



STC NEWSLETTER

“ON FOOT IN POTTER COUNTY”

P.O. Box 643
Coudersport, PA 16915

July 2006



The purposes of the STC are to build and maintain trails; aid in the conservation of wetlands and wildlife and promote good fellowship through the medium of hiking and nature study.

SUMMER CAMPOREE



July 28-30, 2006

Annual STC Camporee at Ole Bull State Park.

► **IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT** – We will be in Camping Area #1 – across the creek from where we usually are. We do not have the Group Camping Area this year. Instead, go to Camping Area #1. You can set up anywhere on Sites 49, 51, 53, 55, 60, 61, 63, 64, or 66.

► The 3 mi hike will meet at 10 am at Pavilion #7 (same place as dinner). Anyone interested in leading a longer hike, contact Bill Boyd.

► The Saturday evening meal and Club meeting are in Pavilion #7 starting at 6 pm. Bring a dish-to-pass and your place setting. The evening program will then be held at the amphitheater.

It is time to do it again. Free camping for STC members, hiking, meeting old friends and some new ones, too. It's always a great time for relaxing, swimming, fishing. Short hike on Saturday and as always our 6 pm Saturday night dish-to-pass dinner, great food you won't want to miss, Club meeting, door prizes and evening program on Saturday night following the dinner. This year the program is by Stan Hess, Service Forester from Pa. BOF-DCNR, Coudersport, Pa. #15 District Office. Stan will be showing a video on Pa. Old Growth Forests, "Pennsylvania's Forgotten Giants."

Then there's the usual Saturday night gathering around the campfire and something new added this year. Bill Boyd, Camporee Chairperson, suggested those attending bring old camping and hiking equipment, tents, backpacks, cross country skis, snowshoes, etc. to display at your site for sale, swap or barter. Last year the Magars had some good stuff available. Let's give it a try and see how it works out. We are looking forward to seeing you there.

► Chairperson Bill Boyd's phone is 814-274-7529.

STC HIKING SCHEDULE July thru October



This issue of the newsletter contains the Hiking Schedule, brought to you by the Hiking Committee. A big thank you to the Hiking Committee and to all the hike leaders who made this hiking schedule possible!

Plan to join the club on one or more hikes.



ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Results of 80 Ballots counted at the STC May 27th meeting:

President – Wil Ahn, Sr.

Vice. President – Bill Morey

Secretary – Betty Ahn

Treasurer - Sandy Timms

Archivist – Lois Morey

Advisory Council – Bob Knowles,

Terry Simkins, and Joe Allis

► Elected officers will hold office for 2 years as per STC By-Laws.

**FIRST ANNUAL POTTER COUNTY
LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSOCIATION
YELLOW RIBBON
5K RACE AND HIKE,
HELD on SUNDAY MAY 21**

The 5K Run & Hike using sections of the Northern end of the STS was successful despite a cold, damp day with periods of rain and sleet. A good turnout of spectators was on hand to see and cheer on over 100 hikers and runners participating in this worthy cause.

Entry fees and donations from participants and local businesses will be used to help generate increased public support for the law enforcement profession, teen suicide prevention, and help support a DCNR-BOF ranger being treated for cancer. This event was supported by the STC and was well organized and led by Corp. Sean Batterson of Penna. State Police, Coudersport.

We thank all those involved in the participation of this event setting up and clearing the trails, BOF-DCNR, registration of participants, merchants, business organizations, donors, police, game protectors, ambulance corps, sponsors and of course the HIKERS AND RUNNERS.



**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS
SINCE APRIL 2006**

Jeremy Tunney, Indiana, Pa.; Rev. Kerry Aucker, Jersey Shore, Pa.; Rev. Dr. Roger Fischer, Washington, Pa.; Rev. David Clement, Greensburg, Pa.; Jay Linsenbigler, DuBois, Pa.; James Welding, Hilliards, Pa.; Benn & Thankful Batterson, Galeton, Pa.; and Jason Mize, Towanda, Pa.



KTA KORNER by M. Virginia Musser

As STC's representative to the Keystone Trails Association, I want to give a brief report about some of the happenings at the Spring Council meeting that was held in Wellsboro on April 7-9, 2006.

The Council heard reports from KTA's Agency Partners including the Appalachian Trail Conservancy, the North Country Trail Association, PA Bureau of State Parks, PA Bureau of Forestry as well as PennDOT. A written report was submitted by the PA Game Commission with a reminder that spring gobbler season is 4/29 - 5/27. Remember to wear 100 square inches of blaze orange when in the woods during hunting season!!

The Annual meeting will be held October 6-8, 2006 at Camp Swatara just off I-78 near Bethel.

