

Linn Log

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

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Winter 2003

Educational Events:

Halfway Run Environmental Center Events

Snowfest 2003 If you're prone to cabin fever, come for an afternoon of snowy fun at R. B. Winter State Park's fifth annual **Snowfest**, Sunday, February 9, from noon to 4 p.m. Visitors will be able to take part in winter activities such as snow volleyball, broomball, skating, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, ice-fishing, sledding, and winter mountain biking. Compete for prizes in the snowperson fashion contest or watch ice-cutting as it was done on Halfway Lake during the late 1930s. Children can build kites to fly on the ice or have their faces painted with wintry designs. For those who prefer viewing the frozen landscape of R. B. Winter from a warmer vantage, there are several indoor programs, as well. Story time by the fireplace, close-up looks at animal adaptations, and lectures on winter survival skills, snowmobile safety, wild game cookery and more will be presented at the Center. Short, easy walks to highlight winter botany and resident birds are also planned. A concession stand will provide hot refreshments, or you may bring a picnic and snacks from home. Most programs are free of charge; some will require you to bring your own equipment.

Rain, snow, or shine, there'll be a **Snowfest**. A complete schedule of events is available at the Halfway Run Environmental Learning Center and on their website <www.dcnr.state.pa.us>. You may also obtain a schedule by calling the park at 570-966-1455, weekdays between 8 am and 4 pm. The Center is west of the lake and the Park office, on the north side of Route 192. A large R. B. Winter sign indicates the road to the Environmental Learning Center.

Register for April 7th Program and Dinner Myra Lloyd Dock --- Pennsylvania's First Environmentalist

Join us in the spring for an evening of good food and an interesting talk about early conservation efforts in Pennsylvania. Reservations are being taken now for a dinner and a program on the state's first environmentalist, Myra Lloyd Dock. A Harrisburg native who was dismayed by the impact of industrialization and urbanization, Ms. Dock launched a campaign in the 1890s to save the state's environment. Her efforts resulted in the creation of the Pennsylvania Forest Commission; she was one of the first commissioners and developed pioneering conservation programs. The dinner and program are being jointly sponsored by the Linn Conservancy and the Union County Historical Society which engaged the speaker, Dr. Susan Leighow Meo of Shippensburg University, through the Pennsylvania Humanities Council.

The dinner/program will be held at the Union County Sportsmen's Club in Weikert, on Monday, April 7th. The buffet dinner will start at 6:00 pm and will be followed by the program at 7:30. The Sportsmen's Club is an appropriate setting for the occasion. It was the site of one of three Civilian Conservation Corps camps in Union County that were active from 1933-1942 in building forest roads, masonry bridges, and the dam at R.B. Winter State Park (the site of a second camp), among its many projects.

Bring your family and friends. Reservation checks for \$10 per person should be sent to the Conservancy at PO Box 501 or dropped off at the office by March 27th at the latest. If you need directions or would like to car pool, call 524-8666.

Our Environment Matters:

Hartley Township Easement

The Linn Conservancy has executed a perpetual conservation easement on property owned by Dahle and Shirley Bingaman in Hartley Township. The sites are home to a wide variety of wildflowers, including Jack-in-the-Pulpit, naked broom rape, bluets, spring beauty, violets, buttercups, butterfly weed, Deptford Pink, Virginia cowslip, black holly, and wild geranium and a wide-variety of migratory and nesting birds such as woodcock, cardinal, gold finch, wild turkey, grouse, northern yellow throat, red-eyed vireo, Baltimore oriole, titmouse, redstart, Carolina wren, rose-breasted grosbeak, hummingbird, blue bird, chickadee, and black and white warbler.

The sites are composed of two parcels of about seven acres each, separated by Ranck Road. The northern parcel, which has a residence and two outbuildings near Ranck Road, has the remnants of an old dirt road that runs its eastern length until it reaches Penns Creek, its northernmost boundary line. Historically, this was the place at which the creek was forded in low-water months. The southern parcel is about two-thirds open field and one-third woods and is bounded by a rapidly moving stream on its western length. In the wooded portion of this parcel is an old shale pit.

The purpose of this easement is to assure that the property will be retained forever in its natural, scenic, forested, and/or open space condition and to prevent any use of the property that will impair or interfere with the conservation values of the property. The Bingamans intend that this easement will confine the use of the property to such activities including, without limitation, those involving farming that are not inconsistent with the purpose of the easement.

