

"Community Conversation about Conservation"

Buck & Doe Trust, along with Cheshire Hunt Conservancy, hosted a packed room of over 100+ neighbors in our community. The topic was land conservation in our community. The Stroud Water Research Center provided an ideal meeting room and was so accommodating, given the need to reschedule due to this past winter ice/snow storm impacting our original date.

Our president, Amy McKenna, started the evening off with an overview of the conservation impact to our area. The conservation movement is not just in our immediate backyard but way beyond. Maps and statistics were presented which demonstrated that Chester County has also been a big supporter of the effort. Presently 25% of the acres in the county are in some form of preservation. The County Commissioners have a goal to increase this percentage of protected lands to 30% by 2019. This is a wonderful goal, and one which we all support in every way possible. It is an important piece of the puzzle allowing our part of the region to enjoy over 27,000 contiguously conserved acres.



John Goodall, of the Brandywine Conservancy and Buck & Doe Trust, speaking to a full house of over 100 neighbors interested in conservation.

A historical perspective to the conservation movement, beginning over 100 years ago, was provided by Michael Ledyard, MFH of the CHC. Historical highlights covered were:

- In 1912-W. Plunkett Stewart (Mrs. Nancy Hannum's step-father) established Mr. Stewart's Cheshire Foxhounds, acquired of numerous farms, placed perpetual fox hunting easements on these farms and found buyers who were friendly to foxhunting and country life.
- In 1919, Lammot du Pont started purchasing significant farms (which eventually totaled over 8,000 acres) for a watershed of the Brandywine River, which continues today to supply clean water to our communities.
- Around 1946, Bob Kleberg had the King Ranch purchase Mr. du Pont's properties. The King Ranch then continued to build their cattle operation in our area, which at one time exceeded over 13,000 acres.
- In 1984, the Brandywine Conservancy had the vision of the King Ranch project. They acquired and placed conservation easements on approximately 5,400 acres. This effort provided a key nucleus of preservation to our immediate area.
- In 1990's, Marguerite and Gerry Lenfest purchased an approximate 1,200 acre sod farm outside Unionville from the King Ranch. Through their generosity, today it is known as the ChesLen Preserve. It is a combination of Chester County park and lands donated to Natural Lands Trust.

The evening then progressed into a very insightful portion of the program with John Goodall, Brandywine Conservancy and member of the BDT Board. John articulately covered aspects of various conservation easements, steps and benefits of easements, responsibilities and working with easements, tax saving programs such as Act 319 and much more. It was very constructive for those just learning about easements, as well as for those in the audience who were long time easements holders. John's segment was a perfect segue into the next portion of the program-the Question & Answer period with a panel of land conservation experts from 3 nationally accredited land trusts, along with county, township and local representatives.

There was a great exchange of information, ideas and contact information. Above all, it was wonderful to see how all the groups interacted and worked together for the overall preservation goal.

The evening and the conversation continued with refreshments including a clever arrangement of "Conservation Cupcakes". We all learned something this evening and had fun too! The success of the evening is apparent in the feedback from the panel, reporting they have received inquiries and applications as a result of the evening. This is very exciting! Thank you to everyone who participated!



President's Letter

Often, our parents' words continue to stay with us even as we get older. My father always said, "don't be afraid of change- take a new course and be different." I believe this sums up the Buck & Doe Trust this year.

We started out the year by hosting, along with the Cheshire Hunt Conservancy, our first conservation education program. It was an overwhelming success with over 100+ in attendance. The next event was also different. We broke with tradition by having this year's Spring Fling at the "the other Laurels bridge"- the newly renovated Mary Ann Pyle Bridge. We entered from a new direction and were able to see yet another spectacular view of the Laurels while coming off of Fairview Rd. As usual, the breakfast was delicious; a generous member even gave us a large donation in trade for our pancake recipe. What fun!

Continuing with the theme of being different, we will be having our fall event at the Lenfest Center at the Cheslen Preserve. It is also known to many as the Natural Lands Trust's pavilion. It is an ideal setting just a few minutes from Unionville. Our theme will be "Wear Your Conservation Hat". Fun, creative hats related to conservation are encouraged but certainly not mandatory. Even if you don't have a special hat, be sure to join us. Details for the event will be sent to our enclosed list of paid members. Our membership continues to grow and we welcome all supporters.

Looking forward to everyone wearing his/her *conservation hat* in October and everyday!

Amy McKenna

President

AmyMcKenna123@aol.com

"Wear Your Conservation Hat" --- Sunday, October 4th

Invitations with details to be sent shortly to our paid membership.

Fun, creative hats related to conservation welcome but not mandatory!

Spring Fling 2015













Community News

Marriage:

Kate McClung & Jake Chalfin

Births:

 George, son born to Jamie and Steven Aller

Passings

Ralph Roberts



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

Please let us know if we have missed anything.





Thanks to the expert panel at the Community Conversation about Conservation!!!



Sherri Evans-Stanton Brandywine Conservancy Director



Jack Stefferud Natural Lands Trust Senior Dtr., Land Protection



Gwen Lacy TLC of Southern CC Executive Director



Bill Gladden CC Dept./Open Space Preservation, Director



Cuyler Walker Cheshire Land Preserv. Fund, Trustee



Dick Brown Londonderry Township Supervisor



Hank Detering Londonderry Township Chair Open Space



Paddy Neilson London Grove Township Open Space Committee

"Forever Lands" at Cheshire Pony Camp

The Brandywine Conservancy enjoys an afternoon talking about "Forever Lands" at the Cheshire Pony Camp-

On a beautiful summer day the young riders took a break from the usual camp activities and discussed how Fox hunting and the love of everything equestrian has led to so much land preservation in the King Ranch area. The young riders reviewed the preservation maps of the area and shared special places that they love as they eagerly looked to make sure that those areas were forever lands (preserved). John Goodall, the Western Area Manager for the Conservancy and BDT Board Member, led the discussion in the Cheshire barn's tack room. The activity was concluded with ice cream and each "Green Rider" received a young tree to plant.









2015 Paid Dues Members

Please visit www.buckanddoetrust.org if you need to pay your 2015 dues.

Rick and Dixie Abbott Bo and Melody Alexander David F. and Phillis J Allen John and Liz Bailey

Claudie Schultze & Bruce Balick

Lydia Bartholomew Steve & Sue Berkowitz Nancy and Fred Bissinger James & Joan Stroud Blaine Peter and Mary Blauner

Amy Borun Patricia Branum Terry & Laurie Brewer Clayton and Starr Bright Dale Melton and Joan Bristol

Sally Brittle Jerry Brown

Ed and Susan(Garber) Brown

Jerry Brown

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Buck & Doe Trust
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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 in The Laurels (a chuckwagon breakfast), a fall event and other activities which focus on "community conservation".

2015 Annual Dues \$40 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 Elizabeth Bailey Maria Pfeffer Pam Smyth
Richard Buchanan-V.Pres. Jerry Brown Scott Richard Barbara Stewart
Nina Seder-Burnaford-Sec. Terry Corkran Bill Rubin Gail Thayer

John Goodall-Treasurer Suzanne Kloud Janet Sidewater

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