KTA's membership currently includes 1,048 individual members as well as 51 clubs or organizations.

Of significance to STC is the fact that the bridge on the STS / Donut Hole Trails at Young Woman's Creek is to be replaced at a cost of approximately \$5,500. KTA designated \$1,700 toward the project at the Council meeting. In addition, a "pass the hat venture" at the Saturday evening meeting netted approximately \$1,400.

(Editor note: The STC has voted to donate \$1,000. See also "ALONG THE TRAIL".)

"Prowl the Sproul" has been an annual event sponsored by the Sproul State Forest along with the Western Clinton Sportsmen's Association. The 2006 dates are July 21-23 with camping on the grounds of the Sportsmen's Club south of Renovo. Sproul State Forest personnel will lead numerous hikes including easy ones as well as strenuous ones. A great Saturday dinner is provided as well as delectable breakfasts! (See KTA web site, www.kta-hike.org.)

KTA is in searching for someone to Chair its Finance Committee. If you have interest or know someone who has accounting/finance experience, please be in touch with Bill Deitrich at prez@KTA-Hike.org

A Strategic Plan was distributed to all Council members for review with a public comment period thru 5/15. www.kta-hike.org

There were the usual Committee reports as well as financial reporting.

KUDOS TO HIKE LEADERS

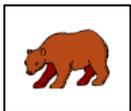
Wanda Shirk and Ginny Musser wish to recognize members of the Susquehannock Trail Club and the Asaph Trail Club who so graciously volunteered to lead hikes for the Keystone Trails Association Spring Council meeting in Wellsboro on April 7-9, 2006

Hike leaders were: Liz Berkowitz, Jennifer Borneman, Bill Boyd, Roy Boyd, Bill Carothers, Carl Davis, Pete Fleszar, Sheila Kasperek, Charles Kern, Dave and Carol Leber, Steve Quelet, Larry Peterson, Jeff Richardson, Bob Webber and Curt Weinhold.

► Many positive comments were received from hikers.

► Again, thanks for helping to make a very successful hiking program for KTA.

WATCH OUT FOR THE BEARS



Black bears are on the increase in Pennsylvania. Despite a kill of over 4,000 bears by hunters in Pa. last year (2005) it is not unusual to see or hear

of bears crossing highways, raiding garbage cans and getting in trouble here in the Keystone State. Potter County is no exception. North Central Pa. and also the Pocono mountain area with its vast acreage of forests has ideal habitat for black bears.

Hikers, backpackers and campers should always be concerned when in bear country. Take precautions with your food, garbage and toiletries and leave a clean campsite. Don't forget "Smokey Bear" is watching - Make sure that campfire is dead out when you leave.

NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

September 10, 2006:

Please have your information in the US mail by September 10, 2006 to:

Roxanne McMillan
STC Newsletter Editor
P.O. Box 427
Landisville, PA. 17538



Or e:mail to roxanne_mcmillan@hotmail.com



ALONG THE TRAIL by Wil Ahn, Sr.

NEW BRIDGE NEEDED ON THE STS

Many a hiker or backpacker, after coming down the challenging Morgan Hollow section of the STS, paused or stayed overnight at the welcome campsite along Young Woman's Creek. A short hike along this stream, favored by many a fisherman, you passed a hunting camp and crossed the stream on a footbridge. The bridge, originally built by the members of the hunting camp and rebuilt several times by the camp owners, has served as a safe crossing by hikers over the years on their way to or from the road nearby.

The foot bridge was badly damaged a couple years ago by high flood waters and is still in use. The hunting club has made temporary repairs so the bridge is safe to cross but it needs to be rebuilt. The bridge will be replaced by a new foot bridge under the direction of a KTA work party, most likely in 2007 due to the lengthy process involved with obtaining permits.

When the bridge is rebuilt, there will be a team of KTA volunteers on site, but it is a major job and many hands will be needed. STC members who are able to join the work force are needed and will be much appreciated.

The cost of material for the footbridge is expected to run \$5,500.

- A grant of \$ 1700.00 from KTA,
- \$1400 from a "passing the hat" collection at the Spring 2006 Wellsboro KTA Meeting,
- \$1,000 contribution from STC treasury
- and materials for construction from the BOF-DCNR District office in Renovo

will cover the cost of the new foot bridge.

The bridge is located on the Susquehannock / Sproul Forest boundary. The Sproul State Forest District office is taking care of the building and stream crossing permits.

STC members interested in taking part in the bridge construction, please contact Wil Ahn or Bill Boyd. They will notify you of the scheduled date once details are finalized.

