

# BUSHWACK BULLETIN

VOLUME 48— No 1

[www.libertynet.org/susqatc](http://www.libertynet.org/susqatc)

MARCH 2002—May 2002

OUR OBJECTIVES: GROUP HIKING + TRAIL MAINTENANCE + OUTDOOR RECREATION

## IMPORTANT DUES NOTICE

PLEASE CHECK THE DUES EXPIRY DATE PRINTED ABOVE YOUR NAME ON THE ADDRESS LABEL. IF IT READS 4/1/02, YOU NEED TO PAY AT LEAST ONE YEARS DUES BY MARCH 31, 2002.

You are encouraged to pay dues for more than one year to reduce the paper work for yourself and the Club. To pay your dues, please use the form on the last page of this BULLETIN. Please sign the form and print very clearly your name(s) and other information requested.

- March 3**    **B+**    **Peters Mountain** Significant climb to the top of Peters Mountain, walking the AT. Great over-looks of Duncannon and Susquehanna River, stopping at Clarks Ferry Shelter. Bring water and lunch. Alternate meeting place: 10:00 A.M. at the east side Clarks Ferry Bridge parking area. Leader: Sharon Brumbaugh, 770-0705  
Sunday    5 miles  
9:30 AM    35 hwy miles
- March 9**    **E+**    **AT – Pine Grove Furnace to PA 94 and back.** Faster pace hike on the AT with about 2200 elevation gain. Bring lunch and water.  
Saturday    21.8 miles  
8:00 AM    50 hwy miles    Leader: Mark Press, 367-2763
- March 17**    **C+**    **Sunset Rocks Hike** Moderate pace. Some rock scrambling over boulders. Copperhead habitat. Bring lunch and water. Alternate meeting place: 9:45 A.M. at the Pine Grove stack furnace parking lot.  
Sunday    7+ miles  
9:00 AM    75 hwy miles    Leaders: Pat Harhi, 697-0648 and John Zinn, 558-0284
- March 19**    **B**    **Looking for Spring Hike** Hike on the Greenbelt to South Harrisburg and return. Bring water. Lunch at a local restaurant. *Meeting place: Greenbelt parking lot on Rt 441 (behind East Mall).*  
Tuesday    6 to 7 miles  
10:00 AM    Zero hwy miles    Leader: Susanne Donmoyer, 545-5308
- March 24**    **C+**    **Stone Tower Trail** Significant climbs to the top of Shard Mountain and over lots of rocks to the Stone Tower. Then, hike along the AT and down to see the General, a rusting steam shovel. Very steep descent down the mountain. Bring lunch and water.  
Sunday    8 miles  
9:30 AM
- March 24-29**    **E or E+**    **Appalachian Trail Hike Trip** See details on page 4.

THE BUSHWACK BULLETIN is published quarterly in the months of February, May, August, and November by the Susquehanna Appalachian Trail Club, Inc. P.O. Box 61001, Harrisburg, PA 17106-1001.

