

# The Covered Bridges in The Laurels update!

<u>From The Brandywine Conservancy</u>: Spring is finally here and construction has begun on The Laurel's covered bridges. With the outpouring of support from the community led by the Buck & Doe Trust, the challenge grant was met, enabling this important project to proceed. The Brandywine Conservancy & Museum of Art is grateful to you all and is delighted to share this project update. Although this has been a harsh winter, project completion by July is still the plan. Our project team includes restoration architects Frens and Frens, LLC and engineering partners in addition to our highly experienced restoration carpenters.



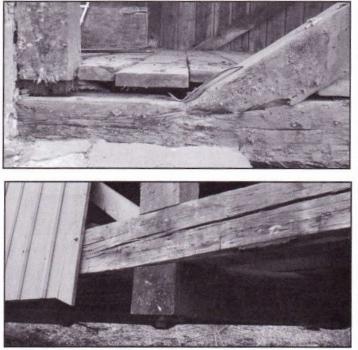
Mary Ann Pyle or Speakman Number 2: Historical Restoration Contractor Frank Stroik is carefully dismantling the bridge, saving every piece

of siding, battens and floor planks for reinstallation. Given the historic importance of this bridge and its listing on the National Register, extreme care is taken with every step. Each piece is being numbered and carefully stored in the temporary storage structure nearby. Once the floor planks and siding materials are removed, the joinery details become visible. The massive bottom chords were ordered in November from Clark's Ford Timbers. The beams are 40 feet long and 10" by 12." Siding and portal framing will be removed next. Sometime around the 5th of April, the bridge's entire framing will be visible. The following week, some cribbing and shoring will be done to begin the frame disassembly. Hayes Clark Bridge: Restoration Carpenter Bill Shainline reports that this bridge will receive steel beam joist replacement, post and wood replacement and a new roof and shingling. The steel is being fabricated.



Bill reports that the progress on the Hayes Clark Bridge will be far enough along to permit use of this bridge on May 18th for the Spring Fling!!!

Frank Stroik has offered to give a talk on timber framing and joinery at the Spring Fling!!!



Photos by Frank Stroick show the damage to the supporting structure that will be repaired during the restoration project.



# President's Letter

Thank You!!! I can not say "thank you" enough to everyone who came together on the covered bridges restoration project! It has been overwhelming to see over 230+ friends and families get involved, and on so many levels! These bridges are symbolic of the preservation effort started almost 30 years ago and now enjoy over 26,000+ contiguous preserved acres in our region.

The Brandywine Conservancy opened the Museum in February to the supporters for a delightful evening celebrating the successful fundraising efforts. There will be additional announcements as the project progresses.

In the meantime, the restoration work is under way! If weather permits (and it better after this past winter!), the Spring Fling will be able to be in the Hayes Clark Bridge!

Regarding our goals this year, we are focusing on conservation education by reaching out to various groups in the community along with exploring additional options for those interested in conserving their properties. An update on these activities will be in the fall newsletter. Additionally, we plan to have our "Giving Thanks in October" party on another King Ranch parcel this fall. We also hope to add a fun road rally featuring "conservation clues" to the festivities. It should be a lot of fun for all!

I continue to be so excited about the commitment of the community for all of these efforts. I want to further recognize the commitment of the BDT Board for their energy and support as well!

Again, thank you all! Looking forward to seeing everyone out this Spring!!!!

## Amy McKenna AmyMcKenna123@aol.com

# Spring Fling Breakfast in The Laurels Sunday, May 18th 10am-Noon

Frank Stroik has offered to give a talk on timber framing and joinery
A few words will be spoken around 11am



## **Community** News

### Welcome New Landowners

- Lisa and Rick Giacco
- Mollie Cameron
- Sylvestar LLC
- Claudia Schultze and Bruce Balick

We strive to include everyone in the community in this section. Please let us know if we have missed anything.

### Passings

- Mimi Thorington
- Bill Prickett
- Mary Brodish
- Midge Leach
- Pat Ryan



## Resource Conservation ...

Molly K. Morrison Honored with Eighth Annual Rebecca Lukens Award: The National Iron & Steel Heritage Museum in Coatesville, PA, has announced its eighth annual <u>Rebecca Lukens Award</u> to be presented to noted conservation strategist, Molly Keim Morrison, president of <u>Natural Lands Trust</u>. Established by <u>The Graystone Society's National Iron & Steel Heritage Museum</u> to honor individuals who exhibit the qualities of <u>Rebecca Lukens</u>. This year commemorates Rebecca Lukens' 220<sup>th</sup> birthday.

As President of Natural Lands Trust, she has been instrumental in creating conservation strategies for complex land transactions, including the acquisition of the 1,263-acre ChesLen Preserve in Newlin Township. In addition to providing strategic leadership and fundraising for a staff of 60, Ms. Morrison oversees a network of 42 nature preserves and 361 conservation easements, totaling more than 44,000 acres. Since its founding in 1953, <u>Natural Lands Trust</u> (and its predecessor non-profit, the Philadelphia Conservationists) has saved more than 100,000 acres of natural areas and agricultural lands, making it one of the largest regional non-profit land trusts in the United States. While much of its land protection focus has been in Chester County, Natural Lands Trust pursues strategic land preservation and stewardship activities throughout all of eastern Pennsylvania and southern New Jersey.

<u>New Laurels Preserve Manager</u>: The Brandywine Conservancy & Museum of Art is pleased to introduce Ian Gereg, the new Preserve Manager for the Laurels. Ian recently moved to Chester County from Connecticut where he was the Director of the Livingston Ripley Waterfowl Conservancy in Litchfield. Ian started there as the resident aviculturist and worked his way up to become Director. He holds an M.S. in Environmental and Forest Biology from SUNY Syracuse and a B.S. in Environmental Science from Unity College. With extensive experience in environmental education, volunteer management and land management, we are confident that Ian will be a great fit for the Laurels and a tremendous asset to the community. Ian's contact info: cell-215-272-9259 igereg@brandywine.org



Molly Morrison (Courtesy Alessandra Manzotti Photography)



Ian Gereg Laurels Preserve Manager





New tradition started by BDT with planting of memorial White Oaks. Brandywine Conservancy staff along with BDT Board Members planting a white oak tree along main entrance to the Laurels in memory of all of our neighbors who passed this past year.





Scenes from "The Laurels & The Hardy" this past fall! A lecture was given by the

Brandywine Conservancy on invasive plants and BDT supporters helped out in The Laurels! Fun was had by all, please join us at one of our outings!

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# 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".

#### 2014 Annual Dues \$35 per family

Payable to: Buck & Doe Trust and send to above address or use our website:

www.buckanddoetrust.org

## 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 Richard Buchanan-V.Pres. Nina Seder-Burnaford-Sec. John Goodall-Treasurer Elizabeth Bailey Jerry Brown Terry Corkran Gillian Grant Emily Harris Suzanne Kloud Jamie O'Rourke Maria Pfeffer Scott Richard Bill Rubin Janet Sidewater Susannah Small Pam Smyth Barbara Stewart Gail Thayer

