

The Compass

The Butler Outdoor Club Newsletter Butler, Pennsylvania

Issue # 14 Month # 7

July 2010

Volunteers needed for the Big Butler Fair

The Butler Tourism Bureau will have a big top tent with tables for displays. We'll be having a table for the Butler Outdoor Club (shared with the North Country Trail) at the Big Butler County Fair from Friday, July 2 to Saturday, July 10.

Can you help with a few hours of your time. It is fun and it is easy. Great way to meet people, tell them about us and give out brochures and you get a chance to roam around the Fair and have fun there also! Julie Elkins will be manning the table as much as possible, but cannot be there all the time, and even when she is there, she would like you to join me! Your stories and knowledge of our club and of the trail are far more valuable than any information Julie can provide. Please volunteer to help out! Here are the times:

Friday	7/2:	Noon - 9 PM
Saturday	7/3:	9 AM - 9 PM
Sunday	7/4:	Noon - 9 PM
Monday	7/5:	Noon - 9 PM
Tuesday	7/6:	Noon - 9 PM
Wed.	7/7:	Noon - 9 PM
Thursday	7/8:	Noon - 9 PM
Friday	7/9:	Noon - 9 PM
Saturday	7/10:	9 AM - 9 PM

In simpler terms, that's noon to 9 PM every day but the two Saturdays, which are 9 AM to 9 PM.

Please volunteer to help! All you need to do is hang out and chat with folks about the Butler Outdoor Club and North Country Trail- no skill required!

If you want to volunteer (please do!), just email stehles@yahoo.com with what day and times you'll be there.

July 7 Monthly Meeting

Join us July 7, for a picnic which will be held at the Lakeview picnic area on the North Shore of Moraine State Park. The public is welcome.

The picnic starts at 6:00, although you can come early to enjoy what the park has to offer. It is a potluck picnic, with the club providing hotdogs, etc, water, and paper products. Bring a dish to share.

After the meal, noted outdoorsman, Paul Henry will be giving a hands-on class on knot tying.

Come early and hike, bike, paddle, play disc golf, etc.

For details call John Stehle Cell 724-256-0674



Extravaganza Shenango Reservoir Paddle

“Allegheny 100 Challenge Hike a Great Success”

By Bert Nemcik

On Friday, June 18th, 20 backpacking adventurers, ten men and ten women, gathered at the trailhead of the North Country National Scenic Trail at Willow Bay at 6 PM and headed south to see if could be done. Their enthusiasm was infectious. Their mission simple: to hike the distance by Sunday, June 20th at 8 PM.

Each hiker was self-contained and had to carry their own food, water and gear. Some knew they couldn't do the full distance so they opted to just hike 25 miles and enjoy that challenge. A few more focused on fifty miles, still a great distance to do in 50 hours. Eleven were going for broke.

Hiking long into the night, they pressed on. There was no stopping to sleep through the darkness. There were miles to go before they slept. Saturday told the tale. The constant pounding of feet on ground took its toll. Suffering with blistered feet and pain at every step, some called it quits.

Base pack weight was the predominant issue. Many of the hikers were carrying too much gear and it caused excessive strain on the entire body and especially the feet. “Every pound on the back is like five on the feet,” Bert told some of the hikers. “Get rid of anything you don't absolutely need.”

Hikers chucked tents and substituted tarps for them. Nalgene containers were exchanged for plastic soda bottles. Every ounce was shed that didn't jeopardize health and safety. For some it just wasn't enough.

By Sunday, the die was cast. Two hikers made it 85 and 82 miles. They were beat up but elated that they nearly completed the challenge. Mike said, “I listened to the wisdom of the trail. It's not worth risking your body today and a serious injury just to reach a goal. Protect yourself so you can hike for a lifetime.”

At 10:30 PM all the hikers were safely off the trail and the 2010 Allegheny 100 Challenge Hike was a memory.

Allegheny Outfitters of Warren was the sole corporate sponsor. Piper Lindel, the owner, participated in the event.

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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

The 14th Annual "Outdoor Extravaganza"

has come and gone again. Hard to believe I have been coordinating this for 14 years! About 200 people came throughout the weekend which was full of fun trips, workshops and excursions.

