

The Compass

The Butler Outdoor Club Newsletter Butler, Pennsylvania

Issue # 13 Month # 09

September 2009

Sept 2 Monthly Meeting

Join us Wed. Sept 2 at 6:00pm at the Moraine State Park North Shore Lakeview Area Shelter For a corn roast. Bring a dish to share, the BOC will provide corn on the cob and hot dogs.



Come early and hike or bike or paddle the lake or swim at the Lakeview swim area.

Nov 14 BOC Annual Dinner

The 14th Annual BOC Dinner will soon be upon us. This year it will be held at the Highfield Community Center, in Lyndora PA on Saturday, November 14th. As usual, this event takes a little help from a lot of people. Please consider offering your help by coming to the planning meeting which will be at 6:00, right before the October membership meeting on October 7th. Or contact John Stehle cell 724-256-0674 or Jean Adams 724-453-1685 to offer your services.

BOC Monthly Board Meetings

As a member of the club, you are welcome and encouraged to come to the monthly meeting of the board of directors. We meet on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at the YMCA from 7 to 9 PM. We always need the input and enthusiasm of our members. Please consider doing your part to make our club be the best it can be. Help us plan our future events and activities. Thanks.

YMCA Thank You Letter

Each year the BOC makes a donation to the Butler YMCA in appreciation of providing space for our monthly membership and board meetings. See page 3 for a copy of their thank you letter.

BOC Labor Day Weekend Campout

Let's go camping at Ohiopyle on Labor Day weekend again. Last year everyone had a good time.

Activities: Biking, paddling, White water rafting, hiking, touring. On Sunday in Ohiopyle, there will be the 21st Annual Music In the Mountain Festival: Come to the Falls Area and enjoy this annual Ohiopyle tradition. The festival has expanded to include: music, crafts, food, interpretative programming, a climbing wall, helicopter rides, and Saturday night fireworks over the Falls.

Camping sites are going fast. I have reserved two non-electric sites in the "IVY" area: number 199 and 200 for Saturday and Sunday night (9/5 to 9/6/2009). Each site can hold 5 people, and two cars. If you want to share one of those sites, let me know.

Other sites available in the IVY group have electric service available, and there are a couple of cabins available. You will have to reserve one of these sites yourself. Make a reservation at <http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/>

Here is a map of the Kentuck Campground at Ohiopyle.

http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/parks/ohiopyle/ohiopyle_camp.pdf

John Stehle
Cell 724-256-0674



BOC Trip to Maine

21 of us headed for Maine near the beginning of August, 3 cars, an RV and 15 passenger van. We loaded our gear, canoe, kayaks and bikes and off we went to a cottage owned by BOC members John and Carol Gregory. They met in BOC, moved to Maine a few years ago, got married and now live in Old Town, Maine. They always had this dream to buy a cottage and have BOC come up for a campout. Well, they found one and bought it. I decided this was the summer to make the rest happen....we will head to Maine for that "BOC Campout."

What a host and hostess we had. They went all out in getting the cottage and surrounding property ready for us...porta potty, bonfires, outside sink, bug light, picnic table with gazebo, outside shower, places for our tents, boats, bikes, etc. etc. The list could go on and on. We planned on cooking our own food and eating out. But the food kept coming and coming!!!! We did eat out a few times to have seafood and lobster.

The days were filled with paddling on the lake that the cottage is on, going into Acadia and nearby places for wonderful hikes, bike rides, whale watching, bay paddling, river paddling and roaming around Bar Harbor. 4 people decided to hike up Kitahdyn also.with John. What a wonderful, fantastic time we all had, day and night.

Of course we had to have smores at least one night. I also made up a game called "Dream Vacation to Maine" where we all were the human moving pieces around the yard. There were bonus moves, tokens, and questions pertaining to Maine, to BOC and our past memories with John and Carol, which made the game interesting. And there could not be a "Joyce" game without prizes, so I hope everyone had a good time playing it in spite of the mosquitoes that tried to eat us alive that evening.

