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### Upcoming events:



**PCWEA is now on Facebook**



# Paxton Creek Watershed & Education Association Newsletter

Winter 2014 (Vol. 13, Issue 1)  
[www.paxtoncreek.org](http://www.paxtoncreek.org)

## Rain Barrel Workshop

by Rhonda Hakundy-Jones



Location, location, location. Those were the words of PCWEA Board of Directors' member Rob Davis at the association's Rain Barrel Workshop.

On April 20, PCWEA hosted a rain barrel workshop for 50 households. Those in attendance ultimately received free rain barrel kits. The Board instructed participants in the effective use of rain barrels and how to construct rain barrels using the kits provided by PCWEA. Matt Bonanno and Bryan Genesse also shared information about stormwater management and water conservation.



Matt Bonanno explaining the construction of a rain barrel with Rob Davis looking on

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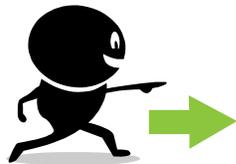
# Rain Barrel Workshop continued from page 1

What does all of this have to do with location? Rob explained to the participants that rain barrels should be located at the down spout that is the most convenient, ensuring that participants would want to use them.

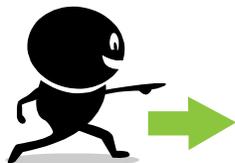


Please enjoy photographs from the Workshop:

## Construction of Rain Barrel



## Workshop Participant Demonstrating the Installation of Her Rain Barrel



## ***From our President...some words about Glen Grimm:***



Brilliant, colored leaves have fallen everywhere; filling the frigid waters of Paxton Creek. The mosaic ground brings new life to our watershed. Life that occurs only through death. With the fallen leaves, the nature home and land is once again nourished and rejuvenated. And so is life, the never ending cycle.

The late Glen Grimm would never let me over exert myself, while tending to his and Dorothy's little piece of heaven. Just before I would feel labored, he would sneak up and ask, "Time for a break?" Then off to the porch where we'd sit and watch the birds. I'm thank-

ful to have such peaceful memories. Such a kind and caring man. Just as Glenn spent countless efforts to improve our watershed, I will follow in his footsteps with inspiration and dedication. Thank you Glenn. And, thank you to all our members for your support.

Bryan Genesse  
President  
Paxton Creek Watershed Education Association

## ***Tree Nursery Project Day***

June 29<sup>th</sup> was a beautiful day at the PCWEA's Stream Side Nursery. Many attended and accomplished much. Our two main goals were to pot numerous oak saplings and to pump water from the creek into the irrigation tank. As with any project, there are always some unseen problems. But, this dedicated group of volunteers persevered and made everything a great success.

Justin Cooper from J&D Gutter Company graciously installed a gutter and a rain barrel for the tool shed. Andrew Bliss of the Chesapeake Bay Foundation supplied the soil. After discovering there were more saplings than originally estimated, Andrew made numerous trips for soil. Grateful thanks to all that dedicated their time and efforts.

Bryan Genesse  
President  
Paxton Creek Watershed Education Association

# Residential Runoff Concerns



**Susquehanna and Lower Paxton Townships are working hard to ensure stormwater runoff entering Paxton Creek is clean via their MS4s Stormwater Permit...**

**You can do your part by understanding that stormwater is NOT pre-treated prior to entering Paxton Creek and the following are potential pollutants:**

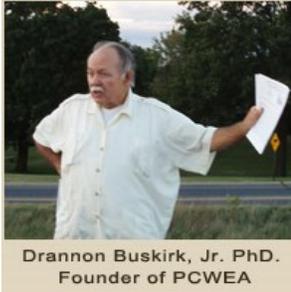
- ✓ Oil
- ✓ Dirt
- ✓ Paint
- ✓ Pet Waste
- ✓ Fertilizers
- ✓ Soaps

**For more information please visit the following the websites:**

<http://susquehannatwp.com/township-information-2/>

<http://www.lowerpaxton-pa.gov/StormWaterRecommendations.htm>

## Glenn R. Grimm, PCWE Man of Service, Talents and Helpfulness by Drannon Buskirk



It is with immense regret that PCWEA announces the passing of Glenn R. Grimm (1921-2013) on September 9, 2013. Glenn was a dedicated conservationist, birder, gardener, community supporter — and, at times in his life a bandsman, warrior, woodworker, information systems manager, nature lover, and participant in ecological, holistic understanding of life.

### During His Youth:

Glenn was born in Wisconsin to a farm family of nine, including his parents, an older brother, and five sisters. He was the last family member to pass on. As a boy, he stated: he was spanked only once, for playing with matches and setting debris (or hay outside a barn) on fire. It was quickly put out by his father and brother. During his school years at Marshfield High School in Marshfield, WI, as was typical for a rural area at the time, he was a bandsman (drummer), and was the Drum Major of the marching band. He graduated in 1939. Glenn thought the most outstanding aspect of his band experiences (and wife Dorothy of 32 years concurs) was the Drum Major's uniform -- a bright orange, not exactly a favorite color of a quiet, unassuming person. Glenn also participated as a member of the WI National Guard, entering a junior program in the mid-1930s.

