



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.

VOLUME 49 – No 4

www.libertynet.org/susqatc

DECEMBER 2003 – JANUARY 2004

OUR OBJECTIVES: GROUP HIKING + TRAIL MAINTENANCE + OUTDOOR RECREATION

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

<u>December 6</u> Saturday 9:30 AM	B+ 5-7 miles 30 hwy miles	<u>Appalachian Trail-Lickdale</u> Some hills, one steep one. Moderate pace. Bring lunch and water. No sneakers. Wear sturdy boots and blaze orange. Meet only at the Hershey Outlets, at the Dress Barn bus stop. Leader: Sylvia Miller, 533-5422; hiker@paonline.com
<u>December 6</u> Saturday 7:00 PM	HOLIDAY PARTY	<u>Annual Holiday Party</u> Get together with new and old hiking friends. Fast pace to the buffet line, easy terrain. See article on page 7 for details.
<u>December 13</u> Saturday 9:00 AM	E 20 miles 0 hwy miles	<u>Capital Area Greenbelt</u> Hike the entire Greenbelt. Fast pace, wear comfortable shoes. Trail is mostly flat and not rocky. We will stop at parks and view points. Call leader for options for doing less than the full 20 miles. Bring lunch and water. Leader: John Lenahan, 737-7675, jlennahan@starblind.com
<u>December 13</u> Saturday 9:00 AM	C 8.7 miles 14 hwy miles	<u>Conoy Canal Trail</u> Easy level trail. Bridges over old canal locks. Trail follows the Susquehanna 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
<u>December 20</u> Saturday 9:00 AM	D 10 miles	<u>Swatara Park Loop</u> Bring lunch, water. BRING AND WEAR ORANGE. 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
<u>December 21</u> Sunday 1:00 PM	A+ 4 miles 60 hwy miles	<u>Little Buffalo State Park</u> Easy hike in state park with one moderate climb. Bring snacks and water. Leader: Frank Bohn, 234-5169

<u>December 23</u> Tuesday 6:00 PM	A 3 miles 0 hwy miles	<u>Wildwood Park After Dark</u> 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); willandjane@juno.com
<u>December 28</u> Sunday 11:30 AM	C 7 miles	<u>Darlington-Appalachian Trail</u> Lamb's 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
<u>December 28</u> Sunday 1:00 PM	B 6 miles 0 hwy miles	<u>Messiah College/Grantham Hike</u> 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
<u>January 1</u> Thursday 10:00 AM	B 5 miles 25 hwy miles	<u>Governor Dick, Mt Gretna</u> 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
<u>January 4</u> Sunday 8:00 AM	C+ 8 miles 90 hwy miles	<u>Flat Rock and Other Trails in Colonel Denning State Park</u> Some climbing on various scenic trails. Wear sturdy hiking boots. Bring lunch and water. Leader: Harold (Skip) Hetrick, 469-7367; hhetrick@pa.net
<u>January 6</u> <u>(tentative)</u> Tuesday 6:30 PM	BOARD MEETING	<u>Board of Directors Meeting</u> 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
<u>January 7</u> Wednesday 9:00 AM	B 6 miles 3 hwy miles	<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
<u>January 11</u> Sunday 9:00 AM	B+ 6 miles 40 hwy miles	<u>Peter's Mountain</u> Moderate pace with a good climb overlooking 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
<u>January 13</u> Tuesday 7:00 PM	MEMBERS AND GUESTS MEETING	<u>Winter Meeting for All Members and Guests</u> 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
<u>January 18</u> Sunday 1:30 PM	A 3 miles 4 hwy miles	<u>Wildwood in Winter</u> An easy, pleasant walk around the wetlands. Bring snacks and water. Leader: Susanne Donmoyer, 545-5308

