



THE HAPPY HIKER

The Official Newsletter of the Allentown Hiking Club

Member of the Appalachian Trail Conservancy and the Keystone Trails Association

President's Message: Freedom, doing our part

Every year at this time of the summer we celebrate Independence Day, and pause to reflect on our freedoms, how they were earned, and what they mean to us. We express our gratitude for those who secured for us a free country and for those whose continued efforts keep it that way. We salute the veterans among us and we are grateful for the sacrifices of so many before us who have left us this priceless legacy of freedom.

As a hiking community, one of the freedoms we embrace is the ability to step out into nature at any time and enjoy a hike or a trek whenever and wherever we please. And the best part is that there are no entrance fees to the great outdoors! We are free to jump out of our cars and onto the trails without stopping at a gate or turnstile to pay our

way. Why is this so? Because people like ourselves have volunteered their personal time to building and maintaining the trail systems we love so much. The Appalachian Trail is the quintessential example of this type of communal endeavor. Since the inception of the AT in 1921, thousands of volunteers have devoted millions of hours of labor to the creation and preservation of this phenomenal national treasure. Similarly, countless other trails in all parts of the country have been designed and realized. This is our way of sustaining America's freedom; although many of us have never and will never see military service, our contribution to American liberty is our readiness to lend the helping hands which support the hiking infrastructure of this country. The significance of this

contribution cannot be underestimated.

I am pleased to say that in the last few weeks I have seen this indomitable spirit of volunteerism alive and well in our own club. Most recently, on May 25, about 20 club members came out for our annual AT maintenance hike and spent the day ridding the trail of invasive plant species in the area between Bake Oven Knob and Bear Rocks (read the details of this event in a separate article elsewhere in this newsletter).

Cont. on page 2.

Check the club web site for changes in the hiking schedule and current news:

www.allentownhikingclub.org

President's Message, cont. from first page:

A week prior to that, a small work crew painted the privy and did miscellaneous clean-up near the Allentown Shelter. And in April, several dedicated volunteers did the annual clean-up on Locks #1 and #2 of the Lehigh Canal. All of these projects were done with the utmost cheerfulness and professionalism.

It is no surprise to me how highly the trail volunteers are esteemed by the governmental agencies which oversee these trails. I have no doubt the future of hiking trails in our great country is in very capable hands.

Allentown Hiking Club

P.O.Box 1542 — Allentown, PA 18105-1542

Sponsored by City of Allentown Department of Parks and Recreation

President.....Lucy Cantwell – (267) 664-3550 president@allentownhikingclub.org	Outerbridge Shelter Chair.....Carl Griffin - (610) 760-0479 griffins2@verizon.net
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Library.....Holly Vogler - (610) 820-0162	

Deadlines for the Summer 2014 Newsletter & Schedule

Happy Hiker Newsletter

Wednesday, September 24, 2014

Activity Schedule

Wednesday, October 1, 2014

Please forward all club related articles, thoughts, and items to the Newsletter Editor by mail or, preferably, by email. Send all hiking schedule activities to the Hiking Schedule Coordinator.

Welcome to Our New Members! - Summer 2014

Andrew Braun– Allentown, PA

Ron Kanarr– New Tripoli, PA

Ethan Zarzeka– Allentown, PA

Rosa Godshall– Orwigsburg, PA

Papagni Family– Chris, Catherine,
Demetrie, Angelina and Seraphina–
Bethlehem, PA

Paul Zarzeka– Allentown, PA

Upcoming Programs at the AHC Meetings

In addition to the normal business meeting there is also generally a presentation which is related in some way to the club's activities. Following the presentation there will be a break for refreshments.

8-6-14 | Presentation by a representative from the Mid-Atlantic office of the A.T.

Pictured on right: Volunteers gathering for the AT Maintenance Hike.



Annual AT Maintenance Hike

By Lucy Cantwell

On Sunday, May 26, a group of about 20 club members and guests gathered at the Bake Oven Knob parking lot for the annual club maintenance hike on the Appalachian Trail. The focus of the maintenance effort this year was the removal of invasive (non-native) plant species from the trail and its environs; the section of the trail we worked on was from the Bake Oven Knob parking lot south on the trail to Bear Rocks. Our goal: to remove garlic mustard and Japanese barberry plants that were growing along the trail in the hopes of preventing their continued propagation in the forest understory.