ALONG THE TRAIL..... continued

NEW FOR THE WOODBURNER

Thought you might be interested in some information I read in an article in Pennsylvania Forests magazine featuring comments of James C. Finley, a Penn State professor of Forest Resources, written by Julie Lalo, formerly with Penn State Ag. Information center. With the high cost of fuel oil, coal, electric, natural and LP gas more folks are burning wood or at least thinking about supplementing their home heating requirements by burning wood. Professor Finley starts out with an ancient ditty I thought was quite thought provoking and amusing.

Here we go:

“Poplar gives a better smoke, fills your eyes and makes you choke. Apple wood will scent your room with incense like perfume. Oaken logs, if dry and old, keep away the winter cold. But ash wet or ash dry, a king shall warm his slippers by”.

Now that’s good advice coming from Professor Finley who really loves wood and gets excited about wood burning. The Professor also lists the following species for long lasting heating wood: hickory, iron wood, beech, oak, black locust, sugar maple or fruit woods. That is Finley’s first choice. If you can’t get that kind to burn, his second choice is red maple, ash and black cherry - you just have to fire the stove more often.

IF “NESSMUK” COULD SEE IT NOW

In the April 2006 STC newsletter, I wrote an article about “Nessmuk” - mainly his living in Wellsboro and his outdoor activities in the surrounding area and the Pine Creek Canyon country. Many were the times George W. Sears, his pen name “Nessmuk”, huddled and cooked around a campfire where the Marsh Creek joins the Pine Creek flowing south thru the spectacular Canyon Country to join the West Branch of the Susquehanna River at the town of Jersey Shore. It was a remote spot and wild. The scenic beauty of the area is still there but if “Nessmuk” could see it now, the little old woodsman and writer of outdoor living articles and the father of the idea of a one man lightweight canoe, the 10-1/2 pound “Sairy Gamp”, would surely be surprised and do some scratching on his chin whiskers.

Recently Lycoming Supply, Inc. of Williamsport has been awarded a \$1.4 million dollar contract for construction of Pine Creek Rail Trail Phase IV, the final segment of the trail stretching between Ansonia and Wellsboro Junction in Tioga State Forest District, Tioga County. The project will cover excavating, landscaping and surfacing an 8 mile stretch between Shippen and Delmar Townships. The bid was awarded Nov.1, 2005 and construction expected to begin this Spring 2006. When this section of the Pine Creek Rail Trail is completed, it will be possible to hike or bike from Rt.287 just north of Wellsboro to the Waterville access area following the beautiful Pine Creek for over 50 miles. “Nessmuk” would marvel at the hikers and bikers, horse back riders, canoers and rafters enjoying the Canyon Country and the “River of Pines”.

Nuff Sed



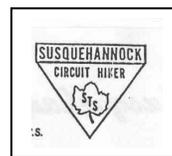
SEE YOU ALONG THE TRAIL

Wil



CIRCUIT HIKER AWARDS

From Lois Morey, STC Archivist



As for the circuit hikers this time....

Larry Hoffman (#934) from New Bethlehem, PA and John

Herchuck (#935) from Pittsburgh, PA teamed up to hike the STS (when their schedules would permit) starting with the first hike in August 2002 and finally completing the circuit in June 2004. Larry is an over the road truck driver and John is a retired machinist. They enjoy hiking and the outdoors and had hiked several trails before tackling the STS. They had excellent weather for their weekend hikes but saw very little wildlife. One of their comments was that the STS is one of the nicest trails they had ever hiked being clean and easy to hike.

Thanks for the compliments guys.



Susquehannock Trail Club

2006 Summer and Fall Hiking Schedule

**Notes: Telephone area code is 814, unless otherwise noted.
Telephone hike leader for additional information (if no answer, 435-2966).**

Rain or bad weather will cancel hike.

Non-members welcome.

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED ON ALL HIKES.

July 1 – SATURDAY – Black Forest & North Link Trails – 4 miles. Bring lunch & water & meet @ gas station/store in Oleana @ 10:00 am. Leader: Bill Boyd 274-7529

July 8 – SATURDAY – STS hike, Denton Hill to Lyman Run Road – 6.5 miles. Bring lunch & water & meet @ Denton Hill Forestry Office on Rte. 6 @ 10:00 am. Leaders: Pat & John Clement 274-0221

July 15 – SATURDAY – Patterson Park to Prouty Lick moderate 5.5 miles. Bring lunch & water & meet at Patterson Park on Rte. 44 @ 9:30 am. Leader: Dick Hribar 274-8248

July 23 – SUNDAY – Hemlock Trail Hike – 3 miles. Bring water & meet @ Dean's Gravel Pit on Rte. 6 west of Galeton @ 2:00 pm. Leader: Bill Morey 435-6380

July 28-30 – STS Camporee @ Ole Bull State Park. **Camping at Camp Area #1 Sites 49, 51, 53, 55, 60, 61, 63, 64 & 66. We do not have the Group Camping Area this year! Hike Sat July 29 meets 10 am at the Pavilion #7.** Dish-to-pass dinner 6 pm at Pavilion #7, followed by Club meeting. Evening program at park amphitheater. Contact Chairperson Bill Boyd 274-7529 for details.