Attorney for the Bingamans was Paul Brann while attorney Peter Matson reviewed the easement terms and language *gratis* for the Conservancy. The Bingamans have also made a major donation to the Linn Conservancy's Easement Monitoring Fund to facilitate the monitoring and enforcement of the terms of the easement for the life of the property.

Conservancy Secures another DEP Grant for Buffalo Creek Watershed Study and Video

The Linn Conservancy was the successful applicant in late summer for a grant for the newly-formed Buffalo Creek Watershed Alliance [BCWA]. The grant will support the development of an educational video and the conduct of scientific work on the creek and about the watershed under the auspices of Bucknell geologists Craig Kochel and

Carl Kirby. The costs of the projects, which total over \$24,000, are second-funded through a competitive grant process with the PA Dept. of Environmental Protection.

Functioning as a group within the Conservancy, the BCWA has its own bylaws, board, and officers. Its current chair is Jeff Bowers; vice-chair is Allan Grundstrom and Owen Anderson is secretary. Conservancy treasurer Sue Travis works with Allan Grundstrom on financial matters and John C. Snook, current board member and immediate past-president of the Linn Conservancy, sits on the BCWA board, as well. For more information about the BCWA, see the blue insert in this *Log*.

The Watershed Alliance is supported in part by these grants and will be building a modest general operations budget with support from five-dollar memberships. Conservancy members who would like to support this aspect of its work may write checks to the Linn Conservancy with a memo line indicating BCWA support.

Great Stream Commons Update

At its 2002 annual report dinner, the Union County Conservation District (UCCD) board reiterated its desire to work with the Linn Conservancy in the execution of a \$95,000 grant to the Conservancy from the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources [DCNR] for the purchase of approximately 95 acres in the Great Stream Commons owned by the Union County Industrial Development Corporation (UCIDC) in Gregg Township. The grant was announced in April 2001 and will enable the Conservancy to purchase the riparian corridor along the Susquehanna with these funds and immediately turn the property over to the Conservation District. The land would include about 9 acres for active recreation for Gregg Township and a property that would serve as the Conservation District's environmental education center. The UCCD and the Linn Conservancy have agreed to a comprehensive conservation easement to be placed on the property just prior to its being given to the UCCD. Since the spring of 2001 the Conservancy and the UCCD have been waiting for the UCIDC to sign a sales agreement in order to make this conservation, educational, and economic development venture move forward.

People, Businesses, and Organizations Effect Change:

Environmental Adventure Award Recipient Announced

The Public Awareness Committee has selected Mark Benfer, a 10th-grade student at Mifflinburg High School, to receive the Linn Conservancy's new Environmental Adventure Award. Courtesy of this award, Mark, who is interested in becoming a marine biologist, will be attending the Wallops Island Marine Biology Camp run by the Virginia Marine Consortium. The cycle for next year's Environmental Adventure Award, an award sponsored by an anonymous donor, will begin in the fall. An application form and information are available on the Conservancy's web site: <www.LinnConservancy.org>.

Another avenue of support is the John G. Clark Environmental Education Award whose third grant cycle closed in mid-January. The committee will select an applicant from among public or private school educators, home school teachers, and youth group leaders in scouting, 4-H, etc. That award has been supported by moneys given to the Conservancy in honor of the late John Clark, a botanist. The Conservancy seeks additional donations to the fund for the maintenance of this award. The Clark Award application procedure and form are also on the Conservancy's web site.

Members of the Linn Conservancy's Public Awareness Committee who select award recipients from among applicants are, in the main, present or retired educators and include: Bob Deffner, head of R.B. Winter State Park, Rose Ann Koons and Shirley Bingaman from the Mifflinburg School District, Mark Berg and Geoff Goodenow from the Lewisburg District, Dotti Zimmerman from the Milton District, Lettie Davis, who taught in State College, and Jeff Bowers from Snyder County. The committee also arranges for a variety of public programs, including seminars for attorneys, accountants, and land use planners. In addition, the committee determines the Conservancy's annual dinner speaker and works occasionally with the primary writer on video texts such as that for the Buffalo Creek Watershed video currently being written by Shawn McLaughlin.

Thanking Mary Koons

by Neal Woodruff

"I love these trees," said Mary Koons. We were driving along Chestnut Street in Mifflinburg in early fall, and she was referring to the lovely overarching tunnel of long-established greenery we were moving through.

