

The Compass

The Butler Outdoor Club Newsletter Butler, Pennsylvania

Issue # 14 Month # 11

November 2010

Nov 13 BOC Annual Dinner

The Butler Outdoor Club will be hosting its 16th annual dinner on Saturday, Nov. 13, 2010. The event features a silent auction, door prizes, outdoor club displays, and a buffet style roast beef dinner and will be held at the Highfield Community Center in Lyndora, PA. The cost is \$15 for adults and \$7 for children under 6. To purchase tickets, please mail a check with self-addressed stamped envelope to BOC c/o John Stehle, PO Box 243, Butler PA 16003-0243. Tickets are due Nov 5 and will be available at our monthly meetings.

Our featured speaker this year is Larry Luxenburg, a native of Western Pennsylvania. Larry thru-hiked the A.T. thirty years ago and is the author of "Walking the Appalachian Trail" which has stories of many A.T. thru hikers. It covers the trail's history, its culture and the colorful personalities who hiked the trail.

Larry had a dream that some day there would be an Appalachian Trail Museum. He began collecting trail artifacts, photos, and memorabilia. Now his dream has come true and years of hard work has paid off. The A.T. Museum had its grand opening this last June in a renovated grist mill at Pine Grove Furnace State Park of Western Pennsylvania.

The Butler Outdoor Club will also present the annual Outstanding Contributor Award to Esther Allen, a well known botanist, naturalist, excellent photographer, teacher and student of nature. Esther Allen has been a source of inspiration and knowledge for decades. This event is made possible through support of our sponsors including Clean Creek Products (<http://www.cleancreek.org>) and the Butler County Tourism & Convention Bureau (<http://www.visitbutlercounty.com>).

Nov 3 Monthly Meeting

Our Nov. monthly meeting is at 6:30 pm social hour, 7:30 announcements and 8:00 program 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.

Our featured speaker is Chris Ruch who will describe what search and rescue is and what it means here in western PA. He will cover what the AMRG does, how to get involved and will review what members of the group should do if they get lost or hurt in the wilderness. Chris will explain how he went from a hiker / backpacker / climber to getting involved in search and rescue. He is Commander of the Allegheny Mountain Rescue Group (AMRG), has 12 years of experience in volunteer Search and Rescue, specializing in large scale search management, ground search techniques, and technical rope rescue. Chris is also a National Evaluator for the Mountain Rescue Association and the Conference Training Officer for the Appalachian Search and Rescue Conference. He lives in Murrysville.

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
1120 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

Election of Club Officers

By John Stehle

As the year 2010 comes to a close, we will need to vote for our officers for the next year, as we do every year. The current president and secretary will have served the maximum permitted for the office. The current Treasurer, Steve Bickel, has offered to be the president for the next year. With the treasurer position opening up, Tom Baumgardner offered to serve in that office. Tammy Veloski and Mike Dailey agreed to continue their service as co-vice presidents. That leaves the office of Secretary open.

We will be presenting this slate of officers at the November meeting and we will be voting on them at the December meeting. If you would like to be on the ballot for any of these offices and you are a member in good standing, tell John Stehle, preferably by the November meeting. We also encourage you to come to the Board meeting which are held on the third Monday of every month at the YMCA Trustees room.

Tour de NCTA PA Stage 18

On Sunday, November 21, 2010, Stage 18 of the Tour de NCT of PA will resume at the crossing of Fern Road, near Knox PA. In this section we have been walking along very nice rails-to-trails - or soon to be such. It is easy, straight ahead hiking. The surface has been smooth and clear of brush, making for very pleasant walking.

We will be walking to Deer Creek Road, about 8.5 miles. With the distance and expected trail condition, I would rate this a moderate hike.

Meet Sunday Nov 21 9:00am at the Country Fair, at the Corner of Rt 66 and Rt 322 in Shippenville, PA.

If you plan to attend, try to let me know for planning purposes and last minute changes.

John Stehle
Cell 724-256-0674

BOC Directory

President

John Stehle 724.283.0191

Co-Vice-Presidents

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painthorse_33@yahoo.com

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Jan Berg 724.867.0261

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Paul Henry 724.347.3282

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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

"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

BOC Annual Dinner Sponsors

We wish to thank Clean Creek Products (CCP) and the Butler County Tourism and Convention Bureau for helping to sponsor the 2010 Butler Outdoor Club Annual Dinner.

In Pennsylvania, over 5,000 miles of stream are impaired from abandoned mine drainage (AMD). All CCP items are made from recovered Iron Oxide and Manganese Oxide collected from AMD passive treatment systems. CCP works with local watershed groups to install AMD treatment systems to restore these streams to once again support aquatic life.

CCP products are sold online at <http://www.cleancreek.org> and also on consignment with organizations or businesses. Places include Moraine Preservation Fund Gift Shop (located at Moraine State Park), Jennings Environmental Education Center (located in Slippery Rock), Kitchen Kaboodle (located in State College), and The Pottery Dome (located in Grove City).



