



New director for Laurels The Brandywine Conservancy is excited to announce John Goodall's promotion to Laurels Preserve Director. John will oversee the day to day maintenance of the Laurels, as



**JOHN GOODALL, DIRECTOR,
LAURELS PRESERVE;
SENIOR OUTREACH ASSOCIATE**

well as supervise its preserve manager, Grant Folin. In addition to enhancing the education and development components in his new role at the Preserve, John will continue in his position at the Doe Run office working with existing easement... *[continued p.2]*

SUPPORTING
LAND AND WATER
RESOURCE
CONSERVATION



Brandywine Conservancy adds to accomplishments for land conservation



**BRANDYWINE
CONSERVANCY**

In 1967, the Brandywine Conservancy was formed in urgent response to protecting a parcel from industrial development. Now more than 50 years later, the Conservancy remains committed to be on the forefront of land preservation in southeast Pennsylvania. In just two years, the Brandywine Conservancy has met the challenge of preserving 253 acres of land under critical development threats. Though the Conservancy secured its first easements in 1969, the organization reached *[...continued p.3]*

Natural Lands adds acres to ChesLen



Rare serpentine barrens habitat preserved

The largest privately owned nature preserve open to the public in southeastern Pennsylvania just got even bigger with the addition of 20 acres of rare habitat. **Natural Lands** has announced that its ChesLen Preserve in Newlin Township, expanded to 1,282 acres when the organization purchased land from an adjacent neighbor.

The recently acquired acreage is part of a rare ecosystem known as the Unionville Serpentine Barrens, which supports a number of threatened plant and animal species.

Serpentine barrens derive their name from the presence of serpentinite, a type of rare, greenish bedrock from which the soils are weathered. The soil's peculiar chemical characteristics make it inhospitable to all but a few tenacious plant species that have adapted to these extreme conditions. The term "barrens" was coined by farmers who discovered long ago that the soils were poor for growing crops.

In 2010, the Unionville Barrens at ChesLen Preserve was designated a "Wild Plant Sanctuary" by the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR). The Wild Plant Sanctuary Program, as part of the Wild Resource Conservation Act of 1982, was created to establish a voluntary statewide network of native plant sanctuaries. *[...continued p.2]*

FALL/WINTER EVENT

Change to the Fall/Winter Event:

Our community has grown over the years and our event attendance has as well. This has presented a challenge to ask anyone to open their home to our fall/winter event which can have upwards of 200 in attendance. Imagine having this many people especially with our recent rains or even snow! Thus, out of respect to all involved, the fall/winter event will be returning to its original format formed in its founding days of the King Ranch project and will be an event for those landowners with eased properties. We welcome the entire community to our Spring Fling and various activities. Thank you in advance for your understanding!

COMMUNITY NEWS:

Births:

Lizzie & Burl Vannote,

baby girl **Liza**

Paige & Will Singer,

baby boy **Reuben**

Silva & Boyd Martin,

baby boy **Leo**

Passings:

Gerry Lenfest

Bill Teter

Connie Goracci

Robert Strawbridge Crompton

Gene Weymouth

Marriages:

Virginia Brown & Drew Mormino

Suzanne Snyder & Patrick Heron

New Landowners:

Jessie and Matt Provinski,

Newlin Township

Cindy & Henry Fisher,

Highland Township

Angel & Pamela Alvarez,

East Fallowfield Township

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

The region's interest in conservation continues to be so strong. Most recently, the Brandywine Conservancy has conserved nearly 253 acres in the 2 significant projects of Birmingham Hill and Beaver Valley, while the Natural Lands has conserved/added a 40 acre tract, of important serpentine barrens, to our local ChesLen Preserve.

There is a general consensus that a property cannot be returned to its "natural state" once it is developed with houses and commercial outlets. This is generally very true though our Laurels Preserve bucks this theory. Nancy Mohr wrote an article almost 30 years ago that we have reprinted in this newsletter. It provides a glimpse of the history of the Laurels which had once been a thriving industrial

center filling government supply orders for the Civil War and dotted with its employees' housing. Today it is a pristine 771 acres preserve with some standing stone walls showing remnants of its past. Enjoy this peak into our local history!

