

The Compass

The Butler Outdoor Club Newsletter Butler, Pennsylvania

Issue # 14 Month # 4

April 2010

BOC Monthly Meetings

At BOC regular meetings everyone should bring one snack or beverage to share. Cups, plates, forks and napkins will be provided.

Moraine State Park Bridge Closures

Beginning March 9, 2010 a total of three (3) bridges will be closed on West Park Road for structural repairs and deck replacement. The resulting detours will add travel time entering and exiting the North Shore of Moraine State Park. See PennDOT detour map on page 5.

Register online for the Outdoor Extravaganza

All participants can register online for the 14th annual Outdoor Extravaganza at www.outdoorextravaganza.org. This will help registration because the form will be automatically updated into a master excel spreadsheet. There will be a link from our club website to the new site. Those members who are mailed our newsletter can fill out a paper form and mail in to Joycel Appel.

Pennsylvania Hiking Map Available

What questions do Pennsylvania hikers ask? Where is the closest trail to where I live, work or visit? How do I get to the trail head? Where can I park my car? The Keystone Trails Assoc. has produced a Pennsylvania Hiking Map that not only answers these common questions, but also highlights Pennsylvania's 29 long distance hiking trails with short trail descriptions and links to appropriate websites for additional trail information.



The Pennsylvania Hiking Map is a wonderful tool for introducing Pennsylvania's beautiful long distance hiking trails to novice and expert hikers alike. BOC is offering these maps from the KTA at the monthly meeting in April. Pick up yours at the meeting for \$5.95 each, or send check plus \$1.00 shipping to: Steve Bickel 133 Boozel Road, Slippery Rock, PA 16057

Apr 7 Monthly Meeting

Our monthly meetings are at the Butler YMCA, 339 N. Washington, St. Butler, Pa. Join us Wed. Apr 7 when when David Scofield Director, Meadowcroft Rockshelter & Museum of Rural Life, will present a program on the Meadowcroft Rockshelter.

The Meadowcroft Rockshelter is a world-renowned archaeological site that has changed the way archaeologists view the peopling of North America. Evidence from this National Historic Landmark has demonstrated that people have been using this site for at least 16,000 years. This program will tell the story of the 1955 discovery of the site and highlight, the professional excavation that began in 1973. The presentation also features the effort to preserve the Meadowcroft Rockshelter and develop the museum on the theme of how, since prehistoric times, people have adapted to the land and shaped their environment in order to survive and build a better life.

For details call John Stehle Cell 724-256-0674

NCTA Membership Special Discount

We urge all BOC Members to become members of the North Country Trail because the BOC, as a non-profit organization, should be helping to promote, build and maintain the trails in Butler County and in Pa.

BOC Members NOW only have to pay \$20. instead of the \$46. NCT regular membership fee because the BOC is an affiliate of the NCT.

We also urge all NCT members to join the BOC because with the BOC \$15 membership and the NCT \$20 affiliate membership, you can join both organizations for \$35. instead of the NCT \$46 regular membership fee; thus saving \$11.

KTA Hosts Hiking Weekend in Wellsboro

The Keystone Trails Association will host its spring meeting and hiking weekend from Friday, April 23rd to Sunday, April 25th in Wellsboro, Tioga County.

Tioga County is located in north central Pennsylvania and is part of the Pennsylvania Wilds, the wildest and most remote area of the state. The region offers extensive uninhabited areas and breathtaking scenery, as well as an abundance of trails to suit all preferences and ability levels.

The Wellsboro area is also home to Pine Creek Gorge, which is commonly known as the Pennsylvania Grand Canyon. Surrounded by 160,000 acres of state forestland, the Pine Creek Gorge is approximately 50 miles long with depths in excess of 1,000 feet. Hiking trails in this area offer spectacular views and abundant wildlife.

After a day on the trails, hikers can enjoy historic Wellsboro, where the gas lit streets, Victorian mansions and friendly town square welcome visitors with hometown charm.

Enjoy a comfortable stay at the historic Penn Wells Hotel & Lodge in downtown Wellsboro. Meals will be served in the Mary Wells Dining Room, which offers a first-class dining experience. Please see Page 3 for details.

Mark your calendar for April 23-25, 2010, and join KTA in Tioga County this spring. The Wellsboro weekends always attract a large crowd, so return your reservation early! Registration deadline is April 5, 2010.

