

# The Compass

The Butler Outdoor Club Newsletter Butler, Pennsylvania

Issue # 15 Month # 5

May 2011

## BOC May 4 Meeting

Join us 6:00pm on Wed May 4 for the BOC annual Cinco de Mayo meeting - Please bring a Mexican/Spanish type dish to share. The Club will provide drinks, paper plates, cups, napkins, and tableware. Our featured speaker will be Dr. Gary D'Urso who will continue the discussion on his study of the largest meltwater flood in the Slippery Rock Creek Basin during the last glacial period. He will review the glacial margins and hydraulic models briefly before comparing the current McConnell's Mill Park Guides with his research. Dr. D'Urso was born and raised in Greenville, PA and now resides in Butler, PA. He received his BA from Thiel College, MS from the University of Pittsburgh and PhD from West Virginia University. Dr. D'Urso has worked for the US Army Corps of Engineers, US Geological Survey and has taught at the high school and university levels.

## Preston Park Grand Opening

Butler Township's newest recreation area, Preston Park opens on Saturday, May 7, 2011 at 10:30 a.m. (Rain or Shine) South Eberhart Road & Highland Avenue in Meridian

Activities will begin at 10:30 a.m. with a brief ceremony at 12:00 noon. Afterwards, visitors will be able to tour the new park, enjoy light refreshments, and music.

From 10:30am - 2:00pm Park and Walk at The Vets Club, 125 Meridian Veterans Club Road or Free shuttle to the park from Meridian United Presbyterian Church, 4150 Highland Avenue (Last shuttle from the park is at 3:00pm)

## 15th Annual Outdoor Extravaganza

over Memorial Day Weekend May 27-30  
[www.outdoorextravaganza.org](http://www.outdoorextravaganza.org)

Base Camp is Breakneck Campground near McConnells Mill State Park. All outdoor trips, excursions and workshops leave the campground escorted by leaders or take place right at the campground - Day Activities 9 AM, Half Day Activities 9 AM and 1 PM.

Weiner Roast / Picnic Friday. Pig Roast Saturday.

Entertainment every night. (Star Gazing Party and Beginner Astronomy Program, Playthings, Rehabilitated Wildlife Program, Karma Acoustic duo)

Food and camping is optional.

Trips with various levels of biking, hiking, canoeing and kayaking. There will also be sailing, horseback riding, nature walks, raft float trip, mt. biking and a dead fish polo canoe water game.

Workshops on emergency first aid, survival, backpacking, wildflower identification, glass blowing, disc golf, birding, art activity, and renewable energy for your body.

Kids activities program.

Excursions to Tour Ed Mine, Living History Depreciation Lands, Mill Creek Park, and tours of historical grist mills.

This weekend is a must! Register at [www.outdoorextravaganza.org](http://www.outdoorextravaganza.org) using internet explorer.

Joyce Appel

DCNR is partnering with Gander Mountain to provide first-time campers with needed gear and a reservation for two nights at a participating state park for just \$20. "For a low price, we're offering hands-on instruction on how to set-up camp; use of campsite gear; and the chance to have fun and create some fantastic family memories," acting DCNR Secretary Rick Allan said. "Camping at a state park is an affordable vacation that comes complete with many opportunities to hike, fish, attend an educational program or just enjoy some solitude at our nationally-recognized state parks."

Participating parks, include: Black Moshannon, Centre County; Caledonia, Franklin County; Colonel Denning, Cumberland County; Gifford Pinchot, York County; Hickory Run, Carbon County; Keystone, Westmoreland County; Laurel Hill, Somerset County; Little Pine, Lycoming County; Locust Lake, Schuylkill County; Ohiopyle, Fayette County; Ole Bull, Potter County; Parker Dam, Clearfield County; Pymatuning, Crawford County; and R.B. Winter, Union County.

Reservations should be made by calling the park office directly. The program will run from Memorial Day weekend through the summer.

The gear provided for use by Gander Mountain is a four-person tent; tarp; two sleeping pads; two camp chairs; flashlight; lantern; camp stove; and four hot dog/marshmallow sticks. Participants must return the gear upon departure.

Participants will need to bring their own food, cooking utensils and bedding. Suggested packing lists will be provided.

"Recognizing that first-time campers may need some extra help, park staff will help them set-up camp and provide tips on outdoor living upon arrival," Allan said.

Park info is online at [www.visitPAParks.com](http://www.visitPAParks.com).