Base camp was at Breakneck Campground, although camping and food was optional. Trips involved 3 hikes each day, 3 bike rides each day, 3 canoe/kayak trips each day, one day of mountain biking, two days of sailing, rock climbing and horseback riding. Workshops included backpacking, radio-controlled airplanes, extreme croquet, GPS, digital journalizing, rock climbing wall, and mushroom identification.

Excursions were Meadowcroft, Living History Depreciation Lands, Tour-ed Mine, and Living Treasures Animal Park. All were well received and those who went expressed how much they liked what they did. Evening entertainment included Nancy Dickson with her guitar around the campfire Friday night. The store called "Playthings" brought some "big kid toys" to demonstrate which was a hit with us big kids.

Saturday night Chuck Tague did a wonderful program on "Caught in the Act; Birds do What They Do." Afterwards at dusk, he set up special lights that attracted moths and bugs. Sunday night we had a group "Karma-Acoustic" that played everything you can imagine.

Thanks to the Cheesman's for their wonderful meals and campground hospitality, Daryl Smith for signs, Piazza Joe for great piazzas Friday night and Slippery Rock Sportswear for volunteer shirts. Paul Egbert, owner of Wind and Water Boatworks, Paul Henry, Russ Tague, and Bill Globetanz donated canoes and kayaks with hauling trailers. Others donated private boats also. We were able use Mike Dailey's trailer to haul much Extravaganza "stuff" back and forth to the campground...big help! Doug Caggiano came up with a wonderful Extravaganza website and online registration...awesome!

Now, last but by far not the least, thanks to all of you who were leaders, instructors, volunteers, and those who helped me with various things before and after the Extravaganza. It could not be done without you. Thank you.

Many great comments flowed in after the Extravaganza. Mark your calendars for next year's 15th Annual Outdoor Extravaganza over Memorial Day Weekend.

Comments:

To Joyce and all the members of the Butler Outdoor Club who hlepded put together such a well thoughtful, organized weekend. I extend to you a Big Thank You.

Sandy Reinnagel

We had a Ball last weekend! Many thanks to you, Paul, and the rest of the crew for providing an incredible amount of fun to a great bunch of outdoor loving people. See you next year!

Roger Reinnagel

I can't express what a great time I had at the Extravaganza and I can't wait until next year. Planning on it already.

Bev Kirby

Energizer Bunny, time to recharge. I knew y'all would have fun! I hated to miss it but hand mishap took care of that. Happy Trails.

Jean Greene

Joyce, Thans for another fun-filled Memorial Day Weekend!

Joanne Winwood

A great job over the weekend, girl!

Cecil Neely

I had a great time over the weekend and plan to put in now to be off work for next year. I am not going to tell you what, but I have a surprise planned for next year.

Dan Peden

Kiski River and the Extravaganza

Every year there are many memories that come from the Extravaganza and this year was no exception. Monday was hot and humid and most trips got rained upon but on the Kiski we had great weather. Due to the threat of storm we decided as a group to shorten the trip to about 8 miles. As the trip leader I decided to do the second half of the trip due to it being the most exciting with the best moving water. So we put in at Avonmore and paddled to Apollo.

The nice thing with this river is that it gets recreational releases every weekend by the Army Corps of Engineers from the dam on the Conemaugh Reservoir. Monday was slightly higher than normal due to the rains that preceded our trip.

You say this all sounds quite normal and unexciting, but I didn't tell you about the people on our trip. Really this is about a group of family and friends who decided to celebrate 30 years of marriage by paddling the Kiski on their anniversary. I have heard of a lot of ways of celebrating an anniversary but paddling the Kiski was to me one of the best. Ed and Linda Caggiano and their son along with their sons girl friend and 4 other friends all decided to celebrate floating down the Kiski.

The highlight was when the water cannons were brought out and given secretly to Ed and Linda without the others knowledge and one of them decided to let the other have it. Soon we had this big battle of the two of them facing off from 20 feet apart just soaking their spouse. It reminded me of the battle of the Monitour and the Merimack except that they were laughing and having a good time. My only regret was where was my camera. I think we all got splashed along the way which was a great way to cool off.

So if you are looking for a great way to celebrate your 30th anniversary, Pearls may not be the right answer, but a relaxing paddle down the Kiski might be.



