



STC NEWSLETTER

"ON FOOT IN POTTER COUNTY"

P.O. Box 643
Coudersport, PA 16915

July 2007



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.

Annual STC SUMMER CAMPOREE

Friday July 27 - Sunday July 29, 2007

- ▶ Place - Ole Bull State Park on Rt. 144
- ▶ Free Camping for STC members in the Group Camping area Friday July 27 to Sunday July 29. Pitch your tent, park your camper, meet old friends and enjoy the camping, fellowship, hiking, fishing and swimming. Evening campfires Friday and Saturday.



- ▶ Hike Saturday July 28 - About 6 miles. Meet at the Ole Bull Group Camping Area at 10 am. Leader: Bill Boyd 814-274-7529
- ▶ July 28 Saturday night dish-to-pass dinner, always a feast in the Ole Bull State Park large covered pavilion. Plus door prizes, club meeting, followed by slide show and talk on finding your way with a Global Positioning System (GPS) compass by Narrator William T. Daly, an engineer from Morgan Company. Get the lowdown from Bill.

Be sure to attend and help make this a big one for our Clubs 40th Anniversary year.

HAPPY 40TH ANNIVERSARY STC 1967 -2007

HERE IS WHAT THE CLUB HAS DONE SO FAR:

- ▶ **An Anniversary "Tree Planting"** - 110 Black Spruce Seedling Trees were planted on State Forest Wildlife Restoration Area, Potter County in early April.
- ▶ **Attended 1st Cross Fork Sportsmans Show** in early March. STC attendants had a display table of maps, guidebooks, STC hats and patches for sale and handed out Club brochures to interested attendees.
- ▶ **SERIES OF HIKES** - We held a series of hikes on the STS under the leadership of member Wanda Shirk. We are trying to get enough circuit hikers to apply for the STC Circuit Hiker Award with our goal of 1,000 STC Circuit Hikers by the end of the year 2007. Wanda and others have put much effort into this project. The prize to the 1,000th Circuit Hiker is a hand made walking stick by the well known "Trail Builder" and woodsman, Bob Webber of Slate Run, Pa.

UPCOMING PROJECTS:

- ▶ **A memorial sign** will be erected on the Harold & Louise Williams property, along the STS in Conrad, honoring these kind folks for 40 years of help and friendship to hikers.
- ▶ Before the year is out we will have a **special 40th Anniversary Newsletter** for STC members.



Our Club is on the move and growing. We hope you will take an active part in it.

STC HIKING SCHEDULE

July thru October

This issue of the newsletter contains the July thru October Hiking Schedule, brought to you by the Hiking Committee. A big thank you to the Hiking

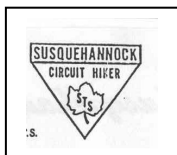


Committee and to all the hike leaders who made this hiking schedule possible!

Plan to join the club on one or more hikes.

If you have some sections of the STS to complete to apply for the circuit hiker award, check the hiking schedule for the hikes marked “**STS Hike**”.

CIRCUIT HIKER AWARDS



From Lois Morey, STC Archivist

As for the circuit hikers this time....

#943 – Kim Metzgar, Wellsboro, PA

#944 – Jordan Metzgar, Wellsboro, PA

A combined log submitted recently for approval was a father/son team hiking the STS together over the course of three trips. The first trip was in August of 1999, the second in August 2001 and the final trip in October 2006. Their log was documented well with accompanying photos taken along the trail. Congratulations!

STC TRAIL MAINTENANCE

From Bill Boyd



Volunteer Maintainers

Trail maintainers have been quite busy so far this season, with reports in from many sections.

338 hours of trail-work and 230 hours of travel-time have been turned in. Workers have come from near and far - about 3/4 of the trail has seen some maintenance thus far.

If any hikers see problems out there on the trail, or if any maintainers need some assistance with their sections, be sure to contact the club at

STC, P.O. Box 643, Coudersport, PA 16915 or email wilbetrt6@pennswoods.net.

