

# The Compass

The Butler Outdoor Club Newsletter Butler, Pennsylvania

Issue # 14 Month # 10

October 2010

## Nov 13 BOC Annual Dinner

Larry Luxemburg, from New York, will be the speaker and plans an interesting program – the story behind the opening of the Appalachian Trail Museum and how the Appalachian Trail changes people's lives. He is working now on his second book concerning that topic.

Larry had thru-hiked the A.T. thirty years ago and is the author of "Walking the Appalachian Trail," which has stories of hundreds of A.T. thru-hikers. He is also founder and president of the A.T. Museum. As a native of Western Pennsylvania, he got started in hiking with the Headwaters Group of the Sierra Club in Johnstown. He is also a lifetime member of the Keystone Trails Association, but lives in New York.

Larry once said, "If I ever knew it was going to take so long and so much time to get an AT Museum together, I am not sure I would have undertaken such a project." The grand opening was May 2010 and the building is the beautiful old Ironmaster Mansion in central Pa. that was once a hostel.

Tickets to our dinner are due Nov 5 and will be available at our monthly meetings.



www.ATMuseum.org info@ATMuseum.org

**The Appalachian Trail Museum**

tells the story of the A.T. from it's inception to the present: including those who hike it, those who maintain it, and everything in between... all 2000+ miles!

The first and only hiking Museum of it's kind

Located in The Old Mill near the midpoint of the Trail at Pine Grove Furnace State Park #20 Pine Grove Road Gardners, PA 17324

Hours: Summer: Noon - 4:00 Daily Spring and Fall: weekends Noon - 4:00 Closed 1 Nov. thru 31 Mar

## Oct 6 Monthly Meeting

Our Oct. monthly meeting is at 6:30 pm social hour, 7:30 pm announcements and 8:00 program on the first Wed. of each month at the Butler YMCA, 339 N. Washington, St. Butler, Pa.

Each meeting includes outing announcements, a featured speaker and slide show or outdoor educational program and is open to the public.

Join us on Wed Oct 6 when Lori Fennell will present a program on bats. Lori is a full-time Park and Recreation Management student at Butler County Community College (BC3), in Butler, PA. She currently works for the non-profit group Moraine Preservation Fund and also for BC3 as a work-study. Lori enjoys volunteering her time for local organizations and is interested in conservation of land, water and wildlife. Lori's presentation will cover a variety of topics including basic facts about bats, their history, feeding habits and more. She will review the current status of White Nose Syndrome. Locations of the Moraine Preservation Fund's bat habitats and their purpose, what to do if you find bats in your backyard and how to build a bat house will also be discussed.

For details call John Stehle  
Cell 724-256-0674

## **"Looking for a few good people"**

*By John Stehle*

Our club elections are upcoming this fall. Many of our officers and group leaders have committed to leading the club again in 2011. If you are interested in joining our team and having more fun in 2011 then contact our club president John Stehle to volunteer to lead a trip, conduct a program, organize a hike or help plan events and activities.

Our annual dinner will be November 13. Larry Luxemberg will be our featured speaker. We are accepting nominations for individuals or groups for the BOC Outstanding Outdoors Award.

Thanks to those who helped on the Adopt a Highway road cleanup on Thursday evening, Aug 5, 2010. We had a nice turnout with Mark Smith, Laurie Krofft, Mary Parker, Jan Berg, Mac and Alice McAnallen, Patty Brunner, Steve and Carol Bickel, Alice and John Stehle.

Thanks also to all who helped on the Lake Arthur Regatta, those who setup and manned the BOC and NCT table - Dave Adams, Jan Berg, Helen Coyne, Cindy Webreck and Joanne Sergeant. And those who were one the Regatta Committee, particularly our BOC member, Tom Baumgardner.

### **KTA News and Upcoming Events**

Planning continues for the **Susquehanna Super Hike & Ultra Trail Run**, the daunting 28.4-mile trail challenge to be held Saturday, September 11.

Volunteers are still needed to direct parking, help with event timing, assist with set-up and clean-up, and more. Please contact Becky at 717.238.7017 or [ktaadmin@verizon.net](mailto:ktaadmin@verizon.net) for more information or to sign-up to volunteer. Volunteers will receive a Super Hike t-shirt and be invited to attend the post-event picnic.