Extravaganza Beaver River Paddle



Extravaganza Connie Creek Paddle



Extravaganza Stavich Trail Bike Ride

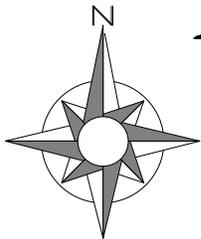
	Area Outdoor Events and Outings
Jul 3	Kayak and Dinner Saturday, July 3, 2010—2:00PM Join park staff for a fun paddle on the lake to be followed by a delicious catered dinner. We will provide basic kayaking instruction and then take two hours to explore nature's sights and sounds as we paddle along beautiful Lake Arthur. Meet at the Pleasant Valley Launch on the South Shore of Moraine. 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. There is a fee of \$12.00/person. Registration is required and is completed when payment is received.
Jul 7	Our monthly meeting this month will not be at the Butler YMCA. Join us 6:00 pm July 7, for a picnic which will be held at the Lakeview picnic area on the North Shore of Moraine State Park. The public is welcome. The picnic starts at 6:00, although you can come early to enjoy what the park has to offer. It is a potluck picnic, with the club providing hotdogs, etc, water, and paper products. After the meal, noted outdoorsman, Paul Henry will be giving a hands-on class on knot tying. Come early and paddle/bike/hike,play disc golf, etc.
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.
Jul 10	Hike the Park Saturday, July 10, 2010—10:00 AM Hiking is a fantastic way to see the great outdoors. Join the park naturalist at the Old Route 422 boat launch located on Park road past the Region #2 office building for a 4.5-mile hike along Wyggeston Trail. We will also take a guided tour of the historic oil well site and see the central powerhouse engine in action. This is a strenuous hike over uneven and hilly terrain. Participants should bring a lunch, plenty of water and wear sturdy hiking shoes. Participants should allow 4 hours for this program.
Jul 11	Hell's Hollow Industrial History Hike Sunday, July 11, 2010—1:00 PM McConnells Mill State Park Join the park naturalist for a leisurely paced walk along a lovely trail in McConnells Mill State Park. Along the way, learn about the iron smelting, charcoal making, and lime processing that took place in this seemingly untouched valley. 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 1:00 PM and allow for a 15-minute drive if coming from the old mill.
Jul	KTA will host the Prowl the Sproul Hiking Weekend on July 16-18, 2010 in western Clinton

16 18	<p>County. Join KTA for a guided hiking experience in the Pennsylvania Wilds! KTA along with the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation & Natural Resources (DCNR) will lead hikers off the beaten path to see the hidden jewels of the Sproull. Explore new and exciting parts of the Sproull on trails that are only accessible when hiking with a DCNR guide. Guided hikes are scheduled on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, with meals and camping available at the Western Clinton Sportsmen's Association clubhouse. All hikers and trail enthusiasts are invited to attend. Download the registration form online at www.kta-hike.org or email Becky at ktaadmin@verizon.net for more information. Guided hikes will be offered on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Explore new and exciting parts of the Sproull! Hike for the day or join us for the weekend. Meals and camping will be available at the Western Clinton Sportsmen's Association or stay at one of the local hotels or B&Bs. For additional information (including the hike schedule) or to download the registration form, click here. Questions? Please contact Becky Schreiber, Program Administration, at ktaadmin@verizon.net or 717.238.7017. Visit www.kta-hike.org for information about all upcoming KTA events.</p>
Jul 17	<p>The Clarion County Chapter of the North Country Trail Association will be having its monthly hike on Saturday July 17th at 10:00 A.M. We will hike from the trail head at White Oak Drive (N41° 17.148' W079° 20.598') to Kiser-Wagner Road (41° 14.392' W079° 23.863'). This will be an approximately 5 mile hike over moderate terrain. We will meet at the trail head on White Oak Drive at 10:00 A.M. The chapter will provide transportation back to White Oak Drive from Kiser-Wagner Road. If you are interested in attending, or have any questions, please reply to this e-mail or contact Dave Galbreath at (814) 226-5574 or Ed Scurry at (814) 437-1168.</p>
Jul 17	<p>Hike Along the Millstream Saturday, July 17, 2010—10:00 AM McConnells Mill State Park Our summer series of hikes continues with a two-mile hike over moderately rough terrain along the beautiful Slippery Rock Creek. Park at the Kildoo Picnic Area in McConnells Mill State Park and walk the path down to the mill courtyard to meet the park naturalist. We will cross the covered bridge, travel downstream along the North Country Trail and, after crossing Eckert Bridge, come upstream on Kildoo Trail back to the gristmill. If you can convince some non-hikers to have a picnic lunch waiting for you in the picnic area, all the better. Wear sturdy shoes and carry drinking water. Allow approximately 2 & 1/2 hours for this hike.</p>
Jul 21	<p>Ramble Wed. July 21st 6:00 PM Meet at the prairie side parking lot of Jennings Environmental Center for our annual wild flower walk. Gina Colella Hench 724-712-6695 or email gmcolella@myway.com</p>
Jul 24	<p>Slippery Rock Gorge Trail Hike Saturday, July 24, 2010—9:00 AM McConnells Mill State Park 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, both lunch and snacks, & drink, as we will stop to eat along the trail.</p>
Jul 25	<p>Learn to Kayak Sunday, July 25, 2010—1:00 PM Interest in Kayaking has increased 300% in recent years. In response, Moraine State Park and WPPSA, Western Pennsylvania Paddle Sport Association, is offering a "learn to kayak" class on Lake Arthur. Park staff and members of the WPPSA will be available to teach some basic kayaking skills. Participants must be at least 12 years of age. An adult must accompany those</p>