Clean Creek Products

A Division of Stream Restoration Inc
(Non-Profit)
434 Spring Street Extension, Mars, PA 16
Ph: (724) 776-0161 Cell: (724) 350-5114
Fax: (724) 776.0166
Email ccp@cleancreek.org
www.cleancreek.org



The Butler County Tourism and Convention Bureau is located in 310 E. Grandview Ave, Zelienople, Pa 16063 Phone 724-234-4619 or go to www.visitbutlercounty.com

It is the as the official tourism promotion and development organization for Butler County, Pennsylvania. It is comprised of a variety of members including attractions, hotels and bed and breakfasts, retailers, museums, restaurants, non-profits, etc.

Area Rail Trail News

Great Job by ARTA on the two Oct. trail work Saturdays for work on the Armstrong Rails to Trails from East Brady to Phillipston.

Work consisted of pruning trees and brush to make way for limestone surface delivery, repair and replacement of drains and raking of ballast. Volunteers also installed a split rail fence and mile markers.

Special thanks to Marty Henry, Toni Henry, and Dick Starr for putting in days and weeks of work to make the improvements along this section of trail.

Ron Steffi



Additional Rail Corridor Bought By AVLT

The Allegheny Valley Land Trust has purchased a 48 mile railroad corridor that will extend from the Armstrong Trail in Clarion County to Brookville in Jefferson County. This railtrail will be for nonmotorized uses such as bicycling, walking and hiking. This corridor includes 38 miles along Redbank Creek and a 9 mile branch line that connects Lawsoham to the Sligo Area. The trail was railbanked according to the requirements of the Surface Transportation Board and National Trail Act. The Redbank Valley Trails Association, a volunteer organization, has been formed to assist in the trail maintenance and development.

Area Outings and Outdoor Events

Oct
29
31
 BOC Halloween Masquerade on Allegheny River or bike trail. If you want to bike instead of paddling, call David Feick and Francine at 412-916-5633. They are riding the trail from Franklin at 11 AM. they plan to stay at the Arlington Hotel in Oil City after partying with us at Clark's Campground. Halloween Masquerade Paddle on weekend of Oct. 29- 31. Theme is Clowns of the Allegheny, even decorate your boat if you want to. Bring a pumpkin to carve on Friday night or Sat. after the paddle for pumpkin contest. Prizes for best pumpkin carving and best costumes and best decorated boat. We will use Clarks campground for base camp so come for one day or both days. Better yet, come Friday night and be ready for the whole weekend. (I encourage Friday - Sunday, more fun!) If coming Sat. or Sun, please be at campground by 9 AM. I promise we will not leave to shuttle boats until shortly after 9 AM. You will need breakfast Sat. or Sun. morning, and lunch for Sat. or Sun. We paddle in costume Sat., but not usually Sun. Can if you want! On Sat. night we drive to nearby restaurant for dinner and go dressed in costume there also. Afterwards, we may car pool to a haunted house or haunted hayride. We will have a pumkin race down the creek by the campground after the Sat. paddle or after the evening restaurant. So, bring a pumpkin to carve and a pumpkin for the race. Sunday we do a boat shuttle again from the campground and the paddle finishes by afternoon. Sat. is the main costume day, but if you want, you can dress Sunday. Most of you told me when you are coming, weekend, or 1 or 2 days, but if you didn't please do so. I need a count to reserve tables for Sat. eve. restaurant which will probably be 6 PM. If you change plans, or are going to be late, call my cell phone and leave a message. I will check Sat. and Sun. morning. Joyce Appel 724-526-5407 or appel@windstream.net

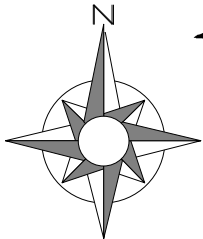
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Nov
5
7
 KTA Trailcare NCT Clarion County will be during the first weekend in November (5, 6,& 7). The following is a summary of work we plan. The work will be in Cook Forest State Park and Clear Creek State Forest. Cook Forest is providing cabin space 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

	<p>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. Cabins and tools will be provided at Cooks Forest, so all you need is to bring your own food. We take experienced and unexperienced trail workers! Joyce Appel 724-526-5407 joyceappel@windstream.net</p>
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Nov 27	<p>Guided trail walks begin at 10 am and end at Old Stone House, restored 1822 tavern operated by Slippery Rock University at Pa.8/528/173 junction 4.5 miles south of Slippery Rock, 12 miles north of Butler, with brief introduction, exhibits, refreshments. Sponsored by Harmony Museum, Old Stone House and Washington's Trail 1753, hike commemorates young Virginia Maj. George Washington's late 1753 mission to demand French withdraw from territory, precipitating French & Indian War; its first shot was fired at Washington by "French Indian" near Evans City. Admission \$5, or \$12 per family. Contact Info: 724-738-2409 Email: URL: http://www.harmonymuseum.org</p>
Aug 4-7	<p>The 2011 North Country National Scenic Trails Annual Conference will be held in Dayton, Ohio this year. Always a good time with hikes, bike rides, excursions, maybe canoe trip,</p>



Scene from the Tour de NCTA PA Stage 17



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