



BUSHWACK BULLETIN

VOLUME 42 - No 4

DECEMBER 1996 - FEBRUARY 1997

OUR OBJECTIVES:

GROUP HIKING + TRAIL MAINTENANCE + OUTDOOR RECREATION

UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED, all hikes leave from FISHER PLAZA,

(ENTRANCE TO THE STATE LIBRARY) behind the State Capitol Building.

Should Fisher Plaza be closed, the alternate meeting site will be the parking island in front of the former Greyhound Bus Terminal on 7th St. Five additional minutes will be allowed at the alternate site.

If you ride with someone, you should give the driver 4¢ times the highway mileage shown, to help defray the cost of gas.

NO PETS ALLOWED

CODES FOR THE HIKES ARE SHOWN ON PAGE 4

December	1		<u>No Hike - Happy Thanksgiving</u>	
December	7	7:00 PM	<u>Annual Christmas Party</u>	
Saturday			West Shore Senior Citizen's Center. See page 5 for more information.	
December	8	10:00 AM	<u>Scott Farm to Rt. 850</u>	6 miles
Sunday			B+/Bring lunch & water. One steep climb. Leader: Janet Eshleman, 774-1318	[50 miles hwy]
December	11	9:00 AM	<u>King's Gap</u>	5 miles
Wednesday			B+/Bring water. Meet at Camp Hill Mall near the theaters. Muddy/rocky trail, sturdy shoes advised. Lunch at local restaurant. Leader: Louise Sis, 774-0196	[60 miles hwy]
December	15	8:00 AM	<u>Joint hike with Lancaster Hiking Club in York area</u>	12 miles
Sunday			E+/Bring Lunch & water. Leader: Gail Guers, 232-0387	[100 miles hwy]
December	15	8:30 AM	<u>Tuscarora Trail - Cowpen's Rd to Upper Leg of Couch Rd</u>	7.6 miles
Sunday			C+/Bring lunch & water. Two significant climbs with a 500' elevation change. Part rough terrain, part gentle road walking. Moderate pace. Leader: Thyra Sperry, 258-5261	[90 miles hwy]

THE BUSHWACK BULLETIN is published quarterly in the months of Feb, May, Aug and Nov, by the Susquehanna Appalachian Trail Club, Inc., P O Box 61061, Harrisburg PA 17106-1001.

OUR FAVORITE HIKES No 35: THE WRONG WAY HIKE

This hike was intended for Winter, and was planned to follow the Horseshoe Trail on roads from Hershey to Campbelltown. Unfortunately, after parking our cars, we picked up the yellow blazes, which appeared to be going south, but were actually going north. Where the trail left the road, it was impassable, so we simply followed the road until we could again pick up the yellow blazes. When we reached the bridge over the Swatara Creek, we realized the creek was flowing the wrong direction. Altering our route, we simply followed roads back to our cars.

A year later, we re-enacted this trip. When we reached the Swatara, Allen Zerfoss, playing his part well, asked, "Isn't the Creek flowing in the wrong direction?"

I replied, "So it is, I think we went the wrong way!" Where upon one of our inexperienced hikers burst into tears.

TRAIL DATA

Lv Parking Area	0.00 m
Follow Rt 743	
to entrance to Hershey Cemetary	1.29 m
Reach Cemetary	1.67 m
Bear right and follow roads until you pick upup yellow blazes	4.24 m
Bear right to bridge over Swatara Creek	4.33 m
Take 2nd road to the right	5/67 m
Take next road to the right	6.10 m
Take next road to left	6.43 m
Then take next left	7.52 m
Just before Rt 743, bear right and follow road back to parking area	8.62 m

This is a road hike intended for use when other trails become impassable.



SUSQUEHANNA APPALACHIAN TRAIL CLUB, INC.

