



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.

Celebrating 50-years of hiking in 2004

VOLUME 50 – No 4

<http://susqatc.libertynet.org>

DECEMBER 2004 – FEBRUARY 2005

OUR OBJECTIVES: GROUP HIKING + TRAIL MAINTENANCE + OUTDOOR RECREATION

<u>December 4</u> Saturday 7:00 PM	4-A-0.004 0 hwy miles	<u>Annual SATC Holiday Party</u> Hike from your table to the potluck buffet line. See article on page 9 for more information.
<u>December 5</u> Sunday 9:00 AM	3-D-10 170 hwy miles	<u>Tuscarora State Park Loop Hike</u> Bring lunch and water. Possible stream crossing on cable bridge. Leaders: Jeff Willard, 887-3819 and Sharon Shellenberger
<u>December 11</u> Saturday 9:00 AM	3-B-20 0 hwy miles	<u>Capitol Area Greenbelt Trail</u> Parks, campuses, neighborhoods and historic parkways. Some gentle hills and lots of pavement. We'll try to keep a brisk pace with brief stops at points of interest. Call leader about options for doing less than the entire hike. Bring lunch, water and comfy footwear. Leader: John Lenahan, 737-7675, jlenahan@starblind.com
<u>December 12</u> Sunday 9:00 AM	2-C-7 75 hwy miles	<u>Kings Gap Loop Hike</u> Hike on a number of trails starting at the pond at King's Gap. Bring sturdy shoes, lunch and water. Alternate meeting place 10:00 AM at the pond area parking lot. Leader: John Zinn, 697-0648
<u>December 15</u> Wednesday 9:00 AM	2-C-5 8 hwy miles	<u>Boyd Big Tree Conservation Area</u> Hike on a myriad of trails and woods roads. Bring snacks, water and boots. Optional lunch stop after hike. Meet only at Fort Hunter near the barn. Leader: Pat Zinn 697-0648
<u>December 19</u> Sunday 11:00 AM	2-A-4 2 hwy miles	<u>City Walk – Uptown Harrisburg</u> A walk past historic sights including PA's smallest State Park, the mansions of Front Street, the Civil War obelisk and the Peace Garden. Bring water and a snack. Leader: Allison MacGillivray, 649-4208, bushwack@mail.com

NEXT BUSHWACK BULLETIN DEADLINE FOR CONTRIBUTIONS: FEBRUARY 1, 2005

Post to Editor - Bushwack Bulletin, S.A.T.C., P.O. Box 61001, Harrisburg PA 17106-1001