Everyone can have a part in the conservation effort. BDT congratulates John Goodall for continued contributions in his new, expanded position as the Laurels Manager! Additionally BDT wants to thank Molly Morrison, Bill Gladden and Gwen Lacy for their tireless efforts in conservation. We wish them all well in their new chapters of life!

Amy

Amy McKenna President
AmyMcKenna123@aol.com



Natural Lands adds acres to ChesLen

continued from p.1 ... Landowners agree to protect the area and educate others about the importance of native and wild plants and habitats.

Funding for the most-recent addition to ChesLen Preserve was provided by the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Chester County – Preservation Partnership Program, and Cheshire Land Preservation Fund.

For more info on Natural Lands:
natlands.org

New director for Laurels

continued from p.1 ... holders and landowners that are interested in placing an agricultural or conservation easement on their properties. John has been an integral member of the Brandywine Conservancy staff since 1998. Prior to his work with the Conservancy, John worked with the Chesapeake Bay Foundation. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Public Service from Penn State University and a Master's Degree in Marine Affairs from the University of Rhode Island.

John's office: **610-383-9515**

Brandywine Conservancy adds to accomplishments for land conservation

continued from p.1... new heights with the famous King Ranch land conservation. The Conservancy and a group of conservation-minded investors joined together in the early 1980s to raise the funds to purchase more than 5,000 acres of the King Ranch lands to protect them from urgent residential and commercial development. Their efforts culminated in a landmark conservation easement heralded as one of the largest private preservation efforts in the mid-Atlantic region. Approximately 4,550 acres of the land was placed under conservation easement and an additional 771 acres were donated in fee simple title to the Brandywine Conservancy to become the Laurels Preserve.

The Laurels Preserve remains an integral pillar of the Conservancy's mission and strategic plan and the King Ranch story continues to be a lauded example of land conservation, preservation, and protection. That experience has allowed the Conservancy to push the boundaries of land conservation in new and exciting ways. Two outstanding examples have occurred in just the last two years – Beaver Valley and Birmingham Hill. Beaver Valley is 240 acres of pristine woodland, a mosaic of upland forest, old fields, open meadows, and wetlands, with countless species and habitats, crucial to protecting the health of the Brandywine Creek watershed. The land, adjacent to First State National Historic Park, was severely threatened by impending commercial and residential development. The Conservancy, Mt. Cuba Center, The Conservation Fund, and

over one thousand members of the surrounding communities were able to facilitate the preservation of this huge swath of land in May 2017. The saving of Beaver Valley was not just a victory for land conservation, but a victory for the entire community.

Birmingham Hill is 113 acres located at the epicenter of the historic Battle of Brandywine. Brandywine Battlefield faced tremendous development pressure starting in the 1980s. In response, the Conservancy undertook a 20-year endeavor to preserve nearly 500 contiguous acres where the fiercest fighting occurred. With many properties successfully put under easement, the Conservancy was able to purchase 100 acres of Birmingham Hill in 2007. When the last 13 acres became available in 2017, the Conservancy pursued the parcel as the last piece of the puzzle. In September 2018, the parcel was finally acquired and Birmingham Hill was once and for all saved from residential development threats. The Conservancy will start a master planning process with the intent of making Birmingham Hill the organization's first public preserve.

King Ranch, Beaver Valley, and Birmingham Hill were urgent, time-critical campaigns to save important lands from serious developmental pressure. Each time, the Conservancy was able to recognize the opportunity to act quickly and effectively. Although the Conservancy continues to protect and steward thousands of acres that may not have the same public awareness, these three examples are powerful demonstrations of the Conservancy's ultimate purpose- a holistic approach to land conservation by safeguarding and interpreting the Brandywine valley's open space, natural resources, and storied history.

THE "BUCKBOARD"

- **Barbara Stewart**, BDT Board Member, obtained grants from the **Dockstader Foundation, PECO Green Region** and **Treewitalize** totaling **\$13,000** to develop a new native woodland park region in Londonderry Township. The area is approximately an 8 acre wetland/upland area that has become heavily invaded with invasive species. The park area has first order springs that feed the Doe Run Branch of the Brandywine River. Removal of invasive species is a first priority with eventual establishment of walking trails.
- Brandywine Conservancy would like to offer a complimentary copy of the **'Catalyst for Conservation'** to their members while supplies last. **CONTACT:** John Goodall, Western Area Manager for BC at his Doe Run office: 610-383-9515 jgoodall@nni.net
- Reminder to everyone, who visits The Laurels Preserve, must be a paid member of the Brandywine Conservancy. Thanks.