October 1-3: Fall Meeting & Hiking Weekend, Milroy, Mifflin County

October 15-17: Trail Care, Bear Run Reserve

November 5-7: Trail Care, North Country Trail

## **BOC Directory**

### **President**

John Stehle 724.283.0191

### **Co-Vice-Presidents**

Tammy Veloski

[painthorse\\_33@yahoo.com](mailto:painthorse_33@yahoo.com)

Mike Dailey 724.452.7870

### **Secretary**

Jan Berg 724.867.0261

### **Treasurer**

Steve Bickel 724.794.3719

### **Backpacking**

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### **Membership**

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### **Skiing**

Paul Henry 724.347.3282

### **Trails**

Ron Rice 724.538.8475

### **Rambles**

Gina Collela Hench 724.712.6695

Dana Asbury 724. 376.3526

### **Nature Study**

Dorothy Weisburg

### **Board Members-at-large**

Carol Bickel 724.794.3719

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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."

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

[www.butleroutdoorclub.org](http://www.butleroutdoorclub.org)

## Stage 16 of the Tour de NCT of PA

On Sunday September, 26, 2010, stage 16 picked up at the trail head on Route 322 at Van near where the Stage 14 bike section ended. Ten hikers tackled a very easy 7 miles along the former rail-road bed. Some anticipated rockiness turned out to not be an issue as we breezed through this hike on a beautiful, cool and overcast day. The fall change of color was just getting started, so everything had a warm, mellow look. See some nice pictures taken by Tammy Veloski at <http://butleroutdoorclubphotojournal.shutterfly.com/1060>

The AVTA is still working out issues with land owners along the trail, so there was one section where we had to leave the rails-to-trails. That would have required a couple miles of road walk along Rt 322, which would not have been fun. But the Clarion Chapter's Dave Galbreath and Ed Scurry came through for us again by cutting about a mile of new trail right through the woods, and negotiated a temporary permission with a local land owner to let us hike through. These guys are the best.

Plans for Stage 17 in the Little Salmon Creek area of the ANF will be our bittersweet goodbye to the Allegheny National Forest. The ANF has been a truly great section of the NCT. We plan to do this hike on Sunday, October 10, 2010, meeting at the Amsler Springs trail head at 7:30, to get an early start on an 11.1 mile section of trail. This section is reputed to be more rugged than our typical trail, so at 11.1 miles this would be strenuous by our standards. Bring plenty of water, snacks, a lunch, and gear for whatever weather October can throw at us. RSVP for planning purposes.

So after this it looks like we have about five sections to go, all in the Clarion Chapter plus a make up weekend to let people makeup sections missed in the Allegheny National Forest. It looks like we will be getting done next summer.

## BOC Hawk Watch Outing

Hawk watchers aplenty showed up at Allegheny Front Watch on Shaffer Mountain operated by the Allegheny Plateau Audubon Society on Sunday the 19<sup>th</sup> for the annual migration of hawks through the Somerset highlands.

We drove down a narrow forested path, and parked our cars in a tight parking lot. We dragged our chairs, blankets and lunches toward all the activity. Many accomplished bird watchers had preceded us, perching on the picnic tables and camping out in the available shade. Though there was a remarkable view behind us, a high cliff overlooking the Somerset Valley of farms and lakes, we all faced the parking lot waiting for the hawks. Broadwing hawks flew very high in small groups over our heads. It was challenging to find them flying in the sun, but once we spied one hawk, it was easy to see the rest of its group.

As we munched our lunches, an occasional voice cried out, "I think I see an accipiter!" And the number of hawks were dutifully added to the count by the experts keeping the rolls.

As time went on the number of hawks dwindled and a friend remarked that the hawks kept bankers' hours, starting later in the morning, stopping for a respectable lunch & then resuming. But we expected to see fewer in the afternoon because of windy weather in the area.

Thanks to Dorothy Weisberg for planning and leading this enjoyable expedition.

A total of 366 hawks were recorded flying through that day.



