

THE



FRIENDS OF

Pine Grove Furnace

STATE PARK Pennsylvania Parks & Forests Foundation

NEWS

February 2016

GRANT AWARDED TO IMPROVE MOUNTAIN CREEK TRAIL

The South Mountain Partnership announced on January 22 that the Friends of Pine Grove Furnace State Park has been awarded a grant of \$15,000 to help pay for the cost of the new foot bridge over Mountain Creek. The grant was one of six grants announced at the 5th Annual Power of the Partnership event in Chambersburg. This is in addition to the \$21,730 grant from the Cumberland County Visitor's Bureau that was announced in November. Funding for the South Mountain Partnership's Mini-Grant Program is provided by a grant from the Community Conservation Partnerships Program, under the

Dept. of Conservation and Natural Resources. Once completed, the improved 1.72 mile trail and fifty-foot bridge will provide an easy hike between the Laurel Lake and Fuller Lake areas of the park. We will need volunteers to clear away a number of large fallen trees and replace old crossings over boggy areas on the trail. Volunteers are expected to begin work on the project this spring on Earth Day, April 23. If you are interested in volunteering, sign up as a conservation volunteer for Earth Day at the DCNR website: <https://www.volunteers.dcnr.state.pa.us/index.aspx>



Trail head to Mountain Creek Trail at end of Ice House Road near Laurel Lake.

Our Board:

Andre Weltman, Chair
Mary Soderberg, Vice-Chair
William Breen, Treasurer
Diane Velozo, Secretary
Josh Burleigh
Sue Breen
Steve Dodd
Rob Shaw
Donna Weiser
Brett Weiser

Our Mission:

The Friends of Pine Grove Furnace State Park (FOPGF) exists to keep history alive and promote educational and recreational programs at the park and surrounding areas through special events and trail development while protecting the park's natural resources.

Visit us online at:

www.pinegrovefriends.org

Follow us on Facebook at:

Friends-of-Pine-Grove-Furnace-State-Park

The Friends of Pine Grove Furnace State Park (FOPGF) was formed in August 2010 as a chapter of the Pennsylvania Parks and Forests Foundation (PPFF). PPFF is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Contributions to PPFF are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

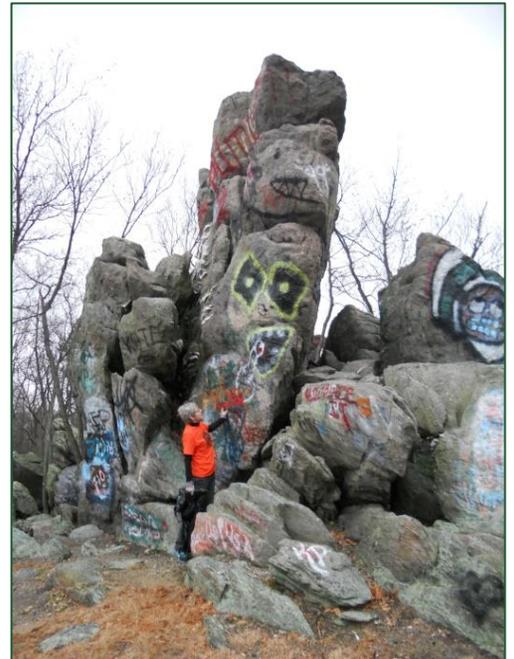
WINTER UPDATES

Welcome Joe Basil, Our New Park Manager: A native of Alexandria, Huntingdon County, Basil, 27, began his career with the state parks in 2011, learning the park facilities management as a semi-skilled laborer for almost two seasons at Bald Eagle State Park, Centre County. In 2013 he took a park manager trainee position in Tioga County and eventually became manager of the Hills Creek State Park Complex. Basil holds a bachelor's degree in wildlife science from Juniata College.

A.T. Museum: The South Mountain Partnership has awarded the Appalachian Trail Museum a \$11,500 grant to help complete the demolition, build-out and utilities on the top two floors of the old grist mill that houses the museum.

PA Parks and Forests Foundation (PPFF): The PPFF is the parent organization of friends groups for 41 different state parks and forests around the state. PPFF has begun a new volunteer program that will be perfect for families, individuals or even businesses who are too busy to make an ongoing contribution to an organization. The program will be a series of short term projects called the *Stewards of Penn's Woods*. The first project will be to eliminate the graffiti and litter at Hammonds Rocks in our favorite state forest. Hammonds Rocks is a beautiful rock formation off of Ridge Road that is covered with graffiti. In addition there is a lot of broken glass and litter in the area – Hammonds Rocks are in desperate need of a cleanup. The first litter pick up day is scheduled for April

16. The work to remove the graffiti will begin on May 21. If you are interested in working on the project, go to the PPFF website at: <http://www.paparksandforests.org/volunteer.html>



UPCOMING 2016 EVENTS

Earth Day – April 23: Volunteers will begin work on Mountain Creek Trail improvements and other tasks to get the park ready for the season.

Woodsy Owl Weekend – May 13-15: Two days of camping in exchange for one morning of volunteering in the park. A fun family weekend!

6th Annual Iron Race - June 11: A half-marathon trail race and a 5k race to raise funds for projects supported by the Friends of Pine Grove Furnace. Participate as a volunteer or as a runner! Online registration is available at www.RunReg.com.

2016 Membership

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Date: _____

Amount Enclosed: _____

Your membership helps us to ensure that Pine Grove Furnace State Park continues to be one of the best parks in all of Pennsylvania. The cost of an individual membership is \$10; a family membership is only \$15 for a year.

Mail membership form and payment to:

Friends of Pine Grove Furnace State Park
1100 Pine Grove Road
Gardners, PA 17324

Please make checks payable to "PPFF" (the PA Parks and Forests Foundation) and write "FOPGF" on the memo line to make sure the check is credited to the Friends of Pine Grove Furnace State Park.