

THE TRAIL-LETTER

A BI-MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE MONTOUR TRAIL COUNCIL

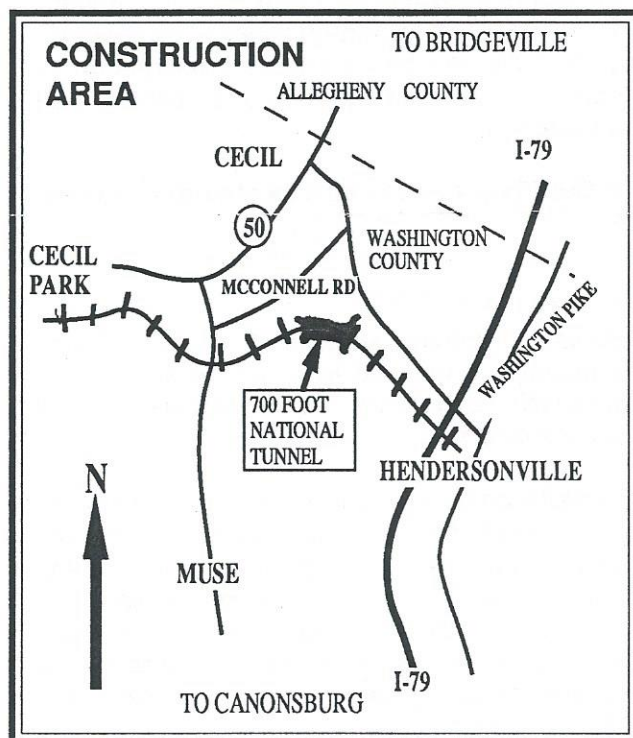
VOLUME #3 *****SPRING-WINTER 1992***** ISSUE #1

CONSTRUCTION TO BEGIN THIS SPRING ON TRAIL

Construction is expected to begin this spring on the long-awaited Montour Trail. The section between Cecil Park and Hendersonville in Cecil Township in Washington County has been selected as the piece of trail that will be developed first. This section of trail stretches eastward for about four miles from Cecil Park along route 50 through the 700 foot National Tunnel ending just east of I-79 at Hendersonville. This section of trail when completed will be available to cyclists, pedestrians and equestrians

The Montour Trail Council held a public meeting on Monday, January 27 at the Cecil Township #3 Fire Hall to discuss the project with area residents. The attendees estimated at about 125 listened to MTC President

SEE CONSTRUCTION PAGE 2



MONTOUR RAILROAD ELIGIBLE FOR NATIONAL HISTORIC LISTING

The Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission has issued a letter declaring that it is in their opinion that the Montour Railroad is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Place. The Commission supports Trail use of the former railroad line and states that this use of the right-of-way and structures will not adversely affect National Register eligibility.

This action greatly increases the chances that the Public Utility Commission will not order the demolition of the rail/highway bridges which are so vitally needed for safe crossings. It is the result of a detailed application prepared earlier by MTC Board Member Marshall Fausold with help from Christine Davis of the Society for Industrial Archeology and from MTC Counsel Dick Wilson. Hats off to all of you !

A CAPITAL IDEA

"Give me money, that's what I want." A line from an old Beatles tune - sure. But it's also what Tom Dougherty and Andy Poole will soon be saying to corporations and foundations as the Montour Trail Council launches a major capital campaign to raise funds for the improvements required on the Trail.

We need to raise an estimated \$1,200,000 to construct the Montour Trail pathway and access facilities. Bridge and tunnel modifications will cost, roughly estimated, an additional \$1,300,000. Trail design, construction, supervision, and operating costs add roughly another \$900,000. In sum, we need at least \$3,400,000 from this campaign and from foundation grants to keep development of the Trail on schedule.

The theme for the campaign is: "A Legacy We All Can Build; A Gift We All Can Share." To provide Tom and Andy with the tools they need for these fundraising efforts, a handsome and sophisticated solicitation

SEE CAPITOL PAGE 2

COMMITTEE MISSION CHANGING WITH TIMES

by Arnie Schulberg

The Easements and Licenses Committee has recently had its mission expanded and has undergone a name change. The Committee, now known as the Real Estate Committee, will continue to deal with the granting of easements and licenses, establishing conditions to allow others to utilize Trail property. The Committee recently presented a Policy Statement regarding the granting of easements and licenses, which was approved by the Board. The Board is now considering a proposed administrative procedure which will set out the criteria and methods for evaluating requests for easements and licenses.

