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MOUNT NITTANY NEWS

November 2012

Volume 4, Number 1

Nittany
MOUNT
CONSERVANCY

www.mtnittany.org

Running for Our Mountain

Inaugural Mount Nittany Marathon to Premiere in September 2013

In a unique endeavor to benefit Mt. Nittany, the Conservancy is gearing up to host the Centre Region's first marathon—the Mount Nittany Marathon—on Sunday, September 1, 2013. The event will serve as a last-chance qualifier to the 2014 Boston Marathon.

In consultation with the Nittany Valley Running Club, a team from the Conservancy has planned a route that begins on the Penn State campus and winds around the base of Mt. Nittany, through Lemont and Oak Hall.

“Obviously, there is no better location to hold a Mount Nittany Marathon than, of course, at the foot of the mountain,” said Karl Shellenberger, vice-president of the Conservancy and one of several drivers behind the event.

“There is a great deal of enthusiasm from the running community in the area, and we are looking forward to attracting both runners and sponsors. It is a tremendous opportunity.”

Proceeds from the race will benefit our continuing conservation efforts on the Mountain, most notably erosion prevention efforts at the Lynch Overlook and the potential to purchase new lands in the future. The Conservancy's mission states that we wish to conserve all lands down to the 1,300 foot mark surrounding the Mountain.

Runners can find registration materials online at www.mtnittany.org, and donors are welcome to contact the Conservancy for a sponsorship packet.

Ken Reeves Posthumously Honored with 2012 Friend of the Mountain Award

Remembering an Integral Member of the Conservancy's Founding

Conservancy President Emeritus Ken Reeves was well-known to many as a vice president of AccuWeather. He frequently spoke on-air, telling hikers what to expect as they ventured up the slopes. As a volunteer, he organized and led dozens of work parties up the slopes in order to make the experiences of those listening hikers even more enjoyable and safe.

In recognition of his dedicated and fervent efforts on the mountain, Ken, who died after a fall from his roof last spring, was honored posthumously by the Conservancy with its third-annual Friend of the Mountain award. The award was presented during this year's Mount Nittany Night Wine Tasting



Ken's love of the Mountain is an inspiration for all who have the honor to serve it.

and was accepted by board member Bob Andronici on behalf of the family.

Ken's nomination for the award read, in part, “Ken was an integral member of the founding group of the Mount Nittany Conservancy in 1981. He served as the third President of the Conservancy, and was deeply involved in the organization as a board member and Emeritus board member ever since.”

It continues, “Ken's love for the Mountain, his vision for its preservation and conservation, and his knowledge about all that surrounds it, was an inspiration for all of us who have had the honor of serving the Mountain. It was our privilege to have known and worked with Kenny.”

Community Comes Together to Prevent Erosion and Care for Trails *Local Groups and Volunteers Donate Time to Make Improvements to the Mountain*

For quite some time, the Conservancy has been concerned with the increased erosion at the famous Mike Lynch Overlook. Last fall, a work party of Lion Ambassadors began installing a new stepping system along the right side of the Lynch Overlook. They also laid a new switchback access trail to the overlook.

On July 8, 2012, a group of volunteers—summer interns from the Penn State Division of Development and Alumni Relations—completed another key phase of the conservancy efforts to help minimize erosion at Lynch. With their help, we have closed the short piece of trail that descended directly down to the overlook from the Mike Lynch Overlook Plaque and Memorial Rock.

To access Lynch now, hikers will see new signs that indicate that the trail is closed to prevent erosion. New signs will lead to the Mike Lynch Overlook. We appreciate your support of the new trail in order to allow the old trail to recover.

Over the summer and fall months, our wayfinder signs have been “going missing” at

an alarming rate. Even though they require a special tool to remove nuts that hold the signs on, vandals are not deterred.

On September 6, Mount Nittany Conservancy Board Members Gary Gentzler and Blake Gall travelled the trails to apply a threadlocking product to the signs’ nuts and bolts, which should prevent causal removal to all existing signs. They also replaced five of the missing wayfinder signs.

