



Salt
Springs

Messenger

The Newsletter of the Friends of Salt Springs Park

Fall 2020

David Clemens 1931-2020



We are sad to report the passing of **David Clemens**, a former member of the board and long-time member of the Friends. Of the dozens of projects he was involved in, these come quickly to mind: working with neighboring

farmers to graze cows in the West Meadow and maintain and hay several park fields; laying out and blazing new trails; establishing the E.L. Rose Conservancy's conservation easement on the Friends' first land purchase of 300 acres; and negotiating, financing, and purchasing the 137-acre Fogler property tract, comprising the balance of the Friends land. We share his obituary here to honor all Dave's accomplishments during his long and rich life:

David Henry Clemens, 88, died peacefully in his sleep at his home in Hallstead, PA on September 19, 2020. He was preceded in death by his wife of 56 years, Carol Jennings. His love of the outdoors and nature began at his birth on an apple farm in Stow, MA on November 8, 1931. He met his life-long partner Carol while they were students at Middlebury College; they were married December 22, 1953. Together, they raised 3 daughters, Sarah Smith (Michael), Paula Clemens (Jonathan Sewall) and Karen Dennis (Kevin Gates). Dave earned a PhD in chemistry from the University of Wisconsin, and then spent his working career as an organic chemist at Rohm and Haas in Philadelphia, PA. Upon retirement in 1990, Dave and Carol moved to the Endless Mountains where they were embraced by a loving community of friends. They were careful stewards of their forests, recognized as Tree Farmer

of the Year for the northeastern region of the US in 2005. Dave and Carol were early members of the community-based collaborative non-profit, Friends of Salt Springs Park, Inc. With others, they supported the creation of trails and programs at Salt Springs Park and the Florence Shelley Preserve. Dave pursued many hobbies including woodworking, gardening, birding and growing orchids. For many years, he brought one of his blooming orchids to Franklin Hill Presbyterian Church, his home congregation, for each Sunday service. Dave was gracious, generous and kind. He loved his family and cherished their visits, especially by his grandchildren Arthur, Laura, Melanie, David, Alex and Mary Versa and his great granddaughter Layla. Dave loved living on



July 2, 2005. Dave took this picture of the Fogler property while preparing documentation to raise funds to purchase it. The view is from the future Friends Land Parking Lot, looking northeast. Note his beloved corgi Trixie in the foreground. He rarely traveled without her.

the hill with the view down the valley. Interment will be at Franklin Hill Cemetery. Details of a graveside burial service will follow. Memorial donations, in lieu of flowers, may be directed to Franklin Hill Presbyterian Church and Friends of Salt Springs Park.

Friends of Salt Springs Park

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

2020 Board of Directors

Thomas Stoll, President
Tami Noonan, Vice President
Scott Heckman, Treasurer
Diane Wurth, Secretary
Lisa Bistocchi
James Hinds
Tanya Korutz
Barbara McNamara
Debra Nagle
Joe Toman

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.

New Board Members

At the November 2020 board meeting, the directors voted to invite Tyler Krowiak and Karl Wimmer to join the board. The invitations were accepted, and we're pleased to introduce them. (**Debra Nagle** was invited to join in March, and she was introduced to the membership in the Spring 2020 issue of *The Messenger*.)

Tyler Krowiak is a lifelong resident of Endwell, New York. He is a financial advisor with Edward Jones and intends this to be his lifelong career. It is through this work and connecting with a current board member that he became aware of Salt Springs Park. This interaction sparked a desire in Tyler to explore Salt Springs. Over the following weeks he visited several times, meeting new people and discovering new areas of the park. "Everyone I encountered was in a wonderful mood, and the scenery never ceased to amaze me. That's when I knew that this was a good fit for me."

Through his work, Tyler interacts with people of all backgrounds and professions every day. He is also passionate about volunteering and giving back and wants to help the Friends through fundraising and marketing. He looks forward to making connections between Salt Springs and his current contacts as well as garnering Salt Springs more visibility in the Binghamton area. "I thoroughly enjoy interacting with people, and any way I can utilize that strength, I'd be happy to. I want to share with everyone why I find Salt Springs so special."

Karl Wimmer is recently retired from a 40+-year career based in electronics technology (including testing and development of main-frame computers, high-speed line printers, automation platforms, custom test equipment, and modernized cockpits for military aircraft; and software security for crucial software components on the presidential helicopter) at IBM, Loral, and Lockheed Martin. He is also adept at electrical, plumbing, and carpentry work as well as auto and equipment mechanics.