- April 2**  
Tuesday  
6:30 PM  
**BOARD MEETING**  
**Quarterly Board Meeting** Members are welcome to attend. Location: East Shore Area Library, Room B, 4501 Ethel St., Harrisburg, PA . Tel. No.: 652-9380
- April 7**  
Sunday  
11:00 AM  
**D+**  
10 miles  
0 hwy miles  
**Colonel Denning Circle Hike** 2.5 to 3 mph pace, hilly, one significant ascent of 1200 feet to Flat Rock, one significant descent of 1100 feet on Cider Path. Bring rain gear, lunch and water. *Meeting place: Col Denning State Park Recreation Center*  
Leader: Karen Balaban 234-3357
- April 9**  
Tuesday  
7:00 PM  
**MEMBERS AND GUESTS MEETING**  
**Spring Meeting for All Members and Guests**  
Following a special reception including refreshments for new , prospective and current members , hike scheduling for the June-July-August quarter will take place. The evening **Program** will feature a slide show by Samuel Harvey showing "Some Favorite Hikes" including the Chinese Wall.  
**Location: West Shore Senior Citizens Center, 122 Geary Avenue, New Cumberland**
- April 13**  
Saturday  
1:00 PM  
**B+ or D+**  
3-4 or 9 miles  
30 hwy miles  
**Installation of Officers and Directors – Hawk Rock** Climb the AT to a beautiful view at Hawk Rock where the Club was founded. Then return by the same route or continue on for a longer 9-mile hike. Bring snacks and water.  
Leaders: Katie Jones, 249-6727 and Barbara Harvey, 766-7868
- April 14**  
Sunday  
9:00 AM  
**B**  
6 miles  
125 hwy miles  
**French Creek State Park** Joint hike with Chester County Hiking Club. Our group will be stopping at Hopewell Furnace for a tour prior to hike. Our day will begin with a tour of Hopewell Village. Bring \$4 for entrance fee or a National Parks or Golden Eagle pass; also, small contribution to driver for turnpike fee (approx 75 cents). The group will leave Fisher Plaza promptly at 9:00. Bring lunch and water. Leader: Bonnie Booth, 533-3566
- April 16**  
Tuesday  
9:00 AM  
**B**  
6 miles  
20 hwy miles  
**Cumberland Valley in Spring** Hike from Boiling Springs to Lisburn Road and return. Bring water. Lunch at a local restaurant. *Meeting place: Camp Hill Mall at Theater.*  
Leader: Susanne Donmoyer, 545-5308
- April 17**  
Wednesday  
9:00 AM  
**B**  
6 miles  
8 hwy miles  
**Sherman's Creek Area** Fairly flat terrain. Bring lunch and water.  
*Meeting place: Summerdale Shopping Plaza, near grocery store.*  
Leader: Louise Sis, 774-0196
- April 21**  
Sunday  
9:30 AM  
**E**  
14 miles  
16 hwy miles  
**Rte 274 (Conococheague) to Rte 641 (Rising Mountain)** 2.5 to 3 mph pace, rocky/rough terrain, hike through the Hemlocks to the Tuscarora Trail. Bring rain gear, lunch and water.  
*Meeting place: Rte 75 and Turnpike Exit 14 (Willow Hill)*  
Leader: Karen Balaban, 234-3357
- April 27**  
Saturday  
9:00 AM  
**B+**  
5-6 miles  
**Kelly's Run**  
Bring lunch and water. No sneakers.  
Leaders: Bonnie Booth ,533-3566 and Fran DeMillon
- April 27**  
Saturday  
6:30 PM  
**D+**  
10 miles  
30 hwy miles  
**Full Moon Anniversary Hike--Stony Mountain Fire Tower**  
Bring a flashlight, water, and hors d'oeuvres to share. Plan to stay a while and watch the moon rise over the fire tower. One very long, rocky, very strenuous climb. Moderate to fast pace. Leaders: Jane and Randy Greber, 766-1913
- April 28**  
Sunday  
1:30 PM  
**B+**  
6 miles  
50 hwy miles  
**Bluebell Hike** Hike on the AT from Route 850 to Bernheisel Bridge Road (Scott Farm). Two moderate climbs and one steep descent. Bring snacks and water.  
Leader: Frank Bohn, 234-5169

126  
5/15

- May 4** Saturday 9:00 AM **E** 12.4 miles 0-80 hwy miles **Tuscarora Trail: Mountain Green to Cowans Gap** Meet at Cowans Gap State Park main parking lot. Will NOT meet at Fisher Plaza. Joint hike with Sierra Club, Metropolitan Washington Regional Outings Program. Optional meeting place: 8:00 am at Colonel Denning camping loop (call leader to confirm). Moderate pace with one significant climb, one significant rocky stretch on Tuscarora Mountain, then good footway down Allens Valley on the historic Forbes Road. Bring lunch, power snacks and sufficient water. Optional camping at/near Colonel Denning; contact leader before March 31 for details. Leader: Peter Fleszar, 583-2093, [pfleszar@epix.net](mailto:pfleszar@epix.net)
- May 5** Sunday 9:00 AM **C+** 8.6 miles 0 hwy miles **Tuscarora Trail: Cowpens Rd to Colonel Denning** Meet at Tuscarora Trail parking lot, PA 233 at south entrance to Colonel Denning State Park. Will NOT meet at Fisher Plaza. Joint hike with Sierra Club, Metropolitan Washington Regional Outings Program. Moderate pace, occasional rocks, several short climbs, steep rocky descent. Bring lunch, power snacks, and sufficient water. Optional camping at/near Colonel Denning; contact leader before March 31 for details. Leader: Peter Fleszar, 583—2093, [pfleszar@epix.net](mailto:pfleszar@epix.net)
- May 7** Tuesday 9:00 AM **B** 6 miles 20 hwy miles **Shelter Hike** Hike from Rt 225 to club shelter and return. Bring water. Lunch at a local restaurant. *Meeting place: Wildwood Pavilion parking lot.* Leader: Susanne Donmoyer, 545-5308
- May 8** Wednesday 5:30 PM **C** 7 miles 0 hwy miles **After Work Hike in the Boyd Conservation Area** Moderate pace loop hike on good trails with about 800 feet total elevation gain. Bring snacks, water and a flashlight. *Meeting place: the Boyd Big Tree Conservation Area parking lot off of PA Route 443 about 2 miles from the Route 322 Fort Hunter Exit.* Leader: Mark Press, 367-2763
- May 12** Sunday 9:00 AM **B+ or C+** 4 or 8 miles 60 hwy miles **Pennsylvania Hiking Trails Week - Kings Gap Figure 8 Hike** Description: Celebrate the very first Pennsylvania Hiking Trails Week, as proclaimed by the Keystone Trails Association and the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and celebrated across the state. This hike starts in the middle of the "8" with a four mile loop back to the parking lot followed by an optional second loop. Enjoy streamside hiking, vistas and at least two good climbs. Bring lunch and water. *Alternate meeting place: 10:00 AM at the Pond Use Area parking lot at Kings Gap Environmental Education and Training Center.* Leader: Katie Jones, 249-6727
- May 14** Tuesday 6:00 PM **A** 3 miles 0 hwy miles **New Cumberland Ice Cream Hike** All are welcome on this easy-paced hike for families. *Meeting place: 1481 Simpson Ferry Road, New Cumberland* Leaders: Louise and Rick Sis, 774-0196
- May 15** Wednesday 5:30 PM **C+** 8 miles 0 hwy miles **Strenuous After-Work Hike—Hawk Rock** Fast pace with one strenuous ascent and descent. Bring snacks, water and a flashlight. *Meet at the base of Hawk Rock in Duncannon. Will not meet at Fisher Plaza.* Leaders: Jane and Randy Greber, 766-1913
- May 17** Friday 6:45 PM **BUSHWACK BULLETIN MAILING** **Many Volunteers Needed to Assemble Bushwack Bulletin for Mailing** If you can help or have questions, please contact Susanne Donmoyer at 545-5308. Advance notice would be appreciated. The assembly will be done at the Cleve J. Fredricksen Library, 100 N 19th St., Camp Hill.
- May 19** Sunday 9:00 AM **C+** 7 miles 90 hwy miles **Gettysburg Mother's Day Hike** Moderate pace hike over the site of the famous battle. Some pavement walking. Bring lunch and water. *Alternate meeting place: 10:00 A.M. at the observation tower parking lot opposite the Eisenhower Farm.* Leader: Sam Barker, 761-8177
- May 22** Wednesday 5:00 PM **B** 5.2 or 6.3 miles 8 hwy miles **AT After-Work Hike: Rte 850 to Scott Farm** 2 to 2 ¼ mph pace, rough terrain. Bring flashlight, water and snacks. Hike will end after dark. *Meet at Scott Farm.* Leader: Karen Balaban. 234-3357
- May 24-27** **B to E** 5 to 15 miles **Joint Club Weekend at Harold Baer Rustic Cabin** See details on page 4.

