

Preserving the land



Protecting the future

# The Conservator

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE BEDMINSTER REGIONAL LAND CONSERVANCY

VOLUME XIII NO. 1  
WINTER / SPRING 2011



Your nationally accredited,  
regional land trust serving  
the upper Bucks County area since 1997

Welcome to the winter/spring issue of *The Conservator*. We are sending this issue as a complimentary copy to a broader distribution. Educating the public about issues of land conservation and open space protection is an important part of the conservancy's mission. The efforts of many groups, programs, and individuals are needed to build a successful land conservation program! You can help preserve the natural beauty, heritage and character of our communities in the mid and upper Bucks County area by becoming a member. Membership information is listed on the last inside page of this issue.

## Federal Tax Incentive Extended for Conservation

As part of the 2010 federal tax bill, the expanded benefits for charitable conservation contributions have been extended once again through December, 2011. At that time the law would then revert back to prior allowances, unless Congress extends the provision before that deadline. The Bedminster Regional Land Conservancy will be working with the land trust community to assure that high standards are maintained so that Congress will support extending this important tax incentive for conservation.

The expanded benefits will help landowners receive a significant federal tax benefit for donating the value of a conservation easement. The incentive also applies to partial donations or "bargain sales" where part of the easement value was purchased (for example, through the county or municipal preservation programs).

*cont. on page 2*

## BRLC Ranks Highly Statewide

A recent census of all land trusts in Pennsylvania conducted by the Pennsylvania Land Trust Association ranks the Bedminster Regional Land Conservancy (BRLC) among the highest in several categories. As of December 31, 2009, out of the ninety-one land trusts operating in Pennsylvania which have conserved 592,476 acres, the BRLC ranks 8th in the total number of conservation easements held (91), ranks 9th in the number of conservation easement transactions completed in 2009 (5), and 14th in the number of total acres under easement (3,890).

These rankings are impressive given that the BRLC has been in operation 14 years and had been an all-volunteer land trust until 2006, from which time it has been assisted by a part-time professional staffing. In contrast, many other land conservancies have full-time paid employees. 🌱

## 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting & Buffet Dinner

Thursday, April 21st, 6:30 p.m.

Presbyterian Church of Deep Run

16 Irish Meetinghouse Road (at Elephant Rd.)

6:30 p.m. Buffet Dinner – complimentary

7:30 p.m. Annual Meeting & Guest Speaker

*"Future of Farming"*

Slide presentation on the economics and status of farming

by Mike Fournier, Director

Penn State Univ. Bucks County Extension Service

**Special  
Quilt Raffle  
see pg. 7**

To help us ensure adequate seating and food,

**RSVP by April 18<sup>th</sup>,**

by calling the BRLC voice mail at 215-795-2352:

Leave your phone number, name and number of people attending.

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# Bedminster Regional Land Conservancy 2010 Accomplishments

*BRLC continued to expand and strengthen its work. Highlights of this year's many accomplishments include:*

## Land in Preservation:

- Partnered with Bedminster and Solebury townships and landowners in the placement of six new easements totaling over 429 acres, an 11% increase in acreage preserved from 2009; currently hold or cohold 97 easements on 4,219 acres of land in five municipalities including:
  - 11 donated easements on 327 acres in Bedminster Township held by BRLC only;
  - Accepted 4 new easements (343 acres) for a total of 24 on 1,417 acres in Bedminster Township, coheld with Bedminster Township or the Township and Bucks County Agricultural Preservation Program;
  - Accepted 2 new easements (86 acres) for a total of 59 on 2,382 acres in Solebury Township, coheld with Solebury Township or the Township and Bucks County Agricultural Preservation Program;
  - One easement on 51 acres in East Rockhill Township held by BRLC only;
  - One donated easement on 18 acres in Plumstead Township, coheld with Plumstead Township;
  - One donated easement on 24 acres in Springfield Township, coheld with Springfield Township.

## Easements and Easement Service:

- Conducted annual monitoring on all easements in all five area townships.
- Provided land stewardship recommendations to landowners on soil erosion, riparian areas, and more.
- Welcomed and trained six new monitors to our easement monitoring program. (See related box below).

## Education & Outreach:

- Served as a resource network for area residents, public agencies, and other groups.
- Attended training at regional and national professional conservation conferences to maintain state-of-the-art knowledge.
- Participated in open-space discussions with various municipalities in upper Bucks County, including Open Space Regional Roundtable; agreed to cohost the 2011 gathering.
- Communicated to legislators on important open-space issues and those that impact our environment and our region, notably the

extension of the federal tax incentive for conservation donations, and statewide issues on the environment.

- Developed and distributed 2 issues of *The Conservator*.
- Hosted Annual Meeting with guest speaker Dr. Ann Rhoads who spoke on natural resources of Bucks County.
- Updated and expanded website.
- Continued scholarship awards, recognizing two students: one in animal husbandry and one in horticulture at the Upper Bucks County Technical School.

## Fund-raising:

- Hosted or cohosted four successful fund-raising activities, the proceeds of which benefited our "Landowner Easement Assistance Fund":
  - Garden Tour (June) – our 12<sup>th</sup> annual;
  - Barns and Farms Tour (Oct) – our 6<sup>th</sup> annual;
  - Traditional Artisans Show (Sept.) – our 5<sup>th</sup> annual;
  - Vargo Car Show- our first as designated beneficiary of the show.

## Membership:

- Maintained membership and welcomed new members in all categories.
- Established membership table with new tote bag give-away to facilitate membership enrollment at events.

## Organization:

- Procured the consulting services of an administrative assistant to assist with membership lists and other administrative tasks.
- Developed and filled position of Executive Director.
- Appointed Eve Marschark as President, Dan Devery as Vice President, John Spiegel as Secretary, to replace Wendy Battisti, Sandra Cowperthwaite and Barbara Thomas who served in these respective positions for many years, with our deep gratitude!

**We are pleased to announce the recent appointment of our legal counsel: Catherine (Kate) M. Harper, Timoney Knox, LLP**

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## FEDERAL TAX INCENTIVE (cont. from p.1)

Since 2006, benefits have been expanded for donations of conservation easements as follows:

- The maximum federal tax deduction allowed for donating the value of a conservation easement was raised from 30% of a landowner's adjusted gross income to 50%.
- This deduction can be taken by the donor for up to 16 years instead of the 6 years allowed previously.
- A qualifying farmer - one who has a majority of income derived from farming - can deduct the donation value of up to 100% of their adjusted gross income.

If you have been considering preserving your land, we hope that you will act now to take advantage of this expanded tax benefit while it lasts. As always, it is required to have the value of the conservation easement established by a qualified, certified appraiser. Also, it is recommended that you consult a financial/tax advisor if you decide to proceed.

Contact the Bedminster Regional Land Conservancy if you are at all interested and would like to learn more about the process and IRS qualification standards. We will be happy to discuss this with you in more detail or answer any questions you may have about land preservation.

