



Salt Springs

Messenger

The Newsletter of the Friends of Salt Springs Park

Fall 2009

Thanks for the Memories!

Many thanks to all who participated in our Salt Springs Memory Writing Contest this summer. Most of us find it difficult to express ourselves on paper, but you did it and we're all the more richer for it. In the end, we chose five submissions to read aloud and share with the public on Sunday afternoon, September 27th. For those of you who couldn't attend but cherish the history of Salt Springs as much as we do, here are excerpts from the five pieces.

From "Our Salt Springs," by Maggie Darrow, Franklin Twp. "One aspect we couldn't grasp, in those times of sugar rationing, margarine that you could schmush color into with those little orange packets, and the Raleigh Man's truck, was Money Rock. . . . [T]he idea of people putting coins (yes, even a penny) in those shale nooks was a puzzle to us, since a penny could get a lot of candy at Conover's store on the corner. In later years, the wish-mystique took over and we, too, left some coins; we had a couple to spare by then."

From "Salt Springs" by Mildred Warner Latini, Albuquerque, NM. "The Wheaton family was a mainstay of the community. . . . Their daughters Jean & Sylvia were musical. The sound of the coronet could be heard throughout the valley when Sylvia was practicing."

From Greg Rosevear, "Our Playground," Rydal, GA. "All kinds of firsts. . . . Learning how to fish for trout on the rock wall by the Wheaton's barn, still one of my passions, and killing my first deer up on the Buckley place will always stand out in my mind. I remember mowing the grass for Jim Wheaton for 50 cents and plowing the field up on top for Ken-

dal, knowing that I was leaving for Basic Training in a week and swearing that I would never get on another tractor! Oh how I miss that tractor now."

From "It's Okay to Get Muddy," by Tim Wymbs, Montrose. Mr. Wymbs wrote about the annual bike ride at Salt Springs sponsored by the Evangelical Free Church of Montrose for third grade through high school boys. One year, as they gathered back at their base, "One small boy, his bike and body covered with black mud, rolls toward me, eyes bulging beneath a cruddy helmet, dragging his wet sneakers in the gravel to stop. He says while still sitting on his bike, 'What will my mother say when she sees me like this?'"

"I smile and want to say, *Tell your mom one of your leaders said, its okay for boys to get muddy once in a while.* But I don't. Instead I say, 'You look just fine.' 'I don't think so,' he mumbles, as he heads to another puddle of murky water."

From "Untitled," by Judith P. Davis, Friendsville. Mrs. Davis wrote about the memories and experiences she hopes her 3-year-old grandson will gain at Salt Springs. "We want him to remember wading in water so cold that it makes him squeal and the soft fur of an alpaca. . . . We want him to ponder the interconnectedness of songbirds and hawks, to value picnics as much as drive-up windows. . . . Most of all, we want that priceless connection with nature to be a part of him always, making him understand that nature can be both a fruitful ally and a powerful foe. . . . We are so grateful that there are still places in this world where a little boy can explore his senses and experience wild nature. Places like Salt Springs Park."

Friends of Salt Springs Park

P.O. Box 541
Montrose, PA 18801
570-967-7275
www.friendsofsaltspringspark.org

2009 Board of Directors

John Miskell, President
Lillian Theophanis, Vice President
Susan Newhart, Treasurer
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Libby Anderson
Dave Clemens
Jack Davis
Dick Jordan
Hedi Randall
George Schreck
Michaela Steele

Friends' Mission

The Friends of Salt Springs Park will maintain the unspoiled, rural character of the park created by the Wheaton family. The Friends will provide opportunities to enjoy healthy outdoor recreation and education, while conserving the natural, scenic, aesthetic and historical values of the park.

The Friends of Salt Springs Park is a private 501(c)3, non-profit organization. Support for the Friends' work at the park comes from memberships, public and private agency grants, business donations, in-kind donations of materials and services, special events, and program fees for educational services. Contributions are tax deductible.