<u>LIST OFFICERS - 1996-1997</u>		<u>DIRECTORS</u>	
PRESIDENT	Jeffrey R Buehler	CLASS OF 1997	Jon Kohn
VICE-PRES	Jane E Greber		Perry Moreau
SECRETARY	Kathryn H Jones	CLASS OF 1998	Bonnie Booth
TREASURER	Clarence V Fredlund		Jane M Keeney
		IMMEDIATE PAST PRES	Thyra C Sperry
10			19
<u>COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS</u>		<u>DELEGATES TO AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS</u>	
AUDIT	Ronald M Leik	APPALACHIAN TRAIL CONFERENCE, INC.	Jeffrey R Buehler Jane E Greber Kathryn H Jones Vacancy
BUSHWACK BULLETIN	Ralph H Kinter		
CONSERVATION	Richard Martin		
HIKE LEADERSHIP PROGRAM	Susanne Donmoyer Jane E Greber	KEYSTONE TRAILS ASSOCIATION, INC	Clarence V. Fredlund
PUBLIC RELATIONS	Ronald A Baker		
TRAIL MASTER	Jeffrey R Buehler		
WILDERNESS EMERGENCY	Dr Randolph Greber		
		BUSHWACK BULLETIN	
		EDITOR	Ralph H Kinter
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December Saturday	21	9:00 AM	<u>Peter's Mountain Triple Loop Hike</u> E+/Bring lunch & water. One steep ascent and descent. Moderate to fast pace. Leader: Tom Scully, 671-8241	13 miles [25 miles hwy]
December Saturday	21	5:45 PM	<u>Moravian Star Hike, Lititz</u> B/Bring water. Meet at Mushroom Hill and Rt. 322 under the Festival Food sign along Rt. 322. Leaders: Clarence Fredlund, 564-1447 & Robert Keck	5 miles [50 miles hwy]
December Sunday	22	8:30 AM	<u>Caledonia to Old Forge</u> D+/Bring lunch & water. Two significant climbs. Leaders: Frank Bohn, 234-5169 & Will Webster, 671-5913	10 miles [150 miles hwy]
December Saturday	28	9:00 AM	<u>Swatara AT Loop</u> D+/Bring lunch & water. Meet at the Shell Station at the intersection of I-81 and Rt. 39. One significant climb; 3 miles of bushwhacking. Fast pace. Leader: John Stein, 533-3679	10 miles [15 miles hwy]
December Sunday	29	9:00 AM	<u>Darlington Trail - Sterret's Gap to Tower Road</u> D/Bring lunch & water. Leaders: Jeff Buehler & Phil Day, 657-8281	11 miles [30 miles hwy]
January Wednesday	1	10:00 AM	<u>New Year's Day Hike - Wildwood Lake & St. Hospital Grounds</u> B/Bring lunch & water. Meet at Pavilion parking lot at Wildwood Lake. Optional shorter, 4 mile hike around Wildwood Lake. Leader: Clarence Fredlund, 564-1447	6 miles [0 miles hwy]
January Saturday	4	9:00 AM	<u>Clark's Valley Power Line Hike</u> D+/Bring lunch & water. Very steep & rocky. Moderate-fast pace (2.5 mph). Leader: Gail Guers, 232-0387	10 miles [40 miles hwy]
January Sunday	5	11:00 AM	<u>Farm Show Hike</u> A/Walk to the Farm Show and enjoy the famous baked potatoes. Meet at the Pavilion parking lot at Wildwood Lake. Leader: Susanne Donmoyer, 545-5308	3 miles [0 miles hwy]
January Tuesday	7	6:15 PM 7:30 PM	<u>Board Meeting</u> <u>Program Meeting For All Members and Guests</u> Help plan your favorite hikes for the March - Apr. - May Quarter. Meet at the Senior Citizen's Center, 122 Geary St., New Cumberland, PA. <u>Program:</u> Randy Greber & Dan Jackson will show slides of their White Mt. Trip.	
January Sunday	12	10:00 AM 10:45 AM	<u>Big Flat Cross Country Skiing (Or Hiking)</u> Meet at Fisher Plaza Meet at the Big Flat AT Parking Lot C+/Bring Water. Cross country skiing, if the snow is adequate. Call leaders for determination. Soup & hot drinks at the Mayer's cabin. Bring a dish to share. Leaders: Carole Mayer, 259-0924 & Jane Greber, 766-1913	~8 miles [100 miles hwy]
January Wednesday	15	9:00 AM	<u>State Game Lands #246</u> B/Bring water. Meet at the Bullfrog Valley Park behind Hershey Medical Center. Lunch at local restaurant. Leader: John Stein, 533-3679	5 miles [6 miles hwy]