✍️ Barbara Drew

## We gratefully acknowledge the assistance we received in 2010 from our:

### Consulting Professionals

Betsy Wertz, administrative assistance,  
Brendan & Patt Riley, B&C Design Inc., graphic design,  
Cynthia Bergvall, CPA, Bee Bergvall & Co,  
accounting and tax preparation, Gene Sterner, Bookkeeper

### and Trained Volunteer Easement Monitors:

(\* indicates BRLC board member)

Gib Battisti	Edward Brzostowicz
<b>Dan Devery *</b>	Philip Johnson
Karl Pettit	<b>Eve Marschark *</b>
Patrick Mason	<b>Ted Mullins *</b>
Ralph O'Banion	Hayden Saunier
Charles (Chuck) Shaw	<b>Donna Shaw *</b>
<b>John Spiegel *</b>	Wayne Whitney
Ron Wurz	

## Bedminster Township Land Preservation 2010 Report

Maintaining the Bedminster Township's agricultural heritage and preserving its farmland character remain the Township's highest priority. To this end, the Township completed important easement acquisitions in 2010 and has targeted a number of key properties for 2011.

The Township's successful land preservation program is coordinated by the Bedminster Township Land Preservation Advisory Committee, chaired by Don Moss. Other members include: Barbara Thomas, Ken Bupp, Chris Clarke, Jesse Berdinka, Josh Rice and Larry Campbell. The Committee meets monthly to review the status of land preservation applications received in the past as well as to process and prioritize new applications. The Committee is currently working with a number of property owners who own high priority parcels and are interested in preserving their land.

During 2010, the Board of Supervisors and the Land Preservation Advisory Committee were successful in preserving parcels significant to Bedminster's agricultural heritage. Easement purchases were completed to preserve four prominent properties totaling over 370 acres. The Miller and Harrison easement acquisitions utilized the \$643,000 in grant funding allocated to Bedminster through the Bucks County Open Space Program. Both farms ranked priority #1 in the Township's Open Space Plan due to their size and location: Miller on Bedminster and Creamery Roads, Harrison with frontage on Deep Run and Stonebridge Roads. The Lokay farmland, highly visible at a key intersection (Elephant & Ridge Roads) and contiguous with other preserved farms, was preserved this year. Additionally, the 165-acre Ventresca farm on Route 611 and Spruce Hill Road, for years the subject of contentious zoning litigation, is now preserved by easement assuring protection to prime farmland and acclaimed natural features.

With the easements acquired in 2010, it is estimated that over 6,700 acres or approximately 34% of the Township are preserved through formal conservation easements or protected as park land owned by the Township, the County or the State of Pennsylvania.

The Township continues to partner with the Bedminster Regional Land Conservancy to assess and critique possible preservation properties, insure proper pre-closing arrangements and diligently monitor properties already legally preserved. In 2010, the Conservancy completed initial monitoring reports on certain properties previously preserved by Township easements that lacked formal co-holder status.

Looking ahead to 2011, the Board of Supervisors has agreed to co-sponsor the Regional Open Space Round Table with the Conservancy. The Round Table will be held in Bedminster in early spring and allow participants to share information and address problems in the pursuit of open space preservation in upper Bucks County.

### Open Space Financing

The Township's Land preservation program has been funded in large part by \$7,500,000 in voter approved referenda dating back to 1999. The existing balance of these voter approved funds will likely be spent during the coming year as the Township attempts to secure easements on large farms with important agricultural features and resources. Additionally, the Township receives open space revenues provided by voter-approved real estate taxes (2.5 mills), and a voter approved 0.25% earned income tax dedicated for open space and land preservation. These funding sources have allowed the Township to be aggressive in its pursuit of preservation objectives. The Township works closely with the Bucks County Agricultural Land Preservation Program and the Bucks County Open Space Program to coordinate efforts and utilize County funding where practical and appropriate.

☞ John T. Terry,  
Bedminster Township Manager

## Preserving the Land... Preserving Traditional Art Forms .... BRLC does it all!

Potters and Painters and Carvers! Oh, my!

The 2010 Traditional Artisan Show, held mid-September, was our 5<sup>th</sup> show, and this time, we welcomed over 44 nationally recognized artisans from about 12 states to exhibit their creations for the benefit of the Conservancy. Held at the Upper Bucks Technical School for the third year, all the gate proceeds of our mid-September 2010 event benefitted the Conservancy. The event was made possible through the support of the artisans themselves and several supporting funding sponsors: Early American Life Magazine and First Savings Bank of Perkasio. Thank you to all of our wonderful volunteers! (Please see complete list of supporters and volunteers on page 16.)

The art work was magnificent in detail and creative inspiration, and the atmosphere was uplifting and inviting as the community came together to welcome visitors to the school. With so many decorative treasures to bring home, it was hard to decide whether to buy that hand-painted floorcloth, or the cherry table or a wrought iron lamp—or all three!

Not only did our guests have the opportunity to buy gifts of early American folk art for their homes and family, but we all gained the chance to connect and learn. (See photo page 5.) The school staff and faculty reconnected with the community and welcomed us into their school with open hearts. In addition, so many new friendships have blossomed between artisans and our neighbors who opened their homes to host artisans during the show weekend, often asking to have the same chance to be together each year.

If you wanted to buy something special, but are worried that you missed your chance, we have good news for you! You can find your favorite artisan online by going to our website, and looking up the Traditional Artisan Show, where you will find a link to the show and a complete listing of all the artisans' contact information.

For those who attended last year, thanks for your support! If you missed the show, please mark your calendar for our 6<sup>th</sup> annual show, which will be held Saturday and Sunday, **September 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>, 2011**. Visit our website for more details as they become available: [www.bedminsterlandconservancy.org](http://www.bedminsterlandconservancy.org).

☞ Eve & Len Marschark  
Traditional Artisan Show Coordinators

### “Good Book Folk Art” Ark Raffle Winner

Mo and Kelly Dallas, of Good Book Folk Art, have been creating handmade works of art for over 20 years and were so inspired with our organization that in 2009 they donated to the BRLC one of their treasured arks for us to raffle. Our enthusiastic team of fundraising volunteers got busy marketing this delightful piece and sold raffle tickets at all of our BRLC events throughout 2010 with the drawing held at the close of our Barns and Farms Tour this past October. What an incredible gift and what incredible people! Thanks, Kelly and Mo! And, thanks to all of our devoted volunteers, the raffle proceeds will be added to our grant program to assist with donated easements to the BRLC. (For more information visit our website and look up “LEAF fund”)

We are pleased to announce the proud winner was Sandy Bigatel, from Allentown! She received a notifying phone call and was so delighted, she hurried all the way back to pick it up that following week!

Thanks to all of you who supported this fundraising effort with your purchase!

And wait till you hear what we have for 2011!

(See page 10 for details!)

## The Dollars & Sense of Land Preservation

As members of the BRLC, we know the importance of protecting open space. But did you know there are economic and health benefits as well? A recent study completed by the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission and the GreenSpace Alliance of Southeastern PA, "The Economic Value of Protected Open Space in Southeastern Pennsylvania" concludes that open space provides economic benefits to the public beyond the environmental benefits.

The report emphasizes that, "When we save our land, you save your money and we preserve a quality of life in which we can grow and thrive."

Some of the report's highlights are:

- homes as far as one mile from preserved land benefit from an increase in value of an average of approximately \$10,000 per home
- preserved open space generates property tax revenues without the corresponding expenses for services, i.e. schools, fire, police, etc.
- preserved open space naturally filters water pollutants and replenishes the water supply
- trees on preserved open space land cleanse the air of pollutants and provide and carbon storage services that help reduce greenhouse gasses
- preserved open space provides habitat for wildlife
- recreational opportunities and a healthier lifestyle are provided by preserved parkland.