<u>January 25</u> Sunday 1:00 PM	B 5 miles 30 hwy miles	<u>Horseshoe Trail</u> Woods roads hiking north from Manada Gap to pipeline on Second Mountain. Bring snacks and water. Leaders: Jeff Buehler and Phil Day, 657-8281
<u>January 28</u> Wednesday 9:00 AM	B 4-5 miles	<u>Gold Mine Area</u> 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
<u>February 1</u> Sunday 9:00 AM	B 6 miles 50 hwy miles	<u>Mt. Gretna - Horseshoe Trail to Tower</u> Moderate pace. One climb to observation tower. Bring lunch and water. Dress warmly. Alternate Meeting Place: Colebrook, Rt. 117 at the Rails to Trails parking at 9:45 AM Leader: Richard Green, 671-8744
<u>February 8</u> Sunday 1:00 PM	B+ 5 miles 75 hwy miles	<u>Kings Gap</u> Moderate pace, several short climbs. Sturdy shoes advised. Bring water and snacks. Leader: Louise Sis, 774-0196
<u>February 14</u> Saturday 10:00 AM	B+ 6 miles 30 hwy miles	<u>Laurel's Birthday Hike</u> Celebrate Laurel's 1 st birthday with a circuit hike on the trails of Derry Township. Bring lunch and water. Leaders: Pete Fleszar and Krista Cessna, 583-2093; pfleszar@epix.net
<u>February 15</u> Sunday 1:00 PM	C 7 miles 0 hwy miles	<u>Greenbelt Ramble</u> A loop on hard surfaces, easy walking. Bring snacks and water. Leader: Susanne Donmoyer, 545-5308
<u>February 22</u> Sunday 1:30 PM	B+ 4-5 miles 10 hwy miles	<u>Boyd Loop Hike</u> Walk on woods roads with short elevation changes. Bring snacks and water. Leader: Susanne Donmoyer, 545-5308
<u>February 23</u> Monday 7:00 PM	BUSHWACK BULLETIN MAILING	<u>Many Volunteers Needed to Assemble Bushwack Bulletin for Mailing</u> 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. 19 th Street, Camp Hill.
<u>February 29</u> Sunday 9:00 AM	C+ 7 miles 120 hwy miles	<u>Middle Creek Wildlife Management Area</u> Strenuous hike at a moderate pace over a variety of trails, including a couple of 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 footwear. 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 7th 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 HIKE

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, 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) <http://www.libertynet.org/susqatc>. 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 6th. See article on page 7 for details. The SATC picnic will be July 24th 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 (esbarker3@earthlink.net 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.

NEW MEMBERS

Please join us in welcoming these new members:

Susan Atkinson
Sharon Boyd
Ann Bruner
Elaine Davis
William & Christine De Loache
Denise Dillman
Michael Eicher
Eileen Estes
Jonathan Fuddy
Richard Goodman
Daniel & Gloria Grabenstein

Mechanicsburg
Sunbury
Berrysburg
Hershey
Boiling Springs
Mechanicsburg
Duncannon
Hershey
Maytown
Mechanicsburg
Harrisburg

Joe Harfmann
Elizabeth Lenhart
Erin Marshall
Fred Martz
Jennifer McConaghie
Joan Montello
Karen Peiffer
Carol Rentschler
Jacob Smith
Chrissy Wilson

Harrisburg
New Cumberland
Carlisle
Middletown
Enola
Carlisle
New Cumberland
Carlisle
Harrisburg
Hummelstown

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!

Picnic – 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.

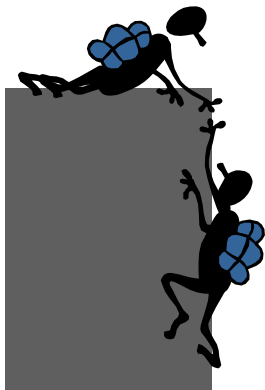
He has been the backbone to the CVATC since its inception and has coordinated and led the maintenance work trips of the Club from then to now. He served as Mid-Atlantic representative to the ATC Board, truly representing a regional voice. He is still active in the Keystone Trails Association and is respected 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 chris@wfa.net or visit <http://wfa.net>

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.