

Linn Log

The Newsletter of the
Merrill W. Linn Land &
Waterways Conservancy

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Fall 1998

Coming Events:

Pickup Trucks Needed on September 19th and 20th

As *Linn Log* goes to press, members of the Conservancy's site/stewardship committee are planning a major weekend of work at two of our stewardship sites on September 19th and 20th. Debris removal is planned beside the railroad track on the Montandon Marsh property and trash removal is scheduled from vernal ponds on a site in Limestone Township. If possible we also hope to clear trash that has been dumped near Dale's Ridge at a former quarry site. The primary muscle power in these work sessions has been offered by the brothers of Sigma Phi Epsilon at Bucknell. What we need now and for future cleanups are volunteers who have pickup trucks (without caps) which they would be willing to drive between the littered area and trash containers on the respective properties. (A professional hauler will then remove the debris from the sites).

We hope also to do work at another site in Limestone Township in early November. For this effort, the assistance of several who own and operate chain saws is needed. There are some small trees we wish to remove that are crowding the wild lupine at this stewardship site.

Please call the office or speak with Betsy Quant or Geoff Goodenow if you can help with a pickup truck or chain saw. If unavailable this time, perhaps you can help next time. We need to know if we can call upon you.

October 3rd is Third Seasonal Walk on Shamokin Mountain Trail with Wayne McDiffett

Observing seasonal changes on the Shamokin Mountain Trail will again be a special treat for members and guests. On October 3rd, Wayne McDiffett will lead the third and last in a series of walks on the Shamokin Mountain Trail in Union Township. The walk will begin at 1:00 p.m. and we will meet at the trail head. To get there, take Stein Lane south from Lewisburg and go 1.1 miles past Furnace Road. After crossing under two power lines, there will be a small green sign on the left marking the Union Township boundary. Take the first left onto the gravel road and follow it for

.3 mile. Pull off the right side of the road and park near the trail head information kiosk. Walking conditions are quite easy for the approximately one hour walk.

Fifth Semi-Annual Buffalo Creek Canoe Cleanup on Saturday Afternoon, October 17th

The Linn Conservancy will be carrying out its fifth canoe cleanup of Buffalo Creek under the experienced guidance of Allan and Betsy Quant. If you are interested in participating, please contact the Quants at 524-7692 or aquant@sunlink.net. Depending on water levels at the time, the group may work on the Susquehanna River rather than Buffalo Creek. Bucknell students from Alpha Phi Omega and the Bucknell Outing Club will be using Outing Club canoes while others should plan to bring a canoe. Please contact the Quants for more particulars.

October 18th is Rescheduled Dale's Ridge Sampler with Dick Nickelsen

Since rain canceled our spring walk, it is being offered again this fall. We'll assemble at 1:30 pm in the parking lot of the Dale's Ridge Trail for a "sampler" tour with geologist, bird enthusiast, and naturalist Dick Nickelsen, Bucknell professor emeritus and former Conservancy director. He worked with the late Rosie Walker, the property owner, in designing this two-mile walking loop and knows every aspect intimately. The trail is easy after walking up the switchback but one should wear suitable foot gear. Allow a couple of hours for this experience. The parking lot is on Strawbridge Road and located in the front of Walker farm immediately before crossing Buffalo Creek. Strawbridge Road runs north off Rte. 192 a couple of miles west of Lewisburg. This is a real opportunity for those who have not joined one of Dick's previous "sampler" walks. Don't miss out!

Sunday Adopt-a-Highway Cleanups on October 25

Our last Adopt-a-Highway cleanup of 1998 is scheduled for Sunday, October 25. We will meet at 1 p.m. at the Limestone Township pavilion along Penns Creek. It is situated one mile west of Rte. 104 south of Mifflinburg. (Turn west on the creekside road just before crossing the Penns Creek bridge on Rte. 104.) It is best to wear long pants and bring your own gloves. The entire effort takes only about 1 - 1 1/2 hours. Please contact Geoff Goodenow (523-0257) at least a week before if you would like to help. Kathy Rowe and Rolf and Annick Helbig helped Geoff with our late August Adopt-a-Highway work session.