All told, the study concludes that billions of dollars are contributed to southeastern Pennsylvania's economy by preserved open space. The report concludes, "We can't afford not to protect our region's open space. These places are assets that are essential to our economy, our health and our future." To read the complete report, visit [www.dvrpc.org](http://www.dvrpc.org) or [www.greenspacealliance.org](http://www.greenspacealliance.org).

In addition, on the national level, a recent study by The Trust for Public Land documented economic values of public lands. The study found that every \$1 invested through the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund in national forests, parks, and refuges returns \$4 in economic value. In addition to providing natural goods and services such as clean water and flood control, these federal lands are key to local recreation and tourism industries.

Total economic activity generated by national wildlife refuges in 2006 is reported as \$1.7 billion with an estimated employment income provided by those jobs of \$543 million. According to the Outdoor Industry Association, the value of hiking, bicycling, hunting, fishing, and other recreation to the U.S. and local economies is \$730 billion annually. The outdoor recreation industry supports 6.5 million jobs and represents 8 percent of total annual consumer spending. Even in the recession, the outdoor industry sales rose at a rate of 6 percent between January and August 2010.

✍ Donna Shaw

BRLC Board member



*"When one tugs at a single thing in nature, one finds it attached to the rest of the world."*

- John Muir (1838-1914)

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## Plumstead Township Land Preservation Report 2010

Plumstead Township is happy to announce that in 2010, three conservation easements, totaling approximately one-hundred and twenty-three acres, were purchased. The largest of these is the Clarence Myers Trust property, located at the confluence of Bradshaw, Wismer and Moyer Roads and Point Pleasant Pike. Operated as a family farm up until the 1980s, the Myers property retains many of the amenities characteristic of small-scale farming as seen in the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. In addition to the preservation of soils essential to agricultural use, the easement agreement also guarantees maintenance of the property's current agricultural appearance and its scenic views.

The 35-acre Graham property, located on Rodgers and Tohickon Hill Roads, is now protected from development by a Township conservation easement. The Graham property contains several natural wildlife habitats, including a hardwood forest, two ponds, natural springs, multiple hedgerows, and open agricultural fields. The property contains at least one, if not several, natural springs which are tributary to important headwater streams. Protection of this property will safeguard source water quality within this part of the Tohickon Creek Watershed and the Delaware River Watershed.

A conservation easement was also purchased for the Slotter/Myers property. Located on Shad Lane, the approximately twenty-nine acre property is adjacent to over 220 permanently preserved acres, and nearby to approximately 600 acres of protected land, including Ralph Stover and Tohickon Valley Parks. This property contains valuable natural, agricultural and hydrologic resources and, as such, is considered a high priority protection area.

 Carolyn McCreary  
Plumstead Township Manager



*Nick Vincent ironsmith (right) demonstrates the craft to a possible future apprentice. Mark your calendars for 2011 Traditional Artisan Show for Sept 17th and 18th for more interesting demos by artisans!*

### Tina Walsh-Wilson

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## Solebury Township Land Preservation Report 2010

This year two properties totaling 86 acres were placed under conservation easement and five new projects totaling 161 acres were initiated. To date, 66 properties comprising 2,968 acres have been preserved through the township's program. When this acreage is combined with lands protected by private land conservancies and public agencies, the total of land protected is well over one-quarter of Solebury Township - a very significant accomplishment.

Preservation of the Farbotnik family farm on Street Road was secured in 2010 with a Bucks County Agricultural Easement as well as an easement with Solebury Township, coheld with the Bedminster Regional Land Conservancy. Located on a major scenic road, the 72-acre property is a very important one to protect for its scenic quality and prime agricultural soils that support productive crop fields. In addition, the Shelbourne property on Aquetong Road, is under an easement that protects scenic views and the hillside of Solebury Mountain. Both properties are adjacent to other easement lands.

The Land Preservation Committee (LPC) members are very actively involved in the various program components, setting policy and taking leading roles in the projects while serving as property representatives or liaisons between the landowner and officials. Karl Pettit served as Chair, Stan Marcus as Vice-Chair, and Malcolm Crooks, Christine Hafner, Ralph O'Banion, and Jan Ubel continued as members. The committee welcomed new members Phil Johnson and Charlotte Zanadikas. Bob Heath, Jr. served as Board of Supervisor liaison, providing an effective means for communication and coordination of the preservation program by the two agencies.

A key to the success of the land preservation program continues to be the commitment of its citizens to the protection of the natural and agricultural resources in Solebury. Bedminster Regional Land Conservancy serves as grantee on all new easements and BRLC continues to be a very responsive, dedicated organization of vital assistance to the township program.

 Jean Weiss,  
Solebury Township Land Preservation Administrator

### WE HAVE A NEW WEBSITE!

We recently revised and expanded our website. It is packed with interesting and useful information about the conservancy, our events, and land stewardship. There is also much information regarding land preservation along with many scenic and beautiful photos.

Prior issues of *The Conservator* are on the website – a bonus is viewing the photos in color. If you are interested in receiving a copy of our newsletter via the internet as a "green", paperless version, please contact us.

In addition, membership and merchandise purchases are possible on line.

**Please have a look!**  
**www.bedminsterlandconservancy.org**

**Jason Steich**  
Owner



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# FARM ✧ GARDEN ✧ HABITAT

## Preservation Perspectives

In 2010, the BRLC partnered in the preservation of six properties through conservation easements on 429 acres. A brief summary of the four easements coheld with Bedminster Township and two easements coheld with Solebury Township follows.

### Bedminster:

The 73-acre Harrison farm, located between Deep Run and Stonebridge Roads, includes several branches of the Deep Run tributaries to the Tohickon Creek. In addition to scenic views on both roads, the property includes wooded steep slopes and ravines with rivulets draining into the Deep Run. Livestock graze on the farmland which also includes cropland supported by prime agricultural soils.

With long vistas of farm and rolling hills along Bedminster Road, the Miller's 106 acres encompass crop farmland with prime agricultural soils and a large area (21 acres) of riparian woodlands, headwaters to Deep Run, and a tributary to Tohickon Creek. The property's extensive road frontage and scenic views continue on Creamery Road.

Contiguous with other preserved land and located at a key intersection (Elephant and Ridge Roads), the scenic views and prime agricultural soils of the 20-acre Lokay farm are part of a corridor of preserved farmland. This corridor of scenic agricultural lands protects the Tohickon Creek watershed and the nearby Nockamixon State Park, both priority protection areas in the county's Natural Areas Inventory.

With very steep rocky cliffs, scenic views, natural springs, woodlands with headwaters to the Tohickon Creek, and prime agricultural soils, the Ventresca property stretches from Easton Road to Spruce Hill Road. This significant, 165-acre property is

contiguous with other preserved lands and is in close proximity to the Tohickon Creek. Action by the Ventresca family to preserve their land resulted in the withdrawal of subdivision plans that had been contested in court. The easement covers 144 acres of the property, excluding 2 areas for houses and barns.



*An arch round-roofed gothic barn graces the long vistas of Ventresca Farm.*

### Solebury:

The 72-acre Farbotnik family farm comprises scenic views along Street Road with historic barns, cropland, and woodlands. The farm with prime agricultural soils is contiguous with other preserved lands and includes tributaries to the Paunacussing Creek, a watershed having high priority for protection in the county's Natural Areas Inventory.

The 14-acre Shelbourne property, located on Aquetong Road, is contiguous with other preserved farmlands. The property includes scenic views, an orchard, a tributary to Aquetong Creek and wooded hillsides on Solebury Mountain.

