

The Comp-

The Tour de NCT of PA – final stage

On June 12, 2011 the final stage of the Tour de NCT was completed by 20 hikers on the section running from Miola and Highland Road to Brenimen Road.

It was over 8 miles through beautiful woods of Hemlock and deciduous. The weather was overcast and partly sunny, with a cool breeze blowing to keep us generally comfortable. And we had our usual Clarion chapter "trail police escort" to keep us on the straight and narrow. But there were no problems with blazes or trail, as everything was in tip-top shape. Considering this was the 22nd outing for some of us, the 8 mile hike was a breeze.

An interesting fact about this section is that it was completely on private lands. Dave Galbreath and Ed Scurry and the Clarion Chapter have done a masterful job of working with land owners to get them to permit passage of the trail. This points to the future of trail growth in the state, considering that almost all the public lands have been used along the route.

Following the hike was a picnic at the home of Dave Galbreath where most of the hikers and some supporters joined us for food and celebration.

Part of the celebration was the awarding of the promised patch. When the "Tour de NCT of PA" was proposed, the stated terms of the hike were: At the end, there will be a special "Tour" patch for everyone who did all the sections during that time period.

Five hikers completed "The Tour" as a group: Steve and Carol Bickel, Jan Berg, Tammy Veloski, and John Stehle.

I want to thank all the hikers who joined us on some of those hikes. Over 100 hikers participated at some time. So the Tour is over and I know everyone who completed it has a great sense of accomplishment.

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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

CLASH OF HIKING WEEKEND IN BUTLER COUNTY

200 years of history.

McConnell's Mill State Park encompasses 2,546 acres of the spectacular Slippery Rock Creek Gorge. Created by the draining of glacial lakes thousands of years ago, the gorge has steep sides and the valley floor is littered with huge boulders. Visitors appreciate scenic **McConnell's Mill**, which dates to the 1800's.

Moraine State Park is a popular spot for boating, fishing, horseback riding, mountain biking, and—of course! - hiking. The gently-rolling hills, lush forests and sparkling waters of Moraine State Park are a testament to the restoration of a land once ravaged by continental glaciers and massive mining for gas, coal, and oil. Almost 29 miles of hiking trails wind through forests, fields and along the lake shore in this state park.

ABOVE: McConnell's Mill. Courtesy of Joyce Appel.

KTA will be traveling West this year, to **Prospect, Butler County**, for its annual **Fall Meeting and Hiking Weekend!** Located in the rolling hills of western Pennsylvania, **Butler County** is filled with thriving businesses, gorgeous scenery, plentiful recreational activities and over

WEEKEND OVERVIEW

OVERVIEW, Continued on p. 11

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WEEKEND SCHEDULE

Friday, September 30

1:00 PM—7:00 PM: Registration and hike sign-ups (Redwood Lodge)

2:00 PM—4:00 PM: Hikes & excursions depart

4-5:30 PM: Trail Ride (by horse) on Lutherlyn Grounds**

6:00 PM: Bonfire & Weiner Roast Picnic, and presentation by Joyce Appel & Paul Henry

7:00 PM: Bat Habitat educational program at Moraine State Park

Saturday, October 1

7:30-8:45 AM: Breakfast, registration, hike sign-ups, and bagged lunch pickup

9:00 AM: Lake Arthur Kayak Trip* and Nautical Nature Lake Arthur Boat Tour & NCT Hike** depart

9:00 AM & 1:00 PM: Hikes depart

10:00 AM-12:00PM: Youth "Arena Program"***

1:00-4:00 PM: Children's crafts, activities & pony rides**

1:00-3:00 PM: Board Meeting

4:00-6:00 PM: Council Meeting

6:30-9:00 PM: Dinner, Presentation, and General Membership Meeting

Note: All Saturday meetings will take place in the Dining Hall

Sunday, October 2

7:30-8:45 AM: Breakfast, hike sign-ups, and bagged lunch pickup

9:00 AM: Hikes, excursions, and Slippery Rock Creek Kayak/ Canoe Trip depart*

***Kayak and Canoe Excursions:** Bring your own kayak or canoe! If you need to borrow one, a limited number are available for a small donation. Reserve one on p.12.

