

## Lacawac Sanctuary

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Lake Ariel PA 18436

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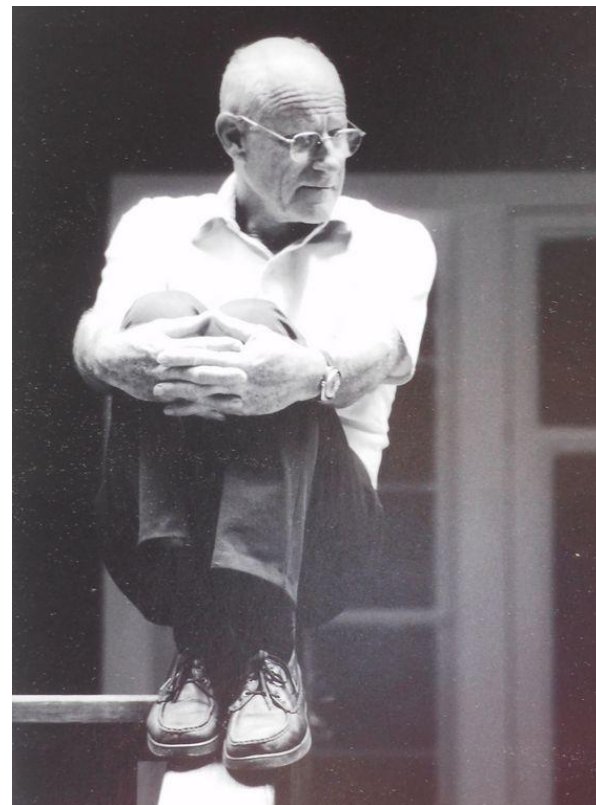
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# 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

## Lacawac Sanctuary Foundation

### 1966-2016



LACAWAC SANCTUARY AND FIELD STATION

Issue 2- 2016



## Notes from the FOREST

LACAWAC SANCTUARY AND FIELD STATION

## Anniversary Edition Newsletter 2016

## Celebrating 50 years of excellence in Research, Education and Preservation

### The Founding of Lacawac Sanctuary Foundation in 1966 by Arthur and Isabel

Long winter evenings found Isabel Watres and her son, Arthur, reading. Two books by Fairfield Osborne, "This Plundered Planet" and "The Limits of the Earth," had a profound influence on them. What, they wondered, would become of Lacawac after they were no longer here? Attempts to interest the local government in preserving Lacawac from developmental excesses, on the basis of its sheer beauty, were unsuccessful. Beauty does not pay taxes! Arthur and Isabel decided to make a trip to the Museum of Natural History in New York in search of author Fairfield Osborne, for his advice.

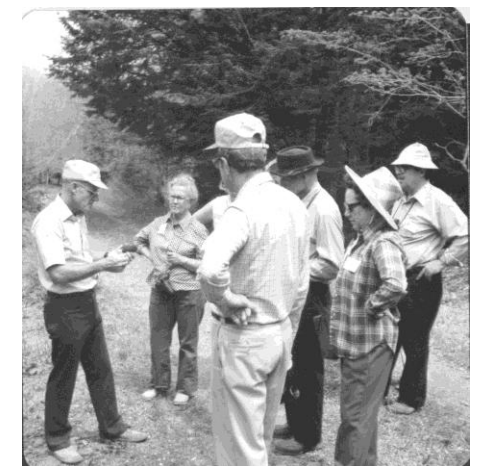
At the Museum they were befriended by Dr. Richard Pough. In that year (1952) Dr. Pough was the first president of the newly established Nature Conservancy. Having become members of the Conservancy, Arthur and Isabel, at Pough's suggestion, went to speak to Dr. Radclyffe Roberts, the Director of the Academy of Natural Sciences, in Philadelphia. The Academy was becoming an important research center for aquatic ecology under the guidance

of a dynamic scientist, Dr. Ruth Patrick. Shortly thereafter, on a cold winter day, Drs. Roberts and Patrick made a visit to Lacawac. Dr. Patrick observed that Lake Lacawac was probably the southernmost unpolluted glacial lake in the United States, and that it would be invaluable as a baseline lake for research and education. For the past forty years, man's touch at Lacawac had been light, thereby protecting the watershed. Continued control over Lacawac, to protect the integrity of the Lake, would provide a living laboratory for research projects. To that point, Arthur and Isabel had felt that the beauty of Lacawac alone provided a basis for protecting the land. Now they had a serious, humanistic rationale for protecting Lacawac, and one that might attract support over time.

