

**Buck & Doe Trust**  
P.O. Box 804  
Unionville, PA 19375

**History of Buck & Doe Trust**

The Buck & Doe Trust was established at the time of the King Ranch project to encourage community cooperation and support of the conservation easement program. The Trust seeks to welcome newcomers and offer opportunities for residents, new and old, to get to know one another better. The Board Members host the Spring Fling, a chuckwagon breakfast in the Laurels, a holiday party for members in December, and other activities which focus on "community conservation".

**2012 Annual Dues**

**\$35 per family**

Payable to: Buck & Doe Trust and send to above address or use our website: [www.buckanddoe.org](http://www.buckanddoe.org)

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**Buck & Doe Trust Mission**

The Buck and Doe Trust is a non-profit organization of community members whose stated mission is support of land and water resource conservation within the Buck and Doe Run watersheds. These watersheds include, but are not limited to, the Townships of East Fallowfield, West Marlborough, East Marlborough, Highland, Londonderry, and Newlin.

The Trust initiatives to accomplish this mission are:

- Promote, through member involvement and education, the creation of additional high quality conservation easements within the Buck and Doe watersheds.
- Monitor and support active enforcement by easement grantees of all existing conservation easement requirements.
- Participate, influence, and monitor the stewardship of the Laurels Reserve by the Environmental Management Center of the Brandywine Conservancy.
- Initiate and encourage active and timely communication on land and water resource conservation issues within the Buck and Doe watersheds.



**Buck & Doe Trust Board Members**

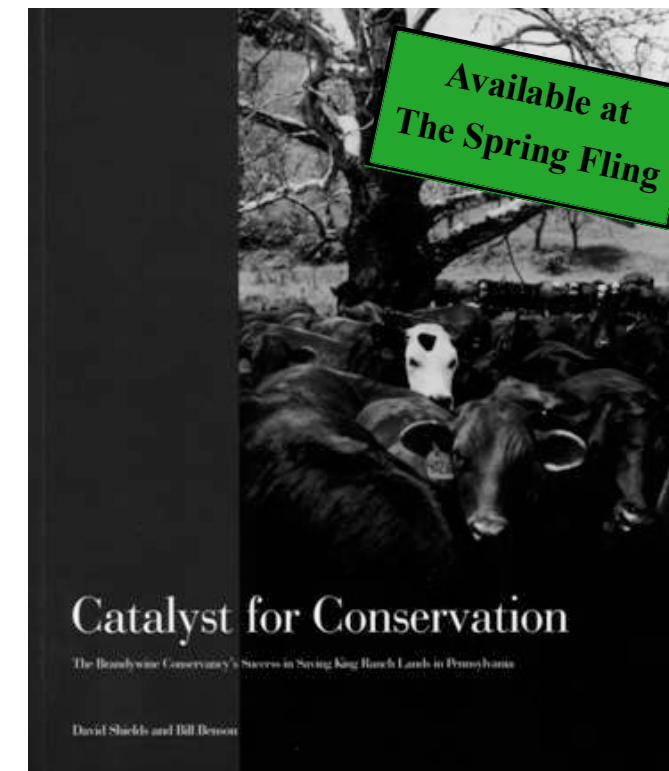
Amy McKenna-President	Billie Bailkin	Suzanne Kloud	Bill Rubin
Joe Huston-Vice President	Liz Bailey	Brendan Miney	Janet Sidewater
Nina Seder-Burnaford	Gus Brown	Jamie O'Rourke	Ann Givens Sinclair
-Secretary	Richard Buchanan	Maria Pfeffer	Susannah Small
John Goodall-Treasurer	Terry Corkran	Scott Richard	Pam Smyth

**CATALYST FOR CONSERVATION  
BOOK CHRONICLES  
BRANDYWINE CONSERVANCY'S  
SUCCESSFUL WORK TO CONSERVE  
KING RANCH PROPERTY**

The landmark endeavor by the Brandywine Conservancy to protect the more than 5,000 acres of critical farm and forest land of the former King Ranch property in Pennsylvania and its valuable water resources that feed the Brandywine watershed is chronicled in the new book, *Catalyst for Conservation: The Brandywine Conservancy's Success in Saving King Ranch Lands in Pennsylvania*.

"In one quick stroke, Buck and Doe Associates permanently protected the property's vital land and water as well as its wildlife, meadows, forests and historical sites," said George A. Weymouth, a founder of the Brandywine Conservancy and Chairman of its Board of Trustees. "Success became a true catalyst for conservation, stimulating more land conservation in the region and serving as a model across the county."

In the mid-1940s, an invitation from Chester County resident W. Plunkett Stewart to his longtime friend, Texas cattleman Robert Kleberg, set in motion events that culminated in one of the most important conservation projects in the United States. For decades, the King Ranch grazed cattle on the nearly 5,400-acre property. When the company was ready to reduce its presence in Pennsylvania, the Conservancy knew quick action was needed to preserve the open space and protect the Brandywine watershed. Numerous obstacles lay ahead as dedicated trustees, staff members and advisors strug-



Available at Brandywine River Museum Shop and online [www.brandywinemuseumshop.org](http://www.brandywinemuseumshop.org).

gled to form a limited partnership to buy the property, find investors, navigate complex regulations and negotiate with King Ranch management. By the summer of 1984, the Conservancy's determination paid off.

*Catalyst for Conservation* traces the history of the Brandywine Conservancy's work to save the property from development, which ultimately resulted in permanently protecting 4,596 acres by conservation easements and

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### President's Letter

The Buck and Doe Trust (BDT) Board has been working diligently this past year analyzing how we can be a more effective organization. Like many things in life, we found that our work brought us full circle back to our founding principles namely to develop relationships, to educate and to communicate. Provided below are the highlights.