## DETAILS OF MULTIPLE DAY TRIPS

### March 24 to 29    **Appalachian Trail Hiking Trip**

A series of hikes is being planned for March 24-29 on the Appalachian Trail in Virginia. The hikes will go northward from Route 81, Map 2 Wythe Range District and Map 3 Blacksburg Ranger District. The hikes will vary in length from 12-17 miles per day. Plan on strenuous days especially if we are hit with snow. Accommodations will be in motels. Breakfasts and lunches are on your own. Suppers will be in local restaurants, unless a cottage or cabin is secured before then.

If you are interested, send a self-addressed stamped (34 cents) business envelop to Mary Domanski, 106 Villa Maria Road, West Seneca, NY 14224 before March 15. Deadline for reservations is March 20.

### May 24 to 27    **Joint Club Weekend at HAROLD BAER RUSTIC CABIN near WILLOW HILL, PA**

Meet Papa Baer (Lancaster Hiking Club), and enjoy hiking with members of other PA hiking clubs. Cabin space is limited; tenting possible; outhouse; no shower, MUCH GOOD FOOD. Hikes will be many and varied—5 to 10 miles in Black Log Valley area.

To get details and reserve space which is to be limited:  
Contact Harold Baer, 551 North Pine St., Lancaster, PA 17603; Tel. No.: 717-394-0298

### UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED, all hikes on WEEKENDS and HOLIDAYS 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 East Gate Office Center on 7<sup>th</sup> St. opposite the Herr St. underpass. Five additional minutes will be allowed at the alternate site.

If you ride with someone, you should give the driver 5 cents times the highway mileage shown to help defray the cost of gas.

NO PETS ALLOWED

## CODES FOR THE HIKES

| Code | Short Description               | Miles    | Climbs              |
|------|---------------------------------|----------|---------------------|
| A    | Easy[Excellent for Beginners]   | Up to 6  | Very little         |
| B    | Fairly Easy[Good for Beginners] | Up to 6  | Some Easy           |
| B+   | Moderate                        | Up to 6  | More Difficult      |
| C    | Fairly Moderate                 | 7 to 9   | Very little         |
| C+   | Strenuous                       | 7 to 9   | Several Significant |
| D    | More Strenuous                  | 10 to 12 | Very Little         |
| D+   | Very Strenuous                  | 10 to 12 | Several Significant |
| E    | Difficult                       | Over 12  | Very little         |
| E+   | Very Difficult                  | Over 12  | Very Rugged         |

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

### SMOKING GUIDE LINES

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.

## From the President

### SATC Banquet . . .

This year we have a very special speaker. Larry Johnson, author of Ghosts of Everest will be the main attraction at our banquet March 23<sup>rd</sup>. The food is always good (thanks to Elizabethtown College and banquet coordinator Bonnie Booth) and the Awards Committee (Jane Greber and Barbara Harvey) is hard at work, so be sure to send in your reservation as soon as possible.