The Mountain received a great amount of volunteer support this fall. As a result, a number of new water bars were placed on the White Trail up the Mountain to control erosion. In addition, with the arrival of the Penn State Wrestling team (37 wrestlers strong), the last of the stepping system at the Lynch Overlook was put into place. The wrestlers also put in place a very large log, to be used as a seat and a water bar at the overlook. Finally, since we had the “wrestler power” at our disposal, we asked them to carry rocks uphill to the closed-off section of trail to help restore that area. It was quite a

sight to see in action!

To see photographs of the volunteers at work, turn to page 4.



New signs have been stationed to prevent hikers from interfering with erosion repair.

The Conservancy Appreciates All the Hard Work Provided by Community Volunteers in 2012



Penn State Wrestlers flex their muscles moving logs and rocks in an effort to prevent erosion on the Mountain.



The Boy Scouts of Pack 67 from Houserville and Lemont spent a day cleaning the trails up the Mountain.

Alpha Phi Omega, Alpha Beta Chapter; Centre County United Way Day of Caring; Employees of HRG, Inc. and Optical Imaging Technology, Inc.; Circle K; Cub Scout Pack 67; Gamma Sigma Sigma's Tau Chapter; Penn State Division of Development and Alumni Relations Summer Interns; Penn State Wrestlers

EVENTS FOR THE MOUNTAIN

2012 Mount Nittany Night was Conservancy's Most Lively Event to Date!

Gala Event Attendees Enjoy Tasty Food, Vintage Wine and Serene Music at Mount Nittany Vineyards and Winery

The Mount Nittany Vineyards and Winery once again provided a beautiful venue for our annual Mount Nittany Night Wine Tasting fundraiser and social event. This year's gala was made even more special by the Mount Nittany Inn providing food pairings for the selected vintages offered by the winery along with the addition of music by Virginia Meadows. Many thanks to Rebecca and Miah for their enthusiastic support.

In addition, we would like to thank the Nittany Lion Inn and Nittany Bank for their sponsorship and Fasta Pasta for its culinary

contribution. Likewise, a big thanks goes out to Lion Ambassadors Jillian Seifrit and Rob Lawless for volunteering and to John Mentzel for creating the Friend of the Mountain plaque. Of course, we need to share special appreciation to manager Jinx Proch and owners Joe and Betty Carroll for donating the use of the Winery's hall and grounds to us.

Finally, thank you to the more than 50 attendees who made this the Mount Nittany Conservancy's most lively and entertaining event to date. We are already looking forward to next year!



VIEWING STATIONS

Three New Viewing Stations Erected and Two More Planned

You Can See New Stations at Mt. Nittany Middle School, the Arboretum and Lubrano Park

The Mount Nittany Conservancy has installed three new viewing stations at locations around the valley. In addition to the existing station at the Bryce Jordan Center, which was recently remodeled, new viewing stations have been placed at Mt. Nittany Middle School, the Penn State Arboretum, and inside Lubrano Park. Additional viewing stations are being planned for the Oak Hall Regional Park and Tudek Park.

The stations are part of the Conservancy's desire to educate people about the mountain. They include information on the history and conservation of Mount Nittany along with a photo from each location, which was taken at the time the station was created. The locations were selected to provide outstanding views of the mountain from locations visited frequently.

*Stay Connected
throughout the Year*

Web Site:
www.mtnittany.org



www.facebook.com/MtNittany



[@MtNittany](https://twitter.com/MtNittany)

IN MEMORY

Centre Gives 36-Hour Giving Challenge Brings in More Than \$2,400

The Conservancy Appreciates All Contributions

During the Centre Gives 36-Hour Giving Challenge, a 36-hour online philanthropy event organized by the Centre Foundation, the Conservancy received more than \$2,400 in donations. Much of that was via pro-rated matching funds from the Centre Foundation for all donations between \$25 and \$10,000. Many thanks to the Foundation and to all of those who contributed!

Family Contribution to Further Conservation Efforts Made In Memory of Ken Reeves

Donation Acknowledges the Mountain was Ken Reeve's Passion

After the untimely passing of Ken Reeves, his family, led by his brother and sister-in-law, Lyn and Steve Reeves, considered an appropriate way to honor Ken's memory. Knowing that the Mountain and the Conservancy were two of Ken's lifelong passions, the family felt by making a significant contribution to the Conservancy they could both honor Ken and support something for which he cared deeply.

