

# The Compass

The Butler Outdoor Club Newsletter Butler, Pennsylvania

Volume 18 Month 05

May 2012

## BOC May 2 Meeting

Please join us at 6:30 pm at the Butler YMCA, 339 N. Washington, St. Butler, Pa.

Our featured speaker will be Harry Schmeider. Harry was with us back in March speaking about Bluebirds and now returns to speak about Hummingbirds. He states the hummingbirds are the most dazzlingly colored animals on the earth and after a brief discussion of the Ruby Throated Hummingbird, he will share a movie titled *Magic in the Air* that will convince anyone that they are surely Jewels of the Air (Length: 60min).

Harry was born in Butler, PA and worked at Armco Steel for 31years. After retirement from the Metallurgical Department he wanted to give back something to nature. He always enjoyed birds, he states it may be from their variety and color, but most importantly their freedom. The hummingbird has fascinated him the most.



*Ruby Throated Hummingbird*



*Carol and Kay complete the Georgia AT section.*

## EarthDay Cleanup

When you drive on Rt 422 near the South Shore exit to Moraine State Park, you can see a sign saying that the Butler Outdoor Club has adopted that section of highway. You can be proud of the fact that everyone knows that we do our part to keep the highway beautiful. On Wednesday, April 25 we will be out there with vests and gloves and trash bags picking up litter. Please come out and join us. Many hands will make the work lighter. We will meet at 5:30 PM at the South Shore interchange entrance ramp that heads back toward Butler. We will provide trash bags, gloves, vests, and grabbers. We will gather for some refreshments afterwards. If you have any questions, call John Stehle at 724-256-0674.



## North Country Trail News

The Davis Hollow Cabin committee got together to clean-up the cabin in preparation for the new year starting in May. That historic building is a treasure for the Butler area and a credit to Diane Winston and her team of stalwart volunteers.

The maintainers of the NCT in Moraine State Park can be proud of their contribution to the success of the 2nd annual Glacial Ridge Trail Ultras and Trail Race. Most of the race is run on the NCT, and the trail was in great shape thanks to Dave Adams, Dick Boettner, John Stehle, Tom Baumgardner and others efforts.

Ron Rice has completed rebuilding all of the signs where the trail intersects public roads in the State Gamelands. These routed and painted signs put forth a very professional image which helps promote the importance of the trail passing through those lands. Well done, Ron.

Tom Baumgardner, with Dick Boettner, Jim Houk and Joe Hardisky and others have been busy building two new shelters to add to the one along the NCT at Link Road in Moraine State Park. This will provide a resting place for through hikers on their way from New York to North Dakota. When it is done you will be able to reserve it on the DCNR website. Here is a picture of one currently under construction.



## BOC Directory

### President

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painthorse\_33@yahoo.com

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### Rambles

Cindy Webreck

### Nature Study

Dorothy Weisburg

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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)

follow us on facebook at  
[www.facebook.com/butleroutdoorclub](http://www.facebook.com/butleroutdoorclub)

## 16th Annual Outdoor Extravaganza 2012 Memorial Day Weekend

It's almost time again for this great event.

Activities take place all over with a variety to pick from each day: trail, road and mt. biking, hikes of various levels, canoe and kayak trips on lakes and streams, float raft trip, horseback riding, sailing, nature walks, rock climbing and rappelling. We also have fun workshops such as: Build Your Own Sailboat, Make & Learn to Play a Canjo, Yoga, Birding, Nature Photography, Photo Hike, Wildflowers, Long Distance Hiking/Running and a canoe game called "Dead Fish Polo". We plan canoe & kayak classes. There will be excursions to historical places, bike ride through the railroad history with museum stops, demo with historic oil pump and hike, boat tour of Lake Arthur, and grist mill tours. Don't forget the children. (free registration) We have kids activities programs and family activities. There is something here for everyone! Come for the day or the whole weekend.

Activities begin 9:00 AM each day. Leaders and Instructors meet you at the campground where trip signs are set up in the campground field. They will get your group together, set up car pools, if needed, and off you go for the day!