It was a simple comment and it reveals quite directly who Mary is. It reveals her generosity of feeling and her openness--sometimes her exuberance--in expressing it. There is in it also her love for the town where

she has long been a resident, her enjoyment of it, and her devotion to it and to its welfare. It bespeaks, as well, her responsiveness to nature, which spills into her love for the Buffalo Valley, from the Susquehanna to her cottage on Penns Creek in the "tight end."

Mary Koons is an institution in this valley, and well she deserves to be. When one thinks "quilts," one thinks of her, especially of her discriminating appreciation for Amish quilts and quilters. If a new quilt is to be purchased or commissioned, she is the person to see. When one has visitors from elsewhere, her shop is high on the list of places to visit. When a civic cause is to be supported, she is one of the first people to be confidently approached for generous help--to the Buggy Museum, to the Herr Library, to the Christkindl Market, to the Linn Conservancy.

She was a charter member of the Conservancy in the late 1980s and has continued to support it faithfully and creatively in many ways. In 1992, she placed one of its earliest conservation easements on her farm along Buffalo Creek at the edge of Mifflinburg. She sponsored the development there of the Koons Trail--a contribution to the town and to the county, where many have since enjoyed walking the woods and wetlands. She has repeatedly volunteered her skill and resources for Conservancy fund-raising, twice designing and executing quilts of wonderful originality to be raffled for its benefit. She has been, as her longtime friend Jeannette Lasansky says, "always ready to help and thinking of new ideas!"

It is especially appropriate to celebrate and express gratitude for her support of the Conservancy and for all her contributions to the community in this 75th year in which she has worked in the Koons shop. Our Valley would be less than it is without Mary's steady and generous devotion over the years.

New Dale's Ridge Chief Trail Steward and New *Linn Log* Editor

Our new Dale's Ridge Chief Trail Steward is long-term Linn Conservancy member Tom Travis. Tom grew up in Nutley and North Caldwell, NJ, and received a BA in psychology from Syracuse University and a Ph.D. in political science from the Maxwell School there. He began his teaching career at Virginia Tech and, since 1970, has been a member of the political science department and international relations program at Bucknell, serving also as a Senior Fulbright Lecturer in India and in Russia. His retirement in June will allow him more time to pursue interests which include travel, hiking, skiing, racquet sports, reading, and gardening. His love of mountains has led to skiing or hiking much of the Alps, the Indian Himalayas, and the mountains of the USA where he is making steady progress on hiking the 46 major peaks of the Adirondacks. We welcome Tom to an assignment that will complement some of his interests. He follows three excellent past chief trail stewards: Rolf Helbig, Allan Quant, and Dick Nickelsen.

Judith Becker, another Linn Conservancy member, is the new *Linn Log* editor. A native of Chicago, Judy received her B.A. in English literature from Grinnell College and took graduate courses at Harvard University while working there. Since 1964, she and her family have been residents of Lewisburg where her life has been busy rearing three children with husband Bill, being an active volunteer in the community, including service as president of the League of Women Voters of the Lewisburg Area, and working as associate vice president in the office of academic affairs at Bucknell. Retirement in 1998 has brought welcome time for reading, extended travel, and new volunteer activities, and she looks forward to becoming a more active member of the Conservancy. In this job, she succeeds Quica Ostrander, to whom we extend our warm thanks.

Gil Black, Charter Board Director and First Secretary

Local environmentalists were saddened to learn of the death of Gilbert Black on October 19, 2002 as a result of injuries sustained in an automobile accident. He is survived by Betty, his wife of 47 years, and a similarly committed environmentalist who collaborated with him on innumerable projects promoting environmentalist values in law, attitudes, and public policies. Gil was born in 1923 in Butler, Pennsylvania where he spent his youth. After World War II service in the Navy, he went off to college, earning both a BA (Allegheny College) and an MBA (University of Michigan). For most of his professional life he was a business writer and editor in New York. In retirement, he and Betty moved to Lewisburg in 1983, where he worked diligently for the environment and numerous other social causes that he believed were thoroughly interconnected.

Gil was a charter board member and the first secretary of the Merrill Linn Conservancy. He later served as treasurer and remained on the board until 1999 when the Blacks moved to Virginia. Gil was also the liaison for a number of years with the North Central Conservancy and worked with them on a joint-hosted and well-attended seminar on appraising conservation easements. He served as Group Chair of the

Otzinachson Group of the Sierra Club during 1985-1986. Working as a team with Betty, he represented the Local Group of the Sierra Club at the state chapter level from 1987-1999.

