



M-DTS NEWSLETTER July 1998

M-DTS WORK PARTY -- 9:30 a.m., Sunday, August 2
M-DTS MEMBERS' MEETING -- 2:00 p.m., Sunday, August 2

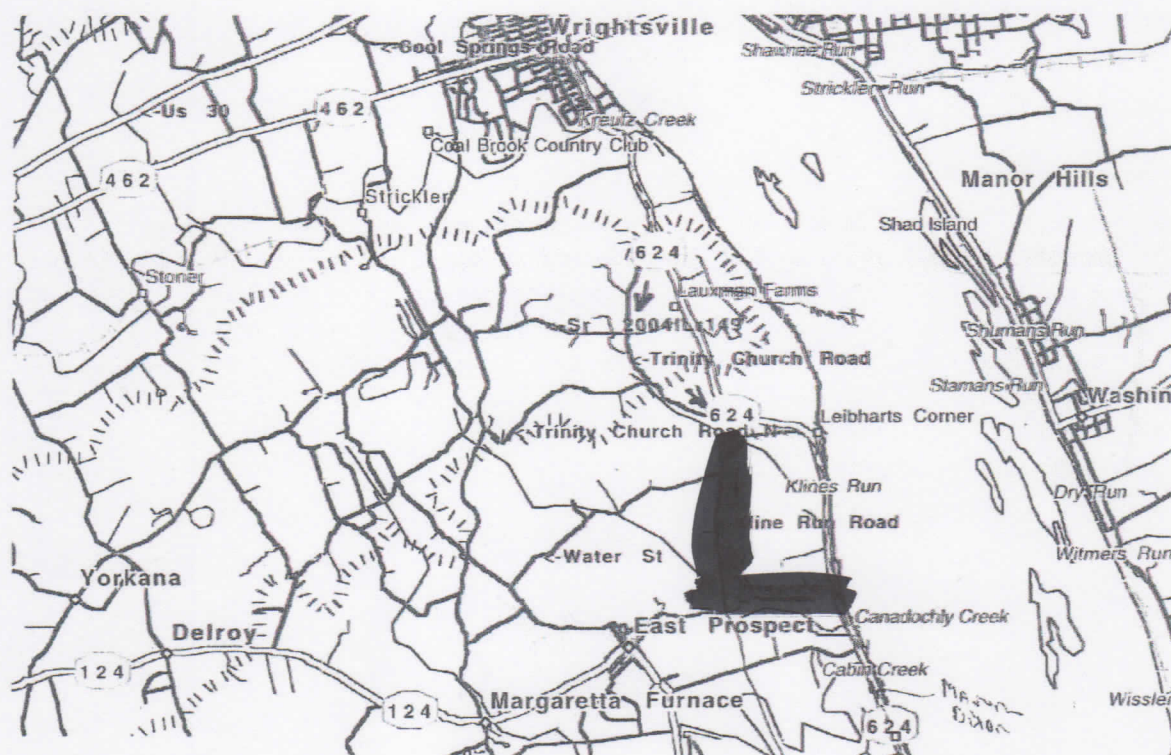
For both the work party and members' meeting, meet at the home of Jim Hooper south of Wrightsville in York County, PA. Jim invites us to bring our bathing suits for a dip in his swimming pool.

The work party will continue and, we hope, complete construction of the new trail in the Green Branch to Cuff's Run section. We expect to officially open the new route which will replace about one mile of rock hopping. Equipment needed includes: digging tools, chainsaws, loppers, paint set-up, black-out paint, work gloves, lunch and water.

Directions to Hooper's: From Rt. 30 - westbound from Lancaster or eastbound from York

Get off at Wrightsville exit. Head south to Wrightsville. At first light, turn left onto Rt. 462. At bridge, bear left and go under bridge onto Rt. 624. You are now on the M-DT! - set your odometer. Follow 624 south for 1.3 miles, then turn right onto Hilt Road (the M-DT also turns right). At 2.1 mi. cross unmarked road onto Trinity Church Road. At 3.1 mi. leave M-DT

From Rt 83/York Take Prospect Rd (Rt. 124) east to East Prospect. At the intersection where Rt. 124 turns right proceed straight between the church and the bank



In Memoriam, Richard J. Tobias

We lament the passing of early M-DTS president and long-term activist, Dick Tobias in early July. He became "M-DT Trails Supervisor, west of the Susquehanna" in 1980, and relieved founder Bob Yost as president of the fledgling organization on January 1, 1983. It was during his presidency that the trail was finally completed. Dick provided the beautiful, hand drawn, maps that accompanied the first guide to the Mason-Dixon Trail. He was active in the Keystone Trails Association, a prime mover of the Conestoga Trail and initiated the popular All-Night hikes. Dick will be long remembered and sorely missed. Our sympathy goes out to his wife, Ann.

MINUTES OF THE MAY 17, 1998 M-DTS MEMBERS' MEETING

The meeting was held in PP&L's Lock 12 Historic Area near the Norman Wood Bridge in York County, PA. Those present were: Ronald Gray, Clair Piersol, Jim Hooper, Charles Albin, Turner Darden, Rick Maerker, Pat O'Dell and Yvonne Blades.

