

Swatara Watershed Association, December 3, 2014




In attendance: June Blouch, Tom Embich, Fred Folmer, Ann Lasky, Jo Ellen Litz, Ben Miller, Jack Stauffer.

Business:

American Water Company:

Awards:

Bordner Cabin:

-  DCNR is reviewing our existing 10-year lease to update verbiage their department requires. A memorandum of understanding may be created to accompany the lease.
-  Per Mike Willeman, Labor & Industry plan approved; DEP permit approved; and Mike is working on DCNR approval. Barb Davey, Corey's boss, informed us that we need higher-ups written approval. Mike promised to send copies of all permits for our file.
-  Old State Road: Open 2nd Friday & Saturday monthly; & the 4th Friday & Saturday March, April, September, & October. To all Volunteer Stewards, thank you!

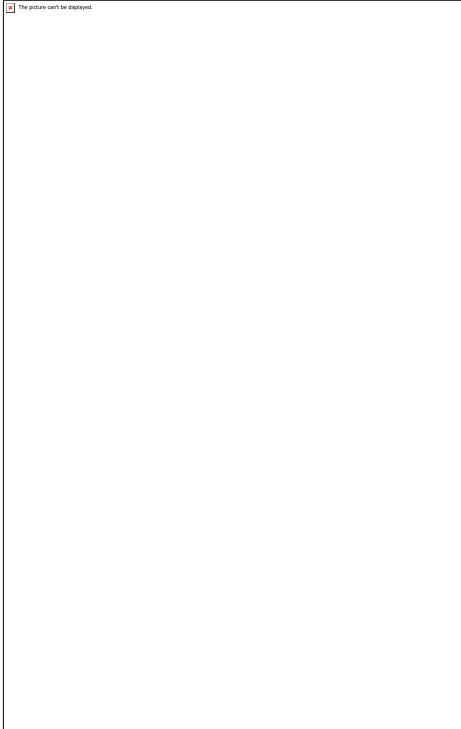
Bridges: Duke Street Bridge in Hummelstown closed to vehicle and boat traffic. The iron Inwood Bridge is closed south of the Appalachian Trail. Finally, the weight limit was reduced from 10 to 5 tons on the Spruce Street Bridge over the Quittie in Annville.

Conservancy: Dick Blouch – Aptly represented by June, Dick's Wife, said that an anonymous donor will match up to \$5000 through December 21.

Conservation Districts: Stephanie Harmon -

Donations and Bequests & Financial:

1. SWA is seeking a new treasurer. Members in good standing may apply. Members concurred that RSVF should be pursued.



2. Texas Road House Fundraiser.

- a. Peanuts \$3/bag; 2 bags for \$5.
 - b. Gift cards sold \$750 earn 10% or \$75
 - c. **Double give-back Monday, January 12, 2015**—Use the SWA gift carts and an additional 10% will go to SWA.
3. During Bass season, hold a pancake breakfast at the Swatara Watershed Park pavilion. June will check with Dick to see if **Saturday, May 30** is good.
4. Jo Ellen reported attending a **Conservation Fund** focus session to create a list of conservation and recreational projects in Lebanon County. Wearing two hats, she placed four County parks—Governor Dick, Monument Park, LV Rail Trail, and Union Canal Tunnel Park on the lists and maps and for Swatara Watershed four projects—Bordner Cabin, the Swatara Sojourn, Swatara Water Trail, and Swatara Watershed Park.

At this focus meeting, they did not want to discuss pipelines, only develop a list of projects. So, there was no opportunity to share the philosophy that SWA discussed at our last Board meeting—

1. It is preferred that their existing pipeline route is followed.
2. However, if the pipeline comes through Lebanon County, there should be no free ride for Williams.

- a. They should contribute to public safety (a new 911 dispatch center, which was also submitted for consideration at the meeting);**
 - b. They should contribute to preserving clean air, land and clean water.**
- 3. While being tough on enforcement, Swatara Watershed Association should continue to be at the table with a voice to negotiate routes, clean water, public safety.....**

Representing the Conservation Fund were Kendra Brickley, Arlington Virginia and Kim Michael Swartz, West Virginia. In attendance from DEP were Robert Conrad; Katherine Hetherington Confer, External Affairs; and Lean Majolic, Policy Office. Local groups included:

-  LCCD Farm Preservation, Angie Foltz;
-  LCCD Watershed Specialist, Stephanie Harmon;
-  LC Planning, Julie Cheyney;
-  LC Planning Director, Bob Sentz;
-  LV Conservancy Ellie Sallahub;
-  LV Conservancy Ann Pinca; and
-  LC Commissioner and Swatara Watershed President Jo Ellen Litz.

Observing was Scott Carney from Williams. Scott previously worked at the PA Fish and Boat Commission for a long time.

There was a level of suspicion in the room, and questions were asked about whether the Conservation Fund would be providing any funding for projects, or if it all came from Williams. Initially, projects will be chosen by Williams. Unfunded projects will be turned over to the PA representatives for the Conservation Fund for consideration. Projects are being nominated in nine focus groups in counties where Williams will run through. They are not mandated to do this. They have funded projects in the past, but this is the first time this focus group is being tried, and the first time funding will occur prior to any possible construction. After the focus groups are finished, no other window will be afforded to nominate projects.

Funding will be awarded to projects that can be completed in 2015.

Legacy Giving - *May your life be peaceful like a river. May you make pools out of puddles. And, when you tackle problems, start inward, then move outward, like ripples in a pond.* (author unknown) To donate using PayPal: https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=_s-xclick&hosted_button_id=ETAR7NLSKT496

We truly value our clean water. It nourishes us, sustains our homes and businesses, cleanses us, and gives us new life through baptisms. The same water on earth today, is the same water that was here in the beginning of time and will provide for future generations. It's how we use and plan for that water that will impact lives positively or negatively. As you think about your gifts beyond this life, please consider the gift of water by gifting annuities, trusts, life insurance, stocks, or a cash contribution to the Swatara Watershed Association, Inc., 2302 Guilford St., Lebanon PA 17046. Give the gift that will keep on giving. Thank you, and God bless you for your thoughtful consideration.

(The Swatara Creek Watershed Association Inc. is a 501C3 nonprofit volunteer organization serving parts of Berks, Dauphin, Lebanon, and Schuylkill counties in south-central Pennsylvania.)

Eagle Scouts: Slade Hall picnic tables for Swatara Watershed Park. Slade is with Troop 456.

Floods, Droughts: 245 parcels along the Swatara in Lebanon County.

Fort Indiantown Gap: Hotline 717.861.2007 to learn about activities at Fort Indiantown Gap.

Lebanon Water Authority:

Little Swatara: Fred Folmer – Pursuing EAC Training for Bethel Township by ALARM's Julie Basteen who is developing a study design.

Membership: To support SWA Clean Water Projects, donate using

PayPal: https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=sxclick&hosted_button_id=ETAR7NLSKT4

96 Suggested donation: Individual Annual Dues \$20; Individual Lifetime Membership \$200; Business Partners Lifetime Membership \$500 (We reserve the right to only accept memberships consistent with our mission.) Mail to 2302 Guilford St., Lebanon PA 17046, or use a credit card or PayPal online at www.SwataraWatershed.com.

MS4 (municipal separate storm water sewer system): 15 Municipalities and 5 nonprofits have adopted an MOU. Working on water pollution and flood control. 5 banners at \$122 each; Rack Cards for car washes; and 2 Lebanon Daily News ads at a cost of \$3000 will be used for education about recycling water and keeping storm sewer water both to a minimum and free of chemicals and other pollutants.

Northern Swatara Watershed and Sweet Arrow Lake Report: Denise Donmoyer—events posted at www.SweetArrowLakePark.com

Quittie Creek and Park Report: Ann Lasky - Tom informed Ann that Annville Township has advised and is watching work on the Quittie as there are 5 storm sewer

discharges within the bounds of the Park, three of them within the project area. Altogether, there are 16 discharges within Annville Township on the Quittie.

Pipelines: **Tom announced that he would like to pursue a County Marcellus grant.** Due to a conflict of interest, Jo Ellen said that she cannot participate in the grant at either the SWA or County level.

Meetings:

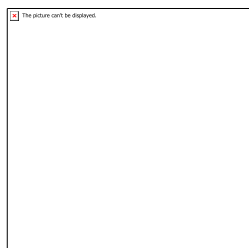
Monday, December 8 at 7 p.m. - West Cornwall Township Supervisors Meeting; 73 S. Zinns Mill Rd., Lebanon, 17042; All citizens with concerns for the Sunoco Mariner East Project are encouraged to attend; concerns can be expressed during public comment.