****Extra fees and registration minimums apply. Pre-registration may be required.** See p.12 for details.

DIRECTIONS & MAP

WEB RESOURCES

LODGING

Lutherlyn

500 Lutherlyn Lane
Prospect, PA 16052
724-865-2161
www.lutherlyn.com/

Lutherlyn is located 40 miles north of Pittsburgh off of Route 422 between Butler and Prospect.

CABINS

KTA has reserved all four of Lutherlyn's charming and unique cabin "villages" for the entire weekend.

Each village contains five "modern" cabins, equipped with porches, central heating, carpeted floors, and beautiful wooden construction. Each cabin is divided into two separate, private, and cozy sides, with a spacious restroom/shower on each side. Each side has ample space for four adults, but upon request could accommodate up to six individuals.

Comfortable twin-size and bunk-beds have brand-new innerspring mattresses, ensuring a sound and restful night's sleep!

By request, both sides of a cabin may be rented completely by one party, with the divider removed, so that up to 8-12 adults and children could share the entire cabin.

Note: Guests must bring their own linens (towels, sheets, pillows, and blankets) for the weekend.

Above: Interior of Locust Cabin in one of Lutherlyn's Cabin Villages.

RUSTIC CAMPING

KTA is excited to offer campsites on the Lutherlyn grounds (the "Rustic Retreat") for our more 'outdoorsy' hikers. A limited number of sites have electrical hook-ups (please indicate on your registration form if you require one of these).

Sites are close to a modern toilet facility, but a 10-minute walk from the shower-house; please take this into consideration when making your reservation.

Below: A cabin in Lutherlyn's unique A-Frame Village.

MEALS

WHAT TO BRING

ADDITIONAL LODGING

Fairfield Inn & Suites By Marriott

200 Fairfield Lane
Butler, PA 16001
724-283-0009

Locust Brook Lodge Bed & Breakfast

179 Eagle Mill Road
Butler, PA 16001
724-283-8453

Moraine State Park - Campground

225 Pleasant Valley Road
Portersville, PA 16051-2031
724-368-8811

WEEKEND PACKAGE PRICING INFORMATION: The price listed is **per person** and includes **two nights lodging** (Friday and Saturday night), as well as **six meals** (Friday picnic dinner, Saturday breakfast, lunch and dinner, and Sunday breakfast and lunch) and the **registration fee**.

Please circle selected option:	KTA		# people	Total
	Member	Non-Member		
Cabin—Single (1 person/ room)	\$250	\$270	X _____	= _____
Cabin—Double (2 people/ room)	\$160	\$180	X _____	= _____
Cabin—Triple (3 people/ room)	\$140	\$160	X _____	= _____
Cabin—Quadruple (4 people/ room)	\$120	\$140	X _____	= _____
Rustic Tenting Package (site & meals)	\$100	\$120	X _____	= _____
Children's Weekend Package (age 3-11)	\$65	\$85	X _____	= _____
<u>Rustic Tenting ONLY</u> (per site; up to 4 people)	\$50	\$75	X # sites _____	= _____
<u>Meal Package ONLY</u> (6 meals/no lodging)	\$65	\$90	X _____	= _____
<u>Saturday dinner & annual meeting ONLY</u>	\$20	\$35	X _____	= _____

OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES/ EXTRA FEES: (Pre-registration required, minimums apply, and space is limited)

Saturday Nautical Nature Boat Tour/hike	\$10	X _____	= _____
Friday 4-5:30 PM Trail Ride (horseback) at Lutherlyn	\$30	X _____	= _____
Saturday 10 AM-12PM: "Arena Program" for older kids/teens	\$30	X _____	= _____
1-Seater Canoe/ Kayak reservation for Saturday/ Sunday (circle which)	\$20	X _____	= _____
2-Seater Canoe/ Kayak reservation for Saturday/ Sunday (circle which)	\$15	X _____	= _____

