forest
- Volunteer of the Year:** Nockamixon Trail Group
- Education Volunteer of the Year:** Pat and Carl Leinbach (King's Gap and Michaux)
- Improvement Volunteer:** Paul Yost and the Friends of Milton State Park
- Young Volunteer of the Year:** Hailey Freeman, Pine Grove Furnace State Park

Date: May 7th, 2013

Place: West Shore Country Club, Camp Hill

Time: 5:30 cash bar, 6:30 dinner

Program: Cocktail reception, dinner, awards program

Emcee: Gary Smith

Cost: \$40 (registration deadline April 23, 2013)

IN BOARD NEWS...

We would like to thank former Board Member Bill Mifflin for his service to the Foundation and welcome new Board Members George Asimos and Jim Fields.



George Asimos, partner of the legal firm Saul Ewing, has more than 28 years of experience with land use practice and real estate. He spends significant time advising landowners and nonprofit land trusts about conservation easements and associated real estate planning. He has drafted or advised landowners on more than 300 conservation easement donations protecting more than 80,000 acres of land in more than ten states. George has served on several other boards including but not limited to the North American Land Trust, Brandywine Conservancy Environmental Committee, and Chadds Ford Historical Society. He earned a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Virginia.

George eagerly joined the board saying, "How could I say no? Some of our family's best memories have been and continue to be found in the Pennsylvania parks and forests." His favorite outdoor activities include camping, hiking, trail running, canoeing, and hunting. His family considers sitting by the campfire at state parks to be the ideal family time.



Jim Fields is Vice President of Customer Experience Marketing at SAP Americas, the world's largest business applications software company. He has more than 20 years of experience in the high tech industry. Prior to joining SAP, he served in marketing leadership roles at Unisys, SciQuest, SCT, and Datalogix International.

He earned a Bachelor of Arts in writing from St. Lawrence University.

Jim's favorite outdoor activities include running at Ridley Creek State Park, sailing at Marsh Creek State Park, hiking, golfing, and raising chickens. He joined the board in hopes of preserving the heritage of Pennsylvania's state parks and forests. "The two main things I love about our state parks and forests are their natural beauty and their accessibility," said Jim. He looks forward to helping the Foundation raise awareness about the challenges facing public lands and find creative solutions to those challenges.

Cinquain Poetry Contest Winners

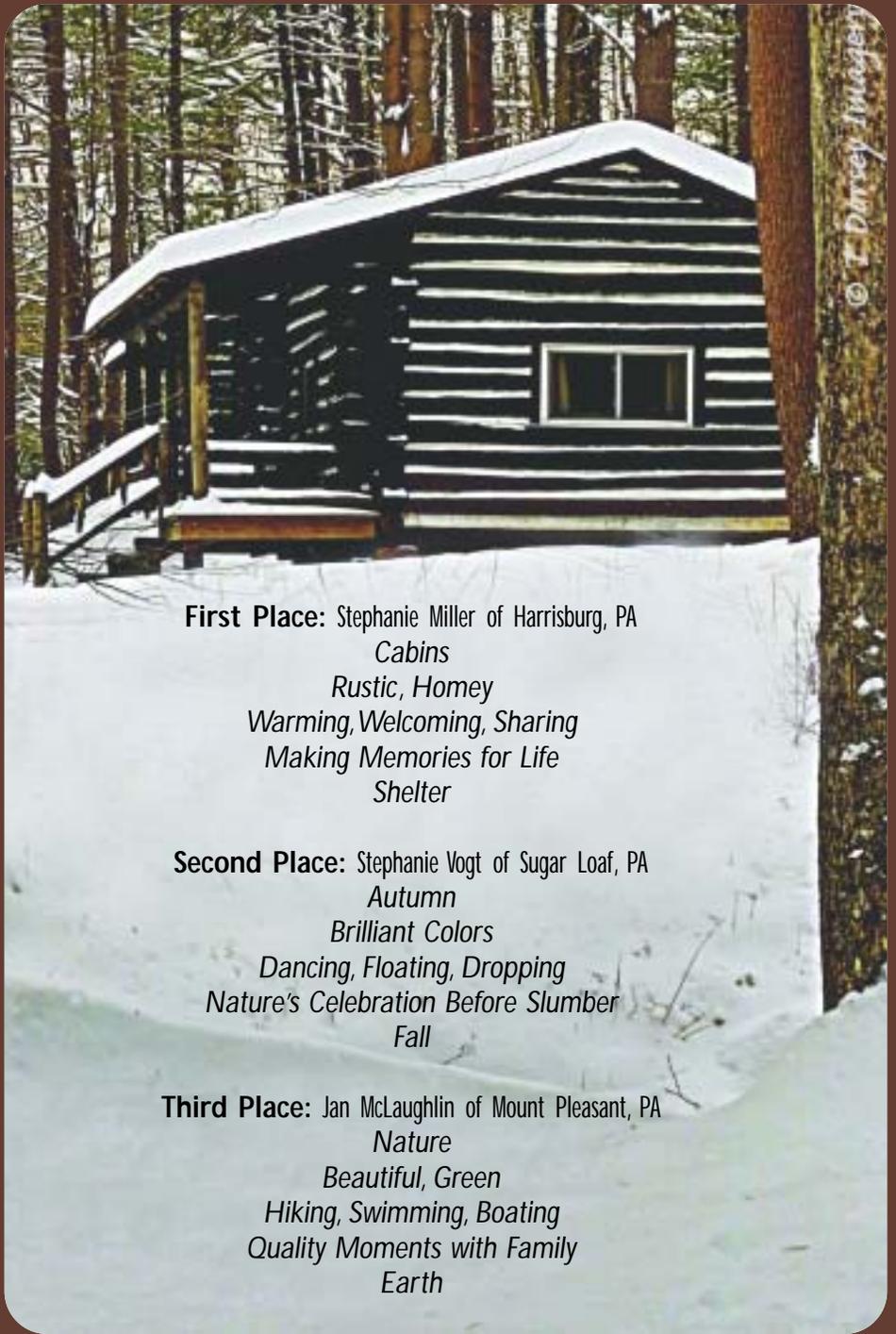
Congratulations to our
Take Five in the Outdoors
Cinquain Poetry Contest winners!