Audubon Society Program - September 15 Meeting

The Seven Mountains Chapter of the National Audubon Society offers a number of public programs from September to May which are frequently also of interest to Linn Conservancy members. Monthly meetings feature a variety of speakers addressing topics of local, national and global concern. Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month (September to May) at 7:30 pm in the auditorium (Room 116) of the Rooke Chemistry Building on Bucknell's campus. A number of field trips are held each year along with the annual Christmas bird count and the spring bird-athon. All programs and field trips are free and open to everyone. If you wish more information, contact Seven Mountains Audubon Society directly at PO Box 389, Lewisburg 17837.

The next meeting is September 15 and the subject will be the Pennsylvania Herpetological Atlas Project, co-sponsored by the Pennsylvania Biological Survey, Pennsylvania Fish Commission, Carnegie Museum of Natural History and the Indiana University of Pa. It is an effort to determine in detail the statewide distribution of all species of reptiles and amphibians. The project, begun in 1996, is designed to run seven years. Baseline information about these species will be helpful in assessing the impact of human activity on wildlife, and aid policy-makers and environmental managers in making informed decisions regarding land use and development. The speaker, Ms. April Claus, is a 1995 graduate of Allegheny College with a B.S. in Environmental Science. She earned an M.S. in Biology at Indiana University of Pa. in 1998. Currently, she is a graduate research assistant in biology at IUP and Master Core Teacher aboard The Pittsburgh Voyager teaching on river ecosystems and water quality monitoring. She is also field director of the herpetological project.

Penns Valley Conservation Association Meeting on September 16th

The Penns Valley Conservation Association has scheduled a 7:30 pm public meeting in Union County on September 16 at the Union County Sportsmen's Club near Weikert. Anyone interested in attending may get in touch with Neal Woodruff at 522-0472. The PVCA has been active for several years in opposing limestone mining near Aaronsburg in the karstic watershed of Pine, Elk, and Penns Creeks, and in attempting to preserve the native trout hatcheries in those streams. Though they have not been successful in preventing the mining, they are monitoring the waters to be certain that the mining enterprise does observe stringent conditions imposed upon it by the Commonwealth. Their efforts are deserving of moral and financial support from all who are interested in the health of those streams.

The Linn Conservancy has provided financial support to the PVCA in the past and has been represented at many PVCA meetings by Neal.

In Our State Parks

September 19 and 26 (SATURDAY) **Environmental Education** Project Wild and Activities for Environmental Learning are curricula that use interdisciplinary approaches to learning about the environment. Suitable for teachers, scout leaders, and home schooling parents, this workshop will deal with activities for K to 12th grades. Contact the R.B. Winter State Park (717) 966-1455 to pre-register and for more information.

October 11 (SUNDAY) **Little Pine State Park Fall Festival** Wildlife oriented programs and displays are featured during this annual event. For more information contact Little Pine State Park at (717) 753-6000.

October 17 (SATURDAY) **Sizerville State Park Autumn Festival** Traditional crafts are displayed and demonstrated. Also, guest speakers are featured. Many crafts are "Make and Take" demonstrations where you can try your hand at creating corn husk dolls, traditional toys, dipped candles, homemade ice-cream, natural dye samples, etc. This is a great event for young and old alike. Call Sizerville State Park at (814) 486-5605 for updated information.

Our Environment Matters:

Linn Involved in Open Space Protection at Allenwood

Six hundred plus acres in northern Union County, once the site of the proposed waste burner, will be utilized instead as a business/industry park and a site for residential development. One hundred fifty of those acres bordering the Susquehanna River are to be kept free of new construction and maintained for various uses compatible with open space and flood plain preservation. Among those uses are agriculture, wildlife protection, recreational access points to the river, and education.

