

PACK & PADDLE

Summer June 2020

"The challenge goes on. There are other lands and rivers, other wilderness areas, to save and to share with all.

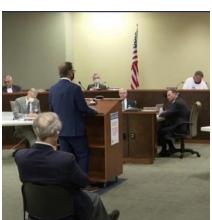
I challenge you to step forward to protect and care for the wild places you love best." - Dr. Neil Compton

Permanent CAFO Moratorium (Reg 5) Passes PC&EC By David Peterson, Ozark Society President

Last week there was a surprise announcement that the Pollution Control & Ecology Commission had a minute order on the agenda to pass changes in Reg 5 at the May 27 meeting. Meaning that after 10 months of delay, there was likely to be a resolution one way or another for our efforts to make permanent the current moratorium temporary medium and large hog CAFO's in the Buffalo River Watershed. The temporary moratorium was for 5 years and is scheduled to expire this year. Without a permanent moratorium the entire C&H kind of affair could start over again next year. The battle lines have been between those who think that clean water, as exemplified by the Buffalo National River, should be preserved verses the "right to farm" position postured by the Farm Bureau. The possibility of coexistence has been greatly politicalized by the C&H controversy, which, along with the corona virus problem, led to several delayed votes.

But PC&EC meetings are public meetings and DEQ accommodated that broadcasting on Arkansas Public Television and by allowing no more than 15 members of the public into the hearing room at any one time – the rest were to sit in their cars and await to be summoned by cell phone when their turn to comment came. Health security was tight.

Given the recent waffling on this issue by the PC&EC, the debate was expected to be contentious and the vote close, but the only public commenters were Mayes (BRWA Richard Gordon attorney), Watkins (BRWA chair), and myself. There was no debate, and reg 5 passed with 12 yes, 0 no, and 3 recusals for various reasons. The several Farm Bureau lobbyists can count votes and apparently knew the battle was lost in PC&EC so they kept their powder dry for another battle.



PC & EC meeting May 27th

There are two more potential hurdles for Reg 5 - the joint committee of Health, Welfare, and Labor, which meets June 8, followed by the Arkansas Legislative Council meeting soon after. The Health Committee reviews all PC&EC regulations. The two committee hearings are essentially disjoint groups and we will need to make a maximum push in each to gain passage.

For a historical perspective, hogs arrived in the Buffalo River watershed with the first settlers, domestic hogs and their wild counterparts are endemic to the region. In the 1990's there were many small hog farms in the watershed ultimately causing water quality issues in the Buffalo River because of leaky and overflowing lagoons. But it soon became clear that the small hog farms could not compete economically with medium to large CAFO's and their powerful integrators. The small hog farm is now essentially a thing of the past.

Arkansas has two categories for CAFO waste management: liquid (some 150 permits, mostly hog farms with a few dairy farms) and dry (very many poultry farms, with 5 poultry and one hog CAFO still in the Buffalo River watershed). DEO is permitting agency for liquid waste and Arkansas Natural Resource Commission (ANRC) is the permitting agency for dry waste. Some farmers see this double permitting as an undue burden on farming and this was the stated motivation for SB550 a year ago which sought to move all waste regulation to ANRC. unsuccessfully fought SB550 in the Senate AG committee, but then obtained a withdrawal of the bill in the House Ag. Committee when it became clear we had the votes. But SB550 is not dead, merely sleeping and it might be resurrected next year.

Remembering Another Founding Member of the Ozark Society: Joe Marsh Clark By Duane and Judy Woltjen

Editor's Note: Duane Woltjen (former Highlands Chapter President) and his wife Judy sent me this information and I thought it was a wonderful profile of Joe Clark, a founding Ozark Society Member. It is a compilation of 2 articles that they sent and a biography by Lynn Nabb, Joe's granddaughter. Thanks to Woltjens and Lynn! C. Shearman

Joe Marsh Clark was born in 1903 in Salem, MO. He received his BS and MS from the University of Missouri in Geology worked for several oil companies of the course of his career. In 1929 he married Maxine Bradford who had a degree in Nursing from University of Missouri and also an MS degree in Botany from the University of Tulsa. In 1961 they received an offer from Arkansas Western Gas and moved to Favetteville AR. That's where they became involved in the early efforts to protect the Buffalo River from the series of dams that the

Army Corps of Engineers proposed for the river.



