



## **M-DTS NEWSLETTER** November, 2009

**The December 5, 09 Meeting Features  
A Morning Hike on the Mason-Dixon Trail along the  
Majestic Susquehanna in Harford County**

**and**

**Quarterly Meeting at 2:00 p.m.  
in the Council Chamber of City Hall, Havre de Grace**

### **The Morning Hike**

Our point-to-point, roughly six mile hike will parallel the west bank of the Susquehanna River from the Fisherman's Park, just south of Rte. One (Map 6: w-e, 10.9 mi.), to Lapidum Landing (Map 6: w-e, 16.7 mi.). This section of the Mason-Dixon Trail runs about three miles along the level Lower Susquehanna Heritage Greenway for its first section and the remainder passes through the eastern hill sides of the Susquehanna State Park.

**Logistics for the Hike:** Hikers will gather at the Lapidum Landing at 9:00 a.m. and shuttle to the parking area at Fisherman's Park for the hike back.

### **Directions to Lapidum Landing from I-95 :**

From I-95, take exit 89, to head east on Md. rte. 155 (Level Road). Approaching the Susquehanna Bridge on I-95 from the south, Rte. 155 is the last exit before the bridge. From the north it is the first exit after crossing the bridge. Stay on Rte 155 a short distance to just beyond the interstate intersection complex and take the first left onto Lapidum Road. Follow Lapidum Road to its end at the Susquehanna River, where it intersects with Stafford Road. There is a parking lot at this point where we gather for our shuttle to Fisherman's Park.

### **The Quarterly Business Meeting Place**

The quarterly meeting will convene at 2:00 p.m. at the Havre de Grace City Hall, 711 Pennington Avenue. **Directions:** City Hall is reached by following the above rte 155 east, Level Road, which will become with Superior Street as it enters Havre. Stay on Superior Street when Rte 155 branches off to the right, and turn right onto Juniata Street, the first street after Superior Street crosses Rte 40.. After Juniata St. crosses under the rail line, Pennington Avenue will be the second street on your left, and Havre de Grace City Hall (711) is in this first block.



## MASON-DIXON TRAIL SYSTEM INC

President ..... Jim Hooper  
[REDACTED]

Vice President ..... Ron Gray  
[REDACTED]

Secretary & Newsletter Editor Robert Bennett  
[REDACTED]

Treasurer ..... Rick Maerker  
[REDACTED]

Director - Pennsylvania .... Rob Campbell  
[REDACTED]

Director - Maryland ... Open

Director - Delaware ..... Yvonne Blades  
[REDACTED]

### Trail Coordinators:

Western Section ..... Ron Gray  
[REDACTED]

Central Section ..... Cindy Kelly  
[REDACTED]

Eastern Section ..... volunteer needed

The M-DTS Newsletter is published about four weeks in advance of each of the four M-DTS members' meetings/work parties held annually. Submissions are welcomed. Mail or email to editor. (See address above above).

The Mason-Dixon Trail System, Inc. is an all-volunteer, service-oriented association of trail clubs and individual hikers that has as its purpose the use and conservation of the backcountry through the development of new trails in the mid-Atlantic states. The nucleus of M-DTS is the 193-mile Mason-Dixon Trail which passes through historic and scenic areas of Pennsylvania, Maryland and Delaware.

New members are welcome. To join send \$19 (which covers cost of M-DT maps and patch) to

Mason-Dixon Trail System, Inc  
Rick Maerker  
[REDACTED]

Thereafter, the annual fee is \$7.  
Life membership is available for \$250.  
Visit our website:  
[www.masondixontrail.org](http://www.masondixontrail.org)

## Minutes of September 20 2009

President Hooper called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. at the Day Use Center of the Gifford Pinchot State Park. Members and guests present: Bob Bennett, Yvonne Blades, Allen Britton, Lore Britton, Rob Campbell, Jim Hooper, Joyce Hooper, Cindy Kelly, Christine Lingle, Lou Tateosian, Sarah Tateosian.

### Review of Minutes of June 27, 2009

No corrections were offered. President Hooper moved the minutes as published be accepted, the motion was seconded and passed without further discussion.

