



Musconetcong River News

Spring 2013

Published quarterly by The Musconetcong Watershed Association

Asbury, New Jersey

Musky Makeover

by *Stuart Shafran*
MWA Trustee

For some outdoor enthusiasts cabin fever officially ended the first Saturday in April, opening day of trout season. For members of the Musconetcong Watershed Association (MWA), we got over the fever the following weekend, April 13th and 14th, organizing and participating in our season opener, the Musky Spring River Clean-up. This annual event, which draws out hundreds of volunteers from their winter hibernation from all over the state, is the perfect time to clean up the trash, in and around the river, specifically targeting fishing access and parking areas. The forest floor and river banks are still relatively bare, making it easier to find evidence of civilization, and less likely to brush up against poison ivy. I've often wondered if our clean-up follows the fishing opener to ensure the discarded fishing tackle wrappers, coffee cups, glass and plastic bottles, and of course, blue worm containers will be picked up.

This year I was privileged to lead groups of girl scouts and their parents, local residents, and one lone angler (two, if you count me) in cleaning up a stretch of river from Hampton Borough Park to Butler Park. Just when I think that we've cleaned up every type of trash there is to

pick up someone finds something to prove me wrong. I'm happy to report that the used pregnancy tester we found in the Hampton Park was negative.

Kudos, this year goes to Kohl's Department store for lending us several young and energetic employees to aid in my group clean-up. Together, we all prevented road construction debris, car and truck tires, numerous beer and soda bottles, rusted car parts, a chrome pool ladder, and medical waste from polluting the Musconetcong River.

We were just a few of the many groups of watershed members, residents, farmers, business owners, fishermen, hunters, hikers, bikers, church and civic groups, scouts, students, and community service volunteers who participated. As this event grows in popularity each year we continue to clean more and more of the 42 mile river. Not only did we patrol the easy river access areas, but are thankful for organizations like the Mohawk Canoe and Kayak Club who floated a large portion of the river on Sunday, removing unreachable debris from the banks, islands, and river bottom.

The MWA would like to thank the many 'behind the scenes' supporters who, year after year, have generously donated to make this event something we all look forward



This van full of MWA Spring River Clean Up volunteers was led by two volunteers proudly sporting their Kohl's Cares t-shirts.



Lots of tires, a large plastic playhouse, a 55 gallon drum, and the requisite steering wheel were among the garbage removed from the lower Musky by Mohawk Canoe Club Volunteers.

to. We would like to thank the Warren County Mosquito Commission for hauling away all the car and truck tires; the Warren County DPW, Hunterdon County DPW, and Raritan Valley Disposal for hauling away a large portion of the trash; Hunterdon County for donating trash bags and gloves; Washington Township ShopRite and Hackettstown Weis Supermarket for donating cases of bottled water; Dairy Queen of Hackettstown for providing lunch to scout groups; New Jersey Parks Department for providing trash dump sites; scout troops, the Salt Shakers Running Club

of Byram Township, Hackettstown Lowes, Hackettstown Kiwanis Club, Friends of Waterloo Village, and last but not least the Trout Unlimited Home Rivers Initiative Chairman, Brian Cowden and his army of TU volunteers from throughout the state.

What was once just a morning river clean-up has now grown into a community pride weekend. For me, this fulfilling event has always been a simple way of giving back while at the same time, leading by example. But, the truth be told, it's a lot of fun. See you all next spring!

Creative Giving – A Lasting Legacy

A creative way of contributing to a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization like the Musconetcong Watershed Association is designating the charity as the primary beneficiary of a life insurance policy. Others designate MWA as a secondary beneficiary if the primary beneficiary predeceases them. It is easy to do and these types of gifts will have an impact that will last a lifetime. Paid up life insurance policies can also be used as a gift. For example, many people acquire life insurance policies when the family was younger, and now with the children grown the coverage may be more than is needed. You can donate the paid-up life insurance policy by transferring ownership to a charity and you can receive a charitable tax deduction.

One caring individual recently did just that! A long-time supporter and current MWA board member Erik Jan Henriksen has designated MWA as one of the beneficiaries of his life insurance policy. When asked why he decided to do that, Erik said, "What it boils down to is that if you truly support the charities you love now, then you can leave a lasting legacy by including the charity in your will, or designating them as a beneficiary of a life insurance policy or retirement account. I love the great work that MWA does to preserve and protect our precious watershed and connect people with nature and they are deserving of my support."