For more information go to <http://www.kta-hike.org>



BOC Directory

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Carol Bickel 724.794.3719

“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

The Outdoor Extravaganza over Memorial Day Weekend will be here before you know it. There is a website this year with all information, details and registration. Go to the link below to open up the website. Its up and running! Register early as possible. Early bird discount before April 15. Late fee after May 15.

Some trips, excursions or workshops have a maximum, and rental canoes and kayaks are limited. (donation fee) If you are a store owner, please post and consider being part of the gear exchange / flea market.

If you are an editor of a newsletter or website master, please post on your website and/or in your newsletter. Pass the word along to your members. This is for all outdoor enthusiasts.

14th Annual Outdoor Extravaganza

Memorial Day Weekend May 28-31, 2010

Base camp at Breakneck Campground
(Near McConnell's Mill & Moraine State Park)

Sponsored by Butler Outdoor Club

*(From I80 or Pa. Turnpike, take I79 to exit for Route 422 west 1.4 miles.
Then take Rt.19 South 2.9 miles and follow signs "Outdoor Extravaganza" as
you turn right onto Cheeseman Rd. 1.7 miles to campground.)
or GPS it as 1757 Cheeseman Rd, Portersville, Pa. 16051*

We have a weekend full of various outdoor activities: Trail, road & mountain biking, canoeing or kayaking on lakes & streams, sailing, rock climbing, rafting, caving, horseback riding and various levels of hikes.

Also pontoon boat tour, historical and fun excursions, workshops on Backpacking, Mushroom Identification, Extreme Croquet, Digital Journalizing, GPS, Geocaching, Radio-controlled airplanes, Building your own Sailboat, Living Treasures Animal Park and Kids Activities.

Breakneck Campground is base camp. Workshops and trips begin 9:00 AM. each day and leaders take you to where each trip takes place. Breakfasts, bag lunches, dinner and camping provided, but optional.

Friday evening is a Weiner Roast Picnic, Guitar and campfire songs with Nancy Dickson. Saturday evening "Pig Roast" followed by program "Birds do What They Do, Caught in the Act" with Chuck Tague.

Special light attraction for cool bugs and moths. Sunday entertainment also. Around the campfires will be telescope viewing and of course "smores".

Throughout the weekend a gear exchange / flea market will be set up. Join us to buy or sale.
This weekend is a must!

Details and Registration - Website: <http://www.outdoorextravaganza.org>

Questions - 724-526-5407 or joyceappel@windstream.net



Great Gear Exchange Flea Market - May 28 -31

This will take place on Memorial Day Weekend during the Outdoor Extravaganza at Breakneck Campground, near McConnells Mill State Park and Moraine State Park in Pennsylvania. The Outdoor Extravaganza is sponsored by the Butler Outdoor Club.

Is your garage/basement cluttered with old gear, household items, even new merchandise that you do not want? Here is an opportunity to get rid of “stuff” for a good cause. We also hope you can promote this event by getting other folks to sell, buy, or exchange gear or other merchandise; maybe get stores involved. Come and sale new or used items. For a donation, you can set up your own table or gazebo for the whole weekend. Donations will be going to the North Country Trail Butler Chapter fund to be used to put more foot trail on the ground in Pennsylvania!

This Gear Exchange/ Flea Market will be on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday of the Extravaganza from afternoon to dusk. It will also take place under a large covered carport in the campground. Advertise this in whatever way you can so we can have many people involved. Come to buy, sale, exchange ... and at the same time get involved in the beautiful outdoors with the Outdoor Extravaganza activities !!!!

“The Great Gear Exchange/Flea Market”

1. Provide a place for people to get rid of their used gear or merchandise.
2. Provide a place for people to get rid of unwanted new merchandise.
2. Give the outdoor stores a place to promote sales.
3. Support local funding to build more North Country Trail.
4. Stimulate people to enjoy the outdoors through the Extravaganza

Who makes this possible?