### Save 34¢ . . .

Mail your dues, renewal application and banquet reservation form in the same envelope. This saves a check too. All memberships expire at the end of March each year.

### Picnic . . .

Save July 21<sup>st</sup> on your calendar or you could miss Clarence Fredlund's wonderful BBQ, tasty treats provided by Club members and the chance to hike around the lake at Little Buffalo State Park. Watch for an article in the next bulletin.

### National Trails Day . . .

The new Victoria Trail should be complete in time for a dedication on Saturday, June 1<sup>st</sup> in celebration of National Trails Day. The day will, of course, involve hiking. Two hikes, in fact, with your choice of length. .

### Wilderness First Aid Training . . .

Dates are March 2-3 and June 15-16. Please contact me at 249-6727 or [jonesk@dickinson.edu](mailto:jonesk@dickinson.edu) if you are interested.

### KTA Reps . . .

John Stein and I have been elected as "at large" representatives to the Keystone Trails Association. SATC board member Kris Kyler will now be the SATC representative. Thanks, Kris!

### Pennsylvania Hiking Trails Week . . .

May 11 - 19 has been designated Pennsylvania Hiking Trails Week. KTA and DCNR will work with volunteers to celebrate our beautiful trails. See the hike schedule for a special hike on the 12<sup>th</sup> which we hope will promote hiking and adequately mark this occasion.

### The best kind of mail . . .

SATC received thanks from ATC for our donation of profits from the 2001 Conference, and from Appalachian Trail thru-hiker Julie "Samwise" Crawford who let us know that our trail maintenance efforts are appreciated.

### Outreach . . .

Jane Greber, Maura George and many other SATC volunteers continue to introduce children from urban Harrisburg to the outdoors. They're planning special events and a full hiking and backpacking schedule this season.

### The SATC Board Supports . . .

1. Keeping the North Country Trail as primarily for hiking and backpacking.
2. The designation by the Keystone Trails Association of some Pennsylvania trails as endangered or threatened, highlighting the fragile nature of the landowner agreements that keep many of them open.

### The SATC Board Opposes . . .

1. House bill H2181 which could over-ride the PA Game Commission's efforts to reduce the over-use of Game Lands by horses and bicycles.
2. House bill H2161 which calls on DCNR to open 100 miles of All Terrain Vehicle trails each year - an act that would damage the flora, the fauna and the tranquility of these areas.

### Mapping the Trail . . .

Vernon "Del Doc" Vernier is refining the map of the Appalachian Trail with a high-end Global Positioning System. If you are able to support this project by acting as a shuttle driver or providing overnight accommodations, please call Matt Robinson, ATC GIXS Specialist. phone 304-535-4010, email [mrobinson@atconf.org](mailto:mrobinson@atconf.org).

Katie Jones

# REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

## BYLAWS CONCERNING THE NOMINATION AND ELECTION of OFFICERS and DIRECTORS

## COMMITTEE REPORT

### Section 1 NOMINATIONS

The President shall appoint a Nominating Committee, which shall be chaired by a non-officer member of the Board of Directors, not later than sixty (60) days before the next succeeding Annual Meeting. The Nominating Committee shall notify all Club Members at least thirty (30) days before the Annual Meeting of the nominated persons. The Nominating Committee is limited to one nomination for each officer and non-officer directorship. Additional nominations, which are reserved to the membership at large, may be submitted in writing to the Nominating Committee until one week prior to the Annual Meeting. No nominations are to be made nor accepted from the floor at the Annual Meeting.

In accordance with the Constitution and Bylaws of the Susquehanna Appalachian Trail Club, the Nominating Committee, appointed by the President, submits the following slate of Officer and Non-officer Directors for your consideration to serve during the coming year.

|                |                   |
|----------------|-------------------|
| President      | Kathryn H. Jones  |
| Vice President | Barbara Harvey    |
| Secretary      | Richard A. Martin |
| Treasurer      | Molly L. Newberry |

|                   |               |
|-------------------|---------------|
| Directors         | Peter Fleszar |
| (For 2 Year Term) | John Lenahan  |
|                   | Sylvia Miller |

### Section 2 ELECTION of OFFICER and NON-OFFICER DIRECTORS

Election shall be at the Annual Meeting. If there are more than one nominee for any officer or non-officer directorship, the elections shall be by secret ballot and by plurality vote.

In accord with the bylaws, any member desiring to submit additional nominations may do so by submitting the nomination in writing to any member of the Nominating Committee so as to reach the member of the Committee by Saturday, March 16, 2002.

E. Sam Barker, Chair  
38 Scarsdale Drive  
Camp Hill, PA 17011-7938

Louise Sis  
1481 Simpson Ferry Road  
New Cumberland, PA 17070

Thyra C. Sperry  
740 Oak Hill Dr.  
Boiling Springs, PA 17007-9624

### Section 3 TERM of OFFICE

Officers shall be elected annually, but the President and Vice President shall in no event serve more than two consecutive terms in their respective offices. The Secretary and Treasurer may serve successive one year terms without limitation. Non-officer members of the Board of Directors shall be elected to serve a two year term, but they shall in no event serve more than two consecutive elected terms.

