

The Compass

The Butler Outdoor Club Newsletter Butler, Pennsylvania

Issue # 13 Month # 03

March 2009

March 4 Monthly Meeting

Join us on Wed Mar 4 at the Butler YMCA 6:30 pm social hour, 7:30 pm announcements and 8:00 program when Tom Baumgardner will present an indoor kite flying program and demo. Come learn how you can fly indoors and how indoor technique can be used to improve your outdoor fun with kites. Tom Baumgardner has two National Championships as well as a 2nd place in indoor dual line will demonstrate his indoor flying technique as well as allowing others to try this unique activity. Indoor kite flying uses no fans and has no moving air to assist the kite flyer. Indoor kite flying is all about efficiency of movement to keep ultra light kites aloft with the least amount of effort.

Upcoming NCTA Events

July 29 - Aug. 3.

North Country Trail National Conference is hosted this year by North Dakota. It will take place in Valley City. They hosted a wonderful time 7 years ago when it was there so expect a great time this year!!! Joyce Appel plans to rent a 15 passenger van to take interested PA and Ohio people. Van will leave Wed. morning July 29. Many great hikes, workshops, great food and evening entertainment Thursday to Sunday. Van will head home Sunday Aug.2 to get back Mon. Aug. 3. Contact Joyce to be part of the Van group. Down payment toward gas and van required to reserve your spot. 724-526-5407 or joyceappel@windstream.net

Chain Saw Training is coming up soon. Contact Paul Henry asap to get details. Must have First Aid Training first but North Country Trail Association will reimburse you for the First Aid Training. 724-347-3282 home, 724-685-1077 cell or 724-347-4941 work or phenry@choiceonemail.com

March 1 Membership Renewals Due

All BOC membership renewals are due March 1. Our dues are still \$15.00 per individual and \$20.00 per household. However our mailing and printing costs keep rising. They are over \$1.00 per issue. To help defray these extra expenses there will be a \$10.00 fee for those want their newsletter printed and mailed.

NCTA Cherry Pie Hike

Saturday Feb. 21st, 24 people arrived at the Old Stone House for the annual Cherry Pie Event. This year we had a great lecture on George Washington's early career delivered by Slippery Rock University's Dr. Aaron Cowan. After sampling the pies and coffee, we settled down to his description of Washington's place in the social life of Old Virginia, his early experience in the Virginia militia, the unfortunate events at Jumonville, and the tragedy at Ft. Necessity. Though the Father of our Country had an undistinguished early military career, he went on to much greater things. We can all take comfort in his rise to greatness after these defeats.

Thereafter, the group did a five mile hike on the North Country Trail to Rt. 528. It was a beautiful winter walk, with snow still on the trees. The footing in places was a little slippery, but most people soldiered through.

After the hike, the group enjoyed a nice lunch at the North Country Brewery.



Allegany SP Ski Weekend

We had another year of wonderful snow and wonderful skiing. Trails were covered and groomed with built up base along with newly formed snow from the few days before the weekend. We got new snow over the weekend also. 60 people stayed in the cabins on the Summit Area.

Seven more people joined us for the Sat. Potluck evening meal at the Warming Hut. And what yummy dishes we had to pick from!!! You couldn't put them all on your plate. Afterwards, some went back to their cabins to party with each other and some stayed at the Warming Hut to socialize and play board or card games.

The cardboard sled race held earlier in the day is getting bigger and better. We probably went from 5 last year to around 8 sled participants this year. They were all shapes and sizes. And most people from the cabins appeared to cheer their favorite sled in the races. Prizes were given to: Most Unique sled - Tirzah Ryssel, Best Constructed - Kim McCoy, Best decorated - Cory McCoy, Funniest - John Fleischman, Fastest - Chuck Snyder and Paul Henry, Longest Run - John Fleischman, Most Runs down the hill - Patty Brunner, Tandem Race - Paul Henry and Kate Fissel, 3 person Race - McCoy family, Demolition Derby - Jedidiah and Tirzah Ryssel.

We also had a birthday cake for 4 birthdays this month. Curt Crocker even got Honorable Mention for his "crash" while skiing down the hardest trail known as Snowsnake Trail.

Fun was to be had by all. Plan to come next February, possibly the first weekend instead of the 3rd weekend.



