

# Demarest Nature News



Demarest Nature Center Association

Winter 2008

Box 41, Demarest, N.J., 07627

Vol. XXXIII, No. 1

## President's Message

Greetings to all and happy New Year. First, thanks to all the dog owners who heeded our request in the last newsletter to keep their pooches on leashes while on Nature Center property. The board and all the other Nature Center patrons really appreciate the effort.

We've had a busy six months at the DNC. We had a very successful senior service session which you can read more about inside. We had a picture perfect day for our Breakfast in the Woods, where we held our yearly photo contest. To see the winning photos, go to our website: [www.demarestnaturecenter.org](http://www.demarestnaturecenter.org). Our Scavenger Hunt provided a fun romp through our trails for children from the surrounding

towns. We revised our 5K & 1 Mile Fun Run this year turning them into challenging trail runs. And finally, the Craft Show at Octoberfest went off without a hitch. And, as you see below, the Old Morton Bridge was replaced by the New Morton Bridge.

Some of us have spotted the coyote that's taken up residence in the Nature Center. As stated on the NJ Fish & Wildlife website: *"In suburban and urban areas, coyotes have occasionally attacked small pets. Although attacks on humans are extremely rare in eastern states, as with any predatory animal they can occur. Coyotes play an important role in the ecosystem, helping to keep rodent populations under control. They*

*are by nature wary of humans. However, coyote behavior changes if given access to human food and garbage. They lose caution and fear."*

*"They may cause property damage and threaten human safety, requiring euthanasia. Relocating a problem coyote is not an option because it only moves the problem to someone else's neighborhood."*

More can be learned about The Eastern Coyote go the NJ Fish & Wildlife website:

[http://www.nj.gov/dep/fgw/coyote\\_info.htm](http://www.nj.gov/dep/fgw/coyote_info.htm)

You can now contact me directly regarding the DNCA at: [kevin@demarestnaturecenter.org](mailto:kevin@demarestnaturecenter.org). I promise to check my email at least once a day. I look forward to your questions and comments.

See you on the trails.

*Kevin Riley*



The Morton Bridge, before and after...



THE ROOT OF THE MATTER ...

*"If you don't stand for something, you'll fall for anything."*

# Demarest Nature News

## Our Members!!!

We are grateful to all of our supporters. Not everyone remembers to send us a check every year; these members have contributed in the past 12 months. Please tell us if we accidentally omitted you.