Friday night is a Weiner/Roast picnic, followed by evening entertainment. Sat. night is a Pig Roast, followed by evening entertainment. (Sunday night dinner and entertainment as well.)

There will also be a Gear Exchange Flea Market throughout the weekend, so you may want to clean out your attic to sale or trade something you find. If you know an outfitter or outdoor store that may want to get involved, let them know.

Go to the Extravaganza website for details and to register before May 15 to avoid a late registration fee.

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

(Use Internet Explorer because Registration Form will not work with other browsers.)

Questions: Contact Joyce Appel 724-526-5407 or [joyceappel@windstream.net](mailto:joyceappel@windstream.net)

## Renew BOC Memberships Now!

Our BOC membership year ends in March each year. Renew by filling out the form in this newsletter and mail with your check made out to the Butler Outdoor Club to Butler Outdoor Club, PO Box 321, Harrisville, Pa 16038

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## Labor Day Week-long Canoe Trip

Who wants to join us this year? I am thinking about when to plan it, would like to plan it week before Labor Day weekend - drive up Sat. and drive home Monday, or do it week after Labor Day weekend - drive up Sat. and drive home Sunday. (Haven't picked the place yet.)

Call Joyce at 724-526-5407 or email [joyceappel@windstream.net](mailto:joyceappel@windstream.net)

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## Spring Wildflower Hike

Nineteen hikers enjoyed good weather and lots of wildflowers at Wolfe Creek Narrows. Spring flowers identified were Blue Phlox, Celandine, Corn Lily, Cutleaf Toothwort, Dutchman's Britches, Dwarf Gingseng, Early Saxifrage, Foam Flower, Golden Alexander, SharpLobed Hepatica, Spring Beauty, Squawroot, Large Flower Trillium, Trout Lily, Virginia Bluebells, Wild Geranium, and Wood Sorrell. We also observed a patch of Walking Ferns along the trail.



## BOC Sponsored Events

Apr 25	<p>Earth Day Cleanup - When you drive on Rt 422 near the South Shore exit to Moraine State Park, you can see a sign saying that the Butler Outdoor Club has adopted that section of highway. You can be proud of the fact that everyone knows that we do our part to keep the highways beautiful. On Wednesday, April 25 we will be out there with vests and gloves and trash bags picking up litter. Please come out and join us. Many hands will make the work lighter. We will meet at 5:30 PM at the South Shore interchange entrance ramp that heads back toward Butler. We will provide trash bags, gloves, vests, and grabbers. We will gather for some refreshments afterwards. If you have any questions, call John Stehle at 724-256-0674. (Wed. Apr 25 at 5:30 PM, South Shore exit of Route 422).</p>
Apr 28	<p>April 28: A 7 mile hike along the NCT from the Moraine State Park Bike Rental to the SR528 boat launch. Meet at the Jennings Education Education Center at 9:00AM (Parking lot on the east side of SR528). Car pool to the SR528 Boat Launch at 9:15AM then shuttle to the Bike Rental. Leader Steve Smith.</p>
May 2	<p>Our monthly meetings are 6:30 pm social hour, 7:00 pm announcements and 7:30 program on the first Wed. of each month usually at the Butler YMCA, 339 N. Washington, St. Butler, Pa.</p> <p>Please join us May 2 at 6:30 pm at the Butler YMCA, 339 N. Washington, St. Butler, Pa. Our speaker has always enjoyed birds, but one bird has fascinated him the most, Hummingbirds! Our speaker Harry Schmeider was with us back in March speaking about Bluebirds and now returns to speak about Hummingbirds. He states the hummingbirds are the most dazzlingly colored animals on the earth and after a brief discussion of the Ruby Throat-ed Hummingbird he will share a movie titled Magic in the Air that will convince anyone that they are surly Jewels of the Air. movie 60min</p>
May 12	<p>BOC bike outing – Ride the newly completed western section of the Ghostown Trail from Dilltown West 5.5 mi to Blacklick and then North 10 mi. on the Hoodlebug Trail to Indiana Pa. and return. Bring water and trail snacks; meet at the Dilltown trailhead at 10am. Directions to Dilltown: 422 W from Butler 60 miles to Strongstown; Turn right on SR403 6 miles; trailhead on right. Dave / Jean Adams 724.452.1685</p>
May 19	<p>May 19: A 7.6 mile hike along the NCT from the SR528 boat launch to Jennings Environmental Education Center. Meet at the Jennings Environmental Education Center at 9:00AM (Parking lot on the east side of SR528). Shuttle to the SR528 boat launch at 9:15AM. Leader Steve Smith.</p>
Jun 16	<p>June 16: A 13.2 mile hike along the NCT from the Moraine State Park Bike Rental to the Jennings Environmental Education Center. Meet at the Jennings Environmental Education Center at 9:00AM (Parking lot on the east side of SR528). Shuttle to the Moraine State Park Bike Rental at 9:15AM. Leader Steve Smith.</p>