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“The purpose of the Butler Outdoor Club is to provide year-round outdoor activities for the enjoyment and fellowship of our members, while creating awareness, appreciation and conservation of the environment.”

Visit our club website for the latest event updates and club news at

www.butleroutdoorclub.org



KEYSTONE TRAILS ASSOCIATION

101 N. Front Street
Harrisburg, PA 17101
717.238.7017

www.kta-hike.org

info@kta-hike.org

2009 Annual Spring Meeting and Hiking Weekend

KTA Hosts Annual Meeting in Potter County

The Keystone Trails Association is proud to announce the location and event details for the 2009 Annual Spring Meeting and Hiking Weekend.

This spring's meeting and hiking weekend will be held from Friday, April 24th to Sunday, April 26th in Coudersport, Potter County located along US Route 6, Pennsylvania's most scenic byway.

Situated high in northern Pennsylvania, Potter County is also known as "God's Country" since it's a little closer to heaven there. The area boasts a vast hiking trail network and is the perfect place to enjoy the outdoors. Come and experience for yourself nature at its finest.

There are many opportunities for hikers all over Potter County, including direct access to the Susquehannock Trail System. The trail and its associated loops offer easy to strenuous hikes, and the abundant wildlife provide a rare treat for the nature lover. Look for deer, turkeys, grouse, and even bears and coyotes.

Many thanks to the Susquehannock Trail Club (STC) for organizing the weekend hiking schedule and providing hike leaders. Guided hikes will be available on Friday, Saturday and Sunday that will take hikers to some of the most scenic portions of this 85-mile hiking loop that winds through the Susquehannock State Forest.

Lodging and meals will be

available at the Potato City Country Inn and the Susquehannock Lodge. See page 3 for more information.

Mark your calendars for April 24-26, 2009, and join us in Potter County. The event registration deadline is April 6th. No refunds will be issued after April 10th.

Any questions, please contact Becky Schreiber, Program Administrator by email at ktaadmin@verizon.net or phone at 717.238.7017.



*Water Tank Vista
Photo by Curt Weinhold*

Hiking in Potter County, God's Country by Wanda Shirk

Legend has it that God created the world in six days, and on the seventh day He rested ... in POTTER COUNTY -- thus its designation as "God's Country." Hikers who can get to the KTA Spring Hiking Weekend, April 24-26, 2009, will have the chance to see, hear, smell, taste and feel the Potter County delights that substantiate the county's long-standing claim to be a piece of heaven on earth.

Scenic Route 6 divides Potter County into two dissimilar sectors which resulted from melting at a glacier's southern edge eons ago. Northern Potter County was smoothed into rolling farmland suitable for dairying and for production of many vegetables and grains, but southern Potter County's steep, rocky hills created by glacial meltwaters are unsuited for agriculture or for much of anything else except peaceful

forests and the pleasures of foot-travel in the woodlands.

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*Cherry Springs Dark Sky Park
Photo by Curt Weinhold*

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Information Resources:

- Cherry Springs State Park
www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/parks/cherrysprings.aspx
- Pennsylvania Lumber Museum
www.lumbermuseum.org
- Pennsylvania Wilds
PAwilds.com
- Potter County Visitors Association
www.pottercountypa.org
- Susquehannock Trail Club
www.stc-hike.org

**Registration
deadline is
April 6th**

Hiking in Potter County, God's Country (continued from Page 1)

In the late 1960s, a group of hiking enthusiasts developed a plan to connect old railroad beds, logging roads, and other woodland trails into the 85 mile STS -- the Susquehannock Trail System, named for a tribe of Native Americans who inhabited this section of Pennsylvania before being wiped out by enemies a century before white men first visited here in the late eighteenth century.

Some of the KTA hikes will give members and visitors a chance to experience sections of the STS. The trail passes through two state parks, Ole Bull and Patterson, and ventures near Cherry Springs and Lyman Run state parks,



*Pennsylvania Lumber Museum
Photo by Curt Weinhold*

where other hikes may be located. The trail is well-known for such dales as Jacob's Hollow, Hogback Hollow, Hungry Hollow, Spook Hollow, and the notoriously steep Morgan Hollow, as well as for hills such as the Twin Sisters Trail and Cardiac Climb. Hike leaders may tell local legends that led to the naming of Young Woman's Creek or the Wild Boy area. Then there is the Hammersley Wild, a roadless section, with the beautiful Hammersley Pool inaccessible except to those who travel on foot along the eleven-mile section of the STS between Cross Fork and McConnell Road south of Conrad.