## Ralph Kinter Named Conservationist of the Year

SATC's own Ralph Kinter was named Conservationist of the Year by the Central Pennsylvania Conservancy at a ceremony on November 8<sup>th</sup> of this past year. The award recognizes Ralph's many accomplishments as co-founder, president and newsletter editor of SATC, Appalachian Trail maintainer, co-founder and president of the Keystone Trails Association, organizer of the Stony Creek Valley Coalition, co-founder of the Central Pennsylvania Conservancy, and president of Appalachian Audubon. At least six speakers recognized his achievements with warmth and humor. Congratulations, Ralph!

### NEXT BUSHWACK BULLETIN

**DEADLINE FOR INFORMATION TO EDITOR : MAY 1, 2002**

Editor: Fred Cox, 610 Gale Road, Camp Hill, PA 17011 Tel. No.: 717-731-9348

Email: [jfc1000@aol.com](mailto:jfc1000@aol.com)

**ASSEMBLY FOR MAILING: 6:45 PM, May 17 at Fredricksen Library, 100 N 19th St., Camp Hill**

Distribution Committee Chair: Susanne Donmoyer 545-5308

## ANNUAL BANQUET & ELECTION OF OFFICERS

**WHEN:** Saturday, March 23, 2002

**WHERE:** Elizabethtown College

**SOCIAL HOUR:** 5:30 PM

**DINNER:** 6:00 PM

**SPEAKER:** Larry Johnson , co-author of The Ghosts of Everest

Larry Johnson, an author and historian, was born and grew up in Gettysburg where he still lives. He and his wife Dottie have six children and five grandchildren. Larry Johnson climbs extensively throughout the US on both rock and ice. He was on two expeditions on Mt Everest: 1999 (Tibet, Northeast Ridge); 2001 (Tibet, Northeast Ridge).

**COST:** \$12.00 per person

**Reservations:** Mail reservation using form on front of this Bulletin to arrive not later than March 16, 2002 to:

Clarence R. Fredlund  
7901 Chambers Hill Road  
Harrisburg, PA 17111-5409

### Directions to Elizabethtown College from Harrisburg

Take Route 283 south to the Hershey-Elizabethtown exit.

Turn right off the exit on to Route 743 into town.

Go through five red lights. After the fifth light, keep to left, go down a slight grade and turn left on to College Avenue.

Go two blocks and turn right onto Mount Joy Street.

Go two more blocks and turn left onto Cedar Street..

Park in the Church of the Brethren parking lot (on your right) using the spaces farthest from the Church.

See the College's Myer Dining Hall on the left.

Dinner is in the Susquehanna Room

**John Wozniak, a member since 1975 and a leader of many hikes , died recently**

## Building New Trails

### (See Sketches on Page 9)

Our club has put a lot of effort into new trail construction this past year and we have ongoing and future new trail building projects planned. Proper trail-building is essential to mitigate the potential ravages of weather and foot traffic that erode and breakdown trail integrity. Our trail building efforts must also strive to reduce damage to the natural environment and at eliminating safety hazards.

The construction phase of new trail building comes after the planning and layout work is done. It is this construction phase that I will address as this is the type of work that most club volunteers do on our club work trips.

The first step in the building process is reviewing the flag line for the new trail. The flag line is the route the new trail is to follow according to the trail's designer. It is usually marked by colored plastic ribbons around trees and branches to approximate the centerline of the route. Clearing the route is next which involves cutting out trees and brush along the flag line. It is better to be conservative initially when clearing the new trail route. Within the dimensions of the trail treadway, or the actual footpath, roots and stumps of all bushes and saplings should be removed. This can be accomplished easier if, unlike the clearing of trailside vegetation, you leave plenty of a plants stem to hold onto and use as a lever to help loosen stumps and roots together for removal. Cutting and sawing stumps flush will make the job much more difficult.

The third step in the building process is digging the trail treadway. In some instances this will not be necessary on ideal terrain and you may want to leave the top layer of organic soil (humus) undisturbed as it will slow wear and tear on the trail. But, in many cases, it is necessary to dig and remove the top layer of organic soil to establish a well-delineated footway on mineral soil. Usually our digging work on new trails will be on a slope and will involve excavating across the side of a hill. A "sidehill" trail has a near-level, slightly outslowing bench dug out for the treadway surface. Water can then wash slowly sideways off the treadway instead of rushing down the middle of it. It is the best trail design to minimize erosion. Properly built, it will facilitate drainage and minimize soil loss. It often provides the most stable footway for hikers.