To assist us in this project, Ms. Marian Orlousky of the Appalachian Trail Conservancy joined us for the day and pointed out the alien vegetation, and instructed us in the proper methods of removal. Garlic mustard, quite mature in its development and already in flower, was pulled out by the roots and carried out of the area for disposal to prevent reseeding and regrowth. At least 10 thirty-gallon trash bags of this substance were pulled up and carted out of the woods. Japanese barberry, a larger shrub, was uprooted using professional shrub

removal equipment, and hung upside down from tree branches to decay naturally and return plant nutrients to the area. This haul represents only a small fraction of the garlic mustard and barberry population along the AT, but it is a significant accomplishment in our quest to keep the non-native plants at bay.

When the serious work of the day was completed, we enjoyed a lovely little tail-gate picnic, with hot dogs provided by the club and lots of yummy side dishes brought along by the workers. With brilliant sunshine and balmy breezes, we feasted and re-hydrated to celebrate a job well done!





If you'd like to be **privy** to everything we're doing in the AHC, come to the monthly meetings and get involved!

We'd love to see you there.

Pictured at left: Some of our wonderful volunteers after cleaning up a privy on the AT, during the Annual AT Maintenance Hike.



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE \$10.00 PER CALENDAR YEAR FROM JANUARY TO DECEMBER, AND RENEWALS MUST BE MADE BEFORE JANUARY 31ST TO STAY ON THE CLUB'S MEMBERSHIP ROLLS. DUES CAN BE PAID AT THE MONTHLY MEETING OR MAILED TO THE CLUB MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY. HOUSEHOLD DUES (MORE THAN ONE MEMBER PER ADDRESS) ARE \$15.00.

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY: Paula Uhrin: 283 Ridgeview Drive, Alburtis Pa. 18011

NAME(S):

ADDRESS:

CITY:

STATE:

ZIP:

—

PHONE:

RENEWAL

☐

NEW

☐

EMAIL:

_____ Dues @\$10.00 / \$15.00 Household

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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SML MED LRG XLRG

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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SML MED LRG XLRG

_____ Club T-shirt @ \$6.00 + \$3.50 shipping ea.

_____ Club golf shirt @ \$12.00 + \$3.50 shipping ea.

_____ Club Embroidered patch @ \$1.50 + \$.75 shipping ea.

_____ Club window decal @ \$2.50 + \$.75 shipping ea

_____ Club window cling decal @ \$2.50 + \$.75 shipping ea

Checks payable to "Allentown hiking Club"

___ Yes - Please sign me up for the Allentown Hiking Club's email list --- the AHC Forum



Summer 2014 Hiking Schedule and Upcoming Events

FOR THE MOST CURRENT SCHEDULE OF EVENTS, CHECK OUR WEBSITE
AT www.allentownhikingclub.org



MEMBER OF THE APPALACHIAN TRAIL CONSERVANCY AND THE KEYSTONE TRAILS ASSOCIATION

The general public is invited to join us on hikes and other events. If a club or organization wishes to include one of our hikes as a formal activity on its schedule, we ask that it contact the leader in advance for permission. Times listed are departure times; please arrive at least 15 minutes before the listed time. Starting times are strictly observed and appropriate clothing and sturdy shoes/boots should be worn at all times.

Generally, our pace is moderate with opportunities for resting and sightseeing. Every attempt is made to assist and encourage hikers, but we cannot be responsible for their safety on the trail. Any rugged outdoor activity entails risk, and we expect all participants to rely on their own judgment and good sense to take care of themselves and know their limitations. Anyone under 18 must be accompanied and supervised by an adult. Hikers are expected not to lag too far behind the main party.

We car-pool as much as possible to save fuel. PASSENGERS PAY DRIVERS 10 CENTS PER MILE TO DEFRAY FUEL EXPENSE. Drivers, please remember to check your mileage and let the passengers know how much mileage reimbursement they owe you.

Meetings are held at 7:30 pm the first Wednesday of the month at St. Timothy's Lutheran Church, 140 South Ott Street, Allentown, Pa. Meetings include a discussion of the previous month's activities, as well as upcoming activities. Scheduling meetings are held quarterly for members to coordinate hikes/trips, etc. for the upcoming schedule. All members are invited and encouraged to schedule activities; we are a 100% volunteer organization, and it is up to members to keep the schedule filled.

