

# BUSHWACK BULLETIN

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

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**DECEMBER 2003 – JANUARY 2004** 

#### **OUR OBJECTIVES: GROUP HIKING + TRAIL MAINTENANCE + OUTDOOR RECREATION**

#### SEE END OF SCHEDULE FOR GENERAL HIKE INFORMATION and CODES FOR HIKES

**December 6** B+ Appalachian Trail-Lickdale Some hills, one steep one. Moderate pace. Bring lunch and water. No 5-7 miles Saturday 9:30 AM sneakers. Wear sturdy boots and blaze orange. Meet only at the Hershey 30 hwy miles Outlets, at the Dress Barn bus stop. Leader: Sylvia Miller, 533-5422; hiker@paonline.com **December 6 HOLIDAY Annual Holiday Party** Get together with new and old hiking friends. Fast pace to the buffet line, easy **PARTY** Saturday 7:00 PM terrain. See article on page 7 for details. Ε December 13 **Capital Area Greenbelt** Saturday 20 miles Hike the entire Greenbelt. Fast pace, wear comfortable shoes. Trail is mostly 9:00 AM flat and not rocky. We will stop at parks and view points. Call leader for options 0 hwy miles for doing less than the full 20 miles. Bring lunch and water. Leader: John Lenahan, 737-7675, ilenahan@starblind.com **Conoy Canal Trail** December 13 Saturday 8.7 miles Easy level trail. Bridges over old canal locks. Trail follows the Susquehanna 9:00 AM 14 hwy miles from Falmouth to Bainbridge. Bring water and lunch. A restaurant is across from Bainbridge Park rest stop for those wishing to buy lunch. Meet only at Olmsted Plaza on Route 230 between Middletown and Highspire at M&T Bank. Leader: John Zerphey, 939-9082 D December 20 **Swatara Park Loop** Bring lunch, water. BRING AND WEAR ORANGE. Saturday 10 miles 9:00 AM Meet only at Lickdale Campground east of Rt. 72, Interstate 81 exit. Drive miles from Park to Campground: 4 miles. Leader: John Stein, steinhike@cs.com

December 21 A+ Little Buffalo State Park

Sunday 4 miles Easy hike in state park with one moderate climb. Bring snacks and water. 1:00 PM 60 hwy miles Leader: Frank Bohn, 234-5169

December 23
Tuesday
6:00 PM

O hwy miles

Sanctuary after dark. Some improved trails. Family friend the weather and bring flashli weather demands, hike will be Wildwood Park.

Leaders: Jane Webster and willandiane@iung.com

Enjoy a rare opportunity to experience Dauphin County's Wildwood Lake Sanctuary after dark. Some rolling hills, moderate to slow pace on wide, improved trails. Family friendly, but strollers may not be appropriate. Dress for the weather and bring flashlights. Hot chocolate will be provided afterward. If weather demands, hike will be shortened. Meet at Olewine Nature Center in Wildwood Park.

Leaders: Jane Webster and family, 526-2127(home) or 221-0292(work); willandiane@iuno.com

December 28 Sunday 11:30 AM C

В

6 miles

0 hwy miles

7 miles

**Darlington-Appalachian Trail** 

Lambs Gap Road to Sherwood Road. Work off some of those holiday calories. 2 mph pace. Great view of Cumberland Valley. Meet at 11:30AM at parking lot on Rte 114 between I-81 and Wertzville Road (Rt. 944). Bring lunch and water Leader: Karen Balaban, 234-3357

December 28 Sunday Messiah College/Grantham Hike

Moderate paced hike over hills, road and trails in the woods. Bring water.

Meet only at Starry Field/Covered Bridge at Messiah College

Leader: Melanie DeMartyn, 795-8209

January 1 Thursday 10:00 AM

1:00 PM

5 miles Welco 25 hwy miles water

Governor Dick, Mt Gretna
Welcome New Year's with a hike. Some hills, one steep one. Bring lunch and water and snacks to share for the new year. Meet only at the Hershey Outlets,

Dress Barn bus stop.

