



Conewango Currents

NEWSLETTER

Winter 2017

ANNUAL PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS DISPLAYED AT LOCAL BUSINESSES

Conewango Creek Watershed Association (CCWA) is proud to announce the winners of their 2016 photo contest in five categories.



First Place-Close Up: Jay Kuntz



First Place-Landscape: Alexander Shipherd

Photo Shows:

To highlight the watershed and reward the winners, a traveling road show will take place at the following locations:

- **November 26, to December 10 - Allegheny Outfitters, Warren, PA**
- **January 13-28, 2017- VSK Emporium, Frewsburg, NY**
- **February 8-22, 2017 - Evergreen Outfitters, Mayville, NY**
- **Between Shows - CCWA, 4000 Conewango Ave, Warren, PA**



First Place-Wildlife: Donald Armstrong

The public is invited to stop in to each of these establishments during regular business hours or the CCWA offices at 4000 Conewango Ave, Warren, PA to view the winning photos.

2017 Photo Contest:

The CCWA is already preparing to start its 2017 Photo Contest so start exploring the watershed now for some inspiring photos. See our website or Facebook page for additional information.

Start taking photos now for the 2017 Contest!

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The mission of the Conewango Creek Watershed Association is to promote the health of Conewango Creek so that landowners, citizens, visitors, and municipal officials together take an active role in sustaining the resources of the creek and its watershed.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Elizabeth Dropp, Chairman
 Ron Johnson, Vice-Chairman
 Sue Nielsen, Secretary
 Ron Keeney, Treasurer
 Steve Kimball
 John Able
 Vicki Tomica
 Dick Burlingame
 Kirk Johnson
 Hannah Yoder

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Board Meetings

Second Tuesday of every month at 6:30pm. During odd months board meetings are held at the Roger Tory Peterson Institute, 311 Curtis Street, Jamestown, NY. During even months they are held at 4000 Conewango Avenue, Warren, PA.

Other Events

January 14-15 Outdoor Show at the Warren Mall, Warren, PA

February 18-19 Salamanca Outdoor Show, Seneca Allegheny Casino, Salamanca, NY

May 20 Chautauqua Lake Cleanup

WILDLIFE SPOT LIGHT

The Burbot is Pennsylvania's only true freshwater representative of the primarily marine Cod family and the only Cod found within Pennsylvania. Inland populations of Burbot are listed as endangered species in Pennsylvania. Though reaching a length of 46 inches, Burbot average only about 23 inches in length. The Allegheny River population is a relict distribution. This small population has persisted, but it is more vulnerable to physical habitat

destruction and water quality degradation, specifically increased stream temperatures, sedimentation, and toxic chemical spills.

They, like their marine relatives, prefer colder waters and therefore are restricted to the deeper waters of Lake Erie during the summer months. They move to shallower waters after fall cool-down to eventually spawn during the winter. Their young seem to tolerate warmer water as they can be found in the near-shore shallows around and under rocks and bedrock shelving during their entire first year.

In Pennsylvania, Burbot are considered to be abundant in Lake Erie. Their maximum length is somewhat longer than 30 inches and the Lake Erie Burbot population should continue to prosper in the future.

Elsewhere in the state their populations are considered poorly established and the burbot is considered an endangered species, not to be caught or possessed.

Burbot prefer the deep, cold waters of lakes and rivers. During late winter and early spring, after spawning, they often migrate from lakes to tributary rivers. The only Pennsylvania populations occur in Lake Erie and the Allegheny River headwaters. Even though Burbot are found in several streams in the Allegheny River watershed, they are rarely abundant at any given location. The Burbot's inland populations are listed as endangered.

(Information found at www.fishandboat.com.)



illustration by Ted Walke

PHOTO CONTEST (CONT.)



First Place—People: Jay Kuntz



First Place—Water: Monika Garami

"The health of our waters is the principal measure of how we live on the land."

Luna Leopold, River Scientist, 1915-2006



We're here to support the fishermen and those who love to paddle



We're here to see our rich natural history conserved



We're here for the wildlife



We're here for those who produce local foods and for our communities, whose residents and long-term economic health relies on sustainable resource practices.

Join CCWA and help us work to see that our water is clean and reflects good stewardship practices!