Tuesday, December 9 at 7 p.m. - South Londonderry Township Supervisors Meeting; 20 West Market Street, Campbelltown. The supervisors are expected to vote on a resolution opposing the Atlantic Sunrise pipeline project during this meeting. We urge all township residents and other citizens to attend this meeting to show your support for the supervisors.

Wednesday, December 10 at 7:30 p.m. - Union Township Supervisors Meeting; 3111 SR 72, Jonestown, 17038. Residents are encouraged to attend the meeting to express their concerns about the Atlantic Sunrise pipeline project during public comment.

Thursday, December 11 at 7 p.m. - West Cornwall Zoning Hearing Board; Quentin Fire Company, South Lebanon Street, Quentin. Citizens are urged to attend this public hearing for the appeal of the Sunoco permits for the Mariner East project pump station.

The [appeal was filed](#) by West Cornwall Township residents and the Concerned Citizens of Lebanon County. Questions about the hearing can be sent to concernedcitizenslebco@gmail.com.



Public Relations: SWA QR code for our Smart Phone savvy members,

Berks Community Television gave permission to YouTube a decades old Earth Day tape with Franklin Meiser, former GLRA Director

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g8aZ8y9b-yM&list=UUqMgKuT-IVMFmRT8RdkapNw>
and Jo Ellen <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wF4SpHVbbrk&list=UUqMgKuT-IVMFmRT8RdkapNw>. They were co-chairs of the CCCW before SWA incorporation and

bylaws were adopted.






SRBC:

Swatara Sojourn – Planning starts in January.

Swatara State Park: Old State Road open—see Bordner Cabin. **Triathlon update—hike, paddle, bike—Ben and Stephany.**




Swatara Watershed Park: Our ‘mortgage’ stands at **\$_25,705.53_**. Monthly payments are \$412.99. This month, principal is **\$_327.31_**, and interest **\$_85.68_**.

 Projects & Campers: Tom Embich –

-  Jo Ellen signed off on Austin Barry’s Eagle Scout project.
-  Dead oak tree removal progress. Cost is \$125 to drop the tree. SWA must clean up.
-  Signs arrived.
-  Approached E&E Metal Fab about fire rings. Will locate tire rims or make from scrap.
-  Eight canoes available for sale. Shirk’s Auction on January 1, 2015.

Swatara Water Trail: Renewal of a POWR contract was returned. A vote of affirmation occurred on motion by Jack Stouffer, and seconded by Tom Embich. Every five years they want to renew our “contract” as Water Trail stewards. Please note that there are “principles and guidelines” that are not mandates. It clearly states that some points will match our mission and goals, and other guidelines will not “be relevant to (our) specific experience.”

Further, we are to:

-  1. Maintain facilities.
-  2. Organize two public clean-ups a year, which we do—the Sojourn and the Waterworks.
-  3. Alert officials about illegal dumping, floodplain encroachments, and damage to natural, archeological, and historical resources, which we do. Examples include the fish kill from a duck farm without a Conservation Plan in northern Lebanon County; garbage on the bank from an overturned truck on Route 81 above Swatara State Park where a firm was paid to do the cleanup for the trucking company, but didn’t; and a request from Manada Conservancy concerning dumps along the Swatara in Dauphin County where flyover maps were scanned, and provided to the Conservancy....

Other:

The next meeting is January 7, 2015.

On motion by Fred Folmer, seconded by Jack Stouffer, the meeting was adjourned.

Swatara Watershed Association

November 4, 2014

In attendance: Dick & June Blouch, Tom Embich, Fred Folmer, Ann Lasky, Jo Ellen Litz & Ben Miller.















Business:


American Water Company: Jo Ellen and Bob met with AMC to review their plan, and provide feedback.

Awards:

Bordner Cabin:






 Fred, Jo Ellen, and Tom met with Corey Snyder October 22 to start negotiations on the next 10-year lease. Review of accomplishments:

-  1) Point of interest on the Swatara Water Trail and maps;
-  2) Replaced the roof;
-  3) Held both a 70th and 75th anniversary celebration;
-  4) Placed required bars on the windows;
-  5) Led narrated walks for the N Lebanon Park and Recreation Association consisting of Bethel, East Hanover, Jonestown, Swatara, and Union Townships;
-  6) Used as a lunch stop on the Swatara Sojourn every other year over a 26-year period;
-  7) Stewards help to maintain the building;
-  8) Per Mike Willeman, Labor & Industry approved professional drawings, which are posted on our web page;
-  9) Per Mike Willeman, DEP permit recently acquired to repair the piers;
-  10) Picnic tables added;
-  11) Native plantings;
-  12) Mantle replaced;
-  13) Graffiti removed; and
-  14) a United Way Day of Caring station numerous years.

 DCNR is pleased that we didn't wait until the last minute to start negotiations. DCNR will review the existing lease to update it for any new verbiage their department requires. A memorandum of understanding may be created to accompany the lease.

 **Old State Road: Open 2nd Friday & Saturday monthly; & the 4th Friday & Saturday March, April, September, & October.** To all Volunteer Stewards, thank you!

In summary, here is the status of required repairs:

-  1. Labor and Industry approval of our plan is complete.
-  2. Received DEP approval of our permit in October 2014.
-  3. DCNR must approve the plans.
-  4. For safety, window bars were installed per the L&I requirement. Corey approved.
-  5. Reconstruction of the porch columns is the first major repair. Decking, railings, fencing from the cabin...can only occur after the columns and cement work are completed. Mike Willeman will coordinate repairs. Jo Ellen provided a list of volunteers to Mike. Possible

volunteers: HACC Instructor Christine Bittinger & students; Jimmy Kutz; Pat Gray; Barry Lerch; and Roger Leed.

- 6. SID Tool per Kari is working with us to donate needed materials to complete the repairs. Should this not materialize, a Lowe's quote is \$3500 for materials, but cement is additional. We are working with Boger's in Annville on special pricing.
- 7. Corey requested a drawing of the ramp. Mike Willeman met with Corey Snyder and L&I on site, and inspector John Washington suggested applying for a waiver.
- 8. Ask Mike to communicate monthly via email concerning the status and progress of the various improvements.
- 9. Fulfilling this work will be one more step in the enhancement of the Swatara Water Trail and Swatara Rivers Conservation Plan as well as preservation of our history and culture while bringing an appreciation for clean water, the environment and nature.

Bridges: Bridge over the Quittie E of DQ on Cumberland St opened. Duke Street Bridge in Hummelstown closed to vehicle and boat traffic. The iron Inwood Bridge is closed south of the Appalachian Trail. Finally, the weight limit was reduced from 10 to 5 tons on the Spruce Street Bridge over the Quittie in Annville.

Conservancy: **Dick Blouch** – Received the Chamber of Commerce nonprofit of the year award. Working with Patricia Walmer on an Ag Security Area in Heidelberg. Annual appeal going on. Working on new walking maps of Mt. Gretna, Myerstown, and Schaefferstown to compliment completed maps in Lebanon, Palmyra, Jonestown, and Annville.

Conservation Districts: **Stephanie Harmon** -

Donations and Bequests & Financial:

1. **AUDIT approved with one correction on motion by Blouch/Lasky.**
2. **SWA is seeking a new treasurer. Members in good standing may apply.**
3. Texas Road House Fundraiser.
 - a. Peanuts \$3/bag; 2 bags for \$5.
 - b. Sell gift cards in any amount, and earn 10%
 - c. If someone doesn't want a card for themselves, they have an option to purchase a card for a member of the military.
 - d. Double give-back—an additional 10% if cards we sell are used on a specified night at the Steakhouse.
4. During Bass season, SWA will hold a pancake breakfast under the pavilion at Swatara Watershed Park.

Legacy Giving - May your life be peaceful like a river. May you make pools out of puddles. And, when you tackle problems, start inward, then move outward, like ripples in a pond. (author unknown) To donate using

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Eagle Scouts: Slade Hall will be building 2-3 picnic tables for Swatara Watershed Park. Slade is with Troop 456.

Floods, Droughts: 245 parcels along the Swatara in Lebanon County.