We now have a volunteer for the Fire-Tower Trail section, Chris Bell of Shinglehouse, PA and additional workers for the Hammersley, Tim and Jackie Schlitzer, of Arnot, PA along with the long-standing crew of John and Dave Eastlake, Bob Webber and Walt Zegarski. This may work real well, as a crew could work from both ends of this 11-mile long stretch.

Trail maintainers, please remember to fill in the trail maintenance form included in this newsletter on the mailing address page.

Some hikers have reported that the STS is as well-maintained and marked as any trail that they've seen - so I think we should give a tip of the hiking-cap to all of those trail-care workers out there.

ALONG THE TRAIL by Wil Ahn, Sr.

🌿 REMEMBERING TED GRISEZ

I first met Ted Grisez [pronounced Gri-say] at the hunting camp of Norm & Ruth Samuelson located near Cherry Grove, deep in the Allegheny National Forest near Sheffield, Pa. The Samuelsons and Ted were members of the Allegheny Outdoor Club and later became members of the STC. At the Camp we were enjoying the Samuelsons making home made apple butter and dried apples, which they had become well known for their goodness and sharing with others.

Ted Grisez was for many years a Research Silviculturist at the U.S. Forest Service's Northwestern Experiment Station in Warren, Pa., where he helped develop some of the first regional guidelines for sustainable forestry. Ted was one of the first to recognize the problems of deer overbrowsing our forests in the 1950's. At the camp, Ted very knowledgeable, shared with us his interest in apple trees and apples.

Ted was well versed in birds and birding and a real treat to be with on a hike when identifying birds and their singing. He served as the Warren County Coordinator for the 1st Pa. Breeding Bird Atlas. Ted and his wife Nancy were on the STC bus trip to Banff National Park in Alberta, Canada which 38 members enjoyed in the 1980's. His knowledge of birds and animals was sought by many on the trip. Ted passed away this past winter. He will be missed...



🌿 'STC TREE PLANTING'



The STC has had a history of tree planting in the Susquehannock State Forest. Our first planting of 1,200 Norway Spruce seedlings was in the headwaters of the Wild Boy Run. Many of the trees now are of considerable size and enjoyed by those hiking the STS. This took place in the early 1970's. Bob Lewis was District Forester.

The second planting was in a cut over area close to the Hogback section of the STS. Paul Lilja, now a

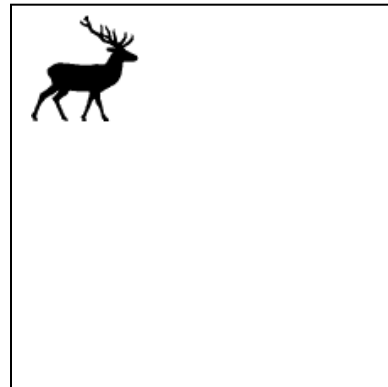
member of our STC, was in charge. Many of the over 1,000 Norway Spruce are now over 30 feet tall.

The third planting of Norway Spruce, over 800, was in the Lebo Valley adjacent to Lebo Road and along sections of the North Link Trail. There are today some beautiful specimens of that planting as you hike the NLT or drive south on Lebo Road near the Albert Trail. Many of our older members are proud of these tree plantings and the hard work that went into the plantings. It is pleasing to the eye to see the growing beauty of our labor.

Our latest tree planting took place just this past April 2007 under the direction of Paul Lilja, recently retired from the Pa. BOF District 15.

Paul obtained 110 Black Spruce for the STC. The site chosen for planting was the location of the Pa. BOF #15 Wildlife Restoration Area along Lyman Run Road at the old Potato City Airport, no longer in use as an airport. Twelve Club members helped plant trees with the aid of 8 members and leaders of the Ulysses Boy Scout troop. The tree planting project was followed by a feast of charbroiled hot dogs, brownies, chocolate chip cookies, coffee and sodas. The feast tasted great on a cold rainy day.

🌿 CAPTURING A WILD ELK



Many of us outdoor-minded folks are interested in the growing elk herd in Pa. Thousands of acres in some counties of North Central Pa. have become the home of well over 500 elk. The Pa. Game

commission and DCNR BOF have worked steadily over the years to build the herd for hunters and wild life viewers.

They have done a good job considering elk had been a thing of the past, but were once abundant during the days of early settlers and homesteaders.