## 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.**

Apr 28 29	<p>SCA Crew at McConnell's Mill State Park Sat, April 28, 10am – Sun, April 29, 4pm A Student Conservation crew from Pittsburgh will be spending the weekend working on sidehill and water management improvements along the six miles of the Gorge Trail at McConnell's Mill this weekend. Come out and join them in this project, or just come out to show your appreciation for their help and the volunteer work that they do. For questions or more information contact Joe Hardisky at hardis123@msn.com .</p>
Apr 28	<p>Spring Wildflower Walk 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM EST at Raccoon Creek State Park 3000 State Route 18, Hookstown, PA 15050-9416 Location Phone 724-899-3611 Spring has finally arrived and with it the long</p>

	<p>anticipated and spectacular spring wildflowers. Join park educators for a guided tour of these short-lived beauties. The Wildflower Reserve has one of the most diverse populations of plants in the state. Be prepared for wet trails and moderate hiking. Meet at the Parks Wildflower Reserve Nature Center on Route 30.</p>
May 5	<p>For Lake's Sake Kayak/Canoe Cleanup!! 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM EST at Moraine State Park McDanel's Launch area. 225 Pleasant Valley Rd. Portersville PA 16051-9650 Looking for volunteers with paddling experience (ages 16 and older) to help rid Lake Arthur of trash. Bring your own canoe or kayak (and PFD). Register below if you own your own canoe or kayak. A limited number of park kayaks are available. Call the park office at 724-368-8811 to reserve one. Cleanup is for land-loving volunteers, too. Meet at McDanel's Launch area. Lunch will be provided. More Info <a href="http://www.iconservepa.org">http://www.iconservepa.org</a></p>
May 6	<p>"Strawberry Pie Hike" at Cook Forest May 6 9:00 am contact Devin at 814 319-5058</p>
May 13	<p>Spring Wildflowers 2:00 PM - 3:30 PM EST Jennings Environmental Education Center 2951 Prospect Rd. Slippery Rock PA 16057-5023 Location Phone 724-794-6011 Description 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.</p>
May 16	<p>Paddle Fest 2012 1:00 PM - 7:00 PM EST Moraine State Park South Shore, Pleasant Valley Swimming Area This event is designed for people looking to get into paddlesports (kayaking, canoeing etc.), or for seasoned paddlers looking to change or upgrade their equipment. A variety of equipment will be available to try. The location is Moraine State Park, at the far end of the Pleasant Valley swimming beach on the south shore. Life jackets and paddles will be provided. Rain or Shine. Dagger, Hobie Kayaks, Mad River Canoe, Perception, WaveSport, and Wilderness Systems have all committed to attend this event and will bring many different canoes and kayaks. Trailex Trailers also plan to attend. Wind and Water Boatworks Staff will provide the information you need to decide on a model. We can provide the canoe or kayak you need for that first spring paddle from stock or special order from the factory. Sponsors Wind and Water Boatworks Contact Phone 800-289-8097 More Info <a href="http://www.windnwaterboatworks.com">http://www.windnwaterboatworks.com</a></p>
May 17-20	<p>15th Annual Alle-Kiski-Connie Rivers Sojourn - Join us for a scenic river adventure; paddling through the beautiful Allegheny, Kiskiminetas and Conemaugh Valleys. Share in the rich heritage of these unique waterways. May 18 Blairsville to Conemough Dam 10 Miles May 19 Roaring Run to Hyde Park 9 Miles May 20 Mahoning Creek to Allegheny River Templeton 10 Miles For flyer and information follow this link: <a href="http://www.strongland.org/events">http://www.strongland.org/events</a></p>
May 19	<p>Explore Offshore 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM EST Moraine State Park Description Meet the park naturalist at the Pleasant Valley launch, on the South Shore of Moraine, to kayak amongst the beautiful natural scenery. Bring your own kayak to participate, or you can reserve one of Moraine State Park's kayaks free of charge. 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. <b>DUE TO INCREASED INTEREST, PARTICIPATION IN PARK KAYAK PROGRAMS IS LIMITED TO 2 PROGRAMS PER SUMMER.</b> Contact Email <a href="mailto:morainesp@state.pa.us">morainesp@state.pa.us</a> Contact Phone 724-368-8811</p>
May 20	<p>The Ultimate Wildflower Hike 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM EST McConnells Mill State Park Point Parking Lot Location Phone 724 368-8811 Meet professional botanists for a wildflower walk during the height of bloom on beautiful Alpha Pass Trail. This is a rare opportunity to learn from knowledgeable guides about the unique and delicate wildflowers of the Slippery Rock Gorge, a National Natural Landmark. Meet at the Point Parking lot at 1:00 pm, ready for the moderately rugged trail. Bring water, snacks, sturdy shoes, and perhaps a camera to capture these beauties. Call 724-368-3612 for more information. There are less than 600 National Natural Landmarks designated in the US, and McConnells Mill State Park holds one,</p>

