



M-DTS NEWSLETTER June 1995

IN THIS ISSUE

- **TRAIL RELOCATION** - Conowingo - Policeman Cove area, page 5. Detach and insert in your M-DTS map/guide.

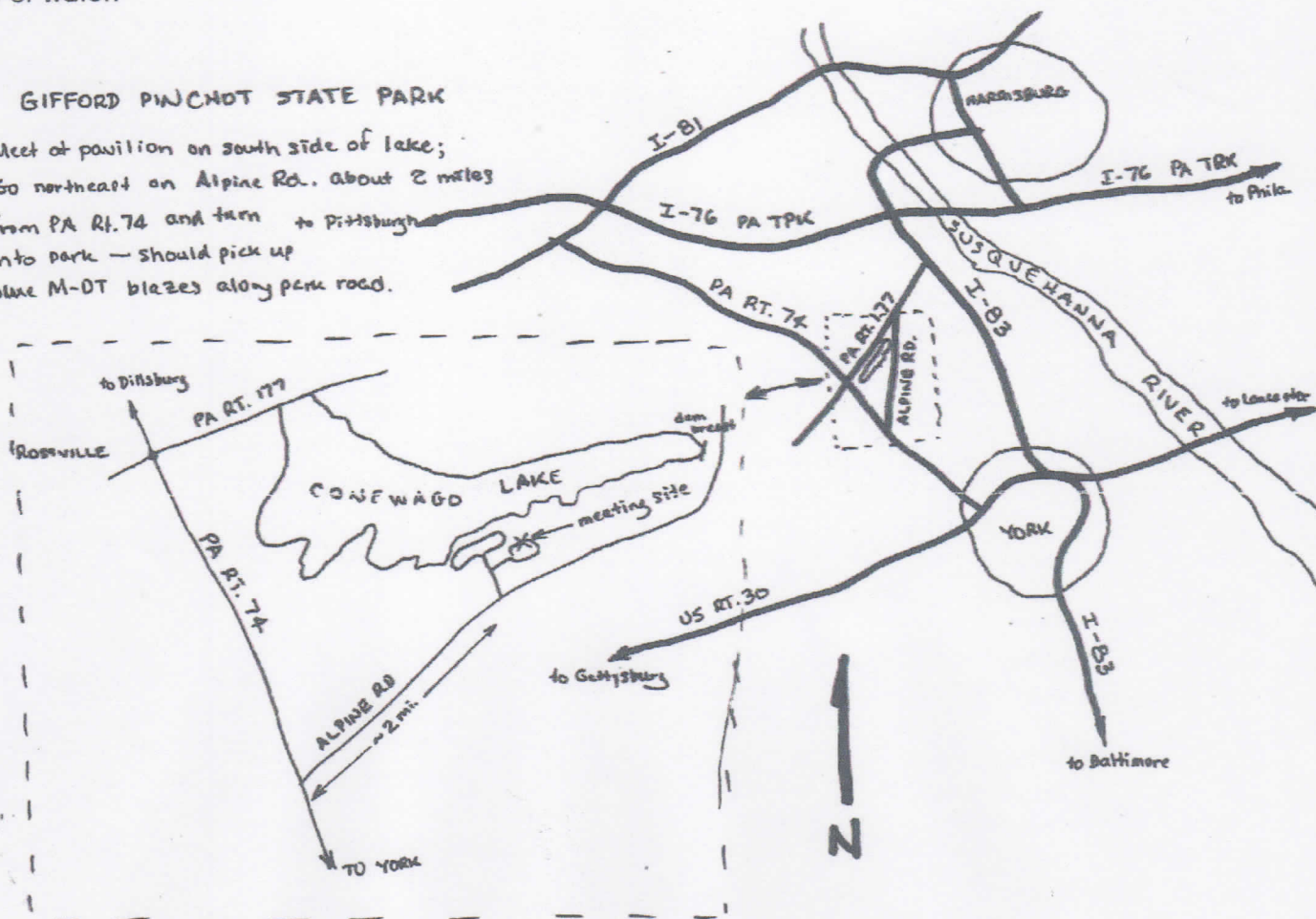
M-DTS WORK PARTY - 9:00 am, Sunday, July 9

M-DTS MEMBERS MEETING (& lunch) - 12:00 noon, Sunday, July 9

For both the work party and members meeting meet at Gifford Pinchot State Park, northwest of York, PA. We plan to meet at the pavillion in the day-use area on the south side of the lake (see map). The work party will do maintenance work on sections of the M-DT through the park, mainly through fields. Bring swing sticks, loppers, weed whackers, work gloves, lunch and plenty of water.