Joe Walsh Clark, left, and Neil Compton, founder of the Ozark Society, pause at the beginning of a hiking trail built by Ozark Society yolunteers at Lake Wilson. The trail was dedicated to Clark and his wife, Maxine, Friday afternoon.

In May 1962 the Ozark Society was formed and Joe became the editor of the Ozark Society Bulletin in Spring 1967. Bulletin featured conservation and education articles as well as showcasing Ozark photography and historical essays. Maxine always contributed a botany article to each edition. In 1968, Joe and Maxine received two distinguished awards for their work: Conservation Communications Award from the Arkansas Wildlife Federation and the National Conservation Achievement Award from the National Wildlife Federation for their work on the Buffalo River, the Ozark Society, and the Bulletin.

In 1995 when Joe Clark was 92. a 2 ½ mile trail around Lake Wilson was completed members of the Highlands Chapter of the Ozark Society and named in honor of him. About 50 people attended the opening of the trail. Neil Compton and Joe were both on hand and Duane Woltjen lead the dedication to Joe and saluted long-time dedication his to conservation Arkansas and communications. Right after the dedication some of Joe's photography slides were shown at a national conference at Lake Wedington Lodge. Maxine passed away in 1988: Joe, in 2000. Dear friend Joe Nix said, "I hope I can always go slow. The Clarks taught us how to observe and really appreciate the beautiful world in which we live."

The Hiking / Camping Trip to Sedona, AZ October 18-24, 2020 is Cancelled By Bob Cross

I am cancelling the trip. Rodger Keesee (the co-leader) and I believe that the covid-19 pandemic will still be with us in October and that group camping and hiking will be too risky for our group. Our reserved campground, the USFS Chavez Crossing Group Campground in Sedona is closed at the present time but while it will probably re-open before October,

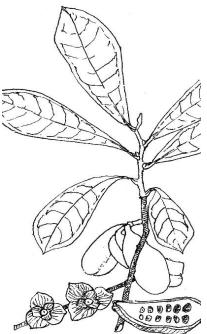
the three pit toilets there for up to 100 people in the three group sites are certainly not safe. Also, the only place I could find for showers--the Sedona Community Center Swimming Pool--would not be a good choice considering disease transmission.

However, approximately twenty OS members have signed up as non-campers and had

planned to stay in motels, B&B's, rental houses, or apartments. They can probably make a relatively safe trip to Sedona or their own if they choose to do so. I'll be contacting them by e-mail to offer a package of suggested hikes, maps, and recommended shops and restaurants in Sedona if they decide to make the trip.

Pawpaw – The Tropical Fruit that Escaped to the Ozarks Fred Paillet, OS Education Chair

Many hikers in the Ozarks are puzzled to see extensive thickets of a kind of shrub with big oblong and vibrantly green leaves that look like they could be found along some tropical jungle trail. This is the pawpaw, a small fruiting tree that was once a useful food resource for Ozark and Appalachian settlers as related by Andrew Moore in his book Pawpaw. I concur with Moore's observation that pawpaw fruit are not very common in our forests today and wonder how pawpaw could have been a significant part of rural folks' diet in years gone by. But there are some back-tothe-land types who manage to forage for pawpaw fruit to sell at local farmers markets in Ohio and West Virginia. Part of the story may relate to differences in forest conditions or land use, and how those conditions affect pawpaw pollination.