The BDT Board will be using each of our scheduled events as a greater opportunity to communicate and educate, and build relationships. The Spring Fling, Holiday Party and Adopt-a-Highway will have added features/focus which will further support our mission of conservation in our community.

The BDT Board felt it important to identify the needs of both our landowners and the conservation groups who work with them. The BDT Board has been in discussions with individuals and groups of landowners. Our plan is to organize a larger "community conversation" (focus group) to identify everyone's issues and develop action plans to further strengthen the conservation effort and work more effectively together.

The BDT Board has reached out to the various organizations, the Brandywine Conservancy (BC), Natural Lands Trust (NLT), the Cheshire Hunt Conservancy (CHC), in order to establish relationships to more effectively work together. To gain further insight to the BC, our flagship, the BDT Board made a field visit to Chadds Ford for a delightful and informative evening including an inside tour of the Environmental Management Center and a subsequent tour of the Brandywine River Museum. This was very enlightening to understand the incredible scope of conservation work the BC does beyond managing easements.

Scott Richard, a BDT board member, has been appointed to the BC's Environmental Management Committee board. The Environmental Management Center is delegated responsibility by the Brandywine Conservancy's trustees to review all land and easement projects, including acceptance of

conservation easements and approval of management plans, as well as other projects and special matters pertaining to the Environmental Management Center. Thank you Scott for your passion and understanding of our area, and for your commitment to serve on this important committee.

The BDT Board is re-energizing our support for the BC's Laurels Preserve. We will be actively supporting The Laurels Preserve scheduled "clean up" mornings. Additional info and timing will be forwarded when available. Also, The Laurels Land Management Committee which has been dormant for years, has been re-instituted. I am pleased to tell you the new committee will consist of board members from both the BC's Environmental Management Center and the BDT. The purpose is to review and make suggestions regarding the management of The Laurels Preserve.

As you see, this has been a busy year for everyone including the BC. They have completed and published the "Catalyst for Conservation", which is our cover article. This is a very insightful book about a very important part of our community's history. It chronicles events which truly were the catalyst for our area's 26,000+ contiguous acres now under conservation easements! I encourage everyone to get a copy! It is a must read!

Last but certainly not least, included here is an update on the two covered bridges in the Laurels (aka Laurels bridges, Twin bridges, Pyle bridge) which have been recently closed due to severe structural issues. We will keep you posted on the status of these bridges, and will likely need to reach out to you for assistance in getting them back in shape. Along with The Laurels Preserve, these bridges are a symbol of the BDT and our Spring Fling, and are the heart of our community.

In closing, I would like to recognize and thank everyone involved for their many, many extra hours and their commitment. It has been a true pleasure working with each of you!

Warm Regards, **Amy McKenna**

AmyMcKenna123@aol.com



Spring Fling...Sunday, May 20th...10am—12pm



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### Catalyst ...from page 1

setting aside another 771 acres as the Laurels Preserve. The streams and springs throughout the property continue to provide an estimated six million gallons a day to the Brandywine, which serves as the drinking water supply for the City of Wilmington, Delaware and numerous other communities in the Brandywine Watershed. Today, the Conservancy has permanently protected more than 45,000 acres, much of it resulting from the success of what became known as the "King Ranch project."

"We had to convince people to take a huge risk and make a leap of faith by investing in this partnership," continued Weymouth. "Interest rates were in the double digits, and we were requiring them to limit the amount of structures that could be built on the property. Fortunately, these

partners were as committed as the Conservancy to keeping this magnificent landscape as open space. We are forever grateful to them."

*Catalyst for Conservation* was written by David Shields and Bill Benson. Shields worked on the King Ranch project almost from its inception and currently works as associate director of the land stewardship program of the Brandywine Conservancy's Environmental Management Center. Benson is the former director of the Chisholm Trail Heritage Center in Duncan, Oklahoma, and conducted archival research about the King Ranch and its former president, Robert J. Kleberg.

*Catalyst for Conservation* is 112 pages long with more than 100 illustrations. The book costs \$24.95 and is available Brandywine River Museum Shop and online at [www.brandywinemuseumshop.org](http://www.brandywinemuseumshop.org).



### The Bridges

The Brandywine Conservancy has been working with engineers who have undertaken a study of the structural integrity of the two historic bridges in the Laurels. The engineers notified them in mid-February that, effective immediately, the bridges should be limited to pedestrian use.



Indications that the bridges are starting to fail due to decay include the bottom chord bearing point of the Mary Ann Pyle bridge crushing and causing the bridge to

twist and several stringers under the bridges showing signs of decay and crushing.

The Brandywine Conservancy developed and initiated a communication plan to alert adjacent landowners, their trustees, members of Buck and Doe Trust, and others. Safety barriers have been erected at both entrances to both bridges and signs have been posted.

The Conservancy's staff has identified and marked an alternate route for horses and carriages. They are working to improve the downstream crossing for the alternate route and have already applied for and received the appropriate permits. BDT thanks BC for their efforts!!!

Certified historic architects Frens & Frens are engaged to ensure that the reconstruction maintains the historic characteristics of the two bridges. Additional information will be forwarded as it becomes available.

### Community News

*We strive to include everyone in the community in this section.*

*Please let us know if we have missed anything.*

#### New Landowners

- Tanya Emslie on Fernwood Rd

#### Marriages

- Jessie Moore and Matt Provinski

#### Births

- Kim and Jordie Hannum, baby boy

- Glauca and Trevor McKenna, baby girl

#### Passings

- Bob Pierce
- Jim Herr