Potter County has lots of other history to share. One hike will culminate at the Pennsylvania Lumber Museum, with an opportunity for hikers to explore the culture of the logging era preserved there. Another hike, ending at the E. O. Austin Museum, will explore the ruins of the Austin Dam disaster which left 31 dead when the dam broke in April of 1911. A hike culminating at the Potter County Historical Society in Couders-

port will provide another opportunity for appreciation of the history of the area, with artifacts going back to Indian arrowhead collections as well as tools, clothing, and pictures from early white settlers. Other hikers may travel along Pine Creek in Galeton or up to the old Clark Farm site and the site of a Native American tent where hikers can see the sandy-spring water source and the ditch that collected water around the perimeter of the tepee early in the last century.

These are only some of the adventures awaiting in Potter County. The Susquehannock Trail Club looks forward to hosting the hikes and welcoming KTA to a wonderful weekend of hiking in "God's Country."



*Austin Dam
Photo by Curt Weinhold*

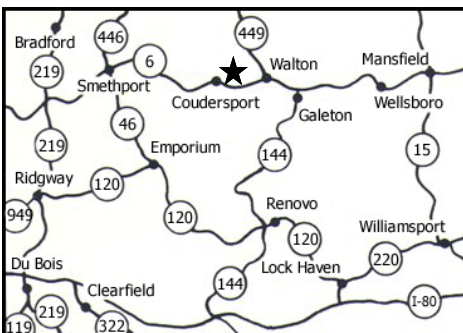
Map & Directions

Coudersport is located on scenic Route 6 in Potter County, approximately 45 miles west of Wellsboro, another popular KTA meeting location.

From **Harrisburg**, take US 15 North to Route 6 West at Mansfield.

From **Pittsburgh**, take I-79 North to I-80 East to Route 66 North to Route 6 East.

From **Philadelphia**, take I-476 North to I-80 West to US 15 North to Route 6 West at Mansfield.



Weekend Schedule

Friday, April 24

- 1:00 PM-4:00 PM: Hike with STC
- 2:00 PM: Check-in time begins at Potato City Country Inn and Susquehannock Lodge
- 5:00 PM-9:00 PM: Registration and hike sign-ups at the Potato City Country Inn lobby

Saturday, April 25

- 7:30 AM: Breakfast (please remember to pick up your bag lunch)
- 9:00 AM-4:00 PM: Hike with STC (please check hike schedule for meeting location)
- 1:00 PM-3:00 PM: KTA Board Meeting
- 4:00 PM-6:00 PM: Council Meeting
- 6:30 PM-8:00 PM: Dinner and Annual Meeting

Sunday, April 26

- 7:30 AM: Breakfast (please remember to pick up your bag lunch)
- 9:00 AM-1:00 PM: Morning Hikes (please check hike schedule for meeting location)
- 1:00 PM: Check-out time at Potato City Country Inn and Susquehannock Lodge

**See you in
Marienville!
September 25-27,
2009**

Lodging & Meals

LODGING

We will be staying at two locations during the 2009 Spring Meeting & Hiking Weekend: the Potato City Country Inn and the Susquehannock Lodge. Both lodging options are conveniently located along US Route 6 and are situated near the trailheads for the weekend's hikes.

Potato City Country Inn

3084 East Second Street
Coudersport, PA 16915
Phone: 814.274.7133
www.potatocity.com

The Potato City Country Inn offers clean, modern, air conditioned rooms with color televisions. Our hosts Ron and Judy have recently updated the rooms at the inn; each room features a unique decorating theme.

Guests staying at the Potato City Country Inn will enjoy ample parking and an on-site restaurant, which will serve as the meeting place for the Saturday dinner and membership meeting.

Double occupancy rooms are available with queen size or two single beds, as well as lodging opportunities for groups of three or more.



Hikers will receive a warm welcome at the Potato City Country Inn

Other Lodging Options

Denton Hill Ski Area

5661 US Route 6
Coudersport, PA 16915
Telephone: 814.435.2115
www.skidenton.com

Mill Stream Inn

918 East Second Street
Coudersport, PA 16915
Telephone: 814.274.9900
www.millstreaminn.com

Susquehannock Lodge

5039 US 6 West
Ulysses, PA 16948
Phone: 814.435.2163
www.susquehannock-lodge.com

The Susquehannock Lodge is a warm and friendly country inn, where hosts Ed and Carol will welcome guests with clean and comfortable accommodations and an informal and friendly family atmosphere. A variety of private and semi-private rooms (shared bath) are available.



