

U.S. BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES  
 DOMESTIC NAMES COMMITTEE  
 Seven Hundred and Fortieth Meeting  
 Department of the Interior, Room 7000A  
 April 12, 2012 – 9:30 a.m.

Members and Deputy Members in Attendance

Douglas Caldwell	Department of Defense (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers)
Lee Fleming	Department of the Interior (Bureau of Indian Affairs)
Andrew Flora	Department of Commerce (Bureau of the Census)
Monique Fordham	Department of the Interior (U.S. Geological Survey)
Michael Fournier	Department of Commerce (Bureau of the Census)
Tony Gilbert	Government Printing Office (Chairman) (not voting)
Bruce Johnson	Library of Congress
Elizabeth Kanalley	Department of Agriculture (U.S. Forest Service)
Sean Killen	Department of the Interior (U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service)
William Logan	Department of Homeland Security (U.S. Coast Guard)
Patrick Mahoney	Department of the Interior (Bureau of Land Management)
Michael Shelton	Department of the Interior (National Park Service)
Douglas Vandegrift	Department of the Interior (Bureau of Ocean Energy Management)

Ex-Officio

Trent Palmer, Executive Secretary, U.S. Board on Geographic Names/Foreign Names Committee  
 Lou Yost, Executive Secretary, U.S. Board on Geographic Names/Domestic Names Committee

Staff

Maria McCormick, U.S. Geological Survey (by teleconference)  
 Jennifer Runyon, U.S. Geological Survey

Guests

Alicia Bell-Sheetter, Department of Agriculture (U.S. Forest Service)  
 Sharon Cochran, Department of Commerce (Bureau of the Census)  
 Gregg Smith, Oregon  
 Mark Webb, Oregon

1. Opening

The meeting opened at 9:35 a.m. Committee members and guests introduced themselves. The Chair announced he would not be voting, except in the case of a tie.

2. Minutes of the 739<sup>th</sup> Meeting

The Minutes of the 739<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Domestic Names Committee, held March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2012, were approved as submitted.

3. Reports

### 3.1 BGN Chairman (Logan)

Logan asked Caldwell, chair of the BGN Executive Committee, to provide a report on the meeting held Wednesday, March 14<sup>th</sup>, at the U.S. Geological Survey in Reston. At that meeting, the issue of commemorative naming in regards to Antarctic and Underseas features was discussed. Caldwell presented a synopsis of the BGN's concerns regarding the submission by both the Advisory Committee on Antarctic Names (ACAN) and the Advisory Committee on Underseas Feature Names (ACUF) of recommended names that would seem to be in conflict with the intent of the Commemorative Names Policy; specifically that too many proposals seem to be honoring individuals for "simply doing his or her job." Representatives of ACAN and ACUF then provided an overview of how their members evaluate proposals, noting that it has long been a tradition to name features for individuals who have made significant contributions to Antarctic and underseas science, respectively. Palmer noted that as an example, ACUF has been asked to name a feature for the outgoing U.S. Navy Oceanographer. It was agreed that both committees need to continue discussions on the issue.

Logan and Leo Dillon, chair of the Foreign Names Committee (FNC), recently participated in a meeting with Representative Robert Dold (Illinois), representatives from the Korean-American Association of Chicago, and the Chairman of the Korean-American Association of Virginia regarding the Sea of Japan naming issue. Several of these individuals also plan to attend the next FNC meeting, as well as possibly the next full BGN meeting. The issue is likely to be a topic of discussion at the 2012 International Hydrographic Conference, to be held April 21-27, 2012 in Monaco.

The BGN is scheduled to hold its next quarterly meeting on Tuesday, April 17<sup>th</sup>, at 1 p.m. at the Department of State. Members who plan to attend should contact Dillon regarding admittance to the meeting.

The FNC will meet on Tuesday, April 24<sup>th</sup> at the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency in Springfield. Members who plan to attend should contact Palmer regarding admittance to the meeting.

### 3.2 BGN Executive Secretary (Yost/Palmer)

Palmer reminded the committee that several members of the BGN staff will be meeting at the end of June in London with the Permanent Committee on Geographical Names for British Official Use (PCGN). He invited the Domestic Names Committee to prepare reports on topics of current interest, such as the revision to the *Principles, Policies, and Procedures* (PPP), including the policy on native names and tribal consultation.