## BOC Directory

### President

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### 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)

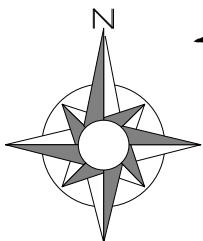
	<b>Area Outdoor Events and Activities</b>
May 2	The annual spring clean up along our adopted Rt. 422 section of highway near Moraine State Park will be held Monday, May 2 . Meet at the South Shore exit off 422 at Pleasant Valley Road at 5:00 pm. If you can't make it by 5, come when you can. We will be cleaning the area on both sides to the bridge. Pick up grabbers, plastic gloves and garbage bags will be provided. Afterward everyone is invited back to Moraine State Park cabin #2 for hot dogs and campfire stories. 724 794-3719 for more info
May 4	BOC annual Cinco de Mayo meeting - Please bring a Mexican/Spanish type dish to share. Club will provide drinks,paper plates,cups,napkins,tableware. Dr. Gary D'Urso continues the discussion on his study of the largest meltwater flood in the Slippery Rock Creek Basin during the last glacial period. He will review the glacial margins and hydraulic models briefly before comparing the current McConnell's Mill Park Guides with his research. Dr. D'Urso was born and raised in Greenville, PA and now resides in Butler, PA. He received his BA from Thiel College, MS from the University of Pittsburgh and PhD from West Virginia University. Dr. D'Urso has worked for the US Army Corps of Engineers, US Geological Survey and has taught at high school and university levels.
May 6	Annual BOC Wildflower Hike at Wolf Creek Narrows Meet 6pm at the trailhead at Wolf Creek. See Trilliums, Virginia Blue Bells, Rue Anemones, Round Lobed Hepaticas, etc. Take Water St. South from Sippery Rock 1.6 miles. Water St is a block west of the intersection of 108 and 173 in Slippery Rock. Optional refreshments or dinner at North Country Brew Pub afterwards. Dave/Jean Adams 724.453.1685.
May 7	Butler Twp Open House at Preston Park (adjacent to Butler Twp Park on S. Duffy Rd) The park opens to the public at 10:30 with an opening ceremony at noon. Our part of the festivities ends at 3 but after that the park will remain open to the public from dawn to dusk, 365 days a year. There will be bus transportation or you can walk into the park by parking at the Meridian Vet's Club and then walking over. On Saturday, May 7, a ribbon cutting and grand opening celebration is planned followed by public visitation of certain buildings of the former Preston Estate. Visit the township website for more information. After May 7, the Board will permit public access to the property for outdoor activities (picnics, hiking, bird watching, etc.). For more information see <a href="http://www.butlertwp.org">www.butlertwp.org</a> .
May 8	Spring Wildflowers Time 2:00 PM - 3:30 PM EST Location Jennings Environmental Education Center Phone 724-794-6011 Wildflowers have been admired for their beauty and usefulness as foods and medicines for countless generations. From the elegant lady's slipper to the common dandelion, each wildflower has its own uses, stories and magic. Discover the personality, folklore and history of the season's first blooms on this one and one half hour guided walk along Jennings' trails.
May 13	Wind and Water Boat Works Paddle Fest Friday 1pm - 7pm South Shore, Moraine State Park Six hours to paddle all the boats from the USA's top manufacturers. Expert help from WPPSA, WWB, and manufacturer's reps whether you are a first time paddler or an advanced one. Bring a change of dry clothes. Held rain or shine. email questions to: <a href="mailto:wind.water@juno.com">wind.water@juno.com</a>
May 14	Butler Downtown is holding a Historic Bike Tour of Butler on May 14th 10:30-noon. <a href="http://www.butlerdowntown.org">www.butlerdowntown.org</a> for more information on registration, cost \$10. I will be leading a group in from the Bonniebrook Rd. trailhead, leaving promptly at 9:30. Please let me know, if you will be riding in, we can have lunch at the Butler City Farmer's