*We extend our appreciation to all these landowners for placing their lands under conservation easements and congratulate the townships for their continuing successful land preservation programs!*


✍ Barbara Drew


**Special Quilt Raffle!**


Raffle ticket - \$5 per chance, 3 for \$10 for hand-quilted throw or wall-art, 30"x30".  
Design scheme:  
Blue with pink & red shades 9-patch blockwork  
Benefits BRLC land preservation programs.

**Fill in & mail to:**  
BRLC PO Box 208, Bedminster, PA 18910.  
We will mail you your ticket stub(s).  
Ticket drawing at our annual meeting, 4/21/11.  
Visit our website for quilt photo.

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**Moyer's Village Farm in Dublin** ..... 215-249-3616

183 N. Main Street, Dublin

Hay and straw, express wagons, garden furniture.

**Trauger's Farm Market** ..... 610-847-5702

Route 611 (across the canal) Kintnersville

Winter - pumpkins, open for dairy produce, their own eggs, candy, jellies, fruit & gift baskets, flowers. Phone orders for freezing. Market open all year round.

**Dean Overholt** ..... 215-766-0534

311 Irish Meetinghouse Rd., Bedminster Twp.

Boards and trains horses in a state-of-the-art horse farm, hay.

**Penn Vermont Fruit Farm** ..... 215-795-2475

Rolling Hills Road, Bedminster Twp.

Spring - strawberries, raspberries (pick your own). • Summer - Corn, tomatoes, variety of fresh fruit and vegetables • Fall - apples, pears, cider, pumpkins, variety of squash, honey, maple syrup.

**AGA Farms** ..... 215-795-0660

1333 Elephant Road, Bedminster Twp.

Fall - pumpkins, corn maze, hay rides • Winter - Christmas trees • Spring - B&B evergreens and shade trees. • Now available for field restoration - reclaiming abandoned farmland with a powerful new machine - a combination of huge brushhog and rototiller that opens the soil while grinding above ground.

**James and Gail Crooke**

**Windybush Hay Farms** ..... 215-766-2865 • 215-669-8545

108 Irish Meeting House Road, Bedminster Twp.

Hay, straw, Easter lambs. Manure, triple-ground mulch, mushroom soil.

**Babydoll Sheep Farm** ..... 215-453-9164

1385 Elephant Rd., Bedminster Twp.

www.babydollsheepfarm.com • Baby doll sheep for sale as pets.

**Hellerick's Farm** ..... 215-766-8388

5500 Easton Rd. (Rt. 611 S. of Plumsteadville)

Spring - strawberries. (Pick your own) • Fall - Pumpkin Festival.

**Mark Schmidt** ..... 215-795-2591

Deer Run Road, Bedminster Twp. • Hay and straw.

**Glenn Wismer** ..... 215-766-0675

87 Log Cabin Road, Bedminster Twp. • Hay and straw.

**Matt Kanagy** ..... 215-527-2370

235 Smith School Road, Bedminster Twp. • Hay.

**Myerov Family Farm Market & CSA** ..... 215-249-3145

306 Elephant Rd. - 1 mile north of 313, Bedminster Twp.

Tomatoes, fancy salad mix, fragrant herbs and other produce.

**Bedminster Orchard** ..... 215-795-0303

1024 Kellers Church Rd. Bedminster Twp.

Spring - (Pick your own) strawberries, Summer - peaches, watermelons, cantaloupes, sweet corn, tomatoes, peppers, cucumber, eggplants, Fall- 15 varieties of apples, pumpkins, all fruit and vegetables grown on farm.

**Plumsteadville Grange Farmers Market** • 5917 Easton Rd. (Rte. 611)

Next to Plumsteadville Grange Hall. June through Oct. Saturday, 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM

**Ottsville Farmers Market** • Linden Hill Gardens 8230 Easton Rd. (Rt. 611).

April 29th - Oct. Fridays 4 to 8 pm

**NEW! Community Supported Agriculture (CSA):** Myerov Farm Members receive weekly share of produce.

\*\*\*\*\*

Any local farmer wishing to be listed here should call 215-795-2352 and leave a message. This service is free!

American Farmland Trust reports there are now 6,132 farmers markets in America. That represents a sixteen percent increase over the number recorded in the National Farmers Market Directory in 2009!

## Land Stewardship

### Community Supported Agriculture

In Bucks County, there are a number of “Community Supported Agriculture” Farms that provide fresh, local produce as well as eggs and meats. As the name suggests, the purpose of Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) farms is to involve the community in a partnership with the farmer to produce and sustain local agriculture.

The structure and organization of a CSA farm is having members who basically pay dues by investing a sum of money in the operation of the farm and often provide some sweat equity. The up-front funds cover the operational costs, labor, and general maintenance. In return, members receive an equal portion of fresh, locally grown produce each week during the typical twenty-six week growing season. A typical “share” provides enough vegetables to feed a small family for a week.

Benefits and rewards for members also include the satisfaction of knowing exactly where the food came from, and knowing that they did not incur energy and transportation costs. Often the CSA Farms are organic, and thus the members have the added benefit of fresh and healthy produce without harmful pesticides. Supporting the local economy and keeping farmland in agriculture also controls development.

For the farmer, there is a reduced financial risk that normally is associated with farming, notably due to uncontrollable weather conditions and variations in the market. For the farms themselves, the rotation of crops is more beneficial than mono-cropping (single crop production).

CSA farms in Bucks County include: Anchor Run Farm in Wrightstown, which is the first municipally-owned CSA farm in the U.S.; Barefoot Gardens, Doylestown; Blooming Glen Farm, Perkasio; Guzikowski Farm, Lower Makefield; The Happy Farm, Kintnersville; Just One Seed, Pipersville; Myerov Family Farm, Bedminster; Open Acres CSA, Upper Black Eddy; Palovchak's Produce, Doylestown; Pennypack Farm & Education Center, Horsham; Sitko Family Farm, Sellersville; and Snipes Farm & Education Center, Morrisville. Please visit our website for this list with contact information: [www.bedminsterlandconservancy.org](http://www.bedminsterlandconservancy.org).

**Bad news:** “Small farms in America are disappearing at the alarming rate of 25,000 per year.” **The Rodale Institute of Kutztown, PA** “America has been losing more than one acre of farm and ranch land every minute.” **American Farmland Trust** **Good news:** American Farmland Trust reports that there is a 16% increase in farmers markets nationally, with a total of 6,132.

✧ Barbara Drew



“Judge each day not by the harvest you reap, but by the seeds that you plant.”

- R.L. Stevenson

## Early American Folk Art Raffle, 2011 – Three Pieces!

We have a new Artisan Raffle for 2011! Not one, but *three* *artisans* have generously donated items to benefit the BRLC in our important work to preserve land in upper Bucks County. You will have the opportunity to win when you purchase raffle tickets at any of our events throughout the year, beginning with our Annual Meeting on April 21<sup>st</sup> and ending with our Barns & Farms Tour, October 16<sup>th</sup>.

### *Hand-painted Floorcloths by Michele Hollick*

The floorcloth is 6 feet by 8 feet and is a checkerboard pattern of black and textured cream with a colonial red border. It would look striking under the family table or in the sitting room. Michele paints each rug with the detail and style of the originals, recreating the feel of the past in a very functional, durable rug. If the size, pattern or colors are not to your decorating scheme, she has offered to take it back in trade for the same value towards one of your choosing. This size is valued at \$750.



