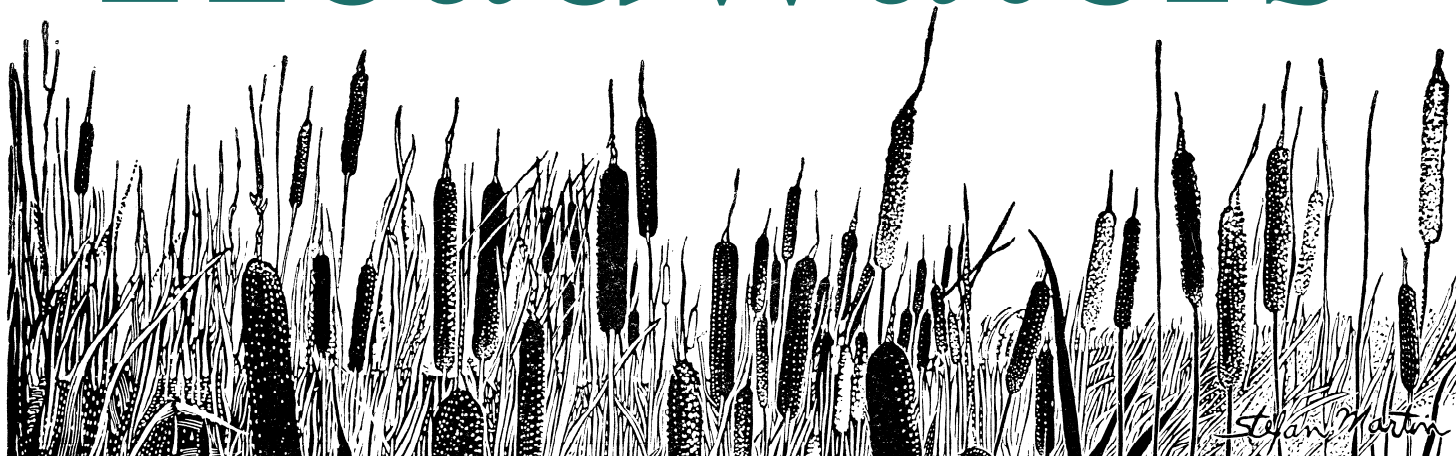


Headwaters



Keep It Green!

As you undoubtedly know, the Garden State Preservation Trust (GSPT) is the state agency that distributes the state's share of funding for the preservation of open space, farmland, historic structures and parkland.

Over the last ten years, millions of dollars have been distributed statewide contributing to preservation projects of land and buildings. The short term funding that has sustained the GSPT in recent years has now been depleted. URWA supports an initiative to let the voters decide this fall if they favor bonding in the amount of 600 million dollars to be spent over the next three years to keep the preservation effort alive.

Some in the environmental community believe that in these difficult economic times, voters will not support such a ballot question. They advocate for a permanent funding source that could come from a water tax or perhaps an SUV tax. Many in the legislature feel that any new tax proposal now will just not fly in Trenton. Both sides in this



GSPT funds have helped ensure the preservation of many key agricultural, historic and environmentally significant lands, including the Fales tract which is now a part of Fairview Farm.

debate are passionate about preservation, and feel that their track will lead to funding.

As a member of the Keep It Green Coalition, URWA believes the voters should decide and we believe citizens will continue to say "YES" to preservation. We hope that the legislature will place a measure on the November ballot to allow New Jersey residents to determine the fate of preservation funding, and that you'll encourage your friends to vote "YES" in November.