To help make preservation of this land a reality, the Linn Conservancy is working jointly with the county commissioners, planning commission and the conservation district (UCCD). By November 1, Linn will have made application for Key '93 grant monies toward the purchase of the property. If this application is successful, matching funds from the county commissioners will provide the additional monies needed to acquire the property. Meanwhile, Linn representatives will be working closely with UCCD personnel to construct easement language regarding perpetual management. The plan is for the Conservancy to eventually transfer ownership of the property to UCCD which will manage it under the terms of the easement. Linn will remain the holder and enforcer of the easement.

Remember that our Key '93 grant application will not be acted upon until sometime next spring - - and everything is dependent on our success with it. Board members will be devoting many hours to make protection of this site a reality. Your input is always welcome and we encourage you to visit the area. Directions: Take Rt. 15 to Allenwood. About 100 to 200 yards north of the traffic light turn right (east) at a white church. Follow this road to the river where the road heads left (north). It is this stretch (from the bend to where the road turns up a steep hill away from river) that is at issue.

Successful Sheary Grant to Support the Production of a Video About Montandon Marsh

The Edna M. Sheary Charitable Trust recently awarded a grant to the Linn Conservancy to develop an educational program on the Montandon Marsh, a natural site significant to the region and state. The \$4,400 grant will enable the Conservancy to produce a 20 - 25 minute video and make copies for distribution to local schools and libraries. Following purchase of the Marsh tract, the Conservancy contacted local schools on how best to educate teachers and students about this wetland and its importance. Although some teachers concluded they would be able to lead a walk

there when conditions permitted, all said a video that centered on a 1997 presentation on the subject by Warren Abrahamson would be of great value. For those unable to take a class or other group to the Marsh, a video would serve as their lesson; for those able to go it would serve as an introduction to the experience. Because the video would not be limited to a single time or season, it would present a broad picture of resident and migratory birds, animals, plants, geologic features, and environmental significance of the site. This is an excellent opportunity to use the materials assembled by Warren Abrahamson as well as the technical experience of John Walter and others at the Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit. Copies will be distributed to the Milton and Lewisburg school districts, six area public libraries which service a growing number of home schooling families, and the Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit which services a multi-county area.

A Conservancy education committee will develop worksheets to aid teachers and provide follow-up activities on the material presented in the video. Artist Jeanette Campbell, as well as Geoff Goodenow, John Clark, Dotti Zimmerman, and Rose Ann Koons, all educators, are among those prepared to carry out this aspect of the Montandon Marsh project. Jeannette Lasansky will coordinate the effort.

Students Provide Insights on Conservancy Interests

Three Bucknell students recently prepared papers in Conservation Biology under Professor Warren Abrahamson that deal with issues of direct interest to the Linn Conservancy. Student Mirei Isaka's work concentrated on the *Scirpus fluviatilis* plant population in Montandon Marsh, while Todd Gleason examined the issue of how federal and state policies affect the use of Pennsylvania's natural resources. The third student, Sonja Pick, examined the emergent paradigm of restoration ecology as evidenced in the planning efforts for rehabilitating Montandon Marsh. The research work of students such as these, their professors and others are permanently housed on the shelves of our reference library in the office and can be accessed at all times. Stop by to peruse and read.

Pennsylvania Legislation and the Environment by Gil Black

ANTI-SLAPP BILL DEFEATED IN HOUSE

Before adjourning for the summer, the House defeated a measure designed to protect the public from legal harassment by polluters. Called Strategic Lawsuits Against Public Participation, SLAPP suits are often filed by mining, landfill, or other polluter interests against citizens who are exercising a constitutional right to object to polluting activities. SLAPP suits are generally dismissed by the courts, but often not until citizens targeted have incurred high legal fees defending themselves. So SLAPP suits often have a chilling effect on citizen activists. The intent is to intimidate citizens, public interest groups and local governments.

