

Susquehannock Trail Club News – 10-20-2022

By Bill Boyd

At long last we are happy to announce that the Bolich shelter is complete, with one small caveat, "almost". It is ready for hikers and backpackers, but they will find a few odds and ends of boards stashed along one side, no hanging pegs (yet), no Loo (to be placed in a nearby discreet spot), and most notably, no sign on the front. The extra boards will hopefully be put to use for at least one more bunk, pegs and a Loo will be installed and eventually a sign will be put up.

One feature which we believe occupants will like, is the fact that we raised the rear wall enough so that anyone up to around 5'10" can move around without bumping their head - if you are a 6-footer be careful. It does have a register can which we encourage folks to use - leave any info you like. We enjoy seeing where you are from, how you like the shelters, and your comments, pro or con.

When we left the site there was just a trickle of water in the stream, but if it poured there as it did here at my place (10/12-13), there's probably a lot more now. And if anyone was staying in the shelter, I'll bet they appreciated it.

This shelter is near the 18-mile point so would be an easy hike from Mile-0 for those longer distance hikers, And in 13 miles you could be at Spook Hollow shelter. Another 11 miles would bring you to the Scoval Branch shelter, leaving an easy hike into Cross Fork. After your 11 mile stretch through the Hammersley Wild Area, you would come to Gravel Lick shelter at around Mile-60. The Wild Boy shelter is another easy 9 miles. In about 10 more miles you'll be at Sunken Branch shelter, which is nearing the end of your circuit hike. So you could possibly stay at a shelter every night of your trip, except for Cross Fork, and you may be ready for a room with a shower by then.

This building crew consisted of Mark Kelly (Altoona), his brother Matt (Virginia Beach), Doug Wetherbee (Wellsboro), a friend of Mark, Regis (sorry I didn't get a last name- Altoona), Chad Rugh (Coudersport), and oh yes, I helped some (Coudy).