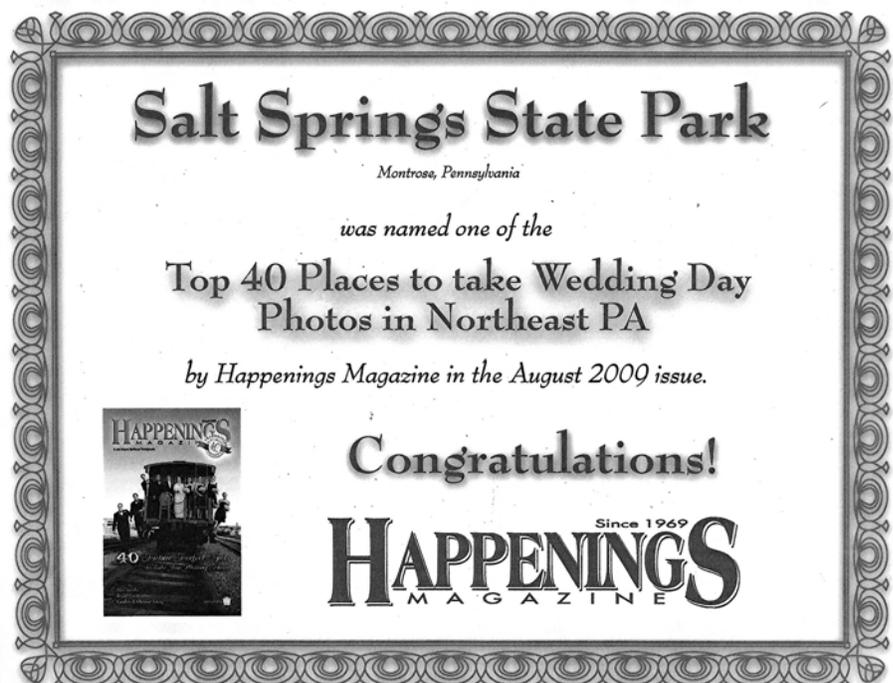
From the Director

John Norbeck was appointed Director of Pennsylvania's Bureau of State Parks in June 2006. Mr. Norbeck visited Salt Springs during the summer of 2007 to meet the Friends and learn more about what it is we are doing. In a recent e-mail to us, Lackawanna State Park Manager Dustin Drew relayed a message to us from Mr. Norbeck: "He wanted me to pass along to the Friends of Salt Springs a reminder of the great work you all do and that the Bureau of State Parks appreciates your service and dedication. Please share this with other members of the Friends' group."

Support the Friends with Community Foundation Endowments

The Community Foundation of Susquehanna & Wyoming Counties currently manages two endowments that provide permanent support for Salt Springs Park and that can receive additional tax deductible donations to enhance the benefit for the park. The Friends of Salt Springs Legacy Society recognizes those who have created estate plans to contribute to these two endowments or to establish additional endowments for support of the Park. For more information, or to make a donation, please contact The Community Foundation at 36 Lake Avenue, Montrose, PA 18801; 570-278-3800; Foundation@epix.net.

- Friends of Salt Springs Park Endowment
- Mary K. Leasure Memorial Bench Endowment
- Legacy Society Members:
Nancy Wottrich and Bruce McNaught since 2007
Hedi and Charles Randall since 2008



News & Notes

Change in By-Laws

The Board of Directors will vote on the following change in the By-Laws (the proposed change appears in bold type):

“Article IV — Board of Directors

Section 2. The Board shall consist of not more than twelve or less than seven (**not more than fifteen or fewer than seven**) current members of the Friends, elected by the membership at an annual meeting. Directors may at any time be removed from office by three-fourths vote of members present and voting at any membership meeting.”

Members Carry the Day

Members of the Friends of Salt Springs - you've done it! Thanks to your membership renewals we have been able to keep the park open as well as to present interesting programs. We always appreciate your donations but this year they have been more important to us than ever. Our membership year begins on the first of June every year. If that notice is still in your 'to do' pile, we hope that you will send in your renewal now - better late than never. We say a heartfelt THANK YOU to all who have signed up for another year with the Friends.

Change of Address?

The re-addressing of Susquehanna County is nearly complete, and county residents are beginning to receive their new addresses. If your address changes, please let us know.

The membership year begins on June 1st.



Friends of Salt Springs Park, Inc.

P.O. Box 541 • Montrose, PA 18801

Membership Categories

Individual	\$20
Family	\$40
Organization	\$50
Sponsor	\$100
Corporation	\$250
Patron	\$500
Other (any amount)	\$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____

Phone _____

Make check payable to: FRIENDS OF SALT SPRINGS (Your cancelled check is your receipt)

Save These Dates!

Llamas, Lunch, and Leaves Hike. Saturday, Oct. 10, 10:30 am - 1 pm. Take a hike and enjoy colorful vistas with the park's resident llamas. Bring a picnic lunch. Participants can take turns leading the llamas. Great fun for kids! Leader: Dennis Wilson, llama trainer. *Fee: members, \$5 or family \$15; non-members, \$10 or family \$20.*

Annual Dinner Meeting and Program. Tuesday, Oct. 27, 6 pm, Dreyer Lodge, Montrose Bible Conference. Enjoy an entertaining musical program and learn what the Friends have achieved this year. Buffet dinner. *\$23 per person. Reservations needed by October 15. 570-967-7275.*

Woodlot Management for Wildlife and People. Saturday, Nov. 7, 1-4 pm. Can wildlife and people live in harmony? Take a walk through the woods with retired forester Jim Kessler as he explains how to manage a woodlot for lumber, firewood, and wildlife needs. *Program fee: members, free; nonmembers, \$5.*

Green Energy Seminar and Tour. Saturday, November 14. Learn about renewable energy sources and tour properties that have made the switch from fossil fuels to clean energy. Watch for further details.