To help put an end to the threat of SLAPP suits, Rep. Camille (Bud) George introduced HB 394, which would allow a court to accept a "motion to strike" if the court felt the suit had little chance of prevailing. HB 394 would also allow the court to award legal fees to the party who prevails. Frustrated in attempts to get the bill out of the House Judiciary Committee, George tried to attach his bill as an amendment to a Senate bill, but the motion was defeated 98-100.

ANTI-PUBLIC LANDS BILL FACES OPPOSITION

A proposal to give county governments the authority to veto state public land acquisition within the counties' borders has been referred to the House State Government Committee. HB 1650, introduced by Rep. Howard Fargo, (R, Mercer) requires that any land acquisition proposal by the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, the Game Commission, or the Fish and Boat Commission be approved by the affected county. Failure to act, or a vote opposed to the acquisition, would serve as a veto of the agency's public land acquisition.

Opponents of HB 1650 include the Sierra Club, Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmens Clubs, Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, Pennsylvania Land Trust Association (PALTA), and the Pennsylvania Organization for Watersheds and Rivers. A resolution to oppose the bill is being used to build pressure on legislators. Contact Rep. Russ Fairchild (542-2788), a member of the State Government Committee, to urge his opposition to HB 1650.

Confronting Sprawl by Roger Curran

What is something important we see every day, talk about frequently and dislike unequivocally? One answer, surely, is sprawl. Even the word is unattractive and discordant. Sprawl can be defined many ways but let's sum it up here as

wide-spreading, low density development of housing and workplaces. Fortunately, avoiding sprawl is becoming more and more a major issue in land use planning. And its not difficult to see why. Public services cost more and infrastructure expenses grow as dispersion increases. Taxes and housing costs rise. Flight to the suburbs and beyond concentrates poverty in urban areas with the attendant social problems. Sprawl affects the environment, of course, by compromising land, air and water quality.

A look into the future can be startling. Maryland recently noted the following growth and development trends:

- 21% - The projected population increase by the year 2020.
- 20% - The decline in city population due to out-migration to suburban areas between 1970 and 1990.
- 30% - The increase in number of households by the year 2020 as a result of shrinking household size.
- 36% - The average increase in the size of lots created in new development since 1985.
- 100% - The projected increase in land consumed by development by the year 2020 if the current trends continue.

Projections of the effectiveness of land use planning, however, are also dramatic. Infrastructure savings alone in New Jersey over the next 20 years were estimated in 1992 as follows:

Roads	\$740 million
Water	\$ 61 million
Sewer	\$ 379 million
Schools	\$ 200 million
TOTAL	\$1.38 billion

Various land management techniques have been employed to protect against sprawl and two are described briefly. **Growth boundaries.** Often referred to as "urban growth boundaries," but actually concerned with the boundaries between urban/suburban areas and land identified for protection, the concept is to restrict growth outside the boundaries but reduce development barriers within. Growth boundaries can encourage community revitalization, save money on infrastructure costs, reduce traffic congestion and preserve farming and natural resource lands. Beginning with introduction of its 1993 Growth Management Plan, Lancaster County has successfully implemented a growth boundaries program. **Transfer of Development Rights (TDRs).** Under such programs, owners of land identified for protection (land in "sending" areas) can transfer the development rights to owners of land in designated growth areas (termed "receiving" areas). Since these transfers are achieved through the sale of development rights, a successful TDR program will help maintain the value of protected land while accomplishing land use objectives. If the TDR program is mandatory, protected areas are down zoned to restrict growth. Usually, TDR programs allow for the sale of development rights at market prices. Sometimes TDR banks, operated by quasi-governmental organizations, are established to assist in buying and selling TDRs. Manheim Township just north of Lancaster has recently implemented a TDR program along with other land use initiatives. The outlook for success is considered favorable.

The above article summarizes information contained in Who Pays for Sprawl? A Literature Review (April 1998) and Beyond Sprawl. A Handbook for Local Governments (October 1997), both produced for the Chesapeake Bay Program. For further information on the above-mentioned techniques and on other approaches, contact the Conservancy office to borrow copies of the publications.

