

THE WATER GAP TIMES

A Quarterly Newsletter

Issue Number 37 – Fall 2019



REMEMBER TO VOTE!

Election Day
Tuesday, November 5th

Delaware Water Gap will have two days of leaf collecting. Leaves will be collected throughout the entire borough each day. Dates will be posted at the post office and borough hall. **Leaves should be placed on the street no earlier than the weekend just prior to the scheduled pick up day.**

Bad weather or mechanical problems can delay the pickup, but the collection will be made as soon as the leaf truck is available.

All leaves should be placed curbside along the streets of the borough in piles not to exceed four feet high and four feet wide. Piles should be made in front of your property not on the opposite side of the street. **The collection truck will only collect on borough streets and not on private property.**

Only leaves will be collected. Any pile containing foreign objects such as tree branches, shrubs or hedge clippings will not be picked up. These items clog and damage the vacuum. Please do not park on the leaves that are to be vacuumed. **If piles contain any foreign objects and cannot be vacuumed up it will be the responsibility of the property owner to remove the piles from the street.**

Borough Office Hours

Monday – Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
570-476-0331
dwgboro@ptd.net

Borough Superintendent – Allen Blakeslee
Borough Secretary – Shaina Serrano
Municipal Authority Secretary – Lauren Hoglund

Delaware Water Gap Police Department
570-476-4674
police@dwgpa.gov
Police Chief Santos Rolon, Jr.
570-994-2445
State Police – 570-839-7701
Emergencies Only 911

Borough Council

Larry Freshcorn, Mayor
Wayne MacWilliams, President
William Buzzard, Vice President
Derek Anspach
Elvi De Lotto
Jack Shoemaker
Tim Snow
Eileen Noelle White

Council meetings are held on the 1st Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m. (except when a holiday falls on that Monday, then meetings will be held the 2nd Monday of the month)

Municipal Authority

James Reynolds, Chair
Harry Darlington, Vice Chair
Martin W. Wilson, Secretary
James Holbrook
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
Carol Penna
Dmitri Snytkine
Avis Mosier, Alternate

Zoning Hearing Board meetings are held as needed.

Building Code Board of Appeals

Walter Conway
James Holbrook
Bob Mancuso

Zoning Officer & Building Inspector

Mark M. Kirk, SFM Consulting, LLC

Emergency Management Coordinator

Brad Miller

Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator

(Vacant)

Floodplain Administrator

Walter Conway

The Borough of Delaware Water Gap
AN APPALACIAN TRAIL COMMUNITY



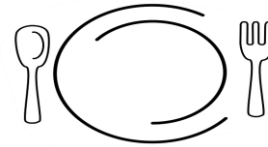
**Delaware Water Gap Fire Department
Public Meeting**

**Wednesday, October 16th
6:30 PM**

Borough Hall

Residents are encouraged to attend this public meeting hosted by the fire department. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the current and future plans of the fire department. Among the topics to be discussed are the building, fire chief command vehicle, and funding. President John Smith, Treasurer James Fareri and Fire Chief Brad Miller will all be available to answer questions and address any concerns citizens may have.

For questions or further information contact:
Chief Brad Miller
570-992-5025
bmillerdwgfd@yahoo.com



**5th Annual
Dutot Museum Autumn Harvest
Fundraising Dinner
Thursday, October 24th
6:00 p.m.**

*Dutot Museum & Gallery
24 Main Street
Delaware Water Gap*

*\$40.00 per person
Seating is limited*

B.Y.O.B

*Reservations: smwilson@ptd.net or 570-807-1071 by
October 20th
501C3 receipts available upon request*

Mayor's Corner

Greetings fellow residents. I hope you had a great summer and were able to enjoy our annual events this year. The roundabout project has now been complete for a few months and it would seem the issues experienced initially have been resolved. So far we haven't seen much in the way of speeding in or out of circle but it hasn't slowed down travelers to the speed limit on Broad St. Our police will be taking a look at that issue. This brings me to my next item, the Borough's police car. The car has arrived, and as I type this, it's being outfitted with the latest equipment available and may be out on patrol by the time you receive your newsletter. Once again I want to thank everyone that gave us a letter of support to help us get the grant needed to purchase our new vehicle. I encourage everyone to visit the Borough Hall and check it out.

You are probably aware that the Smithfield Board of Supervisors unanimously passed the usage of the historic Wolf Hollow golf course to be developed into the Watergap Wellness rehabilitation center. It's disappointing but not a big surprise especially if you were able to attend the hearings. The good news is that this isn't the final say. Some of our residents have filed for an appeal and a stay which means the case will be heard by a judge at the County level. It is my opinion that any judge with an unbiased opinion will realize that this use is not permitted in a residential district. Keep the faith. It is not over yet.

The Borough has applied for a grant to fix and pave Cherry Valley Road. The application includes adjusting the crown of the road and directing drainage and water runoff away from residential properties. Thank you to Councilman Jack Shoemaker for spearheading the effort to get us this much needed grant.

Lastly I'd like to take this opportunity to thank our Borough secretary Ileana Hernandez for her years of service to our Borough. Her prior expertise in local government was a great asset to our community and it is unfortunate that she has decided pursue other paths. Thank you, Ileana, for all you've done for our little town. Good luck in your future endeavors.

Thank you and I look forward to seeing everyone around town this Fall.

