

# MASON-DIXON TRAIL SYSTEM, Inc.



A Letter from President Richard

Dear M.D.T.S Member,

As I sit here watching the snow fall and hearing the hazardous driving warnings, I thin it's a good time to bring you up to date on the progress of your trail, so here goes..... West to East

Western Section Trail Boss - Ron Gray Many thanks to Eagle Scout Kevin Stover and his crew who built the trail through Pinchot Park. A small rerouting was done to get the trail off a section of Route 624 South of Wrightsville...There were some blowdown obstructions near Holtwood Dam which have now been cleared....There is a trash dumping problem (not from hikers) between Fishing Creek and Greenbranch; if this cannot be resolved we may be rerouting a small portion of the trail....Thanks to scout Ben Lefever Jr. for building our first shelter. Oh yes, thanks to Ben Senior who just might have given some guidance to Ben Junior!. The shelter is in the woods West of the small parking lot at Lock 12...You can't have your cake and eat it too" seems to be the problem with locating trail at Muddy Creek. The creek is a real beauty BUT to hike up one side, cross an existing bridge and hike down the other side is a lot of cake - six miles of it!-to advance Eastward only 1/2 mile. Yet to build our own bridge would be quite an undertaking; a cable bridge would be about 30' in the air!! I'm sure Ron and Carl Reachard will work it out....A recent meeting with Mr. Rodney Stark of Philadelphia Electric has opened the way around Conewingo Dam and Peach Bottom Atomic Plant; agreements will soon be signed. The building of a deck on an abandoned RR bridge over Deer Creek is set for April 27th - HELP WANTED, call Turner [redacted] and tell him you'll help. No experience necessary. This bridge deck is being done at the request of PE and Maryland State Park who will be building trail for us down to Lapidum, Maryland this summer....The Park and Recreation Dept. of Havre de Grace will build and maintain trail to Route 40, where the trail crosses the Susquehanna

to the Eastern Section, Trail boss Turner, who reports that trail from Route 40 to Chadds Ford is in good shape... Then the Brandywine Trail to Ludwig's Corner is well worth the walk.

Mapping of the trail should be completed by late February or early March. The description has been written but must be dovetailed with the map. We are working toward completion of the trail late this summer and therefore would like to have a dedication in the Fall. Here is what we would like YOU and/or your club to do: hike any section, any days during October - - on October 27th hike from Havre de Grace North to Conewingo Dam parking lot (near Route 1), a distance of about 10 miles. Start in time to get you to the parking lot at 4 PM; shuttle cars to take drivers back to the starting point will be provided. Bring snack; we'll have a party!

TRAIL MAINTAINERS are needed in the Conewingo area (on your own initiative and time). For the Maryland line North, contact Ron; Maryland line South contact Turner [redacted]

DUES are due and payable...simply tear of enclosed card, fill it in and send lower portion, with check, to:

KAY WAY [redacted]

*Dick*



Board of Directors Meeting , December 1, 1984

Present at the home of Clair and Chris Piersol were: Clair, Turner Darden, Dick Tobias, Albert Horner, John Mott, Kay Way, Ron Gray and Mary Bleecker.

John Mott presented the Treasurer's Report. Total in the Treasury at the last meeting was \$921.62 Expenses (postage, printing, insurance) totalled \$231.80 Deposits came to \$79.50 Balance in Treasury 12/1/84 \$769.32 Due to the press of personal business, John asked to be relieved of his duties as Treasurer. Thanks much John! And thanks also to Kay Way who has agreed to take over this job!

We now pay \$10 each agreement on insurance. John thinks we only need a general coverage liability policy for the whole trail. We are paid up through the next year; then we can look for another policy to include all parties that might be involved with the trail. Ron made a motion that we shop in September for a good price on one million coverage; motion passed.

TRAIL REPORTS -There is nothing on the road at the upper end either side of Pinchot Park, according to Ron Gray. Warren Raab has been maintaining the area in Pinchot Park. There is a landowner willing to let us pass through above Wrightsville, a definite improvement over road walking. The Lock 12 shelter is almost finished, but not labeled, in the logged area above the gravel road and Anderson Run. PECO is ready to walk the area of proposed trail, the last stage before signing an agreement! Our contact person is Rodney Stark. Turner will explore funding for the Deer Creek bridge deck work. He and Ron comprise the decking Committee; there is a Bridge Building Get-Together on April 27th. Kay Way will provide refreshments!

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES for 1985...Wine Tasting/Social Get-Together at Dick's on Wednesday night, March 13th at 8. Dick "would sure like to see your smiling face". See directions below

APRIL 27th...see first page for details

JUNE 22...a work meeting and chance to see the MDTs shelter; assemble at Lock 12 at 9AM.

OCTOBER Grand Opening of MDTs....details to follow!

*See you! M/LB*