Inside this Issue

- 2 Out & About Across the Watershed
- 3 For Your Consideration: Greening Your Landscape: Alternatives to a Large Lawn
- 4 Focus on Preservation: Moggly Hollow Natural Area
- 5 Summer Programs
- 6 50th Anniversary Celebration
- 7 Volunteer Spotlight
- 8 The Slow Walker, Wake Up Call Recap
- 9 URWA Salutes Candy Ashmun, An Introduction to Robert Reid



P.O. Box 273
Gladstone, NJ 07934

Phone: 908-234-1852 Fax: 908-234-0609
www.urwa.org

OFFICERS

Christina C. Guido <i>President</i>	Suzette Dewey <i>Secretary</i>
James H. Lynch, Jr. <i>Vice-President</i>	James C. Collins <i>Treasurer</i>
William H. Bruett <i>Vice-President</i>	Cynthia D. Ehrenclou <i>Executive Director</i>

TRUSTEES

Irwin B. Abramson	Betsy B. Matlack
Philip D. Allen*	Elizabeth M. Merck
Stathis Andris	Karen A. Moraghan
Charles Ashmun*	John F. Parker
Frank Banisch	Kevin L. Shearan
James C. Brady, Jr.*	Henry R. Slack
Stewart Brunhouse, Jr.	Carol G. Tiffany
Charles H. Dillon	Ann W. West
B. Danforth Ely	Elizabeth W. Wilkes
Louis C. R. Farrelly	Alan Willemsen
Heather Gracie-Petty	Harold Wilmerding
James L. Johnson*	Marianne Witte
Mary Johnston	* <i>Honorary Trustee</i>

STAFF

Cindy Ehrenclou, Executive Director
cindy@urwa.org, Ext. 11

Perry Boynton, Property Manager
perry@urwa.org, Ext. 21

Susan Brookman, Membership Program Director
sbrookman@urwa.org, Ext. 20

Kate Deans, Director of Operations
kate@urwa.org, Ext. 16

Sharon McCann, Finance Director
sharon@urwa.org, Ext. 14

Melissa Mitchell, GIS Director
mmitchell@urwa.org, Ext. 15

Robert Reid, Land Project Manager
rreid@urwa.org, Ext. 17

Suzanne Skrzenski, Watershed Ambassador
Suzanne@urwa.org, Ext. 18

Lauren Theis, Stewardship Program Manager
LTheis@urwa.org, Ext. 12

CONSULTANTS

Melissa Almendinger, Invasive Species Strike Team
melissa@urwa.org

Joy Seal Ettel, Foundation Relations
joy@urwa.org

Headwaters is published quarterly and distributed to members and donors of the Upper Raritan Watershed Association.

WATERSHED

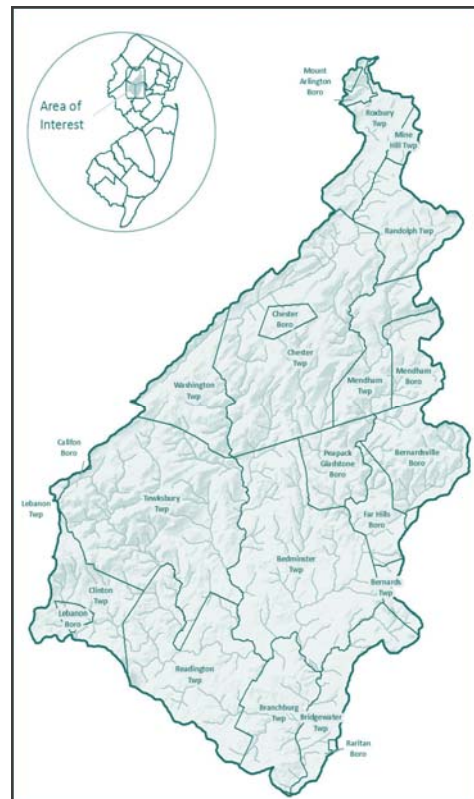


WATCHDOG

**Out & About
Across the Watershed**

In recent weeks, URWA has...

