

## Highlights of 1997

The 1997 Annual Meeting was held on Wednesday, February 19, at the Brandywine Ski Center in Sagamore Hills Township. The Executive Director presented Highlights of the Past Year, the annual election was held, and certificates of recognition were awarded to the members of the Deer Management Task Force. David Beach, Director, EcoCity Cleveland, gave a slide presentation on the subject, "Linking City and Country: Urban Sprawl in Northeast Ohio".

On March 19 at the Barlow Community Center in the City of Hudson, the Council approved the report of the Deer Management Task Force entitled, Findings and Recommendations, which had been submitted for review at the Regular Meeting on November 10, 1996. CVNRA Superintendent Debo commented that the task force had made a valuable contribution to their current evaluation of possible action to protect the biodiversity of park resources.

On April 16 at the Woodridge High School in the City of Cuyahoga Falls, the Executive Director presented a report entitled, Questions and Answers: Ohio & Canal Heritage Corridor and Ohio & Erie Canal Scenic Byway.

On May 11 at the Sagamore Hills Township Safety Center, a structured process was conducted to elicit members' views on the benefits and costs of regional visitor attractions in the Cuyahoga Valley as input to a possible series of studies to be conducted by the Council, particularly in reference to the scenic byway and heritage corridor programs. Representatives from Cleveland Metroparks and CVNRA reported and explained their proposals to undertake a deer population reduction program.

On September 21 at the F. A. Seiberling Naturealm in Sand Run Metro Park, representatives of Cascade Locks Park Association gave a slide presentation on their activities, particularly in planning for the renovation of the historic Mustill House and Store. The Council endorsed the nomination of the Cuyahoga River as an American Heritage River.

On October 15 at the Canal Visitor Center in Valley View Village, the scheduled special report of the Deer Management Task Force was deferred to a special meeting to be called at a later date owing to the large number of visitors who could not be accommodated at the meeting facility.

On October 28 at Rushwood Elementary School in Sagamore Hills Township, a Special Meeting was held to hear the special report of the Deer Management Task Force which had been deferred from the meeting on October 15.

On November 19 at the Bath Township Center, Attorney Alfred E. Schrader presented a report on local government regulation of cellular towers. The Executive Director reported that the Deer Management Task Force had completed its evaluation of the effectiveness of roadside reflectors for deterring deer vehicle accidents, concluding that results of published studies are mixed and there appears to be no certainty of their effectiveness.

Relationships to Other Groups