



Volume 18; Issue 3
July 2015

The Manada Conservancy

Summer News 2015

Camp Small Valley ~ Forever Preserved!



Above left: Flame azaleas, also known as pinksters, one of the unique species found at CSV.
Above right: A guided hike at Small Valley as thanks to the many individuals who made the completion of this project possible! Details on pages 4 and 5!

Cladel Preserve, Potluck & Plant Sale

Come have a peek at a preserve-in-the-making

& go home with some native plants for your fall garden!



Saturday, September 12th, 10am to 3pm
at the Cladel Homestead & Preserve:
412 South Meadow Lane, Hummelstown

Explore the Cladel Preserve and watch for fall migrating birds and late butterflies. Browse woodland native plant species for your home landscape and get a behind-the-scenes look at Manada's greenhouse. Mingle and enjoy a potluck lunch.

Find more details on page 8!

President's Message



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I hope that all of you enjoyed this year's native plant sale held at Hummelstown's Schaffner Park. The sale has a 15 year history and has experienced many iterations during that time. You may wonder why we hold this event in the first place and I thought I would give you a bit of history as well as our justification for the ongoing native plant initiative.

In the early years of the Conservancy's existence, we ran a bare bones operation. Meetings were held in the homes of board members and records were kept in boxes in the president's home. This soon became untenable but we needed some operating funds if we were going to be able to rent office space. We decided to try a native plant sale because we felt that this would be in keeping with our joint mission of land preservation and environmental education. We were fortunate in the early years of the sale to have the use of donated greenhouse space and we found that there was a real demand for our plants. We did well financially and we were able to move the Conservancy's operation out of our homes and into the lovely space we now rent from the Seibert family. Of course, change is inevitable and within a few years the greenhouse space was no longer available. We made do for one year in a rundown but serviceable greenhouse and then, the following year, Meadowood Nursery opened its doors. Jan and Ernie, proprietors of Meadowood, were members and supporters of the Conservancy and offered to partner with us. The offer was a welcome one because not only did we no longer have space in which to grow the plants but also the operation had become too big for us to handle on our own. Last fall, Meadowood closed its doors and we again found ourselves looking for a new model. This year we grew up a subset of plants in two portable greenhouses and invited vendors to join us to provide the plants we could not grow.

We have learned over the years that this is not just a nice idea but also a critical one if we are to maintain healthy ecosystems. Most of us have heard about the reduction in pollinators, the decline in many bird species, the critical drop in monarch butterfly numbers. There are many reasons for these and myriad other problems associated with our ecosystems but underlying most of them is a loss of habitat. Just as we humans require the right kinds of food and shelter to survive and thrive, so do our animal friends. Native plants provide these needs whereas non-natives usually do not. There are now 40,000,000 acres of lawns in the US alone. If we all incorporated into our yards some of the native plants lost to the development of all of these acres. It would make a huge difference. I do not have space here to provide you with the underlying science but I can refer you to three recent publications that can.* If you read these, you will never garden the same way again. The books are eminently readable and the information very compelling. We invite you to join the many of us who are moving to native plants in our personal landscapes.

*Bringing Nature Home Douglas Tallamy, Timber Press (2007)

The Living Landscape, Darke and Tallamy, Timber Press (2014)

Subidria, John Marzluff and Jack DeLap, Yale University Press (2014)

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Richard and Sally Zaino

THANK YOU, THANK YOU!

Thank you, Dauphin County Technical School! We are grateful for the donation received from Dauphin County Technical School's annual Dress Down Day fundraising event! *Thank you students and staff for choosing to support Manada Conservancy!* Your donation furthers Manada's mission of preserving farmland, forests and streams in Dauphin County and the promotion of environmental education.

And a special thanks to **Daniel Bivins**, 10th grade Graphic Arts student at DCTS! Daniel created colorful endangered species flash cards to be used as an educational tool at outreach events.

Thanks to East Hanover Twp and Park & Recreation Director, Anthea Stebbins, for inviting Manada to take part in their first Earth Day in the Park celebration!

Thank you Troop 65! Scout Eric Sullivan has been diligently building habitat boxes for Manada's properties and recent planting sites in pursuit of his Eagle ranking. Throughout the process his Troop has assisted Manada in several endeavors, including the EHT Earth Day in the park event (shown above). Eric's Scout project is expected to be completed this summer. Stay tuned for details in Manada's Fall Newsletter. **Shown right:** Eric Sullivan, David Fenyves, Ethan Sullivan



Thank you to Dickinson Collenge student volunteers; Kelli Archer, Julia Ring, Austin Davis, Stacey Sigal, and Rob Page, for planting natives at the Clawson Preserve. With the help of Manada member and former Lower Dauphin teacher, Ben Cooper, these plants were rescued from the LD Middle School meadow, an area which faces construction in the near future.