### *Special Edition Commemorative BRLC Jug by Greg Shooner, Shooner Redware*

The commemorative Redware jug is by Greg Shooner, whose work is collected voraciously by connoisseurs of fine reproductions.

The Redware produced by Greg and his wife, Mary, are difficult to discern from the originals, and could increase in value quickly. As a special gift to the Conservancy, Greg designed a tribute to farming, in keeping with our mission. It has old English inscriptions in an 'ode to the farmer' and is a one-of-a-kind piece, the rarest and most sought after of pieces. The height is 10 inches and width is eight inches with a value of \$850.



### *Tiger Maple Wall Clock by Len and Eve Marschark, 18<sup>th</sup> Century Clocks*

The wall clock is a re-creation of the old "coffin" clock, so named for the simple lines of its general shape. Finely finished tiger



maple wood is the canvas for an historic art form known as American Schoolgirl Art or Ladies' Painted Furniture, a skill practiced between 1790 and 1830. These two traditional art forms are blended in a select few clocks hand made by Len Marschark and painted in ink and water color by his wife, Eve. The height is 33 ½ inches, width 8 inches and depth 3 ½ inches. This clock is valued at \$995 and can be exchanged in trade for that value towards any of the 18<sup>th</sup> Century Clocks in their collection.



For more information visit our website [www.bedminsterlandconservancy.org](http://www.bedminsterlandconservancy.org) and buy your tickets at any of our events!

Good luck!

☘ Laurie Ermentrout  
Fund-raising Committee

## Sneak Preview: Save the Date for our June 5<sup>th</sup> Garden Tour!



*A garden appetizer:  
ceramics and recyclables  
mix with flowers and  
a wonderfully natural  
landscape to surprise and  
delight you at every turn.*

The Bedminster Regional Land Conservancy's (BRLC) 13th Annual Garden Tour promises new excitement as you explore and experience private gardens. The visual, functional, culinary and horticultural artistry of the gardens provide for a day filled with experiences ranging from magical to imaginative and even fragrantly delicious!

Gardens on the tour also include: a Japanese Garden with discipline and elegance and Densaborou Oku original artwork – a majestic hand-

blown glass and bronze fish sculpture; a farm boasting more than 500 varieties of herbs and beautiful organic vegetables will make visitors pine for lunch; a garden splattered with art, sculpture, water and magical features will please your palate; and more gardens await your exploration. In short, this is a tour not to be missed!

Discount tickets, \$15.00, will be sold at the BRLC's Annual Meeting, Thursday, April 21st 7:30 pm Presbyterian Church at Deep Run. Tickets will be available at \$18 at Dublin Agway, Doylestown Bookshop, Clair's Flower Shop in Perkasie, Linden Hill Gardens in Ottsville, Chubby's Dairy Barn in Plumsteadville and Trauger's Farm Market in Kintnersville.

Tour day tickets are \$20.00, still a bargain. What a great Easter or Mothers' day gift! The garden tour, organized by the BRLC's Fund-raising Committee, benefits the BRLC's land preservation program. For information visit [www.bedminsterlandconservancy.org](http://www.bedminsterlandconservancy.org), or call 215-795-2352. ☘

## Barns, Farms, Horses, Tractors & More!

On Sunday, October 17, 2010, the day broke bright and mild as final preparations for the 6<sup>th</sup> annual Bedminster Regional Land Conservancy Barns and Farms Tour got underway. The usual army of volunteers found their places at the properties they would monitor; a membership table was set up with new Conservancy items including hats, tote bags, and sweatshirts; chili, hotdogs, cider and snacks were prepared for serving and home-baked cookies were readied for decorating; and paintings, quilted potholders, books, puzzles and cakes were set up for sale and to raise funds for the Conservancy. Meanwhile at each of the six barns and farms other preparations were underway: demonstrators and artists set up their spaces; barn experts and historians made their way to their assigned barns; horses were brushed, boots polished, pastures primed and sheepherding dogs got their last minute cues for the day. By the 11 a.m. opening, all was ready, and supporters of the Bedminster Regional Land Conservancy and participants of the event were welcomed.

One of the joys of visiting the barns on the tour, and what makes the BRLC tour so special, was experiencing the enthusiasm and broad knowledge that our *three* expert historians shared willingly at different barns throughout the day. Greg Huber, regarded as the nation's foremost authority on eighteenth- and nineteenth-century barns of the northeast, offered many historical facts. Jeffrey Marshall of the PA Historic Barns & Farms Foundation and Heritage Conservancy, a recognized expert in southeastern Pennsylvania historic architecture, shared his more than 30 years of historic preservation and vast knowledge of barns. Jeffrey also shared his new books, "Farmhouses of Bucks County" and "Barns of Bucks County". Noted barn restoration specialist Brian Murphy answered questions and spoke about barn history and construction from various periods.

Cloud Croft Farm, the home of Sallie Jo Reid, a professional horsewoman who is listed with the American Quarter Horse Association (AQHA) and George Reid, a carded amateur with AQHA, was the first farm of the day for many. Cloud Croft Farm, with its carefully tended horse pastures, offered a beautiful backdrop to the excitement centered in the riding ring. In the workshop, George builds hand-crafted, original design cupolas using traditional construction processes.

The presentation began with Sallie Jo, astride her horse, giving the pedigrees of some of the horses in the ring, including world champion performance stallions, and a three-time western pleasure paint horse winner. After a brief history of quarter horses, the horses went through their paces, demonstrating the steps involved in "Spook-proofing your Horse," also the title of an article written by Sallie Jo that was published in more than 30 languages.

In an area offering complimentary snacks and beverages to visitors, Susan Eaton, a noted artist and sculptor, had works on display and available for purchase.

Walter and Heather Murphy purchased their Sweetbriar Road Farm in October, 2000, and proceeded to renovate the farm, adding a new six-stall horse barn and a garage. Presentations at their farm featured two events; the noon event was a demonstration by Erika Murphy and Marina O'Toole involving flat work and jumping with their horses.

The Murphy's farrier, Dave Deppen, who is based near Hamburg, PA, provided a blacksmithing demo. Dave competes in

blacksmithing events all over the country, making his living as a farrier (a person who shoes horses) for over a decade. Speaking next to his mobile blacksmith shop, Dave educated about 30 visitors on the anatomy and care of horses' feet. He then showed examples of various types of horseshoes and explained how their shapes, materials, and other characteristics affect the horses' ability to avoid injury and disease. Because each horse is unique and walks or runs in different environments and conditions, engineering proper horseshoes is as complex as creating human sports shoes.

David and Nancy Sharp welcomed visitors to "This'll Do Farm" once again for the border collie sheepherding demonstration, an annual event ... brought back each year by popular demand! While watching the sheep, spectators were also treated to the view which spans two creeks, Morris Run and Branch Creek, meandering through the well-tended property.

To begin, Dave said that "Training is bringing out the dog's instincts to gather sheep and bring them to you." In this beautiful setting with open land and wooded areas, Dave and Nancy put their dogs through their paces. The dogs, in turn, put the sheep through their paces as they moved the herd from chaos to control. Demonstrating agility, athleticism, intelligence, stamina, and great listening skills, the border collies moved the sheep around the fields and pens. The border collies understand the differences of left, right, fast and slow from the different whistle tones.

