

The Compass

The Butler Outdoor Club Newsletter Butler, Pennsylvania

Volume 18 Month 08

August 2012

BOC August 1 Membership Meeting

Join us 6:30pm August 1 at the Butler YMCA. Our speaker is John Bartlett, a native of Erie who spent 37 years as a journalist, the last 33 years with the Erie Times-News where he was the principal environment, natural resources and science writer in addition to his general assignment duties. Since a young child John has been passionate about nature and the great outdoors. He always thought that as a second career he would like to work in the conservation field. The opportunity arose in 2007 when he retired from the Erie Times-News and accepted a position with Friends of Allegheny Wilderness working on an ANF Wilderness campaign. He joined the Foundation for Sustainable Forests a little more than a year ago. The Foundation for Sustainable Forests is a land trust and sustainable forestry education and advocacy organization working to ensure that Pa. remains Penn's Woods, our forested lands are being lost to parcelization, fragmentation, development and poor management practices, not to mention the numerous disease and insect threats. The Foundation's conservation model is unique in Pa. It's forests will be managed to the highest ecological standards, and earnings from the forest will cover the Foundation's operating costs, making conservation self-sustaining, and support rural jobs and rural communities. The Foundation's management practices are taking sustainable forestry to a higher level of ecological integrity and attracting national attention. You can visit their web site at <http://www.foundationforsustainableforests.org>.

Free Canoe and Kayak Races!

It is that time of year for the 14th annual Regatta at Lake Arthur August 4th and 5th. The event will be on south shore Pleasant Valley area similar to last year.

Canoe and Kayak races will start at 9:00 with registration starting at 8:30 Saturday morning. The start and finish to the race will be at the nonpowered boat launch on south shore before you get to the swimming beach. This year our tee shirt vender will not be there, so we won't be giving away tee shirts to all the racers. Because of this we decided to drop the registration fee for the races as well. So now there is no excuse for not racing the 2 or 4 mile course since it will be free. There is rumor that there will be around 80 puddle duck sail boats racing in the afternoon and I think that the kayaking and canoeing community can beat that number. So please help and come out and set a new record for canoe and kayak racers. If you think that race is too long we will have a new short course race. We are calling it a star race and some folks call it a slalom race. There are 5 buoys arranged in a square with one in the middle. This will be a timed event and should settle who is faster between canoes, kayaks or standup paddle boards. The star race will start Saturday at 7:00 pm next to the beach.

In addition to Kayak experience, dead fish polo and voyager canoe rides we will be having standup paddle board demos from 1:00 till 3:00.

My favorite event will be the free style paddling. *Tom Baumgardner*

Lake Arthur Canoe Rescue Story

Mr. Jerry Walter and his son recently purchased a used Mohawk canoe in very good condition and stopped by the Park Office on July 24, 2012 to purchase a launch permit . They launched the canoe at the Bear Run Launch Area to enjoy a day of fishing near Barber's Point on the North Shore . A cold front was moving into the area resulting in strong North West winds creating 2 foot swells and whitecaps on Lake Arthur by early afternoon. Realizing conditions were deteriorating they began paddling back to the Bear Run Launch where they capsized about ¼ mile off shore. A visitor heard their calls for help and drove to the Park Office for assistance; Park staff responded in the Patrol Boat and found the two men clinging to the side of a bystander's 12 foot aluminum fishing boat wearing properly fitting PFD's. Both men were visibly shaken, but otherwise fine. After being helped aboard the Patrol Boat by Park Manager Dan Bickel, the men recounted the events of the day, including the long time they spent in the water waiting for assistance. When purchasing their launch permit earlier in the day, they asked Moraine Clerk Typist 1 Rick Elia what the boating regulations were for a canoe. Rick provided the PFBC Boating Regulations Summary and advised the two men about regulations regarding PFD's. He went one important step further and strongly advised them to wear PFD's anytime they are canoeing, even though wearing them was not a specific requirement for this time of year. An emotional Mr. Walter relates that he remembered Rick's advice before launching, and chose to wear the PFD's. He credits this one key decision with saving their lives. It turns out that Mr. Walter is a cancer survivor and is still weakened by months of treatment, and doubts he could have lasted long in the water without a PFD. Being a first time kayak owner the previous year, Rick Elia was instructed to always wear a PFD when padding by his coworkers and friends. This pass it on mindset illustrates that providing safety information is everyone's job, and establishing a policy of PFD use when boating may have prevented a tragedy on an otherwise beautiful summer day at Lake Arthur.