Please consider including The Musconetcong Watershed Association in your estate plans and consider designat-



ing our organization as beneficiary of a retirement account or life insurance policy. It's easy to do and will have an impact that will last forever. If you have any questions about ways of giving, call MWA's Executive Director Beth Styler Barry, at 908-537-7060 or email her at beth@musconetcong.org and if you've already included MWA in your planned giving please let us know! ☺

MUSCONETCONG WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

PO Box 113, 10 Maple Ave.
Asbury, NJ 08802
908-537-7060

www.musconetcong.org

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MWA Welcomes New Education and Outreach Coordinator

In the fall of 2012 the Musconetcong Watershed Association received a grant from the Leavens Foundation to hire an Education and Outreach Coordinator. In March of this year we welcomed Karen Lund to our MWA staff. Karen holds an MA in Education from East Stroudsburg University, and a BA from Jersey City University and has New Jersey teaching certificates in Pre-School, Elementary, and Special

Education. Karen has extensive experience as an Environmental Educator and enjoys working with children in the outdoors. Karen has also worked as a facilitator for the award winning environmental education programs: Project WET, WILD, Wonders of Wetlands, WILD School Sites, AQUATIC WILD, Flying WILD, and Project Learning Tree. We are very excited to have her on board! ☺

Thrivent Financial Choice Dollars Program

Recently the MWA become an approved organization eligible to receive Thrivent Choice Dollars grant funding. Last year, Thrivent Financial provided more than \$100 million to help congregations, communities, eligible non-profits, and individuals in need by allowing their members to direct, through the Choice Dollars Program, where some of this grant funding goes. Anyone who purchases insurance or other financial products through Thrivent Financial may direct a certain amount of money (a Thrivent donation which does not effect the account holder's balance) to the non-prof-

*Support what matters
most to you.*

it organization(s) of their choice. The amount of money that can be designated depends on the amount of the annual premium of the insurance product or other financial product. So far this year the MWA has received several hundred dollars through this program. If you are interested in learning more about Thrivent Financial and the Choice Dollars program, please call Beth at 908-537-7060. ☺

13th Annual Run for the River

By *Adrienne Kaczynski*

At 7:00am on May 5th the pre-Race Day preparations began.

Cool overcast skies started the race, as the clouds and fog lifted so did the temps. Fortunately, the runners had beaten the heat and a few walkers we spoke with hadn't really noticed. Being MWA's largest fundraising event, it takes a large amount of preparation that begins way back in January when the weather is cold and only wishful thinking brings you to these warmer days of May. The bulk of the work however, takes place several weeks before and as always, volunteers, trustees, staff and the weather all worked in unison to pull off yet another successful event. I can never repeat this enough. This event would not be possible without the tireless hours that are spent by everyone involved pulling together.

On hand once again were the Unity Bank balloon and its handler, Tom Baldwin, giving participants and spectators' bird's eye views of downtown Asbury and giving passersby a glimpse of the balloon bobbing through the distant trees. D.W. Entertainment kept us rockin'. Donating his time again, Dave Werkhiser created the mood and set the pace, from registration to clean up. The lollipop run went off without a hitch. Smiles were had by all participants as they reached the finish line cheered on by the spectators. Proudly they came forward for their prize!

We continue to generate support from our faithful sponsors while rounding up new partnerships in and around the watershed. This year provided 30 sponsors, the most in Run for the River history. The companies and organizations listed below graced our runners t-shirt with their logos, while our Friends of the River Sponsors added their names for a small donation in a show of support. The shirt, then became a personalized souvenir for those who participated in the run itself. MWA would like to thank all of our sponsors and donors. Please join us in supporting them when you can. Last but surely not least thank you to everyone who came out to participate, we hope to see you all again next year! Save the Date - 14th Annual Run for the River- May, 4th 2014.