GIFFORD PINCHOT STATE PARK

Meet at pavilion on south side of lake;
Go northeast on Alpine Rd. about 2 miles
from PA Rt. 74 and turn to Pittsburgh
into park — should pick up
blue M-DT blazes along park road.



Minutes of the April 23, 1995 M-DTS Members Meeting

The meeting was held at the Lock 12 historic area and was attended by members: Hank and Peg Drummond, Clair and Chris Piersol, Warren Davies, Mary Bleecker, Yvonne Blades, Jim Hooper, Kay Way, Ron Gray, Turner Darden, Rick Maerker and Pat O'Dell.

The minutes of the January 25, 1995 M-DTS meeting were approved as circulated.

Treasurer's report: Financial activity since January 1, 1995 was as follows:

Income		Expenses	
Membership renewals	\$1556.50	January newsletter, printing*	\$42.70
New memberships	30.00	M-DTS Directory, printing	47.60
Sale of map/guides	46.00	M-DTS brochures, printing	60.50
Interest less service charge	1.40	March newsletter, printing & postage	130.98
Total	\$1633.90	Paint & supplies	37.99
		Total	\$319.77

*postage paid 12/94 - mailed in Dec. before increase in postal rates

Checking account balance as of Dec. 31, 1994 - \$93.83

Checking account balance as of April 23, 1995 - \$1407.96

There have been 120 membership renewals so far for 1995. Ron Gray reported that he has purchased the chain saw approved at the last meeting at a cost of \$469.72. Ron will also buy an air cleaner for the saw.

The secretary distributed a list of those in arrears with 1995 dues after a dues notice in the January Newsletter and a "final notice" sent with the March Newsletter. The list was reviewed and the removal of 16 names from the membership roles and mailing list was approved.

Trail Reports

Eastern Section - Eastern Terminus to Perryville. Coordinator - Turner Darden:

- Warren Davies reported he had removed a M-DT wooden sign from a tree in White Clay Creek State Park at the request of the park manager. Overuse of blazes was also a concern. Turner Darden will contact Bob Bennett and/or John Wristen who will meet with the park manager and work out a suitable solution. Warren asked about the M-DTS policy regarding use of decals vs blazes. Blazes are the primary means to mark the trail but decals, or the wooden signs, are suggested at road crossings or other areas where it is desirable to identify the M-DT.
- Turner Darden reported the M-DT is in good shape from White Clay Creek State Park to Iron Hill. A additional maintainer, Ed Yalosove, will help John Wilds with the Iron Hill to Elkton section that is so difficult to keep up because of ongoing development. Blazes are missing near Mt Pleasant Road because the wooden power poles they were on have been replaced with steel poles.
- Turner Darden and Paul Hirseman have cleared a route to bypass a waterway crossing problem just north of the Amtrak line near North East.

Central Section - Havre de Grace to Mill Creek. Coordinator - Kay Way:

- In Susquehanna State Park, Yvonne Blades has blazed a small tree at the start of the trail up the slope at Lapidum to replace the missing post that had marked the route.
- Reblazing was done on the first part of the new greenway route - along the old RR bed south from Conowingo. For the present, Yvonne plans to continue to route the M-DT down the peninsula and across the Deer Creek trestle.
- A trail relocation from the Conowingo Visitor center around Policeman Cove was cleared by a work party following the January 29th meeting. Dave Linthicum has now blazed the route. (The trail description is included with this newsletter).

- Kay Way and Pat McElreavy have put in posts with blazes to mark the trail through the area of tree cutting above Peach Bottom power plant.
- A recent trail relocation in the Glen Cove area apparently crossed private land. Kay Way and Yvonne Blades met with the landowner and with Butch Young of the Glen Cove Marina. A route was agreed upon that generally follows the boundary between the properties. Mr. Young volunteered to clear and blaze the route.
- Pat O'Dell volunteered to talk to the Sundays about a possible relocation through their property to gain access to PECO land on the north side of Muddy Creek.
- At the work party before the meeting, Clair & Chris Piersol, Warren Davies, Mary Bleecker, Peg Drummond & Kay Way cleared the trail through Peavine Island and Yvonne Blades blazed a relocation to include PECO's Lock 15 Interpretive Area.
- Mary Bleecker has volunteered to maintain the M-DT along the old tow path from Lock 12 to Mill Creek. This section of trail will now be included in the Central Section under Coordinator Kay Way.

