



Brunner & the Grimms (l-r) Discuss Relief Map with Ward

## 9/25 Infiltration-Retrofit Workshop for Fixing Degraded Watersheds

A workshop and a Best Management Practices (BMPs) assessment will be occurring together at the upcoming Peoples' Stormwater Infiltration-Retrofit Workshop, scheduled for Saturday, September 25 at the Giant Food Store Community Center, 2300 Linglestown Road in Susquehanna Township between 8:30 am and noon. The event is for members of Paxton Creek Watershed and Education Association (PCWEA), home and property owners, garden clubs, municipalities, and others interested in installing rain gardens and similar BMPs, & retrofitting stormwater control facilities with other runoff sources. This will be a hands-on, practical workshop that deals with questions such as how do BMPs work, how are the design details figured, when is a permit necessary, what do the BMPs cost (& how do they cost cheaply), where can people get what is needed, how can sites be made with low maintenance needs, etc, ETC? The format will be the following: a couple of brief background talks, a roundtable discussion by local people with much experience in practical, hands-on implementation, and a discussion of the building site stormwater drainage, and buffer retrofit possibilities, so workshop participants can see what needs doing on the site. The registration fee is \$5. The two topics are among the 5 main categories of actions needed to fix developed areas and watersheds such as degraded Paxton Creek. The PCWEA website has a brochure, and a link to details of the event.

## PCWEA Observes 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary With Tour, Meal & Recognition of Deeds by Members & Partners

PCWEA celebrated its first decade of service on September 9 by a traveling meal, a watershed tour of a few stormwater BMP projects, and recognition of individual PCWEAers and partners for past deeds. PCWEA member families and invited guests gathered, at St. Thomas Roasters Coffeehouse in Linglestown, briefly visited another BMPs site in the watershed, and ended at Harrisburg Area Community College (HACC). The meal was sort of a progressive 3-course dinner, in reverse, beginning with a Roasters coffee, followed by dessert (the infamous Sediment Cake) during the tour, and ended with shared potluck entrees, together with the recognition ceremony at HACC. Other unique elements of the event were witty(?) points associated with the recognitions, T-shirts designed by Rhonda Hakundy for gardening participants, and items on display of initiatives conducted during the decade. On page 2 are the names of the people and organizations.

### Grimms: Dorothy & Glenn, & Carol Buskirk Receive *Order of Corroded Pennies Award*

Glenn and Dorothy Grimm, and Carol Buskirk are the initial recipients of the Order of the Corroded Pennies Award, recognition of persons who have given watershed service in various ways for a long time, performing PCWEA duties since the beginning. Glenn was an initial participant on a *Rangers* water quality monitoring team, conducted monitoring equipment coordination when he could no longer safely climb creek banks, became Treasurer when PCWEA needed this service, and continues with help from Dorothy. As a team they also continue to participate in many of the retrofit and infiltration projects. **Carol** also has provided sundry services wherever needed: installed & operated the PCWEA website, maintained initial membership records, made event set ups & take downs, inserted images into documents, participated in many garden projects, & produced the infamous sediment cakes.

**Need More Watershed Information?**

See [www.PaxtonCreek.org](http://www.PaxtonCreek.org)

## Election Results for PCWEA Directors

New and continuing members of the PCWEA Board of Directors include professional geologist Rhonda Hakundy-Jones, businessman Charles "Chuck" Brunner, and HACC student Bryan Genesse. They, other board members, and officers will gather in the fall on an afternoon retreat to discuss continuing directions for the Association for its second decade.

## Garden Tanks Initiative Underway: General Availability To Be in 2011

Crucial to successful infiltration projects is timely use of resources, especially during stressful times such as low rainfall or drought periods. PCWEA has begun retrofitting tanks that can be used for water storage. In early fall PCWEA will receive for retrofitting in the coming winter 275-gallon tanks from partner business Smith Paints. The tanks will be available for community gardens, and significant, private landscape areas. Calls can be made to 717-545-1336 for more information.

## Brief Updates of Selected Past Projects

- Following the shrubs planting in May, the soils berm of the roadside swale in Susquehanna Twp was shaped, and grass seed was applied. "It (by summer) looked like a Chia pet," said the daughter of a gardener.
- A fence railing is now at the HACC rain garden, illustrating delays(?); the posts went up 2 years ago!
- The Linglestown middle school rain garden has again experienced neglect (weeds galore, and death of trees & herbaceous perennial plants) because of a lack of maintenance by the Central Dauphin School District.

### PCWEA Membership Application

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Organization (if any) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Postal Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_  
 State & ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

#### Membership Category

<input type="checkbox"/> Individual	\$10	<input type="checkbox"/> Student	\$5
<input type="checkbox"/> Family	\$25	<input type="checkbox"/> Business	\$100
<input type="checkbox"/> Public/Non-Profit	\$25	<input type="checkbox"/> Ind. Lifetime	\$100

Fill out, clip & end this application, together with a check or other payable to PCWEA, P.O. Box 61674, Harrisburg, PA 17106

## Persons Active in PCWEA Activities Over Past Decade Recognized at HACC Gathering

Persons who attended the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration on September 9 at HACC were recognized, sometimes with humor, and often with anecdotes associated with past happenings. The recipients and (sometimes "pithy" phrases; excerpts) from their certificates include:

**Matt Bonanno** – for helpful assistance where needed

**Chuck Brunner** – for 3G's: Guidance as a Director, gardening projects & gifts...

**Carol Buskirk** – for sundry backup of all types, often on short notice...

**Rob Davis** – for garden projects participation-coordination, & Everyman support...

**Pat Devlin** – for *almost* always saying nice things...

**Patti Estheimer** – for making a sign so PCWEAers & partners can strut their stuff...

**The Grimms: Dorothy & Glenn** -- Cheerful service in gardening, & monitoring in the wilds of Paxton Creek...

**Kevin Kelly** (PA Department of Environmental Protection) – for Macros Blitz monitoring & habitat protocol training... in a special red frame for the DEP

**Leah Rowand** (Tri-County Regional Planning Commission) -- for information used in the Paxton Creek Rivers Conservation Plan...

**Bryan Genesse** – for eager service on garden projects

**Rhonda Hakundy** – for the great PCWEA shirts frolic...

**Debra Kirkpatrick & Family** – for gardens design, gardening assistance & superb puppetry...

**Jason Robinson** – for fussing at student laggards...

**Mattie Robinson** – for creating/editing the *PCWEA Environmental Weekly*...

**Gary Smith** – for being an alert Watershed Watcher...

**Arlene Taylor** – for gardening & duties as the PCWEA official poison Ivy spotter...

**Michael Ward** (The Honorable) – for giving expression to the Dan Sims relief map of watershed projects ...

Many other persons & organizations who deserve recognition did not attend the celebratory event.

**PCWEA is a non-profit, 501(c)3 organization. Its mission is to help avoid or mitigate watershed problems such as erosion and stormwater runoff, to protect and enhance watershed resources, and to facilitate practical, hands-on education.**

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**PCWEA Lifetime Members:** Congratulations to Kevin Kelly for becoming a lifetime member! The others are Frank & Judy Beskid, E. Drannon Buskirk, Jr., R. D., Tom Embich, Jan Fisher, Fred Heagy, Joe Link, David Sheridan & Arlene Taylor.