Biggert Waters -- Is any portion of your property in the flood plain? If so, you are not alone if your insurance rates are climbing 25% per year.
<http://blogs.ldnews.com/peopleabovepolitics/2014/10/03/biggert-waters/>

Fort Indiantown Gap: Ground breaking for a new helicopter training center took place. From artillery fire to controlled burns, there is a **hotline 717.861.2007** to learn about activities at Fort Indiantown Gap.

Lebanon Water Authority:

Little Swatara: **Fred Folmer** – Monday the EAC speaker will be Christine Williams, the Ag Science teacher from Tulpehocken High School. She will teach how to take water samples.


Membership: To support SWA Clean Water Projects, donate using PayPal: https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=_s-xclick&hosted_button_id=ETAR7NLSKT496 Suggested donation: Individual Annual Dues \$20; Individual Lifetime Membership \$200; Business Partners Lifetime Membership \$500 (We reserve the right to only accept memberships consistent with our mission.) Mail to 2302 Guilford St., Lebanon PA 17046, or use a credit card or PayPal online at www.SwataraWatershed.com .

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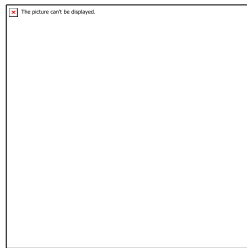
Northern Swatara Watershed and Sweet Arrow Lake Report: **Denise Donmoyer**—events posted at www.SweetArrowLakePark.com

Quittie Creek and Park Report: Ann Lasky – Equipment is parked at Quittie Park to begin rehabilitation of the Creek. The Pumpkin Walk at LVC was successful. 11.21 is Hoss Day. Please stop in.

Pipelines:

 Next citizens meeting Thursday, November 6, at the Ono Fire Hall, 10805 Jonestown Rd, Ono, PA at 6:30 p.m.

- Tuesday, November 18th from 2:00 - 5:00 pm Atlantic Sunrise Environmental Stewardship Lebanon County Focus Group
- **Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.560406167397139.1073741838.393993177371773&type=3>



Public Relations: **New Tourism Guides are out.** Swatara Sojourn and Water Trail are included on pages 14 & 26.

SWA QR code for our Smart Phone savvy members, volunteers, the media, and others. What an easy way to call up the SWA web page to navigate to the Water Trail Map....

A Lebanon Daily News article appeared on roofing. Jack Stouffer was featured on the front page of the Lebanon Daily News.

SRBC: See Water Trail

Swatara Sojourn - Planning starts in January.

Swatara State Park: Old State **Road open**—see Bordner Cabin. **Plan a Triathlon**—hike, paddle, bike. Ask Ben and Stephanie to coordinate.

Swatara Watershed Park: Our 'mortgage' stands at \$_____. Monthly payments are \$412.99. This month, principal is \$_____, and interest \$_____.

Projects & Campers: Tom Embich –

- Year in Review: Eagle Scout boat launch completed by Justin Barry; Pavilion roof completed by SWA members; 10 Primitive campsites used; Canoes used—8 for sale. Planning a pancake breakfast under the pavilion during bass season.
- A fallen tree must be cleared from in front of the boat launch.
- Make arrangements to remove a standing dead oak tree by the launch. \$125.
- Eight canoes available for sale. Try Shirk's Auction to sell a canoe.

- In the spring, level & cement under the rotted off post, pressure wash, and treat the wood.
- Contact Fire companies who requested to use the boat launch to see if they are still able to help with stoning the driveway. If not, request donation from Carmeuse.
- **Tom remove toilet.**
- Craig Clingler update. He did not follow up with requested information. Matter closed.
- **Signs to post:** NO Archery until after November 1; Office; Primitive Camping 5.1-10.31. To Launch off-season, park to the side, and walk in sunrise to sunset.; and No Discharge of Firearms on Property.
- **Need new fire rings. Approach E&E Metal Fab.**
- Should we acquire a shed for the mower, or move off site?
- Clean spouting.
- Move volleyball net.
- Turn off and drain water system.
- Front door repaired.

Swatara Water Trail: Need new maps. Swatara State Park has two signs. One may be in storage. One was destroyed. Consider moving the Route 22 sign to Swatara State Park. The Route 22 site was closed by the Lebanon Water Authority.

Other:

The next meeting is December 3, 2014.

There being no further business, on **motion by Blouch/Lasky, meeting was adjourned.**

October 1, 2014

In attendance: Dick & June Blouch, Tom Embich, Fred Folmer, Ann Lasky, Jo Ellen Litz, Jack Stouffer

Business: After many faithful years of attending to our treasury, Walt Haber has tendered his resignation effective January 1 so that he can devote his time to tending to his wife, Barb. SWA thanks Walt for his dedication and service. May God bless and keep both you and Barb in the coming days, weeks, months, and years. A certificate of appreciation will be prepared for Walt. Several names were suggested for treasurer.









Awards:

Bordner Cabin:

- **Meet with Corey Snyder October 22. Tom volunteered to go with Jo Ellen at 9AM.**
- **Old State Road:** Open 2nd Friday & Saturday monthly; & the 4th Friday & Saturday March, April, September, & October. To all Volunteer Stewards, thank you!
- **Labor & Industry** plan approved per Mike Willeman - **Received** \$\$ estimates and materials list for major projects. Window Bars completed.

75th Anniversary Tour a huge success. Approximately 75 people hiked, biked, or hopped a ride to the Bordner Cabin to share in the experience created from logs and stone found on the site. Thank you everyone, especially DCNR Park Rangers. We also appreciated the stone on the drive.

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-  Corey needs a drawing of the ramp.
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-  Fulfilling this work will be one more step in the enhancement of the Swatara Water Trail and Swatara Rivers Conservation Plan as well as preservation of our history and culture while bringing an appreciation for clean water, the environment and nature. . Jo Ellen can put volunteers in touch with Mike.

Possible volunteers: HACC Instructor Christine Bittinger & students; Jimmy Kutz; Pat Gray; Barry Lerch; and Roger Leed.

Bridges: Duke Street Bridge in Hummelstown closed to vehicle and boat traffic. The iron Inwood Bridge is closed south of the Appalachian Trail. Finally, the weight limit was reduced from 10 to 5 tons on the Spruce Street Bridge over the Quittie in Annville.

Conservancy: **Dick Blouch** – There are several prospects for easements. A vote will be taken on Tuesday. Alden Place will host the Chamber for non-profits.

Conservation Districts: **Stephanie Harmon** -

Donations and Bequests & Financial: Donations received from both Dauphin County via the Foundation for recycling fees and a dress down day at American Water Company. These gifts make us feel appreciated. Thank you.

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Lebanon Water Authority:

Little Swatara: Fred Folmer – Bethel EAC students are being trained by Julie from ALARM for water studies. The next meeting is October 21. Fred has two of SWAs water test kits.

Membership: To support SWA Clean Water Projects, donate using PayPal: https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=_s-xclick&hosted_button_id=ETAR7NLSKT496 Suggested donation: Individual Annual Dues \$20; Individual Lifetime Membership \$200; Business Partners Lifetime Membership \$500 (We reserve the right to only accept memberships consistent with our mission.) Mail to 2302 Guilford St., Lebanon PA 17046, or use a credit card or PayPal online at www.SwataraWatershed.com.

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Northern Swatara Watershed and Sweet Arrow Lake Report: Denise Donmoyer—events posted at www.SweetArrowLakePark.com

Quittie Creek and Park Report: Ann Lasky – The Conservancy is coordinating a trail extension, which received 15 ton of small stone. Due to the “construction” of the trail, this year’s Pumpkin Walk will take place at the Lebanon Valley College Sports Field on October 24 from 7-9PM. October 30 is Trick or Treat.

Pipelines: Facebook

Overview: <https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.560406167397139.1073741838.393993177371773&type=3>

Public Relations: SWA QR code for our Smart Phone savvy members, volunteers, the media, and others. What an easy way to call up the SWA web page to navigate to the Water Trail Map....

A Lebanon Daily News article appeared on roofing. Jack Stouffer was featured on the front page of the Lebanon Daily News.

SRBC: See Water Trail

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Swatara State Park: Old State **Road open**—see Bordner Cabin.

Swatara Watershed Park: Our 'mortgage' stands at \$26,354.01. Monthly payments are \$412.99. This month, principal is \$325.15, and interest \$87.84.