As An Adult: Because of his National Guard experience, and age/good health, at a time of national need following December 7, 1941, Glenn joined the U. S. Army infantry, and served in several theatres during



World War II. Among many military decorations and honors, he was awarded the Silver Star for Gallantry in Action for his efforts on Biak Island, Papua, New Guinea in the South Pacific. Admiring the organization, discipline, and opportunities of the military, he stayed in the Army for 20 years ending in 1960. During this period he married, begat three children (a boy and two girls). Taking advantage of the GI Bill he graduated with a Bachelor's Degree from George Washington University. He had three granddaughters, and six great grandchildren. His children all agree that Glenn had a strong commitment to self-discipline and responsibility, which he promoted in his own home: Children had to rise and have breakfast with him, before they parted their ways for the

day (he to work, and they to schools/various diversions). During his Army career some of the more pleasant assignments included management of the events, activities, and support of the U. S. Army National Marksman Team. After leaving the Army he became the civilian Manager of Information Systems at Ft. Indiantown Gap, managing 7 operation departments. During this time, he established his residence in Hershey. He retired from the Gap in 1990. At the time, he was involved in community organizations mainly through his son's activities: Hershey Pee Wee Hockey League, and Boy Scouts of America (BSA). Glenn extended the latter, with involvement in the BSA Leadership Council.

## Glenn R. Grimm, PCWE Man of Service...

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Among other diversions (gardening, woodworking), Glenn was a dancer. This latter interest introduced him to a dance instructor by the name of Dorothy. Upon meeting, she was surprised at his considerable dance skills. His best dance, Dorothy said, was the waltz, as might be expected from a quiet, gentle man. Glenn spent many enjoyable hours birding, hiking many trails in about half of the PA state parks and elsewhere, and viewing Nature (both locally, and at scenic vistas in other states and Nova Scotia).

Glenn was also a person who sought to improve things through active participation in local and regional organizations. During the last decade, he and Dorothy supported Food for Peace, the Community Check-up Center of South Harrisburg, NGOSI, Inc. (with eco-gardening and economic development in parts of Harrisburg), and with trail reclamation and maintenance through the Capital Area Green Belt Association. He conducted water quality monitoring. First with the Senior Environmental Corps, and later headed a monitoring team with Paxton Creek Watershed and Education Association. He and a neighbor conducted monitoring for several years, until the necessary rigors became too much. Glenn was ever helpful storing and disbursing monitoring equipment and supplies for other PCWEA teams. With Dorothy, he participated in stormwater infiltration projects involving rain gardens, and served as PCWEA Treasurer for several years. For these services and other helpful efforts, Glenn and Dorothy were awarded the Order of the Corroded Loot\* in recognition of their superb, long time service to PCWEA initiatives. As of 2013 only three people have received this award.

Glenn and Dorothy had been involved with Genesis Farm in NJ for several decades. This farm, an initiative affiliated with the Dominican Sisters, is a learning center for holistic ecological understanding focusing upon connections between spirituality, the health of the Earth, and human communities. Glenn and Dorothy worked on building a brick patio at the Farm, among various efforts. A local "Celebration of Life" service was held for Glenn in October. In 2014 his ashes will be buried on a hill at the base of a cherry tree at the Genesis Farm, where his remains will continue as a source of new life.

A PCWEA member commented upon Glenn's life, "I only wish I had known him a lot longer. You can't say that about very many people."

\* The odd title of the award is based on a cache of pennies that had deteriorated in the creek for over 20 years before being found and cleaned by a monitor.



### *Seasons Greetings from PCWEA*

Did you know the American Holly (*Ilex Opaca*) is native to the eastern part of the United States. This Shrub/tree has many benefits including: soil retention, food source for birds and small animals, larval plant for Henrys Elfin butterfly, and of course its beauty as a landscape plant and holiday decorative. One of the best times to prune the American Holly is in the month of December. Not only can this benefit the plant, the branches can be used for decorating.

Andrew Ohrman, PCWEA Newsletter Editor.

## About the

### **Paxton Creek Watershed & Education Association (PCWEA)**

The Paxton Creek Watershed & Education Association (PCWEA) was founded in 2001 with a three-part mission: to protect and enhance watershed resources, solve watershed problems, and facilitate hands-on environmental education.

The Paxton Creek watershed covers 27-square miles northeast of the City of Harrisburg, in central Pennsylvania. Upstream portions of the watershed historically consisted of woodlands and farmland. While downstream portions of the watershed are situated within the City of Harrisburg where Paxton Creek flows through industrial and commercial properties. In places, downstream, the creek is channelized and receives heavy sediment loads eroded from rapidly developing areas upstream.

Development in the upland areas of the watershed has led to the construction of impervious surfaces in the form of roads, parking lots, commercial, and residential buildings. These impervious surfaces severely limit infiltration of surface water into the ground and perpetuate storm water runoff problems. Paxton Creek Watershed generates 15 times the amount of suspended sediments released by typical forested watersheds.

**PCWEA Lifetime Members: Frank & Judy Beskid, E. Drannon Buskirk, Jr., R.D., Tom Embich, Jan Fisher, Fred Heagy, Bryan Genette Kevin Kelly, Joe Link, David Sheridan, and Arlene Taylor.**

**Paxton Creek Watershed & Education Association (PCWEA) can be found on the Web at [www.paxtoncreek.org](http://www.paxtoncreek.org) Email at [info@paxtoncreek.org](mailto:info@paxtoncreek.org)**

**PCWEA is now on Facebook**

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