

## SCOTT CONSERVANCY ANNUAL REPORT

NOVEMBER 15, 2011

The Scott Conservancy's Board of Directors met every month of 2010-2011 year with the exception of December, 2010 and August, 2011. Board Members are Don McGuirk, President, William Luxner, Vice-President, Jane Sorcan, Treasurer, Margaret Grand, Secretary, Bob Gamble, Keith Breitenstein, Jim Hurst, and Ed Fogarty.

Jean Miewald is Membership Chairperson and Gerrie Ketler does Donation Correspondence. Donald McGuirk is Trails Chairperson. Mary Pitzer is Traffic Island Chairperson. Jane Peart does Communication and Outreach. The newsletter is written and published by Sarantos Patrinos, Bob Podurgiel, and Jane Sorcan.

Land Acquisition - The conservancy acquired 21 acres of greenspace adjacent to the Kane Woods last year. We want to thank our attorney, David Hvizdos, for his work resolving legal concerns involving the transactions. The four parcels now have tax-exempt status. These new large meadow areas connect several new neighborhoods directly with the trails. Walk-in only trail heads are under consideration

Kane Woods Nature Area – Thanks to members, families, and friends as well as an ever growing list of community service groups for their efforts in maintaining our trails.

The Board recognized that a permanent maintenance storage facility was needed to keep conservancy equipment for these volunteers. We purchased an appropriate storage shed and installed it on a safe area adjacent to Providence Point. Multiple groups and trail maintenance leaders can now access the tools needed for these ongoing efforts. Many thanks to Ed Zombec for keeping the volunteers happy with hot food and picnic tables at both trail heads.

Master Site Plan - The Master Site Plan completed and approved last year by the Dept. of Conservation and Natural Resources was used for a guideline for development of the Kane property. It will pave the way to procure grant money to make improvements to the Kane Woods Nature Area. The Plan was completed at no cost to the Conservancy through a Grant and matching in-kind services. The first recommendations on the report were related to drainage on the existing trails. The focus on trail maintenance this year was directed to this recommendation

### Events

Earth Day Cleanups – On April 16 we partnered with the Scott Township Commissioners to have a Community Cleanup of major roadways in the township. This was in place of our annual cleanup of Kane Woods.

Master Gardner meetings: Two new informative gardening programs were enjoyed by the members and general public. The programs were well attended due to efforts of our new Educational Chairperson, Jane Peart

Rubber Ducky Race - Our "Rubber Ducky Race" was again held on 4th of July and is a major fundraising event for the Conservancy. It was a great success. Thank you to all the members who supported us and the Scott Twp pool staff, for making this a success. We raised \$847.00

Whiskey Rebellion Day: Co-sponsored with The Woodville Neville House this historic public event is growing every year.

Members Picnic- Our annual picnic was held on August 10th at Whiskey Point. This event has been a great opportunity to meet and socialize with other conservancy members. As usual, everyone seemed to enjoy the day.

Day of Caring – Volunteers from Bayer Corporation visited the Kane Nature Area Friday, September 30th as part of the United Way's Day of Caring Program that links businesses and organizations with community groups that need volunteer help. The volunteers worked along with Conservancy members to mulch and improve surfaces. All volunteers reported a very enjoyable day and an appreciation for the work.

Halloween Funfest - Partnering with student volunteers and staff from Chartiers Valley High School, a Halloween funfest was held at our Scrubgrass Trailhead on October 22nd. Approximately 50 children with their families enjoyed a great afternoon playing games, doing crafts, and walking our trails.

#### Projects and Goals for 2012

- Oversight of abandon mine drainage facility in Scott Twp.
- Continued Kane Woods Nature Area trail improvements.
- Traffic Island beautification - Greentree & Cochran Rds.
- Educational Programs expansion
- Expand fundraising at events ( Rubber Ducky Race)
- Events of interest to our members. Your ideas are welcome
- Work towards implementing Master Development Plan
- Promote / Link hiking program to other groups

\*\*\*\*\*

I want to thank the following volunteer groups, businesses, and government entities in the area that have donated funds, goods, and services this year.

Allied Waste Inc.

Attorney David Hvizdos

Baptist Homes, Inc.

Bayer Corp.

Boy Scouts of America

Bedner Farm Market

Chartiers Valley High School students and staff

Day of Caring youth group

Girl Scout Troop 51216

Penn State Master Gardeners

Pittsburgh Cares Foundation

Scott Township Commissioners and Staff

Scott Township Library and Sherry Small, Children's Librarian

Scott Township Recreation Department

Woodville Plantation General Wayne's 4th Legion