The 10<sup>th</sup> United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names is scheduled for July 30<sup>th</sup> to August 9<sup>th</sup> in New York. Yost thanked Kanalley for preparing a synopsis of its draft interim policy on Tribal Geographic Names, which is to be included in the report of the UN Working Group on the Promotion of Recording and Use of Indigenous, Minority and Regional Language Group Geographical Names, to be presented at the aforementioned conference. The DNC has been asked to provide a graphic to be used by UN

Group of Experts on Geographical Names on the postcard that is typically distributed during the conference.

The next annual meeting of the Geographical Names Board of Canada will take place September 20-21 in Québec City.

### 3.3 Communications Committee Report (Westington)

In Westington's absence, Caldwell reported that the Communications Committee has not met for some time.

*The Daily Show* recently included a segment on the proposal to change the name of Jew Pond in the Town of Mont Vernon, New Hampshire. The Town Selectmen voted recently to support efforts to change the name but they have not yet settled on a replacement name. The issue has also been the focus of several YouTube videos.

Yost responded to an inquiry from *USA Today* regarding the evolution of subdivision names.

### 3.4 Executive Secretary's Report (Yost)

The Domestic Names Committee has been invited to hold its May 2013 meeting during the USGS National Map User Conference, to be held in Denver. The conference is scheduled to take place two weeks after the next meeting of the Council of Geographic Names Authorities, which is in Minneapolis April 30-May 4, 2013.

There has been considerable interest in the two proposals that have been submitted to apply a new name to a barrier island located along the east coast of Florida, just south of Cape Canaveral and within Brevard County. In late 2011, two proposals to name the island were received, one for Ponce de Leon Island and one for Ais Island. The first is intended to commemorate the upcoming (in 2013) 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the arrival of Spanish explorer Ponce de Leon in what would later become Florida, while the second would recognize the presence of the Ais (or Ays) Indians, who populated the area at the time of European settlement. The BGN staff has received many e-mails and telephone calls from supporters and opponents of both proposed names.

In March, the DNC staff met with Australian toponymist Dr. Laura Kostanski, who was visiting the U.S. and other nations to learn about local and national efforts to gather and incorporate volunteered geographic information. The USGS National Geospatial Technology Operations Center conducted a web-based presentation on the efforts that are underway at USGS to collect and ingest geographic names data, primarily for structures. Dr. Kostanski is expected to report on the results of her research at the aforementioned UN Conference.

### 3.5 Staff Report (Runyon)

A number of new proposals have been received and are being researched in preparation for the next Quarterly Review List.

The staff is scheduled to meet on April 30<sup>th</sup> with Representative Brad Drake (Florida) to discuss the status of the proposal to change the application of the name Indian Creek. A

decision on the proposal was deferred by the DNC at its July 2011 meeting pending a need for more supporting evidence.

Senator Lisa Murkowski (Alaska) has introduced a bill into the U.S. Senate “To designate a mountain in the State of Alaska as Mount Denali.” The details behind the effort have not been made available, but preliminary research suggests the feature in question is the one already named officially Mount McKinley. If Congress should pass legislation, the name would become official for federal use. It has been noted that the name commonly used within the State of Alaska is Denali, with no generic term included. The DNC receives periodic inquiries regarding the name of the summit but as long as there is legislation pending before Congress to retain the name Mount McKinley, the DNC cannot consider a name change.

### 3.6 GNIS and Data Compilation Program (Yost)

Yost had nothing new to report. McCormick expects to provide an update on the newly approved data compilation contracts at next month’s meeting.

### 3.7 Special Committee on Native Names and Tribal Consultation (Kanalley)

Fordham announced that Steve Simpson of the Department of the Interior Solicitor’s Office provided some feedback on the revisions to Policy X: Tribal Geographic Names. The Special Committee needs to meet to review his comments. Kanalley suggested the committee also needs to discuss the Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes’ appeal of the BGN’s decisions in 2010 regarding several “squaw” name change proposals.

## 4. Public Presentation

The Chairman thanked Mr. Gregg Smith, of Keizer, Oregon, and Dr. Mark Webb, County Judge of the Grant County (Oregon) Commission, for traveling to Washington to attend the meeting. Yost gave the Committee a synopsis of the background of the proposals to change feature names containing the word “squaw” that were submitted to the Oregon Geographic Names Board (OGNB), processed, and forwarded to the DNC with recommendations. Dr. Webb and Mr. Smith expressed their concerns to the DNC regarding the procedural aspects of how the OGNB garnered local involvement in the process.