The story I have in mind goes back to the early 1800's.

(continued next page)

ALONG THE TRAIL..... continued

Tioga and Potter Counties were a wilderness and only a few hardy pioneers settled in these parts. Historians say Philip Tome was born in 1782. His family moved into the Pine Creek area near Slate Run. They were the first settlers in the Pine Creek Area. Philip grew up to be the greatest of the early elk hunters. He roamed the wilds in Tioga & Potter Counties long before William Ayers and Major Isaac Lyman settled in Potter County.

Tome became a friend of the Indians and was an interpreter for the mighty Chief Cornplanter. Philip Tome was known to have captured wild elk ALIVE. Cornplanter said Tome could not capture large mature bull elk alive. Indians had tried it and failed. Tome was out to prove he could do it. He headed for the headwaters of the Pine Creek where some very large Bull Elk had been spotted.

Tome with another hunter companion spotted a very large bull elk track. They pursued the elk with their hounds and the huge bull elk ran many miles up and down the Little and Big Kettle, and finally got up on a big rock where he could defend himself from the dogs. Tome and his companion finally captured the huge animal by climbing a tree and throwing a lasso rope around his huge antlers.

The complete story of the chase and capture you can read in *Pioneer Life*, by Phillip Tome. Tome and his companions tied the elk to a long rope securely tied to a horse and with several other men kept him under control until they got him to captivity. The recorded height of the big elk was 16 hands – 5’ 4” - with antlers 6ft long and 11 points on each side. The elk was valued at \$1,000. The elk was floated on a raft on the Allegheny River by four men to Olean, N.Y. where the public paid \$12.00 to see the huge animal.

Chief Cornplanter said it was impossible to capture a mature bull elk alive, but Phillip Tome proved him wrong. And to this story I remind you that this all happened in the country where you and I love to roam and hike the trails today.

‘Nuff Sed



SEE YOU ALONG THE TRAIL

Wil

PROWL the SPROUL July 20-22

Two hikes that are part of the 4th “Prowl the Sproul” weekend may be of interest to STC members. This hiking weekend is sponsored by Bureau of Forestry District 10, Renovo Heritage, Western Clinton Sportsmen’s Association and PA Parks & Forests Foundation, along with the assistance of the Keystone Trails Association (KTA).

There are sixteen hikes to choose from on Saturday July 21 and ten hikes on Sunday July 22. You can attend the entire weekend event or for one days activities. There is a registration fee of \$5 (which is your donation to PA Parks & Forests Foundation).

For details and registration information look up this link: <http://www.paparksandforests.org/events5.htm> or per District Forester Ted Ligenza, anyone interested can contact Pam at ktaadmin@pennswoods.net or call 814-395-9696.

The two hikes in the Susquehannock State Forest that may be of interest to STC members are:

Saturday July 21

“Heart of the Hammersley Wild Area” (Hike #3)
11 miles, strenuous, shuttle hike through one of the most remote areas in PA. Two stream crossings – recommended you bring along a pair of tennis shoes for the one crossing.

Hike Leader is Tom Wallace.

Saturday July 21

“Spook Hollow / Morgan Hollow” (Hike #8)
6.4 miles or 10 miles, Shuttle or loop hike, your choice. Difficulty: often fairly level except for a brief, steep ascent on Rattlesnake Trail and a very steep and challenging descent of infamous Morgan Hollow. Hiking staff a must.

Hike Leader: Survivor contestant and veteran hiker Wanda Shirk (member of the STC).

Upon registration you will receive more information as to meet points and time.

KTA KORNER

M. Virginia Musser is the **Keystone Trails Association (KTA)** Representative for the Susquehannock Trail Club. After the Spring KTA Spring Council meeting, she brought back this information to share with us.

Here are some excerpts from the **INVASIVE HITCHHIKER Fact Sheet #1 - "What Hikers and Backpackers need to know"**

Invasive species are taking over parks and natural areas throughout Pennsylvania making hiking and backpacking difficult and damaging valuable habitat. Luckily hikers can play a role in slowing the spread of invasives. Invasive species are non-native plants and animals (Ed. Note: insects too) that can cause harm to the economy, environment and / or human health. Invasive plants tend to grow quickly and thickly, potentially blocking trails. This makes it more difficult for people to hike.

