MASON-DIXON TRAIL SYSTEM, Inc.



M-DTS NEWSLETTER April 1992

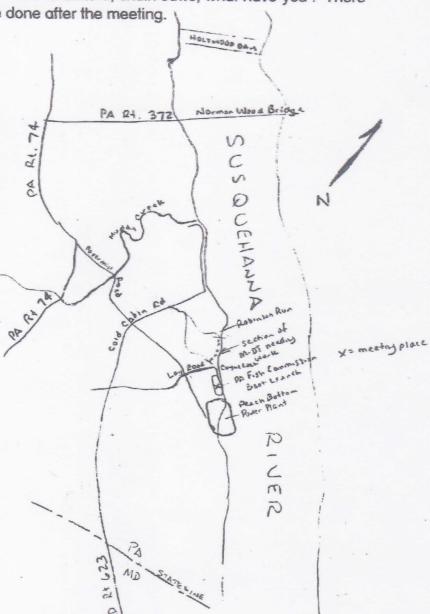
MEMBERS MEETING and WORKPARTY - May 31, 1992

The next M-DTS members meeting will be held along with a work party on Sunday, May 31. Meet at the PA Fish Commission Boat Launch parking area at the east end of Lay Rd at the river (practically at the gate of PECO's Peach Bottom plant) at 10 am for the work session or at 12 noon with a bring-your-own lunch for the M-DTS meeting. The work party will clear blowdowns and encroaching plant growth from a 1-mile stretch of the trail between Peach Bottom at Coyne Lock and Robinson Run. Bring pruning sheers, loppers, weed whackers, chain saws, what-have-you. There may be a little more work to be done after the meeting.

Directions

From north: come down PA Rt 74; about 2 miles south of PA Rt 372, at a sharp bend to the right, leave Rt 74 by going straight on Papermill Rd. Stay on Papermill Rd for 3 or 4 miles until turning left at intersection with Lay Rd. Follow Lay Rd to the river and the Fish Commission Boat Launch parking lot.

From south: take Rt 1 about 1 mile south of Conowingo Power Plant and turn right (north) on MD Rt 623. Stay on Rt 623 across Broad Creek and cross nto PA after about 7 miles. Continue about 3 more miles into PA on the continuation of Rt 623 (Flintville Rd?) until stop sign at intersection at Lay Road. Turn right (east) on Lay Rd and go 2 miles to the river and the Fish Commission Boat Launch parking lot.



1992 M-DTS MEMBERSHIP DUES REMINDER

An envelope enclosed in your newsletter indicates that according to our records you have not yet renewed your MDTS membership for 1992. We do hope you will continue to support MDTS and send in your membership renewal at your earliest convenience in the envelope provided.

NEW M-DTS MAP-GUIDES AVAILABLE

The new updated map-guide to the Mason-Dixon Trail is now available. The entire trail is covered by a set of 10 maps printed on 5 sheets of waterproof paper that fold to a 4x10 inch format. Each map-set is enclosed in a plastic ziplock style bag. The detailed trail description is printed along side each map.

Current members of M-DTS may request a complementary copy of the new map-guide by writing to:

Mary Bleecker

CONTRACT VALUE

Non-members may purchase the map-guide for \$7.50 which includes the cost of mailing.

MINUTES of MAR. 7, 1992 MEMBER'S MEETING

The meeting was held at the home of Kay Way following a delicious lunch of hearty soup and salad provided by our hostess. Members in attendance were: Rick Maerker, Yvonne Blades, Mary Bleecker, Irmadel Ward, Turner Darden, Robert Bennett, Jim Hooper, Warren & Vivian Davies, John Wilds, Brian Rand, Amy Petronis, Don Gartner, Ron Gray, John & Marie Pittenger, Ted Brower and Kay Way.

The minutes of the last meeting (Nov. 9/91) were approved as circulated with the following corrections: corrected spelling of Pittenger and the last sentence in the Western Section Trail Report should read "Ron's daughter will reblaze the section that she maintains".

Treasurer's Report: Mary Bleecker reported that 93 membership renewals for 1992 had been received to date with the average financial support just over \$16. The total in the checking account was \$3712.19. Upcoming or outstanding expenses include the costs of the new map-guide and the last newsletter.

Trail Reports:

Western Section - Ron Gray reports the 1 mile off-road relocation on the north side of Pinchot Park has been cleared and blazed.