From the excitement of the animals to the history, grace and functionality of architecture, Lucille Caruso's home, circa 1767 offered a special opportunity to view an unusual, old barn. Noted barn historian Greg Huber was answering questions and offering many facts about this three-bay barn, which featured a center wagon floor where threshing occurred to separate the wheat from the chaff. The barn showed evidence of having housed horses and cattle. Situated on preserved land, the barn consists of two log and stone cribs with frame gables.



*The Caruso barn is one of the very few ground barns where the lower halves of the exterior walls are stone and the upper halves are log.*

The barn had a common rafter system; many of the rafters had been replaced, apparent as they were pegged into the top, and early rafters were cogged into a slotted wall. The barn possessed inverted V-corner notching, a dating tool placing the barn between 1740 and 1780. Pre-1800 door jambs were made of oak, and the Caruso barn door

jamb was original and made of oak.

Moving on to the Karen Underkoffler property in Sellersville, the beauty of the full stone, three-bay Pennsylvania bank barn was capped by an arched date board high in the gable marked "Adam Cresman, Catharine Cresman 1810." To provide ventilation for the hay, the barn walls house a number of wooden louvered openings. Wear marks from the animals on the stalls and along the water troughs showed evidence of many cows and horses having called this barn home. There were a variety of gates in the downstairs barn for moving the animals in and out, most clever in their design.

*cont. on page 12*

## FARM ✦ GARDEN ✦ HABITAT

BARNs, FARMs, HORSEs, TRACTORs & MORE! (cont. from p. 11)



*Coming out on the opposite side of the Underkoffler barn, eyes feasted on the ancient hay rack on the bank of the barn.*



*There were refreshments, hayrides, and, Dave's wonderful tractor collection (Farmall Models 450, C, H, M and others), and a donkey, goats and barn cats outside.*

A beautiful pond with huge rocks, (typical of West Rockhill Township) provided a beautiful scene. It was a quiet scene, evoking the peacefulness of the farm.

Dave and Ruth Downs, Breaking Point Farm served as the Bedminster Regional Land Conservancy's headquarters for the day. Reminiscent of a village festival, there were opportunities to paint a cookie or a pumpkin, buy a few gifts from quilter Ann Geddes, marvel at the Origami boxes, and enjoy the wonderful puzzles of woodworker, Jack Shelly: a selection of wooden dragons, cars, animals, flowers, stars, and, in keeping with the day, barns. Inside the barn, wonderful artwork by Natalie Searl and Ronald Day was on display and for sale, along with yummy (and beautiful) goodies from The Bedminster Baker, Karen Williams.

At the end of the tour, Jen and Harry Dannehower's spectacular barn provided the setting

for the thank you to all the volunteers and landowner hosts, recognizing their efforts and celebrating all the work and accomplishments toward maintaining the healthy farming community and preserving the irreplaceable barns and open fields that grace our landscape.

Congratulations to the winners of door prizes and raffles items: Alice Lintgen, wooden puzzles by Jack Shelly; Karen Detweiler, Natalie Searl print; Erika Murphy, MaryKay Gift Bag and Photo book of Bucks County Barns; Vivian Gallagher, origami boxes; Scott Drew, quilted aprons and pot holders by Ann Geddes. Tom Petizo and Susan Snouball won the door prizes: BRLC sweatshirts and holiday ornaments. (See page 3 for Ark raffle details.)

The Barns and Farms Tour, organized by the conservancy's Fund Raising Committee, under the leadership of Laurie Ermentrout, benefits the BRLC's Landowner Easement Assistance Fund (LEAF) grant program to help landowners with the costs of placing an easement with the Conservancy.

✦ Bernadette Schaffhausen  
Fund-raising Committee

## Vargo Car Show

Hosted by AGA Farms on November 6, 2010, the Vargo Annual Fall Car Show benefited the BRLC, thanks to Show organizer Dan Devery. The event also benefited Boy Scout Troop 610. Volunteers from BRLC's Fund-raising Committee assisted with the event coordination and enjoyed the enthusiastic and energetic help of Boy Scout Troop 610 on a crisp fall day.

Mark your calendars for the next Vargo Car Show, set on the grounds of preserved land, AGA Farms, Elephant Rd., Bedminster, Saturday, November 5, 2011, 8 am to 4 pm.



*Souped-up cars from the 50's and many other decades were on display for viewing – and revving!*



*Classic luxury cars, "muscle cars", and even dairy trucks such as this one from "Sweet Briar Farm" of Bedminster took us down memory lane at AGA Farms.*

Preserving the Land



Protecting the Future

**7th Annual Barn Tour**  
**Sunday, Oct. 16, 2011**  
**11am to 4 pm**

## \* LEGISLATION & NEWS OF OUR REGION AND BEYOND \*

*The Bedminster Regional Land Conservancy strives to keep our members aware of changing legislation as well as the availability of resources related to land preservation and conservation. It is important that our members also take time to express their thoughts to our politicians and stay aware of how they vote.*

✍️ Barbara Drew

### NATIONAL:

Ballots on Open Space: On Nov. 2nd, 2010 voters approved 83% of state and local ballot measures around the nation generating over \$2 billion in new funding for land and water conservation projects.

Energy: *National Geographic News* highlighted the work of two California researchers who figured out what it would take to provide all of the world's energy needs with renewable power by 2030. The researchers figured that it would take 4 million wind turbines and 90,000 solar panels. Pennsylvania already has 16 operating wind farms and at least 4,000 solar panels now thanks to the Alternative Energy Portfolio Standards Act, passed in 2004 and the \$100 million Pennsylvania Sunshine program, created in 2008.

Federal Tax Incentive for Conservation: please see article on page 1.

### STATE:

Air quality: Philadelphia and surrounding counties have reached air quality levels for the 8-hour health-based ozone standard established by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in 1997. Today, every area in the state has achieved air quality attainment of the 1997 standard, compared to the 37 counties designated by EPA in 2004 as "nonattainment."

Energy- Solar: The National Solar Jobs Census lists PA as second in the nation - behind CA - for the number of jobs created by the solar power industry. Another study, from the National Renewable Energy Laboratory, shows PA ranks third in the country for the number of solar projects, with 2,434 installations making clean pollution-free electricity, saving homes and businesses money, increasing our supply of reliable energy, and helping keep down the price of electricity.

Gas Drilling – Marcellus Shale – Severance Tax: In the fall, then-Governor Rendell signed an executive order, placing a moratorium on leasing any more land for gas drilling on state forest and other lands owned by the Commonwealth. Governor Corbett may reverse the moratorium. The PA Dept. of Conservation & Natural Resources (DCNR) had conducted an extensive and scientific evaluation of the state forest system which found that leasing any more of our public forest land would damage critical environmental assets. More leasing would also put PA at risk of losing the sustainable forest management certification that protects the state's \$6 billion forest products industry and 40,000 jobs. A package of bills was reintroduced to ensure Pennsylvania's environment, particularly drinking water supply, is protected from the natural gas drilling industry. House Bill (HB) 230 would create a buffer around drinking water supplies and prohibit companies that use fracking or horizontal drilling from drilling wells underneath or within 2,500 feet of a primary source for a community water system. The current restriction is only 100 feet. HB 232 would restrict drilling and site preparation in floodplains, and improve the disposal of waste water. Additionally, the bill would impose a three-year moratorium on new permits to discharge drilling wastewater into surface waters. HB 233 would put a one-year moratorium on the issuance of new natural gas drilling permits in the Marcellus Shale deposit. HB 234 would create an online tracking and reporting system for Marcellus Shale waste, such as drilling mud and chemically treated water used to fracture shale to release gas.

