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WELCOME NEW BRC MEMBERS! (August-December 18, 2015)

- Mr. Mark Agostini
- Ms. Dorothy Bobo
- Mr. David Doorn
- Ms. Jeannine Friel
- Ms. Kyla Friel
- Ms. Anne Johnson
- Mr. Jonathan Jordan
- Mr. Jeffrey Klein
- Mr. Ron Longley
- Ms. Tracy Marino
- Mr. Brad Nau
- Mr. and Mrs. Brad Newsom
- Mr. and Mrs. John Sanville
- Mr. Robert Schultz
- Mr. and Mrs. Burling Vannote
- Ms. Helen Wagner

NON-STOP ACTIVITY for RED Streams BLUE Projects

Beginning in May, construction of stream restorations in the Brandywine and Red Clay Watersheds has continued non-stop. June saw the completion of a 1,200 foot restoration on the Upper East Branch Red Clay and in October over 40 volunteers planted 400 trees and shrubs to create a riparian buffer. This project combines with a 2,000 foot restoration immediately downstream to protect 3,200 feet of stream.

In June, the second Little Buck Run project in Parkesburg began. It was completed in September and in October 80 volunteers planted a 700 tree and shrub buffer. Combined with a previous project directly upstream, over one mile of Little Buck Run is now restored and protected.

The focus of activity this fall has been the Upper West Branch Brandywine in Honey Brook Township near the headwaters of the Brandywine. In the fall of 2015, the first of three stream restoration and livestock fencing projects was completed.



Some of the 30 volunteers planting a tree and shrub buffer along a restored section of the Upper West Branch Brandywine.

This October, the second project began on 1,300 feet of stream and was completed in late November. In early December, thirty volunteers planted a vegetative buffer totaling 350 trees and shrubs. The third project began in November and, with good weather, will be completed by the end of December. That project involves 1,900 feet of stream, which will be planted with trees

and shrubs in April 2016. Still to happen this winter is a stream fencing and livestock crossing project covering about 1,200 feet of stream. When all the projects are completed, over 1 mile of the Upper West Branch will be restored and protected.

Also in November, a stream restoration project began on Ludwig's Run, a tributary to the East Branch Brandywine above Downingtown. This project will restore several stream stretches severely eroded by high flows during heavy rains. Thirteen properties are involved, well above the one or two landowners in a typical project. Part of the restoration will be the repair of a failed, 30 year old, stormwater basin. The basin is at the top of Ludwig's Run and is responsible for much of the stormwater damage to the stream below.



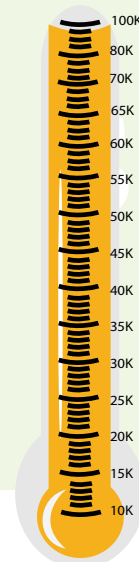
BRC consultant Aaron Clauser points out details on the stream restoration plan for the Upper West Branch Brandywine.

With the completion of the current projects, BRC will have 15 stream restorations ranging in age from a few months to 5 years. This is the largest number of stream restorations in the region and will provide an opportunity to measure the success of this approach to water quality improvement and an example for other watersheds to follow.

THANK YOU FOR AN AMAZING YEAR IN THE BRANDYWINE AND RED CLAY WATERSHEDS!

We wish to thank everyone who contributed to our Annual Campaign to close 2015 on a financially sound note. Because of you, we were able to meet and exceed the goals we had last year. Each and every donation contributes to vital environmental education programs reaching thousands of school students as well as multiple watershed restoration projects to improve water quality in our region.

A special heartfelt thanks goes to generous donors who contributed a \$20,000 leadership gift as a challenge for our year-end appeal. Through generous support from members like you through December 31st, we met and exceeded this challenge with a combined total of \$96,400 as of 12/29/2015.



EDUCATION AWARDS

Anne Bailey, a 4th Grade teacher from Greenwood Elementary in Kennett Consolidated School District, was awarded BRC's Teacher of the Year. She makes learning accessible and enjoyable for all students in her school. Anne incorporates real-world examples and hands-on opportunities in her teaching to instill a greater appreciation for natural world. She was awarded \$500.00 from SECCRA and a complimentary environmental education program.

Alexa Hart was awarded BRC's Environmental Instructor of the Year. Her involvement in outdoor education at her children's school brought her BRC over 5 years ago. Alexa is a valued instructor who leads both our school and family programs and takes great satisfaction in seeing children make discoveries in the outdoors. She is a leader who dedicates her time to working with students and families to create lasting memorable outdoor experiences!



BRC Education Coordinator Julia Steiner, Awardee Anne Bailey, Greenwood Elementary Principal Tracey Marino and Scott Mengle from SECCRA



BRC Education Coordinator Julia Steiner (left) with award recipient Alexa Hart

VOLUNTEER WORK DAY AT THE MYRICK CONSERVATION CENTER

BRC volunteers making a difference together on Volunteer Work Day held October 3, 2015 at the Myrick Conservation Center. Volunteers pictured here participated with nearly 70 adults and children to complete much needed work on projects that morning to maintain our property.



JAM ON THE BRANDYWINE

Over 600 people attended the 10th annual Jam on the Brandywine held September 12, 2015 in support of BRC.

Generous support for this event was provided by The North Face, 1st Advantage Mortgage, The Buccini/Pollin Group, Aqua PA, Phillips Mushroom Farms, Republic Services, Meadow Springs Farm (Hicks Bros.), SECCRA, Susquehanna Bank, William P. McGovern Septic Services, Aztec Copies, Northbrook Canoe Company and Trail Creek Outfitters.