Thank you Hummelstown Rotary Club for your help with a native plant rescue and transplant to Manada's Clawson Preserve. **Shown left**, Rotary President Jim Hazen is shovel ready!

Thanks to our volunteers this quarter!

Andy Groff	Kelly Archer
Austin Davis	Kim Tesoriero
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Bobbie Boyer	Leslie Wilson
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Josh Dourte	Wyatt Miller
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Contact Us:

Hours by Appointment: The Manada Conservancy, 113 East Main Street REAR, Hummelstown, PA

Mailing address: P.O. Box 25, Hummelstown, PA 17036--0025

Phone: (717) 566 - 4122 | **e-mail:** office@manada.org

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Manada Conservancy is a 501(c)(3) organization. Our identification number is 25-1784517.

Camp Small Valley ~ Forever Preserved

WE DID IT!

Small Valley is Preserved

thanks to you

Above right: (now former) CEO of The Girl Scouts in the Heart of Pennsylvania Jane Ransom receives the first check from Manada Conservancy President Nancy Cladel Below: the sign that will be erected at the entrances of the Camp



CAMP SMALL VALLEY

Has been preserved in perpetuity by

MANADA CONSERVANCY

With funding from

PA Department of Conservation & Natural Resources

Keystone

And in partnership with:

The Girl Scouts in the Heart of Pennsylvania
Walter and Diana Koerber
The Hershey Company

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Manada Conservancy



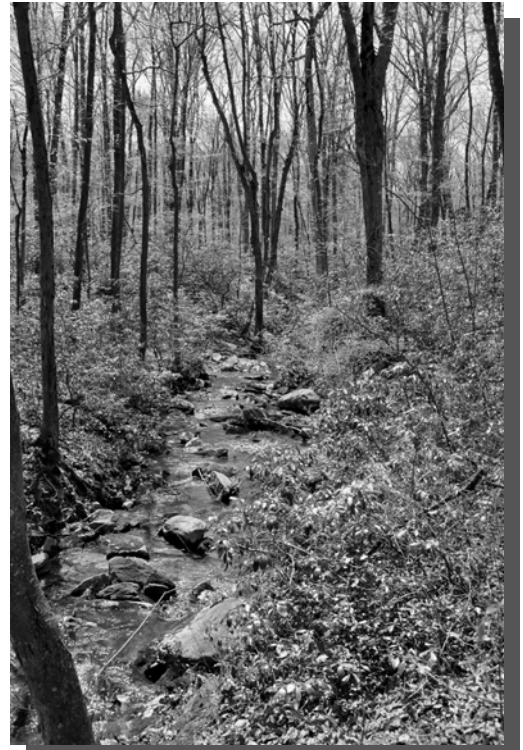
Above: Manada Conservancy Executive Director Shaun Levi and Lori Yeich, Recreation and Conservation Manager for the Central PA regional office of PA DCNR, our granting agency

The donors who helped us to reach our final match goal were absolutely crucial to the success of the project. These contributors, along with our other partners, are gratefully acknowledged on the signs that will be permanently placed at the camp entrance. We are so grateful for their trust in our ability to bring this about. Thank you, each of you. You got us to the magic number. And thank you to all of our members, whose contributions help us pay the rent, and all of the other expenses we have in order to keep pursuing our preservation mission.

For Manada Conservancy, hundreds of hours of staff time, more hundreds of hours of volunteer time, and many consultants and attorneys helped to make this happen. All of this work had to be done with the support of a Board of Directors who put a lot of faith in a few key people, and who were willing to go out on a limb to try to achieve the preservation of this beautiful property. It takes a special group of people to think outside the box, and they did it again and again over the past three years.

Yes, we did it—thanks to you!

We've been looking forward for a long time to being able to announce in this newsletter that the Small Valley project is complete. You have endured our repeated updates and told us how important the project is for the last three years. We are delighted to be able to tell you that on April 27, Jane Ransom, CEO of The Girl Scouts in the Heart of Pennsylvania, and Nancy Cladel, President of The Manada Conservancy, signed a conservation easement document that protects the 762-acre Girl Scout property in perpetuity. On May 3, we held a joint celebration with the Girl Scouts, to thank the partners and supporters who made this project possible. Check our FaceBook page to see a gallery of photos about Small Valley and our signing and celebration.



Above: Laurel-lined stream on our woodland hike Below: Dr. Walter Koerber and Director of Preservation Sally Zaino



Above: Girl Scouts around the campfire
Left: An Eastern Saw-whet owl, one of the beneficiaries of this project. Below left: Girl Scouts exploring a stream on the Camp



Above: Attendees at the signing: Shaun Levi, Shelly Sprengle, John Conner, Sally Zaino, Susan Kreidler, Elizabeth Feather, Jane Ransom, Nancy Cladel and Richelle Dourte. Photo by: Rich Zaino.

