

May 2024 Newsletter

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President's Message

I thought I would take a moment to give recognition to a select group of our volunteers. Due to what small groups have accomplished over the years to help make the park a unique destination for the residents of, and visitors to, our community, the FOCSP has set the bar for Friends groups across the state.



Since its founding, it has been a core group of Friends members, which of course changes over time, that have contributed to the park in innumerable ways, both through volunteer labor and

financially. These accomplishments could not have been attained were it not for the talent and commitment of members such as these. Their accomplishments over the years, include:

Community and Park Activities

- ✓ Maple Syrup Program
- ✓ Easter Egg Hunt
- ✓ Park Clean-up Days
- ✓ Experience Codorus Outdoors
- ✓ Paddle in the Park
- ✓ Codorus Trick or Treat
- ✓ Breakfast with Santa
- ✓ Campground Outpost
- ✓ National Night Out
- ✓ Campground Ice Cream Socials
- ✓ Invasive Plant Removal
- ✓ Hazardous Tree Removal in the Campground

Major Financial Contributions to the Park

A whopping \$639,300 has been contributed to Codorus State Park between 2013 and 2023 by the FOCSF. These monies, which were primarily raised through the continued efforts of a core group of volunteers, were donated to the park to:



Construct:

- ✓ The pavilion at the main launch area
- ✓ A new deck and new roof at the park classroom building
- ✓ A new dock at sailboat area
- ✓ The LaHo Trail bridge
- ✓ 27 teaching stations throughout the park
- ✓ Turtle platforms for Lake Marburg

Renovate:

- ✓ A 270-year-old building (Black Rock Lodge)
- ✓ The Bandshell
- ✓ The Landis Environmental Education Center

Purchase:

- ✓ Kayaks for the park
- ✓ A shed to store the kayaks
- ✓ The playground for the campground
- ✓ Archery equipment for summer youth program
- ✓ Spine board for lifeguards
- ✓ A ranger bicycle
- ✓ Four automated external defibrillators
- ✓ A brush cutter
- ✓ A new electric gator



- ✓ Outboard motor for ranger boat
- ✓ Park pontoon boat updates
- ✓ Furniture for yurts
- ✓ Marina security cameras
- ✓ Bandshell and Veterans Memorial area pavement

The members that deserve a thankful hand for these accomplishments include:



Larry Albright, Mike Bankert, Glen and Shirley Bankert, Brad and Kathy Bealing, Gene Bixler, Jerry Boxman, Dave Carbaugh, Don Eichelberger, Suzanne Gamber, Mark and Suzanne Landis, Bob and Suzanne Larson, Gordon Lillich, John and Jan Halter, John and Suzanne Kelley, Bob and Janet Maher, Denise and Rodney Markle, Becky Miller, Jim and Ellen Oaster, Dwight Resh, Larry Rohrbaugh, Dean Rohrbaugh, Jeanette Rohrbaugh, Mike and Mindy Rottmund, Judy Smith, Keith Taylor, Lynn Thompson, Ray Weleski, and Brenda Werntz.

(I apologize if I inadvertently missed recognizing other members that belong in this select group.)

I am going to stop here and ask you to think about the magnitude of the impact these contributions have had on the park, and by extension, on our community. I offer a heartfelt thank you to our core group of committed members.



Cool Things Coming This Year

Experience Codorus Outdoors



The Friends of Codorus State Park are excited to prepare for this year's ECO event!! NEW this year are the dates and times:

- Thursday, June 6, and Friday June 7 are SET UP days
- Saturday, June 8, 11am-6pm and Sunday, June 9, 11pm-5pm are the big event days.

ECO is held at the Main Launch area.

Volunteers - we need YOU! Come help set up and work the event. To sign up to volunteer, go to [ECO Volunteer Form](#).

And attend!! Encourage family members to attend as well, ONLY \$10 per car. ECO is a wonderful opportunity to create memories, have fun outdoors and enjoy our state park!

By attending and supporting the park, you can peruse 48 craft vendors, hear live music, kayak, ax throw, fish, view the planetarium, rock wall climb, ride a pontoon boat, see geology and environmental education displays, enjoy many activities for kids, and see animals and wildlife.