Conewango Creek Watershed Association

Membership Form - Date _____, 20____

<u>Membership Level</u>	<u>Annual Dues</u>	
<i>Tadpole - Junior (under 18 years)</i>	\$10	\$ _____
<i>Trout - Individual</i>	\$20	\$ _____
<i>Otter - Individual/Family</i>	\$30	\$ _____
<i>Bear - Individual/Family</i>	\$40	\$ _____
<i>Blue Heron - Business</i>	\$100	\$ _____
<i>Eagle - Lifetime (one time member fee)</i>	\$500	\$ _____
<i>Donation</i>		\$ _____
	Total	\$ _____

Make checks payable to Conewango Creek Watershed Association or CCWA.

name _____

address _____

city _____ state _____ zip _____ phone(____) _____

email _____ You may contact me by email: Yes No

(Allowing us to use email for most of our materials saves money and resources and reduces your paper clutter.)



Join CCWA and help keep the Conewango Creek Watershed as a place where we all live well!

4000 Conewango Avenue, Warren, PA 16365

Phone-814-726-1441 Fax 814-406-0005

email: info@conewangocreek.org website: www.conewangocreek.org

WE WANT TO THANK OUR TOP SPONSORS FOR 2016

Platinum Sponsors



Egypt Hollow

Gold Sponsors

- Penn Soil RC&D
- Collins Pine Company
- Bestway Container Service
- Holiday Harbor Marina
- Conewango Township
- Wiggers Canoe & Kayak Sales

2016 ANNUAL END-OF-YEAR GALA



Audience gives rapt attention to Will Miller during his Hellbender presentation.

Approximately forty people attended the Conewango Creek Watershed Association's Annual Gala at the La Familia Restaurant in Chautauqua Institution on Thursday, October 20, 2016 including an enthusiastic group of students and two professors from the University of Pittsburgh at Bradford. Amid the excellent food and ambiance was a lively presentation on the topic of the Eastern Hellbender (*Cryptobranchus alleganiensis*) by Will Miller of the Seneca Nation of Indians (SNI).

Hellbender Presentation

The Seneca Nation of Indians, in conjunction with New York State and the Buffalo Zoo, is studying this native species to see what can be done to increase their



A live specimen of the native Eastern Hellbender (*Cryptobranchus alleganiensis*), a giant salamander.

native populations, to preserve their habitat, and to maintain quality waterways for the species' health and for the waterway's biodiversity. Using common-sense methods and its Hellbender rearing facility, the SNI is able to attain high rates of survival of this niche species once released back into their native habitat. More information on the study can be found at their website: http://www.senecaconservation.com/senecaconservation.com/Hellbender_Facility.html.

Winners of the annual **CCWA photo contest** were also announced, with some photographers in attendance.



Pictured from left to right are Veronica Garry, Tom Garry (winner of the 2016 CCWA kayak raffle), and CCWA Board Member John Able

Winners of the Annual Kayak Raffle included:

Tom Garry, of Grove City, PA who won the kayak package (first prize), valued at \$1090, which included a Tarpon 120 Kayak, paddle, life vest, all from Dreamboat Marine of Warren, PA, and a PA launch permit. The second prize winner of three hours of kayak lessons or kayak rental for two people, valued at \$110, from Evergreen Outfitters was Mike Toole of Warren, PA. The third prize winner of a gift basket of locally-produced goods, valued at \$50, was Michele Wills of Warren, PA.

Director Elections

Board business included voting on the retention of two current board members, Chairperson Elizabeth Dropp, Youngsville, PA and Ronald Johnson, Russell, PA. Both were unanimously reelected.

Volunteer of the Year

Jim Seder, a Russell, PA resident, was presented the CCWA Volunteer of the Year award for his lifetime of maintaining the waterway along Big Four Road in Pennsylvania. Seder can be found tirelessly walking and cleaning up that area daily.

Service Award: Current Chairperson Elizabeth Dropp presented a special service award to former Chairperson and current board member Steve Kimball for his fifteen years of dedicated service on the CCWA board. Kimball has been an integral part of the CCWA since its inception in 2001 and prior to that during its planning and development.

2017 Raffle: tickets will be available starting January 14-15 at the Warren Outdoor Show taking place at the Warren Mall, 1666 Market Street Extension, Warren PA 16365. Go to wccbi.org/events for more information on this event.

Conewango Creek Watershed Association

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Warren, PA 16365
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Email: info@conewangocreek.org
Phone: 814-726-1441
Fax: 814-406-0005



2015 CHAUTAUQUA LAKE CLEANUP

- 14 Volunteers
- 10 cubic yards of trash
- 91 tires
- 300 pounds of recyclable metals



2016 CHAUTAUQUA LAKE CLEANUP

- 36 Volunteers
- 20 cubic yards of trash
- 69 tires
- 980 pounds of recyclable metals

Special thanks to the Jamestown Civil Air Patrol.