Gil was also active in Organizations United for the Environment (OUE) and played a significant role in gathering and analyzing the technical data that facilitated successful community resistance to the construction of a hazardous waste incinerator in Union County. Gil attended innumerable hearings and public meetings and offered well-prepared and logical testimony. His presence will be missed by all those who cherish the natural world.

Brian Gockley is New Conservancy Board Member

Before moving to Lewisburg, Brian Gockley was a resident of Connecticut where he served as Executive Director of Groundwork Bridgeport, a non-profit company affiliated with the National Parks Service. In his five-year term as Executive Director, Brian oversaw the installation of three community gardens, five playgrounds, two pocket parks, and two commercial streetscapes. Prior to his work with Groundwork Bridgeport, Brian taught at a community college and was involved with many volunteer groups: block watches, community councils, newsletters, and conferences.

Brian, whose wife, Angela, teaches science in the Lewisburg School District, brings organizational and grants-writing skills to the board. He is currently an advisor to the Lewisburg Shade Tree Commission because of his experience as a landscape gardener for the past fifteen years and is a coach in AYSO. He holds a B.A. and M.A. in English literature and is teaching at Luzerne County Community College.

New Conservancy Brochure Locations

Linn Conservancy members Bill Bastian and Teri MacBride have secured additional locations for distribution of Conservancy trail and membership brochures that are free to the general public.

The new locations are Yoder's Restaurant on Route 45 near Laurelton, the Mifflinburg Bike Shop, Good Wil's in Montandon, the Dodge House Restaurant on Route 45 in Lewisburg, Gabriel's Gift Shop in New Berlin, the Watson Inn in Watsonstown, and the Buggy Museum in Mifflinburg. Brochures may continue to be found at Anni's B&B, the Natural Food and Garden Store, Campus Cycle and Fly Fishing Center, and Café Latte in Lewisburg, Carriage Corner, Mifflinburg Farm Supply, and the Mary Koons Shop in Mifflinburg, the Union County Sportsmen's Club in Weikert, and the Public Library for Union County.

Conservancy brochures and other materials are also available outside the office of the Union County Historical Society in the Union County Courthouse, on South Second Street in Lewisburg. Some of the brochures can be viewed and downloaded from the group's web site at <www.LinnConservancy.org>.

John Fernsler, Conservancy President, Reports on LTA Meeting

After John Fernsler assumed the Presidency of the Linn Conservancy last May, he was off to a multi-day conference at Gettysburg College hosted by the national Land Trust Alliance and the Pennsylvania Land Trust Association (PaLTA). Some of John's report to the board is included here, illustrative of the scope of the formal and informal benefits of an event:

I spent a full day at a pre-conference seminar listening to William T. Hutton, Esq., a tax law professor from the Univ. of Calif., hold forth brilliantly on the tax strategies in land conservation transactions. He dealt in survey fashion (the full course would take weeks to deliver in detail) with the legal requirements for attaining and maintaining tax-exempt status for 501(c)(3) organizations such as ours. He then presented selective tax strategies and techniques relevant to conservation projects, including outright gifts, bargain sales, donations of partial interests, like-kind exchanges, involuntary conversions and entity-owned real estate. Fundamental tax and economic concepts germane to tax benefits, such as the nature of a "gift," timing considerations, and the interrelationship of the income, estate, and gift tax systems, were also explored.

The Marsh Creek Watershed of the Land Conservancy of Adams County (PA) was a featured program I attended. Ellen Dayhoff presented slides showing agricultural security areas, protected lands for orchards, and also for farms/forests, state forests and game lands, showing and projecting the growth of developed areas from 1950 to 2020. This approach made the decline of open space areas evident and threatening. Among the handouts were locally-developed forms for doing physical stream assessment data collection, watershed evaluation, and the results of the preliminary walk-through of their entire watershed as of Jan. 15, 2002. In addition to identifying the primary existing land uses, the data showed the principal causes of the impairment of agricultural, rural open space, forested, and other land uses. Their objectives were to identify and encourage best land management practices, provide leadership, undertake acquisitions, and provide models for land preservation. They identified the threat land development would pose to public and private well-water supplies from contamination within septic drain fields. Use was made of GIS mapping. This organization, as does ours [the Buffalo Creek Watershed Alliance--see insert], has a semi-autonomous watershed group within its non-profit organizational umbrella.

