

THE WATER GAP TIMES

A Quarterly Newsletter

Issue Number 25 – Summer 2016

Thanks to all who volunteered their time to make improvements to our veteran's monument and to those who attended the rededication ceremony on Memorial Day. Rosemary Brown and a representative from Mario Scavello's office said a few words. Special thanks to the Honor Guard from the Northampton VFW, Walt Conway, Mayor Robert Gallagher, Marty Wilson & Calvin Leon. It was a nice community event. Many who attended gathered for refreshments at the borough building after the ceremony. We were even featured on WBRE's evening forecast!



Welcome to New Businesses in the Gap

Alex's Trucking
Mountain Intermodal
Northeast Mountain Guiding
Outdoor Market at the Historic Castle Inn
(every Tuesday evening 5 to 8 p.m.)

Edge of the Woods Outfitter's at their expanded location

Fuel On (new customers get a free cup of coffee!)
Apple Pie Café (formerly the Water Gap Diner)
(both under new ownership)

Borough Office Hours: Monday – Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
570-476-0331

dwgboro@ptd.net

Office Secretary/Treasurer – Ileana Hernandez
Superintendent, Robert Gallagher
Municipal Authority Secretary – Noreen Purcell

Delaware Water Gap Police Department
570-476-4674

police@dwgpa.gov
Police Chief Jeffrey Williams
Officer Santos Rolon, Jr.
State Police – 570-839-7701
Emergencies Only 911

Borough Council

Robert Gallagher, Mayor & *ECM*
Wayne MacWilliams, President
William Buzzard, Vice President
Elvi DeLotto
George Munn
Jack Shoemaker
Eileen Noelle White
Susan Curnow Wilson

*Council meetings are held on the 1st
Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m.*

Municipal Authority

James Reynolds, Chair
Roxanne Kaiser-Antonowich, Vice Chair
Martin W. Wilson, Secretary
Harry Darlington
Steve Simister

*Municipal Authority meetings are held the
3rd Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m.*

Planning Commission

Derek Anspach, Chair
Ann Biffen
Valerie Higbee
Gary Schubert
Randy Snow

*Planning Commission meetings are held on
the 2nd Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m.*

Zoning Hearing Board

Frank Davis
Leroy Kaiser
Carol Penna
Tim Snow, Alternate

*Zoning Hearing Board meetings are held as
needed.*

Building Code Board of Appeals

Walter Conway
James Holbrook
Bob Mancuso

Zoning Officer
Larry Freschcorn

Deputy Emergency Coordinating Manager
Lisa Paulette

The Borough of Delaware Water Gap
AN APPALACIAN TRAIL COMMUNITY



“Friends of DWG”
(Formally DWG Area Chamber of Commerce)

*Meetings are held at Borough Hall
on the 4th Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.*

This group will continue to support community events and fundraisers like the Annual Golf Outing in June, Founder’s Day, C.O.T.A. Concessions, Christmas tree decorating and activities.

We are always seeking volunteers...

For more information feel free to join us at our monthly meeting and / or contact Tammy Cornelius @ 570-421-3274.

The Dutot Museum is looking for new members. Members volunteer to work two shifts per season (1:00 to 5:00 p.m. on Saturday or Sunday, May through October). This is a great way to get to know your neighbors as well as learn more about the history of our borough and enjoy the work of local artists. Monthly meetings are held at the museum on the 4th Wednesday of each month (March through October) at 7:30 p.m. Please consider joining to help keep this organization alive and well! To find out more about the museum and gallery please visit our website at www.dutotmuseum.com & like us on Facebook.



*Free Summer Concerts at the
Church of the Mountain Gazebo*

*Every Sunday
6:00 to 7:30 p.m.
Rain or Shine*

- July 3 – Bill Stine & Company*
- July 10 – Nancy & Spencer Reed*
- July 17 – Jay Rattman*
- July 24 – SheilaMark Band*
- July 31 – Calliope*
- August 7 – Tony Dellaria Blues Band*
- August 14 – Chris London Quartet*
- August 21 – Marty Wilson Trio*
- August 28 – Matt Abell Trio*

Bring a blanket or lawn chair.



