

# THE WATER GAP TIMES

*A Quarterly Newsletter*

Issue Number 38 – Winter 2019



Lake Lenape

## Borough Office

49 Main Street  
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Delaware Water Gap, PA 18327  
Phone: 570-476-0331  
Fax: 570-476-0380  
dwgboro@ptd.net  
www.dwgpa.gov

**Hours: Monday – Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

Office Secretary/Treasurer – Shaina Serrano  
Municipal Authority Secretary – Lauren Hoglund  
Borough Superintendent - Harry Kent Darlington

## Delaware Water Gap Police Department

570-476-4674  
police@dwgpa.gov  
Acting Police Chief Andrew Yakubik  
Amadnda Boyd, Police Officer  
Michael J. Ceccato, Police Officer  
Vincent Mezick, Police Officer  
Rolon Santos, Jr., Police Officer

State Police – 570-839-7701  
Emergencies Only - 911

## ***Borough Council***

Larry Freshcorn, Mayor  
Derek Anspach  
Zack Booth  
William Buzzard  
Lisa Paulette  
Jack Shoemaker  
Tim Snow  
Eileen Noelle-White

*Council meetings are held on the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m.*

## ***Municipal Authority***

James Reynolds, Chair  
Harry Darlington, Vice Chair  
Martin W. Wilson, Secretary  
James Holbrook  
Steve Simister

*Municipal Authority meetings are held the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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***

Mark M. Kirk, SFM Consulting, LLC

## ***Building Inspector***

Jeffrey Snyder

## ***Emergency Management Coordinator***

Brad Miller

## ***Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator***

(Vacant)

## ***Floodplain Administrator***

Walter Conway



## Chili & Trivia Night

Thursday, January 23rd

6:00 PM

Dutot Museum & Gallery

24 Main Street

Delaware Water Gap

\$15.00 per person

Salad, Chili, & Homemade Cornbread

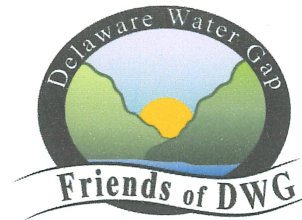
Dessert

Seating is limited

**B.Y.O.B**

Reservations: [smwilson@ptd.net](mailto:smwilson@ptd.net) or 570-807-1071

by January 19th



## **"Friends of DWG"**

*Meetings are held at Borough Hall  
on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.*

This group supports community events such as  
Founder's Day.

We are always seeking new members and  
volunteers...

For more information feel free to join us at our  
monthly meeting and / or contact Tammy Cornelius  
@ 570-421-3274

## **Mayors Corner December 2019**

Happy New Year Delaware Water Gap! I hope everyone had a great Christmas. There are a couple of projects that we will be carrying over in to 2020, but before we talk about those... I'd like to welcome aboard our new employees Shaina Serrano and Harry Darlington. Shaina is our new Borough Secretary and Harry is our new Borough Superintendent. They have done a great job for us these last couple of months so please give them a warm welcome when you see them. I'd also like to congratulate Officer Andy Yakubik as our new Police Chief. One of our biggest projects that have carried over from last year is a LSA grant application for the rebuilding of Cherry Valley Rd. Unfortunately we did not receive the Multi Modal grant for this project but we still have an opportunity with the LSA grant. If you would like to help, please reach out to our Representative and Senator and ask that they help push our application through. Their info can be obtained through the Borough office. There are also a couple of water projects that will be addressed this year. Lastly, I'd like to welcome two new Council members to our Board; Lisa Paulette and Zack Booth. They will be taking the seats vacated by Wayne MacWilliams and Elvi De Lotto. Wayne has served on Borough Council for more than 30 years and has been a great asset in helping to direct and govern our Borough. Elvi has 12 years on Council and a good part of those years was leading the group that gives us clean and safe drinking water. They both have many accomplishments under their belts as they served our Borough and we are sad to see them go. Please thank them for giving their time in helping to govern our town and wish them well. As always, if you have any questions or ideas for our town, please contact us through the Borough office and have a prosperous 2020!

Mayor, Larry Freshcorn

## Dutot to Celebrate Fifty Years!

In 1969 the Stroudsburg School Board announced that they were closing Delaware Water Gap's only school. Local residents, in the spirit that defines this community, organized the "Save Our School" Committee to make sure the nineteenth-century building didn't fall into disrepair. The School Board sold the building to the borough and the borough then rented the building to the committee. From those beginnings the Dutot School and Museum was born. This year, 2020, marks the fiftieth anniversary of the Dutot Museum. Look for future notices of celebratory events marking this milestone. And, if you are not already involved with the museum, make this the year that you get involved.