AHC HIKE RATING SYSTEM

In an attempt to assist hikers, a hike rating system has been set up to allow the hiker to judge his/her ability to complete the hike. The rating system will precede the Allentown Hiking Club's usual hike description. On multi-day outings such as backpacks, the rating for the hike will reflect the distance traveled on a per-day basis. Remember that the hike ratings are assigned by the hike leader, and are therefore based on the leader's subjective opinion.

RATING	DESCRIPTION (distance,terrain,pace)
<u>A+</u>	<u>Up to 7 miles, little climbing and easy terrain, 2 mph or slower</u>
<u>A</u>	<u>Up to 7 miles, some climbing and/or rocky terrain, 2 mph or slower</u>
<u>B+</u>	<u>Up to 7 miles, some climbing and/or rocky terrain, 2 to 2.5 mph</u>
<u>B</u>	<u>7-10 miles, some climbing and easy terrain 2 to 2.5 mph</u>
<u>C+</u>	<u>7-10 miles, some climbing and/or rocky terrain, 2 to 2.5 mph</u>
<u>C</u>	<u>7-10 miles significant climbing and/or rocky terrain, 2 to 2.5 mph</u>
<u>D+</u>	<u>10-12 miles, some climbing and/or rocky terrain, 2 to 2.5 mph</u>
<u>D</u>	<u>10-12 miles, significant climbing and/or rocky terrain, 2 to 2.5 mph</u>
<u>E+</u>	<u>Over 12 miles, some climbing and/or rocky terrain, over 2.5 mph</u>
<u>E</u>	<u>Over 12 miles, significant climbing and/or rocky terrain, over 2.5 mph</u>
<u>U</u>	<u>Hike unrated by hike leader</u>

