

THE FWCCSP RECORD  
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SECOND ANNUAL MEETING TO  
BE AT JUDGE MORRIS ESTATE

The second annual meeting of the Friends of White Clay Creek State Park will be held on March 18th, 1999 at the Andrew Gray House on the Judge Morris Estate at 7:00 PM. From Newark take Kirkwood Highway to Polly Drummond Hill Road. Turn left (heading north). The driveway to the estate is approximately 0.5 miles on the right. Join us at 7:00 PM for a dessert social. During this time you will be able to tour this historic house. A brief business meeting will be held at 8:00 PM followed by our featured speaker, Mr. Charles Salkin, Director of Parks and Recreation for the State of Delaware, who will provide us a vision of the future of White Clay Creek State Park.

FRIENDS TO PLACE DONATED  
BENCHES

The project to make and place benches at selected locations in the park is moving ahead. The benches will be of a rustic wood design (see picture), duplicating benches that have been used for many years at Hawk Mountain Sanctuary in PA. For a donation of \$100 a bench can be named with a small brass plaque, either in recognition of the donor or in memory of someone. To date, a total of four benches have been donated. Currently, there is a need for volunteers to participate in making the benches and in placing them in the park. We are aiming to get the first benches out by early Spring.



ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY

On March 6, 1999 10 members of the FWCCSP, led by Dee and Dick Benson picked up trash along Foxden Rd. This is our designated route in the state's Adopt-a-Highway program. The rain held off just long enough to accumulate approx. 20 bags of trash, 1 tire, 1 heavy plastic tarp and an assortment of car parts (e.g. wiper blades). Thanks to the Bensons for organizing another successful clean-up and to those that helped: Tom Hallenbeck, John and Maggie Thomas, Sue Thompson, Laurel Pearson, Kyle Bottorff, and Mark Keese.

CHRISTINA RIVER CLEAN-UP

Mark your calendars!! This year's Christina River Clean-up will be held on April 17, 1999 at 8:30 AM. This year the Friends will tackle a special project, completing the clean-up of the large bottle and trash dump along the old cart

road north of Chambers Rock Rd. between Thompson Station Rd. and the creek. We can use 10-12 people on this project and, if more show up, there are other areas that need to be cleaned. We will have several pairs of work gloves available, but please bring your own if you can. If you plan on helping with this project meet at Chambers Rock Rd. parking lot at 8:30 AM on April 17. We will car pool to the site due to limited parking. Clean-up will end at 11:30-12:00; free T-shirt to all those who participate. Please call Mark Keese at 455-1076 and inform him of your intention to participate.

#### JOE MAGNUS RESIGNS AS PRESIDENT:

Citing conflicting personal and professional demands, our first President, Joe Magnus, officially resigned prior to the November 20, 1998 meeting. Vice-President Andy Urquhart assumed the duties of President, and the executive committee agreed to leave the position of Vice-President vacant until the election in March. We should all take this opportunity to thank Joe for his instrumental role in shaping and organizing this group through the early days. I know I speak for the rest of the executive committee in saying, Joe, we would not be as successful as we are without your efforts. Thanks, and don't be a stranger!

#### CHAIRPERSON FOUND FOR PROJECTS COMMITTEE:

Tom Hallenbeck has agreed to become our first committee chairperson, heading the important Projects Committee that will oversee and plan all of the Friends projects over the coming year(s). Please welcome Tom to his new post and help him out by volunteering to

help with our projects as the year moves forward.

#### MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

November 20, 1998:

The November meeting of FWCCSP was called to order at 7:05 PM, acting President Andy Urquhart presiding. In attendance: Mark Keese, Kyle Bottorff, Tom Hallenbeck, John Thomas, Gary and Christa Stefanisko, Steve Mendela and Nick McFadden.

Kyle reported that there are 66 paid members and the treasury contains \$595.00.

Andy announced the resignation of president Joe Magnus, effective immediately (see article in this newsletter).

The rest of the meeting was spent discussing on-going projects and plans for upcoming projects. The Make-a-Difference Day project to clean up a large bottle and trash dump still needs a lot of work. It was discussed to stage another, larger effort to clean up this dump in the spring (see article on Christina Clean-up this newsletter). The Adopt-a-Highway program on Foxden Rd. is going well although signs are still not up (Ed. Note still not as of March 6, 1999). The Trail Watch program is a priority for revitalization and expansion in 1999. Christa Stefanisko has agreed to become the organizer and will be contacting 1998's participants to confirm their interest in continuing. The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM.

January 21, 1999:

The January meeting of the FWCCSP was called to order at 7:10 PM,

President Andy Urquhart presiding. In attendance were Kyle Bottorff, Sue Thompson, Al Thompson, Dee and Dick Benson, Phyllis and Frank Rawling, Laurel Pearson, Janet Yoder, Ruth Nicholls, Gene Hess, Tom Hallenbeck, Ruth Sams, Mark Keese, Nick McFadden and Judy Jeffers.

The minutes of the November meeting were approved unanimously.

Kyle reported that, with the assistance of Frank Rawling, an audit of our books was performed in December 1998 and that nothing out of order was discovered. Currently we have 78 members and a budget of \$911.00.

Andy announced that, according to his research, we meet the requirements for 501C3 tax exempt status. Therefore contributions to the Friends are tax deductible. We may request an official designation from the IRS but our status as 501C3 is not contingent on receiving such designation,

Membership renewal will be due prior to the annual meeting in March. Those members who joined after October 1, 1998 will be exempt from this year's membership renewal. Dues will remain at \$15 for families, \$10 for individuals, and \$5 for students.

Andy gave a brief update on the bench project (see accompanying article).

Kyle gave a history of our involvement in last year's March for Parks program. Since Kyle is unable to organize it this year, and since the program has lost its national sponsorship, it was agreed that unless someone steps forward to organize this year's event, the Friends would not be involved.

The Bensons announced that the next Adopt-a-Highway clean-up would be held either February 20 or March 6.

It was announced that the FWCCSP were recognized as outstanding volunteers at the Annual Awards Banquet for Parks and Recreation (Delaware). Congratulations to all who made this possible!

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM.

Faithfully Submitted,



Mark Keese, Secretary  
FWCCSP