www.butleroutdoorclub.com

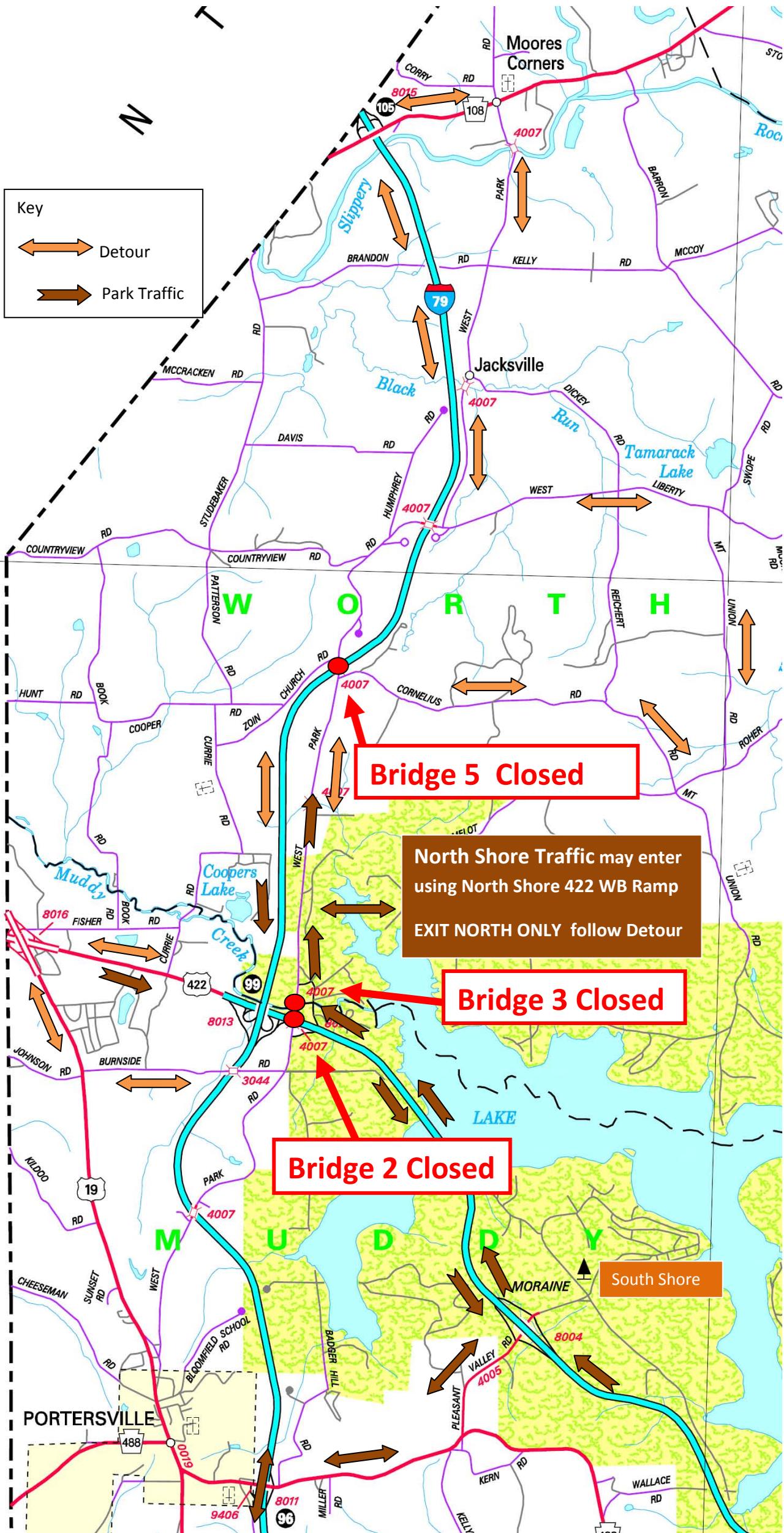
www.breakneckcampground.com

Contact for questions: joyceappel@windstream.net or (724)-526-5407



Key

- ↔ Detour
- ➔ Park Traffic



Bridge 5 Closed

North Shore Traffic may enter using North Shore 422 WB Ramp
EXIT NORTH ONLY follow Detour

