PCPA PINE CREEK

Spring Newsletter 2021

President's Message

2020 was a busy year in spite of restrictions. We sponsored the June children's tent at the Second Sunday Makers Market, a craft festival held monthly at "Up The Crick". We partnered with Cummings Township to install a bench in memory of Toner Hollick, a charter member of PCPA, as well as an active member of the Waterville community. We participated in a craft festival at Mountain Top and Provisions, which netted many new members and orders for wearables. We designed and ordered Life Member stickers for those members who no longer receive yearly stickers. We expanded our 'wearables' selection to include new items and colors. One of our most important activities is to donate yearly to the Pennsylvania Environmental Defense Foundation (PEDF) which follows environmental infractions and issues in the state.

As we know, last year's annual PCPA picnic was cancelled due to Covid. We are planning, optimistically, to hold this year's picnic on August 7th. Tim and Cami Mahaffey have again generously offered the free use of their venue facility, The Barn at Pine Creek. This allows us plenty of easy parking, indoor restrooms, and we can hold the picnic there rain or shine.

My hope for this year is that we stay connected throughout the coming months, and that we can meet and greet in person at the annual PCPA picnic.

Mary Bennett (I got married this year!)

President

Officers

President: Mary Bennett

Vice-President: Jeff Campbell

Secretary: Lou Anne Gasperine

Treasurer: Donna Pearson



Upcoming Events

2021 Meeting Dates

April 19... Annual Meeting @ 7 PM

May 17... Meeting @ 7 PM

June 21... Meeting @7 PM

July 19... Meeting @ 7 PM

August 7... Picnic – Barn on Rte 44 @ 12 Noon – A little

Pine Creek Comedy entertainment

Sept. 20... Meeting @ 7 PM

Oct. 18 ... Election of Officers @ 7 PM

Dec. 20 ... Optional Meeting @ 7 PM

Meeting Location - Scheduled meetings are held at the DCNR Facility just north of Waterville.

Meetings during COVID are on Zoom by invitation. Simply send an email to lgasperine@verizon.net for the link.



PCPA Stickers

The PCPA have older stickers that are available for members. If you would like a sticker from a previous year, please let us know.

To all **Life Members**, there is a new Life Member Sticker. To request a Life Member sticker, please contact the secretary at lgasperine@verizon.net or send a note to PCPA, PO Box 11, Waterville, PA 17776.

PCPA Website and Email

More information concerning PCPA and our activities may be found on our website at pinecreekpcpa.org.

PCPA would like to go as green if possible If you would like to be included on our "Email News for Members", simply include your email address (or change of email address) on your Membership Application or send us an Email at lgasperine@verizon.net.



The Pine Creek Preservation Association is a non-profit 501 (c)(3) organization. Contributions are deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law. The official registration and financial information for the PCPA may be obtained from the PA Dept. of State by calling 1-800-732-0999.

Registration does not imply endorsement.

2021 Large Trash Collection

Members who own property in McHenry and Brown Townships. Information on municipal waste disposal may be found on each of the township's web site.

Brown Township -

https://pinecreekvalley.com/local-government/brown-township/ - Bulk trash pick-up on the second Saturday in November and May. More details on the township website.

McHenry Township -

https://pinecreekvalley.com/localgovernment/mchenry-township/

PCPA Special Activties

In June, the PCPA sponsored the "Kids Corner" for the Second Sunday Makers Market at "Up The Crick". PCPA Volunteers assisted with the kid's project while the parents shopped at the various merchants on the grounds. The project the kids made was a bird feeder consisting of a pinecone smeared with shortening and rolled in bird seed. A hanger was made from twine so the feeder could be hung in a tree when the children got home. Fun was had by all and watching the kids make the feeders was entertaining. Due to the COVID-19 restrictions, vendors were unable to participate at the Waterville Apple Butter Festival in 2020. As a community outreach, PCPA volunteers staffed a tent at the Mt Top Fall Fest in October. We were pleased to greet current members, answer questions, provide information, and welcome 20 new members to start off 2021!





SPECIAL MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

If you would like to remember PCPA through one of our special membership categories, please refer to the Membership Application on page 7 of the newsletter.

New Life Member

We are pleased to introduce the new Life Member **Donald and Linda Bierly**. They will be proudly added to our Life Membership Plaque.

2020 Memorial Members

This special category is for individuals who would like to honor the name and memory of a loved one.