### Area Outings and Outdoor Events

Oct 1 3	<p>KTA will host its Fall Meeting &amp; Hiking Weekend from Friday, October 1 to Sunday, October 3 in Milroy, Mifflin County in central Pennsylvania and is part of the Seven Mountains Region. Some of Pennsylvania's most challenging and rewarding hikes are found in this area, where hikers are treated to a wealth of stunning vistas, rugged climbs and rocky ridge tops. Milroy is located in close proximity to two of the state's premier long-distance hiking trails: the Mid State Trail and the Standing Stone Trail. Hikers will be able to enjoy day hikes on these trails as well as other hikes located in the nearby state forests and state parks. After a day on the trails, hikers will enjoy a comfortable stay at the Best Western Nittany Inn Milroy. Meals will be served at the Hartman Center, approx one mile from the hotel on Old US 322.</p>
Oct 2	<p>Moraine State Park Program: Sunset Kayak Tour 6:00PM – 8:00PM Dusk is a beautiful time to be out on Lake Arthur. Join the park naturalist at the Bear Run boat launch, located on the South Shore of Moraine, for an intermediate paced paddle to enjoy the sunset over Lake Arthur. Bring your own kayak to participate, or you can reserve one of Moraine State Park's kayaks. 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. To reserve a park kayak call the Moraine office at 724-368-8811. Please be sure to dress for the weather conditions and bring drinking water. Kayaking at night requires a white light source, such as a flashlight. Park kayaks will have a light provided. All paddlers bringing their own boats must also have a light.</p>
Oct 2	<p>Moraine State Park Program: Fall Foliage Disc Golf Hike - 1:00PM – 3:00PM Moraine State Park is home to one of the premier disc golf courses in the nation. This program combines learning to play disc golf with a nature hike during the beginning of the fall leaf season. Anyone wishing to learn more can meet park staff at the course located on the North Shore of Moraine at the Lakeview Beach area. Experience is not necessary and neither are discs. This is an easy paced walk over moderately hilly terrain.</p>
Oct 6	<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. Each meeting includes outing announcements, a featured speaker and slide show or outdoor educational program and is open to the public. Join us on Wed Oct 6 when Lori Fennell will present a program on bats. Lori is a full-time Park and Recreation Management student at Butler County Community College (BC3), in Butler, PA. She currently works for the non-profit group Moraine Preservation Fund and also for BC3 as a work-study. Lori enjoys volunteering her time for local organizations and is interested in conservation of land, water and wildlife. Lori's presentation will cover a variety of topics including basic facts about bats, their history, feeding habits and more. She will review the current status of White Nose Syndrome. Locations of the Moraine Preservation Fund's bat habitats and their purpose, what to do if you find bats in your backyard and how to build a bat house will also be discussed.</p>
Oct 6	<p>Moraine State Park Program: Autumn Bike Tour - 1:00PM – 3:00PM Meet the park naturalist at the Lakeview Beach area on the North Shore of Moraine for a guided bike tour of a section of the bike trail that many visitors do not explore. We will enjoy the beautiful fall scenery as we tour the park and discuss park history as well as the natural transformation that the park experiences during the fall season. Bring your bike, helmet, water and dress for the weather.</p>
Oct 10	<p>Tour de NCTA PA Stage 17 will be in the Little Salmon Creek area of the ANF will be our bittersweet goodbye to the Allegheny National Forest. The ANF has been a truly great section of the NCT. We plan to do this hike on Sunday, October 10, 2010, meeting at the Amsler Springs trail head at 7:30, to get an early start on an 11.1 mile section of trail. This section is reputed to be more rugged than our typical trail, so at 11.1 miles this would be strenuous by our standards. Bring plenty of water, snacks, a lunch, and gear for whatever weather October can throw at us. If you plan to attend, try to let me know for planning purposes and last minute changes. John Stehle Cell 724-256-0674</p>
Oct 10	<p>Moraine State Park Program: Kayaking in Color - 1:00PM - 3:00PM In autumn the trees are nature's kaleidoscope. Meet the park naturalist at the Old 422 launch area off of Old Route 422/Park Road, to kayak among the beautiful natural scenery during this relaxed 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-</p>