Projects & Campers: Tom Embich –

- Pavilion roof completed. Great team work Bob, Fred, Jack, Dick, June & Tom. So proud of your accomplishment. Dick and June Blouch generously hauled the rotted roofing material to the landfill, and covered the cost of disposal. A receipt will be provided.
- A fallen tree must be cleared from in front of the boat launch.
- Well water retested. Potable with a high iron content.
- Campers. 10 seasonal campers to date. More sites along the Swatara available.
- Canoes. 16 U-Tow canoes on 2 trailers available for use. Eight available for sale.
- Rather than returning leftover supplies, Fred Folmer will purchase the four pieces of 4'x8' particle board at our cost, and Bob Arnold will make a donation for shingles.
- The porch to the office needs attention. In the spring, we will level and cement under the rotted off post, pressure wash, and treat the wood.
- Fire companies who requested to use the boat launch will be contacted to see if they are still able to help with stoning the driveway. If not, donations will be requested from Carmeuse.
- Tom reported that someone is not using the toilet.
- Craig Clingler, a farmer, inquired about trapping coyotes, but did not provide any documentation of his permits, attend a meeting to demonstrate the snares used....
- Tom requested signs to post: Walk-in access only from November 1-April 30; Archery only after November 1; and No Discharge of Firearms on Property.
- New fire rings are needed for several campsites. Some campers prefer to create their own out of stone, and a donation will be sought from E&E Metal Fab.

Swatara Water Trail: In September 2014, to test a new gas pipeline around Kenbrook, water was taken from the Swatara Creek using the Jonestown Boat Launch. Damage occurred to the Launch, and Mayor Tyler Longenecker is requiring the company to pay for repairs in addition to a promised donation to their Park fund. Water trucks pumped one million gallons of water from the Swatara Creek in two days. A water withdrawal permit is required if an average of 100,000+ gallons per day are pumped over a 30-day period, or over 20,000 gpd if the water is







consumptive and transported out of the Swatara Watershed basin. SRBC is following up on the activity.

Other:

The next meeting is November 5, 2014.

August 6, 2014

Tom Embich chaired the meeting. He reported that the

1. Craftsman mower repair costs for use as backup mower were approximately \$160.
2. The roof replacement days are Sept 3 through 6; and Sept 8 through 13.
3. Projects at the Swatara Watershed Park:
 -  Mark & clear dangerous dead trees;
 -  Gravel and level the entry & interior roads;
 -  Replace or repair camp picnic tables;
 -  Inventory - purchase fire circles for sites that need them;
 -  Place fire circles as needed; and
 -  Repair Office structures: front door; deck; gutter covers for office and pavilion.
4. Tree and shrub maintenance; and removal of invasives and local non-native species.
5. At an MS4 meeting, Bruce Sattazahn volunteered his services to cut dead trees that could be hazardous to campers.
6. Walking tour guided by Tom Embich

Submitted by Tom Embich.

July 2, 2014

After policing the site for litter and enjoying watermelon under the shade of the trees, the meeting was called to order along the Swatara Creek at the Water Works.

Tom Embich continues to do a stellar job managing the Swatara Watershed Park. Tom reported that:

- 1) Friday, July 11, at 8:30 AM, Jack Curry, PADEP is visiting the SWP to inspect the well; the cap needs to be removed per his request.

2) While iron is a little high, a Pure Test water sample passed inspection. A bill for \$78 was submitted for payment.

3) The purchase of a used Husqvarna LGT2554 mower was requested to maintain the park. The Husqvarna received good consumer ratings, and has a 54" deck. Cost is \$1500. Tom contributed an amount for the widow. **A motion passed to purchase the mower.**

4) The old Craftsman LT1000 mower, which was not starting well, not cutting well, and from at least two mower professionals, assessed that the mower would need major repairs to put it back into service. Two local repair shops estimated several weeks to get to our mower due to the backlog of work. A neighbor who has a Craftsman LT1000 in very good condition informed Tom that he would be willing to take a look at it since he worked as a mower service man for the Alger Farms in Palmyra. He found a broken support strut for the mower housing, a broken tension arm for the mower assembly, and damaged shaft mandrell. He was able to weld the two broken pieces, ordered several parts that should be replaced to put the mower into workable, as a back-up or for mowing the rough areas of the park that will damage the new mower. At this point, he has donated all his time in repairing the Craftsman, except for a nominal cost for the welding repairs, which Tom personally paid.

5) Per Tom, Forester, Andy Brought reported that the main invasive tree species we have is the Ailanthus, or "Tree of Heaven", but we have some extensive multiflora rose, oriental bittersweet (*Celastrus*), and a couple of varieties of bush honeysuckle and some Autumn Olive. We need to be careful with control of the "Tree of Heaven" because we also have good growths of Staghorn Sumac and young Black Walnut, which are often mistaken for the invasive "Tree of Heaven".

Tom will mark those plants for control or removal that he doesn't get to personally. The oriental bittersweet can choke mature trees, and is more of a threat than poison ivy, mile-a-minute and other vines; the shrubby growth that needs control is the multiflora rose, but several sites of it are heavily infected by both the rose leaf-roller and Japanese beetles, which both act as biological control for the rose.

Andy's further recommendations to maintain or improve forest health:

1. Keep an eye out for heavy bark peeling from woodpeckers on the ash you have on the property. This is an important indicator when trying to identify Emerald Ash Borer presence and damage. The occurrence of epicormic branches is another useful indicator for EAB presence. It's only a matter of time until you will start to see EAB damage and mortality, and it happens quick.
2. Control non-native invasives such as mile-a-minute, tree of heaven, and oriental bittersweet. Poison ivy and grape vine should also be controlled when they are causing serious health issues to mature trees. We spoke about using the "cut stump" herbicide

treatment on these vines, so they don't sprout back. Use whatever concentration the label calls for on a cut stump treatment.

3. Promote the pin oak. Because oak provides great food for wildlife, I would recommend releasing them when you can to get them more sun light and growing space. This may entail cutting a few small silver maple, ash, and boxelder to help the pin oak survive and become a mature tree.
4. Native tree species I noticed on the property include: American sycamore, pin oak, northern red oak, white oak, silver maple, red maple, green ash, hickory, river birch, staghorn sumac, tulip poplar, eastern red cedar, and eastern white pine. I may have missed one or two, but I think I got the bulk of them listed here.
5. Finally, I would recommend you remove the 4 dying/dead sycamore near camp site #2. These trees pose a serious safety risk to campers in that area.

Swatara Watershed Park

Woodlands Management Policy

The wooded areas of Swatara Watershed Park, 1929 Blacks Bridge Road, Annville, PA, East Hanover Township, Lebanon County, offer thriving ecological systems consisting of a variety of plants and wildlife and should be protected and enhanced through effective planning and management.

Woodlands are significant in their ability to reduce surface erosion and slow rainwater runoff, to provide retention for wetland protection, help maintain groundwater supply, and along the Swatara Creek, and its tributaries, to provide a riparian buffer which cools the stream and enhances aquatic habitat. Woodlands also provide physical benefits such as screening of winds, unwelcome noise, wind-transported elements such as air pollutants and snow; visual barriers to unsightly areas; and wildlife habitat and bird nesting areas. Woodlands enhance and define recreation and scenic areas and often provide increased property values. The ecological values of woodlands are maximized when fragmentation and forest edge is minimized and larger blocks of woodlands are preserved.

The woodlands of SWP are to be protected to add to the scenic beauty and recreation opportunities of the Swatara watershed in addition to the ecologic benefits. By this management policy the Swatara Watershed Association and all park users are obligated to protect the woodlands by limiting tree removal to dead trees that have fallen and create a safety hazard, those in the right-of-way of the transecting power lines on the property, and others designated for management due to safety or hazard risk to users of the park or for control of invasive plant species. In addition, provision will be made to support reforestation via native species, riparian buffer plantings, trail construction, and wildlife habitat improvement. **Vegetative buffers along streams are to be managed only by SWP staff in a manner which provides maximum stream**

quality protection and nominal hindrance to park users. NO clear cutting or extensive tree or shrub removal shall occur unless directed by park management due to previously listed safety issues or for control of invasive species. NO invasive or non-native species of plant shall be deliberately planted within the park.

As partners with Swatara Watershed Association, PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) Service Foresters, PA Fish & Boat Commission or other professional woodland foresters may be requested to assist with planning to conserve natural resources and open space. Foresters can develop plans for management of forested land commensurate with their use as recreational areas, educational areas, riparian buffers, and wildlife habitat areas.

June 4, 2014

In attendance: Bob Arnold, Dick & June Blouch, Tom Embich, Fred Folmer, Jo Ellen Litz, Ben Miller, Jack Stouffer.

