In Perpetuity


Through Delaware & Raritan Greenway’s efforts, funds from the State Green Acres program, and the generous donations of several landowners, more than 300 acres along the Stony Brook and the Delaware & Raritan Canal Park were preserved in 1995. This brings the total acres preserved by Greenway to 1073.

In August of this year, through a bargain sale agreement, Greenway preserved a forty-one acre parcel of land in Hopewell Township. Located near Kunkle Park, the property stretches north to nearly connect with the Baldwin Lake Wildlife Management Area. Primarily wooded, the property is bordered by the Stony Brook on the east and Lewis Brook on the south. (This property was featured in Greenways, Summer, 1995.)

A second parcel in Hopewell Township was preserved through a generous donation from the Mason family. Concerned about the loss of farmland and increasing development pressures in the Hopewell area, the Masons donated thirty-five acres of land along the Stony Brook to D&R Greenway. This property includes wetlands and uplands forested with ash, hickory, maple, and sweet gum. The land is in the Stony Brook stream corridor and contiguous to an easement Greenway holds at the Cedar Ridge Trail. The donation provides a significant buffer to the stream and protects vital wildlife habitat in the area. Future plans include the development of a trail to connect to the Cedar Ridge Trail.

Working in partnership with Mercer County and the State Green Acres program, D&R Greenway also helped to preserve eleven and a half acres of woods adjacent to Mercer County’s Rosedale Park. The land was on the market for a single family home when we approached the landowner who agreed to a bargain sale. With financial assistance from the Mercer County Board of Freeholders and the State Green Acres nonprofit program, the property was acquired by D&R Greenway and then transferred to Mercer County to become part of Rosedale Park. This new acquisition provides a buffer to help protect the Stony Brook and enlarges the Wildlife Habitat Area of Rosedale Park. County Executive Robert Prunetti acknowledged Greenway for our efforts in protecting this valuable habitat and thanked us for acquiring the land and transferring it to the county to expand Rosedale Park.

Through a very generous land donation from Beverly Sommer, two hundred sixteen acres of farmlands and woodlands were preserved in Franklin Township. Much of the newly preserved land is being farmed for soybean and hay. The property also includes wetlands and an old field, that will, over the next decade as the canopy closes, become forest.

Located across Canal Road from the D&R Canal State Park, the Sommer property provides a critical buffer to the canal from extensive development occurring on the opposite side of the property. The land is also contiguous to seven hundred acres of preserved land owned by Franklin Township, the three thousand acre-Six Mile Run State Park and the three hundred acre-Hutcheson Memorial Forest.

An internationally known research center, Hutcheson Memorial Forest is Continued on page 7
Common Ground

1995 Highlights

BY PEGGY MCNU TT

This year was very exciting and successful for Delaware & Raritan Greenway, Inc. More than 300 acres were preserved bringing our total to 1073 acres. The Hamilton/Trenton Marsh project continued to flourish and was recognized by the Delaware River Greenway with an award for raising public awareness, providing educational information, preserving open space and enhancing the area in the field of environmental and cultural education. The Institute Lands Preservation Committee hired a fundraising campaign director and the $100,000 match was raised for the D&R Greenway grant for the project. A new trail was created and a native woodland regeneration program was started at the McKinley Woods Preserve. Public interest continues to grow and membership more than doubled.

Greenway Efforts

We had another terrific year with our greenway projects. Four properties were acquired totaling 10 acres, bringing our total to 1073 acres. Two of those acquisitions received grants worth more than $2 million; a third resulted from a cooperative effort between D & R Greenway and Mercer County.

We continued to work with other local conservation groups on their preservation efforts and are involved with an effort to create the Hamilton Land Trust Alliance. This organization will serve as an "umbrella" organization in the county working with municipal chapters to preserve, protect and enhance the county’s scenic beauty and its environmental and historic resources. We also worked cooperatively with local groups to preserve land including the 200-acre Ingersoll Road tract.