Thank you John and Carol for giving all of us some precious memories of Maine and spending time with you. It will always remain a memorable time in our lives.

Joyce Appel



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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



YMCA

We build strong kids,
strong families, strong communities.

July 2, 2009

John Stehle
The Butler Outdoor Club
P.O. Box 243
Butler, PA 16003

Dear John:

Thank you for enriching the lives of the children and families in our community by contributing \$200 (ck# 334) to the YMCA's 2009 Strong Kids Annual Giving Campaign. We are happy to allow the Butler Outdoor Club to use the YMCA's facilities and hope that we can continue to be of assistance to you in the future.

We have decided that the best use of your contribution will be to put it towards the 2009 Strong Kids Annual Giving Campaign. This campaign helps us provide memberships to the YMCA for those who cannot afford them and to support life-enhancing programming for all. Thank you for believing in the YMCA's mission to put Christian principles into practice through programs that build healthy spirit, mind, and body for all.

Please accept the sincerest thanks of the Trustees, Board members, and staff of the Butler County Family YMCA.

Sincerely,

Larry W. Garvin
President/CEO

In accordance with IRS regulations, the Butler County Family YMCA acknowledges that we did not provide goods or services to you, in whole or part, for this contribution.

Butler County Family YMCA • 339 N. Washington Street • Butler, PA 16001
direct (724) 287-4733 • fax (724) 287-1007 • www.bcfymca.org

YMCA mission: To put Christian principles into practice through programs that build healthy spirit, mind, and body for all.



Area Outdoor Activities and Events

Aug 26	<p>Moraine State Park Program: Work off the Day Kayak Paddle 6:00 PM Work off your day's frustrations or just come out to the park for an exercise kayak paddle. Meet the park naturalist at the Bear Run boat launch on the South Shore of Moraine State park for a fast paced, guided kayak trip. This trip is designed for those that want to get in a workout while they paddle. Participants may bring their own kayak, or borrow one of Moraine's kayaks. To reserve a kayak or to register, call the park office at 724-368-8811. Participants that use park kayaks must be at least 12 years of age. An adult must accompany those participants that are under the age of 18. Bring drinking water.</p>
Aug 29- 30	<p>BOC Tour de NCTA Stage 5, will be Aug 29 and 30, 2009 in the Allegheny National Forest. Stage 5, will be Aug 29 and 30, 2009 in the Allegheny National Forest. Stage two has gotten us 12 miles south of the New York border, so we will pickup the trail where we left off doing 3 sections that wind along Route 321. The section south of Rt 321 at Sugar Run to Route 59 is 5.8 miles. The section From Rt 59 South to Route 321 (again) is 6.7 miles. The third section from 321 to 321(one more time) is 5.3 miles. We will do the middle section of 6.7 miles south of Route 59 on Saturday, camp overnight at Tracy Ridge camp ground, then hike the 1st and 3rd sections for a total of 11.1 miles on Sunday. The two days together will be 17.8 miles. Just like Stage 2, this is a strenuous