Business:

Awards:

Bordner Cabin:

-  **Old State Road:** Open 2nd Friday & Saturday monthly; & the 4th Friday & Saturday March, April, September, & October. To all Volunteer Stewards, thank you!
-  **75th Anniversary planning for Fall on an open drive-through weekend.**
-  **Labor & Industry** plan approved per Mike Willeman (waiting on \$\$ estimates and materials list for major projects).
-  **DEP or Swatara State Park General Permit approval to repair peers under porch?**
-  Hike, Saturday, June 7. Meet at 8:45AM, Sand Siding trailhead in Swatara State Park.
-  Grant application submitted through an employee for supplies and a cash donation from SID Tool.
-  Window guards were installed per L&I requirements.
-  June will follow-up on the fireplace repair.

Bridges: Duke Street Bridge in Hummelstown closed to vehicle and boat traffic. The iron Inwood Bridge is closed south of the Appalachian Trail. The weight limit was reduced from 10 to 5 tons on the Spruce Street Bridge over the Quittie in Annville.

Conservancy: **Dick Blouch** – Three new members are on their Board. An 80-acre easement along Bordnersville Rd was arranged by Larry Herr. County Commissioners approved a \$9,000 grant for walking trail maps in the boroughs of Mt. Gretna, Myerstown, and Schaefferstown.

Conservation Districts: **Stephanie Harmon** -

Donations and Bequests & Financial: \$49.50 from Ben Miller, Cocoa Kayaks 2nd annual product demonstration day. Dues received from Pam Tricamo and Robert Morris.



Eagle Scouts: Chuck Cravotta –

Floods, Droughts: 245 parcels along the Swatara in Lebanon County

Lebanon Water Authority:

Little Swatara: **Fred Folmer** – Met the ALARM director, and provided a hard copy of their grant. The next EAC meeting is July 7.

MS4 (storm water): 15 Municipalities and 5 nonprofits have adopted an MOU.

Northern Swatara Watershed and Sweet Arrow Lake Report: **Denise Donmoyer**—events posted at www.SweetArrowLakePark.com

Quittie Creek and Park Report: **Ann Lasky** – LVC clean up.

Pipelines:

- 📧 Did you send your Williams Sunrise comments to FERC? If not, please do.
- 📧 Standing room only at last night's Citizens meeting held at Annville Town Hall. Lynda Farrell, who spoke at our 2011 Conversation on Marcellus, was back in town.
- 📧 Williams Meeting @ ACHS 6.10 @ 6PM.
- 📧 Jo Ellen made a presentation on Marcellus Shale, fracing and pipelines to senior students at Northern Lebanon High School.

SRBC:

Swatara Sojourn - News Letter mailed. Filing final report.

Swatara State Park: **Old State Road open**—see Bordner Cabin.

Swatara Watershed Park: Our 'mortgage' stands at **\$_27,634.75_**. Monthly payments are \$412.99. This month, principal is \$317.73, and interest \$95.26.

- 📧 **Boat Launch:** Eagle Scout **Austin Barry**. Both walls completed. Rail fence and seat installed. This Saturday, work will commence 10AM-2PM to put down River Pebbles. Volunteers welcome. Bring a rake and shovel. An extra wheel barrow would be nice too. Please email litz@mbcomp.com if you will attend. Lunch will be provided by Dick and June Blouch. A sign for the bank of the Swatara was completed by Blose Signs, Campbelltown.
- 📧 **A feather flag** will mark the entrance to Swatara Watershed Park.
- 📧 **Land Acquisition:** Unger's. No contact. Tom made contact with George Christianson.

- 🌳 Fred Folmer, Ben Miller, and Bob Arnold will work together to clear a strainer reaching 3/4 of the way across the Swatara at site 28.
- 🌳 As recommended by Tree Vitalize, Tom will talk to a forester. If additional trees are needed, Ben will work on acquiring donations of Red Maples, which grow well in wetlands.
- 🌳 **Projects & Campers: Tom Embich –**
 - 🌳 Schedule a work detail to tackle the other side of the pavilion roof.
 - 🌳 Retest well water.
 - 🌳 Campers. 10 seasonal campers this year.
 - 🌳 Canoes. An extra canoe was sold. Eight more are available.

Swatara Water Trail: Fred suggested we pull the sign from the Route 22 access, which was closed by the Lebanon Water Authority. Tom will inquire whether we can have the sign installed at the new Schiavani Park in Hummelstown.

Other:

- 🌳 Prayers were extended during the recuperation of Barb Haber and Gail Smith.
- 🌳 Tom Embich will respond to an intern who is collecting water quality data for DEP.
- 🌳 **** Saturday, June 7, there will be an organized hike along Old State Road/Bear Hole Trail to the Bordner Cabin. Meet at Sand Siding parking lot. Just south of Twin Grove Park, from Route 72 turn east into Swatara State Park. The road goes back close to a mile to the trailhead. One of our Swatara Water Trail signs, framed in blue, marks the entrance at Route 72. ****
- 🌳 Also this Saturday, the Izaak Walton League is holding their 70th Anniversary celebration and pig roast.

Next Meeting: July 2, Watermelon at the Waterworks. We will pick up litter, then hold a brief meeting. Bring a lawn chair.

May 7, 2014

In attendance: Dick & June Blouch, Tom Embich, Fred Folmer, Ann Lasky, Jo Ellen Litz, Ben Miller, Jack Stouffer, & Christine Ticehurst.

Business:

Awards:

Bordner Cabin:


- 🌳 **Old State Road:** Open 2nd Friday & Saturday monthly; & the 4th Friday & Saturday March, April, September, & October. To all Volunteer Stewards, thank you!
- 🌳 **75th Anniversary planning for Fall on an open drive-through weekend.**
- 🌳 **Labor & Industry plan approved per Mike Willeman (waiting on \$\$ estimates for major projects).**
- 🌳 **On a Stouffer/Folmer motion a VOTE was approved to spend up to \$200 for window bars per L&I specifications.**

 **DEP approval?**

 Great community or Eagle Scout projects available too. Email litz@mbcomp.com

 **Chimney.** Award a contract-- Bill Brajkovich, Capital Area Chimney Sweeps or Framl Domborski with the Chimney Sweep Association. **On a Miller/Lasky motion, a VOTE was approved to reimburse Dick and June Blouch \$100 for an inspection.**

 **United Way Day of Caring project: April 26, 9AM** Driveway ruts repaired, picked up litter, sweep, and minor repairs.

 **WGAL TV8** did a story on reuse of abandoned buildings, which featured the Bordner cabin along with two other buildings. http://www.wgal.com/news/photos-abandoned-buildings-in-the-susquehanna-valley/25735390?utm_source=hootsuite&utm_medium=facebook&utm_campaign=wgaltv8news%2B8

Bridges: Duke Street Bridge in Hummelstown closed to vehicle and boat traffic. The iron Inwood Bridge closed south of the Appalachian Trail.

Conservancy: Dick Blouch – Scholarships will be awarded at noon on Thursday. Ann Lasky suggested that Austin Barry should apply too. Information will be forwarded to Austin.

Conservation Districts: Stephanie Harmon – Envirothon: HS last week; 5.6 middle schools at Middlecreek; 5.16 elementary @ Coleman Park

Donations and Bequests & Financial: Tom Embich donated \$22 worth of gas for the mower.

Eagle Scouts: Chuck Cravotta –

Floods, Droughts: 245 parcels along the Swatara in Lebanon County

Lebanon Water Authority:

Little Swatara: Fred Folmer – EAC, Student Water Quality Study, C-Saw Grant with ALLARM at Dickenson College. The section of stream is a cold water fishery. A copy of the grant was provided to SWA.

MS4 (storm water): Municipalities continue to adopt an MOU. Kris Troup was chairing, but moved onto North Londonderry Township.

Northern Swatara Watershed and Sweet Arrow Lake Report: Denise Donmoyer—events posted at www.SweetArrowLakePark.com

Quittie Creek and Park Report: Ann Lasky – On Day of Caring, Palmyra students mulched a trail and pulled 19 bags of garlic mustard. LVC students cleaned the Creek. A tree is under Spruce Street Bridge.

Pipelines: Williams comments to FERC? Meeting @ LVC on 5.14.14, Miller Chapel, Room 101, 6:30PM.

Other active pipelines in Lebanon County: Sunoco Logistics. Texas Eastern to Berks. Buckeye.

SRBC:


Swatara Sojourn Debriefing.