Pawpaw foliage with fruit and flowers

The tree blooms in early April with nickel-sized maroon flowers that attract flies rather than bees. The flower bears a fetid odor that would attract flies while the color resembles that of decaying flesh. Because extensive thickets of pawpaw develop by underground runners, they are essentially giant clones. Pawpaw flowers do not self-pollenate very well and pollen from other clones at some distance is required to produce fruit. Recently established pawpaw orchard operations even collect roadkill for use in attracting pollinators to their groves. It may be that pawpaw fruit are relatively uncommon in many places because forests have been expanding on abandoned and the wide-ranging land, pawpaw thickets we see may be extensive clones that expanded from a few initial outliers, creating difficulty when it comes cross-pollination between genetically distinct clones.

The natural range of pawpaw extends from east Texas to southern Ontario and represents a tree from a large tropical family that has managed to thrive in temperate climate. Asimina triloba is a member of a widespread family that includes such tropical fruits as the soursop and the cherimoya that have followed Hispanic immigrants to our temperate produce markets. The one other common member of this family in the US is the pond apple (Annona glabra), a native shrub I got to know while hiking in the Florida Everglades. The name pawpaw was apparently adopted by early Virginia colonists who confused a local fruit having seed-filled pulp with the tropical pulp and seed-filled papaya described by travelers from the Caribbean. When eaten, the wild fruit is described as a creamy custard with a bananamango flavor. Moore describes how "Johnny Pawpawseed" Peterson pioneer Neil painstakingly developed commercially valuable pawpaw varieties as a hobby outside of his regular FDA research job. His cultivars were twice the size of wild fruit, had especially savory taste, and were rounder to enhance the relative amount of pulp around the central seeds. Before long, the University of Kentucky had begun a pawpaw cultivation program as an effort to find useful new crops as tobacco continued to disappear from the farming industry. You can now go online to find specialty nurseries that will ship you grafted saplings for your own pawpaw orchard. Meanwhile, annual pawpaw festivals have now become great attractions in Ohio and North Carolina.

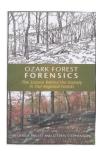
Pawpaw orchards have relatively few insect pests or other diseases, and the trees are not very palatable to deer. It is, however, host to caterpillars that mature into zebra swallowtail butterflies. The main hazard for growers is freeze damage during the early spring flowering season. remaining constraint on the commercial pawpaw production industry is the need for equipment to process fruit to extract pulp from rind and seeds to reach an expanding market for products to be used in a variety of pies, cakes, puddings and other treats. Continued on page 4....

The Ozark Society and OS Foundation have an Online Store!

By Carolyn Shearman, OS Communications Chair

The Ozark Society website at www.ozarksociety.net/store/ has an online store with a shopping cart that accepts credit card payments. It provides Emily Roberts, our Outreach Chair, with all the shipping information to make shopping easy and delivery fast. No more mail-in forms to fill out! You can now order T-shirts, OS Foundation books, OS books, maps, and CDs all online. Here are some examples:

Ozark Forest Forensics: \$24.95



www.ozarksociety.net/product/ozarkforest-forensics-frederick-pallet-andsteven-stephenson/

Ozark Society T-shirt:

\$20.00



www.ozarksociety.net/product/the-ozarksociety-t-shirt/

Still on The Hill CD

\$15.00



www.ozarksociety.net/product/still-a-river-story-songs-of-the-buffalo-river-cd-still-on-the-hill/

The Pawpaw by Fred Pailletcontinued

You can even sample pawpaw beer at specialty brewpubs, most often at local pawpaw festivals in the Appalachian region. There is also another dwarf variety of *Asimina* in Florida with showy flowers that has the potential to be bred with Arkansas pawpaw to give ornamental landscape trees. I saw dwarf pawpaw (*A parviflora*) in bloom while hiking in the sandy pine forests of central Florida and was amazed to see knee-high shrubs with outsized flowers framed by lacy pink petals. You can see how much potential there is for improvement there.

Now that you know about the tasty fruit of our common Ozark shrub, how can you go about obtaining a sample? There are several real obstacles in the way. First, just beating raccoons and other wildlife to the nutritious fruit. Then the problem that pawpaw has a very narrow window of palatability. The fruit is only edible when ripe, and

then falls from the tree and rots very Veteran pawpaw harvesters quickly. shake trees to see if ripe fruit is ready to fall, or gently press thumb and forefinger into the fruit to test for ripeness. Then there is the pollination issue. Having lots of pawpaw shrubs in a location does not guarantee a harvest because they all may be essentially the same plant in one big clone. You have to look for fruiting plants to figure out where natural cross-pollination is reliably occurring. Those hardy souls who collect the wild fruit have probably found by trial and error the location of groves that consistently bear good fruit crops.