## 5. Docket

Please refer to the attached Docket for a description of each proposal. For new names approved at this meeting, the newly assigned GNIS Feature ID (FID) has been noted following the name.

### **I. Staff-Processed New Names, and Name and Application Changes agreed to by all interested parties**

Change Catasauqua Lake (FID 1171328) to Lake Hanover, Pennsylvania (Review List 408)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this name change.

Vote: 5 in favor

6 against  
0 abstentions

The motion failed, with the majority citing a reluctance to change a longstanding name. The negative votes cited a belief that the change was warranted because it had local and State support.

## II. Disagreement on Docketed Names

Change Sixtymile River (FID 1409662) to Sixty Mile River, Alaska (Review List 404)

A motion was made and seconded to approve the change

Vote: 7 in favor  
4 against  
0 abstentions

The negative votes cited a reluctance to change a name in longstanding published use and in support of the recommendation of the State Names Authority.

At this time, one member left the meeting.

Lake Kenyon, Washington (Snoqualmie National Forest) (Review List 407)

A motion was made and seconded not to approve this name, citing the lack of local support.

Vote: 9 in favor  
1 against  
0 abstentions

## III. New Commemorative Names and Changes agreed to by all interested parties

Change Negro Hill (FID 181489) to Aunt Clara Brown Hill, Colorado (Review List 409)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this name change.

Vote: 10 in favor  
0 against  
0 abstentions

LeMays Lake, Michigan (Review List 403)

A motion was made and seconded to defer a decision on this proposal, citing a need for input from the owner of the property on which the lake is located.

Vote: 10 in favor  
0 against  
0 abstentions

**Cunningham Creek**, Oklahoma (Review List 407) (FID 2724807)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this new name.

Vote: 10 in favor  
0 against  
0 abstentions

**Zahniser Woods**, Pennsylvania (Review List 407)

A motion was made and seconded to defer a decision on this proposal, citing a need for input from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Vote: 10 in favor  
0 against  
0 abstentions

**IV. Revised Decisions** - none**V. New Names agreed to by all interested parties****Schooner Rocks**, Oregon (Review List 409) (FID 2724808)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this new name.

Vote: 10 in favor  
0 against  
0 abstentions

**Candle Creek**, Pennsylvania (Review List 407) (FID 2724809)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this new name.

Vote: 10 in favor  
0 against  
0 abstentions

The Committee adjourned for lunch, after which it reconvened to discuss the revisions to Policy XI: Commercial Names, and Chapter 4: Procedures and Guidelines.

**6. Principles, Policies, and Procedures (PPP) Review (Logan)**

Logan provided an overview of suggested edits to Policy XI. At the March meeting, it was agreed that a separate reference to protected (trademarked, registered, internet domain, copyrighted) names could be eliminated and covered under Chapter 4. The Commercial Names Policy has been renumbered as XI and the Animal Names Policy is now Policy XII. Logan incorporated the suggested changes which were addressed at this meeting. Following the amendment of some of the wording, a motion was made and seconded to approve the revised policy.

Vote:       8 in favor  
          0 against  
          0 abstentions

Runyon distributed a preliminary draft copy of PPP Chapter 4: Procedures and Guidelines. She noted that the content is essentially unchanged from the previous version, although the format has been greatly modified and several previously undocumented procedures have been incorporated. Although it is not desirable for Chapter 4 to repeat much of what is already covered in Chapters 1 through 3, it has been suggested that Chapter 4 should also serve as a standalone “how to” document. The revised PPP will no longer be a published hardcopy document, so there is an opportunity to include an expanded explanation of each step of the process, while at the same time providing embedded links to the more detailed policy statements.

The draft Chapter 4 will be distributed to the Committee by e-mail with an opportunity to provide feedback by April 30<sup>th</sup>. Shortly thereafter, Logan will convene a meeting of a small group to review the comments. He will send out an invitation to the group to meet during the first week of May, presumably at USGS.

Logan reminded the committee that conference space has been set aside at the National Conservation Training Center in Shepherdstown, West Virginia, for August 19-22, where the attendees will have the opportunity to conduct a thorough review of the PPP document. Attendees are encouraged to make their room reservations.

#### 7. Other Business

There was no other business to report.

#### 8. Closing

The meeting adjourned at 2:15 p.m. The next Domestic Names Committee meeting will be held May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2012, at 9:30 a.m. at the Main Interior Building, Washington, D.C. in Room 7000A.