REGISTRATION FEE: Please **omit** the registration fee if you selected a **Weekend Package** or if you are **only** attending the Saturday dinner and evening program

KTA Member	\$20	X _____	= _____
Non-Member	\$40	X _____	= _____

BOC Sponsored Events

Jul 31
 Leader: Mike Ciccone Co-leaders: Paul Henry & possibly Joyce Appel July 31, 2011 Sunday 10AM Allegheny River/ Mahoning Creek Kayak/ Canoe Trip (up to 17 miles; 8.5 upstream & 8.5 back) Paddle upriver on the slack water of the Allegheny River 2 miles paralleling the Armstrong Bike Trail. Turn up Mahoning Creek, easy slack water, and wind your way upstream past camps into sparkling clear water in this deep Gorge. Around 2 miles is where the creek becomes rocky. We will stop for a break/ lunch on a rocky island. At this point we will paddle back down Mahoning Creek re-entering the Allegheny River. Continue paddling North up to 7 miles past numerous small towns, and travel through a very scenic stretch of river with large hills on both sides. When in sight of the Lock 9 Dam (the largest and Northernmost Lock on the Allegheny River) we will paddle back downstream on the opposite side of the river back to our starting point. Please contact Mike Ciccone at 724-584-8045 if interested in this trip and to obtain directions to the Templeton, PA Fish and Boat Commission Launch (put in/ take out). There is no shuttle on this trip and estimated trip time is 5-6 hours including stops for lunch or if people just want to stop.

Aug 3
 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.
 Please join us August 3rd for a presentation by Dr. Willis (Rob) Shook. Dr. Shook will explain the geography and interesting history of Muddy Creek Falls and surrounding area. Dr. Shook will describe the namesake falls, interesting rock formations and other geologic features left behind following the last ice age. At a future date the group will be invited for a walking tour of the Muddy Creek Falls area.

Aug 24
 There will be a miniature golf outing at Eracer's on Route 68 on Wednesday, August 24, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. If you have any questions, please contact Jan at 724 867-0261 or e-mail at jollyjan@comcast.net

Sep 9 17
 Backpacking trip on the AT/Long Trail in Vermont 9/9/11-9/17/11 (strenuous) 7 Days on the trail, two days travel time. Trail head is on the west side of North Adams Mass. To Manchester Center Vt. Elevation at start is 660ft. at North Adams and 2200ft. at the Seth Warner Shelter in VT. 6.6 miles. Thereafter, 6-10miles per day at 2000ft-4000ft. Contact the Green Mountain Club for the map (waterproof) and handbook for the Long Trail. The map for this section of the AT is more detailed than the Long Trail map. Arrive at North Adams /Williamstown on 9/9/11 and start at the trail head on 9/10/11 at 9:00 at Phelps Ave off Rt. 2 . Contact Dave Myers 724-588-2767 for more info. 1. Seth Warner Shelter 6.6 miles from North Adams trail head 2. Congdon Shelter 7.4 miles from Seth Warner Shelter 3. Melville Nauheim Shelter 5.9 miles from Congdon Shelter 4. Goddard Shelter 8.5 miles from Melville Nauheim Shelter 5. Story Spring Shelter 8.8 miles from Goddard Shelter 6. Stratton Pond Shelter 10.6 miles (long day with a mountain to climb) from Story Spring Shelter 7. Stratton Pond Shelter to Old Rootville Rd. and Manchester Center 10 miles 8. Either a parked car at the trail head on the Old Rootville Rd or public transportation back to Williamstown(service only runs on weekdays)

Nov 12
 BOC annual dinner at the East Butler Firemans Hall

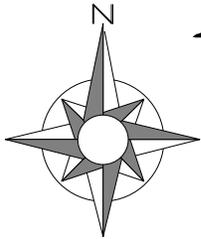
Other Area Outdoor Events

These events are listed for public information and are not sponsored nor endorsed by the Butler Outdoor Club. We assume no liability for anything that happens if you participate in these activities.