Holiday Wreaths and Natural Decorations. Saturday, Dec. 5, 9 am-2 pm. Learn a simple method to make a beautiful mixed green wreath. Receive a list of items to bring upon registration. *Pre-registration required. Fee: members, \$5; non-members, \$10. 570-967-7275.*

Salt Springs Celebration 2009

Many thanks to photographers Judy Peterson and George Schreck for sharing their pictures!



Dancing on the croquet lawn (by G.S.)



Llama love (by G.S.)



Bug hunting! (by J.P.)



Our *Fine Companions* (by J.P.)



Just hanging out (by J.P.)



Lots of food around for the animals, too (by G.S.)

Blue Skies Bring Record Crowds to the 2009 Salt Springs Celebration

Nancy Wottrich
Event Coordinator

A picture perfect day welcomed record numbers to this year's Celebration, and folks came from far and wide to enjoy "Simple Pleasures" at the park. All day music, games, activities and exhibits entertained the young, old and everyone in between, while John Miskell's mouth-watering menu kept stomachs filled. Many left with treasures from the Silent Auction, which boasted unique items from individuals and area businesses. All proceeds from this event are used to further the mission of the Friends.

MANY THANKS! I am truly indebted to the many individuals and businesses who give so selflessly of their time and talents to make this event possible. Thank you all!

Friends of Salt Springs Park Board
of Directors

Salt Springs Celebration Planning
Committee

Friends of Salt Springs Park staff
Debra Adleman and especially
Lou Mitchell for getting ready
and cleaning up!

Musical Entertainment:
Tom and Marie
Fine Companions
Rob Siegers
Brian Wahl & Ring of Fire
Psychedelic Irish

Food Donations:
Kunzler Meats
Montrose Beverage
George Schreck
All the brownie bakers

Bobbi Joe Kelsey and Corky
Staats for their PA systems

Alan Coy for his tent

Jerry Gere for his tent

Demonstrations and Displays:
Salt Springs Photography Club
E.L. Rose Conservancy
Susq. Co. Conservation Dist.
Tre-hab Renewable Energy
Big Brothers/Big Sisters
Susq. Co. Recycling Center
Montrose Area Adult School
Community Foundation
Blue Ridge GeoRaiderz
Susq. Group of the Sierra Club
Maddie's Spring Maple Farm
Tom Ritchie, Decoy and Bird
Carving
Dennis Wilson, Llama Course
Brian Swartz, Civil War Camp
Bob Lippi, Tap Dancing
FSSP Historical Committee for
toys, games, and races

Walks and Talks
Maddie Murray
Julian Shepherd

Silent Auction Donors (*businesses
in italics*):

Libby & Toby Anderson
Arcadia Trees
Gladys Bennett
The Butler's Pantry
Dave Clemens
Bob Coy
The Cut Shop
Elk Mountain Ski Resort
Friends of Salt Springs Park
Kim & Kathleen Harwood
Dick Jordan
Walt Kostyk
Maddie's Spring Maple Farm
Bruce McNaught
Evan McNaught
John & Marian Miskell
Montrose Theatre
Mud & Fire Potters
Deb O'Hara
Jean Ploutz
Hedi Randall
Tom Ritchie
George Schreck
Sea Hag Soaps & Art Mercantile
Michaela Steele
Lillian Theophanis
Triple Cities Opera
Van Zandbergen Photography
Nancy Wottrich

Publicity

Debra Adleman
Susan Gesford
Independent Weekender
Supplement Advertisers:
Independent Weekender
Mary's Home Furnishings
Montrose Auto Parts
Montrose Beverage
Montrose Country Store

Montrose Med. Arts Pharm.
Peoples National Bank
Robinson's Market
Stables Restaurant
Zoomin' Groomin'

Our *dedicated* volunteers who help
with *so many* different aspects:

Debra Adleman
Mary Adleman
Charlie Anderson
Libby Anderson
Toby Anderson
Sandy Babuka
Kathy Blaisure
Rhea Calteno
Bob Campbell
Jack Davis
Ellen Fortunato
Jay Harter
Nita Homer
Nancy Johnson
Walt Kostyk
Bruce McNaught
Lou Mitchell
John Miskell
Marian Miskell
Susan Newhart
Roxie Oberg
Ben O'Hara
Deb O'Hara
Judy Peterson
Hedi Randall
George Schreck
Sandy Schreck
Trish Suter
Michaela Steele
Lillian Theophanis
Kathy Tuttle
Joan Webster
April Washington
Clyde Washington
Dennis Wilson



**Friends of Salt
Springs Park, Inc.**
P.O. Box 541
Montrose, PA 18801

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Montrose, PA
18801

*Friends of Salt Springs Park
Annual Dinner Meeting and Program*

Please Join Us

Tuesday, October 27, 2009, at 6 PM
Dinner served at 6:30 PM
Dreyer Lodge
Montrose Bible Conference
5 Locust Street, Montrose PA

After a buffet dinner, there will be a brief meeting followed by a musical program. Reservations are \$23 per person and must be received by October 15th. Call 570-967-7275.