(signed) Louis A. Yost

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Louis A. Yost, Executive Secretary

APPROVED  
(signed) Tony Gilbert

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Tony Gilbert, Chairman  
Domestic Names Committee

U.S. BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES  
DOMESTIC NAMES COMMITTEE  
DOCKET  
April 2012

**I. Staff-Processed New Names, and Name and Application Changes agreed to by all interested parties**

Change Catasauqua Lake (FID 1171328) to Lake Hanover, Pennsylvania  
(Review List 408)

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p\\_lat=40.638885&p\\_longi=-75.462107&fid=1171328](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p_lat=40.638885&p_longi=-75.462107&fid=1171328)

This proposal is to change the name of Catasauqua Lake, a 3.6-acre reservoir in Hanover Township in Lehigh County, to Lake Hanover. The new name would recognize the early (1750-1790s) Germanic/Palatinate settlers of the area.

The proposed name change was submitted by the Hanover Township Solicitor on behalf of the Township Manager, who notes that although the reservoir is located near the Borough of Catasauqua and the Borough of North Catasauqua, it is not now and never has been within their boundaries. It also has no connection to Catasauqua Creek, which the proponent notes passes through the Borough of Catasauqua but does not connect to the body of water in question (the stream enters the Lehigh River approximately one-half mile north of the reservoir). The word “Catasauqua” is from the Lenni Lenape language and means “dry ground.”

The proponent notes that prior to the township’s establishment, the area was known as the “Hanover District” because many of the early settlers were from Hannover, Germany. The reservoir has been labeled on USGS topographic maps since 1964. The Lehigh Valley Historical Society believes the name likely originated from the Catasauqua Rod & Gun Club, which constructed the reservoir. After a series of land transfers, the reservoir was purchased by Hanover Township from Lehigh County. The township has planned extensive improvements and restoration on the site. The Executive Director of the Lehigh Valley Heritage Museum noted, “A review of more than forty historical maps reveals no mention or indication that this body of water existed in the distant past. Nowhere in our files could we locate any historical records or important facts associated with this small body of water.”

The name change to Lake Hanover was approved by a township resolution in July 2011. The Lehigh County Commissioners also support the proposal, while the Pennsylvania State Names Authority has no objection. According to the NAGPRA Native American Consultation Database, there are no Federally recognized tribes with an interest in Lehigh County.

## II. Disagreement on Docketed Names

Change Sixtymile River (FID 1409662) to Sixty Mile River, Alaska  
(Review List 404)

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p\\_lat=63.5833333&p\\_longi=-139.6666667&fid=1409662](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p_lat=63.5833333&p_longi=-139.6666667&fid=1409662)

This proposal was submitted by a toponymist with the Cultural Services Branch of the Yukon Territorial Government. The proposal is to change the spelling of Sixtymile River to Sixty Mile River, to conform to the name recognized in Yukon and listed in the 2010 Yukon Gazetteer and in the Geographical Names Board of Canada database. The stream is approximately 90 miles long; it heads in the Southeast Fairbanks Census Area of Alaska, then flows generally northeast into the Yukon, then east and southeast to enter the Yukon River approximately 35 miles south of Dawson. The stream reportedly received its name because it enters the Yukon River 60 miles upstream from Fort Reliance, an old trading post and military fort. The Yukon toponymist reports that the name Sixtymile River was adopted in Canada in 1898, but in 1953 it was changed to Sixty Mile River. The two-word form has appeared on Canadian maps since then and was reaffirmed in 1980 by the Yukon Geographical Place Names Board.

Although GNIS lists the name as Sixtymile River and USGS topographic maps show it as such, an online USGS River Basin Study field report dated 2004 uses the two-word form, as proposed. Since the majority of the stream falls within the Yukon, most references use the name Sixty Mile River.

The Alaska Geographic Names Board does not support the change, conceding that “the best reason to approve the proposal appeared to be a good neighbor.” The Board further noted, “Both Sixtymile and Sixty Mile are used in publications and maps, but [we] did not find a critical need to change the name officially.” The Alaska Department of Natural Resources did not provide a recommendation but noted that an argument could be made for both sides: “Pro: Consistency in naming across the border; Con: Confusion by public as to proper spelling, and inconsistencies from new written documents to historical documents regarding mining and exploration.” It was noted also that the two-word form is already recorded as a variant form of the name. The Division of Mining Land and Water said any change would not affect navigability but “there may be a lot of unintended consequences [and] USGS will also have to change maps.” Finally, any change could result in similar requests to change other stream names, including Seventymile River and Fortymile River, the latter of which is used in the name of the Fortymile National Wild, Scenic and Recreational River.