e-mail bushwack@mail.com

<u>December 26</u> Sunday 4:00 PM	2-B-5 0 hwy miles	<u>Holiday Full Moon Hike (Moon Rise 4:27 p.m.)</u> Ridge hike the Tuscarora Trail, Rte 34 North to Darlington Trail to Millers Gap. Meet only at the parking area on Route 114 West off exit 57 of I-81. Dress warmly; bring flashlight, hot drink and favorite holiday munchies to share. Leader: Karen Balaban, 234-3357, kmbalaban@balabanllc.com
<u>January 1</u> Saturday 1:00 PM	2-A-3 0 hwy miles	<u>Wildwood Lake</u> Meet only at the sanctuary at Wildwood Lake. Bring snacks and water Leader: Janet Eshleman, 774-1318
<u>January 2</u> Sunday 1:00 PM	2-C-5.5 30 hwy miles	<u>Appalachian Trail In and Out</u> Hike from Boiling Springs south on the trail and return. Bring water and snacks. Leader: Frank Bohn, 234-5169
<u>January 6</u> Thursday 6:30 PM	Board Meeting	<u>SATC Board of Directors Meeting</u> Members are welcome to attend. Lower level community room, Fredericksen Library, 100 N. 19 th St., Camp Hill. Contact: Barbara Harvey, 766-7868
<u>January 8</u> Saturday 8:00 AM	2-D-8.5 100 hwy miles	<u>Pulpit Rock and the Pinnacle</u> Moderate pace, one steep climb over rocky terrain. The Pinnacle is one of the most famous views on the Appalachian Trail in Pennsylvania. Bring lunch and water. Alternate meeting place: 9:15 AM at Hamburg Reservoir. Leader: Richard Green, 671-8744
<u>January 8</u> Saturday 8:00 AM	4-B-9 160 hwy miles	<u>C&O Towpath, Maryland</u> Fast paced hike along the C&O towpath starting at Four Locks (MP 107) with a side trip to Fort Frederick (MP 112), originally built in 1755, ending at Licking Creek Aqueduct (MP 116). Meet only at parking area on PA Rte 114 West off exit 57 of I-81. Dress warmly, bring lunch and water. Leader: Karen Balaban, 234-3357, kmbalaban@balabanllc.com
<u>January 9</u> Sunday 11:00 AM	1-A-2+ 0 hwy miles	<u>Farm Show Hike</u> Walk to the Farm Show. Enjoy lunch at the food area. Spend as much time as you wish and return on your own. Leader: Susanne Donmoyer, 545-5308
<u>January 11</u> Tuesday 9:00 AM	2-C-4.5 25 hwy miles	<u>Whiskey Springs Road to Rte 34</u> A winding, wooded section of the Appalachian Trail. Meet only at the Mid-Atlantic A.T. office across from the Post Office in Boiling Springs or call leaders. Bring water and snacks. Optional lunch stop in Mt. Holly or Boiling Springs. Leaders: Dick Martin and Thyra Sperry, 258-5261, hikesperry@aol.com
<u>January 11</u> Tuesday 7:00 PM	Members and Guests Meeting	<u>Winter Meeting for Members and Guests</u> The meeting will feature refreshments for new, prospective and current members, hike scheduling for the March, April and May quarter and a special presentation - see page 9 for details. Location: West Shore Senior Citizens Center, 122 Geary Avenue, New Cumberland. Contact: Barbara Harvey, 766-7868
<u>January 16</u> Sunday 9:00 AM	2-D-5 30 hwy miles	<u>Peters Mountain – Clarks Ferry on AT</u> Moderate pace. Steady climb over rocky terrain. Great view of river. Bring lunch and water. Alternate meeting place: 9:30 AM at Clarks Ferry Bridge. Leader: Richard Green, 671-8744
<u>January 23</u> Sunday 9:00 AM	3-D-12 30 hwy miles	<u>Clarks Valley and Stony Mountain</u> We'll see the fire tower, the Devil's Racecourse and the ruins of Rattling Run Village. Bring lunch and water and expect winter conditions. Leader: John Lenahan. 737-7675, jlenahan@starblind.com
<u>January 29</u> Saturday 1:00 PM	2-B-5 90 hwy miles	<u>Box Car Rocks</u> An in-and-out hike to an outstanding formation of rocks, old strip mining sites and a view of Broad Mountain. Moderate pace, flat terrain. Bring snacks and water. Leader: Katie Barker, 249-6727