<p>Tuesday</p> <p>7-1-14 10:00 am</p> <p>Hike / bike / on-water distance: 6.5 miles</p> <p>Hike rating: U</p>	<p>Ironton Rail Trail Hike</p> <p>Hike the spur of this local rail trail.</p> <p>The spur is not paved and is less heavily used. We will walk through the Whitehall Parkway, see remnants of the valley's cement industry, and pass by the historic Troxell-Steckel House, and then retrace our path back to our cars. Bring a snack and water. Steady rain cancels.</p> <p>Details</p> <p>Meeting place: Ironton Trail parking lot on Chestnut Street. From Allentown, drive north on PA 145. Turn right on Chestnut Street (Sheetz Gas Station), and drive to parking lot (on your right).</p> <p>Leader: Barbara Wiemann 610-262-6977 blwiemann@gmail.com Posted on meetup.com? YES</p>
<p>Wednesday</p> <p>7-2-14 6:30 pm</p> <p>Annual summer potluck picnic</p>	<p>July Monthly Meeting and Potluck Picnic at Franco Park</p> <p>The club will provide hot dogs and drinks. We ask our members to bring a favorite dish to share with the group. No need to call about what to bring. We always get a variety of tasty dishes which, in turn, becomes a grand feast. DIRECTIONS: I-78 towards Allentown to Lehigh St. and north to Downflake Lane (1st light) turn right. Proceed to S. 12th St. and turn right. Continue to next light which is Emaus Ave. Turn left on to Emaus Ave. and continue to Honeysuckle Rd. Turn right at Salisbury Fire Co., (Honeysuckle Rd), left onto Black River Rd. Franco Park is 1/4 mile on the left.</p> <p>Details</p> <p>Posted on meetup.com? NO Meeting place: Franco Park, Salisbury Township</p> <p>Leader: Anne Griffin 610-760-0479 Co-leader: Edna Himmler 610-797-5182 ehimmler@ptd.net</p>
<p>Tuesday</p> <p>7-15-14 10:00 am</p> <p>Hike / bike / on-water distance: 5-6 miles</p> <p>Hike rating: U</p>	<p>Mariton Wildlife Sanctuary</p> <p>Explore the Sanctuary's trails.</p> <p>The 200-acre Mariton Wildlife Sanctuary and Wilderness Trust is perched on the steep slopes of Bougher Hill overlooking the scenic Delaware River. Hiking trails lead through a variety of forest types and meadow areas. Bring water and snacks. Steady rain cancels.</p> <p>Details</p> <p>Meeting place: Mariton parking lot. From Easton, take Rt. 611 south toward Riegelsville. At the northern end of the borough, turn right onto Spring Hill Rd.. Turn right onto Sunnyside Rd. and follow to parking lot.</p> <p>Leader: Barbara Wiemann 610-262-6977 blwiemann@gmail.com Posted on meetup.com? YES</p>
<p>Saturday</p> <p>7-19-14 9:00 am</p> <p>Hike / bike / on-water distance: 8.5 miles</p> <p>Hike rating: C+</p>	<p>Trexler Nature Preserve Border Trail</p> <p>Walk the entire border trail and ford the Jordan Creek.</p> <p>Water and food advised.</p> <p>Details</p> <p>Meeting place: Trexler Environmental Center Parking Lot.</p> <p>Leader: Richard Saul 610-767-0282 Posted on meetup.com? NO</p>
<p>Sunday</p> <p>7-27-14 10:00 am</p> <p>Hike / bike / on-water distance: 8-10 miles</p> <p>Hike rating: U</p>	<p>Hike or Bike Nor/Bath Rail Trail</p> <p>Hike or bike Nor/Bath Rail Trail followed by picnic and swim at our home.</p> <p>Hot dogs and drinks will be provided.</p> <p>Details</p> <p>Meeting place: Meet at 607 Buckingham Drive, Northampton. Please contact hike leader if you are coming as well as directions to their home.</p> <p>Leader: Ed Ritter 610-261-1847 critter888@verizon.net</p> <p>Co-leader: Susan Ritter 610-261-1847 Posted on meetup.com? YES</p>
<p>Tuesday</p> <p>7-29-14 9:30 am</p> <p>Hike / bike / on-water distance: 6 miles</p> <p>Hike rating: U</p>	<p>Tatamy Trail</p> <p>Hike a paved rail trail in Northampton County. The Tatamy Trail runs from the Palmer Recreation Trail to Tatamy, following the Bushkill Creek in the northern section and connecting several township parks. We will begin at Mill Race Park and walk south thru Penn's Grant and Penn Pump Parks to Hackett Parks. We will retrace our path back to our cars. Bring water and snacks. Steady rain cancels.</p> <p>Details</p> <p>Meeting place: Meet at Mill Race Park. From US 22 and PA 248 near Easton, take PA 248 north to Van Buren Rd. Turn right on Van Buren. Then turn right onto Newlins Mill Rd. Follow Newlins Mill to Mill Race Park, which will be on your left.</p> <p>Leader: Barbara Wiemann 610-262-6977 blwiemann@gmail.com Posted on meetup.com? YES</p>