Visit [www.dutotmuseum.com](http://www.dutotmuseum.com)

## Borough Committee Meetings

### **Water**

2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month at 6:00 p.m.

### **Economic Development (EDC)**

2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m.

### **Liberty-Delaware Water Gap Trail**

3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 9:00 a.m.

### **Friends of DWG**

4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

*New members welcome!*

### **Beautification**

1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

*New members welcome!*

All committee meetings are held at  
Borough Hall  
49 Main Street  
Delaware Water Gap

## Remember to recycle!

It is mandatory in the borough.



**Friendly Reminders**



**When the snow begins to fall please remember that Ordinance 173 states all sidewalks must be cleared within 24 hours of a snowfall.**

***This is the responsibility of the property owner.***

**Ordinance 267 states that garbage cannot be placed out before 5:00 p.m. the day prior to pick up and cans must be removed before 9:00 p.m. the day of pick up. Thank you.**

**Main St. & Shepard Ave. are SNOW EMERGENCY ROUTES and marked accordingly. All vehicles MUST be removed immediately during inclement weather or they will be towed at the owner's expense. If you are parked on a street that is not an emergency route we asked that, if at all possible, you move your vehicle from the roadway so that our snow removal can be completed more efficiently.**

**Local History Spot**

By Marty Wilson

## Murder in Delaware Water Gap

On Friday, September 25, 1868, as the country struggled to put the Civil War behind it, two drifters, William Brooks and Charles Orme, wandered into the lobby of one of Water Gap's many hotels, the Brainerd House, looking for a drink. The hotel's owner, Thomas Brodhead, was out tending the fields that afternoon. When the desk clerk of the hotel left the lobby for a few minutes, Brooks and Orme emptied the cash box and ran out of the hotel heading south. Informed of the robbery, Thomas and his brother Theodore set out after the two men intending to bring them to justice and to recover the money. They first checked the train station to see if the robbers were trying to escape by rail. Not finding them, they next stopped by the Kittatinny House, owned by another Brodhead brother, William. William had seen two men fitting the description of the thieves headed south on the road in front of the hotel (today's Rt. 611).

The Brodhead brothers hurried down the road and caught Brooks and Orme somewhere between the Kittatinny (the site of present-day Resort Point overlook) and the point of the Gap. A scuffle ensued and the stolen money went flying. Thomas bent down to retrieve the money. As he did so he heard his brother Theodore say "Don't shoot." Thomas looked up to see Brooks pointing a pistol at Theodore. As Thomas tried to rise, Brooks shot him. Then Brooks shot Theodore through the heart, killing him instantly. Thomas survived, however. Miraculously, a packet of letters in his vest pocket slowed the bullet and saved his life. Gravely injured, he nevertheless tried to attack the robbers. More shots were fired—none found their mark—and in desperation Brooks and Orme beat Thomas senseless with a large rock. The two murderers climbed the steep hillside into the woods hoping to make their escape.

When Thomas regained consciousness he stumbled back into town. Word spread quickly and a posse was soon formed. Brooks and Orme were found a few hours later hiding in some bushes along Cherry Creek. Townspeople wanted to hang them then and there, but the local sheriff managed to protect the men long enough to transport them to the county jail in Stroudsburg.

Brooks and Orme were tried for murder at the end of December 1868. Thomas had recovered sufficiently from his injuries to testify. With no real defense, Brooks, age 22, and Orme, age 25, were found guilty of murder and sentenced to hang in the Monroe County jail. Desperate, the two men escaped from the jail on April 3, 1869. Orme was recaptured the next day and was hanged on August 11, 1869. The first time the executioner pulled the lever opening the trap door under Orme the rope broke. He fell to the ground unharmed. A second, successful attempt was made that day after a new rope, extracted from a bed, was pressed into service. Brooks was temporarily captured near Port Jervis in May of 1869. However, he escaped again and was assumed dead for years until, twenty-some years later a law officer in Washington Territory informed the new sheriff of Monroe County that a man he had in custody had been bragging about getting away with the murder of Theodore Brodhead. A photo was produced by the Washington lawman, but none of the people associated with the case in Monroe County who were still living could positively identify the aging prisoner. If it was Brooks, he did, indeed, get away with murder.

Three footnotes: 1) Theodore's funeral was held in the Church of the Mountain. His remains lie in Water Gap cemetery. 2) The packet of letters that saved Thomas's life is currently on display in the Dutot Museum. 3) This year a local writer, John H. Abel, published a book on the murder. In the book, *The Murder of Theodore Brodhead*, Mr. Abel supplements the record using his imagination. He calls the book "a novel of historical fiction." It is available at the Dutot Museum and on Amazon.