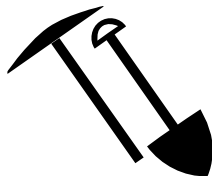
<u>January 30</u> Sunday 1:00 PM	2-A-7 12 hwy miles	<u>Conewago Trail</u> Pass through wooded sections of the Conewago Trail with a canopy of trees, pastoral meadows and active farms. Meet only at the Dress Barn parking lot at Hershey Outlets Leader: Kris Kyler, 986-3114
<u>February 5</u> Saturday 8:30 AM	3-C-13 120 hwy miles	<u>Catoctin Trail (Catoctin Furnace to Mt. Zion Road)</u> Hike north through Cunningham Falls State Park and Catoctin Mountain park. Side excursion to Cunningham Falls. Meet only at the Borders Camp Hill Parking lot. Dress warmly, pack lunch and bring water Leader: Karen Balaban, 234-3357, kmbalaban@balabanllc.com
<u>February 6</u> Sunday 1:30 PM	1-A-3 0 hwy miles	<u>Bullfrog Valley – Shanks Park</u> Easy walk from Bullfrog Valley parking lot to Park. Circle park and return. Bring water and snacks. Meet only at the Bullfrog Road parking lot. Leader: Susanne Donmoyer, 545-5308
<u>February 12</u> Saturday 9:30 AM	1-B-6 30 hwy miles	<u>Laurel's Birthday Hike</u> Celebrate Laurel's 2nd birthday with a circuit hike on the trails of Derry Township. Call SATC's youngest hike leader (or her parents) the week before the hike in case conditions appear adverse, ice or deep snow will cause reroute. Bring water. Leader: Laurel Fleszar, 583-2093; laurel@fleszar.org
<u>February 13</u> Sunday 1:00 PM	2-A-5 10 hwy miles	<u>Hershey Hike/Bike Trail</u> Bring snacks and water. Meet only at the Dress Barn parking lot at Hershey Outlets Leader: Kris Kyler, 986-3114
<u>February 15</u> Tuesday 9:00 AM	2-C-5 10 hwy miles	<u>Darlington Trail</u> Sterrets Gap to Millers Gap. Meet only at the large parking area on Rt. 114 near I-81. Bring lunch and water. Leader: Louise Sis, 774-0196
<u>February 20</u> Sunday 9:00 AM	2-D-5 50 hwy miles	<u>Mt. Gretna – Horse Shoe Trail to Tower</u> Moderate pace, one climb to observation tower. Bring water and lunch. Dress warmly and look for snow. Alternate meeting place: 9:45 AM, Colebrook, Rte 117 at rail trail parking area. Leader: Richard Green, 671-8744
<u>February 27</u> Sunday 11:00 AM	2-A-5 0 hwy miles	<u>Harrisburg Walkabout</u> Discover some of the neighborhoods of Harrisburg City, including Queen Anne architecture, the Broad Street market and the Doughboy monument of WWI. Bring water and a snack. Leader: Allison MacGillivray, 649-4208, bushwack@mail.com

KEYSTONE TRAIL MAINTENANCE - 2005

Further details at <http://www.kta-hike.org/ktacare.htm>

March 18-20 Keystone State Park
Lodging in heated park cabins.
Leader: Joe Healey, 570-655-4979

April 15-17 Link Trail
Camp at Rich Scanlon's cabin
Leader: Mike Sausser, 570-739-4803



May 13-15 Donut Hole Trail
Camp at Hyner Lodge
Leader: Joe Healey, 570-655-4979

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, access from 7th Street) 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 7th Street, opposite the Herr Street underpass. Five additional minutes will be allowed for arrival 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. Some hikes require advance registration with the hike leader, please check the schedule for this requirement.

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 HIKE

PACE Codes

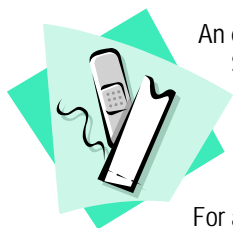
- 1 - Leisurely : nature or historical walk; frequent stops for observation**
- 2 - Moderate : steady, 1 to 2 miles per hour (mph)**
- 3 - Brisk : steady, 2 to 3 mph**
- 4 - Fast : 3 to 4 mph; very short breaks; an anaerobic workout**

TERRAIN Codes

- A - Solid pavement/sidewalk**
- B - Soft ground/sand/carriage trails; nearly level; few rocks or obstructions (roots)**
- C - Some rocks/roots/obstructions; climbs and descents totaling up to 1000 feet possible**
- D - Steep hills, rocks/roots/obstructions likely; frequent climbs and descents with a total of more than 1000 feet**
- E - Extremely difficult; some or all of these features possible or likely: rough footing (rocks, roots); unbridged stream crossings; non technical rock climbing/scrambling; boulder fields; bushwhacking; individual climbs and descents over 1,000 vertical feet**

MILEAGE - Estimated by the hike leader

COURSES - Wilderness First Aid



An eighteen-hour class in Wilderness First Aid will be conducted in Harrisburg on March 19-20 and June 18-19. The cost is \$160.