You can easily see pawpaw for yourself at many convenient locations in northwest Arkansas. One of the most accessible locations is where a clone of mature pawpaw stems up to fifteen feet tall lean over the paved walkway at Compton Gardens in Bentonville.

Another easy access site for pawpaw viewing is the Sinking Stream Trail at Hobbs State Park. Ripening pawpaw fruit were even hanging over the trail when I visited last summer. The shrub or small tree is found almost everywhere on the Ozark Highlands Trail where there are relatively moist and shaded conditions in older growth forest. One of the most impressive jungles of pawpaw I have seen is along the upper reaches of the Shores Lake Trail around White Rock State Park where the demise of the red oak overstory by oak borer attack has opened the canopy to allow luxurious expansion of the pawpaw clones in the understory. Pawpaw viewing is as good an excuse as any for hiking that scenic trail. Pawpaw - In Search of America's Forgotten Fruit, Andrew Moore, 2015, Chelsea Green Publishing, 295 p.

The Ozark Society Foundation is Busy!

By Marvin Schwartz, Foundation Chair

The Ozark Society Foundation has several new projects in planning stages.

Trees Book

The creation of a new field guide, "Trees, Shrubs, and Woody Vines of Arkansas," is underway. The book will be a 400-page color compendium of state flora, scheduled to be available later this year.



Photo in consideration for cover of new Arkansas Trees book.

The work leading up to "Trees, Shrubs, and Woody Vines of Arkansas" started in 2012 by then-OSF Board Chair Kim Smith. The project initially focused on revising a previously published OSF book, a field guide to state trees, shrubs, and vines authored by Carl Hunter. Because Hunter's original photos unavailable and were more contemporary materials were accessible, OSF chose to create a new field guide. Until recently, project progress was delayed by organizational transition. professional relocation, and the death of individuals.

At this time, the book co-authors, Jennifer Ogle and Theo Witsell, are completing the final content. OSF has submitted proposals to several funders to support the graphic designer and printer work, public programs, and book promotion.

Literary Award

Planning is underway to establish an annual award for excellence in writing on ecology, natural resources, and other themes that align with the OS mission. This will be a judged competition with an entry fee, accepting submissions of published or unpublished work. The winner will receive a cash award and, for unpublished manuscripts, consideration for publication by OSF. Submissions can be in any literary genre, but not academic or scientific work. Announcement of the program is planned for this fall.

Board Recruitment

Outreach efforts have begun to additional OSF board members to expand the organization and contribute to new project development. "call A candidates" recruitment letter has been shared with state environmental organizations and key individuals.

Youth engagement grants

Initial planning is underway for a program that will award small grants to state nonprofit organizations to engage youth in ecology projects.

In addition, OSF board members are also involved in partnership projects with the Ozark Society and public institutions.

Documentary film

A documentary film will tell the conservation history of the Buffalo

National River and related environmental efforts in Arkansas. The film will raise awareness of the river as a national treasure preserved as a result of local vigilance, particularly by Dr. Neil Compton and the Ozark Society. The film's primary purpose is to inspire continued public awareness and engagement in conservation issues for the preservation of the Buffalo River, Arkansas wilderness areas, and other unique natural resources. The film will be completed to coincide with the summer 2022 programs that celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Buffalo National River and the 60th anniversary of the Ozark Society. Outreach has been made to filmmakers and donors for the film creation.

Clinton School of Public Service student project

Following a presentation by OS and OSF board members at the Clinton School 'project fair,' a graduate student has chosen an Ozark Society project for his independent study work over the next year. The student will investigate the Arkansas Phosphorus Index, leading to policy recommendations and public communication of related issues. David Peterson will be project advisor.