	<p>368-8811. Participants that use park kayaks must be at least 12 years of age. An adult must accompany those participants under the age of 18. Please be sure to dress for the weather and bring drinking water.</p>
Oct 10 11	<p>TWO DAY FALL BICYCLE RIDE TO BE SPONSORED BY THE ARMSTRONG RAILS TO TRAILS ASSC On Sunday, October 10th and Monday, October 11th (Columbus Day weekend) an organized two day overnight bicycle ride will be held on the Allegheny River Trail with options to extend the ride on the Samuel Justus and Sandy Creek Trails. The ride will begin at 10:30 AM on Sunday in Emlenton in the parking lot behind the Crawford Center (overnight parking has been arranged). The ride will conclude at the same location sometime Monday afternoon. The “short” ride will be 26 miles each day with an overnight stay in Franklin. Additional trail miles can be enjoyed either day by taking the Samuel Justus Trail to Oil City and back (up to 14 additional miles) or by taking the Sandy Creek spur (up to 24 additional miles). Upon receipt of your registration and \$15.00 fee you will receive a list of accommodations (two B &amp; Bs and a hotel) and phone numbers for contacts. It will be the responsibility of each registrant to make their own room reservations. Room rates vary between \$80-\$105 a night double occupancy. All room rates include a full breakfast. You will also receive a Release of Liability form that must be signed and turned in at the ride start. A detailed itinerary with suggested packing list will also be provided. A bag of trail mix and a trail map will be available to each rider on the first day of the trip. Please make your check payable to the Armstrong Rails to Trails Association (ARTA) and mail it by Saturday, September 18 to P.O. Box 777, Kittanning PA 16201. Contact Toni Henry by email at tonihenry@yahoo.com or at home at 724-526-3552 or by cell phone at 412-759-9152 for additional information on the ride. For information regarding the trails check out the website at <a href="http://www.avta-trails.org">www.avta-trails.org</a> The trail is paved, mostly level and suitable for road or hybrid bicycles and for bicyclists with minimal trail experience. Note that there are 2 very dark tunnels (bring a flashlight) and a half mile rough detour to navigate. Participants must wear a safety helmet and be able to carry all gear and extra clothing on their bike. The ride is being held as a fund raiser for the Armstrong Rails to Trails Association.</p>
Oct 10	<p>Moraine State Park Program: Kayaking in Color – 1:00PM – 3:00PM In autumn the trees are nature’s kaleidoscope. Meet the park naturalist at the Pleasant Valley launch on the South Shore of Moraine State Park, to kayak among the beautiful natural scenery during this intermediate 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. Please be sure to dress for the weather conditions and bring drinking water.</p>
Oct 17	<p>A 7-mile hike on the Rachel Carson Trail Sunday Oct 17, 2010 from 09:30 am to 12:00 pm Join the Rachel Carson Trails Conservancy on a fall hike! We'll follow the Rachel Carson Trail from Hartwood Acres to the Harmar shelter in North Park for approximately seven miles, rain or shine. Refreshments will be served at the end of the hike. Meet at 9:30 AM for instructions and car pooling at the Harmar shelter in North Park, located next to the Pie Traynor field near the swimming pool. This event is FREE and open to everyone! More details: <a href="http://www.rachelcarsontrails.org/Members/sgmentzer/rct-hike20101017">http://www.rachelcarsontrails.org/Members/sgmentzer/rct-hike20101017</a></p>
Oct 17	<p>Moraine State Park Program: Beauty of Fall Hike – 1:00PM – 3:00PM Fall is a beautiful time to enjoy Moraine State Park. Come out and meet the park naturalist at the park office on the South Shore for a moderate, three-mile hike to view the changing colors. We will also discuss some threats that foreign plants and insects are posing to our natural landscape. Please dress for the weather, wear sturdy hiking shoes and bring drinking water.</p>
Oct 22	<p>The WPA Trails Symposium will bring together the leaders in land and water trail development from WPA. The symposium stems from the desire to capitalize on our increasingly connected trail system. How can we take advantage of our connections to benefit more from our growing trail system? WPA is well-poised to be a major statewide and national destination for outdoor recreation. This event is all about working together to capitalize on our success. SAVE THE DATE! For registration (available in early Sept) and more information goto <a href="http://www.pecpa.org/trailssymposium2010">http://www.pecpa.org/trailssymposium2010</a> For more information contact Hannah E. Hardy <a href="mailto:hhardy@pecpa.org">hhardy@pecpa.org</a>, 412-481-9400</p>

