

# The Compass

The Butler Outdoor Club Newsletter Butler, Pennsylvania

Volume 19 Month 12

December 2013



Congratulations to Paul Henry who received the BOC annual Outstanding Outdoor Award for 2013 at the annual dinner November 9th.

With the Boy Scouts, he worked on the Shenango Trail in the late 1960s and was an Eagle Scout and later a counselor at Custaloga Town Boy Scout camp. In recent years, he has set up displays and has gone to various boy scout events to teach various outdoor skills to the scouts.

Paul has canoed since age 14 and has lead many trips for various outdoor groups and was from 1992 – 2004 Co-chairperson of the Pittsburgh AYH Canoe program. Paul is a former Vice President of the Butler Outdoor Club and has promoted the club and NCT at many outdoor events. Paul has orchestrated the many Outdoor Extravaganza paddle trips and shuttles. He has taught backpacking classes and is the BOC Ski chairperson.

Paul was President of NCT Wampum Chapter for 7 years, is presently the NCT State Council Chairperson and has done trail work on the NCT and other trails for many years. He received the 2013 North Country Trail Association "Sweep Award" at the 2013 National Conference & Trailfest.

Paul is employed in the environmental industry over 30 years - ask him about bio-gas.

## BOC December 4 Meeting

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. Join us 6:00 pm December 4th for our Christmas music and white elephant grab bag night. Bring a covered dish to share and a \$5.00 gift or gag gift.



## BOC members received embroidered patches at the Annual Dinner

Each BOC member attending the dinner this year received a blue and white BOC patch to promote the club. If you did not make it to the dinner to receive your patch you may pick it up at any monthly meeting. Extra patches are available at \$3 each.



## **Wear Orange for safety in the Outdoors**

On Monday Dec 2, 750,000 hunters will take to the woods in search of deer. The two week rifle season runs through Saturday Dec 14.

Hunters are required to wear at least 250 sq. in. of blaze orange viewable from all directions.

Outdoor enthusiasts should also wear orange and other bright colors. Do not wear dark or brown, white, or grey colors.

There is no hunting on Sundays except for foxes, crows and coyotes.

Upcoming Pa hunting seasons:

**DEER (Antlered and Antlerless)** Dec. 2 –14

**DEER, ANTLERED OR ANTLERLESS FLINTLOCK (Statewide):** Dec. 26 –Jan. 11.

**DEER, ANTLERLESS EXTENDED REGULAR FIREARMS: (Allegheny Co.):** Dec. 26 –Jan. 25

**Squirrels, Rabbits, Ruffed Grouse :** Dec. 16–24 and Dec. 26-Feb. 22



## **BOC Directory**

### **President**

Steve Bickel 724.794.3719

### **Vice-President**

Tammy Veloski  
painthorse\_33@yahoo.com

### **Secretary**

John Stehle 724.256.0674

### **Treasurer**

Carol Bickel 724.794.3719

### **Backpacking**

Steve Bickel 724.794.3719

### **Canoeing**

Joyce Appel 724.526.5407

### **Database**

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painthorse\_33@yahoo.com

### **Editor, Webmaster**

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### **Hiking**

Steve Smith  
belsmith@embarqmail.com

### **Membership**

Helen Coyne 724.776.0678

### **Skiing**

Paul Henry 724.347.3282

### **Trails**

Ron Rice 724.538.8475

### **Nature Study**

Dorothy Weisberg

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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)**

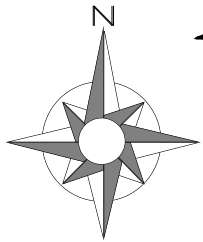
## BOC Sponsored Events

Dec 4	Our monthly meetings are on the first Wed. of each month usually at the Butler YMCA, 339 N. Washington, St. Butler, Pa. Join us on December 4th at 6:00 pm for our Christmas music and white elephant grab bag night. Bring a covered dish to share and a \$5.00 gift or gag gift.
Dec 18	Winter Solstice Party at North Country Brewing, Slippery Rock, Pa. Come early and dine with group. Bring a gift for exchange. Call Joyce for details – need headcount for reservation. 724-526-5407
Dec 21	Annual Christmas Bird Count - meet 7:30am at the end of Swamp Road in Moraine State Park. Afterward, we will go to Steve and Carol Bickel's for some hot chili. Call John Stehle 724-256-0674 to register.
Dec 28	Join NCT and BOC members for Christmas Party at Jennings ELC. Meet at Noon and bring covered dish and a gift for exchange. Call Joyce to rsvp at 724-526-5407
Dec 31	Join group for first night events and fireworks in Pittsburgh. Call Joyce to register 724-526-5407
Jan 1	Annual BOC New Years Day Picnic - noon - Moraine State Park North Shore - location not yet set - Bring a hot dish or drink to share - First Day Hike afterwards or xc-ski or bike weather permitting.
Jan 3 5	Wilderness Lodge Cross Country Ski Weekend Jan. 3-5 RSVP to Joyce Appel - 724-526-5407 or joyceappel@windstream.net
Jan 24 26	Wilderness Lodge Cross Country Ski Weekend Jan. 24-26 RSVP to Joyce Appel - 724-526-5407 or joyceappel@windstream.net.
Feb 7 10	Allegheny State Park, NY cross country ski weekend for Feb. 7-10 RSVP to Joyce Appel - 724-526-5407 or joyceappel@windstream.net.

## 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.
Dec 7 and 14	Hemlock Hikes - Join park staff and NCT members Saturday, Dec. 7 11:00 am-2:00 pm to explore a trail in the Slippery Rock Gorge to observe hemlock stands. Our state tree, the lovely Eastern Hemlock, is threatened by an invasive pest, the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (HWA). Learn about it, and what we can all do to help, starting at 11:00 am in the old gristmill, (unheated), then join us for a hike to observe and study the hemlock trees. Dress for the weather, and bring enough food and water. Park at Kildoo Picnic Area, then take the ten minute hike down to the gristmill. If you don't hike, you can still come to the gristmill for the 20 minute information session. Park staff will use information from your efforts to help suppress this pest and save hemlock trees. The rocks are slippery enough without snow or ice, so these hikes are held during good weather (dry roads & trails) only! Park at Kildoo Picnic Area-Meet at Gristmill 11 am Check facebook at <a href="http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/findapark/mcconnellsmill/index.htm">http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/findapark/mcconnellsmill/index.htm</a> or call 724-368-3612 between 8 & 10 am on the morning of a hike to be sure.
Dec 8	NCT Clarion Chapter will be having it's monthly hike for December on Sunday, December 8th. We will be hiking from Kiser Wagner Road to White Oak Drive. Meet at Country Fair Convenience Store at 10 AM.
Jan 18	4th annual Winterfest at Moraine State Park North Shore McDaniels Launch area noon to 5pm. Admission is free. Events include a snowshoe workshop, dog sled and ice fishing demonstrations, a barn owl/raptor program, cross country skiing and a family birding hike.

# HAPPY HOLIDAYS



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