1. As we prepared to start, we learned that a woman, later identified as Peg Schwartz, was missing in the Swatara Creek. An official search commenced by search and rescue teams, including a State Police helicopter, at the start of our Saturday Sojourn. We were within the 5-mile range where it was most likely she would be found. Participants were informed. Refunds were offered. Instructions were provided on pulling to the side if a body was seen, calling 911, and marking the bank while waiting for first responders. Around 11:30AM on Sunday, she was found just upstream near School House Road by the first responders.
 - a. LDN reporter Barbara West was covering the Sojourn, and captured our discussion: <http://www.tout.com/m/nb83sh?ref=fbb2m85j>
 - b. Initial LDN Story: <http://m.ldnews.com/ldn/article/A3Bdg5su>
 - c. Sunday, Schwartz was found: http://www.ldnews.com/crime/ci_25693783/body-found-swatara-creek-east-hanover-township
 - d. 238 photos of the Sojourn on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.10152450099244095.1073741832.86311524094&type=1>
 - e. A 12-minute movie was edited and posted to YouTube: <http://youtu.be/lr1oQJdpeII>
2. Because the Duke Street Bridge was closed, and we couldn't see a good portage or launch on the SW side, on Sunday, we launched at Schivoni Park in Swatara Township.
3. We lunched at Fulling Mill Road exit, #17 on our Water Trail maps.
4. The POWR final report must be completed.
5. PennDOT provided garbage bags.
6. The Dumpster didn't arrive at SW Park. We received \$5.37 from recycling a metal skid retrieved on the Sojourn. Tires in the trailer went to GLRA. A TV was recycled at GLRA. Finally, Larry Taylor assisted with unloading garbage. Thanks, Larry! Water was a little higher than normal, and moved us along quickly. With sediment in the water, we couldn't see trash on the bottom either.
7. Milk crates returned to Swiss Dairy.
8. UHaul trailer returned.
9. Vans gassed up and returned to Mease Motors.
10. **On a Stouffer/Folmer motion reimbursement of \$67.89 was approved for Tom Embich.**

11. On Saturday evening, Gail Smith delivered potpie from the ladies auxiliary at Ono Fire Company. It was reported that on Sunday she was kicked in the head by one of her horses, and is in HMC.
12. Resolutions of support were received from Lebanon County, North Londonderry Township, and North Lebanon Township.
13. Austin Barry presented his Eagle Scout project on Sunday morning.
14. Our Diorama didn't win, but provided PR for the sojourn.
15. SWA Shore support was **AWESOME!**
16. Survey Monkey was posted for participant feedback. <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/PM2DD55>

Swatara State Park: Old State **Road open**—see Bordner Cabin.












Swatara Watershed Park: Our 'mortgage' stands at \$ 27,954.56. Monthly payments are \$412.99. This month, principal is \$319.81, and interest \$93.18.

 **Boat Launch:** Eagle Scout Austin Barry. East wall completed. **This Saturday, work will commence 9-noon.** My Lowes is for houses only. On a Stouffer/Embich motion, at a cost of \$150, a VOTE was approved to purchase a 6mm plastic sign to identify the Park boat launch.

 On a Miller/Lasky motion, a VOTE was also approved to purchase a flag for the entrance to Swatara Watershed Park.

 **Land Acquisition:** Unger's. No contact.

 **Projects & Campers:** Tom Embich –

-  Work detail to tackle the other side of the pavilion roof. Seasonal campers.
-  Retest well water.
-  Remove multiflora rose.
-  Pick up fallen limbs.
-  Take the lawn mower to the site.
-  Cut the grass.
-  Move the volleyball net.
-  Stone the drive to fill potholes. The fire companies may do this in exchange for use of the boat launch.
-  Remove the dead tree at the launch.
-  Repair the bottom of the office door.
-  Contact MetEd to clear a tree fallen on their power line.

 **April 26, 9AM, Day of Caring cleanup.** Tom Embich.

Swatara Water Trail:

Other: Christine Ticehurst, DCNR, Community Greening/Tree Vitalize, will contact Chris Peiffer to help SWA with a Lydar inventory analysis of land cover at the Swatara Watershed Park; an updated PNDI review of our property; and a list of trees that grow in wetlands. For private property analysis, she recommended a free online ITree software. Forrester Andy Brought, Halifax forester, may also provide assistance. 2010

was the last LYDAR flyover. Finally, there is a \$1/tree reimbursement for planting of trees.

Next Meeting: June 4, 2014, 9:30AM.

April 2, 2014

In attendance: June & Dick Blouch, Tom Embich, Fred Folmer, Ann Lasky, Jo Ellen Litz, Ben Miller, Jack Stouffer.

Business:

Awards: A “Canoe the Swatara Sojourn” diorama was created with Easter peeps for a contest being held by the Lebanon Daily News. Prizes are gift certificates to Zweier’s food store.

Bordner Cabin:

📌 **Old State Road:** Open 2nd Friday & Saturday monthly; & the 4th Friday & Saturday March, April, September, & October. To all Volunteer Stewards, thank you!

📌 **Labor & Industry** plan approved per Mike Willeman (waiting on \$\$ estimates for major projects). Amended drawings printed. **DEP approval?** Great community or Eagle Scout projects available too. Email litz@mbcomp.com

📌 **Chimney.** Ann, Ben and Jo Ellen met with Bill Brajkovich, Capital Area Chimney Sweeps. A photo up the chimney showed that the passage is clear. Bill explained that the stone is coated with a heat retardant cement. The naturally flowing metal heat-o-lator is constructed of heavy steel. Air is taken in near the floor on both sides of the fireplace. As the heat from the side of the steel rises, a natural draft, which exits the fireplace, and enters the room about 5’ above the intakes, is created. Perhaps the bricks that the Park Rangers found came from the back side of the mantle.

📌 **Two options were suggested.** One option is to repair the existing chimney and the other option is to place an enclosed stove in the fireplace. North Forge on Route 322 was suggested. Jo Ellen stopped there on Tuesday, and learned that it would cost \$5000-\$6000 for an insert, which includes installation. Several reasons make this option unrealistic: 1) Price; 2) The exhausts are to the rear of stoves, and the opening to the flue is in the front of the fireplace; 3) An Historical integrity breach; 4) The heat-o-lators take electricity, which we don’t have; and 5) The stainless steel chimney liner rusts out and needs replaced about every 10 years. 6) Likewise, an iron stove rusts. The cement sealed chimney has lasted for 75 years.


📌 **Bill wants to remove the existing heat-o-lator**, and replace it as well as recoat the inside of the chimney. To exercise due diligence, there was consensus to seek a second estimate.

- **Historical review:** The Bordner Cabin is created in the Rustic style of architecture, which is defined by the National Park Service as structures built between 1916 - 1942 such as a log cabin that is so highly stylized in its attempt to be non-intrusive that it attracts the immediate attention of those who are accustomed to the simplicity and frequent sterility of contemporary architecture. It may be built of over-sized, rough-hewn logs and stones with its obviously intensive use of hand labor and its clear rejection of the regularity and symmetry of the industrial world, marking it as the work of another age, the product of an attitude far removed from our own. Perhaps for the first time in the

history of American architecture, a building became an accessory to nature... Early pioneer and regional building techniques were revived because it was thought that a structure employing native materials blended best with the environment...

- A survey of significant rustic structures is needed. Often rustic structures are too young (less than fifty years) to receive proper attention under the current criteria of the National Register of Historic Places. Each year a few disappear and a good many more are hopelessly altered by renovation or remodeling done without sensitivity to the original design. In this regard the authors can only concur with Ms. Wilson: "The rustic timber and stone buildings found in our national parks...represent an important irreplaceable architectural resource which should be used and conserved." ³

 Per our lease, SWA is responsible for cleanup within 25' of the cabin. Park Ranger Corey asked if we would clear brush along the drive up to the cabin.

 **United Way Day of Caring project: April 26, 9AM** pick up litter, sweep, minor repairs. Stage at Swopes Valley Road parking lot to carpool to site. Orange cones will block the drive. Only walkers or ride bike riders can come up the drive.

Bridges: Duke St Bridge, Hummelstown is closed due to falling debris. PA Fish & Boat notified SWA that Penn DOT or their contractor should coordinate portage with us for the Sojourn. If boulders can be rolled, is it possible to pass through the north side of the broken dam just before the bridge, then under the stable arch on the north bank?

Conservancy: **Dick Blouch** – Annual appeal is at Snitz Creek Brewery April 7 at 4:30PM.