There are two ways to build a sidehill trail, partial bench and full bench. If you choose partial bench, you build the uphill side of the treadway by cutting into the slope and the downhill side by tamping a surface created with the leftover, excavated mineral soil. This fill should be no more than half of the tread width. If you choose full bench, you excavate the entire treadway surface from the slope discarding most of the soil. Full-bench sidehills are by far the most stable, because the entire bench is "within" the mountain, but partial bench takes a lot less time constructing. The steeper the side slope, the closer to full bench should be the construction, since the outside of a partial bench will often collapse on steep slopes.

Whether you choose partial or full bench, you must first dig and remove the leaf litter, humus and root mat using a mattock and/or rake. Keep these materials handy as you can use them to mulch over the new trail when you are through digging. Do not make the mistake, when building partial-bench sidehill, of clearing too little of the organic material. When you build the outside of the bench, all deposited soil must rest on undisturbed mineral soil. If it rests on organic material, it will later settle and slump. The next step is to dig out the bench by excavating soil and rocks and drag them to the outer edge of the treadway. Build the entire treadway of mineral soil and in the case of partial bench, tamp the fill repeatedly to make a solid walking surface. On most terrain, the actual treadway should be 18 to 24 inches wide but allow an additional six inches of width during construction to catch soil falling from the cut bank. On very steep side slopes, make the footway slightly wider for safe and easy walking. The bank itself should be cut no more than 45 degrees for stability with less being better. Once the sidehill is broad enough, remove all loose rocks, round off the top of the bank, and cut all small roots flush. A stable, rounded soil surface will encourage plant growth.

Next comes the fine-tuning work of shaping the sidehill that will pay off in less maintenance later. The treadway should be smooth and the bench should have an outslope of about five percent (one inch drop for every 18 inches of width). Such an outslope should be almost imperceptible, if you can feel the outslope in your ankles, or easily see it, it is probably too much. Excessive outslope will cause hikers to walk on the outside edge of the sidehill, damaging the treadway at its weakest point and also makes for tired hiking. With the treadway outslowed properly, water will tend to run off in sheets, rather than puddling or coalescing into erosive rivulets. Also don't make the mistake of shoring up the outer edge of the treadway with water blocking logs, rocks and other debris. They are only going to cause erosion problems by not allowing the lateral movement of water across and off the trail.

Finally, the last step in building sidehill is to spread humus and leaf litter back over all exposed mineral soil. This will help with revegetation and in the meantime impede rill and splash erosion. By mulching the trail with leaves and humus, you can slow or prevent both. The mulching will also disguise the scar left by new construction.

Next time I'll discuss some of the erosion control techniques used in new trail construction to supplement sidehill building and that may also be used on existing trails.

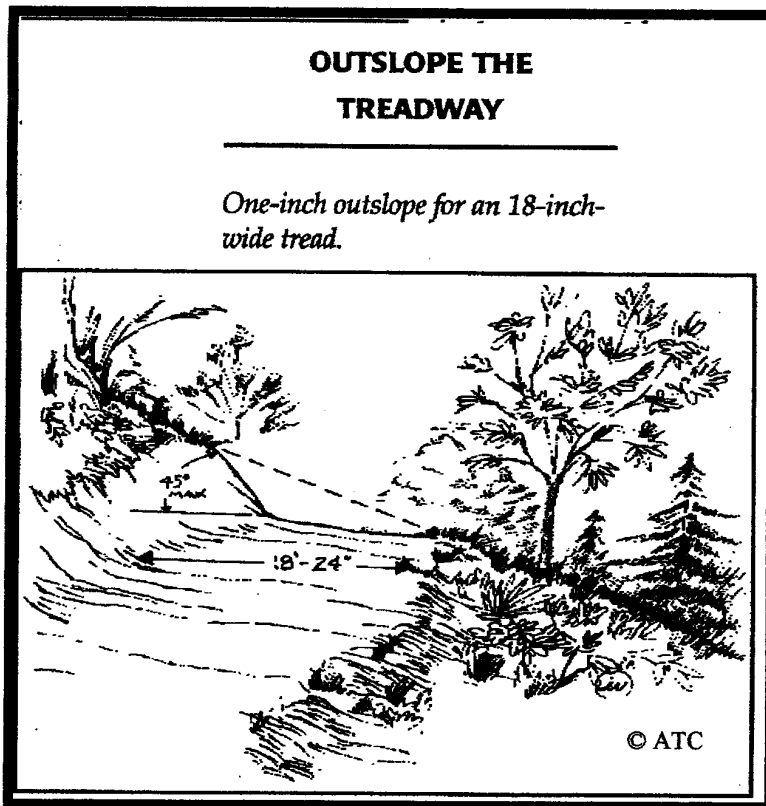
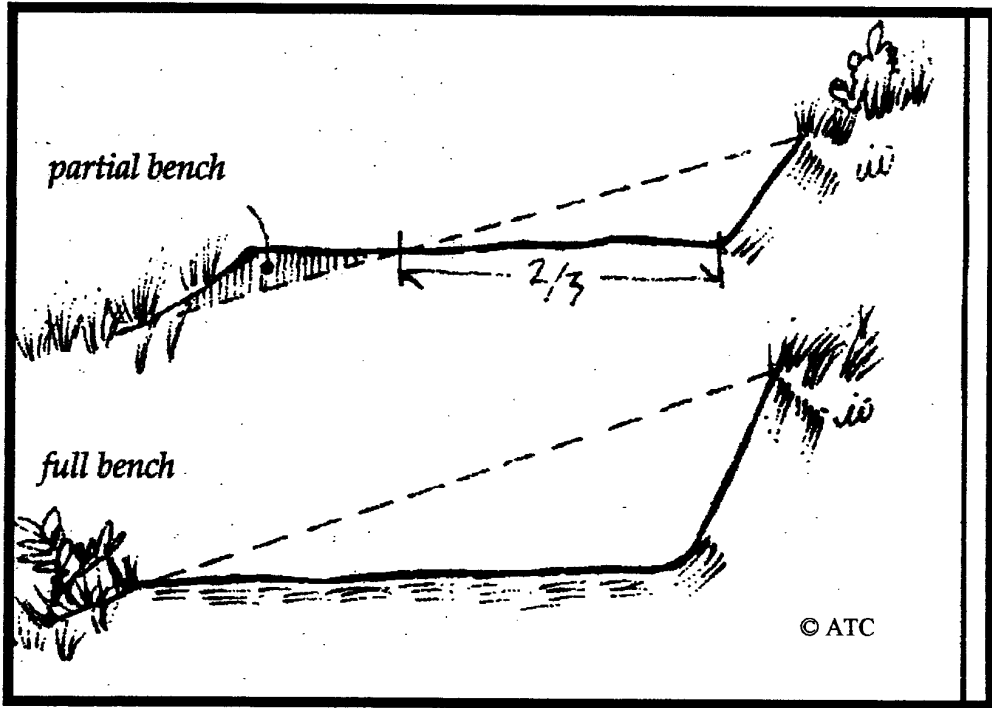
*(Information for this article derived with permission from A.T.C.'s Appalachian Trail Design, Construction, and Maintenance by W. Birchard, Jr. and Robert Proudman)*