The minutes of the March 1, 1998 meeting were approved as circulated.

Treasurer's Report

Mary Bleecker submitted the treasurer's report for the period from January 1 to May 5, 1998.

Income		Expenses	
Memberships dues (20 new, 1 life)	\$553.00	Printing - newsletter & brochures	\$103.17
Membership renewals	2242.50	Stamps, envelopes for newsletter, maps	439.25
Map sales	509.50	Trail maintenance	40.26
Donation	10.00	Donations & memberships	135.00
Interest	17.49	Administration	48.05
	\$3332.49		\$765.73
Balance as of 12/31/97	\$2458.66		
Income minus expenses 1/1/98-5/5/98	2566.76		
Balance as of 5/15/98	\$5025.42		

M-DT Trail Reports

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

- Western terminus at Whisky Springs: The Mason-Dixon Trail sign is missing. There are few, if any, blazes on the first mile of the trail. There after, the blazes are a washed out blue and need to be spruced up.
- Jim Trautman checked his section through Pinchot Park. It is in good shape but needs reblazing.
- Greenbranch to Cuff's Run: Much more work has been done on the new trail construction including heavy rock work and side hill digging. Ron Gray, Richard Winemiller and others have devoted more than 200 hours to this project since the last meeting (March 1/98).
- Cuff's Run to Wilson Run: John Schetky did trail maintenance in March and Charles Albin has cut through the bad blowdown on the descent to Apollo Park
- SGL 181 to Holtwood: Charles Albin cleared this section on May 9th.

Central Section - Mill Creek to Havre de Grace Coordinator: Pat O'Dell

- Peavine Island - At today's work party, Pat O'Dell, Clair Piersol, Rick Maerker, Turner Darden and Yvonne Blades cleared the trail through Peavine Island: cutting back growth, removing flood debris and picking up litter.
- Reblazing is needed between River Road and Gaging Station Road. The relocation necessary because of the apparent closure of Wylie Road has never been blazed.
- Coyne Lock to Lay Road: reblazing needed. Jim Hooper and Ron Gray cut through a blowdown on the descent to Grove Road and did some weed whacking in the area. Maintainer needed.

- Lay Road to Atom Road: Jim and Ron cut through the tree across the trail near Atom Road. Maintainer needed.
- Route 155 relocation: Yvonne Blades reported that Arundel Corporation had turned down, at this time, our request for a relocation of a short stretch of the M-DT (now on US Rte 155) into the buffer area outside the quarry fence.

Eastern Section - Perryville to Chadds Ford (Eastern terminus) Coordinator: Rick Maerker (610/459-3203)

- Eastern Terminus: It has been suggested that the "Eastern Terminus M-DT" sign be moved to Route 1, a more prominent location than the present site on Fairville Road. However, at its present site it has remained intact and free of vandalism so we are reluctant to move it.

Other Business

Save Our Steps Campaign - M-DTS contributed \$100 to the KTA campaign to purchase and save the "1000 Steps" on Jack's Mountain. We have received a "Certificate of Ownership" for Step #190.

M-DTS Constitution and Bylaws - Ron Gray has incorporated the revisions suggested at the last meeting and will provide the secretary via e-mail with updated copy to include in the M-DTS Newsletter.

Next Meeting - The next M-DTS Members' Meeting will be held Sunday, August 2nd at 2:00 pm at the home of Jim Hooper, south of Wrightsville, PA. This will be preceded by a work party, meeting at Jim's at 9:30 am, to continue and hopefully complete the new trail construction between Greenbranch and Cuff's Run.

ERRATUM

There was an error in the trail description for the **MAP 7 11/97 relocation at North East, MD**, printed in the April 1998 M-DTS Newsletter.

The correct version is:

EAST TO WEST
(replaces current description of
mile 1.3 to mile 1.6)

- 1.3 mi Turn left onto buried cable right-of-way.
- 1.5 mi About 100 feet before reaching MD Rt. 272, turn right and follow a 1-lane black top drive that makes a U-turn and reaches RT. 272 directly opposite Nazarene Camp Road.
- 1.6 mi Cross MD Rt. 272 onto Nazarene Camp Road

Trail Maintainers Needed

Volunteers are needed to maintain two sections of the Mason-Dixon Trail in York County, PA:

- Coal Cabin to Lay Road - a 2.2 mile stretch of the M-DT, near the Susquehanna River south of Muddy Creek
- Lay Road to Atom Road - a 1.5 mile section near Peach Bottom.

Please call Pat O'Dell, Central Section Trail Coordinator [REDACTED], if you are willing to maintain either of these sections of the M-DT. To volunteer for trail maintenance work in the Western Section, call Ron Gray [REDACTED] and in the Eastern section, call Rick Maerker [REDACTED]. Trail maintainers are expected to check their sections at least once a year and clear and reblaze as necessary. If there is a lot of work to be done, the maintainer should notify the trail coordinator and a M-DTS work party can be scheduled for the area.

New Members

We welcome the following new members who have joined M-DTS since April 1, 1998:

Theodore Flowers
[REDACTED]

Mason D. Johnson
[REDACTED]

Sally Malena
[REDACTED]

Frank Rawling Jr.
[REDACTED]