The course includes classroom study, hands-on practice, and results in a two-year certification. Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis. Wilderness First Aid is a program of the Wilderness Safety Council and meets ACA standards for 60 minutes or more from definitive medical treatment.

For additional information phone (703) 836-8905 or visit <http://wfa.net>

Other dates and locations:

Alpine, NJ: February 5-6, April 2-3, June 11-12
Philadelphia, PA: February 26-27, June 4-5
Newark, DE: April 9-10

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear SATC Members,

Good News! Tyra Sperry was named Volunteer of the Year at the annual Middle Region Meeting of the Appalachian Trail Conference.

Bad News! As nearly as can be determined SATC has been running a deficit these past two years. The Board decided to raise the yearly dues from \$7 a person to \$10 a person and from \$10 joint membership to \$15 joint membership. The increase will take effect from this issue of the Bushwack Bulletin.

The Appalachian Trail Conference and the Keystone Trails Association both want to change their names. The ATC wants to change their name to Appalachian Trail Conservancy and the KTA to Keystone Hiking Trails Association.

The reason the ATC wants to change is that the word conference now has a new meaning. To most people it means a big meeting. The KTA wants to change their name because trails no longer means only hiking trails. The term trails includes snowmobile, ATV, horse, and biking trails.

Both the ATC and the KTA are changing their basic structure. Both are getting a board of directors. The ATC's board of director's primary concern is going to be fund raising. The care of the footpath will be in the hands of a Stewardship Committee and a Regional Partnership Committee. The KTA board will be in charge of running KTA. They will hire an Executive Director whose main job will be fund raising. In both cases the preservation of the trails need an infusion of money. Please join the ATC and the KTA.

*Happy Trails,
Barb Harvey*



To our hike leaders: Karen Balaban, Sam Barker, Melanie DeMartyn, Susanne Donmoyer, Juliet Fuller, J.D. Goodall, Richard Green, Barb & Sam Harvey, Jon Kohn, Allison MacGillivray, Rodney Manweiler, Shirley McLaren, Frank McKniff, Sylvia Miller, Louise & Richard Sis, Barbara Van Horn, Will & Jane Webster, Jeff Willard, John Zerphey.

To our maintainers: Tim Bachman, Dick Barrick, Jamie Bashore, Leo Boye, Jeff Buehler, Sandy Buehler, Doug Cordelli, Phil Day, Susanne Donmoyer, Bob Doren, Mary Drury, Sara Ford, Jason Griffith, Martin Gromulat, Barb & Sam Harvey, Jim Hegeman, Gary Hetrick, Matt Hetrick, Gary La Belle, Chris Lucas, Joe Lucas, Regen Maly, Pat Markovic, Dick Martin, Mike Patterson, Charlie Paul, Tom Scully, Marie Shubert, Louise Sis, Thyra Sperry, Barb Strock, Anne Tantum, Park Trullinger, Jane Webster, Jeff Willard, Heidi Witmer, John Zerphey.

To Our Permanent Maintainers: Jeff Bueler, Suzanne Donmoyer, Pete Fleszar, Barb & Sam Harvey, Dave Hrobuchak, Gary LaBelle, Debbie Mabry, Pat Markovic, Jeff Willard.

To: John Zerphey, Ray Swingholm, Ann B. Tantum, Loretta Cairo and Barbara Van Horn for calling all of the people who didn't renew their membership.

To: the Editor - Allison MacGillivray for the new and improved Bushwack Bulletin.

To: Rob Shaw for computer work.

To: Stacy Creech, Susanne Donmoyer and Sam & Katie Barker for getting the hike schedule together.

To: the SATC Board and Officers.



TRAILMASTER'S NOTES

SATC recently completed work on a short relocation of the Appalachian Trail on Peter's Mountain, SGL# 211, approximately one half mile south of the Rte 325 road crossing in Clark's Valley. This relocation was approved by the PGC back in November 2001. Construction by SATC volunteers did not start until March 2003 due to other trail work priorities.