Conservation Districts: **Stephanie Harmon** – Dauphin County's new CD Director is Eric Naughski. We will invite Eric and Megan Blackman to a future meeting. Likewise, we should invite Lebanon County's new CD Director Lynette Gelsinger to a future meeting.

Donations and Bequests & Financial: The bank statement was shared. It was also reported that Treasurer Walt's wife Barb is hospitalized. Please keep them in your prayers.

Eagle Scouts: **Chuck Cravotta** -

Floods, Droughts: 245 parcels along the Swatara in Lebanon County

Lebanon Water Authority:

Little Swatara: **Fred Folmer** -

MS4 (storm water): Municipalities continue to adopt an MOU. Tom & Jo Ellen attended a recent meeting. For educational purposes, banners will be purchased for display on bridges.

Northern Swatara Watershed and Sweet Arrow Lake Report: **Denise Donmoyer**—events posted at www.SweetArrowLakePark.com


Quittie Creek and Park Report: **Ann Lasky** - The football team helped to clean up the park two times. Trout were stocked in the stream. The awarded grant is exciting.

SRBC:


Swatara Sojourn. POWR application and Fish & Boat Float Plan filed and approved. Received and provided our 501c3 and Charitable Organization status documentation to POWR. Seeking sponsors for Saturday and Sunday May 3 & 4, 2014. Visit www.SwataraWatershed.com for both sponsor and registration forms. Forms also printed by Bayer for distribution. Ben will be our advanced scout. Tom and Bob will follow-up to be sure the path is maintained around American Water Co. Dam. Gary Witmyer retired. Tom will reserve two vans. Garbage disposal and tire removal approved by GLRA. Trailer reserved by Jo Ellen with UHaul. Jo Ellen contact Middletown for trash removal from Fish & Boat Launch. A note was received that **no dogs are allowed at Hershey Highmeadow Campground this year**. Lunch will be at Shivoni's Park in Swatara Township on Sunday. Tom will check on the availability of a toilet at Shivoni's. Jo Ellen ordered Potpie for Saturday night from Gail at Ono Fire Company. They deliver. June & Dick will pick up doughnuts from Jonestown Foodtown, and subs from The Market in Grantville. At an MS4 meeting, Municipalities were asked for resolutions of support. Event publicized through POWR, email and Facebook. Call into Free Plug Friday on Laura LeBeau. Austin will present his Eagle Scout project Saturday night.

Swatara State Park: Old State Road open—see Bordner Cabin.

Swatara Watershed Park: Our 'mortgage' stands at **\$28,270.18**. Monthly payments are \$412.99. This month, principal is \$315.62, and interest \$97.37.

 **Boat Launch:** Eagle Scout **Austin Barry**. Wall averages 40' long, 4.5' high. Rebar, gravel, 16T of river rock, and 17 skids of Sakrete made for sea walls. 3 deliveries. Quandel may join in the effort. Tom Kocher is our Fish & Boat contact. His boss is Marshall @ Belfont. 814.883.9220. Because F&B has a right-of-way along the Swatara in our Park, the project is required/our purchase agreement and grant to improve the boat access, and the wall will slow bank erosion, work may be covered under General Permits. E Hanover and Lebanon County contacted for approval too.

 **Land Acquisition:** Unger's. No contact this month.

 **Projects & Campers:** **Tom Embich** – After the Sojourn in May, a work detail will tackle the other side of the pavilion roof. Seasonal camper notices sent. Interest from a new camper.

 **April 26, 9AM, Day of Caring cleanup.** Pick up litter... as assigned by Tom Embich.

Swatara Water Trail:

Other: Invite Tree Vitalize to provide an inventory of tree stock at the Swatara Watershed Park.

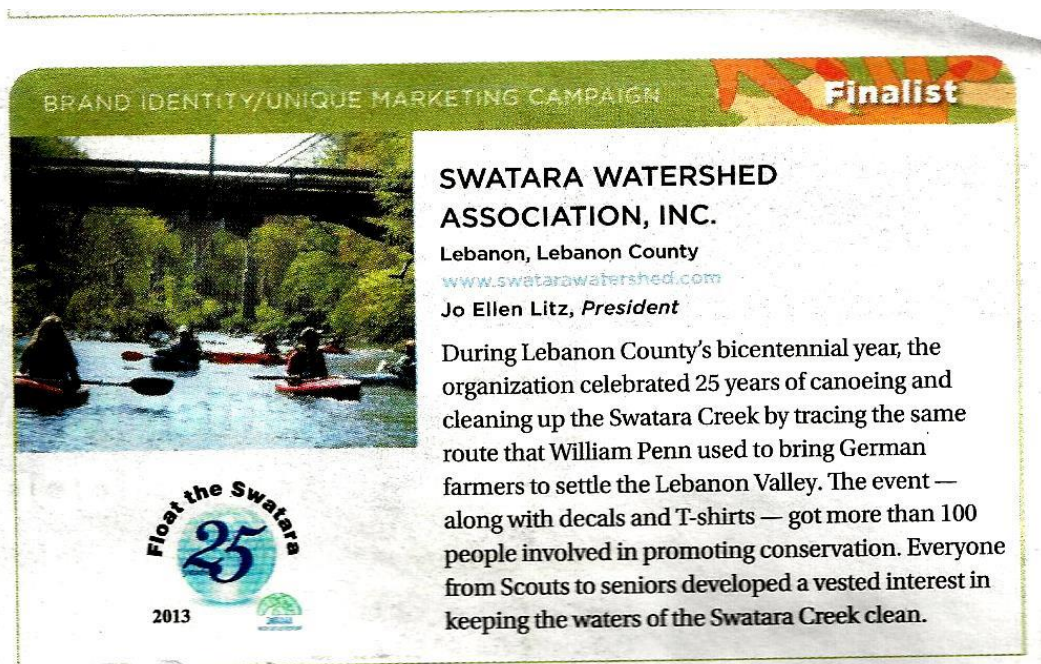
Next Meeting: May 7, 2014, 9:30AM.

March 5, 2014

In attendance: Bob Arnold, Dick & June Blouch, Tom Embich, Fred Folmer, Ann Lasky, Jo Ellen Litz, Ben Miller, Jack Stouffer

Business:

Awards: February 28, 2014 - SWA was a finalist in the Central Penn Business Journal's Nonprofit Innovation Awards held at the Lancaster Marriott. We did not win, but received coverage in their publication, which goes out to 40,000 subscribers in hard copy, and another 20,000 online. Corporate donations toward SWA projects can be made directly to SWA, or through The Foundation for Enhancing Communities where our 501c3 and other paperwork is preapproved and stored.





Bordner Cabin:

 **Old State Road:** Open 2nd Friday & Saturday monthly; & the 4th Friday & Saturday March, April, September, & October. To all Volunteer Stewards, thank you!

 **Labor & Industry** plan approved per Mike Willeman (waiting on \$\$ estimates for major projects). Great community or Eagle Scout projects available too. Email litz@mbcomp.com

 **Chimney.** Ann follow up.

 Per our lease, SWA is responsible for cleanup within 25' of the cabin. Park Ranger Corey asked if we would clear brush along the drive up to the cabin. Ben will seek written permission so that we are not charged with removing living plants from the State Park.

 **United Way Day of Caring project: April 26, 9AM** pick up litter, sweep, minor repairs. Walk or ride bike to location about 1.5 miles after crossing the new bridge in Swatara State Park.

Conservancy: Dick Blouch. 3.30.14 Gettysburg Story at the Allen, 6PM, \$5 adults, \$3 children. Middlecreek concession stand during normal migration was thwarted due to excessive ice on the water.

Conservation Districts: Stephanie Harmon –

Donations and Bequests & Financial: Cocoa Kayaks became a lifetime corporate sponsor. Thanks, Ben! Bob Arnold included his volunteer time with SWA in Hershey's Dollars for Doers. Thanks, Bob!

Eagle Scouts: Chuck Cravotta

Floods, Droughts: 245 parcels along the Swatara in Lebanon County

Lebanon Water Authority:

Little Swatara: Fred Folmer reports that both Chuck Cravotta and Stephanie Harmon provided valuable feedback on Bethel's Environmental Advisory Council, including a CSaw grant application due in April. Providing the Little Swatara Association completes all paperwork (application, reports,...final filing) and cooperates with timely copies for accounting purposes, SWA may act as a conduit for the grant application.

MS4 (storm water): Municipalities continue to adopt an MOU.