### Treasurer's Report

Rick Maerker reports by mail that expenses for the period from 12/22/08 to 9/20/09 are \$6938.54, the major portion of which (\$5507.00) went to the production of the updated set of trail maps and the printing of 600 copies. Trail maintenance supplies and administrative expenses brought the total for the period to \$6,938.54. Total income from dues, donations, and the sale of maps, t-shirts, and patches totaled \$2,745.00. The checking account balance as of 9/20/09 was \$1243.28 and coupled with the organization's certificates of deposit holdings brought the total assets of M-DTS, Inc. as of 9/20/09 to \$10,554.88.

## Trail Reports

**Eastern Section - Eastern Terminus at Chadds Ford to Perryville. Coordinator for Chester and New Castle Counties: Yvonne Blades. Coordinator for Cecil County: Open**

Yvonne Blades reported that [REDACTED] of the Horseshoe Trail Club has been leading a series of hikes on the MDT in Cecil County. [REDACTED] reported that the trail was badly overgrown along Stony Run (she has since gone in there with a crew to clear that section) and also that there is a chain link fence across the trail on the west side of Red Toad Rd. Ingrid talked to the land owner who suggested going around the fence to the north. This possibility needs to be looked at and blazed if feasible.

Keith Williams met with [REDACTED] of Cecil County Planning and Zoning regarding M-DTS trail issues in Cecil County. [REDACTED] alerted him to proposed development



on the Lakeside Trailer Park property, which the MDT passes through, and suggested we meet with town officials regarding a route for the MDT.

Bob Bennett reported that Mason-Dixon Trail decals have been attractively included on trail directional posts in White Clay Creek State Park and Preserve.

**Central Section - Havre de Grace to Lock 12:  
Coordinator: Open**

President Jim Hooper and all present welcomed Cindy Kelly as our new maintainer for the Havre de Grace to Conowingo Dam section of the Mason-Dixon Trail. Rob Campbell, Ron Gray, and Jim Hooper met with Exelon officials, the administrators of the Conowingo Dam, regarding the parking problem at Muddy Creek (Map 5: w-e, mi. 17.3).

Rob expressed his appreciation of PP&L retiree, [REDACTED] for his assistance on a recent work hike in the Muddy Creek area and his interest in our mission. They rebuilt a section of the trail in this hilly terrain, which is notable for views of eagles in the area.

**Western Section—Lock 12 to Whiskey Springs:  
Coordinator: Ron Gray**

Game Lands 242: Rob Campbell reports that the new relocation at Game Land 242 (Map 1: w-e, mi. 11.0) has been completed.

**Other Business**

**T-Shirt Sales:** Joyce Hooper reports that there are fourteen shirts remaining for sale from the recent order.

**Discussion regarding the New Series of Mason-Dixon Trail Maps**

Rob Campbell reports that there are extra maps beyond our order that the printers have run. After a discussion whether to purchase the extra maps, the Committee voted not to make the extra purchase. It was noted that number of sporting outlets are selling our maps.

**York County Commission's Planned New Map Set**

Jim reports that York County Planning Commission is preparing for us a new set of maps of the land along the Susquehanna River. These maps will include property lines on the topo maps. They agreed, providing that the Mason-Dixon Trail System provide the necessary funding. Rob Campbell moved that we fund up to \$300.00 to the York County Planning Commission for this purpose. The motion was seconded and voted for unanimously. Their maps already include the Mason-Dixon Trail on them.



### **Keystone Trails Super Hike**

Jim reported that the Keystone Trails 50-mile Super Hike on September 11, went successfully with 183 finishers and no injuries.

**M-DTS Seeking National Recognition:** Jim Hooper mentioned that preparation of the application for National Scenic Trail status for the portion of the Mason-Dixon Trail from Wrightsville to Norman Woods Bridge is in its final stages, and he concluded the meeting by urging continued efforts to broaden public awareness of our trail, and promoting among the membership the option of receiving the newsletter via email.