hike, so you should be in decent shape and have good shoes. We will meet at the trail head at Route 59 at 11:00 on Saturday Aug 29, setup the shuttle, and be hiking by 11:30. After the hike we will drive to and camp-out at Tracy Ridge. On Sunday we will resume pickup the first of the 3 sections at Route 321 at Sugar Run to Route 59. Then in the afternoon we drive to and setup a shuttle for the 3rd section of 5.3 miles ending at the Red Bridge Recreation Area. For planning purposes, contact me if you plan to join us, or are interested in doing just the Sunday portion. John Stehle Cell 724-256-0674 Email stehles@yahoo.com.</p>
Aug 29	<p>A 50-mile ultramarathon on the central section of the Baker Trail Saturday Aug 29, 2009 from 06:30 am to 08:30 pm Our annual 50-mile ultramarathon and relay. It begins in Summerville and ends at a private farm near Smicksburg where runners can shower and enjoy plenty of food and drink More details: http://www.rachelcarsontrails.org/bt/ultrachallenge/uc09/baker-trail-ultrachallenge</p>
Aug 29	<p>Moraine State Park Program: Walk with the Mammals 1:30 PM What do you and I have in common with much of the wildlife that calls Moraine State Park its home? We are also mammals and we have a lot of things in common. Join the park naturalist at the Lakeview Beach area pavilion # 4 for a program that will discuss some of the similarities and differences among different types of mammals and how they survive in their habitat. We will also take a short hike to look for evidence of these mammals that are all around us.</p>
Aug 29	<p>McConnell's Mill State Park Program: Art in Nature 2:00 PM Whether you like scrap booking, stamping, or wildflower collecting, join the park naturalist for a look at collecting and pressing flowers. Put those invasive species to good use and learn environmentally responsible techniques for plant collection. Meet us at Kildoo Picnic Area in McConnells Mill State Park, ready to design and create your own work. For more information contact McConnells Mill State Park at 724 368-9320 or mcmill@localnet.com</p>
Aug 30	<p>McConnell's Mill State Park Program: Slippery Rock Gorge Trail Hike 1:00 PM Our most challenging guided hike of the summer. Meet park staff at Eckert Bridge parking lot (no facilities) from where we will hike the Slippery Rock Gorge Trail (Part of the North Country Trail) 6.2 miles to Hell's Hollow, where a park vehicle will shuttle you back to Eckert Bridge. Allow a minimum of 4.5 hours for the hike, and bring food & drink, as we will stop to eat along the trail. For more information contact McConnells Mill State Park at 724 368-9320 or mcmill@localnet.com</p>
Aug 30	<p>Moraine State Park Program: Nature Watch Kayaking 10:00 AM Experience the peace and tranquility that can be yours floating on Lake Arthur. This entry-level kayaking program is designed to meet the needs of those more interested in an easy peaceful experience rather than a long hard paddle. Meet the park naturalist at the McDanel's launch area on the North Shore of Moraine to learn about and experience the peace and beauty that Moraine has to offer. Participants may bring their own kayak, or borrow one of Moraine's kayaks. To reserve a kayak or to register, call the park office at 724-368-8811. Participants that</p>