A new trail was created at McKinnin Marsh and the Land Management Committee began a native hardwood regeneration project on the property. More than 100 saplings were "rubbed" in order to protect them from deer predation.

D & R Greenway established the Donald J. Jones Conservation Award. The first recipient was Glen Fiore for his preservation efforts in Montgomery Township and the State of New Jersey.

Through private and public partnerships, D & R Greenway has generated some $22 million and preserved nearly 1,100 acres. We continued outreach to landowners, working to conserve environmentally and historically sensitive land and have also submitted seven applications to Green Acres for consideration under the new bond issue.

Hamilton/Trenton Marsh

Interest in, and support of the marsh swelled as we continued our public outreach and education programs. More than 3,500 people participated in the natural walks, historical talks and canoe trips, workshops and other outreach programs. We presented classrooms and assembly programs about the Marsh to more than 1,500 school students (K-12) and toured nearly 225 students from neighboring schools. More than 1,000 calls were received on the Marsh Hotline.

New Trustees and Officers Named

In January, the board of trustees of the Delaware & Raritan Greenway appointed three new members—Alice East, Fred Gaskin, and Gordon Smith. Kate Lebowitz of Princeton was re-elected as chair. Also re-elected as vice-chairs were Samuel M. Hamill Jr., of Lawrence, Edmund T. Stiles of Hopewell, and William Swain of Princeton. Alan Hershey of Pennington was re-elected treasurer.

Alice East has lived in Princeton since 1949. She currently serves as a Trustee for the College of the Atlantic in Maine and she has been a trustee for 12 years (the college is the only higher education institution to offer a degree in Human Ecology in the country). She previously served as President of the Chippewa School for 8 years and as President of Mercer County Planned Parenthood for 4 years.

Alice East has lived in Princeton with her husband and shares an interest in hiking, birding and gardening.

Born in Westfield, N.J., Gordon Smith graduated from Michigan State University in 1959 and from the University of Pennsylvania Wharton School in 1963. He served in the Army as a Captain and an Air Force Captain in Cold War. He has worked for Johnson & Johnson as a Product Group Director, and has been a commercial real estate developer.

He manages a professional office park which he built in Somerville.

Gordon lives with his wife and two children on a 70-acre farm in East Amwell where they breed, raise, and train horses. He has served on the East Amwell Planning Board and on the East Amwell Environmental Commission and currently serves as the liaison between East Amwell and the County Agricultural Development Board.

Fred Gaskin is a Vice President of U.S. Trust of New Jersey in Princeton where he manages individual and institutional portfolios. He has also served as a Vice President managing portfolios with Dreman Value Management, Jersey City.

He graduated from Babcock Graduate School of Management, Wake Forest University in 1989.

Folk Concert Planned

D & R Greenway is sponsoring an evening of entertainment with Leslie Tucker & Rockwell Church. The concert will be held on Friday, March 9, 1996, at 8:00 p.m. in Murray-Dodge Theater, Princeton University. The concert is dedicated to the memory of Mary Jeanne Teetzl.

Leslie Tucker

Lydia Hutchison with The Performong Songwriters, describes Leslie Tucker as "a writer who I consider to be a gifted writer I've ever heard. Her songs are profoundly beautiful stories of strength wrapped in perfectly crafted melodies and delivered in a voice you'll never get tired of hearing."

Leslie began singing as a child with her family in Virginia and learned to harmonize with her sister. Leslie writes songs and performing in 1991.

Delivered in her uniquely expressive "smoke and honey" voice, Leslie's songs are gems of simplicity, in which her careful craftsmanship never obscures the emotional heat of the music.

On her latest released CD, In This Room, she is capable of wicked irony, infectious playfulness and wise longing. Leslie seems poised to follow the path of artists like Mary Chapin Carpenter.