Leader: Sylvia Miller, 533-5422; hiker@paonline.com

January 4 Sunday 8:00 AM C+ 8 miles 90 hwy miles Flat Rock and Other Trails in Colonel Denning State Park

Some climbing on various scenic trails. Wear sturdy hiking boots. Bring lunch and water. Leader: Harold (Skip) Hetrick, 469-7367; hhetrick@pa.net

January 6 (tentative) Tuesday 6:30 PM BOARD MEETING **Board of Directors Meeting** 

Members are welcome to attend. Tentative location: East Shore Library, meeting room A, near the Colonial Park Mall, 4501 Ethel Street, Harrisburg.

Please call Katie or Sam at 249-6727 to confirm date and location

January 7 Wednesday 9:00 AM

6 miles 3 hwy miles

В

<u>Memorial Lake Loop</u>
Bring lunch, water. BRING AND WEAR ORANGE.

Meet at Funk's Restaurant on Rt. 934 at Fort Indian Town Gap north of I81.

Option: Lunch at local restaurant. Leader: John Stein; steinhike@cs.com

January 11 Sunday

9:00 AM

**B+**6 miles
40 hwy miles

Moderate pace with a good climb over looking the Susquehanna River. Some

rocky terrain. Bring water and lunch.

Alternate Meeting Place: Clarks Ferry Bridge at 9:30 AM

Leader: Richard Green, 671-8744

January 13 Tuesday 7:00 PM MEMBERS AND GUESTS MEETING

4 hwy miles

Winter Meeting for All Members and Guests

Following refreshments for new, prospective and current members, hike scheduling for the March, April, May quarter will take place. The evening program will feature a presentation by Ross Martin on protecting the domestic water supply. Location: West Shore Senior Citizens Center, 122 Geary

Avenue, New Cumberland

Peter's Mountain

January 18 Sundav

1:30 PM

A Wildwood in Winter
3 miles An easy, pleasant wa

An easy, pleasant walk around the wetlands. Bring snacks and water.

Leader: Susanne Donmoyer, 545-5308

January 25 В Horseshoe Trail

Sunday 5 miles Woods roads hiking north from Manada Gap to pipeline on Second Mountain. 1:00 PM

30 hwy miles Bring snacks and water.

Leaders: Jeff Buehler and Phil Day, 657-8281

January 28 В Gold Mine Area

4-5 miles

Wednesday 9:00 AM

In and out hike on dirt road. Optional side trip to see the geologic wonder called

"The Chinese Wall." Bring trail lunch and water. Meet: Kmart parking lot near Best Buy on Rt. 22.

Leader: Louise Sis, 774-0196

February 1 В Mt. Gretna - Horseshoe Trail to Tower

Moderate pace. One climb to observation tower. Bring lunch and water. Dress Sunday 6 miles 9:00 AM 50 hwy miles warmly. Alternate Meeting Place: Colebrook, Rt. 117 at the Rails to Trails

parking at 9:45 AM

Leader: Richard Green, 671-8744

February 8 B+ Kings Gap

Sunday 5 miles Moderate pace, several short climbs. Sturdy shoes advised. Bring water and 1:00 PM

75 hwy miles snacks.

Leader: Louise Sis, 774-0196

February 14 B+ Laurel's Birthday Hike

6 miles Celebrate Laurel's 1<sup>st</sup> birthday with a circuit hike on the trails of Derry Township. Saturday 10:00 AM 30 hwy miles

Bring lunch and water.

Leaders: Pete Fleszar and Krista Cessna, 583-2093; pfleszar@epix.net

C **Greenbelt Ramble** February 15

Sunday 7 miles A loop on hard surfaces, easy walking. Bring snacks and water.

1:00 PM 0 hwy miles Leader: Susanne Donmoyer, 545-5308

February 22 B+ **Boyd Loop Hike** 

Sunday 4-5 miles Walk on woods roads with short elevation changes. Bring snacks and water.