Another session discussed conservation deal-making through land transactions, a conservation buyer program, and conservation financing options. The presentation by a representative of the Piedmont (VA) Environmental Council was useful....The national Land Trust Alliance is urging Congress to remove the taxable income deduction dollar limitations (as a percentage of annual income) and stretch out the carry-forward period, so that lower-income land interest donors will be able to benefit as fully as high-income donors can now. Virginia also has a state income tax credit for such donations, while Pennsylvania does not. Russ Fairchild is working to amend the PA Constitution to provide a similar benefit in this State. One approach in deal-making is used by the Maine Coast Land Trust. Options to purchase land in fee simple absolute are acquired for a low dollar-cost. The Trust finds a buyer for the property willing to donate a conservation easement. The Trust then exercises the option, buys the land after it has a firm agreement with the purchaser/easement donor, and sells the property to the buyer subject to the easement. The purchaser gets a gift donation of the value of the easement. The Trust either gets the purchaser to fund the easement value, or it obtains grant funds to cover the difference (representing the value of the easement) in the purchase price from the seller to the ultimate buyer.

During the course of dinner meetings, conference plenary sessions and breaks, I was able to speak personally and individually with top officials of the PA Departments of Environmental Protection and Conservation and Natural Resources. Also invaluable were discussions I had with individuals from other land trust organizations. Many were larger operations, but some were like ours. One such conversation revealed a program in North Coventry Township, in Chester County. The Pennsylvania Open Space Lands Acquisition and Preservation Act of 1996 allows a referendum to impose an additional earned income tax of .25% to be used only for financing the acquisition of open space, agricultural and conservation easements, property development rights, and recreational lands within the boundaries of the local government of the voter-adopted referendum.

The Conservancy benefits greatly from the attendance of staff and board members like John at such professional conferences. Knowledge gained from presentations and from the experience of others helps our own non-profit do its work more effectively.

Jeannette Lasansky, the Conservancy's coordinator, and John Fernsler attended a seminar sponsored by the Pennsylvania Land Trust Alliance and held at the Montour Preserve in mid-November. The topic was "Working Forest Conservation Easements" and was presented by Stephen E. Jaquith, a consulting forester. A book by that title, by Brenda Lind, will be available for loan from the conservancy office.

Board Schedules Strategic Planning Session

Member Susan Mathias has agreed to conduct a strategic planning session for the Conservancy Board on February 8, 2003. Susan similarly volunteered her services to the board in 1991. We are grateful to her and to her husband, Jim Mathias, for taking the time to prepare for such an event and we are appreciative that the board has agreed to devote a Saturday to this important project.

Members Help Linn Conservancy Meet Its Goals through Gifts

Welcome to new members: John & Nancy Showers, Jeannette & Daniel Clark, Roger S. Haddon, Stephen Irwin, Art & Sue McTighe, Nancy Phelps, George Jenks, Joanne Shannon, William G. Holzberger, Walter B. Bruce Jr., Norman Jolin, Laurel Evans, Donald May, Lissa Bryan-Smith & Richard Smith, Harold Graber, Loren & Jane Amacher, Brian, Angela, Alyssa & David Gockley, Paul & Pamela Mauer, Amy Bell, Lynn Thomas, and George P. Jacobs.

Thanks to members who, since August, have made donations, additional financial gifts, or increased their level of giving: Elva Reitz, the Mifflinburg Bank & Trust Company, Geoff Goodenow, John Dunlop, Peter Judge, P. Joseph Keller, Bob Linn, James and Elizabeth McClure, Phoebe Oshirak, Norman & Phyllis Rich, Toni Byrd, Zoya Jenks, Pete Macky, Pressly Shannon, Jim & Laurie Knight, Dahle & Shirley Bingaman, the Swope Family, Jim & Susan Mathias, Richard & Judith Ellis, Robert & Sue Taylor, Mark Heintzelman, John C. Snook, Doris Keen, Barbara Zeiders, Rik & Pam Paulsen, and the Rev. William M. Weary. These gifts and new memberships, when combined with steady membership support, help the Conservancy grow and enhance its work.

Thank you to the Union County Conservation District for its contribution to the Amos Zimmerman Memorial Fund and to Carol Ingald for her contribution to the Marge Blair Falso Memorial Fund.

Thanks to members Neal & Chris Woodruff who have given to the Linn Conservancy in memory of their friend, Gil Black (see profile in *Log*), and to members Walter, Pat, and Darinda Fisher who made a contribution to the Linn Conservancy in memory of three dear friends who died this past summer: Jeanne (Herbst, Ther) Hackett, Henry Herbst, and Eve Simonson.

Thanks also to Ed & Mary Mastascusa who made an additional contribution to the Conservancy's office at the Dale/Engle/Walker house.