Rockwell Church

A perfect teaming of virtuoso and front-man, Rockwell Church is one of the freshest voices on the acoustic folk-rock scene. Comprised of Jon Rockwell and Nathan Hubbard, the acoustic duo out of Washington, D.C., has been developing their sound since they were childhood friends.

Jon's multi-faceted musical talent (guitar, violin, piano, drums) complements Nathan's strong vocals and solid guitar work. Their debut release, I'm a Child of God, garnered national acclaim.

Jon, a student at Harvard College, and Nathan, a student at Princeton University, continue to play as much as possible while pursuing their undergraduate degrees. Rockwell Church offers a refreshing voice on the American music scene, already making their mark as an original sound.

Doors will open at 7:00 p.m. for general seating. Tickets are available for $8 for D & R Greenway members and students with I.D.; $12 for the general public. Concert proceeds will benefit D & R Greenway.

To reserve tickets by mail, complete and mail the coupon on page 2. For general seating, tickets are $8 for D & R Greenway members and students with I.D.; $12 for the general public. Concert proceeds will benefit D & R Greenway.

In Loving Memory

Margaret "Lee" Weld Tetzel

1937-1995

It is with great sadness that we learned of the death of our friend and coworker, Margaret "Lee" Weld Tetzel who died in a car accident while driving over the holidays. Lee was Development Assistant with D & R Greenway from March of last year until her death in December.

She was a beautiful woman with a genius, yet strong, upright and creative spirit. She lived deeply and purposefully, in a life reflecting her passions and courage and protecting what she loved. In the process she touched many in a very personal way.

Lee was an artist who was particularly known for creating biological paintings in which she incorporated aspects of a person's life into a single painting. She also served on the board of the Arts Council. One could feel creativity emanating from her as she talked of 1940's and the rich tapestry of life.

Lee cared deeply for the environment and her work with Greenway reflected that she loved. She was also an active member of the Stone Brook Garden Club.

hiking a trail along the Stony Brook, preparing for a meeting or working to complete another mailing, Lee always helped us find balance in the demands of the internship, her classes, and dedication eased the load.

We loved her for who she was—and for who she helped us to be. Her loss is felt deeply by all of us.

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to Lee's family, her friends, and three sons, William, Richard and Chris. With gratitude, the D & R Greenway and the Evening of Folk Music on March 8 to her memory.

In Loving Memory Margaret "Lee" Weld Tetzel 1937-1995
The Hamilton/Trenton Marsh

Shake off winter weariness and enjoy the great outdoors at the Marsh. Spring is a great season to see migrating birds, enjoy the first wild flowers, and spot the first turtles and frogs as they dig their way out of the mud to bask in the warm sunshine. Plan to join us!

All events are open to the public. Unless otherwise noted, cost is $2 per person for Greenway members, $4 per family; $4 per person for non-members, $8 per family. For more information or to register, call the Hamilton/Trenton Marsh Hotline at (609) 452-0525. Please send your check with the coupon on page 7.

Abbott Farm Artifacts: A Behind the Scenes Tour
Saturday, March 16
10:00 a.m. – noon
Join D&R Greenway for a talk and tour of the artifacts and archeology of the Abbott Farm at New Jersey State Museum. The boundaries of the Abbott Farm National Historic Landmark easily coincide with those of the marsh. Abbott Farm is the largest Middle Woodland Indian site east of the Mississippian. Loraine Williams, the New Jersey State Archeologist, will share the story of this historic landmark and lead a tour of the New Jersey State Museum’s collection of artifacts. Registration deadline is March 8.

Marsh Madness: A Community Celebration
Sunday, April 28
8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Celebrate Earth Day, Arbor Day, and the Hamilton/Trenton Marsh at Marsh Madness. We’re planning tours, talks, walks, activities, exhibits, food and entertainment for nature lovers, history buffs, and children of all ages. See the details on the next page! Cost for the day is $1 per person for Greenway members, $10 per family; $4 per person for non-members, $12 per family.