Manada's 15th Annual Native Plant Sale - A Success!



Thank you one and all for coming out to Schaffner Park for the Native Plant Sale! The weather was sublime. Healthy Living Kitchen served a delicious breakfast. And thanks to Holmes Powell and Julie Moffitt for an afternoon of great music! If you missed the spring sale, come out to the Cladel Preserve in September to find some favorites for your fall garden. Details on page 7!





Thanks to everyone who came out on May 30th and made Manada's biking event at Swatara State Park so much fun! See below for details about the next outdoor recreation program, paddle boarding and kayaking on the Susquehanna River.



Upcoming Events!



Manada Conservancy's Ice Cream Social in honor of you, our members!
Sunday, July 26th 2pm-4pm at The Inn at Westwynd Farm, 1620 Sand Beach Road, Hummelstown
 We would like to thank you for your support with a sweet treat!
 Please RSVP at office@manada.org or (717) 566-4122. *Remember to bring your family and friends!*

Join us! Kayaking and Paddle Boarding with Manada Conservancy on the Susquehanna River Saturday, August 8th, 10:45 - 12pm

Single kayaks, tandem kayaks, and a limited supply of paddle boards are available. We will meet at 10:45am at the beach on City Island for a brief safety talk and introduction, and will then enjoy an hour on the water. Boats, paddles, and life jackets will be provided. Kids 10 years or younger must be in a tandem kayak accompanied by an adult. Not recommended for children under 7. This event is free and open to the public!

Hurry, space is limited! Please register by contacting office@manada.org or (717) 566-4122.

***Thank you Highmark for sponsoring
 Manada Conservancy's 2015 Outdoor Recreation Programs!***



Get to Know the... **Critters of the Swatara Creek!**

A Manada Conservancy Kids Program!

Thursday, August 20th at 7pm at Camp Catherine in Hershey

Join Penn State Extension educator Jennifer Fetter for a fun hands-on exploration of the Swatara Creek! There are many animals that we never see, living under the rocks and in the soil, that are an important part of the stream. We will be scientists and go out into the water to collect and examine what we find, drawing conclusions about the health of the Swatara Creek.

This program is recommended for youth in 2nd grade and up. Younger siblings are welcome to attend but will need direct supervision and assistance from parents/guardians, so please use your best judgement. Old sneakers or tight fitting water shoes will be needed to go into the stream. Rain boots, flip flops, and loose sandals are NOT recommended. Please bring along a flashlight and consider packing a change of clothes.



Jennifer Fetter is the Watershed/Youth Development Educator for Penn State Extension. Her work includes developing and teaching water education programs to youth throughout PA. Jennifer also focuses on engaging local citizens in efforts to restore and protect the water resources of the Lower Susquehanna region. Previous to her employment with Penn State, Jennifer served as an Environmental Education Specialist with Pennsylvania DCNR - State Parks. She has a Master's of Science degree in Biology from Villanova University.

Manada Conservancy's education programs are free and open to the public.
 Please register at office@manada.org or (717) 566-4122.

Upcoming Events...continued



Manada Conservancy and Penn State Extension invites you to a free workshop on:
F.I.S.H. & Buffer Maintenance



Tuesday, September 8th, 6:00pm-8:00pm

The workshop, led by Penn State Extension, will focus on a new citizen science opportunity called FISH: First Investigation of Stream Health. The workshop will cover how to monitor plant growth, water clarity, and wildlife on your streamside property, as well as connect with and learn from stream improvement projects. Learn more about the program by visiting: <http://extension.psu.edu/natural-resources/water/watershed-education/watershed-evaluation/fish>. We will meet at Swatara Creek Park, 151 South Hanover Street in Hershey. The workshop will explore the features of Spring Creek and Swatara Creek, and will give a brief overview of Manada's Swatara Greenway Stewardship Program. This is an outdoor workshop. We will be hands-on and in the creek, so please dress to get wet!

Manada Conservancy's education programs are free and open to the public.
Please register at office@manada.org or (717) 566-4122.

Cladel Preserve, Potluck & Plant Sale!

Saturday, September 12, 10am to 3pm

at the Cladel Homestead & Preserve: 412 South Meadow Lane, Hummelstown

Manada Conservancy invites you to explore the Cladel Preserve. Nancy and Chuck Cladel donated this land in East Hanover Township to the Conservancy and during the past two years Preserve Manager, Jim Egenrieder has been readying it for public access. There are still some things left to do before the official opening but we would like you all to have a chance to see it as it evolves. Join us for a chance to walk the trails, watch for fall migrating birds and late butterflies, and enjoy a potluck lunch.