	known for its plant life.
May 25 - 28	<p>Outdoor Extravaganza We have a weekend full of various outdoor activities: Trail, road &amp; mountain biking, canoeing or kayaking on lakes and streams, rafting, rock climbing, sailing, horseback riding, nature walks, various levels of hikes as well as historical and fun excursions.</p> <p>Besides outdoor trips, we will have workshops such as Birding, Building Your Own Sailboat, Making &amp; Playing a Can-jo, Wildflower Project, Nature Photography, Yoga, Long Distance Hiking/Running and Dead Fish Polo (a canoe game). Kids Fun Workshops and Family Activities will also be planned. There's excursions to historical places such as Harmony, Old Econmy Village, museums, working grist mill, and historic oil pump demo. Bike ride planned through an area rich in history and geology.</p> <p>For registration and more information go online at <a href="http://www.outdoorextravaganza.org">www.outdoorextravaganza.org</a></p>
May 29 Jun 3	2012 KTA TRAIL CREW Week #1 May 29-June 3, North Country Trail The Trail Crew will be working on general trail maintenance. Camp at Davis Hollow Cabin, a frontier cabin owned by Moraine State Park. John Stehle will be the crew leader, 724.256.0674 or <a href="mailto:stehles@gmail.com">stehles@gmail.com</a> .
Jun 2	National Trails Day June 2 hike at Cook Forest Fire tower 9:00 am contact Devin 814 319-5058
Jun 2	Kayaking Adventures: Under the Creek 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM EST Jennings Environmental Education Center 2951 Prospect Rd. Slippery Rock PA The Slippery Rock Creek is brimming with life, both above and below the water. We'll explore what's happening under the water's surface, as we take a leisurely paddle down the creek, stopping for lunch half-way. This program is for people ages 12 and up, and is suitable for beginners. The registration fee is \$20, and includes all equipment (kayak, paddle, life jacket, etc.) and lunch. Registration will take place by phone (724-794-6011) or in person on Tuesday, May 21 at 9 a.m., and is expected to fill very quickly.
Jun 3	A Rattlesnake's Tale: The Endangered Massasauga 2:00 PM - 3:30 PM EST Jennings Environmental Education Center 2951 Prospect Rd. Slippery Rock PA Location Phone 724-794-6011 Often feared and maligned, the reclusive massasauga rattlesnake is now struggling to find suitable habitat in which to survive. An endangered species, the smallest of Pennsylvania's three venomous snakes is strictly protected. Jennings is one of the last remaining strongholds for the misunderstood massasauga. Join us as we dispel myths commonly associated with venomous snakes, reveal fascinating research and management strategies designed to improve massasauga habitat, and educate those curious or concerned about this shy reptile.
June 8-9	The Allegheny 100 Backpacking Challenge is an attempt to hike 100 miles in 50 hours in the Allegheny National Forest in Northwest Pennsylvania. This is NOT a race but rather an endurance event to challenge yourself on the 100 mile section of the North Country National Scenic Trail in the Allegheny National Forest. The trail is not difficult in terms of climbing and descending, but a 100 miles is a 100 miles. Event Details: This year, we'll be going Northbound! The event will be held starting on Friday, June 8th at 6 PM through Sunday, June 10th at 8 PM. The welcome table will be located at the PA 66 Trailhead, five miles South of Marienville and 1.2 miles North of Vowinkel. Information and registration at <a href="http://www.northcountrytrail.org">www.northcountrytrail.org</a>
Jul 20 22	KTA Prowl the Sproul Hiking Weekend, Renovo, Clinton County
Sep 8	KTA Susquehanna Super Hike & Ultra Trail Run, York & Lancaster Counties
Oct 12 14	KTA Fall Meeting & Hiking Weekend, Clearfield, Clearfield County