January Friday	17	9:00 AM	<u>Messiah College Hike</u> B+/Bring water. Meet at Messiah College Starry Field Parking Lot at Covered Bridge. Lunch or ice cream in college snack bar. Leaders: Clarence Fredlund, 564-1447 & Melanie DeMartyn, 795-8209	4-5 miles [0 miles hwy]
January Saturday	18	6:00 PM	<u>Winter Night Hike (Clark's Valley - Stony Mt. Area)</u> D+/Bring snacks, water, & flashlight. Leader: John Lenahan, 737-7675	10 miles [30 miles hwy]
January Sunday	19	1:00 PM	<u>Stony Creek - In and Out</u> B/Bring snacks & water. Leader: Carole Martin, 561-2475	6 miles [30 miles hwy]
January Sunday	26	1:00 PM	<u>Memorial Lake</u> B/Bring snacks & water. Leader: Carole Martin, 561-2475	4-5 miles [40 miles hwy]
January Wednesday	29	9:00 AM	<u>Stony Creek Hike</u> A/Bring water. Meet at the parking lot just off Rt. 225 exit in Dauphin. Lunch at local restaurant. Leader: Louise Sis, 774-0196	4-6 miles [0 miles hwy]
February Saturday	1	9:00 AM	<u>White Rocks to Mt. Holly Preserve</u> E+/Bring lunch & water. Four significant climbs with an 1100' elevation change. Undulating, partly rocky terrain. Moderate-fast pace. Leader: Tom Scully, 671-8241	12 miles [50 miles hwy]
February Sunday	2	1:00 PM	<u>Franklinton Circle Hike</u> B/Bring snacks & water. Leader: Bob Keyes, 763-7743	5-7 mile [80 miles hwy]
February Saturday	8	8:30 AM	<u>Old Darlington Trail Circle Hike</u> D+/Bring lunch & water. Moderate-fast pace (2.5 mph) Leader: Gail Guers, 232-0387	12 mile [20 miles hwy]
February Sunday	9	1:00 PM	<u>AT - Boiling Springs</u> B/Bring snacks & water. In and out hike. Leader: Janet Eshleman, 774-1318	5-7 mile [40 miles hwy]
February Sunday	16	10:00 AM	<u>Lamb's Gap Circle Hike</u> C+/Bring lunch & water. Optional cross country skiing if there's enough snow. Call leader for determination. Optional dinner (swine & dine) stop afterwards. Leader: Jim Oxley, 731-9471	7 mile [15 miles hwy]
February Saturday	22	8:00 AM	<u>Swatara Gap to Rausch Gap</u> E+/Bring lunch & water. Loop hike over many marked and unmarked trails. Four major climbs (2,400' elevation change). Rugged terrain. Moderate-fast pace. Leader: Tom Scully, 671-8241	14 mil [50 miles hw]
February Sunday	23	9:00 AM	<u>Rausch Gap Circle Hike</u> D+/Bring lunch & water. Leader: Bob Keyes, 763-7743	10 mil [70 miles hw]