Northern Swatara Watershed and Sweet Arrow Lake Report: Denise Donmoyer—events posted at www.SweetArrowLakePark.com

Quittie Creek and Park Report: Ann Lasky reports that an access trail to Willow Street was controversial. Four work days and Day of Caring on 4.26 with 60 children from Annville Cleona and Palmyra School Districts are being coordinated.


SRBC:


Swatara Sojourn. POWR application and Fish & Boat Float Plan filed and approved. Received and provided our 501c3 and Charitable Organization status documentation to POWR. Seeking sponsors for Saturday and Sunday May 3 & 4,

2014. Visit www.SwataraWatershed.com for both sponsor and registration forms. Forms also printed by Bayer for distribution. Ben will be our advanced scout. Tom and Bob will follow-up to be sure the path is maintained around American Water Co. Dam. Tom will reserve two vans. Garbage disposal and tire removal approved by GLRA. Trailer reserved by Jo Ellen with UHaul. Jo Ellen contact Middletown for trash removal from Fish & Boat Launch. A note was received that no dogs are allowed at Hershey Highmeadow Campground this year. Lunch will be at Shivoni's Park in Swatara Township on Sunday. Tom will check on the availability of a toilet at Shivoni's. Jo Ellen ordered Potpie for Saturday night from Gail at Ono Fire Company. They deliver.

Swatara State Park: Old State Road open—see Bordner Cabin.

Swatara Watershed Park: Our 'mortgage' stands at \$28,594.21. Monthly payments are \$412.99. This month, principal is \$324.03, and interest \$88.96.

 **Boat Launch:** Eagle Scout Austin Barry. Wall average of 40' long, 4.5' high. Rebar, gravel, and 16T of river rock may be incorporated along with 17 skids of Sakrete made especially for sea walls. 3 deliveries. Quandel may join in the effort. Presentation at our April meeting, NL Rotary, and Sojourn. Tom Kocher is our Fish & Boat contact. His boss is Marshall @ Belfont. 814.883.9220. Because F&B has a right-of-way along the Swatara in our Park, the project is required per our purchase agreement and grant to improve the boat access, and the wall will slow down erosion of the banks, work may be covered under General Permits.

 **Land Acquisition:** The Unger's want to sell, but seem to be hedging on the price. This means we will most likely miss the 2014 grant round.

 **Projects & Campers:** **Tom Embich** – After the Sojourn in May, a work detail will tackle the other side of the pavilion roof.

 **April 26, 9AM, Day of Caring cleanup.** Pick up litter and other projects as assigned by Tom Embich.

Swatara Water Trail:

Other: A future speaker may be requested from Tree Vitalize to provide an inventory of tree stock at the Swatara Watershed Park.

Next Meeting: April 2, 2014 – time depends on Austin's schedule--9:30AM or later, perhaps at lunch—brown bags.

February 12, 2014

In attendance: Dick & June Blouch, Tom & Gwen Embich, Fred Folmer, Ann Lasky, Jo Ellen Litz & Jack Stouffer.

Business:

Awards: February 28, 2014 - SWA is a finalist in the Central Penn Business Journal's Nonprofit Innovation Awards to be held 7:30AM at the Lancaster Marriott. Apparently,

from our online store and logo to our Red Devil Duck launch, our 25th Anniversary activities caught the attention of judges.

Bordner Cabin: Ben Miller represented SWA at a DEP inspection of the site. Corey Snyder, Swatara State Park and Mike Willeman were also present.

 **Old State Road:** Open 2nd Friday & Saturday monthly; & the 4th Friday & Saturday March, April, September, & October. To all Volunteer Stewards, thank you!

 **Labor & Industry** plan approved per Mike Willeman. Seeking a DEP permit to complete under porch repairs. Need a cost estimate. Can start building repairs. Great community or Eagle Scout projects available. Email litz@mbcomp.com

 **Chimney.** Ann follow up.

Conservancy: Dick Blouch. Easement of 300 acres at the Wagner's on Gold Mine Rd. Another 100 acres that a daughter of Mr. Wagner may put into an easement. This doubles acreage that the Conservancy has preserved. A small property in the City of Lebanon may be used for green space for MS4. Another property has a dam, which needs breached per the authorities. There are bog turtles on this property. Historic walking tours are in Jonestown, Palmyra, Annville, Lebanon, Schaefferstown, and Myerstown. The Conservancy is the agent to the Quittie Watershed for a \$440,000 grant. Ned Gible is the Treasurer. At the Allen Theater on Sunday, March 30, The Gettysburg Story will be shown. Tickets are \$5 for adults, and \$3 for children. The annual appeal thank you will take place on Sunday, April 6 from 5-7PM at Snitz Creek Brewery, 9th & Cumberland Streets, Lebanon. Lee Moyer is the leader on the annual appeal.

Conservation Districts: Stephanie Harmon –

Donations and Bequests & Financial: \$100 Ann & Dave Lasky

Eagle Scouts: Chuck Cravotta

Floods, Droughts: 245 parcels along the Swatara in Lebanon County

Lebanon Water Authority: During droughts, Lebanon is short on water. To address anticipated water supply deficiencies, a water supply alternatives analysis identifies and evaluates various potential water supply alternatives to optimize or supplement the existing supply. The evaluation includes optimization of existing supplies, and identifies conceptual development of new surface and groundwater supplies.

Little Swatara: Fred Folmer is trying to develop a process to involve both public and home schooled students to make a water quality study of the Little Swatara Creek. They are looking for a grant to teach students how to use water quality testing equipment, let them gather, then interpret the data. The Little Swatara is an impaired stream. What is making the LS impaired?

MS4 (storm water): Municipalities continue to adopt an MOU.

Northern Swatara Watershed and Sweet Arrow Lake Report: Denise Donmoyer—events posted at www.SweetArrowLakePark.com


Quittie Creek and Park Report: **Ann Lasky.** QC was notified by DEP that a Watershed grant was awarded, but paperwork has not arrived to date. The grant will allow work on the new extension to the Park. QC is participating in United Way Day of Caring from Willow Street, but it's a public access, and signs are a requirement. 46 people don't want signs. They're questioning drugs, dog poop,.... Owen Moe represented the Watershed at the Township meeting. Work could start on the banks this spring.


SRBC: The Susquehanna River Basin Commission is pleased to announce that an update of its *Comprehensive Plan for the Water Resources of the Susquehanna River Basin* has been completed
<http://www.srbc.net/planning/comprehensiveplan.htm>.

Swatara Sojourn. POWR application and Fish & Boat Float Plan filed. A GLRA request was sent to Larry Taylor for disposal of collected waste. Mark Panasow at HersheyHighmeadow Campground was also contacted. SWA is seeking sponsors for Saturday and Sunday May 3 & 4, 2014. Visit www.SwataraWatershed.com for both sponsor and registration forms. Gary Whitmyer is retiring. He got the south-side path mowed for the portage around the Hershey dam. Tom will follow-up to be sure the path is maintained. Bob Arnold will also work on clearing the path.


Swatara State Park: **Old State Road open**—see Bordner Cabin.


Swatara Watershed Park: Our 'mortgage' stands at **\$28,907.63**. Monthly payments are \$412.99. This month, principal is \$313.42, and interest \$99.57.

 **Boat Launch:** Eagle Scout **Austin Barry** will lead an improvement project. He will raise matching funds to the NL Rotary \$1200 grant, present a design at the next SWA meeting, and plan a work date for spring to control erosion with a stacking block wall along the Swatara. Employees of TE Connectivity in Lickdale may also provide up to a \$1,000 matching grant.

 **Land Acquisition:** Attorney Chuck Henry provided a 'first right to purchase' agreement for consideration. The Unger's are reviewing the agreement with their attorney.

 **Projects & Campers:** **Tom Embich** - Re-Fasten rubber peak on roof.

 **April 26, 9AM, Day of Caring cleanup.** Dr. Jennifer Davis & Fred Johnson report the road has opened up. Because of snow, the Muskrat trapper may not have gained access.

 There is multi-flora rose that grows around the pump-house, and Tom will work on clearing it. A deer herd moves through the Park this time of year, but they don't eat the multi-flora rose. Some chainsaw work to cut fallen limbs is also needed. Fred has a chainsaw.

Swatara Water Trail: Consider creating an App and QR Code.

Other:

Next Meeting: March 5, 2014 - 7:30AM Breakfast, Heisey's Diner. Later meetings, perhaps at lunch—brown bags.

January 2014 - Cancelled due to snow and polar vortex, which froze pipes....