We received memorial memberships in loving memory of:

Dr. Robert Porter Toner Hollick Larry Lehman
Alvin Kacin George Clark

Their name will be proudly added to the Memorial Membership

Plaque.

2020 Friends of Pine Creek

It is especially important to recognize that the revenue from our Friends of Pine Creek Memberships is vital to our mission, as it goes directly to our "Legal Defense Fund", which is used to support actions such as the PEDF lawsuit, and not our day-to-day operations. We want to recognize the generosity of the following individuals who went beyond their regular membership level in 2020.

Anonymous donor Kathy Asper and Ray and Susan Sipe Ronald and Barb Bierly **Gretta Bierly** Susan Brantley and Andrew Nyblade Daniel and Chris Brennan Robert and Norma Camerer Dawn to Dusk Hunting Campe Steve and Deb Eck Sara Ely and Larry Converse Jane and Dave Fennelly Jeffrey and Diane Gable John and Lou Anne Gasperine Mark and Denise Hagan Al and Debra Harakel Phil and Mary Jane Hawkins Ralph and Denise Hershberger Michael and Julie Haussener Paul and Barb Hoffmaster Tom and Kim Kozlowski Loretta Kreider Steven Liddic Christian and Brandi Lovecchio



Robin C. Miller Chris and Cathy Nolen Donna Pearson **Thomas Phillips** John and Margaret Piper Bruce and Catherine Platusich Beverly, Abbey and Chris Porter Jim and Kathy Rankin Dixie and Jerry Reber Lois Rothenberger Mark and Suzanne Ruth Sonny (Bruce) Ryan Lloyd and Sondra Simmers Virginia Thompson **Torbert Development Association** Alex Udowenko Waterville Tavern Wayd W. Wolgemuth Donald and Marybeth Young Bernie and Janet Zbicki

William and Judy McConnell

Jonathan and Kathryn McClure



Memorial for Toner Hollick

PCPA has a designated category for Memorials for those who would honor the memories of loved ones. These funds support our contributions to the PA Legal Defense Fund which, through the volunteer efforts of John Childs, follows any infractions that are detrimental to the health and environmental issues pertaining to the Pine Creek Valley.

One of our founding members, Toner Hollick of Waterville passed away in 2020. Toner was instrumental in our activities as well as an active member of the Waterville community. George Durrwachter worked with Toner on many activities and organizational boards. I cannot eulogize Toner any better than one of our past presidents George Durrwachter:

"We can be forever grateful for the service that Toner Hollick provided to the Pine Creek Preservation Association. Toner was a very detailed individual and liked to follow our bylaws to a "T", and why not, he helped to write them. He always prepared an agenda and followed that as well. Because of all the organizations that Toner was involved with, he was on the cutting edge of any happenings or challenges to the valley. One of his greatest joys was to hand out door prizes at our annual picnic. Toner would go into great detail about the donor who contributed each and every prize. It is only fitting that Cummings Township and PCPA placed a bench in his memory at the Cummings Township Recreation Park. The park was one of Toner's visions and was instrumental to make it happen."

Fun Facts of Pine Creek Valley

???? How much do you know about the Pine Creek Valley?

- 1. The rails to trails is based on the railroad path through the Pine Creek Valley. Do you know when the last train ran on the rails in the valley?
- 2. Potter County is the only place east of the Rocky Mountains where a Triple Continental Divide occurs. Into which major body of water does Pine Creek waters eventually empty?
- 3. What is the largest "creek" in Pennsylvania?
- 4. Can you name the four counties the Pine Creek flows through?
- 5. Which tributary of the West Branch Susquehanna River has the largest watershed?
- 6. The Iroquois called Pine Creek *Tiadaghton*. What does *Tiadaghton* mean?

Answers on the last page! No cheating!



2020 PCPA Financial Support Given To:

Black Forest Fire Company
Brown Twp Volunteer Fire Company
Haneyville Volunteer Fire Company
Waterville Volunteer Fire Company
Pine Creek Council of Governments
PA Lumbermans Museum
North Central PA Conservancy
Clinton County CleanScapes
Pennsylvania Environmental Defense
Foundation



2020 PCPA Income Total Income: \$ 15,005

Individual Memberships – 66

Family Memberships – 187

Camp/Organization Memberships - 65

Friends of Pine Creek -45

Memorial Memberships - 5

New Life Memberships - 1

COVID IMPACTS

COVID has been devastating to local businesses in the Valley. Please patronize the following businesses or say thank you to those organizations & individuals who so generously donated door prizes for our 2020 picnic and are held over for picnic 2021.