- | | | | | |
|----------------------|----|--------------------|--|----------------------------|
| February
Thursday | 27 | 9:00 AM | <u>Broad St. Market & Fire Museum Hike</u>
B/Bring water. Meet at the Pavilion parking lot at Wildwood Lake. Bring \$2.50 for museum admission. Lunch at local restaurant.
Leader: Susanne Donmoyer, 545-5308 | 4-5 miles
[0 miles hwy] |
| March
Saturday | 1 | 8:30 AM | <u>Rt. 325 to Sand Spring Trail & Return</u>
E+/Bring lunch & water. Very strenuous with two significant climbs. Fast pace.
Leader: Gail Guers, 232-0387 | 14 miles
[40 miles hwy] |
| March
Sunday | 2 | 9:00 AM
9:45 AM | <u>AT - Big Flat to Pine Grove</u>
Meet at Fisher Plaza
Meet at the Furnace parking lot - Pine Grove St. Park
C+/Bring lunch & water.
Leader: Dan Jackson, 924-3931 | 9 miles
[100 miles hwy] |
| March 22
Saturday | | | <u>SATC Annual Spring Banquet</u>
This annual event will be held again at Harding's Restaurant in Camp Hill. Final details will be in the in next bulletin. | |

KUDOS

Thanks are due Susanne Donmoyer for her work in repainting the wooden PenDot A.T. signs at the PA Rtes 225 and 325 road crossings. You can actually read 'Appalachian Trail' on them now.

And thanks are also due Ron Baker, our Public Relations Committee Chairperson for his very thorough job in keeping the media abreast of hiking opportunities we offer to the public. Many new members have come to learn of our Club through Ron's efforts. After five years of continuous dedication, Ron has requested to be relieved of this duty, starting next April, and is willing to train someone else in the job. (See item under the **Bulletin Board** in this issue.)

Jeff Buehler, President

CAUTIONARY

1996-97 HUNTING SEASONS

Dec 2 -- Dec 14 Buck Season
Dec 16-- Dec 18 Antherless
Dec 26-- Jan 11 Flintlock & Bow
May 3 --May 31 Spring Gobbler

Hikers: Please be conderate of the hunters out there. And remember that, although hikers can't be fined for not wearing blaze orange, they could be mistaken for game and shot.

SO BE CAREFUL

CODES FOR THE HIKES

- | | | |
|-------|-----------------|--|
| A - - | Easy | Hikes of up to six miles, with very little hill climbing. [Excellent for beginners.] |
| B - | Fairly easy | Hikes up to six miles, with some climbing. [Good for beginners.] |
| B+ - | Moderate | Hikes up to six miles, with more difficult climbs. |
| C - | Fairly moderate | Hikes of 7 to 9 miles, with very little climbing. |
| C+ - | Strenuous | Hikes of 7 to 9 miles, with sevrsl significant climbs. |
| D - | More strenuous | Hikes of 10 to 12 miles, with very little climbing. |
| D+ - | Very strenuous | Hikes of 10 to 12 miles, with several significant climbs. |
| E - | Difficult | Hikes of over 12 miles. |
| E+ - | Very difficult | Hikes of over 12 miles on very jagged terrain. |