Sponsors

Unity Bank
Borealis Compounds LLC
Princeton Hydro
E&LP Associates, Inc.
Riverlogic Solutions LLC
Friends of the River
Hawk Pointe Golf
Hackettstown MUA
Rockefeller Development Group
M&E Engineers
Fox Lumber
Four Paws Playground
Perryville Wine and Spirits
Hunterdon Orthopedic Institute
Judith and Brewster Perkins
Davey and the Waverunners
Rick Allen Auto Repair
Rossi Chevrolet Buick GMC
Tilcon
Amy S. Green Env. Consultants
Erik J. Henriksen
Brown and Brown Insurance
Bio-Shine Inc.
Asbury Village Farm
Benbrook and Benbrook
Smith Brothers Sanitation
Paddler's Cove
Sanico
Musconetcong Sewerage Authority

Supporters

PNC Banks
SOS Wood Stoves
George's Plumbing
Diane and Stephen Propper
Marilyn Scharffenberger
Frank Rymon & Sons

Drawing Donors

Manhattan Grill and Deli
Koppe's General Store
Studio 57
Hunterdon Health and Wellness
Flieger Jewelers
PNC Bank
Sacred Rose Tea
Gibsons Fitness, Health & Wellness
M&M Mars
Adair Moore, CMT
Metropolitan Seafood Gourmet
Hawk Pointe Golf Club
Countryside Studios

Refreshments

Muheisen's Hot Bagel and Deli
ShopRite of Mansfield
ShopRite of Washington
ShopRite of Greenwich
Weis of Hackettstown

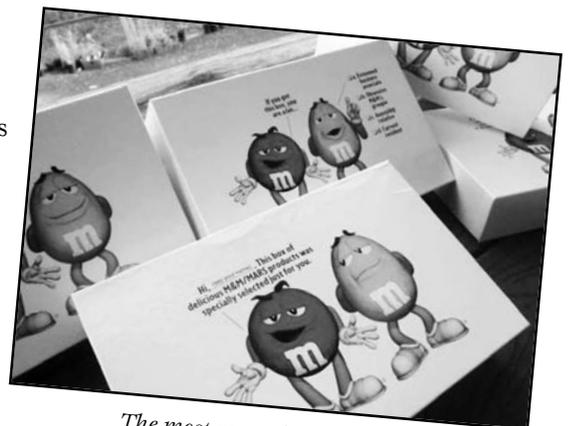
Congratulations to the 2013 Run for the River top finishers:



Nick DiSessa (25:51) and Nina Pastor (28:20)



Long time MWA member Lyle Garcia bringing home the Gold.



*The most coveted prize...
Thank you M&M Mars!*

Meet your Watershed Ambassador!

The Musconetcong Watershed Association is happy to be hosting a New Jersey Watershed Ambassador, Blaire Langston, for another year. Blaire is part of the AmeriCorps program whose goals are to increase watershed stewardship in the community by means of restoration projects, outreach and education, and volunteer monitor training for water quality. It is the Watershed Ambassador's responsibility to increase environmental awareness in the community.

Blaire graduated from the Richard Stockton College of New Jersey with a Bachelor's of Science in Marine Biology last spring. As an ambassador, Blaire gives presentations at schools to any age about point source and non-point source pollution, investigates water quality in the Upper Delaware, and organizes projects such as stream clean-ups. At the Musconetcong Watershed Association, Blaire helps in their goals to improve watershed resources. Watershed Ambassadors are a free resource to the community. If you know an organization that would benefit from an educational program related to watershed stewardship, or if you have any questions regarding your watershed you may contact Blaire at ambassador@musconetcong.org or at the River Resource Center at 908-537-7060.



Over a thousand plants were sold at the April Native Plant Sale. These plants will provide food and habitat for our wildlife and are economical for homeowners since they do not require fertilizers or pesticides.

MWA Super Volunteer Joyce Koch helps out at the Native Plant Sale by sharing her knowledge with customers. Joyce and many other volunteers helped transport, label and care for plants to prepare for the sale. Want to get involved? Give us a call.



Are you following the Musconetcong Watershed Association on Facebook? It is a great way to find out what's going in the watershed.

SAVE THESE DATES!