Help for WRCF Needed

The Wild Resource Conservation Fund (WRCF) is broke. It will not be able to support any projects in 1999. The Fund supports projects dealing with the biology and ecology of native plants and non-game animals of Pennsylvania. One of the projects that has been supported by the fund is the Pennsylvania Herpetological Atlas Project.

The fund has been in existence for well over a decade and during that time has funded hundreds of deserving and important projects. Our knowledge of Pennsylvania flora and fauna has been greatly enhanced by the fund, yet it has never received direct support from the state. All support has come from private donations, tax check-offs and sale of the "Owl" license plate. This unpredictable source of money has led to a feast-or-famine situation with regard to availability of money to support projects.

The fund needs a dependable baseline of money to operate. The only way for this to happen is for the fund to become a line-item in the state budget. The Governor has said that he supports the concept in principle. The state has a large surplus in its budget. Surely a fraction of one percent of that surplus could be ear-marked to support the valuable work of the WRCF.

How can you help? Take a few moments to write the Governor. Although apparently not philosophically opposed to the concept of funding, he does need to see that there is significant support from the public for funding the project. Urge him to approve funding for the WRCF. Tell him why you think it is important. Tell him what it means to you and how it benefits you and your fellow citizens within the Commonwealth. Please keep the letter short, no more than a single page.

The letter should be addressed to:

The Governor's Office
Attn: Duncan Campbell
Director of Coalitions
PO Box 11667
Harrisburg, PA 17108
(FAX 717-231-1632)

Letters will have maximum impact since this is an election year. In your letter, respectfully request a written response from the Governor.

People Effect Change:

Dave Johnson and John Clark Recognized for Long-Term Contributions

Linn Conservancy presented two lifetime achievement awards at its annual dinner on May 6, 1998. David C. Johnson, lifetime resident of Union County and graduate of Lewisburg High School and Bucknell University, has written about conservation and the environment for nearly fifty years. Starting in 1950 while a teacher of American history in the Mifflinburg School District, he began writing for *The Lewisburg Journal* under the name "Vic Hunt" and then in 1975 for *The Daily Item*. These articles as well as others appearing in the *Pennsylvania Angler*, *Tri-County Outdoors*, and *Game News*, have been derived from a lifelong interest in hunting and fishing and a deep respect for animals and plants and their natural habitat. Johnson exemplifies what it means to be a good sportsman, a conservationist, and a voice/advocate for enlightened stewardship of the Earth.

John G. Clark came to Selinsgrove in the 1980s and entered Susquehanna University where he "caught fire as a botanical naturalist." Shortly after graduation he founded an environmental consulting business, The Wetlands Advisory Group. Clark has served on Linn Conservancy's Board of Directors for more than six years including a term as President. He has been involved in numerous conservation projects throughout the region. The Nature Conservancy has frequently employed Clark's botanical expertise to survey natural areas suspected of sheltering rare or unusual plants. He is a member of the Pennsylvania Biological Survey and serves on its Vascular Plant and Moss Committee. He served as a resource for Union County's Natural Areas Inventory, a crucial work that outlines the localities of rare, threatened, and endangered species as well as highest quality natural areas. The one Linn Conservancy project that best characterizes Clark's tireless volunteerism is our Montandon Marsh effort. Indeed, the successful purchase and preservation of these swamp woodlands are in large part due to John's efforts. He repeatedly visited the site to establish its special botanical and zoological features, organized the required appraisals and surveys, helped secure the Key '93 funds from the Commonwealth to partially fund the site's purchase, and continually encouraged communication among all parties. He has also been the central player in restoration planning for Central Builders Supply's proposed sand and gravel mining of the southern portion of the Montandon Marsh. He has mentored the research of several Bucknell students as they described and cataloged the vegetation and soil of the wetlands and uplands. A co-authored publication on the Marsh documents the interaction of water, nutrients, and vegetation within the wetlands.