Karl lives in Brackney, where he and his wife raised four children and a nephew. He has a long-standing history of volunteerism, starting in his teens with the Red Cross. Major efforts include 38 years with the National Ski Patrol (Labrador Mountain and Greek Peak), 14 years of coaching Choconut Valley Youth Athletic Association (CVYAA) soccer at Choconut Valley Elementary and 5 years of presiding over the CVYAA, and 10 years on the Montrose Area school board. Over the years Karl and his family have enjoyed hiking and picnicking at Salt Springs. "My family and I were deeply saddened when flooding ravaged the park. I would like to see how I can help this park fully recover and move forward from there."

Karl's experience with electronics technology and the mechanical arts, Tyler's experience and enthusiasm in the financial world, and Deb's experience with nonprofit administration will help us move forward. Many projects await us, and these three board candidates are just who we need to help lead us there.

News & Notes

Mini Fundraisers

The Fall issue of the newsletter is where we report on the great fun and success of the annual summer Celebration. Of course, we did not have one this year, but we did hold several mini fundraisers that were also fun and successful. Without fanfare (since large gatherings of people are prohibited), we offered free outdoor music, vendors, and food trucks on several Saturday afternoons. Although we plan to resume the Celebration next year, we also plan to continue with the random mini fundraisers as well because they did, indeed, raise some sorely needed revenue—over \$3,000!

Eagle Scout Project: Camp Sites

Jonathan Lyden's Eagle Scout project at Salt Springs this summer was to create a new campsite in the West Meadow and resurrect another (formerly #2, now #7) that was ruined in the August 2018 flood. He organized all the materials, equipment, and labor needed, and we now have two more available sites. With all of the rehabilitation work in the campgrounds now complete (except for restoration of electricity), we renumbered the sites and updated our camping brochures.



Stacked Stone Wall Project Completed



DCNR's stream-stabilization project was completed in June. This section is along Fall Brook.

Use this form only if you are *not* a current member of the organization:



Friends of Salt Springs Park, Inc.

P.O. Box 541 • Montrose, PA 18801
www.friendsofsaltsspringspark.org

Membership Categories

Individual	\$30
Family	\$50
Sponsor	\$100
Patron / Corp.	\$250
Best Friend	\$500
Other (any amount)	_____

Name _____

Address _____

E-mail _____

Phone _____

Please make check payable to: **FRIENDS OF SALT SPRINGS** (Your cancelled check is your receipt.) Your tax-deductible gift will support our mission.

Save These Dates!

Full program details are on the website. As we wind our activities down for the year, we hope you can come to one of our remaining programs. Let us know which programs you most enjoyed and what you'd like to see us do next year. We're always interested in your feedback!

Note: Programs are adapted to comply with current pandemic health and safety guidance from DCNR and the PA DHHS. At a minimum we require participants to practice social distancing and to be respectful of other participants' personal space and comfort. Please bring a mask with you in case a situation arises where guidelines advise its use.

First Day Hike—End Game. Tuesday, December 1, time TBA. Many of you have continued hiking with us every month. Great job! Here is our end game before 2021. **\$5; families, \$15; members, free.**

Winter Snow Fun. Two Saturdays, December 12 and 19, 1 pm. We provide snowshoes or ice cleats and poles (and instruction on how to use them, if needed) — just wear your winter boots. **If the weather doesn't cooperate, we'll reschedule. \$5; families, \$15; members, free.**

Holiday Centerpiece and Nature Crafts. Sunday, December 13, 1 pm. We make decorations from natural materials. Bring your own tools if you have them. **All activities are outdoors, so dress for the weather. \$5; members, free.**

**Friends of Salt Springs Park, Inc.
2020 Annual Membership Meeting**

The Annual Membership Meeting of the Friends of Salt Springs Park will be virtual this year due to the Covid-19 pandemic. We will all miss the chance to catch up with other Friends, enjoy a good dinner, and bid on some nice auction items, but, as we all know, large public gatherings are not a good idea these days.

The meeting will be held via Zoom on **Friday, December 4, 2020, starting at 7:00 PM**. You can join any time after 6:45 PM; see the next page for instructions on how to attend. We hope to see you then!