These five-line poems fit in perfectly with our
"Take Five" initiative. Visits to Pennsylvania's
state parks and forests provided the
inspiration for our talented poets.

*Visit a state park or
forest and let it inspire
YOUR creative side!*

2013 marks the 20th Anniversary of the Keystone Recreation, Park & Conservation Fund.

Over the next year, the
Foundation will be joining
sister organizations to celebrate
the importance of this fund.



First Place: Stephanie Miller of Harrisburg, PA
*Cabins
Rustic, Homey
Warming, Welcoming, Sharing
Making Memories for Life
Shelter*

Second Place: Stephanie Vogt of Sugar Loaf, PA
*Autumn
Brilliant Colors
Dancing, Floating, Dropping
Nature's Celebration Before Slumber
Fall*

Third Place: Jan McLaughlin of Mount Pleasant, PA
*Nature
Beautiful, Green
Hiking, Swimming, Boating
Quality Moments with Family
Earth*

Keep Reading!

Check your mailing label for our new coding system. You'll see the expiration date of your membership listed or (oh no!) that it's already expired (EXP). A special code (COMPLIMENTARY) indicates that you receive our newsletter as a result of your support of one of our Chapters or a PPF Program. We and our Chapters thank you! If your membership has expired, visit our website today www.PaParksAndForests.org and click on *Be a Member-Join* or use our form to the right!

To become a member, fill out the information below and mail this form with your check for \$25 (made payable to PPF) in an envelope to:

PA Parks & Forests Foundation
1845 Market Street, Suite 202 • Camp Hill, PA 17011

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____



1845 Market Street,
Suite 202,
Camp Hill, PA 17011
(717) 236-7644
www.PaParksAndForests.org

Friend us on Facebook!
Follow us on Twitter!

NON PROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
HARRISBURG, PA
PERMIT #560

**WE'VE
MOVED!**

conserve enhance enjoy

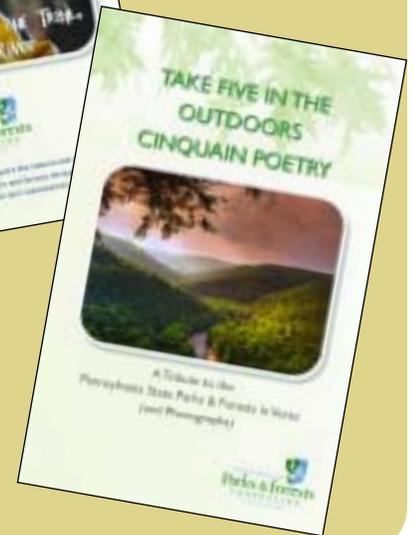
Free Booklets – Our Gift to You

What do cinquain poetry and campfire cooking have in common? Not much, aside from their availability on the PPF online store! Visit the website and click on *Browse and Shop*. In the store you'll find links to our *Happiness Over a Flame* recipe booklet and *Take Five in the Outdoors: Cinquain Poetry* compilation.

The recipes are just the thing for your next camping trip, with make-ahead instructions to save time and effort when you get to camp. And we think you'll be impressed at just how inspiring our poets found our state parks and forests. We've matched their verse to some of the photographs entered in our *Take Five in the Outdoors* photo contests and the only conclusion we could draw is that there are a lot of talented and creative people out there!

The two booklets are available at no charge as downloadable pdfs. They're our gifts to you.

www.PaParksAndForests.org



Free

Free

Plan Ahead Continue the legacy of conservation of our state parks and forests for future generations through a bequest or life income gift to PPF. For more information visit our website at www.PaParksAndForests.org/ways_to_give.html