- ◆ Attended the Sustainable Raritan River Summit at Rutgers University. The summit brought together interested stakeholders to discuss ways to improve environmental quality, determine possible opportunities for collaboration, and identify future needs and existing data gaps along the Raritan River, ultimately to attain the objectives of the Clean Water Act for the Raritan River.
- ◆ Joined with 14 other concerned environmental organizations to express serious concern over how new regulations governing wastewater management planning are being implemented in our state. The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection is implementing regulations adopted last year in a way that we believe violates rules, including the federal Clean Water Act, by extending the validity of old Wastewater Management Plans.
- ◆ Co-hosted a community work day for Bernards High School students at the Far Hills Fairgrounds and the Helen Woodman Natural Area. The students removed invasive plants and collected trash from both the land and the banks of the North Branch, which runs through the area.
- ◆ Participated in a meeting of the State Agriculture Development Committee to learn about a host of issues important to not-for-profit open space preservation partners.
- ◆ Attended the 2009 National River Rally and took part in workshops presented by some of the most respected leaders and experts from the not-for-profit and conservation worlds. We exchanged ideas with many people who are working towards common goals in their watersheds.
- ◆ Co-hosted a meeting of the Central Jersey Invasive Species Strike Team. The meeting included a field session to help Strike Team members learn to identify targeted plant species.
- ◆ Participated in a U.S. Department of Commerce meeting with industry leaders from Central Asia, Western Eurasia and Caucasus seeking information on water resource management. Executive Director Cindy Ehrenclou represented non-profit watershed associations and described our work to the delegation.
- ◆ Helped create a 400 square foot rain garden at the Randolph Middle School. Students planted the garden with help from URWA, the Raritan Highlands Compact, AmeriCorps Watershed Ambassador Program, Randolph Middle School PTA and the Randolph Township municipal government.



Upper Raritan Watershed

For Your Consideration...

Cindy Ehrenclou, Executive Director

Greening Your Landscape: Alternatives to a Large Lawn

On a hot summer day, have you driven through a neighborhood with your car window open only to be struck with the distinct odor of freshly applied chemicals? And of course, pulling out just ahead of you is the proverbial white truck sporting a picture of a perfectly manicured lawn and a slogan that reads something like, “*enjoy a lush, green setting that does wonders for your home and your lifestyle – not to mention your peace of mind.*” A little education will prove this statement dangerously misleading. The use of toxic lawn chemicals and the hazards they pose to our families, wildlife, and drinking water sources is worth understanding.



The Bird and Butterfly Garden at Fairview Farm offers a model for property owners who would like to convert lawn areas to pesticide and fertilizer-free zones that are safe for people and wildlife.



You don't have to go big, like the meadows at Fairview Farm. Converting even a small patch of lawn to a native meadow will make a big difference for the good of your family, and our watershed.

Lawn Fact: During a typical year in neighborhoods across the country, over 102 million pounds of toxic pesticides are applied in pursuit of a perfect lawn and garden.

URWA is advocating for *less lawn* because the typical suburban lawn requires hazardous chemicals, fuel for power mowers and water consumption, not to mention time, energy and expense to the homeowner. We encourage you to visit the stewardship page on our website, www.urwa.org to learn about alternatives to traditional lawns. Any size parcel of lawn can be replaced with an array of alternatives that add color, texture, habitat and biodiversity to your landscape. You might consider eliminating portions of your lawn in phases, exploring a variety of elements such as a wildflower meadow or a rain garden.

Author Tama Matsuoka Wong recently visited Fairview Farm. Ms. Wong collaborated on a book with New Jersey Audubon, *Meadows on the Menu – Recipes for Creating a New Jersey Native Wildflower Meadow*. Using the metaphor of a “cookbook,” Toma introduces “...interested chefs to proven techniques

for establishing a native meadow,” including a list of ingredients for the menu. She knows firsthand the rewards of replacing traditional turf as she converted her own Hunterdon County backyard into a beautiful wildflower meadow. It is worth your time to investigate Toma’s website www.meadowsandmore.com where she offers a how-to guide and a forum to give folks an opportunity to post questions and to get the answers from experts such as URWA’s own Central Jersey Invasive Species Strike Team (CJISST).

As homeowners, we have been sold on the idea that a weed-free, closely trimmed, green turf carpet is a thing of beauty. URWA encourages you to think out of the box. How about the beauty that comes with adding color and fragrance, both of which attract butterflies and birds? How about doing the right thing for the natural environment and the health of our water supplies?