Arthur and Isabel spent the next fourteen years endeavoring to find an institutional partner to provide strength, stability and significant programs at Lacawac. Having failed to find an institutional partner of recognized strength and stature, the Watreses formed the Lacawac Sanctuary Foundation in 1966,

and turned over the lake, most of the infrastructure and much of the land to it. By 1967, the Sanctuary had become a field laboratory for scientists from the Academy of Natural Sciences and for researchers and graduate students from the University of Pennsylvania.

Today Lacawac is a thriving environmental education center and biological field station with sustaining partners Miami University of Ohio, Drexel University and the Academy of Natural Sciences.



Arthur leading a tour to visitors



*A Special Thank You to Bob Eckstein for his design and work on this anniversary newsletter. Bob is a long time Lacawac volunteer and currently serves as a member of the trustees.*



## Farm to Plate Anniversary Dinner en Blanc

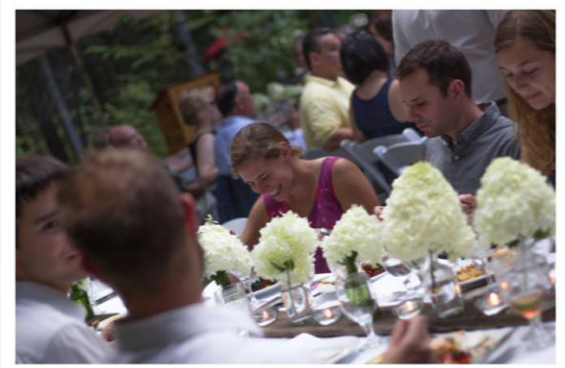
August 13, 2016



Lacawac's Anniversary Dinner was celebrated at the Watres Lodge with over 125 in attendance. The Farm to Plate meal was provided by Chef Ben Sutter and the staff of Settlers Inn.



Above: Peter Paul Olszewski Jr. Esq, Chair of Trustees addressed the guests. Right: Craig Lukatch, President



Above: Dr. Craig Williamson, Lifetime Achievement Award Recipient. Below: Dr. Susan S. Kilham, Lifetime Achievement Award Recipient



## Watershed Education Program Support

Through visual models and experiments, student learning are measured by several outcomes: recognize freshwater as their source of drinking water, identify their school's watershed address, describe the water cycle, explore factors that affect groundwater, and classify the plants and animals, as well as explain the value of wetlands. Lacawac's field station is a fully equipped research facility for freshwater explorations.

The program has been generously supported by the following companies and foundations:



Price Chopper's Golub Foundation

Willary Foundation

## Our Special Friends of 2015



The Robert Y. Moffat Family Charitable Trust



Talen Energy - Hawley Rotary Club

Overlook Estate Foundation – Schiel Family Foundation





LACAWAC SANCTUARY AND FIELD STATION

# Financial Report 2015

## Board of Trustees 2015

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### President - Craig Lukatch

This annual report is published by Lacawac for its members, supporters and collaborating partners. If you have questions regarding the information provided in the report contact Lacawac's President at [craig.lukatch@lacawac.org](mailto:craig.lukatch@lacawac.org)

"Lacawac has been a part of my life since 2000. Having worked on the newsletter, the Watres biography and now the anniversary timeline, I've written about Lacawac's storied past and it's important moments so I'd like to focus for a moment on my personal favorite memories.