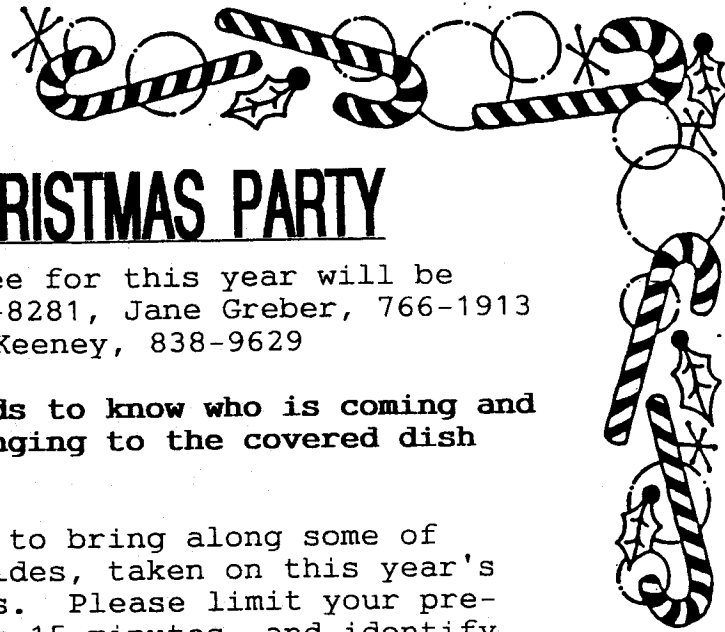
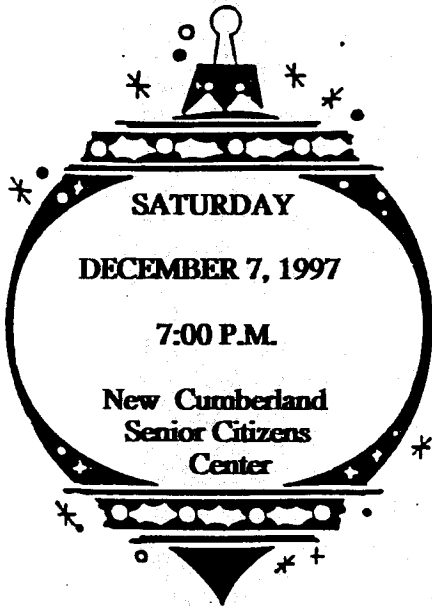
In addition, the leaders should describe the pace and footing, where this is essential, such as: Easy with moderate or fast pace; or, Easy with nature study stops; or, Good footpath.; or, Rocky and rough; etc.

SMOKING GUIDELINES

The S.A.T.C. prefers that hikers refrain from the use of tobacco products during club activities.

Smokers are responsible for damage to the forests.

Pack out all waste materials.



ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Party Committee for this year will be
 Jeff Buehler, 657-8281, Jane Greber, 766-1913
 Jane Keeney, 838-9629

The Committee needs to know who is coming and what they are bringing to the covered dish supper.

Members are asked to bring along some of their favorite slides, taken on this year's hikes or vacations. Please limit your presentation to about 15 minutes, and identify your slides with your name. Be prepared to explain what the slides are about.

NEW MEMBERS

Please join us in welcoming these new members:

NAME
Apps, William G & John A Bodnyk, Deborah & Bruce W Brennan, Connie Bush, Jeanette Conrad, Marian M
Gordon, William S & Doris R Kulp, Joan H Magaro, Lisa McCarthy, James E & Lynn L Morales, Tina M
Moran, Rosanne Evans Paul, William T Persico, Maria Pinsler, Pat Reed, Charles & Diana
Semasek, Gerald Seneca, Terry Smith, Jennie J Stewart, Virginia H Strouse, Frank
Thomas, Kelly Wagner, Elinor

FROM THE PRESIDENT

CELLULAR PHONES: I recently read an article in the WALL STREET JOURNAL newspaper entitled: "Annoying in the City, Cell Phones are Hell in the Wilderness." The article reported on the virtues of the latest in popular hiking and trekking gear: Cellular phones and satellite global positioning systems, or GPS.

It seems more and more people are taking this portable communications equipment to the back country in lieu of maps, guidebooks and basic trail skills—and getting into trouble.

In New Hampshire's White Mountains, rangers and rescuers are complaining of unexpected side effects to the use of these devices:— more nuisance calls and false alarms emergencies from inexperienced hikers that become lost are getting phone calls from people in the woods asking for rescues in non-emergency situations, or, worse, from people wanting advice on how to operate their own backpacking equipment.

AN EMERGENCY ON OUR SECTION OF TRAIL:

This article aroused my attention because of a recent incident on our club's section of the Appalachian Trail, where four inexperienced day hikers were caught out on a rainy day/night without adequate equipment and apparel and had to be rescued by State Police and local volunteer firemen. These hikers were "scouting" for a hike they were planning on leading for a local youth group. They were ill-prepared for their hike, lacking proper rain gear, flashlights, and/or knowledge of the trail and its difficulties.