Agenda

Welcome and Opening Remarks – Tom Stoll, President
Introduction of Board of Directors and Employees – Tom Stoll, President
Treasurer’s Report – Scott Heckman, Treasurer
Board Elections:

Re-election of current members whose terms are expiring:

- Diane Hawley-Wurth** to a 2-year third term
- Scott Heckman** to a 2-year third term
- Barbara McNamara** to a 2-year third term
- Joe Toman** to a 2-year third term

Election of new members:

- Debra Nagle** to a 1-year first term
- Tyler J. Krowiak** to a 1-year first term
- Karl Wimmer** to a 1-year first term
- Nominations from the floor

Members of the Friends who cannot attend the online meeting on December 4 may vote for members of the Board of Directors by filling out, signing, and mailing the form below to the office. **It must be postmarked by December 4 and received no later than December 11.**

2020 Board of Directors Ballot

To vote: Place an X before the names of your choices:

Re-election of current members (up to four):

- _____ **Diane Hawley-Wurth** (third 2-year term)
- _____ **Scott Heckman** (third 2-year term)
- _____ **Barbara McNamara** (third 2-year term)
- _____ **Joe Toman** (third 2-year term)

Election of new members (up to four):

- _____ **Debra Nagle** (first 1-year term)
- _____ **Tyler J. Krowiak** (first 1-year term)
- _____ **Karl Wimmer** (first 1-year term)
- _____ **Write-in Candidate** (first 1-year term)

Detach this ballot and mail to:

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

Signed _____ Date _____

How To Attend the Annual Meeting Via Zoom

Join the meeting using the following instructions. If you would like to receive an email with a link to the meeting, contact Debra Adleman at the office by phone (570-967-7275) or email (friends@saltspringspark.org).

From your Windows or Mac computer equipped with a camera and audio:

1. If you have previously installed the Zoom desktop client:
 - a. Open Zoom.
 - b. Click **Join a Meeting**.
 - c. In the next window, enter the meeting ID **892 3536 2655** in the first box and the name you want displayed in the second, then click **Join**.
 - d. In the next window, enter the meeting passcode **415472** and click **Join Meeting**.
 - e. A new window will open with the announcement, "Please wait, the meeting host will let you in soon."
 - f. When you are admitted to the meeting, a new window will open asking you to select an audio conference option. If your computer has a microphone and speaker, click on **Join with Computer Audio**; otherwise click on **Phone Call** and dial in to one of the numbers displayed using your telephone. You will be required to enter the Meeting ID, Participant ID, and Passcode displayed in the window.
2. If you have not previously installed Zoom:
 - a. Open your internet browser and go to **join.zoom.us**
 - b. In the next window, enter the meeting ID **892 3536 2655** and click **Join**.
 - c. In the next window, enter the meeting passcode **415472** and click **Join Meeting**.
 - d. Follow instructions 1e and 1f above.

From your tablet or smartphone:

1. Open the Zoom mobile app. If you have not downloaded it yet, it's free in Google Play (for Android) or the App Store (Apple iOS).
2. Follow the on-screen instructions to join the meeting using Meeting ID **892 3536 2655** and passcode **415472**.
3. The meeting host will admit you to the meeting.

Dial-in from a telephone:

1. Dial the best number for your location:

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)	+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)
+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)	+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)
+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C)	+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)
2. When prompted, enter Meeting ID: **892 3536 2655**
3. When prompted, enter Passcode: **415472**

Detailed instructions are available online at <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362193-Joining-a-meeting>

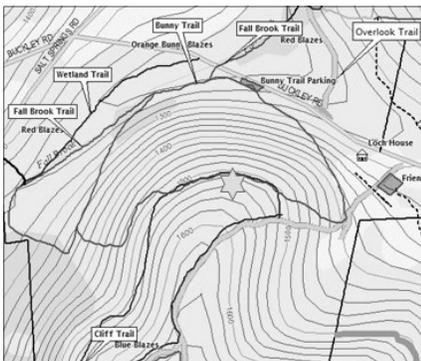


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Cornell Collaboration

In 2019, the Friends entered into a multi-year collaboration with staff at the Cornell Department of Natural Resources. After a period of information gathering and getting to know Salt Springs Park, **Kristi Sullivan** described several research topics applicable to Salt Springs. In 2020, the board chose to study the impacts of deer browse on forest habitats in the park by implementing the AVID (Assessing Vegetation Impacts from Deer) Citizen Science Protocol developed at Cornell University. This protocol is described in detail at aviddeer.com.

Essentially, browse is evaluated by tagging and measuring tree seedlings. Over the summer, Ms. Sullivan worked with Environmental Education Coordinator **Concetta Schirra** to identify an appropriate area, establish six study plots, fence off two of the plots, and tag ash tree seedlings in all six plots.



The differences that develop over time between the tagged seedlings inside and outside of the fenced-in plots (deer exclosures) will be evaluated.



One of the fenced plots (deer exclosures) near the Bunny Trail. Photo courtesy of Kristi Sullivan.

The star in the center of the map indicates the study site (along the Bunny Trail). Photo courtesy of Kristi Sullivan.