

WEEKEND ACTIVITIES

Bill Hardam, Backpacking Chair (H: 302/654-6577)
Julius Meisel, Weekend Hiking Chair (H: 302/652-0844)

BACKPACKING

ATTENTION NEW BACKPACKERS: We'll hold an orientation session from 7:30 to 9:00 PM on Tuesday, March 28 for anyone interested in learning about backpacking – call Bill (see above) to indicate interest.

2- and 3-day Trips

May 6-7, Beginner Backpacker, Appalachian Trail, PA. Leaders: Emily Cwyk (C: 610-322-0048; E: emily.cwyk@gmail.com), and Melissa Steffy (H: 985/807-6089; E: melstef@comcast.net). Route is @ 5.2 miles each day on the world-famous AT, between PA 501 and the Hertlein campsite. The route includes several scenic vistas and is a good trip for beginners or those needing a refresher. We will be carpooling, leaving at 7:00 a.m. on Saturday from Wilmington and will be heading home by 2PM on Sunday. Contact either of the leaders for further details.

Also, see above to sign up for an orientation to backpacking.

May 19 - 21, Susquehannock Trail, north-central PA. Leader: Rob King (C: 302-379-3179; E: robking3179@gmail.com). The Susquehannock Trail System is in remote Potter County east of Coudersport PA; some really pretty county. Friday night, we'll stay at the Susquehannock Lodge; long a WTC favorite. Saturday morning, we'll be shuttled to our trailhead, then hike back 20 miles to the lodge over Saturday-Sunday. In May, we should enjoy cool spring weather and beautiful blooms. The hike has some pretty good hills. Participants need to be prepared for that and think about packing light! The Lodge is \$65 plus tax per person, including dinner and lodging Friday night and breakfast on Saturday. We'll share the cost of the shuttle to the trailhead. Carpooling will be encouraged. Contact Rob for additional details or to sign up for the trip.

June YY, Allegheny Front Trail, north-central PA.

Leader Needed, Bill will assist planning.

WTC last did this hike in 2005. It is a 42 mile-long loop trail in Moshannon State Forest in western Centre County that roughly circles Black Moshannon State Park. Except for the short distance within the state park boundaries, the entire length of the AFT is within the state forest. It can be a 2-day or 3-day adventure.

WEEKEND ACTIVITIES

Bill Hardam, Backpacking Chair (H: 302/654-6577)
Julius Meisel, Weekend Hiking Chair (H: 302/652-0844)

July 29-30, Catskills - Peekamoose & Table Mtns. Leader: Glenn Shealy (C: 302/354-0031, H: 302/234-9756, E: glennshealy@gmail.com). This is an a-b-a type route: on Saturday we'll climb Peekamoose Mt., descend Table Mt., & camp adjacent to the Neversink River. On Sunday we'll retrace our steps. A saddle or col connects the two peaks. Total distance traveled will be approximately 19.5 miles. Vertical rise & drop is approximately 1500 feet both days. There are several magnificent overlooks on the trail and Buttermilk Falls is located just off the trailhead, as well as Rondout Creek: an opportunity for a cool swim after the hike. The area is accessed via exit 18 on the NY Thruway. Contact Glenn for details and to sign up.

August 11-13, Chuck Keiper Trail, PA. Leaders: Mike McKenna & Florence Charlton (H: 610/274-8618; E: jmmckenna2@gmail.com). The Chuck Keiper Trail is in remote Sproul State Forest in north central Pennsylvania with loops of 22 and 32 miles going through some of the wildest lands in Pennsylvania. We are planning a 2-day, 1-night trip on the 22-mile eastern loop. It is a four-hour drive, and we will car camp near the start on Friday night so that we can get an early start on Saturday. Contact us for more details.

September XX, Dolly Sods Wilderness, WVA. This can be a 21-mile loop hike.

Leader Needed, Bill will assist planning.

Arguably one of the most unique, and beautiful hiking areas on the East Coast. The high plateaus of Dolly Sods are made up of wind carved sand stone, stunted red spruce, grassy meadows, and sphagnum bogs. The characteristic meadows are the result of logging that took place from 1899 to 1924. During the Second World War the U.S. Army used the area for artillery and mortar training,

The name Dolly Sods derives from a combination of Dahles, a local 18th century family, and Sods, meaning an open mountaintop or meadow. After WWII the area fell into neglect, and was threatened by multiple construction and mining project proposals. Then in the early 1970's concerned environmentalists, along with The Nature Conservancy, began purchasing the land for preservation and recreational use. Today the Dolly Sods Wilderness Area comprises 17,371 acres.

October 20-22, Loyalsock Trail, Central PA. Leaders: Carole Ann Glazar (C: 302/668-5559; E: asparagus777@hotmail.com) and Rob King (C: 302-379-3179; E: robking3179@gmail.com). The scenic and challenging Loyalsock Trail runs roughly parallel to its namesake creek. It frequently climbs up and down ridges and mountaintops, passing many waterfalls, lakes, ponds, and historic places. The trail is known for its many fine vistas. We are planning an 18 to 20-mile shuttle hike, more details later.

WEEKEND ACTIVITIES

Bill Hardam, Backpacking Chair (H: 302/654-6577)
Julius Meisel, Weekend Hiking Chair (H: 302/652-0844)

Nov 23-26, Thanksgiving Weekend, Appalachian Trail in VA, US 522 to Skyland. Leader: George Wagner (H: 410/398-6748; E: george.wagner829@yahoo.com). This is a three-night, 38-mi backpacking trip, over the long Thanksgiving weekend. The trail follows the ridgeline through Shenandoah National Park and affords numerous wonderful vistas. Contact George for details and to sign up.

Extended Trips

May 27-Jun 11, Appalachian Trail in NC, Winding Stair Gap to Hot Springs. Co-leaders: George Wagner (H: 410/398-6748; E: george.wagner829@yahoo.com) and Jin Xu (H: 267/217-2151; E: jx2519@gmail.com). This is a 15-day, 165.1-mile backpack trip on the AT in NC. Daily mileages range from 9 to 15 miles. Up to four mail drops are planned to minimize the amount of food you need to carry. Contact George or Jin to sign up.