Food truck vendors will be there with a variety of offerings as well, so you can plan to stay ALL DAY!

Feel free to contact us with any questions at contact@codorusfriends.org. Thank you for supporting Codorus State Park with us!!

Mindy Rottmund, Board Member



Mark your calendars! Codorus Trick or Treat – Friday and Saturday, October 25 and 26, 2024

What a great feeling it is when in April, people are already getting excited about the Codorus Trick or Treat fundraiser. Campers are sharing plans for their displays, brainstorming ideas,

making props... and watching for candy sales! That's the kind of enthusiasm you can find for this event. It's amazing. Reservations have already begun and reflect that excitement.

If you know anyone who wants to join us by reserving a campsite or a business site, refer them to our webpage: <https://www.codorusfriends.org/ctot.html> or call Kathy at 717-476-1630.

Sponsorships and volunteer opportunities are also available at that link.

Tickets are now on sale! <https://friends-of-codorus-state-park.ticketleap.com/2024-codorus-trick-or-treat/>

If you have any questions, reach out to us at: codorustreats@gmail.com



Kathy Bealing. Event Co-Chair

PADDLE FOR THE PARK

**Saturday, July 13, 2024
9 am to 12 noon**

Bring your kayak or paddle board to explore the lake and play a round of 'Go Fish' collecting cards at each of the marked docks within the allotted time.

Registration for the third annual event is required for each participant, \$20 per adult and \$10 for children under the age of 13.

The event will start at 9:00am from the main boat launch and will conclude by 12:00pm.

Prizes will be awarded for the best hand of cards and multiple giveaways will be provided by our sponsors.

In the event of poor weather, the event will be postponed until the next day, Sunday, July 14th, at the same time.

Emily Doll, Event Leader



Wood Splitting

The crew is splitting wood on Monday and Wednesday mornings. We started hauling over firewood to the Outpost on Wednesdays in May.

The park maintenance staff and logger brought 14 and 7 triaxle loads, respectively, of logs for firewood from the campground to the maintenance area. The nine large piles of logs will yield over 60 cords and take us in to 2026. Based on the quantity stored compared to last year, we are looking at almost double the number of logs. The picture below shows just over half of the wood needing to be cut and split.



Keith Taylor, Wood Crew Coordinator

Cool Things That Have Happened

Annual Builder's Show

The FOCSP took part in the annual Builder and Garden Show at the North Hanover Mall on March 8-9th. The Exchange Club sponsors this event, and they graciously ask us to attend at no charge since we are a non-profit organization and partner with them on other events throughout the year.

It may have been a little rainy on Saturday, but that didn't seem to deter the crowds from coming in. We got one new member, two member renewals and spoke to many people who were interested in learning about our organization and events. We also sold 15 bottles of maple syrup made in the park and networked with numerous vendors who seemed interested in potentially sponsoring our ECO event this summer. A Codorus State Park sweatshirt that was given away was won by Ben Niner.

Again, many thanks to all those members who came out to help talk about our group and one of our area's greatest assets...Codorus State Park.

Suzanne Gamber, Vice President



Easter Egg Hunt

It was a windy day, but the sun was shining brightly for the FOCSP's annual Easter Egg Hunt on Friday, March 29th. The egg hunt was held at pavilions 1 and 2, with many families arriving early to play on the lawn and listen to the music which was provided by DJ Chris.

To the delight of many children, they were greeted by the Easter bunny as they arrived.



After getting their pictures taken with the Easter bunny, they were given bags of goodies. Four hundred goody bags, which had been filled by volunteers earlier in the week, contained snacks and coupons from area eateries and activities.



After getting their goody bags, the children went off to the craft area to be a little creative with the two craft projects that were led by volunteers. Finally, it was time to divide up into age groups to hunt the 3,000 eggs that the volunteers had filled earlier in the week.

The eggs were gathered quickly. It was time to say good-bye to the Easter Bunny and head home with the bag of goodies.