MOMENTS IN HISTORY

The Laurels Preserve was named for the Mountain Laurel in its woods.

Today, it is a 771 acre private preserve open to the members of the Brandywine Conservancy. Many consider it "ground zero" for the conservation movement in the region. Nancy Mohr's article, from the 1980's, has been reprinted in this newsletter. Nancy provides us a glimpse into the Laurel's history over the last few centuries which includes the Laurels Rolling Mills and Laurels Iron Works.

Thanks Nancy!

SUPPORTING LAND & WATER RESOURCE CONSERVATION

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The Laurels experienced unprecedented flooding this year. Not only did the Spring Fling have to be moved back one week but also the community pitched in over the summer to help clean up after some of the summer storms. Although not effected by flooding, BDT member and easement holder, Conrad Somers, donated his time in repairing the kiosk at the Laurels entrance.

Thanks to all who joined in!"



**THE LAURELS
IS AN 800-ACRE
TREASURE
TROVE OF
NATURAL
WEALTH**
by Nancy Mohr

The daffodils survive. Scattered among the ruins, they come up year after so successful year, greeny yellow, a bright reminder in ruins that once knew so much life and vitality.

This is the site of the Laurel mill, a thriving country iron mill (*one of two*), known together as the Laurel Iron Works in Chester County so successful in its time that the United States Government reputedly commandeered its productivity for the Civil War. Today the quiet stream seems never to have been disturbed by anything other than migrating geese and grazing cattle, but there was a time when an entire community depended upon its resources.

An empty ruin, known locally as the Angel House, with the tracing of stairways and fireplaces still imprinted on the inner walls, stands open to the sky. Nearby, tall pines hover protectively around the overgrown tumble that was the proud mill owner's home. A dam breast is nothing but a heap of rock, although it once held back the water that covered an entire meadow and furnished the power for the iron rolling mill. The remnant of the mill office holds fast against the vines and trees that never cease attempting to take over and erase. The meandering stream has changed contours and relocated landmarks so often that by the early 1900's even the mill owner's grand-children had trouble identifying the familiar limits of the old mill pond, or just where the Lower Garden ended. And yet, for all the change and disintegration, the entire area known as the Laurels has held a special charm for each succeeding generation. Tucked away in the midst of a vast holding of open land, the Laurels is a treasure trove of natural wealth with its unusual plant life, wild animals, clear, unpolluted streams and interesting geological characteristics. The open space surrounding the approximately 800 acres of the Laurels has been in turn a showcase of successful intelligent



PLASTERED STONE HOUSE, LAUREL IRON WORKS

PHOTOGRAPH BY: **WAYNE E. HOMAN**
CREDIT: CHESTER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

farming, the eastern extension of the Texas King Ranch's cattle operation, and more recently a breeding farm for their famed Santa Gertrudis cattle. Within the last year, it has been the focal point of the Brandywine Conservancy's project to guarantee the preservation of the immediate Laurel area as well as the protection of thousands of surrounding acres through an effective system of conservation easements. The land will again undergo change, but the change will be minimal.

Hugh E. Steele, the man whose ambitions probably had the most tangible effect upon the Laurels, would most likely be pleased with the latest turn of events. His love for the land and his extensive knowledge of its natural wealth went far beyond what might have been expected of the owner and operator of a mill that rolled iron plates. While the mill thumped and bumped its way through six days of work a week, Steele would often surprise his grandchildren in Coatesville with a visit, whisking them off in his mill wagon for several days and even weeks at the sprawling house high above the Buck Run. All along the way to his home he would point out animals or particular trees and plants, sharing with his grandchildren a love of nature that was a crucial force in his own life.