# Butler Outdoor Club Membership Form

\_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_  
Date

Mail to: [Butler Outdoor Club, PO Box 321 Harrisville, PA. 16038](#)

Renewals are due **March 1** each year. **PLEASE PRINT**

Annual dues are **\$20 family, \$15 individual** plus \$10 for news letter via US mail if desired. (circle applicable)  
Make checks payable to [Butler Outdoor Club](#)

Send my newsletter via US mail (for an additional \$10) \_\_\_ or via e mail \_\_\_ and trip updates via email \_ Y or N

Name	Age	Sex	Relationship	Phone (H)	Phone (W)	Cell Phone

e mail	
e mail 2	

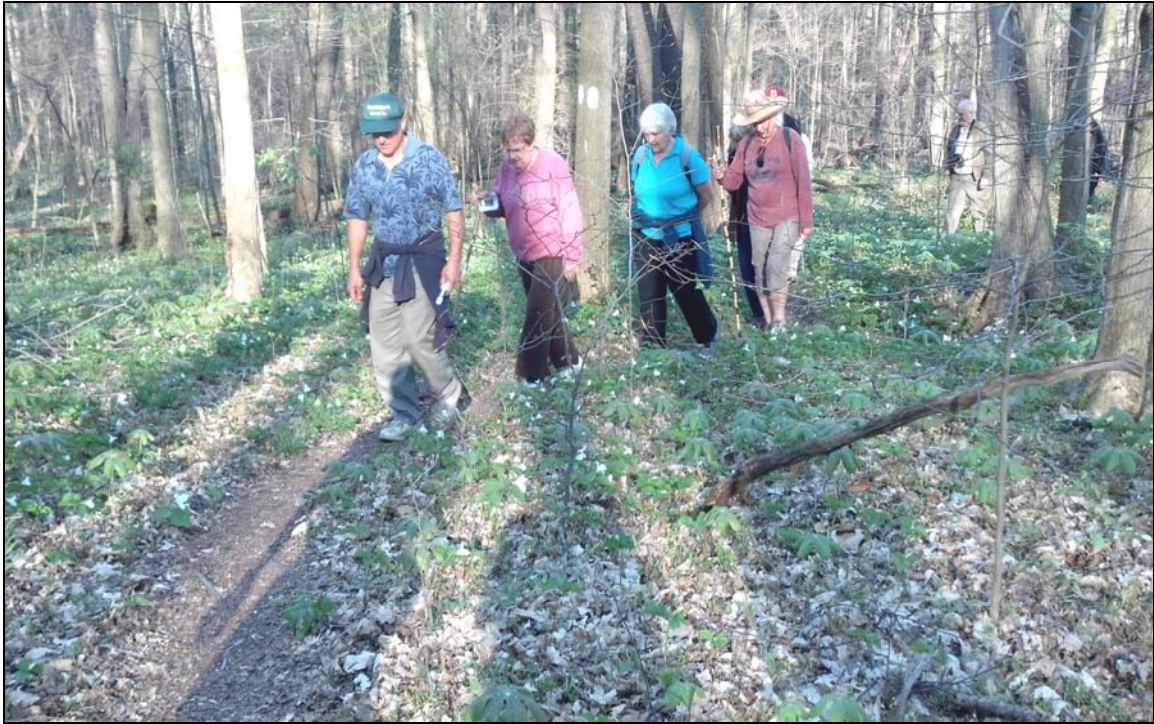
Privacy Policy: We do not distribute membership lists to outside organizations. This information is for internal club use in mailing newsletters, brochures, questionnaires and for use by club officers and outing leaders.