Families at home notified authorities of the missing hikers later that evening and a rescue mission was mounted, that included the cutting of the gate at the PA Rte 225 Trail-head parking area. The hikers were found and escorted out of the woods the next morning by the volunteer firemen. They were cold and wet, but, hopefully, aware of what they did wrong. They indicated they would not be leading the youth group on the hike as the trail was much too difficult.

All of this leads to the point that proper preparedness before attempting a hike can not only provide for a much more pleasing experience in the outing, but could also save the time and expense of needless rescues by agencies and volunteers. It is very important for the novice hiker to seek out the information and guidance needed before attempting what could become a very unpleasant experience on the trail.

BENEFITS OF ORGANIZED HIKING CLUBS:

Fortunately new hikers can obtain the guidance they

need from trail organizations such as ours. We have organized hikes with experienced leaders and participants that are only too willing to share their accumulated trail savvy. And, as a club, we do provide training from time to time on how to become a successful hike leader.

As a club, we should continue to help educate those new to our favorite recreation, in the proper use of the trails and trail facilities, as well as in preparedness of themselves in the rigors of hiking. I encourage everyone in the Club to help out in our endeavors to teach proper trail etiquette: **"LEAVE NO TRACE" practices in the backcountry**, and self-preparedness for our new members and guests and to the general public in the use of hiking trails and facilities.

STORM EMERGENCY IN SHANANDOAH NATIONAL PARK: As many of you know by now, our scheduled work week with the Mid-Atlantic Trail Crew was cancelled due to the need for the crew to help out in the Shenandoah National Park after the destruction and flooding caused by Hurricane Fran in early September. On Friday, Sep 6, 1996, 12 inches of rain was recorded at Big Meadows Campground. The entire Park was closed to everyone, with thousands of trees down throughout the Park.

S.A.T.C. will apply for a week of crew work again next Autumn. A small "word of mouth" work party was organized to work on our Peter's Mountain Shelter, on Sep 22-23, during which we rebuilt the front step and restained some of the shelter floor.

KTA MEETING NEXT SPRING: S.A.T.C. will host the hiking program at next Spring's Keystone Trails Association meeting at Camp Hebron, located just east of Halifax, along Peter's Mountain, on the weekend of Apr 4-6, 1997. Mark your calendars now for this coming event.

There will be need for quite a few hike leaders for that weekend, as some 12-15 hikes will be necessary for the usual large turnout from across the State that attend these meetings. I hope our hike leaders respond favorably to the challenge of putting on a great hiking program. More detailed information will be in the Spring issue of the BUSHWACK BULLETIN. Anyone interested in leading a hike or excursion that weekend can contact me at 657-8281.

Happy hiking everyone. See ya at the Xmas Party,

Jeff Buehler, President

BACKWARD GLANCES

WYOMING/MONTANA SUMMER 1996

From start to finish, we couldn't have had a better time. Spectacular weather followed us with only one evening shower during the two week period. The profusion of wild flowers welcomed all of us to the Tetons and the rest of the trip was up hill, literally, from there. Great food, terrific camp sites (in Yellowstone we had a large part of a campground all to ourselves), breathtaking scenery, and, of course, wonderful trails.

Particularly memorable was the drive over the Beartooth highway (I have a picture of the bear's tooth) from Yellowstone to Red Lodge, MT. But what made the trip so successful was the congenial group of people who participated. Everyone contributed to its success and I'd like to thank you all for making it the best trip yet.

Another trip, described elsewhere in this issue of the BUSHWACK BULLETIN, will be scheduled for next Summer, with more wilderness and backpacking orientation.

Jon Kohn

SAFTY ALERT

With this issue of the BUSHWACK BULLETIN, we are entering Deer Hunting Season, which runs from Dec 2 to 21 and Dec 26 to Jan 11.

We urge all hikers who are on the trails during the week days, to use extreme caution. Hunters are required to wear 250 square inches of fluorescent orange when hunting. It might be a good idea for our hikers to do likewise when hiking during the week during this hazzardous season.