Highlights include...bringing my parents up for the first time and coming across a black bear on the trail...walking across a frozen Lake Lacawac with my wife...water coloring postcards with Mr. Watres...speaking to the writing group retreats...making Tom Kingsley or Janice Poppich laugh...having a loon visit while canoeing on Lake Lacawac...seeing everyone work together at Peter's retreats...my conversations with Bruce Hargreaves...the board meeting we had at lawn bowling courts at Sky Top and seeing the charming Mr. Watres catch the eye of the elderly female bowlers...Jon Tandy's encouragement of my out-of-the-box ideas Lacawac's future...dining and playing croquet with Sam Jackson and his wife Alden...seeing Roy or Dennis Peterson pull into my driveway to discuss Lacawac...working with Dr. Lesley Knoll...my friendship with John Whitehouse and Charlotte...Super Soup Sunday...seeing the success of Craig's Lake to Lake event...and a hundred other memories and friendships."

– Bob Eckstein



"As I rounded the bend on my way to the Carriage House he partially raised himself from the picnic bench and cane in hand turned towards me waving his cap in greeting. "I put out the signs," he said. "Yes, thank you," I replied, guessing the signs announcing our one pm tour had been placed by at least seven o'clock that morning. We sat and chatted, ever sensitive to the arrival of guests. "Now remember," he cautioned, "Don't introduce me as the Founder." And so he became 'Arthur, a Lacawac volunteer.'

We shared the tours. I assisted by delivering my well-rehearsed history of the Sanctuary, he guided the nature walk. ("Isn't it wonderful," someone commented, "a man his age volunteering.") A brisk step, fire in his eyes, he pointed out loss of forest understory from deer browse, lack of song birds and small mammals, wooly adelgid devastating hemlocks. Then, on to the gently lapping waters and lone tamarack tree on the sandy southeast shore of Lake Lacawac, to the stone deck where black snakes sunning themselves slid silently into the water at our approach, the purple-flowered pickerel weed and tiny heart-shaped water lily pads moving lightly in the breeze and, finally, to the Lodge entering by the wide front door greeted by coolness and a sense of time past. At what point visitors realized their tour guide was the founder, I am not sure. They all did. Perhaps it was the occasional slip of, "Ah, well, mother and I...", or that he was a gentleman and the most charming of hosts. Summer afternoons, sharing a tour with Arthur."

– Charlotte Kuczynski

## Memories of Lacawac

"I do remember one evening sitting out back of the lodge with Ed Wesely and Arthur, thinking and talking about Lacawac: its needs, direction, and efforts in general. Arthur was always concerned about Lacawac's board in those days. He knew I was thinking about starting a land trust and building a board for what became of the Delaware Highlands Conservancy. In any case, he must have figured it out, since Lacawac has successfully grown over the years. I think Arthur would be proud of Lacawac today. And I know he would be proud of what you are doing right now to celebrate those 50 amazing years at Lacawac."

– Barbara Yeaman



"In the big picture, this event is a blip on the Lacawac screen, but it's one of my better memories and probably occurred around 2005. I loved walking out to the dock on Lake Lacawac to experience the loveliness of the lake and of that expanse of water and sky, but the trail was so narrow and tilted so to the right as you walked out that I often expected it to decant me into the lake. I described the concern and got permission to trim the bushes some, level the path, and add some stones along its right side. I was out there at work on this project when Arthur showed up, as he often did when aware of any project, and started talking about one of his concerns about the sanctuary - maybe it was the continuing need to dismantle the beaver dam at the runoff. Once I realized it wasn't going to be a short discussion, I got one of the wooden chairs from the stone patio closer to shore, and put it where he could sit close to me while I continued the work. We were both pleased by that arrangement, and I was and remain delighted to have made the passage to the lake easier and pleasanter."

– Sam Jackson



"We moved up to Greentown here in the Poconos in 1988. After moving up here we both started volunteering at Promised Land SP until someone told me about Lacawac and I went there to see it. I was given a tour and told the Director I would like to volunteer. She asked what I could do. I answered "anything" and got a questionable look. Began doing some small maintenance jobs and we joined the steering committee to help with planning and activities. We became very active, I did most small maintenance and Terry worked on many programs. In the summer I ran weekly and special tours. This continued until a few years ago when things changed and we were getting old and could not do the things any more. I wish we could still do things but age and medical things prevent it."