Water Quality: The PA Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) annual report shows great progress by the state in cleaning up water bodies, however, there are still challenges threatening water quality. The report acknowledges the work done with municipalities to upgrade their wastewater treatment systems, with developers to minimize runoff, and with the agriculture industry to ensure their operations protect the quality of streams running through their farms. DEP has restored stream banks, reduced erosion and planted riparian buffers. PA has classified approximately 3,300 miles of streams as exceptional value and another nearly 23,000 miles as high quality, ensuring the most stringent protections. In 2010, the state enacted a mandatory 150-foot buffer from all development

along these most pristine waterways. For more information, visit [www.depweb.state.pa.us](http://www.depweb.state.pa.us).

PA, along with Maryland, Virginia and the District of Columbia passed a major milestone for the *Chesapeake 2000 Agreement*. The regional agreement acknowledged the crucial role land conservation plays in the Bay's water quality and set a goal to protect 20% of the farm, forest and ecological land area in the watershed. In just 10 years, the states have preserved 7.26 million acres.

### BUCKS COUNTY & REGION:

Bucks County: The County's land protection programs continue to protect farms, natural areas, open space and parkland. The Agricultural Land Preservation Program is helping to ensure that the County retains its farming heritage and agricultural economy: to date, 144 farms totaling 12,270 acres have been preserved. Through the Natural Areas Program, 87 properties, totaling 3,719 acres have been protected, and through the Municipal Open Space Program, 103 properties, totaling 2,883 acres have been protected. A total of 18,872 acres (about 5% of the entire county) has been protected through these programs funded by voter-approved referenda.

In addition, other lands publicly owned for open space purposes include: 8,117 acres of State Parks, 4,367 acres in State Gamelands, 8,616 acres in County parklands, and 13,450 acres in municipal open space and parkland (may overlap with grant acreage above). The total of all protected open space and farmland (privately owned) is 34,724 acres. This is a total of 69,274 acres of public and private open space, which represents 17% of the entire county.

Energy-saving facilities in the region: The Philadelphia Free Library recently installed a green roof which saves energy, mitigates storm water and is wildlife-friendly while it also supports living plants that benefit air quality. The Philadelphia Eagles are taking Lincoln Financial Field "off the grid" (electrical) and becoming the global green leader by generating all of the arena's electricity needs from renewable resources. The solar panels, wind turbines and alternative fuels power plant will save the franchise \$60 million in electric bills over 20 years. 🌱

### Your Opinion Is Important!

Please contact your federal and state representatives to make your concerns or support for legislative issues heard. Your voice is important. Your actions can make a difference in saving our communities.

**Senator Robert Casey**, 2000 Market St., Suite 1870  
Philadelphia, PA 19103, 215-405-9660  
Email: [www.casey.sen.gov](mailto:www.casey.sen.gov)

**Senator Pat Toomey**, 600 Arch Street, Suite 9400  
Philadelphia, PA 19106, 215-597-7200  
Email: [www.toomey.senate.gov](mailto:www.toomey.senate.gov)

**Congressman Michael G. Fitzpatrick**  
1717 Langhorne Newtown Rd. Suite 400,  
Langhorne, PA 19047, 215-579-8102  
Email: [Fitzpatrick.House.gov](mailto:Fitzpatrick.House.gov)

**Senator Charles McIlhinney**, 22 So. Main Street, Suite 220  
Doylestown, PA 18901, 215-489-5000  
Email: [CMcIlhinney@pa.sen.gov](mailto:CMcIlhinney@pa.sen.gov)

**Representative Bernard O'Neill**, 210 West Street Rd.,  
Warminster, PA 18974, 215-441-2624  
Email: [bboneill@pahousegop.com](mailto:bboneill@pahousegop.com)

**Representative Marguerite Quinn**, 1032 N. Easton Road  
Doylestown, PA 18901, 215-489-2126  
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## Members of the Bedminster Regional Land Conservancy 2010

*We greatly appreciate our members and their support! Our membership drive for 2011 is under way. If you are a member, we hope that you renew early, and thank you if you have already done so! (If you just joined for the first time Nov 2010 or after, you are in our records as a member for 2011 and are not listed below.)*

*If you are not a member, please join us and help us preserve the rural lifestyle, farmland and scenic beauty of this area! Our annual membership fees are very reasonable, starting at just \$15 for Seniors and Students. Our current membership categories are listed on page 17. Several members have joined with life membership. Membership contributions are tax-deductible. BRLC is a 501 C-3 organization, registered with the IRS and the Pennsylvania Bureau of Charitable Organizations.*

Genevra & Rick Allen	Dawn & James Engel	Eugene & Nancy Macur	Earl & Pat Ruckdeschel
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Stanley Barker	Philip & Regina Franchois	John & Marda Mattox	Bernadette & Eric Schaffhausen
Kevin and Andrea Bateman	Chris Frei	Gertrude Mastrotante	Gilbert & Joan Schleiden
Gib & Wendy Battisti	Chris French *	Jane & Ed McArdle, Jr.	Jim & Sue Schleiden
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Douglas H. Brangs	Tom, Anne & Kim Hanna	Harold & Lorraine Meyers *	Don & Ellen Sharpe
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		Bob & Ellen Roth	Ronald & Eileen Zoldy

*\* indicates lifetime membership category*

# Business Members of the Bedminster Regional Land Conservancy 2010:

18<sup>th</sup> Century Clocks, Len & Eve Marschark  
AGA Farms, Dan & Marge Devery  
B & B Canopy  
BC Property Management, Beverly Bryan  
Bee Bergvall & Co., Cynthia Bergvall, CPA  
BC Design, Brendan & Patt Riley  
Bernard S. Delin Furniture, Bernard & Susan Delin  
BSC Financial Services, James Jourdan  
Bucks County Alpacas LLC, Karin Giordana & Erica Tollini  
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Chwal Hydro-Seeding, LLC, Heide & Ken Chwal  
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Damon Derstine, Court Street Group at Morgan Stanley Smith Barney  
David Froehlich  
Dear Garden Associates, Inc.  
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Dublin Agway/Wurster Farm & Garden, David Wurster  
E. Rockhill Township  
First Savings Bank of Perkasio

## Other Donors:

BC Design, Brendan & Patt Riley  
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Cowan Associates, Todd Myers  
Mo & Kelly Dallas

## Matching Companies for Volunteerism and Contributions:

Johnson & Johnson – Matching Funds  
Motorola Corp. Matching Program  
Verizon Foundation

**Please remember to join us in thanking the following businesses and individuals who made contributions to support our fund-raising events this year, listed alphabetically by first name:**

## Artisan Show Contributors:

### Artisans:

Annie Hayes, rug hooker  
Betsy Kreig Salm, American Schoolgirl Art  
Bob & Kay Shaeff, Redware  
Charley & Paige Coombs, period furniture  
D. Masters Kriebel, painting  
Dan and Marlene Coble –Folk art painted furniture  
Debbie Hartwick, sewn art  
Debbie Jarrett, sawdust art  
Don Noyes, carved folk birds  
Eric Fausnacht, paintings of fowl  
Greg & Mary Shooner, Redware  
Heidi Howard, sign maker & painter  
Jacquelyne Trone, traditional painter  
James Glynn, tinsmith  
Jerry Fritz, Linden Hill Garden  
John Stevens water colors  
Joyce Schaum basketmaker