Western Section - Mill Creek to Western Terminus. Coordinator - Ron Gray:

- At the work party before the meeting, Ron Gray, Jim Hooper and Hank Drummond reworked the steps leading up from Mill Creek. They replaced 5 treads. The wood is decaying next to the ground. Ron suggests that the steps be totally rebuilt next year using pressure treated lumber and adding a railing.
- Another work group; Rick Maerker, Pat O'Dell and Turner Darden, cleared and blazed short trail relocations further north on the M-DT along the Susquehanna before the turn-off up Oakland Run.
- Ron Gray reports there is a trail interruption south of Apollo park due to logging. The blazes have gone with the logs and you can not follow the trail. Ron will check it out to see what can be done.
- At Greenbranch there is a large tree to be cut before work can be done on the steps needed there.
- The new maintainer for Cuffs Run to Greenbranch is George Kain and his Boy Scouts.
- Bernie Frick will be the maintainer for the section from Accomac to the dam breast at Pinchot Park - all on roads.
- The M-DT in Gifford Pinchot State Park needs maintenance- especially mowing. This will be the site of the next M-DTS work party/meeting.
- A possible relocation in State Game Lands # 242 will have to be discussed with Game Lands personnel. Ron wants to find a maintainer before we do a relocation there.

Lower Susquehanna Heritage Greenway Update

Yvonne Blades reported that work is continuing on the first section of the greenway, 2.2 miles from Conowingo to the Stafford Road bridge at Deer Creek, and the official opening will take place on National Trails Day, June 3, 1995. Board walks have been built over the wet areas, the rest of the surface will be crushed stone.

- The Deer Creek trestle now has a new deck and railings.
- Yvonne attended the March meeting of the Greenway coordinating committee which included a bus tour of Arundel Quarry.

Other Business:

- Rick Maerker has sent a letter to [REDACTED] of PECO regarding the recent M-DT relocation at Policeman Cove.
- A letter was received from the Delaware Nature Society regarding support for the Open Space Acquisition fund proposed by Governor Carper. Turner Darden will respond.
- [REDACTED] our legislative liaison for Pennsylvania, passed on a memorandum and proposed bill from Representative Teresa Brown, to establish a Recreational Trails Advisory Board in the PA Department of Environmental Resources.
- Ron Gray will find a replacement for [REDACTED] as our liaison with PP&L.

Next Meeting:

The next M-DTS meeting will be held at Gifford Pinchot State Park on July 9, 1995. There will be a work party starting at 9:00 am followed by lunch and the members meeting at 12:00 noon.

New M-DTS Membership Brochures Available

New, updated Mason-Dixon Trail System membership brochures, appropriately printed on blue paper, are now available. A copy is included with this newsletter. Pass it on to an interested friend. Additional copies may be obtained from the M-DTS secretary at: [REDACTED]

M-DT President Hits the Trail!

Our intrepid president, Rick Maerker, will be heading off in July on one of his gigantic loop hikes again. The loop will include the entire Mason-Dixon Trail and sections of the Brandywine, Appalachian and Horse-Shoe trails -- about 350 miles all told. He expects to take about 15 days. Watch out for him on the trail - but look quickly - he will be "hoofing" it at an average 25 to 30 miles per day.

New Members

We welcome the following new members who have joined M-DTS since March 1995:

Paul Boin Jr
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Thomas Goodnow
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Jerry LaVaseur
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Gwen S. Lilly
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
White Clay Creek State Park
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Mike Postol
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