Out-going Conservancy president Geoff Goodenow and board member Warren Abrahamson presented a framed print, depicting a local natural area, to each man in appreciation for service to the community on environmental issues.

Bucknell's Sigma Phi Epsilon Helps in Many Ways

You may have noticed in the recent *Linn Log* that this Bucknell fraternity has been of help in our stewardship of both the Shamokin Mountain and Dale's Ridge Trails. During the spring term Sigma Phi Epsilon presented a financial donation made possible by a "Lift-a-thon" held on campus. Earlier this year, members of the group participated in

trash cleanup along the train tracks that skirt the westernmost portion of our Montandon Marsh property. As reported above, members are now scheduled to conduct two major cleanups in September. Todd Gleason from the fraternity is our contact person and has been very enthusiastic about selecting the Linn Conservancy as the object of the group's support.

Conservancy Officers and Board Members

Betsy Quant from Kelly Township is the Conservancy's new president and succeeds Geoff Goodenow. Renewing as Treasurer and Secretary respectively are Susan Travis of Lewisburg and Wayne McDiffett of Union Township. Renewing for new three-year terms on the board are Neal Woodruff of Kelly Township, John Snook of Limestone Township, Sue Travis, and Rob Cook of Lewisburg.

New Members Help Linn Conservancy Meet Its Goals

New individual and family members since the spring *Linn Log* are:

Cliff & Linda Nuttall
Ian Oliver
Father Patrick Shannon
Kathy Ann Swope
Paul McGuire
Gary L. Speigel
Charles H. Lebo
JoAnne Reilly
Keith & Luann Dunlap
Betsy Fickes
William F. Bastian
Harry & Andrea Adrian
Bob McDonald
Ren & Chris John
Rolf & Annick Helbig
Janice E. Mann

Making Tracks *by Neal Woodruff*

Betsy and Allan Quant live on a farm in Kelly Township in a house they designed and built themselves. In the yard sits the longest canoe I have ever seen--a 26-foot voyageur canoe that they tell me will accommodate a dozen people. Betsy is the new president of the Linn Conservancy. Allan does electrical and plumbing work, an enterprise he calls Ironwood. And together they are Canoe Susquehanna, which does canoe tours of waterways in eastern and midwestern United States and Canada. (Hence the commodious canoe, to which they are considering adding a second of the same impressive size.)

Sitting in the comfortable, high-gabled central room of their house, they tell me how they have come to be here. They met on an Outing Club canoe trip when both were students at Bucknell in the early 70s, she a major in geology, he in geography and sociology. They first settled briefly in North Carolina where Allan was head instructor at the Nantahala Outdoor Center, a school for canoeists and kayakers learning skills for paddling in challenging waters. But North Carolina was not, they found, where they wanted to settle permanently. They did some searching for the right place and kept rejecting what they found. After a bit they discovered that their standard of judgment was country they had grown fond of in Union County, Pennsylvania.

So in 1976 they came back. Finding their 12-acre farm, they made a temporary home in part of the barn, and after nine years they built their house. With that large, open central living-space heated by a cast-iron stove, it is clearly energy-efficient. They raised grain and hay and cattle but have given those up and now rent their land to a neighboring farmer for rotational grazing--an efficient and biologically sensible use that they find gratifying. They have two teen-age children, Mariah and Jeremy.

Talking with them about Canoe Susquehanna, one becomes quickly aware how much they love the outdoors--especially on the water--and how much they enjoy helping others understand and love it. They have the sound of gifted natural teachers. From teaching canoeing itself, especially canoeing in demanding conditions, they have moved toward using canoes to help others grow comfortable on the water and to offer exposure to waterlands by leading canoe tours. They have led tours on many waters, from Canada to the Everglades, but what especially engages their effort and enthusiasm just now is what they call "sojourns" on eastern rivers, particularly those of Pennsylvania. They call those "river awareness trips." Sojourns involve traveling a hundred miles or so along a river, not only canoeing but doing some bicycling and rafting where conditions dictate. Their objective is, they explain, to exhibit the role of recreation in conservation, to persuade people to be "river-friendly."

