

The Compass

The Butler Outdoor Club Newsletter Butler, Pennsylvania

Issue # 14 Month # 5

May 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 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 at www.outdoorextravaganza.org This will help registration because the form will automatically update 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 Joyce Appel.

Pennsylvania Hiking Map Available

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



May 5 Monthly Meeting

Our monthly meetings are at the Butler YMCA, 339 N. Washington, St. Butler, Pa.

Join us May 5 when Stacey Widenhofer will present a program about ospreys. The osprey is one of the world's most widely distributed birds. They are found along seacoasts and major waterways on every continent except Antarctica. But, did you know that in Pennsylvania these birds are on the Threatened List? Come and hear our story, a local story, of how we helped bring these birds off of the endangered list. Hear first hand accounts, see beautiful pictures and learn a little more about the place we (and now the birds!) can call home.

Stacey Widenhofer has over 12 years of experience in the environmental education field including biology, conservation, and wildlife reintroduction. Her experience includes lesson development, research, implementation, grant writing and fundraising. Her work has been endorsed by the Pennsylvania Association for Environmental Educators (PAEE) for the programming work done for Moraine Preservation Fund's Environmental Education Programs. She is a subpermittee and environmental educator with Wildbird Recovery, the only wildlife rehabilitation organization in Butler County. In 2001 she was BOC's recipient of the *Outstanding Environmental Contribution Award*. She was involved with the last year of the osprey reintroduction program at Moraine State Park and is looking forward to sharing her experience with you.

For details call John Stehle Cell 724-256-0674

New kayak launch at Moraine State Park

The BOC donated \$1000 to help match other grants Moraine State Park had to purchase and install a kayak launch. This is designed to improve safety and convenience of launching and landing your kayak. It has been installed and is ready for you to try out.



Revised Cruise Schedule

Due to the summer traffic pattern created by the detours on West Park Road the Moraine Preservation Fund has announced a revised cruise schedule. For the months of May and June the Nautical Nature pontoon boat will sail at 2:00 pm only on both Saturday and Sunday. The boat will also sail at 2:00 pm on Memorial Day.

If you were planning on doing the NCT shuttle the boat will only be at Route 528 to pick up or leave off hikers at 2:30, so plan accordingly when you make your reservations.

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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

	Area Outdoor Events and Outings
Apr 22	The Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) Moraine/McConnells Mill State Park invites visitors to attend a public informational meeting on Thursday, April 22 from 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. at the State Park Region 2 Office, 195 Park Road Prospect, PA 16052-2013 (Near the Old Route 422 Boat Launch) The public information meeting will include a park budget update, maintenance and work projects planned, education and recreational programming initiatives, and park volunteer opportunities at both Moraine and McConnells Mill.
May 5	Our monthly meetings are at the Butler YMCA, 339 N. Washington, St. Butler, Pa. Join us May 5 when Stacey Widenhofer will present a program about ospreys. The osprey is one of the world's most widely distributed birds. They are found along seacoasts and major waterways on every continent except Antarctica. But, did you know that in Pennsylvania these birds are on the Threatened List? Come and hear our story, a local story, of how we helped bring these birds off of the endangered list. Hear first hand accounts, see beautiful pictures and learn a little more about the place we (and now the birds!) can call home. Stacey Widenhofer has over 12 years of experience in the environmental education field including biology, conservation, and wildlife reintroduction. Her experience includes lesson development, research, implementation, grant writing and fundraising. Her work has been endorsed by the Pennsylvania Association for Environmental Educators (PAEE) for the programming work done for Moraine Preservation Fund's Environmental Education Programs. She is a subpermittee and environmental educator with Wildbird Recovery, the only wildlife rehabilitation organization in Butler County. In 2001 she was BOC's recipient of the Outstanding Environmental Contribution Award. She was involved with the last year of the osprey reintroduction program at Moraine State Park and is looking forward to sharing her experience with you. For details call John Stehle Cell 724-256-0674
May 8	Moraine Preservation Fund 5k Race & 2 Mile Walk 9am Saturday May 8, 2010 North Shore Moraine State Park \$25 (non-refundable) per entrant fee includes T-shirt and race packet. Timing and results provided by The Runners High of Grove City, PA. Sponsored by Butler County Tourism and Convention Bureau. Awards - Medals: Top 3 Male and Female Overall Top 3 Male and Female in the following Age Groups: 14 and under, 15-19 , 20-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, 60-69, 70 and over 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 15	May 15th-Historic GeoTrail Bash. Coordinates will be release approximately 2 weeks in advance. The event will be from 4-6 at Serene Valley Golf Course, 312 Bonniebrook Rd.,