What can YOU do?

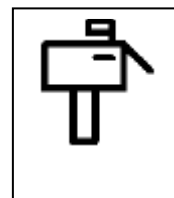
1. Know how to ID some of the more common invasive species in your area, so you can avoid hiking through them. [Visit www.dcnr.state.pa/forestryinvasivetutorialindex.htm](http://www.dcnr.state.pa/forestryinvasivetutorialindex.htm) to learn more.
2. Stick to designated trails.
3. Clean clothing, shoes, pets and equipment before going to a new area. Remove any seeds and plant parts. Bag the dirt and seeds and throw in the trash.
4. Do not move firewood. Buy it locally. This will prevent pest insects like the emerald ash borer from coming to PA.
5. Volunteer to help prevent and control invasive species. Contact your local state park / forest conservation district or watershed group.



NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE September 7, 2007:

Please have your information in the US mail by September 7, 2007 to:

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

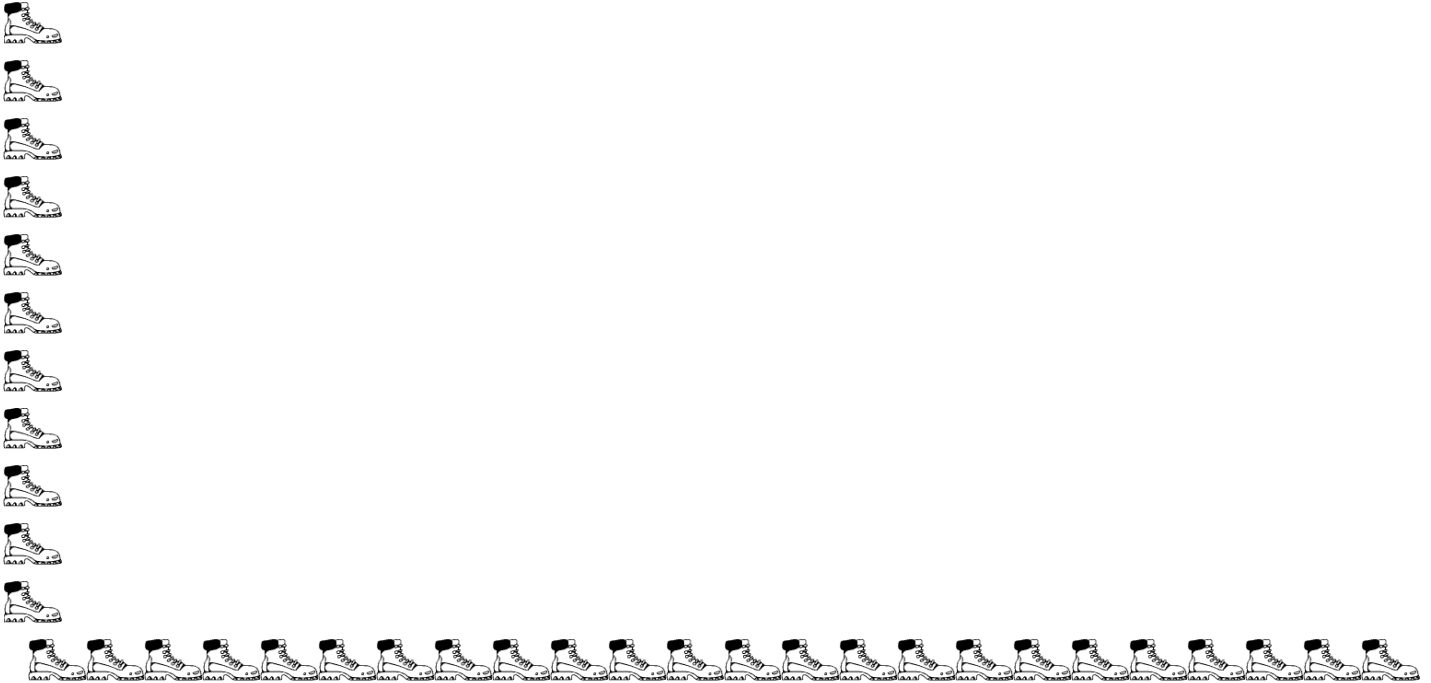


Or e:mail to roxanne_mcmillan@hotmail.com





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



Susquehannock Trail Club Volunteer Trail Maintenance Report

Your Name: _____

Name and section of trail maintained: _____

Date	Hours worked	Type of trail work (X)				Hours Round Trip Travel
		Brush clear	Trail Construction	Blazing	Other	