August 5 – SATURDAY – North Link Trail, Lebo Road to Big Spring Road, follows much of former North Bend and Kettle Creek railroad grade – easy to moderate – 5 ^{1/2} miles. Bring lunch and water, meet at gas station/store in Oleona @ 10 am. Anyone wishing to car pool from Coudersport area, please call a few days prior. Leader: Bill Boyd 274-7529

August 13 – SUNDAY – Little Moore's Run area. Rock Hollow, Windfall Hollow & Moore's Run Fire Trail. 3 miles moderate loop hike – bring water. Meet at intersection of Rt. 872 and Southwoods Road @ 2:00 pm, about 4 miles south of Rt. 6 on Rt. 872. Leaders: Paul & Mary Lilja 274-8356

August 19 – SATURDAY - Tioga State Forest at Ansonia, Pa. – Time 10 am. This hike will involve a gradual climb up to the east rim of the mountain. There will be several waterfalls at Pinafore Run and the Turkey Path Trail. Part of the trail will follow a deer path along the east rim with several views up and down Pine Creek and Barbour Rocks on the west rim. We will turn around at Leonard Harrison State Park and walk a mile down the Turkey Path to the Rail Trail and walk 3.6 miles back to Darling Run Parking area. This is a difficult hike due to the length and the absence of a maintained trail. It is a circle hike of 8 to 9 miles. We will meet at Darling Run Parking Lot, Pa. Rt.362 – Wear comfortable walking/ hiking shoes and bring water and lunch. Leaders: Carl and Bonnie Davis 570-724-6319

August 27 – SUNDAY - STS Hike – Loop hike from Sunken Branch Road into headwaters of West Branch Hollow and return. Easy to moderate – 4 miles – Bring water and meet at STS crossing on Sunken Branch Road @ 2:00 pm. Leader: Bill Boyd 274-7529

September 3 – SUNDAY - Sidewinder Trail – 3 mile loop – moderate hike. Bring water and meet at Patterson State Park on Rt. 44 @ 2:00 pm. Leader: Tom Janci 698-2671

September 10 – SUNDAY – Sand Run Falls, Tioga State Forest near Arnot, Pa A level hike to a large waterfall. We will use a car shuttle to shorten the hike. Easy to moderate 4.5 miles. Meet at picnic area behind the Tioga State Forest Office (287 South) Wear comfortable walking shoes and bring water.
Leaders: Carl and Bonnie Davis 570-724-6319.

September 16 – SATURDAY – Loop hike in the Quehanna Wild Area. Easy 5 miles. Bring lunch and water. Meet at parking area at intersection of Wycoff Run & Quehanna Highway @ 10:00 am. Anyone wishing to car pool from Coudersport area please call a few days prior. Leader: Bill Boyd 274-7529

October 8 – SUNDAY - Mt. Tom Vista – Tioga State Forest at Ansonia, Pa. at 2:00 pm. Meet at Darling Run Parking area, Pa. Rt. 362. This is a steep climb up the mountain to a vista overlooking Pine Creek and the U.S. Rt. 6 valley. It is difficult – a steep climb. A circle hike of 3.5 miles. Wear comfortable shoes and bring water.
Leaders: Carl and Bonnie Davis 570-724-6319

October 21 – SATURDAY – Dutlinger Natural Area to see old-growth Hemlocks. One is reported to be 43 inches in diameter and 112 foot tall. About 4 miles round trip. Easy to moderate with one fairly steep climb. A stream must be crossed either on cables (a high wire act) or waded. Meet at Cross Fork at Bridge on Rt. 144 or if any one wishes to carpool from Coudersport area, call a few days prior. Bring lunch and water.
Leader: Bill Boyd 274-7529

October 29 – SUNDAY – Camp Moxie See old Growth Pine & Hemlock and remains of old Boy Scout camp. Good trail – easy hike – 2.5 miles. Bring water. Meet at old Mennonite School/ Church on Sweden Hill Brookland Road @ 2:00 pm. Leader: Wil Ahn 435 - 2966



Susquehannock Trail Club
P.O. Box 643
Coudersport, PA 16915