Thanks to Jo Reilly, Joe Keller, Kathy Rowe and Geoff Goodenow for their recent work on our Adopt-a-Road roadway located in Limestone Township along Penns Creek.

Thanks to members Dahle & Shirley Bingaman for a major donation to the Easement Enforcement Fund.

Members Sue & Tom Travis, Pat Longley, and Jeannette & William Lasansky contributed to the Conservancy in celebration of the 50th Wedding Anniversary of former board member Neal Woodruff and his wife Chris. Congratulations to the Woodruffs.

In Brief:

The Linn Conservancy was the designated philanthropy in memory of Mary Koch, mother of area resident Sue Casselberry and her sister Ella Jane Kunkle of Bethlehem. Gifts in honor of Mary came from the Bethlehem area as well as locally. This is the second time that the Koch family chose the Conservancy as their designee. Giving in memory of Mary Koch were Wayne & Helene Barner, Larry & Karen Erdley, P. Joseph Keller, Richard & Evelyn Mabus, John & Anna Shirk, Elma Zeiber, George & Barbara Senick, Thomas & Suellen Haddon, Elwood & Francoise Rohrbach, Lois & Kevin Kehoe, the Moravian Academy, Anthony & Karen Favinger, Helen Steeley, Derl & Patty Weikel, the Moravian Academy Lower School Faculty and Staff, Sandra & George Hartzell, The Lewisburg Chapter # 394 of the Order of the Eastern Star, Florence Taylor, Patricia Best & sons, Elizabeth & Charles Hackenberg, Bruce & Gail Shannon, and Thomas & Ann Minder. Mary Miller Koch and her husband George A. ran a dairy farm outside of Mazeppa and she also worked at Bucknell.

A big thanks to Rolf Helbig who has retired as chief Dale's Ridge Trail steward. He has handed over the reins of responsibility and a trail "never looking better" to his successor, Tom Travis.

Trail workers are those who work quietly to maintain what so many enjoy. The Baileys, the Southertons, and Mr. Hubler as well as two 4-H groups (one being our new member organization, the Lucky Clovers from New Berlin) have kept the Koons Trail looking good in 2002 under the trail stewardship of Joe Southerton. In late summer and in the fall, the following helped maintain the Dale's Ridge Trail: Rolf Helbig, aided by monthly trail stewards: Harry Huff and Troup 512 of Mazeppa: Bill Bolger, Dave & Don Baumer, Lee Rice, Ruben Huber, Brian Mast, and Jon Hinnese; Allen Schweinsberg; Albert Mabus and Troup 622 of Turbotville: Steven & Chris Kern, Nick Gordner, Levi Watson, and Stephanie Halvack, the education coordinator for the Northumberland County Conservation District, as well as Jim & Laurie Knight and family, Pete & Allen Mackey, and Tom & Jeff Duck. Thanks to member Jean Ruhl for the maintenance of the parking area at the Dale's Ridge Trail.

Thanks to members Dick Nickelsen, the Union County Conservation District, and Allen Schweinsberg for sharing slides from the Buffalo Creek watershed—places and activities in and within it: farming, fishing, canoeing, plants and animals, hiking, and more. Their slides, along with new ones by member Ed Culver, will be seen in the upcoming video on the Buffalo Creek and its watershed.

Conservancy members Jeannette Lasansky, Clyde Peeling, Rolf Helbig, and Mike Molesevich, recently wrote environmental columns on behalf of the Linn Conservancy for the *Daily Item*. Alternating with those of the Seven Mountains Audubon Society, these columns appear every other month on the fourth Sunday. If anyone is interested in writing such a column, please contact the Coordinator at 522-0487, or write conserve@ptd.net.

Thanks to Dave & Vicki Heberlig, Joseph Keller, and Margaret Moyer who prepared this newsletter for mailing.

Many people have had their addresses changed because of the 911 system. We would appreciate it if you will call or e-mail the office with that change because mail

“forwarded” to your new address will cost the Conservancy fifty cents per forwarding, a small charge which, when multiplied, is not insignificant. Also, we want to be sure that you get your copy of the *Linn Log* promptly and efficiently. And, if you know you will be moving, please let us know ahead of time since our newsletter, which is sent bulk rate, will not be forwarded by the post office.

Please Note: Your dues are due if there is a red stamp here; you should find a handy business reply envelope enclosed for your convenience. Please help us meet our goals by replying as quickly and as generously as you possibly can this year. Thank you for your support in the past.