LAURELS FURNACE OFFICE

PHOTOGRAPH BY: **WAYNE E. HOMAN, 1965**
CREDIT: CHESTER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

Steele's children and then their children swam in the pools below the huge McCorkle's Rocks. Above them on the hillsides more outcroppings provided sheltered areas for camping and superb terrain for games of cowboys and Indians. The mythical **Sandy Flash**, the area romantic highwayman, was rumored to have used the very same caves when he was fleeing justice.

The Twin Bridges, sturdy covered bridges, were wonderful places to play, and the lazy confluence of the Buck and Doe Run, just below the bridges, supplied shallow, safe wading places for the youngest children. The laurel bushes themselves grasped bits of earth in the rocky hills. In the spring, with the water of the creeks sparkling beneath blue skies and sunshine, the pale pink and white of the laurels still lends a fairytale glow to the valley.

Even in the 19th century ownership of the charms of such a beautiful, fertile valley required a trade-off of hard work and hard cash. Hugh Steele was young and unmarried when he and a friend, Joshua Edge, purchased the water powered rolling mill in the early 1840's from Joseph Pyle for \$12,500. The Laurel mill had been founded in 1793 by the Laverty brothers to manufacture horse shoes and nails. It has been in business steadily since then. Within a few years of Steele and Edge's purchase, Shessie B. Worth joined the partnership, and eventually Mr. Edge left to run his own mill in Delaware. By this time Hugh Steele had added several neighboring farms to his holdings, was married to Hannah Rakestraw, and the couple had begun raising the first of their four children. They also had greatly expanded the little community

around the mill.

The Steele's own house was an add-on structure, beginning with the log cabin of the founders. A center hall, parlor, sitting room, dining room, summer and winter kitchens, storage space and many bedrooms to accommodate family and friends made up the newer sections of the house. Long French windows looked over the lawn sloping up to a knoll which itself overlooked the great rocks and the mill dam. Well planned, informal country gardens were a particular contribution of Hannah Steele who, though somewhat frail and of delicate health, presided with loving authority over the family and residents of the mill community.

A delightful memoir by one of Hugh Steele's grandchildren, Lorraine McKinstry, describes her visits to the big house at the mill. It was obviously a very special place for all the young people, those directly related to the Steeles and many of their friends. For all Steele's ambitions as a businessman, his relatives with his family seemed to be the real focal point of his life. This attitude carried over to his employees for there are newspaper clippings at the Chester County Historical Society of interviews with mill workers who give credit to their employer for generosity and concern. One, for instance, written at a time when the Steeles were struggling through an extremely difficult economic period speaks of Hugh Steele as "the best man in Chester County. He treats his workmen as he would his children, and work or no work they get their 'grub' regularly, and himself and his most estimable lady will share with their humble followers as long as there is a shot in the locker."

A seriously injured millworker spent several months recuperating in the guest room with the several Steele grandchildren popping in and out to read to him and chat about the day's events. At Christmastime all the mill families were invited to supper and to enjoy the Christmas tree with its dozens of twinkling candles. Every child received a Christmas gift before they returned to the seventeen small houses that formed the mill's own village. Hugh Steele was a truly paternalistic employer, and his willingness to make allowances, to think of the individual rather than the goals of profit were probably responsible for his ultimate downfall. He was an energetic, creative, hardworking businessman, but he was incapable of making decisions based on cold, hard facts.

Except for the years between 1851 and 1856, the center of the Steele's life was the Laurel property. During that five-year span, however, Hugh Steele was heavily involved with his partner, Worth, in the purchase and operation of the larger Viaduct Mill in Coatesville. The Laurel mill was first shut down and then leased to Charles and Joseph Pennock. James Penrose assumed the Laurel lease in 1853 and held it until the Steeles happily returned to their home in 1856.



THE "BIG HOUSE" AT LAUREL FORGE ON DOE RUN, CHESTER COUNTY.
DATE STONE IN CHIMNEY STATES 1837

PHOTOGRAPHY: **CLEMENT S. BRINTON, FEBRUARY 27, 1948**
CREDIT: CHESTER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, WEST CHESTER, PA.