Bridge 3 Closed

Bridge 2 Closed

South Shore

Area Outdoor Events and Activities

Mar 27	Don't miss the spring migration of ducks and geese and all manner of waterfowl on Saturday, March 27, 2010. I have arranged for hundreds of birds to be at Lake Arthur at that time. They are down south getting ready to make the trip even now. Meet at 10:00 am at the Bird observation deck, at Moraine SP, near the 528/422 entrance to the park. We will go to the various spots around Lake Arthur until 1:00. We can grab a lunch someplace afterwards. I plan to go out earlier, so if you care to join me , call to arrange a time and place. RSVP for schedule changes - stehles@yahoo.com - 724-256-0674.
Apr 2	NCT Trail Work on the morning of Good Friday 9:00 AM. Meet at the trailhead on 528, a half mile north of the 528 bridge. We will be fixing muddy areas, moving some rocks, repairing some degraded tread, and doing some root removal. If you have tools for that bring that. If you let me know your coming, I'll have tools for you. We will probably start our work in the area south of Jennings and North of Staff Road. Contact John Stehle; 724-256-0674. stehles@yahoo.com.
Apr 2	Butler Downtown road bike route ride 5:30pm - 6:30pm Location: City Parking Lot across from the Burger Hut on North Main Street Butler Downtown Volunteers and Avid Bicyclists will begin test runs of newly routed bike routes through the City of Butler. The routes are still in the preliminary stage to being adopted; however, we would like to get some experienced riders out on the routes to get people and vehicles more familiar with seeing bicyclists around the City. If you are interested in joining on the bike trip, please contact Jonathan Dreher at (724) 256-1026.
Apr 7	Dan Watson from the National Park Service and the NCT national office is coming to visit the Butler chapter of the NCT, and also its NCT affiliate, the BOC, on this coming meeting night of April 7, 2010 at 6:00. He is going to explain the proper method for reporting accidents that happen on the trail. Please consider coming to this meeting to show our support and to hear what he has to say.
Apr 7	Join at 7:30 when David Scofield Director, Meadowcroft Rockshelter & Museum of Rural Life, will present a program on the Meadowcroft Rockshelter. The Meadowcroft Rockshelter is a world-renowned archaeological site that has changed the way archaeologists view the peopling of North America. Evidence from this National Historic Landmark has demonstrated that people have been using this site for at least 16,000 years. This program will tell the story of the 1955 discovery of the site and highlight, the professional excavation that began in 1973. The presentation also features the effort to preserve the Meadowcroft Rockshelter and develop the museum on the theme of how, since prehistoric times, people have adapted to the land and shaped their environment in order to survive and build a better life.
Apr 10	Jennings Program: 9:30am -2:30pm Learn about bats- build bat boxes Must be 16, cost \$15, register by April 2
Apr 17 18	Tour de NCTA PA Stage 11 - We will be resuming our march as we work our way down from the New York border. We have already come 50 miles. We can pick up where we left off at the Tionesta Scenic Area just South of Route 6. On Saturday, start at Tionesta Scenic Area (Road 133) and go to Route 948, (5.3 miles) then go 3.7 miles to Route 666 (total 9 miles). Then on Sunday from Route 666 to Road 179 (7.3 miles) and the to Minster Road - 2.7 miles (total 10 miles). After the hike on Saturday we plan to stay at the Microtel Suite in Marienville, PA on the night of April 17. If you plan to stay there, you can get special rates by calling the hotel directly at 814-927-8300. Ask for the rooms set aside for the Tour de NCT. This one of their busiest weekends of the year sobook a room as soon as possible. RSVP to John Stehle - stehles@yahoo.com - 724-256-0674 to arrange a meeting point and time to start the Sat. hike.
Apr 23 25	KTA Hosts its spring meeting and hiking weekend in Wellsboro, Tioga County, located in north central Pa and is part of the Pa Wilds, the wildest and most remote area of the state. The region offers extensive uninhabited areas and breathtaking scenery, as well as an abundance of trails to suit all preferences and ability levels. The Wellsboro area is also home to Pine Creek Gorge, which is commonly known as the Pa Grand Canyon. Surrounded by 160,000 acres of state forestland, it is approximately 50 miles long with depths in excess of 1,000 feet. Hiking trails in this area offer spectacular views and abundant wildlife. After a day on the trails, hikers can enjoy historic Wellsboro, where the gas lit streets, Victorian mansions

