

The Compass

The Butler Outdoor Club Newsletter Butler, Pennsylvania

Volume 19 Month 7

July 2013



For those who haven't attended a NCTA Conference and a reminder for those who have:

At the Conference, on **Friday Night August 16th**, the Bruce E. Matthews, Executive Director of the North Country Trail Association, will take **Roll Call for State and the Chapters of each State**. Individually, he asks for each **Chapter by NAME, in each State attendance, to stand**.

It would be ideally, to have **ALL Chapter Members, present and standing!!!** This would show **Solidarity!!!** So, we are asking, **at least** on this evening, to please attend.

Auction Items:

Anyone, Everyone, private or business, members or non-members etc....can donate items or gift cards or whatever...to the Auction.

There are two types: Silent & Open.

Silent – A sheet of paper is placed in front of the item and people write down a bid. Highest bid at time of closing wins the item.

Open - Several Members show the items and Bruce Matthews is the auctioneer. Anyone can bid on the items.

If you do have a Auction Item, **contact Julie**, so she can get all the information about it, so it can be listed. Make sure you give her all of your information as well. Plus, if its from a Business their Information so they get proper credit as well.

BOC July 3 Meeting

Please join us at Moraine State Park North Shore Lakeview Beach Shelter # 5 at 6:00 pm for a potluck picnic meeting.

After we eat and clean up, we're heading north for a field trip the the Miller/Jacksville Esker. We'll depart for home from the esker for those joining us.

NCTA Conference continued...

Any donations you get that may be good for silent auction, door prizes or raffles should be sent to **Julie Meir** so she can keep track of who and what...try to send her the value of the item also. Julie Meier, E-mail Address: juliemeier1@gmail.com

Friday evening Program:

National Park Service Awards

This is to acknowledge Volunteers, in the hours they have dedicated to the Trail.

NCTA Annual Meeting

To update everyone and ROLL CALL.

NCTA Awards part I

The Awards Committee selected from those who were Nominated.

Saturday Night:

NCTA Awards part II

The Awards Committee selected from those who were Nominated.

Auction

These Auctions are to rise Money. So, please everyone think about getting some items for the Auction!



Join Us for the 2013 NCTA Annual Conference! Registration is Online!

Dear Butler Outdoor Club

In just over a month our Pennsylvania NCTA Chapters will be hosting the annual North Country Trail Association Membership Conference in Slippery Rock, PA. This year's conference will be a couple days longer than usual, to accommodate an outstanding variety of hikes, activities and excursions celebrating the unique natural beauty and cultural and historic landscapes of the Butler County area. We hope your summer plans include joining us. Come for the week, or just a day or two... but do come!

Please go to the [website Conference page](#) to print off the [registration form](#) and [schedule of events](#).

The good thing is you don't need to wait--you can register today! Which in itself is a good thing because in addition to sponsoring our NCTA conference August 12-17, Butler, PA is hosting the International Pyrotechnics Guild annual convention. Fireworks will be plentiful although hotel rooms likely will not be (though there's plenty of room at our dormitory.) Hope to see you at the Rock!

For the Trail,

Bruce E. Matthews
Executive Director
North Country Trail Association

Greeters needed for the North Country Trail Conference on August 12th - 17th in Slippery Rock, Pa. If you are interested in helping out and having the chance to meet NCT members from other states, we need greeters and people to help watch the silent auction table. Notify Kay Thompson at bluebellskyscucba@yahoo.com or call 814-456-8178.