Migrating Bird Walk
Saturday, May 4
8:00 – 10:00 a.m.
Do you wish you could identify the bird that sings your favorite spring song? Here’s your chance to learn. We’ll explore the woodlands and waterways for warblers, grosbeaks, cardinals, and other wild birds. Registration deadline is April 26.

A Walk Back in Time
Thursday, April 11
4:30 – 6:00 p.m.
Join us for a late afternoon walk to explore the rich history of the marsh. We’ll start at Lock 5 of the D&R Canal and hike along the railroad tracks to the site of an old brick factory. Jim Amos, executive director of the D&R Canal Commission will lead our walk. Enjoy a seldom seen area of the marsh and a walk back in time to those historic landmarks. Registration deadline is Wednesday, April 3.

Great Blue Heron (Ardea herodias)
Highlights

Continued from page 2

Task forces were established with representatives from federal, state, and local government, business and community leaders, educators, landowners, board members and volunteers to address public access and recreation, protection of natural and historical resources, and educational programs, materials and facilities. The task forces have established goals and achieved several initiatives.

We continued to work with the Green Acres program to preserve environmentally and historically sensitive lands at the marsh.

In November, D&R Greenway received a Delaware River Greenway Partnership Award in recognition of Community, Organization, and Individual Activities that Support the Program Mission. Mercer County Board of Freeholders and the Washington Crossing Audubon Society nominated D&R Greenway for the award for our efforts in developing a program to raise public awareness and appreciation, preserving open space and enhancing the area in the

field of environmental and cultural education.

For Advanced Study

The preservation of the 589 acres of farmland and woodlands continued to be a priority of D&R Greenway this year. The Institute Lands Preservation Committee worked with Princeton Township to finalize a $10.5 million State Green Acres grant and loan package and has been working with the State to finalize the conservation easement. 1996 will be a critical year for this preservation effort.

Fundraising

This year D&R Greenway held three new fundraising events, two of which were sold out. In February, D&R Greenway, in partnership with The Friends of The Princeton University Art Museum sponsored a sold-out lecture featuring John Willmerding on Thomas Cole. Nineteenth-Century Landscape Painting, and the Origins of Environmental Protection. In May, D&R Greenway hosted an event and established a Conservation Award in honor of Donald R. Jones. More than 100 people joined us for guided walks along the Stony Brook and to honor Donald and Clem Fierz, the recipient of the award, for their outstanding contributions to preservation efforts in central New Jersey.

In November, we offered a new tour of the D&R Canal, this year featuring the Kingston to Blackwells Mills section. Sponsorship of the event was provided by Mr. and Mrs. John Johnson, Sr. Charitable Trusts.

In 1995, membership to D&R Greenway increased by 140 percent and many new members participated in the programs and events.

Future Plans

As a result in October, the D&R Greenway Board of Trustees reaffirmed their commitment to land preservation and protection through private initiatives and public funding. The Board also acknowledged that future growth and marketing efforts are essential to our continued success.

Our thanks to the following donors for gifts received from November 21,1995 to January 31, 1996.


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Please make check payable to D&R Greenway and mail to: Delaware & Raritan Greenways, 570 Mercer Road, Princeton, NJ 08540

In Perpetuity

Continued from page 8

owned by Rutgers University. Preserved by the Nature Conservancy in 1957, the property was the first preserved in New Jersey. According to director Ted Stiles, Huffman Forest includes virgin forest and is the site of several long-term ecological and geological research projects, and in fact, provides the longest study of old field succession in the State.

With the addition of the Stony Brook property, the block of preserved land along this section of the canal totals nearly 7,000 contiguous acres and provides a significant expanse of protected wildlife habitat which will help maintain the area's biological diversity and provide the habitat needed for threatened species to thrive. Long term plans for the land include developing a trail and conducting ecological research.

Editor's note: If you would like more information about preserving your land, please call our office or return the coupon on this page.
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