60th Anniversary planning for the Buffalo National River

An extensive list of project ideas has been created. Planning meetings with potential partners have been postponed due to the health crisis.

In Memoriam: Frank Sutterfield and Ellen Compton

Frank Sutterfield: By Laura Timby, Buffalo River Chapter Chair

For many years Frank and Alma Lee Sutterfield were members of the Buffalo River Chapter of the Ozark Society. I met them through their son Terry, also a member of the BRC, who worked as a physician in Marshall. It was always a pleasure to be around the Sutterfields, whether at chapter meetings or outings. Having spent a large part of their lives in Stone and Searcy County they had so many interesting stories to tell. I remember one memorable chapter outing when Terry and Frank led our group into the Clifty Canyon Special Interest Area. It was an incredibly remote and pristine area and I'm pretty sure we never would have found it without their help. We all had a wonderful time and it was made even more special to be with folks who had a personal tie to the area. Frank was a true naturalist and loved these hills he called home. His respect for nature, his true love and appreciation of the Ozark Highlands, and enduring spirit his conservation stand as an inspiration to all of us. May you rest in peace Frank, together once again with your beloved Alma Lee.

Ellen Compton: By Janet Parsch

When Ellen Compton and I started working in the University of Arkansas Libraries in the early 1980s, our paths seldom crossed since we worked in different departments on different floors: she in archives in Special Collections on Level 1, and I, in various offices on Level 2. I had heard vague descriptions that her father, Neil, had something to do with the Buffalo

River, but I didn't know much more than that. (She was the oldest of Neil Compton's Laurene three When our children.) mothers coincidentally passed away at about the same time in 1990, I was touched when Ellen sent me a note saying we shared a special bond in losing our mothers. That was the beginning of a relationship that developed personally and professionally over time.

At one point I was a tad envious when I overheard several of my library colleagues discussing with Ellen a hike through Dismal Hollow's Bear Crack, they had recently completed with the Ozark "Society." At the time I thought the "Society" was a select group of blueblood Arkansans born and bred in the Ozarks.



Dismal Hollow, 2005. Janet Parsch, Ellen Compton

Some time later, in 1999, when Neil Compton passed away, my husband, Luke, and I made a donation to the Ozark Society in Neil's memory. As a result of this donation, we started receiving the *Pack and Paddle*. After we had received a couple of issues, I went to Ellen and said, "Ellen, we would love to go on some of the hikes that are announced in the P&P, but we aren't eager to drive 2.5 hours to

Little Rock, then drive to a trailhead that is even farther away, and then hike all day." Her response: "You mean you haven't been getting announcements for the Highlands Chapter hikes?! I will get you set up!"

Our first hike with the Ozark Society (Highlands Chapter) was coincidentally led by Ellen—from Pearly Springs to Steel Creek—on October 27, 2001. We were new to hiking and weren't familiar with hiking guidelines or rules. At one point Ellen explained that if you needed to "separate" from the group, you should leave your backpack in the trail so someone could find you in case you didn't soon reappear. I thought that "separate" was jargon among serious hikers—only to realize later that it was a wonderful word chosen by discreet Ellen to refer to a "bio break."



Roaring Falls Cave, Cecil Cove, 2003. Ellen Compton

As I reviewed hiking photos since Ellen's passing on March 19, I recalled her wonderful camaraderie, stamina, and sense of adventure. There are photos of her being pushed/heaved/hoisted up the rock wall at Indian Creek, and there are photos of her in stylish hiking garb inspecting the wildflowers, geology, or architectural features of historical Ozark structures or cemeteries. There are also photos of our search for the ivory-billed woodpecker in eastern *Continued on page 7*

In Memoriam.... continued

Arkansas; helping Ken Smith scout out trail routes; or helping him confirm facts for the *Buffalo River Handbook*. She was eager to share her love of the outdoors.