► Please send completed form to:
Bill Boyd 208 Summit Road, Coudersport, PA 16915

Susquehannock Trail Club

2007 Summer & Fall Hiking Schedule



Telephone hike leader for additional information (if no answer, 814-435-2966).

Rain or bad weather will cancel hike.

Non-members welcome.

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED ON ALL HIKES.

Sunday July 1 Dutch Hill Hike near Coudersport. 4 to 5 mile hike. Some climbing, excellent views. Meet 2 pm at Freeman House parking area off Rt. 872 near Rt. 6 intersection. Bring water. Leaders: Steve & Debbie Quelet 814-274-9336

Sunday July 22 Hike section of Mid-State trail in Tioga County. Antrim to Morris, Pa. 4 mile hike. See old Railroad Grade, strip mine, slide hollow, big rocks. Meet at 2 pm on Rt. 872, Wellsboro Forestry Office. Bring water. Leaders: Carl & Bonnie Davis 570-724-6319

Saturday July 28 (Camporee weekend) Not sure of the route yet - we'll just have to say about a 6 mi. hike. Meet at the Ole Bull Group Camping Area at 10 am. Leader: Bill Boyd 814-274-7529

Saturday August 4 State Forest Hike - Meet 10 am at Denton Hill BOF Parking Area, Rt. 6. Moderate loop hike, 6 miles. White Line, Splash Dam, STS Township Ridge Trails. Bring lunch & water. Leader: Bob Bernhardt 570-724-3686

Sunday August 5 State Forest Hike - Meet 2 pm at Denton Hill BOF Parking area, Rt. 6. Moderate gentle hike on X-country ski trails, Big Fill Trail. 2-2^{1/2} miles. Bring water. Leader: Bill Morey 814-435-6380

Saturday August 11 STS Hike - Meet 10 am at Patterson Park, Rt. 44. Rock Ridge Road to Patterson Park. Moderate hike, some climbing, good trail, 6.2 miles. Bring lunch & water. Leader: Chris Bell 814-697-6347

Sunday August 12 STS Hike - Meet 1:30 pm at Northern Gateway, Denton Hill BOF Parking area Rt. 6. Good trail, some climbing, 6.7 miles. Bring water. Leader: Bill Boyd 814-274-7529

Saturday August 18 STS Hike - Meet 10 am at Northern Gateway, Denton Hill BOF Parking area Rt. 6. Denton Hill Ridge Trail, Jacobs Hollow to Lyman Run Road, 6.6 miles, good trail, moderate down hill. Bring lunch & water. Leader: Wayne Baumann 814-274-7725

Sunday August 19 State Forest Hike - Meet 2 pm at Rt. 872 & South Branch Intersection Inez, south of Rt. 6. Hike Bridge Trail & woods roads, 4 miles, moderate. Bring water. Leader: Paul Lilja 814-274-8356

Saturday August 25 STS Hike - Meet 10 am at Cherry Springs Fire Tower. Hike from Lyman Road to Cherry Springs Fire Tower, 7 miles, good trail, some steep climbs. Bring lunch & water. Leader: Pat Childs 585-593-4077

Sunday August 26 State Forest Hike - Meet 2 pm at Patterson State Park on Rt. 44. Hike on nearby Klesa Trail. Easy hike, 3 miles, in and out hike. Bring water. Leader: Donna Batterson 814-274-9045

Saturday September 1 STS Hike - Meet 10 am at Cherry Springs Fire Tower on Rt. 44. Hike from Cherry Springs Fire Tower to Ole Bull State Park. 12.9 miles. Good trail downhill, water crossings, one long climb. Bring lunch and water. Leaders: Tim & Jackie Schlitzer 570-638-3608