July 30
 Hike Along the Millstream Saturday, July 30, 2011—1:00 p.m. 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. Wear sturdy shoes and carry drinking water. Allow approximately 2 & 1/2 hours for this hike.
July 31	Ohio River Trail Council Ride: Three Rivers Heritage Trail 20 miles 9:30am - 1:00pm Meet at the Duquesne Incline parking lot at 9:15am RSVP: npeluso@hotmail.com Come out for a ride! Starting at the Duquesne Incline we will ride along both the Allegheny & Monongahela Rivers including the Ft. Pitt bridge, the North Shore, Washington's Landing, trail ending near Millvale, Convention Center & its new water feature, Pt. State Park, South Side, and more. Will finish up with lunch/beverages at the OTB Bicycle Cafe in the South Side. This will be more casual than most of our rides, with stops for riders to take in the city sites. For questions or comments, send your contact to npeluso@hotmail.com
July 31	Learn to Kayak Sunday, July 31, 2011—1:00p.m.-4:00p.m. Moraine State Park and WPPSA, are offering a “learn to kayak” class on Lake Arthur. Park staff and members of WPPSA will be available to teach some basic kayaking skills. Participants must be at least 12 years of age. An adult must accompany those participants that are under the age of 18. Meet at McDanel's Launch on the North Shore. A number of kayaks will be 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.
July 31	Survive the Outdoors Sunday, July 31, 2011—2:00PM McConnells Mill State Park Learn about the ways to stay safe in the outdoors, and explore different survival techniques and supplies. Meet the park naturalist in Kildoo Picnic Area at 2:00 pm to build your confidence for your next outdoor adventure.
Aug 6 7	13th Annual Regatta at Lake Arthur Saturday, August 6 10:00 a.m. until after fireworks and Sunday, August 7, 2011 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. South Shore, Moraine State Park Live entertainment, water, air, and land events, craft and food vendors, children's activities such as LEGO™ building contest and Smokey Bear, “Puddle Ducks” – homemade sailboats, canoe, kayak, and sailboat races, are just a few of the fun activities to experience at this year's Regatta. There are even Saturday night fireworks over the lake! Music performances both afternoons include the Mon River Ramblers beginning Saturday at 5:30 and on Sunday, music from many area favorites leading up to the Rich Harper Trio at 4:30 p.m. Donations are accepted, but the admission and parking are FREE. For more information, visit www.lakearthurregatta.org .
Aug 6	Todd Nature Reserve Naturefest 2011 8am – 10pm Join us for a day of free nature activities for the entire family. Hikes to look for birds, bugs, etc. , stream exploration, evening campfire, owl prowls. Bring a picnic lunch or dinner and a reusable cup. Info and directions goto www.aswp.org or call 412.963.6100
Aug 6	Ohio River Trail Council Ride: Ohio & Erie Towpath Trail 9:00am - 1:00 pm Zoar, Ohio For questions or comments, send your contact to npeluso@hotmail.com We will be glad to facilitate carpooling as well.
Aug 11 14	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. Goto www.northcountrytrail.org for details.
Aug 12 14	The Bantam Jeep Heritage Festival Butler County Fairgrounds Make plans to celebrate the first annual Bantam Jeep Heritage Festival in the place where it all began- Butler, PA...birthplace of the Jeep. The festivities kick off with a Jeep parade and cruise of Main Street in downtown Butler on August 12 at 6:00p.m. The festival then runs August 13 and 14 at the Butler County Fairgrounds. A Jeep Playground, three on-site trails, and a prize raffle are just a few of the activities. For more information visit www.bantamjeepfestival.com . will be coming to Butler County at the Butler Country Fairgrounds. Butler Tourism Bureau is organizing it and has asked Butler Outdoor Club and NCT to provide a few hikes and canoe trips Sat. and Sun. Friday, they hope to break Guinness World Record with longest jeep parade. Watch for more details later, but mark your calendar. If you would like to help or lead a trip, contact Joyce Appel, 724-526-5407 or joyceappel@windstream.net

Tour de NCTA Final Stage



The Compass

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