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Barbara Thomas  
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Judy Robinson, woven rugs  
Karen Bilak, Redridge Quilts  
Keith Dickson, Shaker furniture  
Larry & Paige Koosed, Folk Art  
Len & Eve Marschark, 18<sup>th</sup> Century Clocks  
Lynda Susan Hennigan, seashell sailors' valentines  
Lynn Taylor, fine pottery  
M. C. Daniels, traditional painter  
Mack S. Headley & Sons, traditional furniture  
Mary Michael Shelley, carved folk paintings  
Mary Stanley, Greensleeves Everlasting, dried flowers  
Maurice & Kelly Dallas, carved Folk Art arks  
Michele Hollick, floorcloth stenciling  
Nancy Rosier, theorem painter

## Artisan Show Contributors:

### Artisans cont.:

Nancy Shelly, papercutter  
Nick Vincent, ironsmith  
Peter H. Wallace, Windsor chairmaker  
Richard Graver, pewtersmith  
Robert & Debbie Ender, wooden chests painter  
Shaari Horowitz & Alistair Jones, wooden painted bowls & furniture

Sherry & John Jaunsem, wooden spoons  
Susan Daul Folk Art, fraktur artist  
PH Miller Studio, framer & guildler  
Will Kautz, folk carver

## Artisan Sponsors:

18<sup>th</sup> Century Clocks  
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BC Design  
Chubby's Dairy Barn  
Early American Life Magazine

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Linden Hill Gardens  
Upper Bucks County Technical School

## Barns & Farms Tour and Garden Tour Sponsors & Contributors:

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## Barns & Farms Tour

### Contributors & Sponsors:

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**We also thank the landowner hosts & hostesses who graciously open up their properties for the Barns & Farms Tour and Garden Tour: (respectively and in alphabetical order):** Lucille Caruso, Ruth & Dave Downs, Walter & Heather Murphy, Dave & Nancy Sharp, Sallie Jo & George Reid, and Karen Underkoffler; Jerry Fritz Design - Linden Hill Garden, Theo Kondos & Kevin Rice, Vince & Cele Pannepacker, Bernadette & Eric Schaffhausen, Colleen & Ron Wurz, and Master Gardener volunteers.

**Vargo Car Show:** Our special thanks to Sponsor AGA Farms, Dan Devery, for designating the Bedminster Regional Land Conservancy as one of its beneficiaries. We would also like to thank the many volunteers who helped to make the event a great success.

**Many thanks to the Fund-Raising Committee who organize and run our events:** Barns & Farms Tour and Garden Tour Chair: Laurie Ermentrout; Nancy Clark, Harry & Jennifer Dannehower, Bob Ferguson & Dick Foggio, Harlan & Jill Howard, Patrick Mason & Christina Reisinger, Don & Karen Moss, Bernadette Schaffhausen, Roger & Marcha Witt and Don & Trish Wolfe. **Additionally, we would like to thank all the individuals who volunteer to monitor at the events!**

## Bedminster Regional Land Conservancy

### Board of Directors:

Eve Marschark, President  
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### Executive Director

Barbara Drew

### Committees:

Fund-Raising Committee  
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[www.bedminsterlandconservancy.org](http://www.bedminsterlandconservancy.org)

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- SWEAT SHIRTS** (all sizes) ..... \$25.00  
Sweat shirts are green with BRLC beige logo. Excellent quality!
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Hats are forest green, embroidered with the BRLC logo in beige, with an adjustable leather band in the back.

## Merchandise Sale 1/2 OFF see below

- T-SHIRTS** Adult sizes: M, L, & XL ..... 1/2 Price ~~\$12.00~~ \$6.00  
T-shirts are 100% cotton Hanes Beefy T's. The shirts are beige with the BRLC logo printed in green on the upper left front corner. Very attractive! Limited supply - please call first 215-795-2352.
- ORNAMENTS** ..... 1/2 Price ~~\$8.00~~ \$4.00  
Ornament is made of gold flashed brass with BLC logo and byline.
- NOTECARDS** ..... 1/2 Price ~~\$10.00~~ \$5.00  
Boxed set of 10 photo cards & envelopes, 2 each of 5 scenes of preserved land, Photos by Robert Cherry, Dan Devery, Barbara Drew, and Joan Weber.

To order, send a check made out to the Bedminster Regional Land Conservancy and a list of items (and sizes). Please include your telephone number in case we have a question. Mail to: BRLC - P.O. Box 208, Bedminster, PA 18910. We personally deliver within Bedminster Township.

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## Mailing Label and Renewal Date

Your mailing label shows the most recent month and year of payment (e.g. 05/10 indicates May, 2010) in the top right corner of the label. If you are not a member for the current year 2011, (last payment was before 11/10), this could be your last issue of *The Conservator*.

You could be missing out on being informed on township and local decisions that affect us, as well as invitations to meetings, workshops, and all the conservancy's social and fund-raising events. By renewing your membership, or joining for the first time, you are helping to preserve the heritage and rural life style we have become accustomed to and love.

If your label has 00/00, please become a member by completing our membership form on the back page. Start receiving all the benefits of membership and become a part of successful efforts that are saving our farms and open spaces in our communities.

Please support the Bedminster Regional Land Conservancy (a nonprofit organization). **THANK YOU! TOGETHER WE ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE!**

— Board of Directors

## Renew Your Membership Or Join Us for 2011!

Contributions are tax-deductible: the Bedminster Regional Land Conservancy is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Thank you for your support. You are helping us make a difference!

To join us fill in and return this portion to:

**Bedminster Regional Land Conservancy**  
**P.O. Box 208**  
**Bedminster, PA 18910**

Yes, I support the goals of the Bedminster Regional Land Conservancy and enclose my annual dues for 2011:

### Regular Membership Categories:

- \$15 Student/Senior Member
- \$30 Individual Member
- \$40 Family Member
- \$100 Business Sponsor  
(Please include a business card to publish in our newsletters.)
- \$100+ Conservationist
- \$200+ Preservationist
- \$1000 Benefactor (Lifetime Membership)

**Please see if your company has a matching program for your contribution.**

\* Please fill in any additional amount you are contributing.

\*\* List name as you want it to appear on labels and in newsletter.

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If you would like to volunteer to help us, please note that on this form: Event greeters, fund-raising, etc. If you are considering a conservation easement on your land or would like to speak with one of us for more information, check here . Please provide your phone number (above).





PO Box 208  
Bedminster, PA 18910

Preserving the land ~ Protecting the future

# The Conservator



## WE HAVE A NEW WEBSITE!

We recently revised and expanded our website. It is packed with interesting and useful information about us, our events, and lots of information regarding land preservation along with many scenic and beautiful photos. Please have a look!

[www.bedminsterlandconservancy.org](http://www.bedminsterlandconservancy.org)



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The official registration and financial information of the Bedminster Regional Land Conservancy may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll-free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999.

*Registration does not imply endorsement.*

## Mission Statement

The goal and purpose of the Bedminster Regional Land Conservancy is to function as a community-based land conservancy for the preservation of farmland and our agricultural heritage, as well as other open spaces, natural resources, wildlife habitats, and scenic features within Bedminster Township and other Bucks County municipalities. The main functions of this conservancy are to identify land of significance and resources for preservation; promote, accept, hold, and provide stewardship of conservation easements; provide information and function as a resource network for area residents and public agencies; sponsor educational preservation programs; conduct fund-raising activities; and work with other groups, corporations, and organizations with similar missions to promote and further the goal of this conservancy.