According to the National Coalition for Pesticide-Free Lawns, studies show that hazardous lawn chemicals are drifting into our homes where they contaminate indoor air and surfaces, exposing children at levels ten times higher than pre-application levels.

Of 30 commonly used lawn pesticides, 19 are linked with cancer or carcinogenicity, 13 are linked with birth defects, 21 with reproductive effects, 26 with liver or kidney damage, 15 with neurotoxicity, and 11 with disruption of the endocrine system.

Of those same 30 lawn pesticides, 17 are detected in groundwater, 23 have the ability to leach into drinking water sources, 24 are toxic to fish and other aquatic organisms vital to our ecosystem, 11 are toxic to bees, and 16 are toxic to birds.



This rain garden at Randolph Middle School was planted in mid-June. Look for a similar new garden at Fairview Farm in July!

Focus on Preservation

Moggy Hollow Natural Area

The Moggy Hollow Natural Area is a rugged, steep parcel of land adjacent to Buck Garden in Somerset County. It was established as a preserve in 1967 when Mr. J. Malcom Belcher, Mr. and Mrs. Zachariah Belcher, Mrs. Mary Young and Dr. and Mrs. Harold Belcher donated 11.615 acres of land to URWA. A gift of 2.38 additional acres by Mr. Leonard Buck brought the total area to just over 14 acres in 1968. The lands were conveyed to URWA ‘for the purpose of preserving the unique geological features... and for scientific, education and conservation purposes’.

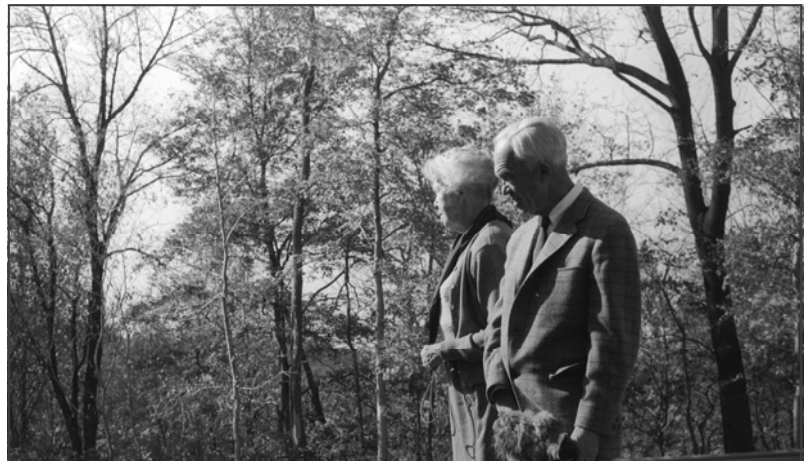
During the Wisconsin Glacial Stage (about 50,000 years ago), much of what is now the Great Swamp and Troy Meadows existed as a huge lake known as Glacial Lake Passaic. At its greatest extent it was nearly 300 square miles in size, and its outlet was through Moggy Hollow, near the village of Far Hills, for more than 2,000 years. Other outlets opened up many miles to the east as the glacier began to melt and retreat, and the falls at Moggy Hollow were left high and dry.

The area remains today as a deeply cut gorge with a marsh and tiny brook at the bottom (the hollow). Although originally all the water from the huge glacial lake and its basin flowed through, carrying with it basaltic boulders which scoured out the basin at the bottom, today Moggy Hollow drains an area of just 50 acres.

Because of its unique geological qualities, Moggy Hollow was selected for inclusion in the National Registry of Natural Landmarks in 1970.

No one knows for sure how it came to be called Moggy Hollow, but there are a few possible explanations that have been put forward over the years. The name may come from a combination of the words misty and foggy or marshy and boggy, either of which aptly describe the area. Another possibility is that the name comes from ‘moggy,’ an Old English word with two meanings. One is ‘dark, damp and dingy,’ and the other is ‘coming and going.’ The first meaning provides an accurate description of any hollow, and the second accurately describes the process by which the gorge was formed.