According to McKinstry's memoir, Steele's increasingly successful mill at the Laurels, far more productive for its size than many other mills, attracted the attention of the Government during the Civil War. The song of the mill, interpreted by Hannah Steele as

"Go penny, come pound,
Go penny, come pound
and alas when hard times came:
Go pound, come penny,

Go pound, come penny" was the clatter and clang of the machinery and the failing of the finished iron plate. The noise continued seven days a week during the War. It was said that Hugh Steele would awake instantly from sound sleep of the mill noise stopped; for him silence was the sound of something gone wrong. He never became accustomed to the idea of having the mill run on the Lord's Day, but for the war years he was resigned to having the national interest overrule his religious preferences. It must have been a matter of great pride for him and all the mill workers to have the plates for the Union's ironclad, the Monitor, rolled at the Laurel Iron Works. They were also able to claim a

part in building the first locomotive to cross the country and the first steamship to enter a Chinese port.

Among the Steele papers are number of letters written to and by members of the family, reinforcing a sense of the Laurel families being much closer to the outside world than their protected location might have indicated. When in July 1863, the guns could be heard at Gettysburg, Hannah Steele wrote to her daughter, Annie, attending Miss Thomas's School in Downingtown, urging her stay at the school for safety since the mill would be inevitably be seized should the Confederate army break through the Union ranks. Letters from young friends in the Union army arrived to tell of battles in the south to describe the awesome worship of the southern troops for Stonewall Jackson, devotion which, to the frustration of the Yankee boys, encouraged the southerners to overcome insurmountable odds fighting against better northern soldiers.

The war years, busy as they were did nothing to augment Steele's personal fortune. According to his records, he made little or no profit from the government orders and poured huge quantities of his own resources into keeping the mill machinery in good repair. However, the wave of prosperity following the Civil War encouraged him to build the "new" or "lower mill" three quarters of a

mile from the “upper mill” on the bank of the Brandywine, close to the newly completed Wilmington and Reading railroad. Steele was the railroad’s first president. The future seemed bright then for the Laurel Iron Works for employer and workers alike. The railroad was to have been the key to great changes in Chester County, and the Laurel mills were to be the hub of an eventual manufacturing center. Coal would arrive directly from the mines to generate steam power, and the finished iron plates would be shipped directly to Wilmington for water to the major business centers.

For all of Hugh Steele’s talent and vision, the business panic of the early ‘70s caught up with the mills. The railroad failed, causing immense financial loss for the Steeles who were stockholders, and the death of Hugh Steele’s old friend and partner Shessie Worth dealt the final blow. For several years he struggled to keep the mills going, but by April of 1878 he reluctantly declared bankruptcy. In 1879 he moved his family and many of the most faithful employees to a rented mill in New Castle, Delaware.

The New Castle venture was profitable for only a few years, and Hannah and Hugh Steele returned to live as tenants in their old Laurel home. There were two more moves for them before Steele’s death in 1885 at his birthplace Stock Grange in West Bradford Township. Until the last, Hugh Steele remained ambitious and optimistic, always trying to make a success of a new project. His grandchildren felt he died of a broken heart away from the Laurels which he loved so much. Lorraine McKinstry echoed the respect in which he was held by his friends, family and business associates: “ His life was a story of indomitable energy, courage, and cheerfulness in the face of adverse circumstance and his business failure was in a large measure due to his inability to realize that everyone was not as honest and conscientious as he was.”

Steele was not the only one who found it nearly impossible to run the post-war mills at a profit. From the time he relinquished control in 1879 until 1891 when the mill machinery was broken up and carted to Wilmington, the various people who leased the mills faced major problems. Machinery broke down, a smokestack



LAUREL FURNACE SITE
PHOTOGRAPHY: WAYNE E. HOMAN OF READING, PA - 1965
CREDIT: CHESTER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, WEST CHESTER, PA.

collapsed, breaking steam lines and causing considerable damage and orders were sporadic. *The Daily Local News* printed numerous items recording the Laurel mills either producing at lessened capacity or shut down for varying periods of time.

Rumors flourished in 1906 that a new mill was to be built on the site of the lower Laurel mill close to the railroad. Lammot du Pont, who had acquired the land, maintained the small mill houses for many years for his farm workers, but by 1930 the main house, the “mansion” loved by three generations of Steeles had fall into ruin. The old mill on the Buck Run had been torn down, and the land was used for grazing.