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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

follow us on facebook at
www.facebook.com/butleroutdoorclub

BOC Sponsored Events and Activities

Aug 1 Join us 6:30pm August 1 at the Butler YMCA for our August membership meeting. Our speaker is John Bartlett who is a native of Erie, but moved to Venango County for his first full-time job in the news business right out of college. He spent a total of 37 years as a journalist, the last 33 years with the Erie Times-News where he was the principal environment, natural resources and science writer in addition to his general assignment duties. He is a fellow of the Knight Center for Specialized Journalism, University of Maryland Philip Merrill College of Journalism graduate school with a specialty in environmental writing. Since a young child John has been passionate about nature and the great outdoors. He always thought that as a second career he would like to work in the conservation field. The opportunity arose in 2007 when he retired from the Erie Times-News and accepted a position with Friends of Allegheny Wilderness working on an Allegheny National Forest Wilderness campaign. He joined the Foundation for Sustainable Forests a little more than a year ago. The Foundation for Sustainable Forests is a land trust and sustainable forestry education and advocacy organization working to ensure that Pennsylvania -- Penn's Woods -- remains Penn's Woods, Pennsylvania's forested lands -- from small parcels in our more urbanized/suburbanized counties to the larger tracts in rural counties -- is being lost to parcelization, fragmentation,, development and poor management practices, not to mention the numerous disease and insect threats. The Foundation's conservation model is unique in Pennsylvania. It's forests will be managed to the highest ecological standards, and earnings from the forest will cover the Foundation's operating costs, making conservation self-sustaining, and support rural jobs and rural communities. The Foundation's management practices are taking sustainable forestry to a higher level of ecological integrity and attracting national attention. You can visit their Web site at <http://www.foundationforsustainableforests.org>.

Aug 2 August 2, 2012. 7:00 pm Meet at McDaniel's launch North Shore Moraine State Park Experience the magic of kayaking under a full moon. Come enjoy a beautiful sunset and moonrise with the Butler Outdoor Club Bring your kayak and a flashlight and we will paddle off into the night. Contact Dorothy at dotweisberg@zoominternet. for additional information.

Aug 22 We will have our annual miniature golf outing at Eracers at 6:30 p.m. Eracers is located on Route 68 south of Butler. We may stop for ice cream afterwards. Rain date will be August 29. If you have any questions, please email Jan at jollyjan@comcast.net or call 724 867-0261

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.

Jul 28 Geocaching 101 Saturday, July 28 10:00-11:30 a.m. - Pleasant Valley Picnic Area (South Shore) Geocaching is becoming more and more popular. People are beginning to discover this new and interesting pastime. Meet the park naturalist at the Pleasant Valley Picnic Area, on the South Shore of Moraine, to learn about and take part in some geocaching. Moraine State Park has several GPS units that will be available to