Enjoy a comfortable stay at the Susquehannock Lodge

MEALS

Guests staying at both the Potato City Country Inn and Susquehannock Lodge will enjoy a hearty breakfast and a filling bag lunch on both Saturday and Sunday. The Saturday dinner and annual meeting will be held in the banquet hall at the Potato City Country Inn. The buffet style dinner will have vegetarian options available.

Event attendees that choose alternate lodging may join us for the Saturday dinner and annual meeting for \$23.

Reservations for the Potato City Country Inn and the Susquehannock Lodge must be made through KTA. Additional lodging opportunities are available for groups of three or more who are looking for budget friendly options. We are also able to accommodate groups of three or more who are interested in shared rooms. Please contact Becky at 717.238.7017 or ktaadmin@verizon.net for additional information and pricing.

Lodging & Meals	Private (<u>Per Person</u> for Two Nights and Five Meals)	Shared Bathroom (<u>Per Person</u> for Two Nights and Five Meals)
Single	\$204	-----
Double	\$131	\$118
Groups of 3+	<i>Please call to confirm availability and pricing</i>	

Potter County Family Campground

375 East Second Street
Coudersport, PA 16915
Telephone: 814.274.5010
www.pottercountycamping.com

Sweden Valley Motel

1307 East Second Street
Coudersport, PA 16915
Telephone: 814.274.8770

Lindy Motel

US Route 6 West
Coudersport, PA 16915
Telephone: 814.274.0327

Laurelwood Inn

1115 East Second Street
Coudersport, PA 16915
Telephone: 814.274.9220
laurelwoodinn.com



KEYSTONE TRAILS ASSOCIATION
2009 Annual Spring Meeting & Hiking Weekend
April 24-26, 2009

Name: _____ Telephone: _____

Club Affiliation (if any): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____ E-mail: _____

**Please note below the names of all individuals covered by this reservation, or with whom you will be sharing your lodgings, even if his or her reservation is not enclosed with yours.

LODGING & MEALS PRICING INFORMATION:

Price listed is per person. The price includes two nights accommodation (Friday and Saturday night), as well as five meals (Saturday breakfast, Saturday lunch, Saturday dinner, Sunday breakfast, and Sunday lunch). Individuals who choose to stay at an alternate location will still need to pay the registration fee to participate in the guided hikes.

Lodging Preference: _____ Potato City Country Inn _____ Susquehannock Lodge _____ No Preference
_____ Please return my registration if my lodging preference is not available.

Single: Private _____ @ \$204 per adult

Double (1 Queen 2 Singles): Private _____ @ \$131 per adult Shared Bathroom _____ @ \$118 per adult

Weekend Package Pricing Total: \$ _____

We are also able to accommodate groups of 3 or more who are interested in shared lodging. Please contact Becky at 717.238.7017 or ktaadmin@verizon.net for additional information and pricing.

Attending Saturday Dinner and Annual Meeting at the Potato City Country Inn only
_____ adults @ \$23: \$ _____

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP OR MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL:

I'd like to join KTA or renew for another year.

New Membership: _____ adults @ \$15 Renewal Membership: _____ adults @ \$25
Membership Total: \$ _____

REGISTRATION FEE (If you are only attending the dinner and evening program, you may omit the registration fee.)
_____ Adults @ \$20 (KTA Members): \$ _____
_____ Adults @ \$40 (Non-Members): \$ _____
Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Mail completed form with your check or money order to:

Keystone Trails Association, 101 N. Front Street, Harrisburg, PA 17101

RESERVATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY APRIL 6, 2009.
NO REFUNDS WILL BE ISSUED AFTER APRIL 10, 2009.
Reservation requests filled on a first come, first served basis.