– John Whitehouse

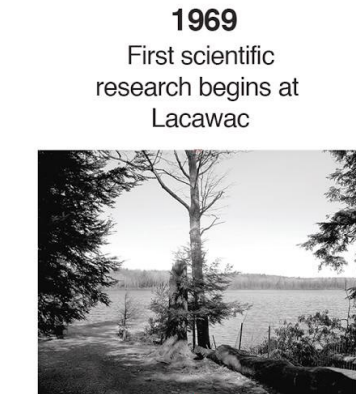




50th Anniversary

# LACAWAC

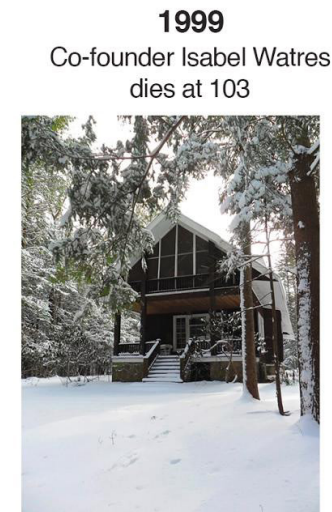
SANCTUARY  
AND BIOLOGICAL FIELD STATION



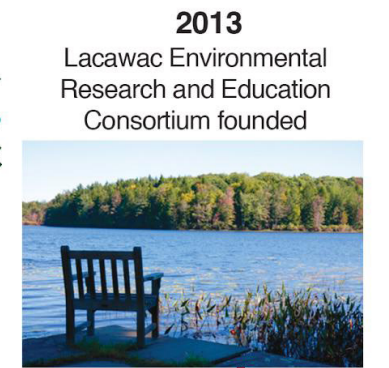
**1969**  
First scientific  
research begins at  
Lacawac



**1974**  
Nature Conservancy partnership



**1999**  
Co-founder Isabel Watres  
dies at 103



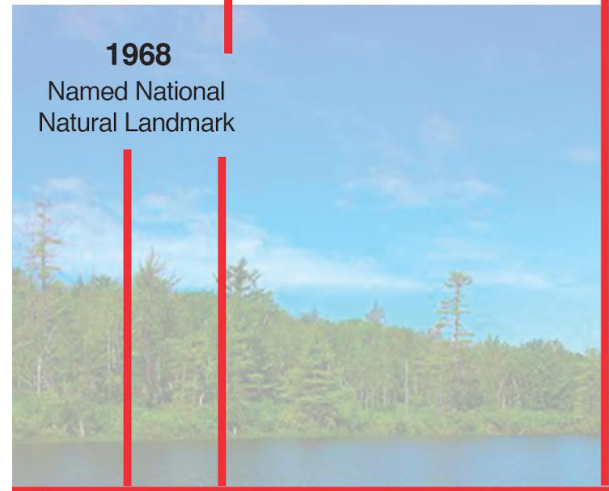
**2013**  
Lacawac Environmental  
Research and Education  
Consortium founded



**2006**  
Visitors Center  
named in honor of  
George & Lydia Coulter



**2004**  
Partner Ridge, 10 acres, obtained  
by member donations, state grant and help  
from the Delaware Highlands Conservancy