Address: Street or P.O. Box	City	State	Zip+4

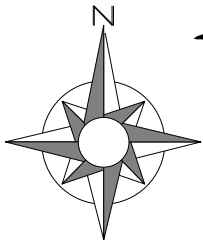
Name of person to notify in case of emergency	Relationship	Phone Number

I would like to participate in these activities													I would like to help in these areas:														
Backpack	Road Bike	Trail Bike	Canoe	Kayak	Sail	Car aCamp	Cave	Bird Watch	Nature Even	Cross Country S	Snowshoe	Orienteer	Trailwork	Ice Skating	Down Hill Sk	Membership	Newsletter	Picnics	Monthly Progr	Lead Outings	Other	Fund Raising	Special Even	Annual Dinne	Setup Before	Meetings	

<p><b>Please read the following assumption of risk and liability waver very carefully.</b></p> <p><b>IN CONSIDERATION</b> of being permitted to join the Butler Outdoor Club and participate in its activities, I, _____, for myself, my personal representatives, heirs, and next of kin hereby acknowledge, agree, and represent that I fully understand that most BOC activities, including but not limited to, white water, rock fall, avalanches, crevasses, exposure to severe weather, crowning, equipment failure, and the misuse of equipment by myself and others, could result in my suffering serious bodily injury and/or death and <b>I HEREBY I. RELEASE, WAIVE, DISCHARGE, AND COVENANT NOT TO SUE.</b> Butler Outdoor Club, its instructors and or participants in any teaching activities, and/or of the individual officers or members of BOC (hereinafter collectively referred to as "releases" from all liability to me. my personal representatives, assigns, heirs and next of kin for any and all loss or damage, and any claims or demands therefore on account of injury to my person or property or resulting in my death whether caused by the negligence of the releases or otherwise while participating in any activities conducted by BOC and/or any of its individual members. <b>2. AGREE TO INDEMNIFY AND SAVE. AND HOLD HARMLESS</b> the releases and each of them from any loss. liability, damage, or cost they may</p>	<p><b>By signing this application you are agreeing to all provisions, implied or otherwise, of the waiver.</b></p> <p>incur due to my participating in any way in any activities conducted by BOC and/or any of its individual members whether caused by the negligence of the releases or otherwise. <b>3. ASSUME FULL RES'ONSIBILITY FOR AND RISK OF BODHIY INJURY, DEATH, OR PROPERTY DAMAGE</b> due to the negligence or releases or otherwise while participating in any way in any activity conducted by BOC and/or any of its individual members. I further expressly agree that the foregoing release. waiver and indemnity agreement is intended to be as broad and inclusive as is permitted by the law of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and if any portion thereof is invalid, it is agreed that the balance shall. not withstanding. continue in full legal force and effect.</p> <p><b>I HERBY WARRANT THAT I HAVE READ AND VOLUNTARY SIGNED THIS RELEASE AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT, AND FURTHER AGREE THAT NO ORAL REPRESENTATIONS, STATEMENTS OR INDUCEMENTS APART FROM THE FORGOING AGREEMENT HAVE BEEN MADE.</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">_____ / / Signature(s) (Assumption of risk must be signed) <span style="float: right;">Date</span></p>
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BOC Wolfe Creek Narrows Wildflower Hike



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The Butler Outdoor Club Newsletter Butler, Pennsylvania

**Butler Outdoor Club**  
**PO Box 321**  
**Harrisville, PA 16038**