Wreaths Across America

The Delaware Water Gap Cemetery Association will be participating in Wreaths Across America on Saturday, December 17, 2016 at 12 noon. We hope to make this an annual event. Wreaths Across America (WAA) is a 501(c)(3) organization founded in 2007 although its history extends back to 1992.

WAA’s mission (Remember, Honor and Teach) is carried out in part by placing wreaths on veteran’s graves and having simultaneous ceremonies. In 2015, WAA and their national network of volunteers laid over 900,000 memorial wreaths over 1,100 locations in the United States.

The DWG Cemetery Association will seek sponsorships for wreaths in September. However, at this time, the Cemetery Association would like to compile a list of veterans that live within the Borough of Delaware Water Gap or along its perimeter who would like to participate in the December 17th WAA ceremony. If you would like to participate, please pick up a form at the borough office or the post office & mail the completed the form by July 31st to:

Delaware Water Gap Cemetery Association
P.O. Box 36
Delaware Water Gap, PA 18327

If you have any questions, please contact Roxanne Kaiser-Antonowich at 570-476-8084.

The Borough of Delaware Water Gap
AN APPALACIAN TRAIL COMMUNITY

*Condolences to the
family & friends of*

Faye Ellen Lehr
June 11, 2016

Pocono Medical Center has announced that they will be utilizing the Cherry Creek Crossing Loop Trail as part of their Cardiac Care Rehabilitation program. This trail is a great asset to our community. If you have never walked on it, give it a try!



Ordinance 184

Please keep the community beautiful by sweeping and cleaning debris off of the sidewalk. Also maintain your yard by keeping it mowed, trimmed around the lampposts. Trim back trees and shrubs from the sidewalk and Borough right-of-way.

Ordinance 270

All dogs must be leashed! Dogs are not permitted to roam freely along the streets of the Borough.

Please consider joining the Delaware Water Gap Volunteer Fire Department or Auxiliary.

Join these dedicated men and women who help to make our town a safer place.

Meetings are held at the Fire House on Main Street on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

Borough Committee Meetings

Water

2nd Thursday of each month at 6:00 p.m.

Economic Development (EDC)

2nd Monday of each month at 9:00 a.m.

Liberty-Delaware Water Gap Trail

3rd Wednesday of each month at 9:00 a.m.

Friends of DWG

4th Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

New members welcome!

Beautification

1st Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

New members welcome!

All committee meetings are held at
Borough Hall
49 Main Street
Delaware Water Gap



Stop by the Dutot Museum some Saturday or Sunday to see the beautifully restored 1923 Carleton canoe once owned by the Kittatinny House. The canoe is now part of the museum's collection through the generosity of Dr. Ian and Mrs. Sarah Foster.

**SPEED
LIMIT**

25

(15 MPH on Oak St.)

Please obey the posted speed limit when driving through town. Let's all do our part to keep everyone safe!

The Borough of Delaware Water Gap AN APPALACIAN TRAIL COMMUNITY

DELAWARE WATER GAP (Part I)

By Martin W. Wilson

As a sunflower seed needs fertile earth, an adequate supply of water, mild temperatures, and plenty of sunlight to grow, so too, a resort community, in order to flower, requires specific conditions. For Delaware Water Gap, those conditions existed during the last half of the nineteenth, and the first third of the twentieth centuries. During that period, America's vacation habits and the limitations of transportation, coupled with the scenic beauty of the area and the entrepreneurial spirit of some local residents, conspired to transform the tiny borough into the heart of one of the most popular inland resort areas in the eastern United States. Each summer during that period its year-round population of about 400 was augmented by approximately 2500 visitors, many of whom stayed the entire season.