	participants to use during the program.
Jul 29	McConnell's Mill State Park program: Insectigations Sunday, July 29 1:00-3:00 p.m. Hell's Hollow Does dipping your toes in the cool water on a hot day sound refreshing? Join park naturalist at Hells Hollow as we delve into the marvelous world of aquatic insects at McConnells Mill State Park. Learn about the life cycle and importance of these magnificent macroinvertebrates. Wear old shoes for this family program. Allow 15 minutes to get to Hell's Hollow (no facilities) if coming from the Old Mill.
Aug 2	Moraine State Park Free Kayak Programs August 2 7:30-9:30 p.m. - Full Moon Paddle August 7 9:00-11:00 a.m. - Silver Paddle August 8 7:00-9:00 p.m. - Bat Paddle August 21 9:00-11:00 a.m. - Silver Paddle August 22 6:00-8:00 p.m. - Evening Paddle August 25 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. - Learn to Paddle - \$10 August 31 7:00-9:00 p.m. - Blue Moon Paddle All of our kayak programs are free of charge except the -Learn to Paddle- program. To register or to reserve a park kayak, call 724-368-8811 . For more information on the above programs, visit www.visitPAparks.com . Paddles are geared for beginner paddlers. Must be at least 12 years of age. Those under 18 must be accompanied by an adult.
Aug 3	Rachel Carson Trails Conservancy outing: A full moon hike on various trails in North Park Friday Aug 03, 2012 from 09:00 pm to 11:45 pm Join us for the third annual 5-6 mile summer night hike in North Park! We'll meet at the Harmar Wyoming shelter and follow various trails in the light of the full moon. Bring a headlamp or flashlight. Note: this is a hilly hike. Beverages and treats afterwards. FREE and open to everyone! More details: http://www.rachelcarsontrails.org/Members/sgmentzer/suo2012
Aug 4 5	Lake Arthur Regatta August 4th and 5th 10:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m. South Shore 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, kayaks, paddleboards and sailboat races, are just of 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. Donations are accepted, but the admission and parking are FREE. For more information, visit www.lakearthurregatta.org .
Aug 17 20	Erie Outing Club trip 8/17-8/20 Self Supported Bike Tour to Chautauqua Lake.(no sag, carry your own tent, etc) Leave my house and spend first night at Blue Water Beach Campground 7364 E. Lake Rd. Westfield, NY 14787 Next Two nights camp at 3348 Al Mar Drive, Ashville, NY Saturday to the Splash Hike with Pam. Sunday ride around Chautauqua lake. Monday ride back home. Coordinator Jim Mesick You can leave a voice mail at (814) 314-9762 (He is also planning an alternative version.)
Aug 18	Gristmill Clean-up Day Saturday, August 18, 2012 9:00 a.m. - Noon McConnells Mill-Gristmill Pitch in to help one of our historic treasures – the gristmill at McConnells Mill State Park. Come dressed in work clothes ready to choose from a variety of tasks, some inside & some outside. Help keep the mill at its best! Bring work gloves and wear sturdy shoes, meet at the Old Mill. Lunch provided. Call 724-368-8811 to let us know you are coming.
Sep	Sat. 9/15/2012 Paddle the locks of the Erie Canal. Meet at 210 Market Street, Lockport,

9	<p>NY 14094. Please meet me at the wide water Marina at 1 pm. We will paddle through 2 of the locks on the Erie Canal (I will supply words to the Erie Canal song) but you should bring a rope or gloves in your boat so we can hang onto the ropes that keep us stationary as we lock through. We will paddle under what was at one point the widest bridge in the US. We will 'float' back and go back through the locks in reverse. The paddle takes about 3 hours depending on boat traffic and number of kayaks. Please email if your interested incoming. RSVP Event Coodinator Carol sendgossiptome@yahoo.com</p>
Sep 29 30	<p>McConnells Mill 19th Annual Heritage Festival!! Saturday, September 29, 2012 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Sunday, September 30, 2012 11:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.</p>
Sep 29	<p>Armstrong Trail Bike Ride: Adults: \$25.00 Donation Children ages 12-18 \$15.00 Donation All proceeds will be used for Armstrong Trail development Wear helmets for safety and bring water! - Park at the Church of God – 629 Woodward Avenue in Kittanning by 10:00 AM - Choose an 18 or 30 mile round trip ride (Kittanning to Templeton and back or Kittanning to Rimer and back) Walk: - Meet at the Nautical Mile Campground at 530 Stone Ave. in Templeton at 10:00 AM - Walk to Grays Eddy and back (approximately 4 miles) Food and Fun: - Fruit and water at the ride start in Kittanning and the start of the walk in Templeton - Ribs and BBQ Chicken picnic lunch at Nautical Mile Campground in Templeton catered by Bonello's, yard games - Ice cream by Mulberry Street Creamery in Kittanning at the ride's end (ice cream certificates provided for walkers)</p>
Oct 12 14	<p>KTA Fall Meeting & Hiking Weekend, Clearfield, Clearfield County</p>



Time is Running Out! Hurry and Sign Up!