A stone and timber barn has also

fallen in. **Lammot du Pont** conducted an excellent farming operation until the mid-1940s when he sold the property to **Robert Kleberg, Jr.** for use by the King Ranch.

The completion of the arrangements by the Brandywine Conservancy for preservation of the 800 acres of the Laurels, adjacent to the actual rolling mill land, and an additional 4,600 acres purchased by investors willing to support the conservation easement program will preserve the countryside in much the same condition as Hugh Steele knew it. Preservation of the remnants of the mill buildings will also be achieved. The old mill office will be restored as a home, and the Angel House, originally the home of the Steele family’s teacher, will also be restored.

Even though the valley will never again reverberate to the sound of the busy mill, the memories are still alive and cherished, passed down from generation to generation of Steeles and other families whose lives revolved around the thump and clatter of the iron works. The Laurels are pleasantly haunted with the spirits of past years and, now that the land is to be preserved, they may stay on to frolic among McCorkle’s Rocks and along the banks of the Buck and Doe Run.

Nancy Mohr is a free lance writer who lives in Unionville, Pennsylvania. She and her family have been involved in the Conservancy’s environmental activities since 1970.



THE LAURELS REPRINTED ARTICLE



MANAGER'S OFFICE/RESIDENCE; LAURELS ROLLING MILLS

PHOTOGRAPH BY: **NANCY MOHR, 1979**

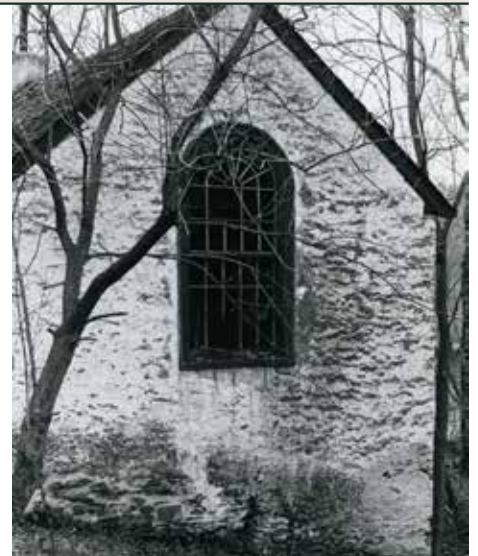
CREDIT: CHESTER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Hugh Steele's money box and one of the bonds he purchased for the Wilmington and Reading Railroad Company. This bond, which should have been payable April 1, 1902, and became worthless soon after it was issued in 1873.



FROM NANCY MOHR

CREDIT UNKNOWN



**RUINS FOR MILL WORKERS HOUSES,
LAUREL ROLLING MILL**

PHOTOGRAPHS BY **NANCY MOHR 1979**

CREDIT: CHESTER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, WEST CHESTER, PA.



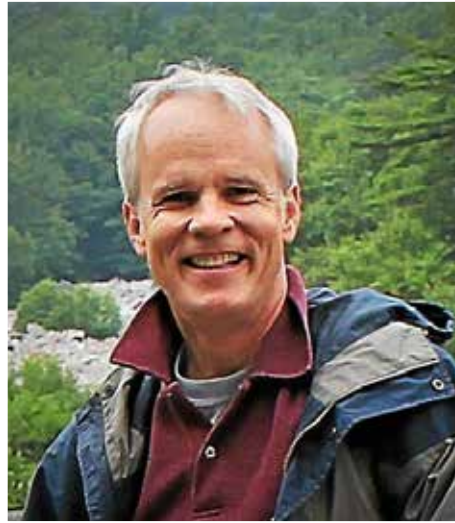
Natural Lands adds acres to ChesLen

Natural Lands President Announces Retirement Plans

Molly Morrison, president of Natural Lands, has announced plans to retire after 14 years as leader of the region's largest conservation organization. Morrison said that she expects to step down by the end of 2018.

Morrison took the reins at Natural Lands in 2005 and her leadership has resulted in some of the region's most significant conservation achievements. During her tenure, the organization has preserved permanently more than 32,000 acres of open space in eastern Pennsylvania and southern New Jersey. This includes landmark additions to its network of 44 nature preserves, including: the 1,282-acre **ChesLen Preserve** in Chester County, the 3,565-acre **Bear Creek Preserve** near Wilkes Barre, and its first Berks County property, the 201-acre **Green Hills Preserve**.