EAGLE SCOUT PROJECTS BENEFIT

Myrick Center And The Watershed

This year four Eagle Scout projects were completed, two at the Myrick Center and two on the Brandywine. In April, Max Canto, a Scout in Troop 105 Exton, lead a project which planted a tree and shrub buffer along the Upper West Branch Brandywine in Honey Brook Township. Forty volunteers planted over 400 trees and shrubs to improve the riparian zone. In early December Keith Reynolds, also from Troop 105, led a group of 30 volunteers who planted 350 trees and shrubs just downstream from the above project. These projects will benefit 2,500 feet of stream by adding shade, leaf litter for stream insects, and reducing runoff.

At the Myrick Center, two projects were completed which will improve the appearance and usability of the property. This fall David Hogsett, from Troop 52 in Downingtown, removed a rotting wooden retaining wall and replaced it with an attractive stone wall. The new wall not only improves the appearance of the office area, but will also be a



Scouts completing a stone retaining wall at the Myrick Center office.

long term, maintenance free, addition. Also this fall, Max Canto lead a group of volunteers who cleared and restored an area of the Pine Knoll. The result is attractive area that can be used for education programs or to simply enjoy another part of the Center. Eagle Scout projects have benefitted the Myrick Center for many years, as have the projects in the Watersheds.



Scouts clear brush and vines at the Pine Knoll on the Myrick Center.



SAVE THE DATE:

RED CLAY VALLEY CLEAN UP

Saturday, March 19, 2016

BOOKS & BOOTS

on the Move



OUR AWARD-WINNING STORY TIME AND OUTDOOR ADVENTURE CLUB FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD STUDENTS.

Let Potter the Otter come to YOUR SCHOOL and read a book provided by Baldwin's Book Barn. Afterwards, the story will continue into a real-life adventure. A craft and/or snack will be provided. Dress for the weather and don't forget your boots! For more information and pricing, contact Kate Thompson at ktompson@brandywineredclay.org or by calling (610) 793-1090

INAUGURAL CELEBRATION DINNER & SILENT AUCTION

Over 250 members and their guests attended BRC's Inaugural Celebration Dinner & Silent Auction on October 22, 2015 at the Mendenhall Inn to celebrate our accomplishments in conservation and education in the watershed. President Jim Nolan presided over the evening's activities.

During the business portion of the evening Ray Ajalli of ArcelorMittal's Coatesville Plant was voted back on as a board member after a one-year hiatus. The merger committee comprised of board and staff of BVA and RCVA was recognized with a special award for their leadership and service during this time.



Chester County Commissioners presented BRC with a citation during its inaugural celebration and silent auction on October 22, 2015. L-R, Commissioner Kathi Cozzone, BRC executive director Jim Jordan, Commissioner Terence Farrell, Commissioner Michelle Kichline and BRC President Jim Nolan.

Chester County Commissioners Cozzone, Farrell and Kichline were in attendance for this celebratory event and presented BRC with a citation in honor of its steadfast stewardship of the Brandywine and Red Clay watersheds. Executive Director Jim Jordan highlighted numerous milestones of the past year including the birth of the Brandywine Red Clay Alliance while honoring both BVA and RCVA. For information on the education awards from the evening celebration, please see page two of this newsletter. The West Chester Garden Club was recognized with

the Outstanding Volunteer Award for their long term volunteerism as stewards of the beautifully maintained gardens of the BRC.

The final award for the evening was presented to Sarah Fisher Cornman in recognition of her exemplary service to support environmental education programs and summer camp.

Thanks to the generous support of donors and bidders the Silent Auction was a great success, raising over \$10,000 for BRC conservation and education programs.



Brandywine Red Clay Alliance

Watershed Conservation | Environmental Education

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NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION
US POSTAGE PAID
WEST CHESTER, PA
PERMIT NO. 53

2016 WINTER

2016 POLAR PLUNGE

Saturday
Feb 20, 2016
10am til Noon

Brandywine Picnic Park
Routes 52 & 100
690 S. Creek Rd
West Chester, PA

Presented by
MANITO ABSTRACT COMPANY INC.

Register Online at
www.brandywineredclay.org
or call 610-793-1090



Brandywine Red Clay Alliance

Watershed Conservation | Environmental Education

UPCOMING EVENTS

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| Wildlife Walk
Tuesday, January 12th | Red Clay Valley Clean-up
Saturday, March 19th |
| Books & Boots
Thursday, January 14th | Brandywine Hills Point-to-Point Races
Sunday, April 3rd |
| Books & Boots
Thursday, February 18th | Books & Boots
Thursday, April 14th |
| Polar Plunge
Saturday, February 20th | Brandywine Creek Clean-up
Saturday, April 30th |
| Trail Creek Run
Sunday, March 6th | BRC Trout Rodeo
Saturday, May 7th |
| Books & Boots
Thursday, March 17th | |

WISH LIST

- Art Supplies
- Children's Blocks
- Children's Board Games (complete sets)
- Clean plastic coated reusable bags
- Coffee Cans
- Dress up attire for Summer Camp
- Flat Sheets (white)
- Gently used archery & fishing equipment
- Holiday Decorations
- Legos
- Metal Containers
- Native Animal & Wildlife Posters
- Tablecloths
- Taxidermy Mounts