	<p>participants that are under the age of 18. Meet at the Pleasant Valley Launch on the South Shore of Moraine to take part in this program. WPPSA and Moraine State park will have a number of kayaks on hand to use during the program. Registration is required. There is a fee of \$10 per person. Participants should allow 3 hours for this program and dress to be wet. Questions or to register, call the Moraine State Park office at 724-368-8811.</p>
Aug 1 14	<p>Two River trips planned around the North Country Trail National Conference in Wisconsin We are planning 2 river trips in August around the North Country Trail Conference. The Conference is Aug. 5-8 which is Thursday to Sunday near Ashland, Wisconsin. Great hikes, workshops and excursions. Paul and I will be going to that. We plan to do the Namekagon River, near Ashland Wisconsin Sunday - Thursday morning. (Aug.1-4.) If interested, let me know. We will pick a campground that we can meet at Sat. night, probably near the outfitter. Sunday we will hit the water after the outfitter sets our shuttle. You could paddle longer than Thursday if you wish to not do the Conference or you can do the Conference with us. Lijnda X. and her sister will join us for this one, possibly others. We plan to possibly do the Wisconsin River in southern Wisconsin after the Conference, where we will meet at Cecil Neely's suster's place for a BarBQue and camp at campground acroos from her house. We will meet and camp Sunday Aug. 8, hit the water on Monday Aug. 9 after outfitter sets shuttle for us and paddle till Friday evening the 13th or Sat. morning or early afternoon on the 14th. That gives you time to be home by Sunday night for work Monday. Cecil Neely will join us for this one, possibly others. Let me know if interested in any of these trips. joyce appel and paul henry joyceappel@windstream.net 724-526-5407</p>
Aug 5 8	<p>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.</p>
Sep 11 12	<p>The Keystone Trails Association will host the second annual Susquehanna Super Hike & Ultra Trail Run on Saturday, September 11, 2010. Join KTA for the 28.4-mile trail challenge for adventurous hikers and trail runners on the wild river hills of the lower Susquehanna Gorge in York and Lancaster Counties. The trail challenge course follows the Mason Dixon and Conestoga Trails along both sides of the Susquehanna River. Event participants will begin at the Otter Creek Campground in Airville and end at the Pequea Creek Campground in Pequea. Participants can visit www.kta-hike.org for more information or to register online. Two training hikes are scheduled for later this summer. The first training hike will be held Sunday, July 11 on the Mason Dixon Trail, and the second training hike is scheduled on Sunday, August 22 on the Conestoga Trail. For more information, contact Paul Shaw at pshaw@ptd.net or visit www.kta-hike.org.</p>



Allegheny 100 Challenge Hike Adventurers



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