1:30 PM 10 hwy miles Leader: Susanne Donmoyer, 545-5308

**BUSHWACK** Many Volunteers Needed to Assemble Bushwack Bulleting for Mailing February 23

Monday If you can help or have questions, please contact Susanne Donmoyer at 545-**BULLETIN** 7:00 PM **MAILING** 5308. Advance notice would be appreciated. The assembly will be done at the

Cleve J. Fredricksen Library, 100 N. 19th Street, Camp Hill.

February 29 C+ Middle Creek Wildlife Management Area

Sunday 7 miles Strenuous hike at a moderate pace over a variety of trails, including a couple of 9:00 AM 120 hwy miles significant climbs. Possibility of seeing vast flocks of snow geese and/or tundra

swans. Bring lunch and water; if interested in optional birding afterward bring

binoculars and extra warm clothing and footgear.

Leaders: Will Webster, 526-2127 and Guru Devanla (408) 373-0998

## **OTHER EVENTS**

## Welsh Walking

A walking/hiking tour of Northern Wales is being organized for early June 2004 with emphasis on the history and culture of the area. Accommodations are in two different B&B's (each room with private bath). Rate includes airport transfers, British breakfasts every day, our transportation while in Wales, and services of our guide. If interested please e-mail Bonnie Booth at: hiker508@paonline.com, or call her at 838-3085.

## **GENERAL HIKE INFORMATION**

#### 1. MEETING LOCATION

Unless otherwise noted in the hike schedule, 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 is the parking island in front of the East Gate Office Center on 7<sup>th</sup> Street, opposite the Herr Street underpass. Five additional minutes will be allowed at the alternate site.

#### 2. TRANSPORTATION

If you ride with someone, you should give the driver **5** cents times the highway mileage shown in the hike schedule to help defray the costs of transportation.

#### 3. REGISTRATION

All hikers are asked to register with the hike leader at Fisher Plaza or at the trailhead before starting any scheduled hike. For safety reasons with *D* and *E* grade hikes, please register with the hike leader before arriving at the meeting location unless the leader has hiked with you previously and knows your abilities.

#### 4. NO PETS ALLOWED

### 5. PACK IN, PACK OUT (LEAVE NOTHING BEHIND)

#### 6. SMOKING GUIDELINES

SATC prefers that hikers refrain from the use of tobacco products during Club activities. Smokers are individually responsible for damage to the forests.

## **CODES FOR THE HIKES**

Code	Short Description	Miles	Climbs
Α	Easy (excellent for beginners)	Up to 6	Very little
В	Fairly easy (good for beginners)	Up to 6	Some easy
B+	Moderate	Up to 6	More difficult
С	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
Е	Difficult	Over 12	Very little
E+	Very difficult	Over 12	Very rugged

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

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear SATC members,

#### **Hurricane Damage**

Many thanks to SATC Trailmaster Jeff Buehler and the SATC trail crew for clearing our section of the Appalachian Trail. Hurricane Isabel left many a blow down blocking the trail, but our volunteers came through and used hand tools and chain saws to open it back up. More trail volunteers are needed. If you've not been able to attend scheduled work trips, but want to help with impromptu ones like this, give Jeff a call and tell him your phone number so he can contact you. Jeff's phone number is 657-8281.

#### **Route 225 Pedestrian Bridge**

The bridge will have been dedicated by the time you read this. More details in the next Bulletin – see the photo on the next page, showing the beam being lowered into place.

#### Website

Thanks to SATC Webmaster Pete Fleszar and a special discount from the makers of Dreamweaver software, our web page is better than ever. See (or steer prospective members to) <a href="http://www.libertynet.org/susqatc">http://www.libertynet.org/susqatc</a>. Fred Cox, keeper of the Club database, reports that many of our new members have submitted an application printed from the website.

#### Save these dates:

The SATC Holiday party will be December 6<sup>th</sup>. See article on page 7 for details. The SATC picnic will be July 24<sup>th</sup> at the Pine Grove Furnace State Park – save the date!