	use park kayaks must be at least 12 years of age. An adult must accompany those participants that are under the age of 18. Bring drinking water.
Sep 2	BOC monthly meeting 6:00 pm Join us at a shelter at Moraine State Park North Shore Lakeview Beach area for a corn roast. BOC will supply corn on the cob. Bring a dish to share. John Stehle Cell 724-256-0674
Sep 4	Moraine State Park Program: "Bats are our Friends" 7:00 PM Mysterious and often misunderstood, bats are one of our friends of the night sky. Meet the park naturalist at the Mt. Zion Baptist Church on route 528 to see a bat condo in action and explore the wonders of these nighttime insectivores.
Sep 5-7	Let's go camping at Ohiopyle on Labor Day weekend again. Last year everyone had a good time. Activities: Biking, paddling, White water rafting, hiking, touring. On Sunday in Ohiopyle, there will be the 21st Annual Music In the Mountain Festival: Come to the Falls Area and enjoy this annual Ohiopyle tradition. The festival has expanded to include: music, crafts, food, interpretative programming, a climbing wall, helicopter rides, and Saturday night fireworks over the Falls. Camping sites are going fast. I have reserved two non-electric sites in the "IVY" area: number 199 and 200 for Saturday and Sunday night (9/5 to 9/6/2009). Each site can hold 5 people, and two cars. If you want to share one of those sites, let me know. Other sites available in the IVY group have electric service available, and there are a couple of cabins available. You will have to reserve one of these sites yourself. Make a reservation at http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/ Here is a map of the Kentuck Campground . http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/parks/ohiopyle/ohiopyle_camp.pdf John Stehle Cell 724-256-0674
Sep 5	McConnell's Mill State Park Program: Whole Grain Goodness 2:00 PM What made a gristmill the center of a community? Why are grains so important in our diet? How are whole grains different than processed grains? Meet in the mill courtyard to participate in a corn grinding demonstration and see grains in action. Park at Kildoo Picnic Area and allow time to walk down to the mill. Handicapped and physically challenged parking is available at the mill. For more information contact McConnells Mill State Park at 724 368-9320 or mcmill@localnet.com
Sep 12	Moraine State Park Program: "Historic Oil Well Operation" 10:00 AM Come and see the abandoned turn of the century oil well and pumping engine that have been restored to working order. The well will operate from 10:00 am until 4:00 pm. Park staff and volunteers will be there to operate the engine and answer your questions. So come out and see the Bessemer engine pump some Pennsylvania crude. The central powerhouse site is located beyond the Forestry & Regional office building on Park Rd. (Old 422) off of route 528.
Sep 12	Moraine State Park Program: "Bike and Learn" 1:30 PM Join park staff at the bike rental station on the North Shore of Moraine State Park for a guided bike ride. We will discuss the natural and man-made factors that make Moraine State Park a unique resource. Participants can bring their own bicycle or contact the concessionaire at 724-368-9011 for rental information. Please dress for the weather conditions and bring water. Our bike trail is paved and has some short, rolling hills. This ride is designed for the entire family.
Sep 12	McConnell's Mill State Park Program: Hell's Hollow Walk 2:00 PM Join the park naturalist for a leisurely paced walk along a lovely trail in McConnells Mill State Park. The path through Hell's Hollow, despite the name, is easy hiking, with lots to see along the 1/2-mile path. Meet at the Hell's Hollow parking lot, no facilities, at 2:00 PM and allow for a 15-minute drive if coming from the old mill. For more information contact McConnells Mill State Park at 724 368-9320 or mcmill@localnet.com
Sep 14	BARTRAMIAN AUDUBON SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP MEETING SEPTEMBER 14, 2009 VERNAL POOLS WITH WILL TAYLOR Join Will Taylor, Program Coordinator for Jennings Environmental Education Center, as he gives a presentation on the benefits of vernal pools. What is a vernal pool? Come find out. Weather permitting, we will go outside to see one up close. This is a must for anyone creating a backyard habitat for wildlife. The meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. Monday, September 14, at the Jennings Environmental Education Center, 2961 Prospect Road, Slippery Rock, PA. The center is located