Camp Musky There are still openings available in each week. A detailed description of each session is available at musconetcong.org/campmusky.php

July 8-12, 2013 “The Explorer” *Half Day* Ages 5-6 yrs M-F 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

July 15-19, 2013 “Stream Team” Session 1 *Half Day* Ages 7- 9 yrs M-F - 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

July 22-26, 2013 “Stream Team” Session 2 *Full Day* Ages 7-9 yrs M-F - 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

July 29 - August 2, 2013 “River Rangers” *Full Day* Ages 10-12 + yrs M-F - 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Tuition for 9a.m. -1p.m. sessions: \$130.00/child \$110.00 each additional

Tuition for 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. sessions: \$235.00/ child \$215.00 each additional child

MWA “River Talk” Series

Tuesday, July 30, Moth Night at the RRC, 8 p.m. - 10 p.m.

In celebration of National Moth Week, Wade Wander will enhance our appreciation of moths through his talk as well as actual observation. MWA members are free, Non-members are asked to donate \$3 per person with an \$8 family maximum.

Meet the River Program

Multiple dates, see below this summer the Meet the River program will be run from 10:00 a.m. till noon and will be held at several locations in the watershed listed below. This program allows children to come down to the river’s edge and splash around in the water. We’ll turn over some rocks and maybe we’ll be lucky enough to catch a frog! MWA members free, Non-members will be charged a \$4 donation per child (\$10 limit per family.)

Wednesday, July 10, 10 a.m. - noon

Point Mountain Preserve: Point Mountain Road, Port Murray

Saturday, July 13, 10 a.m. - noon

Point Mountain Preserve: Point Mountain Road, Port Murray

Saturday, July 27, 10 a.m. - noon

Byram: Riverside Park, River Road (off of Route 604) in Byram Township

Saturday, August 3, 10 a.m. - noon

Asbury: NJ DEP Bloomsbury Fishing Access, 253 Bloomsbury Road, Asbury, NJ

Wednesday, August 7, 10 a.m. - noon

Asbury: NJ DEP Bloomsbury Fishing Access, 253 Bloomsbury Road, Asbury, NJ

Highlands Festival at Waterloo, Saturday/Sunday, September 21-22:

A celebration of all things local. More info at highlandsfestivalatwaterloo.org/nj-highlands-coalition.

11th Annual Wine Tasting, Saturday October 5, 2 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Warren County Road & Gun Club, 279 Asbury-Bloomsbury Road, Asbury, NJ

2013 MWA Golf Outing, Monday October 14, 11:00 am – 6:00 pm. 12:00 noon shotgun start.

Hawk Pointe Golf Club 294 Route 31 South, Washington, NJ 07882

For more information on these programs visit www.musconetcong.org and view the calendar.
To register for programs email adrienne@musconetcong.org or call (908) 537-7060 unless otherwise indicated.

The Musconetcong Watershed Association

The Musconetcong River Valley is rich in scenery, history, natural resources, and recreational opportunities. The river rises up in Lake Hopatcong - New Jersey's largest spring-fed lake - and is shadowed by 1,000-foot Highland ridges and slices through a deep, limestone river valley, flowing swiftly to the Delaware River. Along the way the "Musky" passes by state and county parks, bustling towns, vital industries, historic villages, and some of the most productive farmland in the state.

The Musconetcong Watershed Association (MWA) is a non-profit organization formed in 1991 to protect and enhance the Musconetcong River and its related resources through advocacy and environmental education programs, scientific research and river restoration projects. The MWA scope spans the 158 square-mile Musconetcong River Watershed, and includes portions of four counties, and all or portions of 25 municipalities. The Musconetcong River became part of the National Wild and Scenic River System in 2006.

MWA members are part of a network of individuals, families and organizations who care about the Musconetcong River and its watershed. They are kept informed about issues concerning the river and its related resources by receiving quarterly issues of the *Musconetcong River News*.



PO Box 113
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Musconetcong River News

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MWA Membership Application

Please enroll me as a member of the Musconetcong Watershed Association in which I will receive membership benefits and publications. I have enclosed a check payable to **MWA** for the membership category listed below:

- \$20 Student
- \$30 Family
- \$50 Supporter
- \$100 Sustainer
- \$250 Steward
- \$500 Champion
- \$1,000 + Life Member

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Mail to:

Musconetcong Watershed Association
PO Box 113, Asbury, NJ 08802