The Moggy Hollow Natural Area is part of New Jersey’s Green Acres tax exemption program, and as is the case with all of URWA’s preserves, it is open to our members and the public for passive recreation. The site is wooded, with a marsh in what was once the plunge-pool below the falls. Treacherous footing and very steep banks make the Moggy Hollow Natural Area inhospitable to all but the most intrepid hikers, but its primeval character provides wonderful habitat for flora and fauna.



Mr. J. Malcom Belcher and his sister, Mrs. Gayle Young, gaze out over Moggy Hollow in this photo taken in 1970 just after the area was designated as a National Landmark.

2009 Summer Program Schedule

July

Nature Day Camp

Session 1: July 6th through 10th
Session 2: July 13th through 17th
Session 3: July 20th through 24th



Second Sunday Program: Habitat Restoration Projects Sunday, July 12th 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

No registration is required

Fairview Farm Wildlife Preserve is a 170 acre former dairy farm that is home to the Upper Raritan Watershed Association. The preserve has several miles of walking trails, and several habitat restoration projects are underway. We'll walk to several of the restoration sites, including the lovely bird and butterfly garden, native meadows and a riparian (streamside) project and discuss how the work being done here will benefit the water quality and wildlife of the region as well as how landowners can replicate these efforts at home.

Rain Barrel Workshop

Saturday, July 18th 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

\$20 per rain barrel. Please register by Thursday, July 16th

Create and decorate a 20 gallon rain barrel to take home. This is a great opportunity to add a rain barrel for your garden or lawn this summer, and you will also receive info and tips on how to best utilize the rain barrel for effective storm water management. Feed-grade plastic bins have been generously donated to us for this workshop, but we'll need to cover the costs of the materials necessary to convert the bins into rain barrels, so there is a fee for this workshop.

Take a Walk! An Introduction to Mushrooms

Sunday, July 19th 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. or 3:00 p.m.

Hacklebarney State Park, Chester
Please register by Friday, July 17th



Join us for a mid-summer hike through the scenic ravines of the Black River as we search for mushrooms. This valley was carved by a glacier which created an area strewn with large boulders, full of natural history, beauty and, in the summer, mushrooms! We will meet at the main parking lot along Hacklebarney

Road. Robin Love will be our guide and she'll share lots of great information about the fungi we find.



August

Summer Family Program at Fairview Farm

Friday, August 7th 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

\$10 per Family for Members of URWA, \$15 for Non-Members
Please register by Wednesday, July 29th

Summer isn't over yet, so join us for an evening of campfire fun, crafts and exploration!

Second Sunday Program: Summer Open House

Sunday, August 9th, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

No registration is required

Visit Fairview Farm before the heat of the day arrives and go on a family-friendly scavenger hunt, hike around the pond to see what the aquatic critters there are doing and enjoy some time in our Bird and Butterfly Garden!



Take a Walk

Saturday, August 15th 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

Robert J. Stahl Natural Area, Bedminster

Please register by Friday, August 14th



Enjoy an easy morning hike through the grasslands and forests of the Robert J. Stahl Natural Area in Bedminster Township, where we hope to see and hear a diverse group of birds, amphibians, and small mammals. This site is undergoing a land stewardship restoration project to improve the grasslands as habitat for over 25 species of plants and animals that are Endangered, Threatened or Of Concern. Kimberly Hatch, Chairwoman of Bedminster's Open Space-Farmland Preservation Committee, will be available to discuss the restoration work and answer questions. Leashed dogs are allowed, and small children should be carried.

September

Second Sunday Program: Walk with the Birds

Sunday, September 13th 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

No registration is required

Join us for a relaxing Sunday morning walk to see and hear the last of the summer birds and get a preview of the birds that will be migrating through our region this fall. Bring a pair of binoculars (if you have them) and a sense of curiosity – you are sure to enjoy this experience!

Take a Walk

Sunday, September 20th 1:30 p.m.