While, by the time you receive this issue, the fall turkey season is past, but we still have the Spring 1997 Gobbler season in the offing from May 3 to 31, 1997. This, too, is a hazardous season. Not only are hunters required to wear the 250 square inches of fluorescent orange, but they are urged to eliminate red, white, blue, and black from their clothing, as turkeys wear this colors, and this increases the dangers of becoming a target.

We urge all of our members to be especially cautious during these seasons.

OUR FAVORITE HIKES

We regret to say that we are running out of ideas for "Our Favorite Hikes," and we solicit the help of our readers. We did this once before, and Bob Keys and Jane Keeney came to our assistance. Now, we appeal to our readers once more.

If you know of a hike that will be of interest to our readers, get in touch with the Editor. It don't have to be in the immediate area, but you must be able to describe the hike, and help the Editor plot it on a Quad.

If you can assist with this, call the Editor, at 545-4089.

BACKWARD GLANCES COLUMN REVIVED

When Earl Shaffer, our first Editor, organized the "BUSHWACK BULLETIN" he established two features: "LOOKING FORWARD" which is basicly our schedule, and "BACKWARD GLANCES," in which the hike leaders and/or the members would write up the trips.

Backward Glances was a very popular column, but somewhere along the line, one of the Editors saw fit to eliminate it. With this issue, we are reviving this feature, and asking the members to feel free to write up any interesting hike, vacation or outing, for the benefit of our readers. It will be published under this column.

DEADLINES FOR THE NEXT BUSHWACK BULLETIN

ARTICLES Jan 11, 1997
HIKE SCHEDULE: Jan 18, 1997

The next issue of the BUSHWACK BULLETIN is scheduled to arrive about Feb 20, 1997. Should you fail to receive your copy by Feb 22, call Clarence Fredlund, 564-1447.

DCNR CELEBRATES
A YEAR OF STEWARDSHIP

By John C Oliver
Secretary of the Department of
Conservation and Natural Resources

One year ago, the future got brighter for Pennsylvania's natural resources and community conservation programs. In fulfilling a major campaign promise, Gov. Tom Ridge signed legislation creating the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) effective July 1, 1995. As a result, our state parks, state forests, rivers, greenways, trails, community parks and heritage areas gained a cabinet-level voice. I am proud to be the first leader of this great new agency, an agency that managessome of the finish public lands and waters in the country.

Even if you aren't familiar with DCNR, there's a good chance you've had some involvement with the lands we oversee and the programs we operate. More than likely there's a state park within 25 miles of your home. You might enjoy the thousands of miles of recreational trails we have on our 2.1 million acres of state forest land. Chances are, a community in your county got a DCNR grant this year to help build a playground, upgrade a pool, or protect vital open space.

The scope of this new agency may surprise you. DCNR is about conservation of the natural integrity of our state parks and forests, as well as jobs, tourism, cultural heritage, communities and recreation. DCNR touches many lives--from helping communities realize their local recreation and conservation goals, to playing a key role in the tourism industry.

Our first year has been one of action. Pennsylvanians have entrusted us as the stewards of our 2.4 million acres of state parks and state forest lands. We take that mission seriously. Being good stewards means taking care of what you have. For years the state's park and forest facilities have not had the full attention they deserved. They were in the shadows of the state's environmental regulatory programs. Now, they're receiving full sunlight, and we are fixing what had been neglected for many decades.

Last November, Gov. Ridge launched Project Stewardship, a \$100 million effort to restore and improve facilities in our state parks and forests over four years. This is the largest investment in the history of our state parks and forests. In our first year we undertook 289 construction projects under Project Stewardship--everything from bridges to roads, from marinas to swimming pools.

As stewards we must also protect our wonderful resources so they continue to provide benefits for years to come. To that end, in our first year we designated eight new natural areas in our parks, announced the formation of an Ecosystem Advisory Committee, hired a biodiversity coordinator, and began implementation of the Forest Regeneration Fund to ensure the long-term health of our state forest lands.