Detach Form and Return to KTA

Area Outdoor Educational Events and Activities

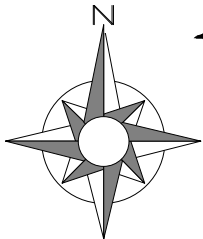
Feb 28	<p>The Butler-Freeport Community Trail Council will be holding a free geocaching class for anyone interested from 10 am to noon at the Summit Township building on Bonnybrook Rd. The GPS coordinates of our adjacent trailhead is N40 50.120 W079 49.257. The Feb 7th first class is for those who have never tried geocaching but would like to learn. The 28th class will be an advanced beginner class, for those who came to the first class or who have some experience already. By Feb. 28th, all participants should go to www.geocaching.com to become a member of the geocaching community.</p> <p>The Trail has a limited number of GPS units that will be available for use free of charge. Interested participants may email Franny Ritchie, the Trail Activities Coordinator, if they would like to reserve one (first come, first serve) Any questions can be directed to Franny at fritchier@aswp.org or at 724-353-9012. We hope to see you there! See link to event listing on Geocaching.com: http://www.geocaching.com/seek/cache_details.aspx?guid=d898c07d-1e93-4b53-b42d-5e2e79988535</p>
Mar 4	<p>Our monthly meetings are 6:30 pm social hour, 7:30 pm announcements and 8:00 program on the first Wed. of each month usually at the Butler YMCA, 339 N. Washington, St. Butler, Pa.</p> <p>Indoor kite flying program and demo at the March BOC meeting. Come learn how you can fly indoors and how indoor technique can be used to improve your outdoor fun with kites. Tom Baumgardner has two National Championships as well as a 2nd place in indoor dual line will demonstrate his indoor flying technique as well as allowing others to try this unique activity. Indoor kite flying uses no fans and has no moving air to assist the kite flyer. Indoor kite flying is all about efficiency of movement to keep ultra light kites aloft with the least amount of effort.</p>
Mar 7	<p>THE PROVIDENCE PLANTATION FOUNDATION Requests the Pleasure of Your Company at A Colonial Evening at Providence Plantation A unique program of 18th Century Entertainment, Music, Food, & Period Character Interpretation This year's theme is The Indian Trade: 1730 – 1753. How the Indian Trade Began in the Upper Ohio Valley Saturday, March 7, 2009 4:00 to 7:00 pm The Evening Program includes: Introduction to the Plantation - Welcome & Reception Music and Song - Interpretive Presentations Period Candle Light Dinner The registration is \$25.00 per adult and \$15.00 for children under the age of twelve. Reservations are required. The Providence Plantation Foundation, Inc. 300 Textor Hill Road, Evans City, PA 16033 Voice (724) 538-8818 - fax (724) 538-1033 www.frontier-history.org Email - providence@zoominternet.net</p>
Mar 8	<p>Allegheny Outdoor Club Picnic and Hike Hearts Content Meet at Musante Street at 1:30 p.m. Hike Toms Run. Bring a dish to share. Pat Spicer leader, 814-757-8331.</p>
Mar 14	<p>Saturday March 14th, 9:30 AM. Hike on the new sections of NCT in the Wampum Chapter area. More details to follow. contact John Stehle, cell 724-256-0674, stehles@yahoo.com</p>
Mar 15	<p>Sierra Club Event: Hike an intermediate 7.5 mile loop around the perimeter in North Park. (\$5 carpool - 18 miles from Shadyside) Call Judy or Don Ziegler, 412-826-0519.</p>
Mar 22	<p>Allegheny Outing Club Hike on the Portage Trail. This is a long hike, about 15 miles, from Chautauqua Lake at Mayville to Lake Erie. Meet at the train station in Mayville at 10:00 a.m. Bring a lunch. Dennis Anderson leader, 716-483-2288.</p>
Mar 29	<p>"Maple Sugaring" Program 2:00pm at Jennings Environmental Education Center, 2951 Prospect Rd., Slippery Rock. Celebrate the end of winter with the seasonal tradition of maple sugaring. This presentation will unravel the mystery of how a tree works and demonstrate the art of maple sugaring from past to present. The program will begin indoors and move outside for a guided walk featuring a working evaporator and a taste of spring itself, real maple syrup. Free program. 724-794-6011. wilbutaylo@state.pa.us visitpaparks.com</p>
Mar 29	<p>Sierra Club Event: Hike - moderately strenuous and somewhat exploratory - A loop hike in Beaver Creek State Park on scenic Little Beaver Creek near Fredericktown, including sections of the national North</p>