<p>Saturday</p> <p>8-2-14 12:00 noon</p>	<p>Onyx Cave Tour and Birthday Party</p> <p>Cave tour and birthday party for Ed Case who did some volunteer work for the Allentown Hiking Club.</p> <p>This is a PRIVATE TOUR! You MUST be a member to tour the cave. It is on private property. Applications available for \$10.00. Deadline RSVP for Dietrichs hot dogs is July 30 at 12 noon. If you miss the deadline you will get a BERKS hot dog.</p> <p>Details Meeting place: Perry Township Recreation Area - Rte 662 to Moselem Springs Road, then Ontelaunee Trail to Onyx Cave Rd.(The cave is across the street from Perry Twp. Rec. area). Leader: Ron Kieffer 610-562-8680 Co-leader: Mercedes Jurkiewicz 484-515-8001 Posted on meetup.com? NO</p>
<p>Wednesday</p> <p>8-6-14 7:30 pm</p>	<p>AUGUST MONTHLY MEETING</p> <p>Starting at 7:30 PM there will be a presentation by a representative from the Mid-Atlantic office of the A.T. Following the presentation there will be a break for refreshments and our monthly business meeting.</p> <p>Details Meeting place: St. Timothy's Lutheran Church, 140 South Ott St., Allentown, PA Leader: Lucy Cantwell 215-855-2793 Posted on meetup.com? NO</p>
<p>Tuesday</p> <p>8-12-14 9:30 am</p> <p>Hike / bike / on-water distance: 6 miles</p> <p>Hike rating: U</p>	<p>Saucon Rail Trail</p> <p>Hike a crushed stone trail.</p> <p>We will start at Grist Mill Park in Hellertown and head south towards Upper Saucon Community Park. Bring snacks and water. Steady rain cancels.</p> <p>Details Meeting place: Meet at Grist Mill Park, 99 W. Walnut St., Hellertown. Leader: Barbara Wiemann 610-262-6977 blwiemann@gmail.com Posted on meetup.com? YES</p>
<p>Tuesday</p> <p>8-26-14 9:30 am</p> <p>Hike / bike / on-water distance: 6 miles</p> <p>Hike rating: U</p>	<p>Plainfield Rail Trail</p> <p>Hike a scenic trail that follows the Bushkill Creek.</p> <p>The pathway is surfaced with an unusual crushed red stone. Large trees line the trail on both sides, framing views of Bushkill Creek as it meanders in and out of view. The trail crosses the creek five times on wooden bridges. Bring snacks and water. Steady rain cancels.</p> <p>Details Meeting place: From the Stockertown exit of Rt. 33, turn right at the first stop sign. At the next light, turn left onto Sullivan Trail Road. Continue about 0.75 mile and pass a power station on the right. Park in the lot past the power station. Leader: Barbara Wiemann 610-262-6977 blwiemann@gmail.com Posted on meetup.com? YES</p>
<p>Wednesday</p> <p>9-3-14 7:30 pm</p>	<p>SEPTEMBER MONTHLY MEETING</p> <p>Monthly business and hike scheduling meeting for Fall 2014.</p> <p>Following the business meeting we will be looking to schedule hikes and other events for October, November and December 2014. These scheduled events will be published in our Fall Happy Hiker and posted on our website. Please complete the AHC Hike/Event form and give to the Hiking Schedule Coordinator Edna Himmler.</p> <p>Details Meeting place: ST. Timothy's Lutheran Church, 140 South Ott St., Allentown, PA Leader: Lucy Cantwell 215-855-2793 Posted on meetup.com? NO</p>
<p>Saturday</p> <p>9-20-14 10:00 am</p> <p>Round trip road miles distance: 50 miles</p> <p>Hike / bike / on-water distance: 4 miles</p> <p>Hike rating: A+</p>	<p>Deep Lake Hike</p> <p>Hike to Deep Lake and back on State Game Lands</p> <p>Bring Lunch and water. No pets please.</p> <p>Details Meeting place: Please contact the event leader Leader: Jim Gabovitz 610-262-3578 gabby@enter.net Posted on meetup.com? NO</p>

AHC Hike / Event Form - Please fill out all fields and give this to the Hiking Scheduling Coordinator at the scheduling meeting or see page 2 of The Happy Hiker for email and phone contact information.

Date(s): _____ Time: _____

Leader: _____ email: _____ Phone: _____

Co-Leader: _____ email: _____ Phone: _____

Type Of Event (circle one): hike / meeting / maintenance / backpack / other

Round trip road miles: _____ Hike distance: _____ miles

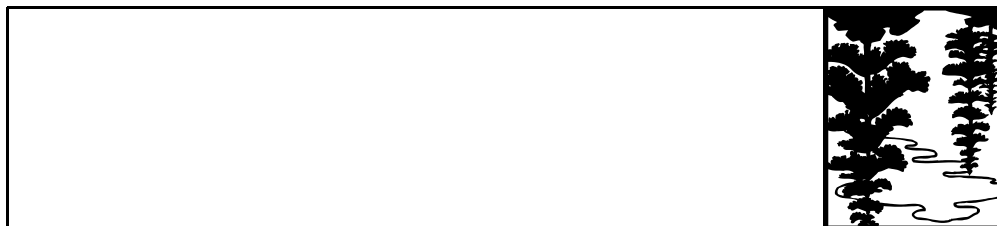
Meeting Place: check _____ contact hike leader, or enter directions

Hike Rating (from AHC Hike Rating System): _____

Add this hike to Meetup.com ? yes / no (select one)

If yes limit hike to _____ hikers or no limit.

Event Title: _____



Please Rush-Dated Material

Allentown Hiking Club
P.O. Box 1542
Allentown, Pa 18105-1542