	on Rt. 528 just west of its junction with Rt. 8, about five miles south of Slippery Rock. Our meetings are free and open to the public, and refreshments will be served. For more information, contact Nancy Baker at 814-437-5858 or nbaker@conline.net.
Sep 19	Moraine State Park Program: "Discover Lake Arthur" 10:30 AM 3225 acre Lake Arthur is the crown jewel of Moraine State Park. The lake has approximately 42 miles of shoreline to explore. Meet the park naturalist at the Davis Hollow public boat launch on the North Shore of Moraine State Park to paddle miles of lakeshore and see Moraine from a different view. This is a moderately strenuous kayaking program. Participants may bring their own kayak, or borrow one of Moraine's kayaks. To reserve a kayak or to register, call the park office at 724-368-8811. Participants that use park kayaks must be at least 12 years of age. An adult must accompany those participants that are under the age of 18. Bring drinking water.
Sep 20	Moraine State Park Program: "Acid Mine Drainage" 1:30 PM Moraine State Park was created in an area that contained many types of mines. Join the park naturalist and volunteer Jay Winter at the former Marina Restaurant located just before the Davis Hollow Marina on the North Shore of Moraine State Park for this fascinating program. Jay will present information about acid mine drainage at Moraine and the remediation steps that have been taken to protect the lake. The presentation will be followed by a trip out to the passive mine treatment system at Moraine and we will explore how this amazing system works. Participants should be prepared to drive to another site for this program.
Sep 23	Fall Watercolor Painting on LAKE ARTHUR AT MORAINE STATE PARK McDanel's Launch 118 North Shore Drive Portersville, PA Wednesday, September 23 9 AM until Noon (rain or shine) We will photograph, sketch, paint, and otherwise gather subject matter for paintings. Bill Perry will discuss and demonstrate various ways to handle the unique perspective we will gain from the boat. Limited enrollment: Call now! For additional details and to enroll for this excursion, please contact: Carol at 724-368-9185 or email her at contactm@nauticom.net Cost of this excursion is \$20 for the morning on the boat.
Sep 26-27	McConnells Mill 17th Annual Heritage Festival History is in motion at the 17th Annual Heritage Festival at McConnells Mill State Park. The festival celebrates the operational time period of the historical gristmill-from 1852 to 1928, and costumed vendors will display crafts inspired by this time. Bluegrass music and free tours of the mill will be offered. A turbine has been installed in the historic gristmill to demonstrate corn grinding and the fascinating machinery that ground the grain for the community surrounding Slippery Rock Gorge. A civil war encampment brings history to life, and artisans & craftsmen will demonstrate their skills throughout the festival. The Portersville-Prospect Rotary Club, aided by several local businesses and non-profit organizations, sponsors the Festival. Admission and parking are free. For more information contact McConnells Mill State Park at 724 368-9320 or mcmill@localnet.com
Oct 3	BOC Oil Creek Railroad Bike & Train Ride On Saturday, October 3, plan to bring your bike and ride the train for a scenic trip through the park with your bicycle on board.. We start @ Petroleum Center, along Route 8 promptly @ 11:50 AM and end up in Oil Creek State Park in one hour. Then unload your bike for an easy ten mile ride back to Petroleum Center. I've planned the trip to coincide with Franklin's Big Apple Fest in the heart of Franklin, Route 8. Adult Fee: \$12. includes \$1 bicycle fee 12 Years and under: \$10. incl. bicycle. Joanne Winwood 412-371-3167
Oct 3	WALKIN' JIM STOLTZ CONCERT: FOREVER WILD: A CELEBRATION OF WILDERNESS Location: Erie Unitarian Universalist Church, Erie, Pennsylvania Date: Saturday, October 3, 2009, 7:00 pm. \$12 in advance (\$15 at the door the day of the show). Send check or money order made out to "Friends of Allegheny Wilderness" at the address below. Friends of Allegheny Wilderness 220 Center Street Warren, PA 16365 This event is sponsored by and is a fundraiser for Friends of Allegheny Wilderness. Celebrating the 25th anniversary of the Pennsylvania Wilderness Act. For directions to the Church or other info. contact Joe Hardisky 724-924-9248 hardis123@msn.com
Oct 11	The Autumn meeting of the PA State Council of the North Country Trail will be held at the Lion's Den (4 W. Main St, 16347) in Sheffield on Sunday, October 11th at 11AM. Paul Henry PA State Council Chair