In addition, the Committee will now be responsible for reviewing the disposition or acquisition of Trail acreage. Since closing on the purchase of the Trail, the Board has received a number of requests from adjacent landowners asking to purchase small portions of the Trail to supplement their property.

The Committee will work closely with Trail Development Committee (formerly the Right-of-Way Committee) to determine whether the requested acreage is within the immediate path of the Trail or whether the acreage can be regarded as non-essential. The Committee is currently developing procedures for the evaluation and processing of these requests.

The Committee will need additional manpower to handle its expanded mission. Anyone with a real estate, civil engineering, drafting, etc., background is encouraged to volunteer. Anyone interested in becoming involved in the Committee's activities should contact Arnold Schulberg, Committee Chairman, at 276-8804.

You can still volunteer to help in trail construction. Call Jerry Agin at home 343-1425 or at work 642 - 6900 if you can help.

THE MONTOUR TRAIL COUNCIL
P.O. BOX 11866
PITTSBURGH, PA 15228-0866
PHONE : (412) - 831 - 2030

STAN SATTINGER	PRESIDENT
DINO ANGELICI	VICE-PRESIDENT
PETER KOHNKE	SECRETARY
JACK SWISHER	TREASURER
DENNIS SIMS	NEW-LETTER EDITOR

CONSTRUCTION continued

Stan Sattinger describe the project to date and to encourage those in attendance to take an active role in constructing the trail. Sign-up sheets were available for the people to select various tasks from civil engineering and drafting to donating and providing materials to manual labor (Trailblazing). Many waited in line at the end of the meeting when the opportunity to sign up for these tasks was made available.

The meeting was considered a success as it seems everybody went away satisfied that any questions and concerns they had going into the meeting were answered and resolved.

MTC hopes to have this section completed in time to have the opening coincide with the national Rails to Trails Conservancy Rail Trail Celebration planned for Saturday, October 3, 1992 to mark the completion of the 500th rail-trail in the United States.

RALLY TO BE HELD TO GET THE CONSTRUCTION STARTED

The next bi-monthly meeting of the Montour Trail Council will return to the Cecil Twp. #3 Fire Hall on Monday, March 30 at 7:30 p.m. Come see how a community came together to build a bridge on a trail. Phil Hodge will describe the role he played in organizing citizens to replace a key bridge on the Illinois Prairie Path in Wheaton, IL. The planning and construction of this bridge became a community project involving many resources in the community. This will be an encore presentation to inspire and motivate volunteers to assist in trail construction.

The Cecil Twp. #3 Fire Hall is located about 7 miles west of I-79 on PA Route 50.

CAPITAL continued

package has been created for the Montour Trail Council. The package is targeted to appeal to key decision makers with the authority and the budgets to donate funds or in-kind services to the Trail.

The solicitation package consists of a folder, brochure, and a series of offering sheets. These materials were written and designed gratis for the Council by Karen Levine and Sharon Betz of Adam, Filippo & Associates, Inc., a multidisciplinary design consulting firm whose headquarters is here in Pittsburgh. In keeping with our environmental commitment, all materials have been printed on recycled paper.

Your MTC Officers, Directors and Chairs

PRESIDENT	STAN SATTINGER
VICE PRESIDENT	DINO ANGELICI
SECRETARY	PETER KOHNKE
TREASURER	JACK SWISHER

DIRECTORS, 1990 - 1992

MARSHALL FAUSOLD
TIM KILLMEYER
ANDY POOLE
STAN SATTINGER
ARNIE SCHULBERG

DIRECTORS, 1991 - 1993

JERRY AGIN
TOM DOUGHERTY
PETER KOHNKE
BILL METZGER
DAVE WRIGHT

DIRECTORS, 1992-1994

DINO ANGELICI
LARRY RIDENOUR
DENNIS SIMS
JACK SWISHER

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

COMMUNICATIONS	DENNIS SIMS
CORPORATE CONTACTS	ANDY POOLE
REAL ESTATE	ARNIE SCHULBERG
FUND DEVELOPMENT	TOM DOUGHERTY
GOVERNMENT LIAISON	LARRY RIDENOUR
GROUP CONTACTS	TIM KILLMEYER
LEGAL AFFAIRS	DICK WILSON
MEMBERSHIP	JERRY AGIN
PROGRAM	DINO ANGELICI
TRAIL DEVELOPMENT	DAVE WRIGHT
SPEAKER'S BUREAU	BILL METZGER