	and friendly town square welcome visitors with hometown charm. Enjoy a comfortable stay at the historic Penn Wells Hotel & Lodge in downtown Wellsboro. Meals will be served in the Mary Wells Dining Room, which offers a first-class dining experience. Please see Page 3 for details. The Wellsboro weekends always attract a large crowd, so return your reservation early! Registration deadline is April 5, 2010. For more information go to http://www.kta-hike.org
Apr 24	In recognition of Earth Day, Joe Hardisky is planning a BOC Cleanup in the McConnells Mill State Park. Let's show our appreciation of our beloved planet and this beautiful park, where we spend so much of our time. Sat. 10:00 am clean up in the area surrounding McConnell's Mill. We will meet at the main parking area. For more info. Joe Hardisky 724-924-9248 hardis123@msn.com
Apr 24	Jennings Environmental Learning Center program: Invasive Species Day is coming up Saturday, April 24th from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. and our community events usually fill so I would like to suggest that if you are planning to attend please register online so we have accurate numbers. http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/Calendar/view_event.asp?CalendarID=12733&Location=List
Apr 30 May 2	Grand Canyon of Pa. canoe and kayak water trip. (Class I - Class II) We will stay at Twin Streams Campground in Morris, Pa., only on Friday night, so we don't have to unload gear. Arrive anytime Friday. Sat. morning we head for Pine Creek for our weekend trip. Will choose a nice spot along the way to camp out Sat. night, so you must have all camping gear with you. This is a very popular trip we have been doing for years! You paddle through a beautiful gorge with many side streams. We often take a break, have lunch, and take a short hike up one of the side streams. We will take out Sunday afternoon, plenty of time to head home. Canoes and kayaks are available to rent from us. joyce appel and paul henry 724-526-5407 or joyceappel@windstream.net
May 8	Moraine Preservation Fund 5k Race & 2 Mile Walk 9am Saturday May 8, 2010 North Shore Moraine SP \$25 (non-refundable) per entrant fee includes T-shirt and race packet. Sponsored by Butler County Tourism and Convention Bureau Race Day registration and sign-in will begin @ 7:30 AM Mail form and entry fee to: MPF- 5K Race-2 Mile Walk 118 North Shore Drive Portersville, PA 16051 724.368.9185 For more information goto www.morainepreservationfund.org For questions or to volunteer to help - some BOC volunteers are needed to help with this event, please contact: Jack Oris jackoris@hotmail.com
May 9	Jennings Program: Sunday 2-3:30 Spring wildflowers
May 15	BOC adopted road cleanup Saturday May 15th 10 am. Rt 422 and S Shore Drive dirt parking lot.
May 15 16	BOC Backpack trip in Kennderdale area May 15 & 16 For more information contact Steve Bickel sbickel@zoominternet.net
May 16 22	Gene Wilhelm, is leading a nature study trip to the eastern shore. It is billed as follows: ECO-EXPEDITION for more information email genewilhelm@aol.com
May 22	MPF's Nautical Nature will provide summer shuttle service between the Route 528 bridge and McDanel's Launch on Saturday and Sunday at 1:00 pm from McDanel's Launch or 1:30 from the 528 Launch. Hikers can ride the boat one way then hike the North Country Trail (NCT) 9.5 miles back at their leisure. Kicking off the new shuttle service on May 22, all hikers will receive a \$1 discount on the \$3 per person normal shuttle rate. Reservations must be made for pick up at 528. At noon that day NCT representative Julie Elkins will be set up in front of the gift shop to talk about the trail and answer questions. The gift shop will feature a new NCT corner with NCT logo merchandise. Maps of the trail, hats, t-shirts, medallions and hand-made walking sticks will be highlighted. Check it out.
May 28-31	BOC Outdoor Extravaganza 3 days of fun filled outdoor activities. See www.outdoorextravaganza.org

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name (Please Print)		Home Phone with Area Code	
Address		E-mail	
City	State	ZIP	

Membership:

Please mark one of the boxes below:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$46 Regular | <input type="checkbox"/> \$45 Organization |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$60 Household | <input type="checkbox"/> \$150 Business |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 Pathfinder | <input type="checkbox"/> \$250 NCT Patron |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$20 Affiliate Member* | |

Keystone Trails Association Butler Outdoor Club
 Rachel Carson Trails Conservancy

Please choose your Chapter affiliation:

- Member of a specific PA Chapter (circle one): ANF Butler Clarion Wampum
 Member of my closest Chapter (If one exists)
 At-Large Member (Not affiliated with any Chapter)

* New members (and renewing members) in good standing with NCTA affiliates are eligible for a reduced annual membership fee of \$20. Donations above the \$20 fee are appreciated, but not required. If you wish to join as an affiliate member, please mark the affiliate organization in which you have a current membership.

- Check or money order enclosed
 (Made payable to "NCTA")
 Please charge my credit card



GRAND TOTAL:

--	--

Charge Card Number _____

Expiration Date _____

Name on Card _____

Signature (We cannot process your order without a signature and the expiration date.) _____

Please mail, fax or phone your payment to:

229 East Main Street
Lowell, Michigan 49331

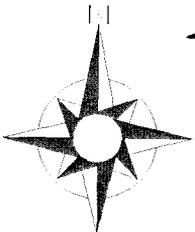
Toll free telephone: **866-HikeNCT** (445-3628)

If paying by credit card,

you may fax your payment to: **616-897-6605**



Your Adventure Starts Nearby.



The Compass

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