Lyn and Steve wrote to the Conservancy that they were making the donation to further our conservation efforts. They explained that Ken was passionate about many things, but they felt the Mountain and the Conservancy were at the top of his list. The generous gift was announced at the Friend of the Mountain ceremony during the Mount Nittany Night Wine Tasting on Friday, September 28, 2012.

HONOR ROLL OF DONORS

Supporting Our Mountain

We're very fortunate that concerned alumni and community members have worked to acquire and protect Mt. Nittany over the past 60-plus years. We are pleased to recognize the individuals and groups that have recently supported the Mountain and the Mount Nittany Conservancy by donating to the Conservancy or one of our events, renewing their commitment as a "Friend of Mount Nittany," purchasing one or more Life Estate Deeds, honoring a loved one, or giving to a special endowment or program.

Eunice Askov, State College PA
 Warren & Nickie Askov, State College PA
 Heidi & Joe Battista, State College PA
 Patrick & Paula Bisbey, State College PA
 Ben Bronstein, State College PA
 Dave & Alison Brzenchek, State College PA
 Christen Buckley, Lemont PA
 E. Alan Cameron, State College PA
 Marian Barash Coppersmith, State College PA
 Dr. and Mrs. Kenneth Costa,
 Whitehouse Station NJ
 Charles H. Culnane, Wilmington DE
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 Martin Duff, State College PA
 Eric Durante, Port Matilda PA
 Leslie Dutchcot, State College PA
 Heather F. Fleck, State College PA
 Blake and Linda Gall, Boalsburg PA
 Gary Gentzler, Cincinnati OH
 Jean Gottas, State College PA
 Stacey Guenot, Morrisdale PA
 Michelle Harmon-Madsen, New York NY
 Donald and Mary Hartzell, Burke VA
 James & Janet Hawley

Elizabeth Heidt, Centre Hall PA
 Matthew Heinz, State College PA
 George & Sue Henning, State College PA
 Jackie & John Hook, State College PA
 Walter Hough, Hendersonville NC
 Andrew & Andrea Irving, Gibsonville NC
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 Cindy Burwell Koch, Kutztown PA
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 Richard Lally, State College PA
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 Martha Lynch, East Hampton CT
 John Mentzell, Centre Hall PA
 Mark Modaffare, Bellefonte PA
 Conor Moran, Hoboken NJ
 Ralph & Carol Mumma, State College PA
 Benjamin Novak Esq., State College PA
 Jay & Kelley Paterno, State College PA
 Travis Patterson, Rockwall TX
 Stephen & Lyn Reeves, Baltimore MD
 Charles & Marlene Rogers, Hinesville GA
 Louise Sandmeyer, State College PA
 Patrick Scholl, State College PA

James Schulte, Highlands NC
 Rodney & Tracy Sepich, State College PA
 Marjorie D. Seward, State College PA
 Tom Shakely, Philadelphia PA
 Tom Sharbaugh, Philadelphia PA
 Karl and Pam Shellenberger, State College PA
 Dan & Roseann Sieminski, State College PA
 James U. Smith, Boalsburg PA
 Richard & Carol Smith, State College PA
 Ron & Sue Smith, Lemont PA
 Thomas Smyth Jr., State College PA
 Kim C. Steiner, Boalsburg PA
 Fred W. Thomas, Perkasio PA
 Cory Trimm, State College PA
 Louise Tukey, State College PA
 Vince & Laurie Verbeke, Clearfield PA
 Alice Wilson, State College PA
 Douglas A. Wion, State College PA
 Quentin & Louise E. Wood,
 Ponte Vedra Beach FL
 David Woodle, State College PA
 Robert & Virginia Wychulis, Stoughton MA
 Robert S. Zakos Jr., Catasauqua PA

The above list was created from our internal records and those of our support organization, and is current as of October 31, 2012. Every effort was made to ensure its accuracy. We apologize in advance for any errors or omissions!