

# The Pinchot Eagle



Friends of Pinchot State Park

January/February/March 2015



Approximately 90 people participated in Pinchot's "First Day Hike" on New Year's Day 2015.

## First Annual "First Day Hike"

On January 1st, Park Naturalist Beth Kepley-McNutt faced approximately 90 people preparing to hike at Gifford Pinchot State Park.

A look at the skies and you would think it was a warm, sunny day. However, the temperature was cold and the wind was blustering. Folks were bundled up in thick winter coats, gloves and hats.

As the group walked along the trail, they occasionally stopped while Beth shared facts about the park and the nature within. At the conclusion of the hike, the Friends of Pinchot State Park provided snacks and hot apple cider. The event was a great success! ■

See news coverage at:

<http://abc27.com/2015/01/01/pinchot-state-park-hosts-first-day-hike/>

### DID YOU KNOW...

... There is a difference between a blizzard and a snowstorm?

A blizzard is when visibility is reduced to  $\frac{1}{4}$  of a mile and the winds are 35 mph or more. The storm also must last at least 3 hours. If any of these conditions are not met, then it is a snowstorm.

## Volunteers of 2014

By Jim Merlino, FOPSP Chairman



On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Friends of Pinchot State Park (FOPSP), I would like to thank our members, volunteers, the Keystone Trails Association, the Mason-Dixon Trails Association, private donors, park man-

agement and park staff for all their help throughout the year. Without their support, many of the FOPSP projects would not have been possible.

I would also like to thank the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR), the Pennsylvania Parks and Forests Foundation (PPFF), and DCNR volunteers.

Projects the volunteers worked on throughout the 2014 calendar year include: Trail monitoring and maintenance, firewood sales in the campground (cutting, splitting and bundling), fundraising (firewood, bagged ice and clothing), goat care (regularly relocating goats and goat fencing used to manage unwanted vegetation in the campground), cleaning out fire rings, public programs, administrative duties, and various other work projects throughout the park. ■

# Delay of Playground Equipment for Conewago Day Use Area

By Jim Merlino, FOPSP Board Chair

In the 2014 membership Friends of Pinchot State Park renewal letter, it was indicated that the playground at the Conewago Day Use Area would be replaced in 2014-2015. The Friends have set the money aside for the project, but there is going to be a delay. The following statement, from park management, will explain the situation:

“The replacement of the playground is temporarily postponed so that park staff is able to concentrate their efforts on the installation of full hook-up sites in the campground. This ongoing campground improvement project is part of a larger comprehensive infrastructure development plan for Pennsylvania State Parks and Forests. The *Enhance Penn's Woods* initiative is a statewide effort to repair and upgrade the State's natural treasures.

Once the large task of installing the full hook-up sites is completed, park staff will then be able to focus on this Friends of Pinchot commitment and other park projects that have been postponed.” ■



2200 Rosstown Road  
Lewisberry, PA 17339  
(717) 432-5011  
Email: FOPSP@aol.com

## ADVISORY BOARD

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*This volunteer advisory board is dedicated to preserving, protecting and enhancing the natural and recreational resources of Gifford Pinchot State Park for present and future generations.*

Friends of Pinchot State Park is a chapter of the Pennsylvania Parks and Forests Foundation (PPFF). The PPFF is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Contributions are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

**Newsletter Editor: Pat Sabold**  
psaboldFOPSP@aol.com

Publication deadlines are the 5th of each quarter (March, June, September, December). The Advisory Board reserve publication decisions.

## Friends of Pinchot State Park 2014 Annual Finance Report

Beginning Balance .....		\$21,614.00
<b>Income</b> .....		<b>\$31,634.00</b>
Fundraising	\$29,378.00	
Membership	\$990.00	
Donations	\$1266.00	
<b>Expenses</b> .....		<b>(\$13,000.00)</b>
Fundraising	(\$5869.00)	
Miscellaneous*	(\$7131.00)	
<b>Ending Balance</b> .....		<b>\$40,248.00</b>

\*Includes: Twenty-five (25) wooden picnic tables, floor covering for two camping cabins, livestock fencing, public programs, trail care day, office supplies, etc.

Copies of our Annual Report can be found at:  
<http://friendsofpinchot.org/home/newsletters>



**Find us on Twitter at:**  
[@FriendsPinchot](https://twitter.com/FriendsPinchot)

## FRIENDS OF PINCHOT STATE PARK

2015 Annual Membership Application

**Make checks payable to: PPFF**  
(include FOPSP on the memo line)

Mail form with payment to: Friends of Pinchot State Park, 2200  
Rosstown Road, Lewisberry, PA 17339.

NEW MEMBERSHIP     RENEWAL

__ Senior (age 62+)	\$10.00	__ Corporate	\$250.00+
__ Individual	\$15.00	__ I'd like to make a	
__ Family	\$25.00	tax-deductible	
__ Damselfly Sponsor	\$50.00	contribution of \$	_____
__ Dragonfly Sponsor	\$100.00	<b>TOTAL \$</b>	_____

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State/Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

- I would like to receive my newsletter via email.  
 I am interested in volunteering.

Friends of Pinchot State Park was formed in March 2009 as a chapter of the Pennsylvania Parks and Forests Foundation (PPFF). The PPFF is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Contributions to PPFF are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law. The official registration of the Pennsylvania Parks and Forests Foundation may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free within Pennsylvania 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

Memberships are for one year, June 1 through May 31.

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