The deadline to [register online](#) is quickly approaching! July 22nd is less than a month away, and you don't want to miss it. Each event has a maximum capacity, and a few of them are almost full. If you want to enjoy the Great Pig Out, you also need to purchase those reservations by that date too. Don't wait another day! Check our [website](#) to see what event you and your Jeep would like to try!

Saturday Night Offers Fun for Everyone

What could be better than a long day of Jeep events? Getting together with other Jeepers, eating great food, listening to music, playing games and watching a Jeep event, of course! After the vendor booths and most Jeep activities end at 5 p.m., there is more to see and do!

Starting at 5 p.m., see a rock racing demonstration on the Jeep Playground. It's a chance to see professional rock racers from the "Rausch Creek RC Rocs Race Series" race against each other for the best time.



Then between 6 and 9 p.m., come watch and laugh as Jeepers listen to their "backseat drivers" and try to complete the Jeep Team Challenge obstacle course. Teams will drive blindfolded, play "broom ball" and attempt some other fun challenges. The best team will win a trophy and bragging rights for a year. The Jeep Team Challenge is sponsored

by [Pennsylvania National Guard](#) and [4WD Hardware](#).

If you reserve your tickets [online](#) by July 22, you can fill up on delicious food at The Great Pig Out, sponsored by [Rugged Ridge](#). The menu will include tasty items like roasted pig, chicken, baked beans, potato salad, cole slaw, bread, rolls, and of course BBQ sauce! Dinner will be served between 5:30 and 8 p.m.



We're excited to welcome Butler's own band, Mass Transit. They play a great variety of music from the '50s to today. They will take the stage at 6 p.m. so be sure to spend some time listening and dancing!

For those of you who like to be more active, we also have some fun games planned. Play some volleyball, test your sports skills, talk to your new Jeep friends, or just come and relax and get ready for Sunday's activities!



Ride!

A journey of spectacular scenery, fabulous food, and fun friendships along the



Saturday, September 29th, 2012

RAIN OR SHINE

EVENT SPONSORED BY THE ARMSTRONG RAILS TO TRAILS ASSOCIATION AND THE ALLEGHENY VALLEY LAND TRUST

Adults:
\$25.00 Donation

Children ages 12-18
\$15.00 Donation

All proceeds will be used for Armstrong Trail development

Wear helmets for safety and bring water!

Bike Ride:

- Park at the Church of God – 629 Woodward Avenue in Kittanning by 10:00 AM
- Choose an 18 or 30 mile round trip ride (Kittanning to Templeton and back or Kittanning to Rimer and back)

Walk:

- Meet at the Nautical Mile Campground at 530 Stone Ave. in Templeton at 10:00 AM
- Walk to Grays Eddy and back (approximately 4 miles)

Food and Fun:

- Fruit and water at the ride start in Kittanning and the start of the walk in Templeton
- Ribs and BBQ Chicken picnic lunch at Nautical Mile Campground in Templeton catered by Bonello's, yard games
- Ice cream by Mulberry Street Creamery in Kittanning at the ride's end (ice cream certificates provided for walkers)

SPONSORS



EAT PLAY RIDE! 2012 REGISTRATION FORM

Registration RSVP's and payment due by September 14, 2012

Additional information will be provided to registrants by September 1, 2012

Please contact Toni Henry with any questions at toni.henry51@gmail.com or 412-759-9152

Name: _____

Address: _____

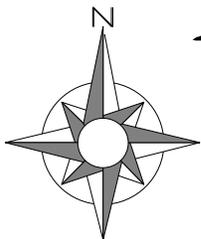
Email: _____

Phone: _____

Send your completed registration form along with a check made out to Armstrong Rails to Trails Association to:
Toni Henry, 901 Purdum St., East Brady, PA 16028



Standup Paddle Boarding at Lake Arthur



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