TRAIL AREA COORDINATORS

AIRPORT VICINITY
TIM KILLMEYER

WASHINGTON COUNTY
JACK SWISHER

SOUTHERN ALLEGHENY COUNTY
MARSHALL FAUSOLD

WESTERN RAIL TRAIL SUMMIT HELD IN PITTSBURGH

Rail-Trail leaders from Cumberland, MD to Lake Erie met in Pittsburgh on January 30th to organize a regional Rail-Trail system that would extend all the way from Washington DC to Lake Erie and Kinzua Dam on the New York Border.

Organized by to Tom Sexton, the new Director of the PA Chapter of Rails-to-Trails Conservancy, a Regional Concept Plan will contain action plans and financial needs statement of each connecting rail segment. The "big idea" is to create a Maryland to Erie Trail Corridor with a main "spine" line along the major rivers together with connecting branch trails. At Cumberland MD, the trail would connect with the C & O Canal National Historic Trail and continue for an additional 184 miles to Washington DC.

The Plan will be submitted to DER Secretary Arthur Davis in early March by Representative Tom Murphy. It was reported that \$4 million has been allocated to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania under the new federal Intermodal Surface Transportation and Efficiency Act (ISTEA).

Those persons representing the various trail sections and organizations included: Hank Parke, Allegheny Highlands Trail; Doug Hoehn, Ohiopyle State Park; Larry Ridenour, Youghiogheny River Trail; Stan Sattinger, Montour Trail; John Stephen, Three Rivers Heritage Trail; David Beale, Allegheny Valley Land Trust; and David Howes and Dick Garrard from the Allegheny Valley Trails Association. Representing the 9-county America's Industrial Heritage Project was Laurie LaFontaine. Rob Thompson and Mary Ann Fowler represented the National RTC Staff and Board.

State RTC Chairman, Dick Wilson stated, "We have an extraordinarily popular and politically attractive concept to sell. We also have a grass roots organization in place throughout a wide area of Pennsylvania. With a modest amount of effort we should be able to mount the public and political support needed to make sure these funds are spent on trail and recreational trails as they we intended.

The present membership of the Montour Trail Council is about 450 individuals and organizations

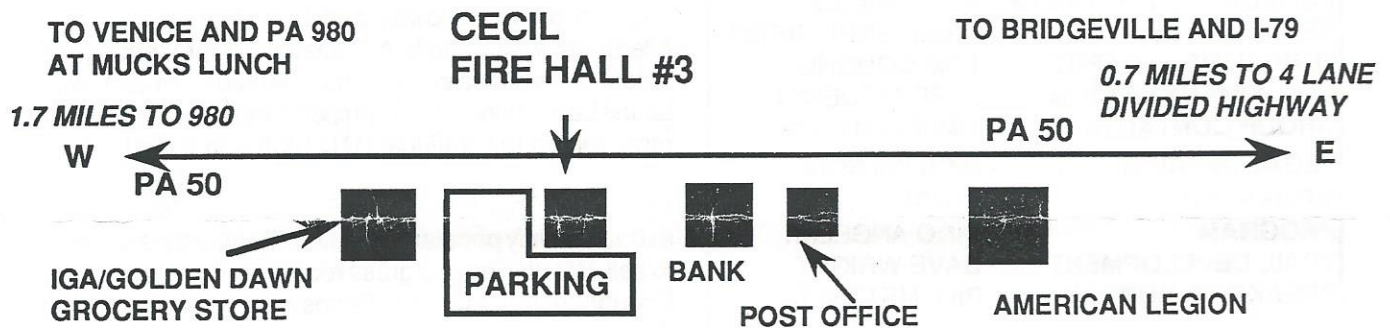
MONTOUR TRAIL CONSTRUCTION RALLY

WHEN: Monday, March 30, 1992 at 7:30 p.m.

WHERE: Cecil Township #3 Fire Hall Pa Route 50 - Cecil, PA

PROGRAM

Phil Hodge will show and tell how a bridge replacement project on the Illinois Prairie Path brought many groups of Wheaton, Illinois together to build it.



MAP IS NOT TO SCALE