This approximately 1000 foot long relocation consists of one long switchback and utilizes properly graded side-hill construction almost its entire length. It replaces a steep section of trail that was becoming badly eroded and was near seasonal spring seeps. The new trail section was built to Appalachian Trail Conference standards for new trail construction and is now clearly paint blazed

and open for use. The old section of trail was blocked off with forest debris and all paint blazes removed or painted over in natural tones.

This project was completed by 31 volunteers who gave 512 hours of fieldwork and travel time during nine club sponsored work trips. The work was especially arduous due to side-hill digging in very rocky soils. The completed trail section was built with minimal erosion control structures, as the side-hill construction technique should provide for proper drainage. Future maintenance needs will be minimal.

If you have any questions or comments about the construction please contact me. We hope to work cooperatively with the PGC on future trail projects.

Jeff Buehler - SATC Trailmaster.

NEW MEMBERS

Please join us in welcoming these new members:

Kathleen Belkins	Middletown	Joanne Phelps	Harrisburg
Jonelle & Tom Darr	Camp Hill	Bart Richwine & Lisa Baer	New Bloomfield
Catherine Duerr & Sean Flanagan	Enola	Steven Roth	Palmyra
Daniel Grassian	Carlisle	Heather Sciortino	Mechanicsburg
Martin Gromulat & Susan Chesler	Harrisburg	Elaine Sheffield	Camp Hill
David & Gail Hrobuchak	Harrisburg	Andrea Sherman	Lebanon
Ann Keiser	Camp Hill	Marie Smith	Newport
Richard Kushner & Karen Stilp	Dauphin	Dan Snowden	Harrisburg
Barbel Leftault	Newport	Marie Spinelli	Palmyra
Gini Maus	Camp Hill	Rachelle Tiffany & Andrew Thompson	Camp Hill
Sue Nelson	Mechanicsburg	Natasha Turaki	Harrisburg
Caroline Parke	Hummelstown	Richard Ulsh	Harrisburg
Jan Parthemore	York	John & Jennifer Utterback	Palmyra
Todd & Karen Peffer	Mechanicsburg	Bethany Vendith	Harrisburg

A reminder for the 2004 - 2005 Pennsylvania hunting seasons

IF YOU'RE OUT THERE, BE AWARE WEAR BLAZE ORANGE FOR SAFETY

It is unlawful for non-hunters to be present on State Game Lands from November 15 through December 15 inclusive without wearing at least a fluorescent orange hat, visible from 360°; a vest or jacket of 250 sq. inches of safety orange is recommended. Sportsmen will be hunting in Game Lands, State Forests and some State Parks. Hunting is prohibited on the Appalachian Trail's National Park Service-owned corridor, but not all hunters are aware of this.

For more details on hunting seasons, check out www.pgc.state.pa.us

Trail Maintainers Needed



SATC is still looking for additional volunteer trail maintainers to help in maintaining sections of our hiking trails. Historically, we have relied on scheduled club work trips to maintain our trails and for construction of new or relocated trails. With the increasing number of miles of trails that the club is responsible for, and the irregular turn out of volunteers on club work trips, it is preferable to also have individual trail section maintainers to supplement the work trips.



The Club is currently assigned 9.6 miles of the Appalachian Trail on Peter's Mountain in Dauphin County but is expected to add 11 more miles of the trail on Stony and Sharp Mountains (State Game Lands #211) this fall when management responsibility is formally transferred from the Brandywine Valley Outing Club of Wilmington, DE to SATC. In addition, the Club maintains 2.8 miles of side trails that connect with the A.T. on Peter's Mountain; the 7.8-mile long Darlington Trail on Blue and Little mountains in Cumberland and Perry Counties; and a 7.4-mile long section of the Horseshoe Trail in Dauphin County. In all, we are responsible for maintaining about 40 miles of trails.