	Butler, PA 16002. This will give you a chance to socialize and purchase your coin.
May 16 22	Gene Wilhelm, BOC Outstanding Contributor nominee in 2009, is leading a nature study trip to the eastern shore. It is billed as follows: ECO-EXPEDITION – EASTERN SHORE for more information email genewilhelm@aol.com
May 19	Ramble Wen. May 19th 6:00 PM Meet at the Slippery Rock Game Lands about 5 Miles from I79 Slippery Rock Exit on Book Rd off Plain Grove N. Liberty Road (Maps can be provided) Contact Gina Colella Hench 724-712-6695 or email gmcolella@myway.com
May 22	North Country Trail Shuttle Service 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. Do you know at what mile point we are located between North Dakota and New York?
May 22	Butler Freeport Trail picnic at Serene Valley Golf Course, 312 Bonniebrook Rd., Butler, PA 16002. Cost \$20 (14 & under free) that includes your meal, beverage (beer is buy your own) and a chance to win a bicycle. Make check payable to BFCTC, P.O. Box 533, Saxonburg, PA 16056. RSVP by May 16th, to scadzigg@zoominternet.net... more details will follow.
May 28 31	BOC Annual Outdoor Extravaganza 3 days of fun filled outdoor activities. See www.outdoorextravaganza.org for details.
Jun 5	As Pittsburgh and the world celebrate World Environment Day on Saturday, June 5, join Paddle at the Point and help put Pittsburgh's watershed on the map by setting a new Guinness World Record™ for Largest Raft of Canoes/Kayaks. 1,200 canoes and kayaks are needed to set a mark at the confluence of the Allegheny, Monongahela and Ohio Rivers. Don't have a boat? Don't worry; you can sign up to rent a boat. We'll need everyone and anyone, clubs and groups welcome! Free parking will be provided on the North Shore, where we will launch to paddle just across the river to Point State Park. Be part of history in the making and celebrate World Environment Day in Pittsburgh with Paddle at the Point! Get involved at www.paddleatthepoint.com
Jun 18 20	ALLEGHENY 100 "The Ultimate Hiking Challenge" The Challenge: Hike 100 miles in 2 days. (Actually 50 hours) Where: North Country National Scenic Trail across the Allegheny National Forest from NY border to SR 66 south of Marienville PA When: Friday, June 18, 2010 6 PM thru Sunday, June 20, 2010 8PM How: Hike, not bike or run. This is the ultimate endurance challenge. This is NOT a race. Who: Anyone who wants to test themselves against the trail. What: "What" is for you to answer? What do you get from this? Membership in the NCTA to support the trail and a tee-shirt. Options: 25 and 50 mile hikes available too. Still get shirt and membership. Register: Three ways: via email, snail mail or phone. Cost: \$30.00 All proceeds to go to NCTA. You BYOF, BYOB, gear, etc. We provide support... Contact: nct001@verizon.net ; bnemcik@yahoo.com ; 814-927-8303