Thank you Molly for all of your efforts, especially with the ChesLen Preserve!



Department of Open Space Preservation for Chester County

Bill Gladden has joined **French & Pickering** as Executive Director. With more than 30 years of experience in land use, preservation, and management in the public and private sector, Bill will bring a wealth of experience to this role. He has been Director of the **Department of Open Space Preservation for Chester County** since 2004, leading the county to invest over \$200 million, and preserving over 55,000 acres of farms, forests, parks, and preserves.

Thank you Bill for supporting farmers and your work throughout Chester County!



The Land Conservancy of Southern Chester County

Gwen Lacy, the founding executive director of **The Land Conservancy for Southern Chester County** (TLC), has stepped down. Lacy has been a dedicated and passionate advocate for land conservation, historic preservation, environmental education, and stewardship in the region for 14 years. She started in 2004 as director of the **Kennett Township Land Trust (KTLT)**. As KTLT became increasingly active across the region, Lacy led its transformation into **The Land Conservancy for Southern Chester County**, a nationally accredited land trust, in 2010. TLC has since expanded to include a wide range of outreach and educational activities. Lacy's vision, skill, education, legal background, and tireless advocacy have led TLC to conserve more than 1,000 acres and create five public nature preserves.

Thank you Gwen for your work on many levels including assistance with preserving Barnard's Orchards!

SUPPORTING LAND & WATER RESOURCE CONSERVATION

“Pass the Buck”

This is a perpetual award for a newly eased landowner or deserving recipient meant to be passed to the next recipient signifying the preservation of additional lands and our community for the generations.

Laura & Dean Richardson and **Cathie & Michael Ledyard...**

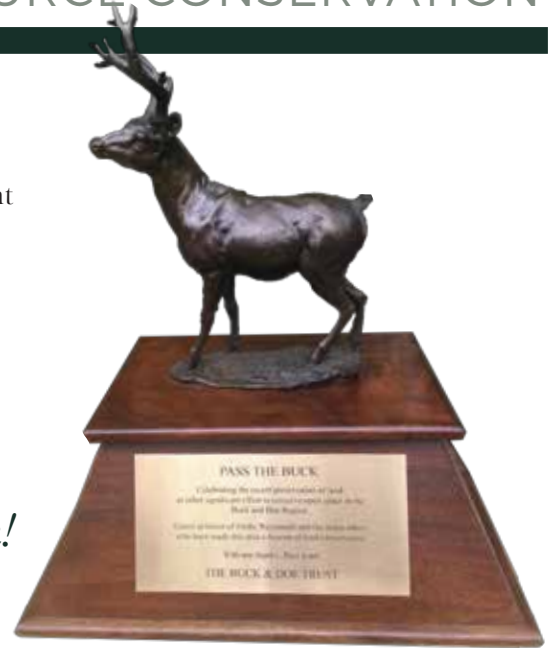
for their new easements.

Janet Sidewater...

for her conservation contributions.



Pass it on!



Adopt-A-Highway

BDT has been participating in the PennDot Adopt-A-Highway program since 2005. We are responsible for the clean up of the stretch of Route 82 (Doe Run Rd.) from West Road to Rokeby. The original purpose for this initiative was to help maintain the natural beauty and breath-taking views of the conserved areas along the route. Over the years, we estimate hundreds of pounds of rubbish and debris have been collected, supplementing the efforts of adjacent landowners to keep the area pristine. Please consider joining us for an hour or so at an upcoming cleanup. You will enjoy the camaraderie and accomplishment felt by the participants as we attempt to stay ahead of the mounting trash littering all of our roads these days!



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HISTORY:

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), AND OTHER ACTIVITIES WHICH FOCUS ON "COMMUNITY CONSERVATION".

**2019 ANNUAL DUES
\$40 PER FAMILY**

Payable to: **BUCK & DOE TRUST**
MAIL TO OUR ADDRESS
OR USE OUR WEBSITE

www.buckanddoetrust.org

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.

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