A committee, consisting of the Trailmaster and other interested club volunteers has determined the breakdown of trail sections for individual trail maintainers. Trail section lengths vary from approximately 1 to 3 miles depending on terrain and access points. The duties of maintainers will be general in nature – consisting of regular visits to their trail section and performing light maintenance activities involving weeding and pruning trail-side plant growth; cutting out and removing small tree blow downs and fallen branches; cleaning out water bars; and trash pick-up and removal. Heavy duty trail construction and enhancement work; large tree blow down removal; and other work requiring the club trail crew will still be done with scheduled club work trips. Trail paint blazing will be done by experienced designated volunteers to assure consistency and quality. Volunteers for these assignments will receive written trail maintenance standards and guidelines our club adheres to; a trail section maintainer's register showing all trail sections and each maintainer's name and contact information; trail maintenance work logs to keep track of hours; and the necessary tools if they want/need them (may use personal tools if they prefer). A new (2004 edition) Appalachian Trail map, section 7 & 8, will be given to each trail maintainer. This comprehensive map shows all the trails SATC currently maintains for the public.

Anyone interested in these volunteer positions please contact: Jeff Buehler - SATC Trailmaster (717) 657-8281 or email: athikerjb@aol.com

T-shirt Salesperson

There is an opportunity to help the club by becoming our t-shirt salesperson.



You would sell the shirts at club meetings, hikes and social events. It doesn't take much time and is an important job.

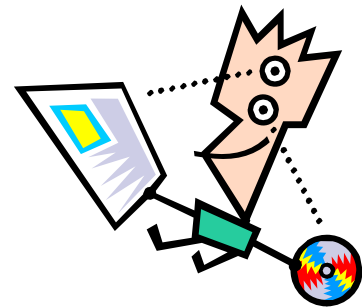


Club Historian

SATC needs a club historian. This involves caring for the archives. We are seeking someone to organize the archives and keep them up to date.

Hike Schedule Coordinator

We need someone to get the hike information together to be e-mailed to the Editor for the Bushwack Bulletin, to the Webmaster and to our Publicity Volunteer (you can e-mailed all three in one go!). This involves typing the information into a Microsoft Word table on your computer and checking for accuracy.



Editor Bushwack Bulletin

Our Editor is likely to be returning to New Zealand in mid-2005. We are looking for someone to compile the Bushwack Bulletin, either in Microsoft Word, Publisher or similar. Assistance will be available in training the new Editor and a helpful guideline document is on hand.

If you are interested in any of these volunteer opportunities contact Barbara Harvey bjaneharvey@aol.com or (717) 766-7868.

CLUB NOTICES – don't forget these fun events!

Holiday Party



When: Saturday, December 4 at 7:00 pm
Where: West Shore Senior Citizen Center, 122 Geary Street,
New Cumberland

To 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 and
Barbara Harvey 766-7868

Important Note:

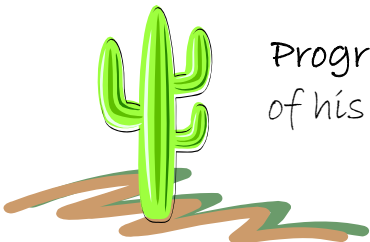
Please call a committee member so that we will know who is planning to come and what they intend to bring. If you are not sure what to bring, the committee can offer suggestions on what is needed.

Members are asked to bring favorite slides taken 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 some along.



Winter Meeting: January 11th at 7pm
West Shore Senior Citizens' Center
New Cumberland
All welcome: why not bring a friend?



Program: SATC member Frank Bohn will present a slide show of his trip to Arizona, including Sedona & Tucson



It may seem a long time to March but the next Bushwack Bulletin will be on its way and time will be short to return your registration for an excellent night out.

The meal will include a buffet with stuffed boneless chicken breast and cheese lasagna, potatoes, vegetables, salad, dessert, coffee, tea and fruit punch.

Date: Saturday March 19th
Time: From 6pm
Venue: Geo's Family Restaurant
620 Allentown Blvd, Harrisburg
Cost: \$20 per person, the restaurant is BYOB

A reservation form is attached to the back of this issue of the Bushwack Bulletin, payment is due by March 9th.

Directions to Geo's: From I-81 take the 72A exit (Paxtonia)
Turn left onto Allentown Blvd (Route 22)
Restaurant is about one block on the left.

From Harrisburg the restaurant is about one block beyond the I-81 access on Allentown Blvd (Route 22).