Buck Gardens, 11 Layton Road, Far Hills

Please register by Friday, September 18th

Join us for a walk through one of the premier rock gardens in the eastern U.S. Begun in the late 1930's, the alpine and woodland gardens are situated in a 33 acre woodland stream valley adjacent to URWA's Mogy Hollow Natural Area.

Unless otherwise noted, programs are free and are held at Fairview Farm Wildlife Preserve, 2121 Larger Cross Road in Bedminster. To register for any program, please call URWA at (908) 234-1852.



URWA Celebrates 50 Years of Conservation

Ellistan, the storied Bedminster estate designed by Musgrave Hyde and constructed in 1930, was the site of URWA’s 50th anniversary celebration on Saturday, June 6th. The event took place in a grand pavilion at Ellistan, overlooking breathtaking views of the surrounding countryside that gave way as the evening progressed to an enchanting night sky complete with a nearly full moon.



With the theme, “Portraits of URWA – Celebrating Our Legacy,” the event saluted many of the region’s families who have left a lasting legacy by preserving land and protecting the quality of our water, as well as long-time supporters, valued members, neighbors and friends who have helped make URWA’s numerous accomplishments possible during the past five decades. URWA has been protecting the natural resources of the Upper Raritan watershed for 50 years through education, advocacy, land preservation and stewardship.



A reception for the nearly 400 guests highlighted the produce and products of regional vendors, and the dinner which followed also showcased local foods. A program featuring a specially commissioned video chronicling URWA’s 50 years, a slide show with images of URWA past and present, an auction and dancing rounded-out the evening.

We are profoundly grateful to Hank and Sarah Slack, who graciously hosted our celebration, and to Karen Moraghan and Missy Witte, who worked tirelessly as Co-Chairs to make the event a tremendous success. They were assisted by a dedicated group of volunteers including Loretta Abramson, Kate Annis, Anne Brady, Sally DeLorean, Marcia Dewey, Suki Dewey, Lauren Diemar, Trish Ellsworth, Christina Guido, Gretchen Jaekle, Lindsay Landmesser, Leslie LeVasseur, Nancy Lurker, Lee Klipstein, Betsy Matlack, Jazz Merton, Karen Murphy, Catherine Norbury, Lori Pavlini, Nancy Plumeri, Lee Ann Quenault, Juliette Rose, Marge Turpin, Jill Turpin, Molly Scott, Sarah Slack, Jane Steele, Alison Villa, Betsy Walton and Felicity Wilmerding. We are also very grateful to all of our members and friends who attended the celebration and to those who were unable to attend but generously made contributions in honor of URWA’s 50th anniversary.



For more images and a recap of the evening, see www.urwa.org/about-us/anniversary.html.

Volunteer Spotlight

Our sincere thanks go to the many individuals, businesses and organizations who helped out with important stewardship projects this spring...

- ★ A crew from the New Jersey Forest Fire Service (an arm of the Division of Parks and Forestry, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection) conducted three prescribed burns at Fairview Farm in March. Representatives of the Pottersville Volunteer Fire Department and Bedminster Township were on hand to observe and support the burn crew, as were staff, volunteers and members of URWA.
- ★ Students in the Academic Foundations Class at Centenary College planted more than 150 native trees and shrubs along the Cold Brook on the Lance Property, a 37-acre preserve in Tewksbury that has been identified as critical for water resource protection. The riparian restoration project was in an area previously overrun with multiflora rose and Japanese barberry.
- ★ Members of URWA and the Peapack/Gladstone Environmental Commission spent a morning removing trash from the Peapack Brook. With trash bags and work gloves donated by Somerset County Solid Waste Management, twenty volunteers started behind the New Gladstone Market and collected garbage from the banks and the water all the way to where the brook runs past Gladpack Sunoco. The group collected an estimated 300 pounds of trash, much of it in the form of plastic bags and bottles.
- ★ Ethicon employees planted 100 green ash and red oak trees and buttonbush shrubs to improve a hedgerow as habitat for nesting and shelter for birds and other native wildlife at Fairview Farm. The seedlings were provided by the New Jersey Tree Foundation for Arbor Day, and were lovingly nurtured by Mr. Whit Parker of the Bedminster Environmental Commission in his backyard 'nursery' for many months as they grew large enough for the project. Ethicon employees braved the rainy forecast to plant, spread mulch and erect fencing around the tender young plants throughout the chilly drizzle that fell all day on May 5th.
- ★ URWA Trustee Alan Willemssen was joined by Gordon Cameron and Thom Almendinger for URWA's 2009 Birdathon. These volunteers recorded 145 species in their 24 hour trek across the state to raise funds for URWA's stewardship programs.