BOC Directory

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Rambles

Nature Study

Dorothy Weisberg

"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

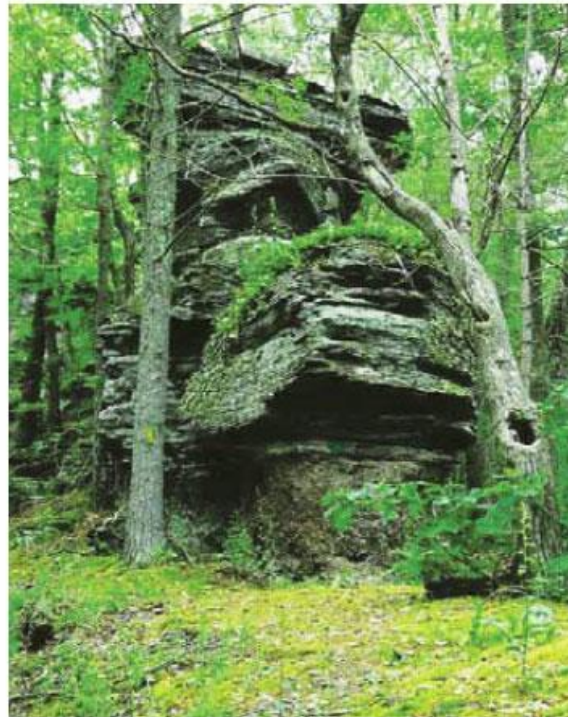
BOC Sponsored Events	
Jun 30	BOC Kennerdale hike (6 of 6) The 3,200+ acre Kennerdell Tract of Clear Creek State Forest has 27 miles of trails along the Allegheny River near Kennerdell, PA. The tract extends from the Allegheny River to a plateau rising 500 to 600 feet above the river and offers solitude and vistas. We'll explore the tract in 6 hikes. Hike 6 will be 5.1 miles long. We will hike the River trail along the Allegheny River from the Kennerdell Bridge trail head to the campground and back. This drivable trail parallels the river and is fairly flat. Meet at 9:15AM at the Jennings Environmental Education Center on SR 528 (just south of Slippery Rock, PA) and we will depart for Kennerdell at 9:30AM. Steve Smith
Jul 3	BOC July Picnic - Join us at 6:00PM for a potluck picnic on Moraine's North Shore (Lakeview Shelter #5). After we eat and clean up, we're heading north for a field trip the the Miller/Jacksville Esker. We'll depart for home from the esker for those joining us.
Jul 13	BOC Bike Ride on the Allegany Passage from Rockwood 11.5 miles to Meyersdale and return. Meet at Rockwood trailhead at 10 am. Bike 7.5 miles east to Garrett, then 5 miles and cross the 1908 ft. long Salisbury Viaduct, then 1 mile to the restored Western Maryland Railway Station and lunch at a local restaraunt in Meyersdale. Email Jean or Dave Adams at davenjean@zoominternet.net if you are joining us on this ride.
Aug 23	BOC Full Moon Paddle - Friday August 23, 2013. 7:00 pm Meet at McDaniel's launch North Shore Moraine State Park Experience the magic of kayaking at night with a almost 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.
Other Area Outdoor Activities and 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 1	Butler Freeport Trail Council meeting July 1st @ 7 pm, Concordia Lutheran Ministries, 134 Marwood Road , Entrance #4. Main topic is Coal Run bridge construction update.
Jul 5	Historic Gristmill Hours The 19th century gristmill is the centerpiece of McConnell's Mill State Park. The Historic Gristmill at McConnell's Mill State Park will open for the season on Saturday, May 18, 2013. It will continue to be open for viewing and tours Fridays, Saturdays, & Sundays through October. Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays: 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Interpretive tours of the historic mill, which last approximately 45 minutes, will be available on Fridays, Saturdays & Sundays at 1:00 and 3:00 pm Additional tours for groups may be scheduled by calling 724 368-3612.
Jul 6	Moraine State Park Program - History of Hells Hollow Hike Saturday, July 6 10:00 a.m. Hells Hollow Join the park naturalist for a leisurely paced walk along a lovely trail in McConnell's Mill State Park. Along the way, learn about the iron smelting, charcoal making, and lime processing that took place in this seemingly untouched valley. The path through Hell's Hollow, despite the name, is easy hiking, with lots to see along the 1/2-mile path. Meet at the Hell's Hollow parking lot, (no facilities), at 10:00 a.m. Allow for a 15-minute drive if coming from the old mill.
Jul 7	Moraine State Park Program - July 7- 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Learn to Kayak \$10 - Participants may bring their own kayak (lifejacket required), or borrow one of Moraine's kayaks and equipment free of charge. Please register using our Event Calendar at