Often they have arranged and led sojourns in cooperation with nature conservancies or other conservation organizations--on the Clarion River with the DCNR, on the Lehigh with the Wildlands Conservancy, on the Youghiogheny with the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, and--since 1991--on the Susquehanna with the Alliance for Chesapeake Bay. Their enthusiasm for these tours seems unbounded. There is initially the pleasure of helping people to learn to cooperate in managing a boat on flowing water--many, they say, have been ill-taught--and then the pleasure of exhibiting in many forms the paramount importance of waterways in nurturing creatures and circulating the life-giving fluid we all must depend upon. This is a highly significant mission, clearly carried out with great skill and devotion.

For three years the Quants have led semi annual stream cleanups on Buffalo Creek and the Susquehanna near Lewisburg, efforts sponsored by the Linn Conservancy. Not surprisingly, when Betsy is asked what she would especially like to accomplish as Linn president, she first mentions her broad concern to see the Susquehanna watershed cleaned up. And second, she says she would like to underline, perhaps more than has been done in the past, one word in the name of the Merrill Linn Land and Waterways Conservancy, namely "waterways."

Briefs:

Thanks to those who helped staff our booths at the Mifflinburg Buggy Days and the Lewisburg Festival of the Arts: Rob Cook, who chaired both events, Michael Pereira, Roger Curran, Jeannette, Diana, and William Lasansky, Geoff Goodenow, and John Snook.

Thanks to the Natural Foods and Garden store for the beautiful roses which graced the tables at the Conservancy's annual dinner. At the close of the evening the plants were given to our guest speaker and four members (Ann Gelnett, Geoff Goodenow, Betsy Quant, Sue Travis) in appreciation of their recent work as well as to Lois Huffines and Lisbe Smith, the first and last to send in their dinner reservations!

Three Conservancy families represented our organization and projects at the "End of an Era Fair" at the Lewisburg High School in early June: The Mackeys, Pereira-Pyers, and Quants. They were aided by Geoff Goodenow on table set-up and breakdown.

A new design in a series of decorative painted blocks is now available in the office of the Union County Historical Society and at the Mary Koons store in Mifflinburg. The blocks, many of which feature local places, were designed and commissioned by Mary Koons and will benefit the Conservancy. The Hassenplug Covered Bridge in Mifflinburg is the subject of the new design and the Conservancy has built and maintains the public foot trail by the Bridge. Thank you, Mary, for an innovative way to support the Conservancy. (See flyer insert for other items we offer.)

Thanks again to Sue Taylor and Ed Culver for their continued work on the slides needed for the forthcoming Linn video.

Thanks to Geoff Goodenow who put additional "no fire wood gathering" signs on the Marsh property. The signs were provided to the Conservancy by the Bald Eagle State Forestry Office. Students of the Mifflinburg Industrial Arts Club designed, made, and posted a new and quite large directional sign by the Harry Haney ball field on North Eighth Street in Mifflinburg. The sign should prove helpful for those looking for the beginning of the trail from that vantage point.

Thanks to Ann Gelnett who has kept our scrap book albums up to date. They were on view at the annual dinner.

Thanks to Butter Krust Baking Company, Inc. for a generous gift that will allow a reprint this fall of the Conservancy's first *Rural Routes* brochure.

Thanks also to the Danowsky Trust for a substantial unrestricted donation, to Louis Pietrandrea for a donation in honor of Fred Kearny, and to David and Victoria Johnson and Peter Johnson for memorial donations in memory of Hannah Miles.

If you have a change in your address please notify the Conservancy office ahead of time. We want to be sure that you get your copy of the *Linn Log* promptly and efficiently.