<u>Valley Businesses</u>: Cedar Run Inn --- Cedar Run Store --- Happy Acres Restaurant --- Hotel Manor --- McConnell's Country Store -- Waterville Tavern --- Wolfe's General Store --- Pine Creek Service (Jeff's Garage)

<u>Jersey Shore</u>: Jersey Shore State Bank --- Shore Diner --- Weis Market --- Venture Inn --- Crystal Beverage

Individuals: Jeff Campbell --- Mike Engle



PCPA Summer Picnic

Saturday, August 7, 2021 @ 12:00 noon

The Barn on Route 44 North

Be sure to mark your calendars for our summer picnic, which is planned for The Barn on Route 44 North on Saturday, August 7, 2021 beginning promptly at noon. This is an *"active members only"* event, so you should rejoin PCPA this year.



PCPA Meetings and COVID

Although our lifestyles have been significantly curtailed due to the COVID-19 virus, the PCPA has continued to hold meetings online via Zoom. The only thing you need to participate is a computer connected to the internet (or smart phone) and the Zoom app. The secretary sends out the agenda approximately two weeks prior to a meeting date along with an invitation to the Zoom meeting. You may download the Zoom program prior to the meeting time, then click on the invitation link to connect.

If anyone would like to do a practice session prior to the meeting, email Lou Anne Gasperine (lgasperine@verizon.net) and we can schedule that practice session. We apologize to regular members that do not have internet access or the capabilities. A bonus is some members outside of the area are able to take part in the meetings. This is not a perfect situation, but it is the best solution that we have under the circumstances to keep our members safe given the COVID restrictions.

PCPA Wearables and Order Form

Show your PCPA pride by ordering a wearable. We had a good turnout for our new wearable purchases this past fall and at a PCPA event in October. We have some cool new items, all embroidered, plus our screened tee shirts, both men's and ladies. New items are listed at a link that it is in this newsletter, along with an order blank to order items. I handle all the orders and local delivery to you. You can mail or email the order blank along with a check made out to me, **Jeff Campbell**, and I will order your items. Just a note- I will hold all the embroidered item orders for a spell, until I get a decent amount that can be stitched all at once, manufacturer's request.

Again, we are a non-profit organization, so this is **not** a PCPA fundraiser. The costs cover the item and shipping to me. Any questions, you may call or email me at the info on the bottom of the order form. The tee shirts run a bit small, so don't be afraid to upsize your choice.

Please be legible on the order form, making sure that I can clearly read your writing, and also check the amounts (e.g. S___ M__ L__ XL_2_ 2X__, etc) that you enter in the check boxes.

For the love of our great organization and the love of the valley,

Jeff Campbell – Vice President



Total # of Items @ \$15 ea ____ =\$ ____



Wearables Order Form

All orders are cash up front. Items can be picked up in the Valley once you are notified of arrival. I'll call you when they arrive.

Write # of items in blanks (eg 1,2,3,4,etc)

PCPA Tee Shirt Order Form \$15 EA		
MENS: Black: S M L XL 2X 3X , Charcoal: S M L XL 2X 3X		
Red: S M L XL 2X 3X , Navy: S M L XL 2X 3X; Heather Gray: SMLXL2X3X		
Royal Blue: SM_LXL2X3X; Kelly Green: S MLXL2X3X		
<u>LADIES:</u> Black: S M L XL 2X 3X ; Charcoal: S M L XL 2X 3X		
Red: S M L XL 2X 3X , Navy: S M L XL 2X 3X ; Heather Gray: S M L XL 2X 3X		
Royal Blue: SM_LXL2X3X; Charcoal: SM_LXL2X3X		
otal # of shirts @ \$15 ea = \$		
PCPA Zipper Hoodie order form \$35 EA		
Black: SMLXL2X3X; RED: SMLXL2X3X; Navy: SMLXL2X3X		
Forrest Green: SMLXL2X3X; Dark Heather Gray: SMLXL2X3X		
otal # of items @ \$35 EA = \$		
PCPA Sweatshirt order form \$30 EA		
Black: S M L XL 2X 3X ; RED: S M L XL 2X 3X ; Navy: S M L XL 2X 3X		
Forrest Green: S M L XL 2X 3X; Dark Heather Gray: S M L XL 2XL 3XL		
otal # of items @ \$30 EA = \$		
PCPA Pullover Hoodie order form \$35 EA		
Black: S M L XL 2X 3X ; RED: S M L XL 2X 3X; Navy: S M L XL 2X 3X		
Forrest Green: S_M_L_XL_2X_3X_; Dark Heather Gray: S_M_L_XL_2XL_3XL_		
otal # of items @ \$35 EA = \$		
PCPA Polo Shirt order form \$30 EA		
Black: S M L XL 2XL 3XL ; Forrest Green: S M L XL 2XL 3XL		
RED: SMLXL2XL3XL; Navy: SMLXL2XL3XL		
otal # of items @ \$30 ea=\$		
PCPA Adjustable Truckers Vented Cap \$15 EA- ONE SIZE		
Camo/Black Mesh, Pink Camo/Tan Mesh, Green/White mesh, White/White mesh		
Orange Hunter Cap Adjustable, Realtree Camo Bill \$15ea - ONE SIZE		