- North of Wrightsville a 400 foot section of the trail was moved onto the road due to logging and sale of land by PP&L.
- Jim Hooper reports parts of the trail just south of Fishing Creek were on private property which is now
 posted. The trail will have to be moved onto Safe Harbor Power Co. land. This will require side hill
 digging and may be done as an Eagle Scout project this summer. Much of the trail south from here
 needs reblazing.
- Boyds Run through Apollo Park is now cleared a new maintainer is needed. There is horse damage near Boyds Run.
- Ron reports that a property owner is encroaching onto PP&L land under the power line between Upper River Rd & 425. The owner has removed his fence posts thus removing our blazes.
- There has been logging between 425 and Otter Creek but it has not affected the trail yet.
- · There is much horse damage on the trail along Oakland Run.
- Holtwood to McCalls Ferry needs reblazing maintainer needed. Reblazing also needed between Lock 12 and Holtwood.

Central Section - Kay Way had not yet contacted the maintainers of the sections between Lock 12 and Atom Road. Ron Gray suggests assigning more than one maintainer between Muddy Creek at the

Gaging station and Atom Road. There are a lot of blowdowns north of Coyne Lock. This will be the site of our spring work party.

- Ted Brower reports he has added blazes near Peach Bottom power plant. He would like to relocate
 the trail from roads north of Broad Creek down to the Susquehanna. Rick Maerker and Kay Way will
 scout the area with him.
- Yvonne Blades reported she and Kay Way attended a public meeting on management plans for Susquehanna State Park held in Havre De Grace on Feb 16. Kay gave an oral presentation at the meeting and Yvonne followed up with a written submission on behalf of M-DTS.

Eastern Section - Turner Darden listed the current maintainers. The Pittengers have taken over the section from Fairville Rd-Cossart Rd to Parking Lot #1 on London Tract Rd.

- Amy Petronis-Rand who lives in the Sommerset Lake development suggested the trail be moved off Broad Run Rd onto the Sommerset Trail System along the lake and across the dam. She was asked to look into this turther.
- Don Gartner will assist John Wilds in maintaining the section from Iron Hill to Elk Neck State Forest.
 There is a lot of development going on in that area.

New Trail Guide: Ron Gray brought the new trail maps and at a work party after the meeting the maps were sorted into sets. Each set consists of 10 maps printed on five 9.5x24 in. sheets of waterproof, tearproof paper. The detailed trail guide is printed on the maps. The maps fold to 4x10 inches and each set includes a disclaimer sheet and map index. Seven hundred map sets were printed by Colorgraphics Inc. The total cost was \$3250. Each map set will be placed in a ziplock-style plastic bag which Ron will purchase at a cost of about 7 cents each.

It was decided to sell the map sets at \$7.50 each which includes the cost of mailing. All current members are entitled to a complementary copy by writing to Mary Bleecker. Sale of 10 copies or more to wholesalers will be at \$6 each. New members of M-DTS receive a trail guide and patch in their membership package. The initial application fee for new members, currently \$3, will be raised to \$6.

Workparty and Meeting: The date set was May 31, 1992. We will meet at the Fish Commission, Peach Bottom parking lot at the end of Lay Rd at 10:00 am for a workparty to clear the M-DT north of Coyne Lock. We will break for lunch and the meeting at noon. Rick Maerker will provide a map.

Christina Greenway: Bob Bennett spoke regarding a proposed greenway along Christina Creek. Three members from the Newark area in the Delaware legislature have put aside money from their "road funds" for the greenway, the Conservation Commission and the City of Newark Planning Commission support the greenway but citizens from some developments along the creek have petitioned that public access be denied. A meeting was scheduled for Mar. 23 in the Municipal Building in Newark to discuss the issue. Bob asked for the support of MDTS and our sponsorship of a possible "Newark Greenways Division of MDTS" to promote the greenway. Turner Darden moved we give them our support. Carried.

Other business:

- PA House bill #453: still lodged in the Committee of Agricultural and Rural Affairs. Marion Schultz will continue to monitor progress.
- Federal protection for the MDTS: discussion was tabled.
- Woodlawn Trustees: John Pittenger, for information, showed a map of Woodlawn Trustees lands now open for hiking.
- Signs for the M-DT: still needed.
- Public Relations: Amy Petronis-Rand has a background in public relations and volunteered to do PR for M-DTS. She will send copy to Rick Maerker for review.

Next Meeting: May 31, 1992