Mayor Larry Freshcorn

The Borough of Delaware Water Gap
AN APPALACIAN TRAIL COMMUNITY



**12th Annual DWG Cemetery
Association Lantern Walk**

What was it like in Delaware Water Gap 100 years ago? Join us for a walk in the Delaware Water Gap Cemetery, where your hosts will take you on a 1-hour walking tour among the tombstones, providing the history of Delaware Water Gap through the stories of the farmers, soldiers, hotel builders, shopkeepers, bankers, laborers, mothers, fathers, and other townspeople buried there who helped to make Delaware Water Gap what it is today.

Complimentary hot cider and donuts courtesy of the Village Farmer will be provided after the walk.

Saturday, November 2nd at 6 PM
(Rain date Sunday, November 3rd.)

WHERE: Delaware Water Gap Cemetery on Main Street. Be sure to wear appropriate footwear and bring flashlights to help you walk among the tombstones.

COST: The event and refreshments are FREE, but donations for cemetery upkeep are gratefully accepted.

Delaware Water Gap Community Gives Back

Delaware Water Gap would like your help in giving back to our community. During the months of November and December we will be collecting holiday cards to be given out to the residents of the Gardens at Stroud skilled nursing facility. Many residents do not have family or may have family that live out of the area making holidays sometimes lonely. We are asking our Delaware Water Gap Community to spread some holiday cheer this season by dropping off a holiday card with a kind message written inside. Cards can be placed in the card box at borough hall. Blank cards will also be available if you would prefer to stop by and fill out one of those.

Trick or Treat
In the Gap
Thursday, October 31st
6:00 to 8:00 p.m.



Wreaths Across America Sponsorship

Wreaths for Delaware Water Gap Cemetery

The Delaware Water Gap Cemetery Association will be sponsoring Wreaths Across America on Saturday, December 14th. This is a national event which recognizes fallen veterans by placing a wreath at their grave site within cemeteries. There are approximately 140 veterans buried in the DWG cemetery. Please consider sponsoring a wreath or wreaths which will be laid during the Wreaths Across America ceremony. We have an agreement with WAA that if we receive more wreath orders than what we need, the additional wreaths will go to Arlington National Cemetery. Each wreath is \$15.00. For questions, contact Roxanne Kaiser-Antonowich at 570-476-8084. We are still looking for borough veterans to participate during the ceremony.

Please complete the order form below by November 1, 2019 and send with check payable to Delaware Water Gap Cemetery Association to PO Box 36, Delaware Water Gap, PA 18327.

Name _____

Phone Number _____

Address _____

(A receipt for tax purposes will be sent to you)

Number of wreaths _____ x \$15.00 per wreath = \$_____ enclosed.

The Borough of Delaware Water Gap AN APPALACIAN TRAIL COMMUNITY

Local History Spot By Marty Wilson

At a recent panel discussion of local history at Northampton Community College in Tannersville I was joined by Dr. Lawrence Squeri and Water Gap's own Jennifer Palmer to talk about Monroe County's past. One of the questions asked of the panel was what excited us about local history. I mentioned a document that I recently found by accident in an old Methodist hymnal given to me by my Uncle John. There I found a four-page poem written in cursive and dated 1928. A Mr. M. G. OHaire, a guest at Croasdale Manor, must have been sitting on the porch when he was inspired by the beauty that lay in front of him. (Croasdale Manor burned down in 1939, but was reconstructed and most recently served as the home of word-famous trombonist Urbie Green. It can be seen on the left as one drives onto the brand new onramp going west on Rt. 80.) I've copied the poem below. As you read it, picture yourself sitting on the porch with the Water Gap in front of you. The road described is the current road that connects the borough with Rt. 80. However, there was no Rt. 80 in 1928, so the road veered toward Shawnee. There were no stores or bridges to block the view from the Croasdale Manor porch. Instead, there were acres of corn. And, of course, there was the river. This poem reminds us that it was the beauty of the area that drew urbanites here. And, for them, nature confirmed their belief in God.

Croasdale Manor

In a gentle knoll the manor stands;
Its rough-hewn stone is gray and old,
And porches wide in vine clad grace
The subtle charm of welcome hold

The widening lawns, adown they stretch
To a Highway broad that cut the farm,
And motors speed in joyous throngs,
All heedless of the valley's charms.

The ancient trees their glory lend
To the peaceful joys of this beauteous home,
And from their shade on summer day
Nor youth nor age may willing roam.

Beyond the highway's curving line
Lie fields of grain in lustrous waves,
While fragrant corn in silken rows
The gorgeous sunlight deeply loves.

And oft as I gaze in calm delight,
Through the low lying mist I seem to see
The form of the Master in the gleam
Of golden corn in Galilee.

As he in pity plucked the fruit,
And knowing they hungered, gave to eat,
While the Sabbath sun shone fiercely down
On the multitude hast'ning with gladsome feet.

And far beyond, the Blue Ridge line
Lies high against the pearl gray sky,
In gorgeous purple's royal hue
Is blent with violet, tender, shy.

A Delaware, grave and stately stream!
What grace thou lendest to the scene!
A bright-eyed nymphs, plunge gayly in
And float on the rippling tide serene!

While in and out ply tiny craft
Through the winding Gap, where the mountains tow'r
And the sunlight falls in fitful gleams
As the glinting shadows softly low'r,

Then upward gazing through the mist,
The donjon grim, I seem to see,
As in olden tales I loved so well,
When Time was young and life was free.

But no donjon tower is there to tell
Of the ruthless hand of humankind
Only the sunlit shadows fall
In gorge and ravine, in beauty lined.

And the Mistress of this manor old?
Low-voiced, of gentle mien is she,
And every day each hour she spends
Herself in gracious courtesy.

And so, the dear old manor-farm
To me is just a world apart,
Where youth and age alike may find
The deepest joys of mind and heart.