#### **Hike Leaders**

October's Hike Leader Training event co-sponsored with CVATC was a success. We hope that many of the attendees will volunteer to lead hikes. Training is not mandatory. If you've hiked with the Club a few times and have a hike you'd like to share, send the details to Sam Barker (<a href="mailto:esbarker3@earthlink.net">esbarker3@earthlink.net</a> or 249-6727). If you'd like a co-leader or any advice, contact Hikes Committee Chair Susanne Donmoyer at 545-5308. Feel free to lead hikes we've already done. As Dick Martin would say, they're not copyrighted!

#### No Farm Show Booth This Year

KTA and SATC won't be staffing a booth at the Farm Show this year since the cost is too high and can no longer be worked off with volunteer hours. Many thanks to those of you who worked the booth in past years, and especially to Carl and Erica Lorence for putting in the pre-show hours of effort necessary to "pay" for the booth, to erect the display and to train volunteers.

#### Thanks to John Zerphey

John Zerphey has volunteered to be SATC's membership chair, and is looking for help in his job to retain and recruit members. If you're interested in helping to contact new members, please give John a call at 939-9082.

(continued next page)

#### **New address for Clarence and Walt**

SATC members Clarence Fredlund and Walt Natishyn are both now residing at the Country Meadows Home in Hershey. The address there is Country Meadows, 451 Sand Hill Road, Hershey, PA 17033.

#### **KTA and Endangered Trails**

At the Fall meeting of the Keystone Trails Association, a revised version of the Endangered Hiking Trails Committee's motion was passed. Rather than committing immediately to hiring an executive director and making changes to KTA's constitution, the council voted to have the president appoint committees to present specific proposals at the Spring Meeting on each of the points in the original motion. It's my hope that this will speed along the work necessary to save our endangered trails, but the lack of a specific commitment means that we'll have to wait until Spring to see if the KTA council will follow this route. I hope they will.

Your president,

Katie Barker



Thanks go to Richard Martin for this photo of the Rt. 225 bridge being put into position.

Grabenstein

### **NEW MEMBERS**

#### Please join us in welcoming these new members:

Mechanicsburg	Joe Harfmann	Harrisburg
Sunbury	Elizabeth Lenhart	New Cumberland
Berrysburg	Erin Marshall	Carlisle
Hershey	Fred Martz	Middletown
Boiling Springs	Jennifer McConaghie	Enola
Mechanicsburg	Joan Montello	Carlisle
Duncannon	Karen Peiffer	New Cumberland
Hershey	Carol Rentschler	Carlisle
Maytown	Jacob Smith	Harrisburg
Mechanicsburg	Chrissy Wilson	Hummelstown
Harrisburg		
	Sunbury Berrysburg Hershey Boiling Springs  Mechanicsburg Duncannon Hershey Maytown Mechanicsburg	Sunbury Elizabeth Lenhart Berrysburg Erin Marshall Hershey Fred Martz Boiling Springs Jennifer McConaghie  Mechanicsburg Joan Montello Duncannon Karen Peiffer Hershey Carol Rentschler Maytown Jacob Smith Mechanicsburg Chrissy Wilson



## **CLUB NOTICES**



## Holiday Party

When: Saturday, December 6th, 2003 at 7:00 pm Where: The West Shore Senior Citizen Center

122 Geary Street, New Cumberland, PA

Bring: A Generous Covered dish to share (hikers are big eaters)

Program: Caroling, slide show, games

Committee: Sandy Kittle, 697-5672 Katie Barker, 249-6727 Barbara Harvey, 766-7868

#### Important Note:

Please call a committee member so that we will know who is planning to come and what they intend to bring. If you are not sure what to bring, the committee can offer suggestions on what is needed.

Members are asked to bring favorite slides take on this year's hikes or vacation trips. Please limit your presentation to about 5 minutes and identify your slides with your name.