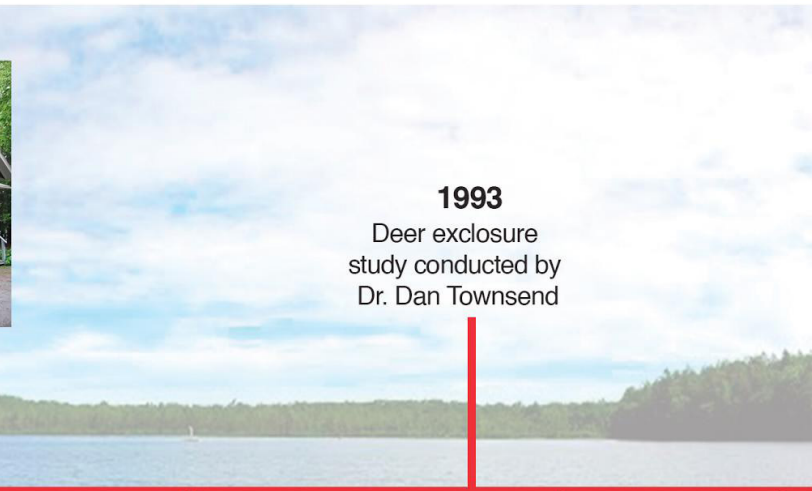


**1968**  
Named National  
Natural Landmark

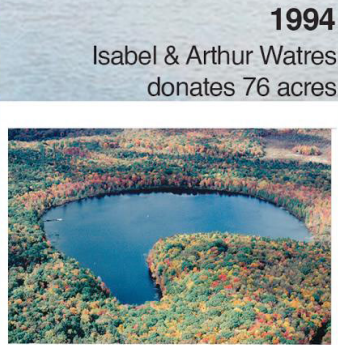


**1976**  
Isabel & Arthur  
Watres donates  
18 acres

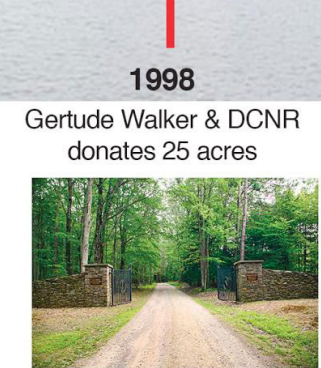
**1979**  
Henry & Charlotte  
Van Deusen Trust  
donates 18 acres



**1993**  
Deer enclosure  
study conducted by  
Dr. Dan Townsend



**1994**  
Isabel & Arthur Watres  
donates 76 acres



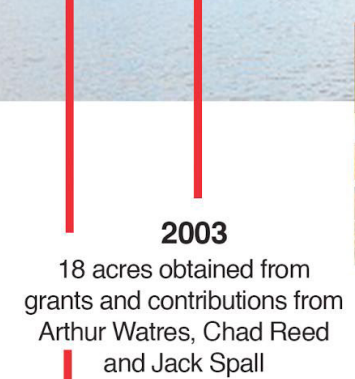
**1998**  
Gertude Walker & DCNR  
donates 25 acres



**1988**  
Craig Williamson and his  
colleagues begins  
Pocono Comparative Lake  
Program starting intense  
research in three area lakes



**1995**  
Deagan Chimes  
and stone entrance  
installed



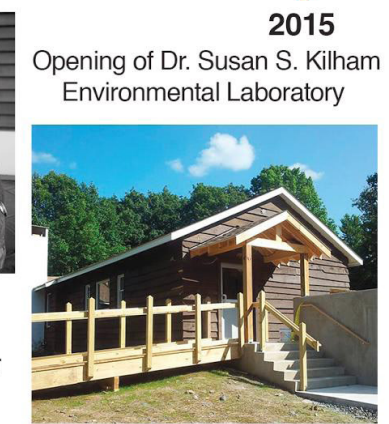
**2003**  
18 acres obtained from  
grants and contributions from  
Arthur Watres, Chad Reed  
and Jack Spall



**2015**  
Lacawac Artist  
Residency



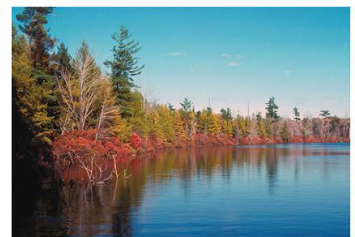
**2014**  
Watres Memorial  
Arthur Watres, founder  
1922 – 2014



**2015**  
Opening of Dr. Susan S. Kilham  
Environmental Laboratory



**1966**  
Isabel & Arthur Watres  
founded  
Lacawac Sanctuary  
donating 341 acres



**1978**  
Historic Registry