The Aboudi Family, The Akdad Family, Roz and Stuart Alpert, Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Anderson, Lewis Attas, Brian and Youngmi Bailey, Patricia Barber, Ronald Barr, Dr. Joy Micale, Marie Battaglini, The Beucler Family, The Birch-Desai Family, Donald Bomeisl, The Bower Family, Albert and Susanne Brunell, John and Dorothy Buckley, The Buksbaum Family, Mr. & Mrs. Mark E. Byers, Delphine Carpenter, The Carson Family, Deborah Cechura, Diana and Marvin Chudnoff, Eugene C. Claeysens, Mike and Charlotte Clarke, Anne Connolly, The Conti Family, Mr. & Mrs. Robert Corrado, Heather Cosgriff, The Cottrell Family, The Coy Family, The Cywinski Family, Dr. Philip A. D'Alesandro, The Danielson Family, William Day, Barbara and Richard Deragon, Winifred Derfus, Don and Barbara Di Novi, Mike and Sherry Diaz, Robert Dolan, Dr. Peter S. Dorenter, Mike and Kristin Downey, Beverly Drescher, Helena Dubbiosi, The Endick Family, Naomi Epstein, Fernando Erazo, Gerald and Edith Escala, Alan and Sharon Field, The Foley Family, Lawrence and Susan Delaney Frank, Dr. Bruce Freund, Drs. Sharon and Kenneth Fried, Paul Fung, Mr. & Mrs. Herbert Gallen, Dr. & Mrs. Frank J. Galtieri, Margaret Gartland, Vincent and Diana Geraci, Fred and Donna Giannetti, Corrine Gibson, Robert R. Gioia, The Gonzalez Family, John Goodwin, Dr. Jutta Greweldinger, Joel and Mary Hamilton, The Haskal Family, Suzanne Haviv, Dr. & Mrs. Arthur P. Hays, Leon and Rita Hillman, Eva Holzer, Dennis and Yilan Hsu, The Hubschman Family, Rosemary Hunt, Melinda J. Iannuzzi, Kumiko Ishikura, Mr. & Mrs. Robert Jahn, Warren and Barbara Johnson, Mr. & Mrs. Edwin Kabakow, Robert Kashan, Kashan Robert, John Kashwick, Timothy and Lydia Ke, Kwangsuk Kim, Deborah King, Dr. & Mrs. Richard and Dorcas Koenigsberger, Joseph and Paula Kolacia, Margaret Kristensen, Sam Lee, Mark and Sunhi Lee, Yong and Seung Lee, Max and Ellen Leimgruber, Michael J. Lendino, Mr. & Mrs. Eugene Lessieu, The Levine Family, William and Eileen Lewis, George and Irini Lilikas, Mr. & Mrs. Lino Linteris, Mr. & Mrs. Alfred Lora, Steven and Linda Lorrans, Roderick and Lucia MacKenzie, Michael B. and Judith Maisel, The Manfredonia Family, Mr. & Mrs. James McGahren, George L. Meyer, Christian and Hwa Soon Meyer, Emily Mikulewitz, Mr. & Mrs. Norman Miller, The Molina Family, The Molnar Family, Richard and Rosemarie Motta, Blanche Muller, Laura M. Neeter, Laura M. Neeter, Michael and Viola Nemeth, Irwin K. and Lorraine Nissen, Linda Nociti, Dr. Daniel Ochs and Arlene Spark, Ron Lieberman and Susan Oliff-Lieberman, Richard and Cathy Olsen, Suzanne Ornstein, Fredrick and Edna Ortega, Yolande Osowski, The Papantonis Family, Peter Scanlan & Victoria Pero, Thomas and Patricia Perog, Mr. & Mrs. Michael Perrotti, Fred and Robin Pierce, Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Pirie, Edgar & Luisa Pittaluga, John and Lourdes Reinke, The Reitsema Family, Ruth Anne Rempe, Kevin Riley, Cathie Roberts, Angela G. Rodin, The Rosal-Aviante Family, Dr. & Mrs. John Ross, Amy Rossman, The Rotile Family, Carol C. Ruderman, Dom & Mary Rutigliano, Gail Rutigliano, Stephen Sapontzis, Dr. & Mrs. Stuart and Marilyn Schiffman, The Schweitzer Family, Albert and Cynthia Shachar, Paul and Helen Siegel, Elaine A. Silvia, Peter and Marianna Simpson, Mildred Singer, The Singer Family, Margaret Slaven, Wayne and Leslie Smith, Allen and Myrna Soast, Joseph & Janet Sorkin, Albert Sproul, Donald and Judith Stavis, Dr. & Mrs. William and Deborah Stegmayer, Joan Stein, Junius Stephenson, The Stern Family, Robert and June Stoll, Harry and Jean Strickholm, Bill Strohmeier, Harvey and Mimi Strum, Narasinh and Meena Tamhankar, Jacquelyn Tintle, Madeline Truninger, Benjamin and Carol Tycko, Mr. & Mrs. Leonard Vadala, The Vallejo Family, Richard and Clair Van Buren, Aram Varteresian, Stephen Wadsworth, Grace Walsh, Gary Wasserman, John and Jane Westervelt, The Wolfmann Family, Kyoung Soo Won, Mia Woo, Nancy S. Woods, Mark T. Wright, Gad Yahalomi, The Yiengpruksawan Family, David and Amy Zagin, Olga Zanussi, Robert Zenorini.