	visitpaparks.com or by calling the park at 724-368-8811. Please specify if you are bringing your own kayak. Participants must be at least 9 years of age. An adult must accompany those participants that are under the age of 18.
Jul 13	Keystone Sojourns is having a free canoe, kayak and paddleboard demo from noon to 5 pm at the South Shore Pleasant Valley Beach area of Moraine State Park.
Jul 13	Moraine State Park Program - Historic Oil Well Operation Saturday - July 13 10:00a.m.-4:00p.m. Park Road Come and see the abandoned turn of the century oil well and pumping engine that have been restored to working order. The well will operate from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Volunteers from 3MJC (Moraine, McConnell's Mill, Jennings Commission) will be there to operate the engine and answer your questions. So come out and see the Bessemer engine pump some Pennsylvania crude. The central powerhouse site is located beyond the Forestry & Regional office building on Park Rd. (Old 422) off Route 528.
Jul 13	Moraine State Park Program - July 13- 9:00-11:30 a.m. Blue Heron and Kingfisher Paddle - Participants may bring their own kayak (lifejacket required), or borrow one of Moraine's kayaks and equipment free of charge. Please register using our Event Calendar at visitpaparks.com or by calling the park at 724-368-8811. Please specify if you are bringing your own kayak. Participants must be at least 9 years of age. An adult must accompany those participants that are under the age of 18.
Jul 19 21	10th Annual Prowl the Sproul Camping and Hiking Weekend: Western Clinton Sportsmen's Association, Renovo, Clinton County, PA. Registration starts May 1, 2013.
Jul 19 21	Celebrate the Bloom event at Jennings Environmental Learning Center
Aug 12 17	Register online at http://www.northcountrytrail.org for the North Country Trailfest at Slippery Rock, Pa - Hikes, Tours, Workshops, Water Trips, Bike Rides, and Fun Activities
Oct 18 23	NCTA ALLEGHENY NATIONAL FOREST BACKPACK TRIP The NCTA is pleased to offer its membership a guided backpacking trip on the North Country Trail through Pa's gorgeous Allegheny National Forest. The dates for the trip are October 18-23, 2013, and the cost is \$295 per person. This 45 mile excursion will occur during the fall. Highlights include the spectacular cliffs, boulders and crevasses in the Minister Creek area, old growth hemlock and beech forest in Tionesta Scenic Area, and excellent views of the Allegheny Reservoir. The ANF lies on the Allegheny Plateau and is cut by numerous creeks which result in many ascents and descents along the trail. However, no climb is higher than 500 feet. Limited to eight participants plus two leaders, this trip is suitable for experienced backpackers as well as novices who are in reasonably good shape. Participants must provide their own tent, sleeping bag, and backpack although a limited number of these items are available to rent. The trip is led by NCTA volunteers Paul Shaw and Todd Lange. Both are graduates of the National Outdoor Leadership School (NOLS), have more than 25 years combined guide experience, and are the owners of an adventure travel business, Treks & Trails International. The deadline for reservations is August 1. To register, or for more information, contact trip leader: Paul Shaw, 155 Mowery Lane, Sunbury PA 17801 pshaw@ptd.net 717-215-8339

Pennsylvania Rocks!

The 2013 national conference of the North Country Trail Association from 12-17 August is an exciting effort to enlarge the size and scope of the event. Not only is it six days long, but the range of activities offered will delight everyone except couch potatoes with events that include hikes of all sizes, trips to museums and historical sites, bike rides, canoeing, and nature explorations. So even though the conference is six days long, you will have a hard time choosing which workshop, excursion, or hike to take on any given day! There are even events and programs available both before and after these dates.

In fact, the enticing list of attractions put together by our hosts, the Pennsylvania Chapters of the NCTA, is so extensive that we'd need the entire issue of our North Star magazine to showcase everything, so we invite you to review the choices and information online.



Pennsylvania rocks, indeed! The vast wild and lush forests of northwestern Pennsylvania are also filled with house-sized monolithic boulders left behind by geologic forces over millennia. Hike amongst these quiet monuments under a canopy of huge trees, over a land rumpled by streams and rivers carving their way out of the "endless mountains," as one region calls itself.

The primary site is Slippery Rock University, north of Pittsburgh in western Pennsylvania, where we will eat most meals, enjoy evening programs and daytime workshops, and most of us will sleep.

Each dorm room has two long twin beds, its own bathroom, A/C, a small fridge and microwave. For a total price of only \$70 per person per night, all three meals are included.

If you desire other lodging, however, space will be at a premium due to the simultaneous International Fireworks Convention in the area, so consult the alternative lodging list on the website immediately.

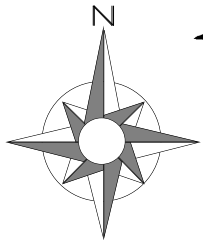
There has never been so ambitious a program for one of our annual events, so don't miss out on this one! There may never again be hosts so energetic and courageous to offer such a huge menu of great stuff, so this event is a must.

Register online at www.northcountrytrail.org





BOC Kennerdale Hike # 4



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