As part of its research, the State Board forwarded the proposal to Doyon, Limited, an Alaska Native corporation. No response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion.

When asked to comment on the issue, the Geographical Names Board of Canada responded that it declined to issue a formal recommendation; however, “you can consider that the GNBC supports the Yukon position as the Board routinely endorses the decisions of its members, and as the Sixty Mile form of the name has long-standing history of usage in Yukon.” The

GNBC notes that the Transboundary agreement allows for a difference in names, “although harmonization is also possible.”

**Lake Kenyon**, Washington  
(Snoqualmie National Forest)  
(Review List 407)

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=47.5050000&p\\_longi=-121.5230555555556](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=47.5050000&p_longi=-121.5230555555556)

This 0.5-acre lake is in Snoqualmie National Forest, 0.5 miles northwest of Preacher Mountain and approximately 500 feet outside the Alpine Lake Wilderness Area. The proponent reports that during a camping trip to the unnamed lake, he and his brother were discussing places they wished to visit. The country Kenya was mentioned, which led to the suggestion that Lake Kenyon “would be a cool lake name.” When questioned about the spelling, the proponent conceded the name is not to be associated with the country.

Although there are several individuals in King County with the last name Kenyon, the proponent claims he is unaware of anyone with this last name. However, an online search shows several families with that name in his hometown of Fort Bragg, California.

The King County Council was asked on two occasions to comment on the proposal, but no response was received which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion. The Washington Board on Geographic Names was inactive when the proposal was submitted, and although it has since been re-formed, it has declined to issue a recommendation, preferring to defer to the BGN. The Forest Service does not support the proposal, citing some evidence that a locally-used name is Buried Hatchet Lake. That name has not been found on any Federal maps, but a 1988 lake report provides extensive evidence that the name is used by anglers who visit the lake. There is also a handmade wooden sign nailed to a tree by the lake that reads “Buried Hatchet.”

One area resident, who objects to the name Lake Kenyon, stated, “The name Buried Hatchet was coined by Trail Blazer member George Kniert in 1965 and has been used by local fishing clubs like the Trail Blazers and Hi-Lakers both amongst themselves and in correspondence with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife and the United States Forest Service since that time. The lake was named because George Lewis came across an old axe that had been left in a tree. It was old enough that the tree was growing around the end of the hatchet. Hence the name, Buried Hatchet.” The FS is considering whether to submit a proposal to make official the name Buried Hatchet Lake.

A copy of the proposal for Lake Kenyon was forwarded to the following tribes, all of which are Federally recognized, for comment: the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation, the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation, the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe of the Muckleshoot Reservation, and the Snoqualmie Tribe. No response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion on the issue.

### III. New Commemorative Names and Changes agreed to by all interested parties

Change Negro Hill (FID 181489) to Aunt Clara Brown Hill, Colorado  
(Review List 409)

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p\\_lat=39.8080433&p\\_longi=-105.5252754&fid=181489](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p_lat=39.8080433&p_longi=-105.5252754&fid=181489)

This proposal is to change the name of Negro Hill, a 9,088-foot summit located just outside the boundary of the Arapaho National Forest in Gilpin County, to Aunt Clara Brown Hill. The summit was first labeled with the pejorative form of the name on U.S. Geological Survey topographic maps in 1910 and as Negro Hill on later revisions in 1972 and 2011. The proponent, who is the Gilpin County Manager, states, “The use of the epithet was inspired by the lynching, on the hilltop, of a black man named George Smith on February 18, 1870. Smith was accused, tried and convicted of the murder of a white man, William Hamblin, in Quartz Valley (just below the hill) in 1868. Though the case received at least a modicum of due process—it was appealed to the Colorado Supreme Court—contemporary descriptions of the hanging make it clear that the penalty was an example of what could, at best, be called ‘Frontier Justice.’”