Oct 23	Moraine State Park Program: Wildlife Night Hike – 6:30PM – 8:30PM offers an entirely new experience for all the senses. Join the park naturalist for a 1.5 mile hike over moderate terrain to experience the sight and sounds of the park at night. Meet at the park office on the S Shore of Moraine to explore for wildlife sights and sounds of the night. Bring a flashlight, water, wear sturdy hiking shoes and dress for weather.
Oct 24	Moraine State Park Program: Fall Foliage Paddle – 1:00PM – 3:00PM On the water is an excellent way to experience the beautiful fall colors of Moraine State Park. Meet the park naturalist at the Bear Run launch on the South Shore of Moraine State Park, for this intermediate 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. Please be sure to dress for the weather conditions and bring drinking water.
Nov 5 7	KTA Trailcare NCT Clarion County will be during the first weekend in Nov ( 5, 6,& 7). The work will be in Cook Forest State Park and Clear Creek State Forest. Cook Forest is providing cabin space in the River cabins at Cooksburg on Route 36 in exchange for work in the park. The primary project is stone boardwalk just North of Maple Creek Road to eliminate a wet area. DCNR will drop off stone in the area of the project and identify tree that can be harvested for the work. There is approximately 300 feet of wet area. Our plan is to lay 8 to 10 inch logs, secure them and distribute 6 inches of stone, three feet wide, between the logs. Additionally there is sufficient work available along the hill ascending from the fire tower at Cook Forest. In the unlikelihood that we are swamped with help we can also work on pinching in the Seneca Trail as it tops out along the Clarion River. That section has had significant widening due to hikers not staying on the intended footpath. We could also do trail clearing in the park trails. Tools and gloves will be provided, but if you have tools, bring them and let me know what you are bringing. Cabins provided with no cost to you and will be available Friday and Sat. night. Food is on your own. You can cook in the cabins morning and night, but make sure you have a water bottle and lunch to take with you for the Sat. and Sun. workday. Details: Joyce Appel 724-526-5407 joyceappel@windstream.net
Nov 13	BOC Annual Dinner Saturday, November 13. Our featured speaker this year is Larry Luxemburg, author of Walking the Appalachian Trail, hiker. One of the things we do ahead of time is nominate worthy people and organizations for the BOC Outstanding Contributor to the Outdoors Award. So, consider if you have a person or organization that you think should receive the award this year. Send you nominations to the Butler Outdoor Club, PO Box 243, Butler PA 16003.
Jan 7 9	Jan. 7-9 (Fri.-Sun.) Wilderness Lodge near Wattsburg, PA. Hike, snowshoe or cross country ski. (Rentals available or bring your own.) We stay at a very rustic, antique lodge with a great home cooked dinner included Sat. night. You can purchase breakfast and lunch separately. Trails are groomed and marked easy, moderate and difficult, so they are good for beginners or experienced. Before the Sat. dinner, we will have a Happy Hour with our-derives, cheese and wine. Bring something to share if you like There is a very large sitting room with tables, couches, TV, table games, fireplace and bar. (Downhill Peak n Peak and tubing hill are nearby.) Prices are for the whole weekend, Fri. to Sun., including Sat.dinner. (Ski Trail pass is separate.) \$78 per person, singles.) Send check payable to: Joyce Appel 1899 State Route 268 East Brady,Pa. 16028 Questions??? 724-526-5407 joyceappel@windstream.net
Feb 11 14	Feb. 11-14 (Fri.- Sun. night or Mon. morning) Allegany State Park near Salamanca, NY. I have rented all 13 cabins on the Summit for the weekend. This is where the ski trails are also. Each year in the past we had to have everything out of the cabins by 11 AM Sunday, even if we stayed to ski. Problem solved. I booked an extra day, so you have all day Sunday. Pack when you want, leave when you want, even stay Sunday night and leave by 11 AM Monday morning if you wish.They are basic cabins with heat, refrigerator, stove, counter and table. Bring covered dish to share for “pot luck” dinner on Sat. Warming hut has a few snacks and hotdogs. Otherwise, bring your own snacks, breakfast and lunch. We plan on having a cardboard race on the sled hillPrices are for the whole weekend, Fri. to Mon. morning. (No ski pass is needed.) \$72 per person, singles \$179 per couple Send check payable to: Joyce Appel 1899 State Route 268 East Brady,Pa. 16028 Questions??? 724-526-5407 joyceappel@windstream.net

**Butler Outdoor Club  
Outstanding Contributor Award  
Nomination Form**

Do you know someone who has been involved in the outdoors, clubs, organizations, volunteer work, or whatever, that deserves special attention and is worthy of an award? Or is there an organization that has contributed to the improvement in the quality of life in the outdoors?

Please fill out the following form and mail it back to us by **Tuesday, Oct 5, 2010**. Use this form for your nomination. Please be specific regarding dates of involvement if you know them. Make every attempt to fully explain the qualifications of the nominee. All the judges have to go on is what you say, so impress them.

	Nominee	Nominator
Name		
Address		
Phone		

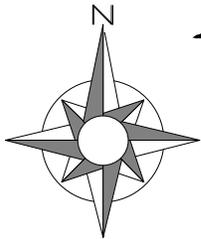
Contributions and or involvements of the Nominee to the outdoors:

This nominee deserves special recognition because:

Please respond by email to [president@butleroutdoorclub.org](mailto:president@butleroutdoorclub.org) or  
Outstanding Contributor Award, Butler Outdoor Club, PO Box 243, Butler, PA 16003



*Start of Tour de NCTA PA Stage 16*



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The Butler Outdoor Club Newsletter Butler, Pennsylvania

**Butler Outdoor Club**  
**PO Box 243**  
**Butler, Pa 16003-0243**