Another major responsibility of this agency is to help communities with local recreation and conservation projects. In December, Gov. Ridge launched our Community Conservation Partnership Initiative that provides technical assistance, training and \$75 million in grants over four years. In our first year as an agency, we provided nearly \$18 million to help communities build playgrounds, acquire land for open space; convert abandoned rail beds to trails; develop heritage areas; and protect river environments.

The future looks equally as busy and bright. We'll continue to work with the Department of Community and Economic Development to increase visitation to our parks, forests and heritage areas, while preserving the outdoor places valued by our visitors. We'll launch new publications; add to our World Wide Web page; implement a new centralized reservation system for our parks; expand our forest stewardship and environmental education programs; and look for more ways to improve our services and programs.

We have just begun our journey. Through strong partnerships with community groups, organizations, and business, we can accomplish our goals of protecting natural resources, fostering economic development, and providing local conservation assistance. We will work together to ensure that our precious community and natural resources are enhanced through careful planning for the future. With a firm commitment to DCNR's mission, its priorities and its initiatives, Gov. Ridge has ensured the Commonwealth's natural treasures will provide huge rewards for centuries to come.

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Editor's Note: This was supposed to have been published in our last BUSHWACK BULLETIN, but arrived just after we went to press.

At this time we should like to emphasize once again, that our deadlines for articles for the BUSHWACK BULLETIN are just that. The deadlines are firm, and late arrivals will have to wait for the next issue, if they do not become stale meanwhile. Editor

The BULLETIN BOARD

PITTSBURGH ALL NIGHT MOONLIGHT HIKE

SATURDAY JUNE 21, 1997

Mark your calendars for this awesome event that will give you a pleasant, lasting memory of Pittsburgh in the summer of 1997. In the past, all night hikes have been enjoyed by many and the Committee for this one will spend their time, talent and resources over the next six months to make this a worthwhile trip.

Final details will be published in the next newsletter and you may contact Gail Guers, 232-0387, or Shirley Bottiglia, 564-8268, for further information. Your suggestions are welcome.

T Conrad Kaufhold
Committee Member

NEW PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIR PERSON NEEDED

Ron Baker, our current Public Relations Committee Chairperson, has decided to step down after five years on the job. Ron has stated that he'll continue in the position until next April to give someone else time to learn the ropes. The function of the Public Relations Committee is to notify the media concerning Club events.

If you are interested, please call Ron Baker at 717-262-8311.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

This year's Nominating Committee will be:
Frank Bohn, 234-5169 Randy Sears, 737-2924
Thyra Sperry, Chairperson, 258-5261

Any club member interested in serving on the Board of Directors of the Susquehanna Appalachian Trail Club may contact the Nominations Committee members listed above.

MONTANA TRIP SUMMER OF 1997

The trip next Summer will focus on Montana. We will start in Red Lodge, MT, and explore the more remote areas with day hiking and/or a 3 or 4 day backpack trip in the East Rosebud Lake area. The next destination will be the Bob Marshall Wilderness in central Montana, with another 3 day backpack trip into the region. Finally, we will travel to Glacier National Park, spending a week day hiking and scheduling another backpacking trip up the Belly River Valley.

Participants should be prepared for much more primitive conditions (ie. no more showers, Laundries and cafeterias right at the campgrounds. Camping will generally be at U.S. Forest Service Campgrounds in back country locations which provide only pit toilets and cold water. In addition, hikers should be in excellent physical condition, since we will be day hiking for longer distances (13-17 miles) and backpacking in mountainous regions.

One planning session will be held in the the Spring. The trip will be scheduled for the last two weeks in July. If you are interested in participating, call me at 697-4953

Jon Kohn

CORRECTION

The Club President's phone number as listed on the inside cover of the new 1996 Annual Membership List is in error.

The correct phone number is 657-8281.

We regret any inconvenience caused by this error.

dale