Life before indoor plumbing, super highways, and air-conditioning is hard to imagine for those of us who did not experience it. Summer, for city dwellers especially, must have been unpleasant and even unhealthful. Depending on individual economic circumstances, urbanites responded to unbearable summer heat in a number of ways. The wealthiest escaped for the entire season to Bar Harbor, Newport, or to other playgrounds of the rich. Working class and lower middle class Philadelphians traveled to Atlantic City to enjoy the cool sea breezes and the ever-present holiday atmosphere. For New Yorkers, Coney Island served as the destination of choice every year. Not everyone, though, preferred the excitement and noise of these two seaside playgrounds. Many more prosperous middle-class city dwellers opted for the refreshing mountain air and the scenic beauty of America's inland resort areas, one of which was Delaware Water Gap, Pennsylvania.

The Settlement of Delaware Water Gap

In 1793, when Antoine Dutot arrived in the area with the intention of founding a city, the vicinity just north of the geological formation known as the Delaware Water Gap, had been the site of human habitation for thousands of years. Known as the Minisink by the Lenni-Lenapes, it is estimated that the area was first inhabited by the Paleo-Indians as early as 10,000 to 12,000 B.C. When the first white men reached the region in 1614, they encountered the Minsi tribe of the Wolf Clan of the Lenni-Lenape Nation (the Lenni-Lenape were commonly referred to as the Delaware Indians because they ranged from the headwaters of the Delaware River to the shores of the Delaware Bay).

The Minisink was first explored by Europeans in 1614 by three travelers from New Amsterdam who descended from the Hudson River. They were followed in 1620 by a second group of Dutchmen who, in their report, referred to mineral deposits, especially copper, present in the region. At some point subsequent to the 1620 visit, the Dutch started to mine the copper (a reference to copper ore mined in the Minisink appeared in a 1641 journal article originating in the New Netherlands).

Copper mining ceased in 1664 when the Dutch surrendered New York to the English. The Copper Mine Road continued to be used, though, by Dutch, English, French, and even some Spanish and German settlers who colonized the eastern side of the river north of the Gap. The first settler on the west bank of the Delaware River in the Minisink was Nicolas Depui who, in 1727, moved his family from the Hudson Valley to present day Shawnee.

Due to the difficulty of travel through the Gap (the mountains reached right down to the river leaving no room for a road or path), settlers in the Minisink knew little or nothing of settlements to the south. In 1730, Thomas Penn, son of William, sent Nicholas Scull on an expedition from Philadelphia to the Minisink to investigate rumors of settlements there. As a result of Scull's visit, Depui was required to repurchase land from William Allen (who had obtained it from Penn) that he had previously bought from the Indians. After Scull's sojourn, settlers from south of the mountains began to travel into the area. (Northern-bound settlers reached the area via Wind Gap.) It was not until the end of the eighteenth century, however, that the flow from the south eclipsed that of the north.

Dutotsburg

A settler from present-day Albany, Daniel Brodhead, moved his family to the area in 1737. Settling in present-day East Stroudsburg, Brodhead lent his name to the new town of Dansbury. The Indian wars of mid-eighteenth century led to a thinning of settlers as many moved away to avoid hostilities. By the time another settler, Jacob Stroud, returned to the area after the Revolutionary War, the Indian threat had been eliminated. Stroud was able to acquire several abandoned farms at very little cost. By 1806, he owned so much land that the area in which he lived began to be called Stroudsburg.

Delaware Water Gap remained unsettled long after settlements nearby had grown. In 1793, Antoine Dutot, a French plantation owner in Santa Domingo, fled the slave uprising there and headed toward Philadelphia. Upon arriving in the Quaker city, Dutot was advised to travel up the Delaware River to the Gap, where he purchased a large tract of land and began to lay out an inland city. He erected a dozen or more wooden buildings, designated a triangular piece of ground for a market, and named the new town after himself. Dutotsburg never became the bustling city its founder had envisioned, however. People moving into the tiny borough built their own houses and Dutot's structures fell into disrepair. Eventually Dutotsburg became known as the borough of Delaware Water Gap, probably in order to benefit from the inherent advertising benefits associated with the well-known geological formation.