Total # of shirts @

Total # of zipper hoodies @

Total # of pullover hoodies @

Total # of sweatshirts @

Total # of Polo shirts @

Total # of hats @



\$15 EA ____ = \$ ____

\$30 EA _____ = \$ ____

\$30 EA _____ = \$ ____

\$15 EA _____ = \$ _____

\$35 EA _____ = \$ ____

\$35 EA _____ = \$ ____



EMBRODERED Pine Creek WEARABLES ORDER TODAY



Polo Shirt -\$30 ea Forest Green, Black, Navy, Red

Sweatshirt -\$35 ea

Colors: Forest Green, Black, Navy, Red

Dark Heather Gray



Sweatshirt -\$30 ea Forest Green, Black, Navy, Red Dark Heather Gray



Truck Cap -\$15 ea Pink Camo Cotton/Poly Front Tan Mesh Poly Back



Sweatshirt -\$35 ea Colors: Forest Green, Black, Navy, Red Dark Heather Gray



Hooded Pullover



Hunter Cap -\$15 ea Orange Cotton/Poly Front & Back Realtree Camo - Bill

TOTAL \$ ALL ITEMS = \$ _____

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY:

Name		Phone
Address		Email
City	State	7in

Send this order blank and check (made out to Jeff Campbell) to 1208 Sylvania Cir, Folsom PA 19033 jcc1208@aol.com, 610 513 2633



Links for Additional Organizations in the Valley

PCPA is a local non-profit keeping an eye of the health of the Pine Creek Valley. We are not the only organization interested in the recreational and conditions up the creek. Here are additional links for local organizations:

Slate Run Brown Trout Club: www.facebook.com/groups/226758475563659

Trout Unlimited Chapters:

Tiadaghton Chapter: www.tu.org/chapter/688-tiadaghton

Susquehanna Chapter: www.susquehannatu.com

Slate Run Sportsmen: www.slaterunsportsmen.com

Middle Susquehanna River Keeper - http://www.middlesusquehannariverkeeper.org/



Answers for the Fun Facts

- 1. The last train ran through the gorge on October 7, 1988. (source: https://www.traillink.com/trail-history/pine-creek-rail-trail/)
- 2. Chesapeake Bay (source: https://uncoveringpa.com/pennsylvania-facts)
- 3. Pine Creek runs from Potter County just southeast of Ulysses and ends at the Susquehanna River near the small town of Jersey Shore and covers over 80 miles. A vast number of streams and creeks feed into Pine Creek creating the largest "Creek" in the United States. (source: https://pinecreekvalley.com/about?)
- 4. Tioga, Potter, Lycoming and Clinton counties (source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pine Creek (Pennsylvania))
- Pine Creek has 979 square miles (source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pine Creek (Pennsylvania)
- 6. Pine Creek is named for the vast number of Pine Trees that surround the creek and cover the mountains in the area. The name stems from the Iroquois Indians that once called Pine Creek, Tiadaghton, or "River of Pine". (source: https://pinecreekvalley.com/about?)



<u>Legal Updates from Pennsylvania Environmental Defense Fund (PEDF)</u>

Mary Bennett reached out to Attorney John Childs of the PEDF for a summary of the latest information concerning the legal activities concerning the Pine Creek Valley and surrounding areas. PCPA supports the PEDF each year with a \$5000 donation. For more detailed information concerning the ongoing environmental legal issues, check out the PEDF website at http://www.PEDF.org.

Pennsylvania Environmental Defense Foundation

January 30, 2021

Mary,

Good to hear from you. We do appreciate the continuing support of the PCPA!

Last year the work for PEDF was intense, but not conclusive. I wish we could have a full half hour or so to meet at the Forestry Office to fully discuss.