Saturday September 8 State Forest Hike – Meet 10 am at Denton Hill Ski Park Parking lot on Rt. 6. Hike up Elm Hollow to STS along Ridge Trail to ski trail, great view, back to cars by ski trail, loop hike. 4 miles. Bring lunch & water. Leader: Pat Childs 585-593-4077

Sunday September 9 Castle Hollow State Game Lands - Meet 2 pm at intersection of Rt.44 north & Whitney Creek Road, 8 miles north of Rt. 49 & Rt. 44 intersection. Hike 4 miles, trails and Game Lands road, moderate hike. Bring water. Leader: Tom Janci 814-698-2671

Saturday September 15 Dutlinger Natural area (Big Trees) virgin hemlocks. The location is in the southern portion of the Hammersley Wild Area. Meet 9 am at Kinneys Cross Fork Store, Rt. 144, Cross Fork. Will drive from there to start hike. Good trail, some steep climbing. 4 to 5 miles. Bring lunch & water. Leader: Curt Weinhold 814-274-9858

Sunday September 16 STS Hike – Meet 2 pm at Ole Bull State Park. Hike from Ole Bull to 12 Mile Run Road. Some climbing, good view, 4 miles. Bring water. Leader: Wanda Shirk 814-848-7944

Saturday September 22 STS Hike – Meet 10 am at Ole Bull State Park, Rt. 44. Hike from 12 mile Run Road to 12 Mile Run Road (Spook Hollow & Morgan Hollow Sections) 6.4 miles. Some long climbs and one steep descent. Bring lunch & water. Leaders: Steve & Debbie Quelet 814-274-9336

Sunday September 23 State Forest Hike – Meet 2 pm at Denton Hill Northern Gateway BOF parking area. Hike from north side of Rt. 6 from Denton Hill on log roads to Ski Trails to Commissioners Run Headwaters, Old CCC trail along Commissioner Run, 5.5 miles to Roadside Rest on Rt. 6. Bring water. Leader: Wil Ahn 814-435-2966

Saturday September 29 STS Hike – Meet 9:30 am at Cross Fork, Kinney Store, Rt.44. Hike from 12 Mile Run Road to Cross Fork. Several climbs, pipe lines, see Beaver dams. 12.3 miles. Ice Cream at Kinneys. Bring lunch and water. Leader: Wanda Shirk 814-848-7944

Sunday October 7 State Forest Hike - Meet 2 pm at Bridge Pull off and Water Tank Vista on Rt. 44, 2 miles east of Cherry Springs Fire Tower. 4 mile hike on Log Grade and Hogback Trails. Bring water. Leader: Wayne Baumann 814-274-7725

Saturday October 13 STS Hike – Thru the Hammersley Wild area, Cross Fork to McConnell Road 11 miles. Meet 9:30 am at Cross Fork Fire House parking area. Bring lunch and water. Leaders: Tim & Jackie Schlitzer 570-638-3608`

Sunday October 14 State Forest Hike – Tioga Co Hessel Gessel Trail (Historic Site). Meet 10 am at Northern Appalachian Research Lab USGS parking lot located at Asaph (look for sign for Asaph on Route 6). See Old Mill Grinding Stones. We will be hiking Left Strait Run Trail. 7 miles, good trail. Bring water & lunch. Leaders: Carl & Bonnie Davis 570-724-6319

Saturday October 20 STS Hike – McConnell Road to Rock Ridge Road. Meet 9:30 am at Cherry Springs Park old airport. Hike 11 miles, past the Williams residence in Conrad along the East Fork, some steep climbs, see Old Stove in Wildboy. Bring lunch and water. Leader: Wanda Shirk 814-848-7944

Sunday October 28 State Forest & Pa. Game Lands Hike – Bristol Swamp. Meet 2:00 pm at Deans Gravel Pit on Rt. 6 west of Galeton. Hike from Old Fire Tower site to Meeker Road. See Beautiful lake, beaver houses, migratory birds. 4 mile hike, moderate trails. Bring water. Leader: Bill Morey 814-435-6380

