

Susquehannock Trail Club News – 12-08-2022

By Bill Boyd

With the Christmas holiday fast approaching, and with folks kind of cutting back on the spending for gifts, we have a suggestion which might just appeal to some. And that is a STC membership. Give that some thought if you have any family or friends who are inclined to enjoy the outdoors. Just go to stc-hike.org and you'll find everything you need to know. With a membership you get a quarterly newsletter to keep you informed about what the trail club is doing. The club has monthly meetings which begin with a dish-to-pass dinner, followed by the meeting. This is a good time to socialize and get to know your fellow members. (Note: the indoor meetings have been postponed through the winter months for everyone's safety). Outdoor meetings should resume around April/May. For 10 bucks this is a bargain - and if you can't spare the 10 bucks right now, send in the application anyway - sometimes we have members who will sponsor a new member. And in addition, we are appealing to all current members to sponsor a new member. Some organizations fizzle because of an aging membership, and we are determined that this won't happen to the trail club.

Trail care naturally slows at this time of the year, although we did amass around 90 hours during November, on various chores around the trail. Trees seem to keep falling no matter the time of year, and we keep trying to remove them from the trail, especially if it is a section used by skiers. My pet club project for now is making trail signs. Some of the signs have been out there for 50 or so years and are getting in bad shape. Then there are a few spots along the trail where hikers are still a little confused as to just which way to turn - we're going to try to correct that. Also some signs will tell you how far it is to the next shelter, water-source, road, or other destination. We must be doing something right, as we have recorded at least 1276 circuit-hikers, and we haven't lost one yet. We've even had a couple of trail runners finish the entire trail (in one run) and they didn't get lost, even running all night with a headlamp. All I can say to that is..WOW!