Jeff Buehler,  
SATC Trailmaster



# SKETCHES OF BUILDING NEW TRAILS

(See Article on Page 8)



## **NEW MEMBERS**

*Please join us in welcoming these new members*

|                      |                               |
|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| Sherman Bell         | Harrisburg, PA 17104          |
| Stephen Bollinger    | Liverpool, PA 17045           |
| Robert W. Boudman    | Carlisle, PA 17013-1378       |
| Virginia Breighner   | Harrisburg, PA 17110          |
| Suzanne DeLong       | Dillsburg, PA 17019-9558      |
|                      |                               |
| Nancy Marwick DeMuth | Carlisle, PA 17013            |
| Terrie Doom          | Harrisburg, PA 17111          |
| Roberta R. Fasick    | Dauphin, PA 17018-0707        |
| Rita Floriani        | Reading, PA 19601             |
| Linda Hoppes         | Middletown, PA 17057          |
|                      |                               |
| Anne Montgomery      | Harrisburg, PA 17110          |
| Linda Purcell        | Hummelstown, PA 17036-8906    |
| Ann Crisfield Spahr  | Harrisburg, PA 17111          |
| Brian K. Spiegel     | Mechanicsburg, PA 17050-2769  |
| Charles Stoops       | New Cumberland, PA 17070-2836 |
|                      |                               |
| Michael A. Walp      | Camp Hill, PA 17011           |
| John Zinn            | Hummelstown, PA 17036         |

### **SATC Volunteers Staff KTA Booth at PA Farm Show**

SATC volunteers staffed the Keystone Trails Association booth at the PA Farm Show in Harrisburg in January, handing out literature and answering questions. Hundreds of Farm Show attendees tore themselves away from the famous butter sculpture and the livestock judging to find out about hiking in Pennsylvania. KTA maps were popular, as was the new SATC brochure, revised, copied and delivered by Club member Tom Scully for its public debut. Many current and potential hikers learned from our volunteers about opportunities to hike and maintain Pennsylvania's wonderful trails. SATC member Carl Lorence and his wife Erika worked the previous week setting up other booths to earn a free spot for the booth. Carl also installed the recently purchased KTA display board, trained volunteers and coordinated the distribution of massive amounts of KTA and SATC literature. SATC member Sylvia Miller scheduled and coordinated the volunteers. Much appreciation goes to Carl, Tom, Sylvia and the follow Club volunteers who staffed the booth:

|                      |                      |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| Sam Barker           | Summer Red           |
| Clarence Fredlund    | Tom Scully           |
| Barbara & Sam Harvey | Louise & Richard Sis |
| Cynthia Iberg        | Janice Slaybaugh     |
| Katie Jones          | Ray Swingholm        |
| Bob Keyes            | Jane & Will Webster  |
| Erika & Carl Lorence | Jeff Willard         |
| Sylvia Miller        | Mikki Williams       |
| Molly Newberry       | Patricia Wright      |
| Mike Pavelek         |                      |