**Thank You**

## Introducing Our 2007/2008 Scholarship Recipient

### Arthur Zahor

is currently studying Natural Resources and Environmental Science at The Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources at The University of Vermont



### How to Apply

The one-year, \$1,000 Environmental Scholarship is for a high school senior planning to study the environment. The applicant must be: a resident of Demarest; or a member of the nature center; or attending either Northern Valley R.H.S. at Demarest or Academy of the Holy Angels. A 150-word essay is required. Applications must be postmarked by May 1. Details are available from guidance counselors or at [www.demarestnaturecenter.org](http://www.demarestnaturecenter.org)



*Above: Trustee Irfan Akdad realizes why no one, except former trustee John Reinke, volunteers for the cotton candy machine at Octoberfest two years in a row.*

*Below: An admirer of puppets checks out what's available at Octoberfest.*



# Demarest Nature News

## 5K Trail Run and 1 Mile Trail Fun Run!

By Peter Coy

Demarest has some speedy children, judging from the fast times recorded on Sept. 15 in the Demarest Nature Center's 1-mile Trail Fun Run and the 5-kilometer Trail Run. Both events were held on new courses that were more on the nature center trails and less on the park roads than in past years.

In the Fun Run, 8-year-old Kaileigh Conti was the overall female winner, followed by 6-year-old Taylan Akdag and 7-year-old Sophie Winters. Sophie had such a good time in the 1-mile event that she decided to try out the 5K

(3.1-mile) Trail Run afterward. She wound up as the first female finisher and second overall out of five 5K competitors. She ran both races with her mother, Nancy.

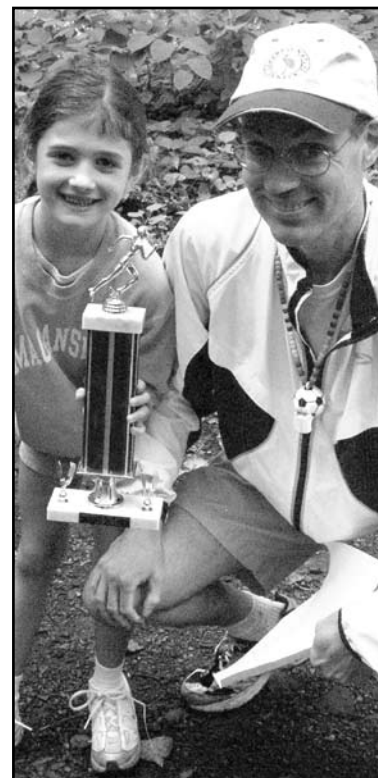
I-Shang Chow was the first male winner in the fun run, while Tom Birch was the first male finisher in the 5K.

If there had been a special award for family participation, it would have gone to the Lourbas family, which had four runners: Dimitri, Teddy, Irene, and Alex, who is just 4 years old. Finishing times were slower than in a road race because runners had to make lots of

sharp turns, pick their way over roots and rocks, and run gingerly over wooden bridges made slick by rain. Each age-group winner received a trophy and each participant received a handsome green ribbon.

### Our New Benches

Two new benches have been generously donated to the DNC. The Robertson family bench, honoring Michael Graeme Robertson, is located on our new Inter Borough trail. The Dean family bench, honoring Denise B. Anderson, is located on the Stelfox Trail.



Above: First Female 5K Finisher Sophie Winters with Race Director Peter Coy

## Thanks for Making Oktoberfest a Big Success

Our sincere thanks to the many people who made our annual fund-raising event, the Craft Fair at Oktoberfest, a big success. Thanks to the Demarest police, fire, and public works departments, mayor, and council; the Korean Women's PTO; and the United Methodist Church. Thanks also to everyone who baked goodies for the bake table and those who volunteered to help at the event.