If you wish to help with the decorations, etc. for the party please arrive about 5:30 pm. If you have greens or Holly that you are willing to share, please bring them along.

# Winter Meeting - West Shore Senior Citizens' Center - January 13th, 2004 at 7pm All Welcome!

The speaker for our winter meeting is Russell Martin. He is going to speak on the home security for the public water supply.

Russell is a resident of Linglestown and has been active in the Linglestown Area Civic Association since 1985. Amongst other responsibilities Russell is a Paxton Creek Ranger, a member of the board of directors of Paxton Creek Watershed and Education Association, data manager/ web host for Dauphin County water monitors and a designated trainer in the PaSEC Home Guard program.



## Banquet - 50 Years

The banquet will be held March 27, 2004 at 6:00pm at Geo's Family Restaurant on Allentown Blvd. The DJ will be Bill Runkle of Shiremanstown. The restaurant is a "bring your own bottle." The cost will be about \$20 per person. Save your money and plan to come!

## Pienie - 2004

The picnic will be held Saturday (note the change from Sunday to Saturday) July 24 at Pine Grove Furnace. We will be at the Brick Yard Pavilion. Keep the date clear in your 2004 diary and plan to come.



## NOTICES FROM OTHER HIKING CLUBS & AROUND PA

#### Craig Dunn – recently awarded Honorary Membership in the Appalachian Trail Conference

We are also proud to note that Craig is a current member, past president and past Trailmaster for SATC.

Craig Dunn has been involved with the ATC, the hiking community, and the AT for at least 20 years. He worked with Chuck Sloan to start The Trust for Appalachian Trail Lands (TATL) when he was a regional representative (as a member of the SATC) in the mid 1970s. He has served in many capacities- ATC Board member, president, board member and Trailmaster for several AT clubs, Trail maintainer, and hiker. He section-hiked the AT to become a 2000-miler between all of the other services he provided to the Trail community.

Craig was instrumental in the Cumberland Valley relocation of the AT from the "road walk" to the valley hike through farm fields and remnant woods of the Ironstone Ridge. Long before there was a CVATC, a small group of the Trail community – PROTRAIL - mostly members of the PATC and SATC, worked with the ATC and the National Park Service to evaluate options for the relocation. These folks worked with citizens and townships to lay the foundation for the new relocation. This was not always a friendly group to work with. The traditional agricultural community was not welcoming the Trail with open arms, to the point of forming a group that called themselves CANT (Citizens Against the New Trail). Stories are told of a heated meeting that filled a large high school auditorium with CANT representatives and Trail representatives. From all descriptions, it was ugly, but Craig was there. He also served as financial advisor to the Children's Lake Advisory Committee and directed them through financial and other legal challenges. He was instrumental in saving the lake for the Trail.

He has been the backbone to the CVATC since its inception and has coordinated and led the maintenance work trips of the Club from then to now. He served as Mid-Atlantic representative to the ATC Board, truly representing a regional voice. He is still active in the Keystone Trails Association and is respected and admired by all who have had the chance to work with him, on or off of the Trail.

Craig is a very humble person and does not seek recognition of any kind for all that he does. The hiking community is better for having a spokesperson like Craig around. He is a perfect example of what an Honorary Member of the ATC should represent.

## **COURSES**

#### Wilderness First Aid

An eighteen-hour class in Wilderness First Aid will be conducted in Harrisburg, PA on March 13-14, 2004. The course includes classroom study, hands-on practice, and results in a two-year certification.



Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis. The cost is \$140. For additional information phone (703) 836-8905, e-mail <a href="mailto:chris@wfa.net">chris@wfa.net</a> or visit <a href="http://wfa.net">http://wfa.net</a>

Course schedule (2004):

January 17-18: Pittsburgh March 13-14: Harrisburg April 24-25: Palmyra June 5-6: Philadelphia June 12-13: Harrisburg

Wilderness First Aid is a program of the Wilderness Safety Council and meets ACA standards for 60 minutes or more from definitive medical treatment.