## VOLUNTEER HOURS REPORT FOR 2001

### 2001 Volunteer Hours

In the last issue of the Bushwack Bulletin, I gave a report on Appalachian Trail volunteer hours our club contributed during the past fiscal year (Oct.2000-Sept.2001) that we submit to the Appalachian Trail Conference and the National Park Service. The following is a breakdown of volunteer hours for the calendar year 2001 from our club work trips and individuals working on our various trails. The numbers represent actual field hours and an estimate for roundtrip travel time. These hours are reported to the Keystone Trails Association and the State of Pennsylvania.

Appalachian Trail - 536 hours  
Victoria Trail - 310 hours  
Darlington Trail - 268 hours  
Horseshoe Trail - 22 hours  
Ibberson Conservation Area Trails - 61 hours  
Boyd Conservation Area Trails - 47 hours

### Recognizing Our Volunteers

Here are the volunteers who put in the many hours and hard work on our trails. This is a list of SATC sponsored work trip participants. The number in parenthesis beside the name indicates the number of work trips that person participated in during 2001. I have used my trail maintenance logs to tally the figures. Apologies to anyone I may have missed or errors in the number of work trips.

|                                  |                          |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Eric Anderson (6)                | Katie Jones (3)          |
| Tim Bachmann (3)                 | Greg Keier (3)           |
| Sam Barker (1)                   | Chuck Kumpas (5)         |
| Richard Barrick (1)              | Gary Labelle (8)         |
| Frank Bohn (1)                   | Carl Lorence (1)         |
| Leo Boyer (1)                    | Peter Lynch (1)          |
| Jeff Buehler (9)                 | Richard Martin (4)       |
| Jack Bushey (4)                  | Louise Morgan (1)        |
| Ross Caruso, ATC ridgerunner (2) | Charles Paul (1)         |
| Eric Distentold (1)              | Lydia Peddicord (1)      |
| Daniel Flatley (1)               | Barbara Rosenstrauch (1) |
| Pete Fleszar (3)                 | Tom Scully (7)           |
| Andres Forero (1)                | Louise Sis (1)           |
| Sean Gimbel (6)                  | Thyra Sperry (2)         |
| Randy Greber (2)                 | John Stein (1)           |
| Cindy Haensel (1)                | Barbara Strock (2)       |
| Barbara Harvey (3)               | Kwong Sze (1)            |
| Sam Harvey (3)                   | Donald Teets (2)         |
|                                  | Jane Webster (2)         |
|                                  | Will Webster (3)         |
|                                  | Jeffrey Willard (1)      |

The following volunteers have also contributed to the total volunteer hours tallied by working on our trails on an individual basis.

|                  |            |
|------------------|------------|
| Richard Barrick  | Sue Peck   |
| Jeff Buehler     | Tom Scully |
| Mary Drury       | John Stein |
| Susanne Donmoyer |            |

Many thanks to all of our volunteer trail workers for all the hard work you gave in the past year!

Jeff Buehler,  
SATC Trailmaster

# THE SUSQUEHANNA APPALACHIAN TRAIL CLUB, INC.

| <u>OFFICERS 2001 - 2002</u>                         |   |          | <u>DIRECTORS</u>                     |  |          |
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| <b>PRESIDENT</b>                                    | Kathryn H. Jones<br>504 Highland Ct.<br>Carlisle, PA 17013-3923               | 249-6727 | <b>CLASS OF 2002</b>                 | Kristen A. Kyler<br>[REDACTED]<br>[REDACTED]                   | 558-8417 |
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| <b>APPALACHIAN TRAIL CONFERENCE, INC.</b>           | Jeffrey R. Buehler<br>Barbara Harvey<br>Kathryn H. Jones<br>Richard A. Martin |          |                                      |  |          |
| <b>KEYSTONE TRAILS ASSOCIATION, INC.</b>            | Clarence V. Fredlund  |          |                                      |  |          |
| <b><u>THE BUSHWACK BULLETIN</u></b>                 |   |          |                                      |  |          |
| <b>EDITOR</b>                                       | J. Frederic Cox<br>[REDACTED]<br>[REDACTED]                                   | 731-9348 |                                      |  |          |
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|   |   |          | <b>HIKE LEADERSHIP</b>               | Susanne Donmoyer   |          |
|   |   |          | <b>MEMBERSHIP</b>                    | Kristen A. Kyler   |          |
|   |   |          | <b>PROGRAM</b>                       | Barbara Harvey   |          |
|   |   |          | <b>PUBLIC RELATIONS</b>              | William B. Webster   |          |
|   |   |          | <b>TRAILMASTER</b>                   | Jeffrey R. Buehler   |          |
|   |   |          | <b>WILDERNESS EMERGENCY</b>          | Dr. Randolph Greber  |          |

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