*has Photo
Call Warren Davis*

WEST TO EAST

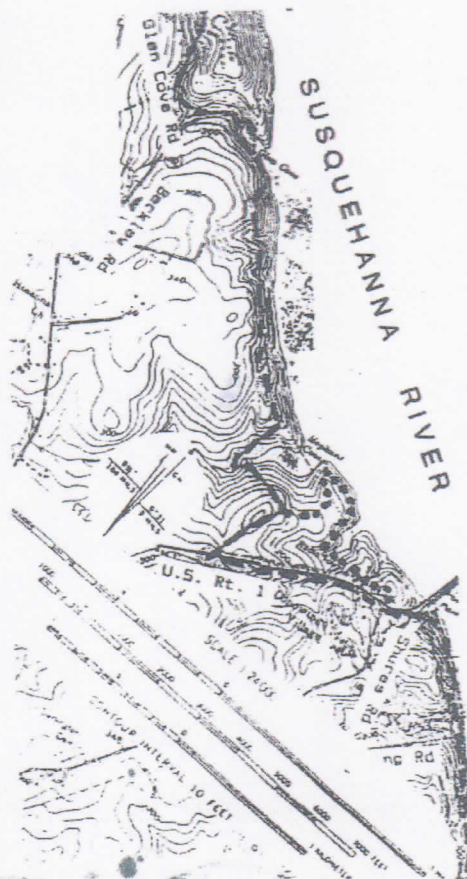
MAP # 6

- 10.0 mi Pass store and start up drive with sign that says "Private Drive No Trespassing"; follow drive for about 50 feet; turn right off of drive into woods.
- 10.2 mi Turn right uphill
- 10.7 mi Cross small stream (may be dry)
- 10.9 mi Reach small clear-cut area; trail stays to left of clear cut.
- 11.3 mi Leave woods and follow left edge of fields of John E. Clark's 320 acre farm. *Owner of Colonel Rigby's House. Mr. Clark was a proponent in 1960s for a long distance hiking trail along west side of Susquehanna River.*
- 11.6 mi Turn right at farm corner, enter woods in 200 feet. *Visible in winter about half mile to southwest down this road is "Colonel Rigby's House" now John Clark's residence built in 1732. Lafayette stayed here in 1781 and quelled mutiny amongst his troops, "perhaps saving the American effort at Yorktown".*
- 11.7 mi Emerge from woods; stay along left edge of field.
- 11.8 mi Leave fields and turn left and downhill on trail.
- 11.9 mi Turn right on 1985 PECO road used to clear debris from Conowingo Reservoir. *Green blazed road and then trail to left leads 1000 feet to primitive campsite on north side of Hopkins Cove used by Baltimore Boy Scouts.*
- 12.0 mi Cross cleared area and cross Hopkins Cove Creek; turn left on trail along south side of Hopkins Cove.
- 12.4 mi Turn left on dirt/gravel road (start of Policeman's Cove relocation)
- 12.6 mi Reach large signboard high above river; turn right into woods.
- 12.8 mi Reach bluff above Policeman's Cove; follow trail to right on north side of cove.
- 13.0 mi Cross two small streams (may be dry)
- 13.2 mi Emerge from woods near parking lot for Conowingo Swimming Pool and Visitor Center complex. Trail goes by Pool and behind Visitors Center (picnic tables and nice views nearby)
- 13.5 mi Cross US Rt 1 (carefully--cars move fast and approach around blind curve or over blind hill)
- 13.6 mi Pass upper level parking at Conowingo Hydroelectric Power Plant and turn left, taking the dirt road past gate downhill. *A path from the pagoda at northern end of parking lot leads to dam visitor center.*

6/95 RELOCATION

(replaces current description of mile 10.0 up to mile 12.7 and adds 0.9 miles to trail)

..... = relocation



..... = relocation

(replaces current description of mile 8.0 up to mile 10.8 and adds 0.9 miles to trail)

6/95 RELOCATION

MAP # 6

- 8.0 mi Turn right on Shureswill Road and pass Upper Conowingo Dam public parking lot. *A path from the pagoda at north end of lot leads to dam visitor center*
- 8.1 mi Cross US Rt. 1 (carefully--cars move fast and approach around blind curve or over blind hill); follow blazes through complex.
- 8.4 mi Beyond radio tower, enter woods and go downhill.
- 8.6 mi Cross two streams (may be dry); follow along north bank of Policeman's Cove.
- 8.8 mi Turn left to follow bank of reservoir.
- 9.0 mi Reach large signboard high above water; turn left on gravel/dirt roadway.
- 9.2 mi Turn right and regain existing trail (end of Policeman's Cove relocation).
- 9.6 mi Cross Hopkins Cove Creek just upstream from bullhead; then follow dirt road leaving cleared area to right for about 300 feet. These 1985 roads are used by PECO to clear debris from Conowingo Reservoir.
- 9.7 mi Turn left on trail off of dirt road. *(green blazed road and then trail to right leads 1000 feet to small primitive campsite on north side of Hopkins Cove used by Baltimore Boy Scouts.*
- 9.8 mi Leave woods path and turn right following edge of fields on John E. Clark's 320 acre farm. *Mr. Clark was an early proponent in 1960s for a long-distance hiking trail along west side of the Susquehanna. At bottom of hill, use trail uphill through woods to next field.*
- 10.0 mi Turn left at field corner at high point.
- 10.7 mi Pass through small clear-cut area; trail stays on right side of clear-cut.
- 10.9 mi Cross small stream (may be dry).
- 11.3 mi Turn right downhill toward river.
- 11.4 mi Turn right about halfway down hill toward river (before overhead electrical lines).
- 11.6 mi Reach Glen Cove Marina; store with outdoor supplies, vending machines, snacks, restaurants, water, and picnic tables. *Continue straight ahead on paved Glen Cove Road through parking lot.*

EAST TO WEST