	Country Trail. Well-preserved canal locks. (\$7.50 carpool – 50 miles) Call Dick Pratt, 412-362-5567.
Apr 04	BOC Spring Waterfowl Birding Day. Meet at Waterfowl Observation Deck at Moraine State Park at Old Rt 422 at 8:00. We will watch birds their for 45 minutes then begin moving to other sites on Lake Arthur until noon. Then after lunch we will head North to Conneaugt Swamps. Join us for either half of the day. Of course bring bino's or a scope if you have them, but come even if you don't have binos or other birding gear. I'll bring some extra. Dress for a possible cold windy day. - contact John Stehle, cell 724-256-0674, stehles@yahoo.com
Apr 04	April 4: Program at Providence Plantation. The Traders: French and English. 5-8 PM. 300 Textor Hill Road, Evans City. Programs include: introduction to the frontier, tour of the plantation site, welcome and reception, music and song, interpretive presentations, and period candle light dinner. \$25/person \$15/under age 12. Reservations required a week in advance. 724-538-8818. www.frontier-history.org
Apr 04	April 4: Angler Raffle and Outdoor Show. 11 AM-6 PM. Gates open at 10 AM. \$20/advance; \$25/day of show. Ticket includes entry fee, chance to win, food and beverage. Prizes given away every 20-30 minutes. At the Saxonburg Fireman's Ballroom and Carnival Grounds. 723-352-3300. www.svfc.com
Apr 24	KTA Hosts Annual Spring Meeting in Potter County See flyer in newsletter.
May 1-3	3rd Annual Birds and Nature Festival - in the Oil Heritage Region of NW Pa. - Guided Bird Walks, Nature Hikes, Workshops For more information call Toni Kresinski, 814.677.3152 ext 110 or 800.483.6264 ext 110
May 22-25	2009 Outdoor Extravaganza over Memorial Day Weekend is near McConnells Mill State Park and Moraine State Park, Pennsylvania. It is sponsored by Butler Outdoor Club and is full of various outdoor activities to choose from: hiking, biking, canoeing, kayaking, rafting, horseback riding, sailing, caving, rock climbing, pontoon boat tour of Lake Arthur, fun workshops, historic tour of Old Stone House, and you will have a chance to follow the footsteps of George Washington. Leaders and Instructors provide the activity of your choice. Meet them each morning at Breakneck Campground 9 AM to go to where the trip or fun workshop takes place. There will also be childrens activities and a gear exchange/flea market during the weekend. Friday night is a Weiner Roast/Picnic and Sat. night is a Pig Roast. Every night brings evening entertainment. Camping and Food at Breakneck Campground is optional. One of the evening highlights will be a reannactment of what really took place at Murdering Town with George Washington, Christopher Grist and the local Indians!! Come join us for a day or a fun-filled weekend of things to do. Register early because some things fill up and besides early bird bonus by April 20 is 10% discount. Late fee after May 10. Contact Joyce Appel for details and registration. 724-526-5407 or joyceappel@windstream.net
Jun 6-10	North Country Scenic Trail Adventure Crew work week led by Andy Bashaw NCTA
Jul 10-19	BOC Maine Campout Joyce Appel and Paul Henry plan to coordinate our annual campout this year at the camp of Carol and John Gregory, who were some of our original BOC members and still are !!! It is located near Acadia National Park in Maine. Limited space to sleep in the camp but we will also take tents to accomodate people in the large yard. Plan to rent a 12 passenger van, maybe two if enough are interested. We will pull a trailer with canoes and if we have a second van, we will pull an extra car. We will leave Friday night or Sat.morning and head home the following Sat., getting back Sun. There will be lots to do. The camp is on a large lake where you can hike or paddle. Hiking trails, biking, other boating places, festivals, museums, quaint towns and villages are all nearby, besides Acadia National Park which is along the ocean where you can tour around, walk around, hike, bike etc., and Baxter State Park in central Maine where you can hike around the bottom or hike to the top of Katahdin, largest mt.peak in Maine. I strongly advise the Katahdin hike for those of you who like to hike and John Gregory would love to lead you on that trip...a hike you will never forget and cannot be described. It will be a wonderful time