In conjunction with providing access to the Preserve, we will also be holding a **FALL PLANT SALE**, featuring many unusual plants we cannot easily offer in the spring. Offerings will include woodland species such as blue and black cohosh, wild ginger, and ferns. We will also be offering meadow plants such as queen of the prairie, mountain mint, Joe Pye, sunflowers, asters, and some milkweeds for the monarchs! You are welcome to tour the Cladel gardens where you will see many of these plants growing and to ask questions from knowledgeable native plant aficionados.

The Cladel's home was built in 1772 and is on the National Register of Historic Sites. The Preserve was once part of a large working farm and now provides a sense of place for the house and adjoining structures. We invite you to explore and enjoy the historic and natural aspects of this lovely property.

Priceless Ponds for Three Seasons

with Gene Wingert

Wednesday, October 7th, 7:00PM at the Hershey Public Library

This program explores the ecology and Natural History of an autumnal/vernal pond in south central Pennsylvania. The program takes viewers through a year's cycle at a vernal pool and relates the pools connection to the forest ecosystem. These ephemeral wetlands contribute the greatest vertebrate biomass to our forests and are an important link in carbon cycling.



Gene has been a science educator for over 35 years. He has taught at Cumberland Valley, HACC, Wilson College, and is currently a Professor of Biology and Environmental Science at Dickinson College where he has taught for the past 24 years. Gene also served as the first elected President of the Appalachian Audubon Society.

Manada Conservancy's education programs are free and open to the public.
Please register at office@manada.org or (717) 566-4122.

Thank you, Manada Conservancy Members!

Your support allows us to continue Manada's mission of local land preservation and environmental education.

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 for any membership questions or
 corrections.*

We are grateful for the support from the friends and family members who choose to honor their loved ones by way of memorial donations to Manada Conservancy. Please know that your gift is leaving a legacy by helping fulfill Manada Conservancy's mission to preserve the beautiful natural places throughout Dauphin County and promote environmental education.

Thank you for donations and Pathway to Preservation footprints purchased in memory of longtime Manada Conservancy supporter Margaret McMurry.

Many thanks for the generous continued support in memory of Gene Rannels.

We are grateful for the memorial contributions received in memory of Joseph Habecker. Our thoughts are with Mr. Habecker's family and friends.

Thank you.



The Manada Conservancy is grateful to our Corporate & Business supporters!



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2015 Manada Conservancy Environmental Achievement Awardees

The Manada Conservancy Environmental Achievement Award recognizes the senior who has excelled in environmental studies and who has contributed to the stewardship and protection of natural resources.

This year's awards are sponsored by Pennsylvania American Water and United Water.



Lauryn Costik is a student at Hershey High School currently in her senior year. She will be attending Penn State University beginning this summer, and plans on double majoring in International Business and Public Relations. As a student of Mr. Steven Newell's AP Environmental Science class, Lauryn deepened her understanding and interest in the well being of our planet, and the importance of stewardship, which she aims to practice on a daily basis through measures such as recycling, eating local, and using resources such as fossil fuels sparingly. Lauryn is also Vice President of French Club, a participant in the teacher assistant internship program, a member of Sigma Gamma and Young Democrats. She hopes to incorporate her love for the environment amongst her other numerous passions throughout her life and future career. She thanks the Manada Conservancy for this honorable and exciting award!

Craig Zemitis, the son of Karen and Peter Zemitis, is an accomplished student, athlete and citizen at Lower Dauphin High School. He is captain and four-year member of the volleyball team. He is also a four-year member of the ping pong club and has participated in ski club for three years. He has also been on the honor roll every marking period of his high school career. He plans to attend Penn State's Harrisburg Campus in the fall and major in environmental resource management with the goal of becoming an environmental scientist to help make his community a greener place for everyone. In the community, he volunteers with his township's activities and works as a food and beverage manager at Hersheypark.



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☐ NEW MEMBER

☐ RENEWAL MEMBER

Please Enroll me as a member in the Manada Conservancy for 2015 at the level I have indicated below

Are you interested in becoming a Manada Volunteer? ☐ YES

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email address: _____

Amount Enclosed _____ Check # _____

☐ FRIEND \$25 - \$49

☐ STEWARD \$50 - \$99

☐ GUARDIAN / BUSINESS \$100 - \$249

☐ CONSERVATOR \$250 - \$499

☐ BENEFACTOR \$500 - \$999

☐ VISIONARY / CORPORATE \$1000+

Please mail to: The Manada Conservancy, PO Box 25 • Hummelstown, PA 17036-0025

Mission Statement

The Manada Conservancy is a land trust dedicated to the preservation of the natural, historic, agricultural, and scenic resources of Dauphin County and to the promotion of environmental education.

** Manada Conservancy is a member supported organization.*

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Summer 2015



**Membership level:
Membership expiration:**