We have four (4) cases in court that were very active in 2020.

In the Supreme Court, against the Governor and the General Assembly, the case on whether the bonus and rental payments from the oil and gas leases are part of the public trust along with the royalties that the Supreme Court decided in 2017. The bonus and rental payments have been and will continue to be significant. The 2010 payments of \$383,000,000 were all bonus payments. That case was fully briefed and argued before the Supreme Court in September 2020. We are waiting for a decision.

Also, in the Supreme Court we have appealed the Commonwealth Court decision to approve the 2017-2018 and the 2018-2019 Appropriations Acts, transferring @ \$100,000,000 from the Oil and Gas Lease Fund, along with the 2017 Fiscal Code which repealed the 1955 Oil and Gas Lease Fund Act, which gave DCNR complete control over the oil and gas lease moneys to be used exclusively on projects which benefit the State Forest and Parks. Instead, the General Assembly now has complete control of the fund, and can appropriate the lease fund money pretty much as they want. We are currently writing our brief to the Supreme Court as to why these actions violate Article I Section 27. It is due the 22nd of February.

[Article 1, Section 27 of the Constitution states "The people have a right to clean air, pure water, and to the preservation of the natural scenic, historic and esthetic values of the environment.

Pennsylvania's public natural resources are the common property of all the people, including generations yet to come. As trustee of these resources, the Commonwealth shall conserve and maintain them for the benefit of all the people."]



In the Commonwealth Court in 2020 we filed a new case, this time directly against DCNR and Secretary Dunn. We are challenging the 2016 State Forest Resource Management Plan, which makes continuing leasing our State Forest for oil and gas extraction for the specific purpose to raise revenue for the economic benefit of the Commonwealth, i.e. to save the General Assembly from having to raise taxes such as the severance tax on the oil and gas industry.

Additionally, we filed a separate challenge against the continuing appropriations from the oil and gas revenue to pay for DCNR's operations in 2019-2020. At the request of the Governor and the Commonwealth that case has been stayed pending the cases in the Supreme Court.

We are confident of a good opinion from the Supreme Court this year!

Let me know if you have any questions.

John

***In addendum, Paul Hoffmaster (past president of the PCPA) continued to connect with John Childs.

Sent: Mon, Feb 1, 2021 8:50 am Subject: RE: PEDF summary

John,

When do you expect the result of those actions to possibly be concluded?

Paul

Reply to Paul Hoffmaster, past president of the PCPA.

Paul,

This year should bring closure to many of the issues dealing with the revenue from the oil and gas leases.

The bonus and rental payments have been fully briefed and argued since September. The there are many important issues that will be decided. The court usually takes 6 months or more to write the opinion. So Springtime would be reasonable.

But the case I am now writing the brief on in the Supreme Court on the 201702018, 2018-2019 appropriations is somewhat interrelated, and the court may wait until that case is fully briefed and argued. That would make it a massive opinion, so I don't know. It will not be argued until at least the Summer or Fall. So, if they combine the two it will not be decided until the winter or next Spring. I hope they will issue the bonus opinion first!



The DCNR raised preliminary objections to the case to the 2016 State Forest Management case. It was also argued last September.

The Commonwealth Court should have decided that issue quickly, but they have not. They could be waiting for the Supreme Court on the bonus issues. So, I can't say when. We will appeal the decision if the Commonwealth Court denies us.

But if we get the green light to proceed with the case against DCNR that will take up to a year to bring to a decision. It will then be appealed to the Supreme Court.

Not real clear answers to your questions, I know. This is the best I can do for now.

John

MEMBERSHIP APPLICA	ATION FORM	
MEMBER INFO:	MEMBERSHIP TYPE (check one):	
Name	[] Individual Membership - \$5	
Street	[] Family Membership - \$10	
City	[] Camp/Organ. Membership - \$20	
StateZIP	[] Friends of Pine Creek - \$100	
Email	[] Memorial Membership - \$250 In Memory or Honor of (below):	
Camp/Cottage: Camp Name	Donated by (below):	
Address or Location	Acknowledgement To (below):	
Camp/Organization – please indicate number of members		
over 18 years of age (voters) ([] Life Membership - \$500	
Make checks payable to PCPA Mail to: PCPA Secretary P.O. Box 11, Waterville, PA 17776	[] Other Donation - \$	
Note: Unless the Friends of PC box is checked, we assume that any additional donation of \$100 or more is meant to be anonymous.		