A crew from Ethicon in Somerville spent a recent rainy day planting native trees and shrubs at Fairview Farm to create a healthy habitat for wildlife.



Martin Santen gives Nicolo Caminiti a hand as they empty water from the youngster's boot during the Peapack Brook work day.



Centenary College students prepare to dig holes for native plants.



Forest Fire Service personnel diligently monitor the progress of a prescribed burn.

Tidbits



The Slow Walker: Stairway to Heaven

"We are none of us good enough for the sweet earth we have, and yet we dream of heaven." - Edward Abbey

Last night's thunderstorm has left an early morning mist across the highlands. I wander through the oaks and mountain laurel, passing through slanting columns of light from the rising sun. Some look solid enough to invite me to climb on and shinny up to their source. Our language is rich in images inspired by this illusion. Just in the realm of song, think of Led Zeppelin's "Stairway to Heaven," Glenn Miller's "Stairway to the Stars," and George Gershwin's "Stairway to Paradise." Along my path, one bright diagonal ray illuminates a white cloud of laurel blossoms. These June marvels, now at their apex, dot the highlands in huge virginal patches. Heavy after last night's storm, the flowers droop and glisten with a fresh purity. Violent rain and hail have knocked some blossoms to the ground, where, crumpled amongst the leaf litter, they resemble dropped popcorn on a movie theater floor. But most of the blossoms remain on the tall shrubs, as dense and beckoning as the Milky Way. I examine a large one at eye level. It's an inch across with a yellow-tipped female pistil stalk waving high above a ring of 10 arched brown pollen-tipped male stamens. A perfect ring of tiny purple dots circles the base of the stamens at the throat of the white blossom. Stepping back, the effect of millions of these lovely flowers is like a field of June snowdrifts. For a moment, I wonder whether our songs directing us up the sunny staircase have it wrong. Instead of gazing skyward, we can find the stuff of dreams right here on Mother Earth.

Copyright Dan North, 2008

Wake Up Call Recap

URWA sends a heartfelt thank you to all of the speakers, members and municipal leaders who participated in our 2008-2009 breakfast series. The exchange of valuable information and the ensuing give and take of the audience during each program go to the heart of URWA's mission. Speakers and topics in the recently concluded Wake Up Call series included:

- ♣ Julia Somers, Highlands Regional Master Plan
- ♣ Matt McCourt, Threatened & Endangered Snakes of the Pinelands
- ♣ Margaret O'Gorman, New Jersey's Wildlife Action Plan
- ♣ Sr. Miriam MacGillis, Ethical Perspectives on Land Conservation
- ♣ Melissa Almendinger & Michael Van Clef, Central Jersey Invasive Species Strike Team
- ♣ Eileen Swan, New Jersey Highlands Plan Conformance Updates
- ♣ Kris Holmstrom, Integrated Pest Management
- ♣ Ken Klipstein, Water for Our Future

We also extend our appreciation to Kathy and Tom West, who opened up the Limestone Café in Peapack for these Wednesday morning breakfasts. Please visit www.urwa.org for information about our 2009-2010 Wake Up Call series.

People in the News

URWA Salutes Noted Scientist/Activist Candy Ashmun



Candy with Executive Director Cindy Ehrenclou

As part of our 50th Anniversary celebration, URWA recently presented Candy Ashmun with the newly created Helen Woodman Award to thank her for her many decades of service in the fields of conservation, resource management and land use planning.