Susquehanna Super Hike

On September 12, 2009, the Keystone Trails Association is proud to sponsor the Susquehanna Super Hike, a 25-mile hiking/trail runner challenge event for adventurous hikers and trail runners on the scenic rolling river hills of the lower Susquehanna Gorge. This daunting hike and trail run on the Mason-Dixon and Conestoga Trails alternates breathtaking vistas with steep descents into dark, scenic hollows followed by strenuous climbs to the next vista. Prepare yourself for the steep hills, rocky terrain and deep ravines of the Susquehanna Super Hike, an arduous, undulating and challenging course.

The event course will traverse both sides of the Susquehanna River in York and Lancaster Counties. The Super Hike will begin at 6:30 am at the York Hiking Club clubhouse just north of the Otter Creek Campground on Rt. 425 in York County and mostly follows the Mason-Dixon Trail south to the Norman Wood Bridge. From there it connects with the Conestoga Trail, crossing the bridge and continuing north while paralleling the Susquehanna River. It finally finishes at the Pequea Creek Campground, one mile east of the village of Pequea in Lancaster County.

At least 11 significant climbs with 4,203' elevation gain and 4,191' elevation loss for a total elevation change of 8,394' are encountered along the route! The Susquehanna Super Hike will prove a challenge to even the most adventurous hikers and trail runners. *Hikers and runners familiar with the route and similar events have described the Super Hike as one of the most challenging events of its kind in the mid-Atlantic region. Will you agree?*

Just a few of the highlights include Urey Overlook, Oakland Run, historic Lock 12, crossing the Susquehanna River on the Norman Wood Bridge, Face Rock Overlook, Kelly's Run, the Pinnacle Overlook, Tucquan Creek, and Wind Cave. In this timed event, runners will release through the starting gate ahead of the hikers. Participants are required - for safety reasons - to reach each checkpoint within a certain time period and to complete the hike no later than 7:00 pm (12.5 hours from the start). This requires a minimum pace of 2 miles per hour for the entire route.

The registration fee is \$50 for participants registering on or before August 22 and includes bus transportation from Pequea Creek Campground to the starting point, snacks and beverages at three checkpoints along the route, a picnic dinner at the finish, a one-year membership to the Keystone Trails Association, a t-shirt, and for the finishers, a certificate. After August 22, the registration fee is \$65; on-site registration is \$80. Online registration will close at 11:59 PM on September 10. Payment on-site is by cash, check or money order only.

Check-in will be Friday 9/11 from 4:00 to 8:00 pm at the York Hiking Club clubhouse and Saturday 9/12 from 5:00 to 6:30 am at the clubhouse. Buses will leave Pequea Campground Saturday morning at 4:45, 5:00 and 5:15 am, and will arrive at the starting point at York Hiking Club clubhouse by 6:00 am. Ample parking is available at Pequea Creek Campground with this option, and your vehicle is waiting for you at the end. Parking is also available at the Otter Creek Campground for those who wish to set up a shuttle and leave vehicles at both ends of the route. **NOTE: Shuttle buses are not available to transport you back to Otter Creek Campground when you finish.**

Three trail clubs are responsible for building and maintaining the Mason-Dixon and Conestoga Trails and have been hard at work preparing the route for this event: the *York Hiking Club*, the *Lancaster Hiking Club*, and the *Mason-Dixon Trail System*. Without their efforts, the Susquehanna Super Hike would not be possible!

Call for volunteers! Is a 25-mile one-day hike more than you can handle? Please consider volunteering to help with the event. Volunteers are needed for check-in and registration, for the checkpoints, for parking and traffic control, first aid, and to assist participants in potentially confusing or hazardous locations. More than 100 volunteers are needed. If you are willing to help, please contact Becky Schreiber at ktaadmin@verizon.net or 717.238.7017.

PLEASE JOIN US!

Hello fellow outdoor enthusiasts!

Please join us in celebrating Columbia Sportswear's first anniversary starting August 29, 2009.

To celebrate, I'd like to offer you **20% off one regular priced item**. We have a great selection of fall merchandise arriving daily. Be one of the first to shop and save! Simply print this email and bring it into our store between August 29th and September 6th to obtain your 20% discount.

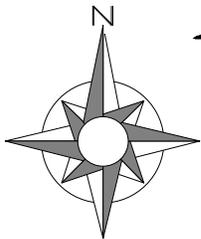
Tanger Outlet Center
2200 Tanger Blvd. #100
Washington, PA 15301
724-228-2143



Thank you for considering Columbia Sportswear for all your outdoor needs. We look forward to seeing you soon.

One 20% discount per original, electronic store coupon. Coupon must be presented at time of purchase. Nontransferable. Void where prohibited, restricted or taxed. Customer must pay sales tax. Coupon may not be purchased, traded or sold. Offer may not be applied to prior purchases, combined with any other offer or discount, or redeemed by employees. Limit one per purchase and/or customer. Good only in Pittsburgh/Washington location only. Cash value 1/100¢. ©Columbia Sportswear Company. Company reserves the right to change or cancel this offer at any time. Expires 09/06/09.

Lou Griffith
Store Manager



The Compass

The Butler Outdoor Club Newsletter Butler, Pennsylvania

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