**Next Meeting and Adjournment:** It was agreed that the next hike and meeting be planned for early December in Harford County. Cindy Kelly will help in the arrangements. The meeting then adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

## **News Items Since the Last Meeting**

### **Current Membership Information**

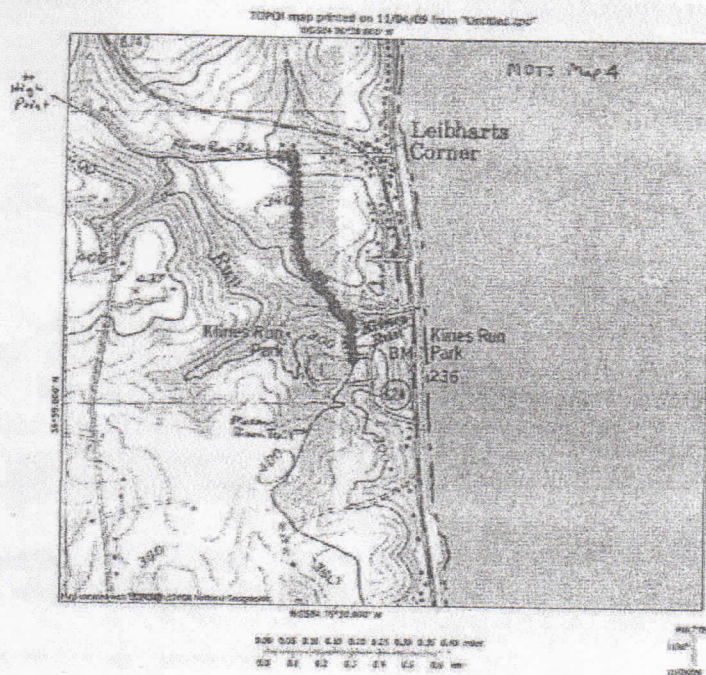
Our current numbers by a rough count come to 179 total members. This number includes in addition to individual members, seven allied trail clubs and businesses. Nineteen of the individual memberships are couples. Since there is strength in numbers, any addition to the above is to our advantage. Pennsylvania claims roughly a half of our members, and the other half is fairly evenly spread among Maryland, Delaware, and other neighboring states. Each newsletter cycle receives among its "by-surface-mail-recipient" mailings a number returned to sender with postal service notice of changed address, not able to forward. Keeping track of members whose addresses change is a challenge, and it is important that if you move, you let treasurer Rick Maerker and/or Delaware Director Yvonne Blades know of the change. Their email and postal addresses are listed with their names in the left column of page 2. The other way to avoid this problem of getting lost in the mail is to request receiving the quarterly newsletter by email. Such requests should be sent to membership manager, Yvonne Blades.

### **Kudos from Keystone Trails Association**

Keystone Trails Association, in their November newsletter's article celebrating the success of their 25 mile super hike on September 12, expressed gratitude for the "wonderful help from . . . the York Hiking Club and Mason-Dixon Trail System who got the Mason-Dixon Trail in tip-top shape, allowed the use of the York Hiking Club Cabin as headquarters, prepared a delicious pasta dinner for us on Friday evening, and helped with check-in and set up on Friday evening and Saturday morning." Jim Hooper and Ron Gray assisted at the York Hiking Club station on the day of the hike.



**Heralded New Trail Section Between Klines Run Road and Klines Run Park**  
 The section in the map below between Klines Run Road and Klines Run Park is indicated here by the enlarged dark marking. It was indicated on Map 4 of the new 2009 map set (w-e, mi 1) by a dotted red section, prior to its actual opening. It is now open. Members who are using earlier map set editions should make note of the new routing depicted here.



### --/-- Epilogue

Have you visited our web site recently? If not,  
 Check out the student essay on the trail by Molly Rogers: **Observations of the Mason Dixon Trail**

Are you thinking it is high time you took a walk on this trail that you help maintain with your membership?  
 Check this list of suggested hikes from our web site

Just want to see some nice scenes of the trail from the comfort of your rocker?  
 Check out this selection:

Not sure what the easiest way is to get the recent up-dated M-DTS map set?  
 Check out this source:

All of the above and much more is waiting for you at Dwayne Shreve's splendid Mason-Dixon Trail web site. Check it out! <http://www.masondixontrail.org/>