Alice Myers, Easter Egg Hunt Coordinator

Lions Club of Hanover Donation

Once again, the Lion's Club of Hanover gave the FOCSP a generous donation of \$500.00. I was glad to accept it on behalf of the organization at their meeting Tuesday, April 9, 2024.

A few of their upcoming events include a chicken BBQ on Saturday, May 11th as well as a golf outing on Thursday, July 25th. They are always looking for people to help as well as to participate. This group also has a lot going on (like us) including collection of clean medicine bottles to send to 3rd world countries to help with their medicine distribution efforts, a tree-lay in conjunction with the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay in which they planted trees at the Abbottstown Park from 2-6:00 AM on Saturday, April 6th, and they continue to help with kindergarten vision screenings at Southwest schools in May.



It's great to be associated with this fine group of people and look forward to continuing to support them with the Breakfast with Santa purchase of oranges for the kids.

Suzanne Gamber, Vice President

Spring Cleanup 2024

The annual park spring clean-up took place on Saturday, April 20th. A total of 38 volunteers signed up at Pavilion #1 to clean up leaves at the swimming pool, set up lifeguard stands, and pick up trash along Black Rock Road, Lee Road, and Baumgardner Road.

At the Main Launch, the Central Pennsylvania Airstream Club planted 32 maple trees as part of their Spring 2024 Volunteer Rally. Local Young Marines cleaned up brush and debris at the



Veteran's Memorial. The Jefferson Sportsmen's Association picked up garbage along Route 216 as part of the Adopt-a-Highway initiative.

I would like to give special thanks to the following individuals for their contributions to the spring clean-up:

- ✓ Codorus State Park Environmental Education Specialist Renae Weidner and the park maintenance department for their assistance at all stages of the event.
- ✓ Jolene Wagner at PennDOT's York maintenance office, who generously provided FOCSP with free work gloves, safety vests, and garbage bags.
- ✓ Suzanne Gamber and Ellen Oaster for providing refreshments.
- ✓ All of the FOCSP volunteers who retrieved equipment, oversaw teams of volunteers, and participated in the clean-up activities.

Angie Binick, Cleanup Coordinator



Your Volunteer Hours Count

As you may know, the total hours that the FOCSP reports are submitted to the DCNR's headquarters. Importantly, the reported hours directly affect the budget that the park managers receive from the DCNR. Reporting your hours, then, benefits the park. So, please be diligent in recording and reporting your hours.

Volunteer hours include all the hours spent volunteering in the park, at home working on FOCSP projects, and travel time to and from the park



for a volunteer activity. A form is available to make it easy for you to record your time. The form is available by clicking [here](#).

Turning your form in monthly is helpful, as the request for the hours from DCNR headquarters may come at any point throughout the year. If submitting monthly is not possible, please send the form when it is full. Hand in the form either at the Park Office; email it to john@codorusfriends.org; or mail it to Friends of Codorus State Park, Attn: John Kelley, 1066 Blooming Grove Road, Hanover, PA 17331.

And remember when your volunteer hours reach a reward “milestone,” you get an earned reward.


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|------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| ✓ 50 hours - Tee shirt | ✓ 750 - Sweatshirt | ✓ 2000 - Blanket |
| ✓ 100 - Hat or visor | ✓ 1000 - Wind shirt | ✓ 2250 - Can Cooler |
| ✓ 250 - Golf shirt | ✓ 1500 - Name on plaque | ✓ 2500 - Jacket |
| ✓ 500 - Jacket | ✓ 1750 - Tote | |



Your FOCSP Leaders

- Frank Kozak, President
- Suzanne Gamber, Vice President
- Denise Markle, Secretary
- Mike Rottmund, Treasurer/Accounts Payable
- Jerry Boxman, Accounts Receivable
- Don Eichelberger, Director
- Gordon Lillich, Director
- Ellen Oaster, Director
- Mindy Rottmund, Director

Contact Frank Kozak at frank@codorusfriends.org or (717) 451-3635 if you have any questions about the FOCSP or its activities.



This newsletter is a publication of the Friends of Codorus State Park. Questions or comments about the content of this newsletter can be sent via email to Frank Kozak at frank@codorusfriends.org.