Fifty years is a major milestone for any organization, and this is an important time for URWA to recognize the individuals who had the foresight to understand the fragile nature of this region's ecosystems and who dedicated extraordinary energy and time to watershed protection. As we poured through records and spoke with longtime members in preparation for our anniversary, one name con-

stantly rose to the surface: Helen Woodman. She was a catalyst for flood plain protection in New Jersey and she was instrumental in organizing URWA. Under her watch, the citizens of this region defeated the proposal to build a jetport in the Great Swamp and URWA made so many important strides in watershed protection that it was honored by President and Lady Bird Johnson as the National Conservation Award recipient in 1965.

In honor of Helen and the remarkable legacy she left, URWA's Board of Trustees established the Helen Woodman Award to recognize individuals who have made outstanding lifetime contributions to watershed protection. Selecting the first recipient of the award was among the most straightforward tasks the Board has ever undertaken — Candy Ashmun was the first and only person considered. She embodies Helen's spirit has dedicated her life to improving the quality of life here in our watershed region and throughout the entire state.

URWA's archives are full of photographs and articles about issues and projects influenced by Candy. She helped create

URWA's first Natural Resource Inventory, as well as the first one for the state. She has always insisted on the use of scientific information in the development of public policies. Candy was one of the first people to make the connection between land use and water quality and take a regional approach to watershed protection. She has been a catalyst in key decisions which have resulted in the preservation of critical natural areas throughout New Jersey.

Candy has served at the local and state level in many capacities. She is the longest serving member of the Pinelands Commission, a founding member of the State Planning Commission and former leader of the Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissions. She chaired the Department of Environmental Protection's Great Swamp Advisory Committee, has served as a trustee of the Coalition for Affordable Housing and the Environment, and is now Vice Chair of the Fund for New Jersey and a member of the Board of the Crossroads of the American Revolution.



An Introduction to Robert Reid, Land Projects Manager

Robert Reid joined the staff of URWA as Land Projects Manager in March. In this role, Robert is responsible for URWA's land acquisition projects and for its program to monitor the wide array of conservation easements that have been established by property owners across the region.

Robert has long been an advocate for the protection of the Highlands Region and the creation of the Highlands Trail. As a trustee of the Hunterdon Land Trust, he is a member of the Land Acquisition and Stewardship Committee and chairs the Dvoor Farm Committee.

An artist as well as an environmental advocate, Robert holds bachelor and masters degrees in sculpture from the University of Tennessee. His artwork is held in private and public collections in the U.S., Canada, Taiwan and Switzerland. We are delighted that Robert has become involved with URWA, and we are sure you'll feel the same when you meet him!



Did You Know?

Clover is a good weed to have in the landscape. It usually appears in our lawns when the soil is low in nitrogen levels, but it helps fix the problem by bringing nitrogen to the soil. When you mow, the clover clippings will add nitrogen to your lawn, helping to fix the problem without fertilizer.



Summer, 2009



Help Us Go Green

URWA members can receive newsletters (including our new monthly program update, which is available only via email) and other correspondence electronically. To request this service, send an email to sbrookman@urwa.org with "URWA News" as the message heading. Please be sure to include your full name. Rest assured — we will not share our list or overwhelm you with spam.



Upper Raritan Watershed Association
P.O. Box 273
Gladstone NJ 07934

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Gladstone, NJ 07934
Permit No. 26

Join URWA Today!

It's easy to become a member, and your contribution will support URWA's work to protect and preserve the natural resources of the Upper Raritan watershed.

To join URWA, or to renew your membership (the renewal date for members is printed at the top of the mailing label), please visit www.urwa.org and submit your annual dues payment electronically through our secure website or mail your check to us at:
P.O. Box 273, Gladstone, NJ 07934

- \$25 Student/Individual \$50 Family \$100 Friend
- \$250 Benefactor \$500 Patron \$1,000 Steward
- \$5,000 Guardian \$25,000 Life

URWA is recognized by the IRS as a 501 (c)(3) not-for-profit organization, and contributions are deductible for income tax purposes as allowed by law.