	Market before returning to Bonniebrook Rd. Chris Ziegler email scadzigg@zoominternet.net
May 14-15	BOC Backpack Aprox. 10 miles on the Quehanna Trail following the Red Run side trail to the Quehanna Trail and Wycoff Run road. Contact Joe Hardisky 724-924-9248 hardis123@msn.com
May 14	Go Wild, Go Birding! ...on International Migratory Bird Day Time 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM EST Location Jennings Environmental Education Center Phone 724-794-6011 Join naturalist and expert birder, Chuck Tague, the Bartramian Audubon Society and Jennings staff for an early morning bird walk in search of warblers and other neotropical migrants. Following the hike, enjoy specialty, shade-grown coffee brews and snacks courtesy of the rainforest. Expert and novice birders welcome. A limited number of binoculars will be available to borrow.
May 15	TOUR DE NORTH SHORE See Pittsburgh on your bicycle. We will meet @ Washington's Landing Parking Lot (under the 31st Street Bridge, off Route 28 South). on Sunday, May 15th @ 10:30 am. We will ride past PNC Park, Carnegie Science Center and Rivers Casino. The trail ends @ Western Pen, where we'll loop around and head back covering about 20 miles total. Bring your lunch as there are many benches along the way. If anyone wants to extend the ride, you can pass the bridge ramp on the return trip and continue on to the Millvale Picnic Pavillion. Joanne Winwood 412-241-1004
May 15	Clarion NCTA May Hike - "Strawberry Pie Hike" Details: The Clarion Chapter will be having it's 1st Annual "Strawberry Pie Hike" at noon on May 15, 2011. We will be hiking along the North Country Trail / Baker Trail from the trail head on Route 66 to the Cook Forest Environmental Center. Strawberry Pie will be provided by the Clarion Chapter of the North Country Trail Association at the Environmental Center at the end of the hike. Route: We will all start at the trail head on Route 66, however, to accommodate hikers of varying levels, there are 2 options for this hike. Hike 1: If anyone desires a short hike of approximately 4 miles, transportation to the Environmental Center will be provided when the group reaches the trail head at the North End of Forest Road. (@ 4 miles of moderate, wooded terrain) Hike 2: After parting with the group from the first hike, the rest of the group will push on through the additional 4 miles from there through Cook Forest to the Environmental Center. (@ 8 miles of moderate, wooded terrain) Meeting Place: Cook Forest Park Office at Noon. Contact: If you plan to attend, or are interested in the shorter hike, please contact Devin Callihan at (814) 319-5058 or cla@northcountrytrail.org.
May 21	9th Annual Bike Around the Bay ~ join hundreds of tri-state bicyclists on Saturday, May 21, 2011 at the Intermodal Transportation Center on the Bayfront Parkway. Bike 10 Miles - Town Tour, especially designed for families and less experienced riders; 30 Miles - Bay Tour, for casual riders or 50 Miles - Endurance Tour, for seasoned riders. All riders bike along Presque Isle Bay and Lake Erie and are invited to join us for a picnic and gift auction after the ride. Cost: Individuals (includes t-shirt and water bottle) \$20.00 Families (includes water bottles for all riders) \$40.00 Group Rates Available: Scouts, Churches, Youth Groups etc. All proceeds benefit environmental education through Earth Action, a program of Environment Erie More info: 814-835-8069 or bab@environmenterie.org
May 22	Spring NCT Pennsylvania State Council meeting, will be held at the cabin at Davis Hollow in Moraine State Park at 1:00 PM.
May	BOC 15th Annual Outdoor Extravaganza May 27-30 2011 Early registration with internet

27 30	explorer before May 15. See <a href="http://www.outdoorextravaganza.org">www.outdoorextravaganza.org</a> for details and updates.
June 4	National Trails Day and the Butler Freeport Community Trail is holding a Community Walk/Bike, celebrating the completion of 4.25 of the remaining 4.5 miles of the Butler Freeport Trail. Inagural ride from Butler to Freeport and back on completed trail surface. It will be a leasurely ride with lunch (dutch treat) in Freeport (pizza at Riverside Park) then returning to Butler. It has taken over 20 years to get the trail completed. If you don't ride, no worries, a walk will also take place, led by long time trail member Fritz Emmerling. Short ceremony at 9 am before the walk/bike. Parking will be at Franklin Ball Field, nearest residential address is 253 Herman Rd., Butler, PA , the ball field is across the street. Questions, please e-mail <a href="mailto:scadziggy@zoominternet.net">scadziggy@zoominternet.net</a>
May 31 Jun 1	KTA / NCT trailwork week May 31 - June 5. KTA is proud to sponsor five Trail Crew weeks in June of 2011. Trail Crew begins on Tuesday evening and ends the following Sunday at noon with all meals provided. Participants can sign up for the entire week or by the day.
Jun 12	TourdeNCTAPa Stage 22: Final Stage - Brenimen Rd. to Sarvey Mill Rd(4.4) then to Highland Rd(3.4) (7.8 miles total) Starting times and places to be determined. If you are interested in joining us on this hike, please let John Stehle know cell - 724-256-0674 email - <a href="mailto:stehles@gmail.com">stehles@gmail.com</a>
Jul 15 17	Kinzua/ Morrison Run Paddle/Backpacking Trip Paddlers: Meet at southern end west side of Red Bridge on Rt.321 (north of Kane) 200ft. from the Longhouse Trail head at 10:00 AM 7/15/11. Parking will be at the Longhouse Trail Head due to the limited space at the put-in point. If the water is low, the put-in will be at the North end of Red Bridge at the boat ramp(Fish Commission Launch Permit may be required). Once gear is loaded, a 6 mile paddle north to Morrison Run sites #23 and #24 along the bay if available(first come first served). Backpackers: Meet at the Trail Head off Rt. 59, 3.9 miles east of Morrison Bridge at a time decided by those participating and hike into Morrison Run by a route of your choice. Contact: Dave Myers 724-588-2767. This current E-Mail address will be discontinued after 6/16/11(my retirement)
Jul 19 24	9th Annual RTC Greenway Sojourn Registration will follow the path of Pennsylvania's historical Mainline Canal that once linked Harrisburg and Pittsburgh See <a href="http://www.railstotrails.org/getinvolved/findanevent/sojourn/index.html">http://www.railstotrails.org/getinvolved/findanevent/sojourn/index.html</a> for details
Aug 6 7	Moraine Regatta 2011 - a weekend full of family oriented fun and activities at Moraine State Park For more details see <a href="http://www.lakearthurregatta.org">www.lakearthurregatta.org</a>
Aug 11 14	*** note date change *** 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, workshops, great food and evening programs. Watch for more details later, but mark you calendar.



*Tour de NCTA Stage 21*



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