

Susquehannock Trail Club News – 11-10-2022

By Bill Boyd

By now we're all back on Eastern Standard Time - check. And we have all voted - check. And we will thank the next Veteran we see, for protecting this great American way of life - check. And we will make an effort to hike at least a section of the well-regarded STS - check. Seriously, if anyone is inclined to try a section of the STS, a good one to start with would be the first section, from DCNR to Thompson Hollow Rd. Including the approach trail from DCNR, it's a little over 3 miles, with very little change in elevation, either ups or downs. Just a nice introduction to the trail. Another good point about the Ridge Trail is that it is skiable, and a good many take advantage of that. Other than the Ridge Trail itself, there are several loops one can take for an enjoyable ski-jaunt. These loops are mapped and marked.

If you would prefer mostly downhill, try the next section which goes down Jacob Hollow. It starts out level and easy for about a mile, and then it's all down an easy grade to Lyman Run Road, for a total of about 4 miles. If you have the hiking fever by now, and wish to continue, prepare for a climb out of Lyman Run - not a bad climb up to the plateau, but you may as well get used to it. There are quite a few ups and downs on the rest of the trail, some a little harder than others. There is a hill called "Cardiac Climb", which sounds pretty scary, but wait until you get to Morgan Hollow, and then you decide.

If you do consider doing a circuit-hike, especially by day hikes or section hikes, as most of us do, the best advice is to get the guidebook and maps and plan your hikes so that you can hike down the hills rather than up. The maps have the elevations so you will see how to arrange that. Or just consult with a club member - they will be happy to help you out. Some may even hike with you.

And speaking of circuit-hikers, at our last meeting we listed 11 new Circuit-Hikers, # 1266 through #1276. Also, we counted 9 new members, so things keep moving along for the club and the trail. Because of the lingering threat of Covid, we have suspended the monthly meetings, which of course are held indoors over the colder months. We do miss these get-togethers, but feel it's best to err on the side of caution.