## The New Morton Bridge

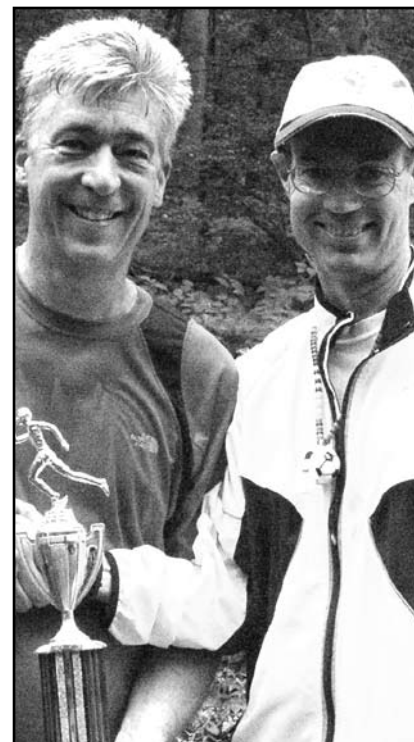
We'd like to thank the Mayor, town council & the citizens of Demarest in partnering with the Demarest Nature Center in the replacement of the dilapidated Morton Bridge with a brand new bridge. We now have a uniform style between our two bridges. The same design will be used by Closter further down the Tenakill Brook in linking the trails of our two nature centers together.

## Our Maintainers!

We just want to send out a thank you to the individuals and organizations that support the nature center with their "sweat equity". With our busy schedules these days it takes a lot to get out onto the trail and do some muscle work. Picking up trash, clearing the path, clearing downed trees from the trails, repairing bridges, and cutting back the overgrowth are all part of the job...and fun. Thanks again!

Trail Name	Maintainer
Nine Bridges Trail	Cub Scout Troop 270
Gus Stump Trail	Boy Scout Troop 101
Log Road Trail	NVRHS at Demarest Earth Club
Tenakill Brook Trail	Demarest Girl Scouts
D Loop	Demarest Girl Scouts
Stelfox Trail	The Endick Family
Dogwood Trail	The Endick Family
Connecting Trails	The Riley/Stern Family
Trestle Bridge Trail	The Cottrell Family

Below: First Male 5K Finisher Tom Birch with Race Director Peter Coy



## 2007 Board of Trustees

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We're on the Web!  
[www.demarestnaturecenter.org](http://www.demarestnaturecenter.org)  
Email:  
[info@demarestnaturecenter.org](mailto:info@demarestnaturecenter.org)

## What's Happening This Winter & Spring

◆ **January 10th** The general public is invited to the annual reorganization meeting of the **Demarest Nature Center Association** on Thursday Jan. 10th, at 7:30pm at the Wakelee Field House. There will be a brief report on 2007 activities, a financial report, and the election of trustees, followed by refreshments. All are welcome.

◆ **Impromptu skating parties** will be held at the skating pond by the Imaginative Playground

in January and February, weather permitting. We'll supply the hot chocolate and other refreshments. To find out when they are, check the train station bulletin board and our website.

◆ **March 1st Birdhouse and bird feeder building** in the train station, 11am session and a 1pm session.

◆ **March 15th Easter egg hunt**, 2pm, at the Imaginative Playground in Wakelee Field.

◆ **April 19th Spring Nature Walk** followed by **Volunteer Day**, 9:30am departing from the parking lot by the Imaginative Playground

## What Senior Service Did in June 2007

As part of NVRHS Senior Service James Beddoe, Jon Bellome and Eric Mok performed approximately ninety five hours of community service in the Demarest Nature Center between May 21st and June 15th.

During that time James, Jon and Eric, cleared trails, removed trash from the Tenakill Brook, hauled a seemingly countless number of wheel barrels full of mulch to cover trails, helped build boardwalks over muddy trails, installed three

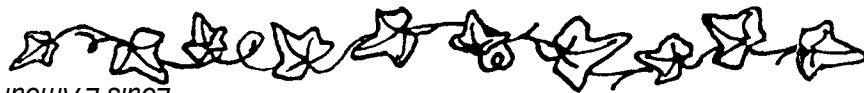
commemorative/memorial benches, installed a dog litter station and painted trail markers.

They were willing to put forth that extra effort to get the job done right.

With the help of James, Jon and Eric we completed work in one month that would have normally taken six months or more. Their efforts have helped make the Demarest Nature Center the best it can be.



Jon, Eric and James



— Louis L'Amour  
"The trail is the thing, not the end of the trail. Travel too fast and you miss all you are traveling for."

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