	<p>and it has been a dream of John and Carol to buy a camp where BOC could come up and have a campout!!! So their dream has come true and we heading there this summer for a week of fun and fellowship. Call or email Joyce for details and plans. Plan to join us by getting days off work if needed and mark your calendar. Contact Joyce Appel to reserve your spot with a down payment towards gas and van rental. 724-526-5407 or joyceappel@windstream.net</p>
<p>Jul 22- 26</p>	<p>THE 7TH GREENWAY SOJOURN will lead 250 cyclists on a ride through one of Pennsylvania's most spectacular natural areas. The route of the Greenway Sojourn will focus on the 64-mile Pine Creek Rail Trail, which parallels the creek through the heart of the Pine Creek Gorge The trail is bordered on every side by State Forest lands. Expect friendly rural hamlets, as well as spectacular vistas and wildlife viewing including bald eagles, deer, turkey and otter. The Sojourn Route Automobile parking at our starting point in Williamsport is included in the registration fee. We will camp along Pine Creek for two nights and in Williamsport and Wellsboro the other two. Each day we ride approximately 50 miles for a total of a total of 200 miles. Plan to arrive in Williamsport, Pa., on the evening of Wednesday, July 22, so you can be fresh for your ride first thing the next morning. Beginning on Thursday, July 23, Sojourners will pedal west, on-road for 15 miles to the southern trailhead of the Pine Creek Rail Trail in Jersey Shore. We then ride the trail north, stopping for one overnight along the trail at creek-side. Our next stop is Wellsboro, Pa., where gas lamps light your way to shops and restaurants. We then return south on the trail, camping creek-side once again before returning Sunday, July 26, to Williamsport. The trail's crushed limestone surface is compact and smooth and does not require a mountain bike. There is a very slight uphill grade from south to north but being a former railroad bed, the grade is hardly noticeable. Split-rail fencing, deciduous trees and grasses line the trail passes country roads or private cabins, and most every village has a vendor to supply snacks and drinks along the way. Inside the designated natural area, the trail runs high above the beautiful Pine Creek, passes dramatic rock walls and numerous waterfalls. There are several opportunities to stop and explore hiking trails along the route. Click for registration form</p>
<p>Jul 29- Aug 3</p>	<p>July 29 - Aug. 3. North Country Trail National Conference is hosted this year by North Dakota. It will take place in Valley City. They hosted a wonderful time 7 years ago when it was there so expect a great time this year!!! Joyce Appel plans to rent a 15 passenger van to take interested PA and Ohio people. Van will leave Wed. morning July 29. Many great hikes, workshops, great food and evening entertainment Thursday to Sunday. Van will head home Sunday Aug.2 to get back Mon. Aug. 3. Contact Joyce to be part of the Van group. Down payment toward gas and van required to reserve your spot. 724-526-5407 or joyceappel@windstream.net</p>
<p>Aug 12- 16</p>	<p>The 2009 Lake Erie Sojourn "I don't just paddle it, I drink it!" is scheduled for August 12-16. Kathleen Ryan returns as coordinator. The trip includes 12 meals and 4 nights of camping (2 at beautiful Beach 11 on Presque Isle State Park) and covers approximately 37 miles of open-water paddling. Need at least 30 paddlers. Limit is 50 paddlers. Cost: Full Sojourn \$260.00. Single Day with one overnight - \$75.00. Questions - Contact Kathleen Ryan at 814-833-0793 or e-mail kryan@state.pa.us</p>
<p>Aug 15- 16</p>	<p>BOC Kinzua Paddle/Backpacking trip to Morrison Run Camp ground on 8/15/09. Overnight or longer stay at campsites #23 and 24 along the reservoir with additional sites 27 and 28 along the hillside. Additional sites may be needed depending on participation. Paddlers would meet at the canoe launch area at the west side of the southern end of Red Bridge on Rt. 321 at 9:00AM. There they can unload the boats and gear. Parking would be at the Longhouse Trail Head south of the bridge(parking at the canoe launch area is limited) along Rt. 321 north of Kane. Cost for sites is \$10 per night and they cannot be reserved. The paddle is 6-7 miles to Morrison. Backpackers should meet at the trail head along Rt. 59 3.9 miles east of Morrison Bridge at a time of choice. From here it is approx. 5 miles to the sites. Last information is that two tents can be at each site. Water and pit toilets are available. Packets of info will be mailed to John for distribution at the next meeting. A full list of participants is needed with phone numbers in case of bad weather. Contact Dave Myers 724-588-2767</p>



Alleghany State Park Trip 2009



The Compass

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