The proposed name is intended to honor Clara Brown (ca.1803-1885), who was born a slave, likely in Spotsylvania County, Virginia. Originally owned by Ambrose Smith, she married a slave and bore four children. Upon Smith’s death, her family members were sold to different owners and dispersed. Clara was sold to George Brown, from whom she acquired her surname. After Brown’s death in 1857 she earned her freedom and went west, first to St. Louis, then Leavenworth, Kansas, and Denver, Colorado. In Denver, she set up business as a laundress, prospered financially, and made many friends of all races. In 1859, when gold was discovered in what would become Gilpin County, Clara relocated her laundry business to that area while always in search of her children. Only one of the four was thought to still be living. She continued to work as a laundress, as well as cook and midwife. She became a leading citizen of what came to be called Central City; she helped found churches, grubstaked young miners, cared for the sick and invested in real estate. While acquiring a small fortune, she became known as “Aunt Clara” as she provided food, shelter, and nursing care to the townspeople.

After the Civil War, she returned to Kentucky and Tennessee in search of family; finding none, she returned with a number of impoverished freedmen and women, whom she helped settle in Central City, Georgetown, and Denver. With failing health, Clara moved back to Denver where she was selected by Governor Pitkin to travel to Kansas bearing large cash donations for support of struggling Exodusters (freed slaves).

After a lifetime of charitable work and giving, a continual search for her daughter, and financial losses, Clara herself was nearly destitute. Admirers provided her with a home in Denver and contributed to her support.

Clara’s friends constantly kept up the search for Clara’s daughter, Eliza Jane, who was located in Council Bluffs, Iowa in 1882. At age 79, Clara was reunited with her daughter and a granddaughter. All returned to Denver where Clara Brown’s health continued to

deteriorate. In 1884, Clara Brown became the first woman and one of the first two African-Americans to be inducted into the Colorado Pioneer Association, which also provided a stipend for her lifetime of good works. She died in Denver in 1885. A century later, Clara Brown was inducted into the Colorado Woman's Hall of Fame in 1989. A stained glass portrait of her graces the old Colorado Supreme Court Chambers in the Capitol building in Denver. Many articles and books about her have been written, and in 2003 an opera based on her life, "Gabriel's Daughter," received its world premiere at the famed Central City Opera House.

The Colorado Board on Geographic Names recommends approval of the proposed change. A copy of the proposal was forwarded to the following tribes, all of which are Federally recognized: the Arapahoe Tribe of the Wind River Reservation, the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, and the Northern Cheyenne Tribe of the Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservation. No response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion on the issue.

### **Cunningham Creek**, Oklahoma

(Review List 407)

Mouth: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=34.7112968&p\\_longi=-97.70648](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=34.7112968&p_longi=-97.70648)

Source: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=34.7491588&p\\_longi=-97.6987123](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=34.7491588&p_longi=-97.6987123)

This proposal is to apply the new commemorative name Cunningham Creek to a 4-mile-long unnamed tributary of Rush Creek in Grady County. The proposed name would honor Ira Cunningham (1906-1984), who according to the proponent, "[was] known as (Big) in the community. He bought the land on both sides of the Creek in the 1950s and lived and worked on that land as a farmer and rancher for approximately thirty years. He began a broomcorn operation in the 1950s which employed many people in the community. He also grew alfalfa for hay. He was a very generous man who was very kind and always gave to those in need. He was a very hard worker earning everything he owned from sweat from his brow." The proponent, whose last name is also Cunningham, reports that the name Cunningham Creek has come into local use in the past few years and "the local Grady County commissioner has approved of putting up a sign saying "Cunningham Creek.""

The Grady County Board of Commissioners supports the proposal, as does the Oklahoma Geographic Names Board. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation, a Federally recognized tribe, was contacted for an opinion, but no reply was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion.

### **Zahniser Woods**, Pennsylvania

(Review List 407)

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=41.267154&p\\_longi=-80.46671](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=41.267154&p_longi=-80.46671)

This proposal is to apply the new commemorative name Zahniser Woods to a 20-acre area of oak and maple trees located on the north side of the Shenango River in western Mercer County. The woods straddle the boundary between the City of Hermitage and South Pymatuning Township. The name would honor Dale C. Zahniser (1908-1996), who purchased the property in 1942 and lived there from 1945 until his death. A portion of the property was purchased by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in the 1960s for the construction of the

Shenango Dam, while the remainder is still owned by Mr. Zahniser's descendants. The proponent, whose last name is also Zahniser, states, "Mr. Zahniser was a farmer and typewriter repairman who was also active in his church. He dropped out of high school in 10th grade to work his dad's farm so his brothers could attend college."