Jun 19	The fourteenth annual Rachel Carson Trail Challenge is on June 19, 2010, the Saturday nearest the summer solstice, the longest day of the year. The Challenge is a 34-mile long, one-day, sunrise to sunset endurance hike on nearly the entire brutal Rachel Carson Trail. Unlike a footrace, the "challenge" is not to come in first or win, but to endure, to finish the hike in one day. This time, the Challenge starts in Harrison Hills County Park and ends 34 miles later in North Park. for more information goto http://www.rachelcarsontrails.org/rct/challenge/rctc10
Jun 21	Ramble Wen. July 21st 6:00 PM Meet at the prairie side parking lot of Jennings Enviromental Center for our annual wild flower walk. Gina Colella Hench 724-712-6695 or email gmcolella@myway.com
Jul 9 10	Morrison Run Backpacking/Paddling Trip on 7/9/10-7/12/10 Backpackers will meet at the Trailhead off of Rt. 59 at a time of their choice. Paddlers will meet at the southern end of Red Bridge on Rt 321 North of Kane at 10:00 AM on 7/9/10. Put in will be on the western side of the bridge if there is enough water.(other arrangements may have to be made such as the north end of Red Bridge). Unload gear and boats there and then park vehicles at the Longhouse Trail Head for the North Country Trail about 100 yds. south of the bridge. Paddle to Morrison Run Camp Ground (about 2 ½ hrs) to site #24 and #25 (if available) in the Morrison Bay area. More sites may be needed depending on participation. Sites are \$10 per night. Bear bags are required as is a water bag to bring water back to camp for purification. Exploration of the area i.e. hiking, bird watching, fishing, paddling to other locations, and just relaxing are in order for the stay. We had a bear making the rounds between camp sites last year so plan accordingly. John Stehle should have some of the information packets from last year available. For more info and to sign up call Dave Myers 724-588-2767.
Aug 5 8	2010 North Country Trail Annual Conference at Ashland, Wisconsin. The weekend will provide interesting workshops, hiking in the woods of Wisconsin and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan and three nights of entertainment and good food. Add to this, time to spend with friends, old and new, and beautiful sunsets on Lake Superior. Come on Tuesday, August 3, for a two night back packing trip or on Thursday, August 5, for a Chain Saw Certification Workshop. Bring your family to enjoy the Kids and Family Programs at the Great Lakes Visitors Center or just to have fun at the indoor water park at the AmericInn. Explore the Apostle Islands, Big Bay State Park on Madeline Island, orchards and artists of Bayfield and murals and the lakefront of Ashland. The Great Lakes Visitors Center, alone, is worth the visit. We have rooms blocked at the AmericInn and the Crest Motel but there are a number of other choices for accommodations and places to camp.
Sep 3 7	The BRING ON THE BRIDGE II will be held from Sept 3-Sept 7 with rustic camping about 10 miles from the Mackinac Bridge. This bridge is 5 miles long and is the connector between Michigan's Lower and Upper Peninsulas. This bridge is actually part of the NORTH COUNTRY NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL and is in that section of the trail maintained by the HSS Chapter (although we let the Michigan Department of Transportation and the Mackinac Bridge Authority maintain that section for us) :-). You may camp the entire four days scheduled or just part of those days set aside for the event. For more information email De Witt, Marv/Charlene at kc8mld@lighthouse.net
Sep 11	Susquehanna Super Hike & Ultra Trail Run (York & Lancaster Counties): The Keystone Trails Association will host the second annual Susquehanna Super Hike & Ultra Trail Run

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

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



Charge Card Number _____

Expiration Date _____

Name on Card _____

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

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.

GRAND TOTAL:

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Please mail, fax or phone your payment to:

229 East Main Street
Lowell, Michigan 49331

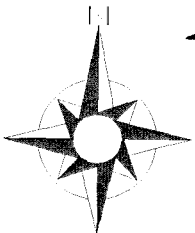
Toll free telephone: **866-HikeNCT** (445-3628)

If paying by credit card,

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



Your Adventure Starts Nearby.



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