The City Manager for the City of Hermitage and the Supervisor of South Pymatuning Township support the proposal. The Mercer County Commissioners responded as having no opinion. The Pennsylvania State Names Authority has no objection. According to the NAGPRA Native American Consultation Database, there are no Federally recognized tribes with an interest in Mercer County.

**LeMays Lake**, Michigan

(Review List 403)

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=46.58199&p\\_longi=-88.251629](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=46.58199&p_longi=-88.251629)

This proposal is to make official the commemorative name LeMays Lake for an unnamed 10-acre lake in Covington Township in Baraga County. The proposed name would honor Emil LeMay (d. 1957) and Dona LeMay (d. 1983). The proponent, whose last name is LeMay, states, "For a number of years, we have been using the name LeMay Lake [sic]. The history associated with that name [LeMays Lake] begins with my father Dona LeMay and grandfather Emil LeMay. It began back in the 1950s and 1960s when genealogy was being traced. There were many discussions and fishing trips that followed with General Curtis LeMay. He seemed to adopt the lake as his own."

The Covington Township Supervisor and the Baraga County Commissioners support the proposal, as does the Michigan State Names Authority. The Bad River Band of the Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa, Bois Forte Band (Nett Lake) of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe, Fond du Lac Band of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe, Grand Portage Band of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe, Keweenaw Bay Indian Community, Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin, Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians, Leech Lake Band of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe, Mille Lacs Band of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe, Minnesota Chippewa Tribe, Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin, Sokaogon Chippewa Community, St. Croix Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin, and White Earth Band of Minnesota Chippewa Tribe, all of which are Federally recognized, were contacted for an opinion on the proposal. No responses were received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion.

**IV. Revised Decisions** - none

**V. New Names agreed to by all interested parties**

**Schooner Rocks**, Oregon

(Review List 409)

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=44.6917677&p\\_longi=-124.075942](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=44.6917677&p_longi=-124.075942)

This proposal is to apply the name Schooner Rocks to three small rocks that lie just off the coast of Lincoln County and within the jurisdiction of the Oregon Department of State Lands.

The proponent, a resident of Newport, states, “The rocks are offshore from Schooner Point and near the mouth of Schooner Creek. Thus, Schooner Rocks.”

The rocks do not appear on USGS topographic maps, but are depicted on the NOAA chart as “three distinct rocks awash, with a drying height of 8 feet above mean sea level.” According to the Oregon Geographic Names Board (OGNB), “Schooner Rocks are considered submerged lands owned by the State of Oregon because they are below the mean high-tide line of the Pacific Ocean and are within three nautical miles of the shore.” The OGNB suggests the feature should be classified as an island rather than a bar, since “The Schooner Rocks are actual rocks that are surrounded by water and are likely on top of an underwater reef.”

The Lincoln County Commissioners, the Lincoln County Historical Society, and the Oregon Department of State Lands all support the name proposal, as does the Oregon Geographic Names Board. As part of its research, the OGNB forwarded the proposal to the Oregon Legislative Commission on Indian Services, which in turn shared it with all tribes having an interest in the State. No response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion on the issue.

At the February 2012 DNC meeting, NOAA requested that a decision on the proposal be deferred, pending the need to consult with local navigation managers. In April 2012, NOAA informed BGN staff that NOAA has no opinion.

**Candle Creek**, Pennsylvania

(Review List 407)

Mouth: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=41.00944444444444&p\\_longi=-75.13277777777778](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=41.00944444444444&p_longi=-75.13277777777778)

Source: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=41.01472222222222&p\\_longi=-75.145](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=41.01472222222222&p_longi=-75.145)

This proposal is to apply the new name Candle Creek to a 0.9-mile-long stream located in Smithfield Township in Monroe County. The stream flows southeast then east to enter Marshalls Creek. According to the proponent, the proposed name refers to the shape of the stream as it runs through her property, “like a tapered candle.” She reports that she has not been able to find a name for the stream after talking with the township government, with local residents, or with previous land owners who lived in the area for 60 years.

The Smithfield Township Chairman has no objection to the proposal, and the Monroe County Commissioners support it. A copy of the proposal was forwarded to the Seneca Nation of New York and the Tonawanda Band of Seneca Indians of New York, both of which are Federally recognized. Neither tribe responded, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion. The Pennsylvania State Names Authority has no objection to the name.

In March 2012, the DNC deferred a decision on this proposal pending a need for additional photographic evidence that the stream exists. The BGN staff has verified its existence and has confirmed that the National Hydrography Dataset shows it as perennial.