What also became evident. however, was her interest that I become informed about Ozarks culture, history, and people. She made sure I got to meet her father in 1997 when he was doing a book-signing for his Buffalo River in Black and White (the only time I met him). She and I watched all 13 of Neil's home-made 8mm films from the 1960s promoting the establishment of the BNR, during which she added commentary on every person in those films.



Trail-building BRT Extension, Dillard's Ferry, 2005. Ellen Compton, Rodger Keesee, Bob Cross, Ken Smith

We worked together to identify materials for the Neil Compton Exhibit Room at Compton Gardens in Bentonville. Together we gathered images for her several PowerPoint presentations on her father's life in commemoration of what would have been his 100th birthday in 2012. We gathered objects for David Esterly to include in his masterful, hand-carved

wooden letter rack depicting a tangible, visual history of Neil Compton that was commissioned by (and now resides at) Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art. We negotiated her family's generous copyright transfer of Neil Compton's *Battle for the Buffalo* to the Ozark Society Foundation to support the UA Neil Compton Scholarship in the Biological and Geological Sciences.

What I've described is Ellen's tireless, persistent commitment as a historian to seek out and preserve an important story—one that is personal to her family and her family's legacy, but one that is also vitally important for Arkansas's environmental history.

With her gracious, generous spirit Ellen was also relentless in making sure that people around her were being introduced, being connected, being networked in community. She knew that each person has a story to tell and wanted to set up opportunities that their stories could also be told. Ellen created her own legacy as one committed to Arkansas and its people, history, and outdoors, and also as one who engaged others in carrying on that legacy and commitment—all the while sharing a curiosity to learn and connect, and having fun doing so. She was a role model for friendship, mentoring, and advocating Arkansas.

One of the last times Ellen and I talked, she said she was doing fine, but was starting to have some mobility problems. When I last saw her, she had indeed given up her hiking poles for a classy-looking walker with a

seat--but she had lent it out to a friend who, she said, needed it more that day than she did....

Rest in peace, Ellen. I will think of you whenever I'm in the archives or on the trails or backroads of Arkansas.

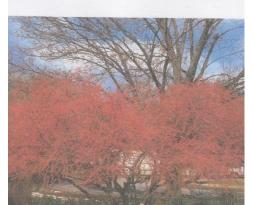
Christmas Gift

A highway landscape, fence rows, winter clean. Woody, scrabbly stuff, fields rough and dull.

When, on the edge of sight – a gift! A burst of Brilliance from the green hearts of a row of cedars.

A possumhaw, leafless within the greens, Waved boughs and boughs of crimson berries To the travelers on this deep December day.

alle



A Poem by Ellen Compton on the Possumhaw

Link to a remembrance of Ellen Compton by UA colleagues can be found at:

https://librariesblog.uark.edu/rememb ering-ellen-shipley-comptonarchivist-historian-friend/

Link to David Esterly's letter rack of Neil Compton:

https://crystalbridges.org/blog/remembering-david-esterly/

John Muir Trail Trip June 26-July 6, 2020 is Cancelled

By Steve Heye, OS Pulaski Chapter Outings Chair

Most of the members who were going on the John Muir Trail trip backed out because of Covid-19. We will have to try again next year.

High Pointing Part 10: West Virginia, Maryland, and Pennsylvania By Steve Heye, OS Pulaski Chapter Outings Chair

This is the tenth episode of my trips to visit as many of the fifty US States' highest points. In chapter nine we looked at the trip I took in August of 2019 to Utah and the Dakotas. This time it's one long day in the spring of 2017 in the central Appalachians.

I started the day in Harrisonburg, Virginia. I had spent the night here on my way to a meeting in Harrisburg, Pa. My goal was to get all three states in one day and make it by nightfall to Harrisburg. At 6am I jumped in the car and started up US 33 to my first stop, Spruce Knob, West Virginia.

West Virginia

Located about 70 miles west of Harrisonburg, Spruce Knob is 4,863 feet above sea level. A state park and access road make the peak very accessible. This was, however, the first day of Spring and no one had told that to the high elevation snow that was still on the last mile or so of the approach road. You park your car in a nearby lot and walk the last quarter mile to a pavilion that sits on the high point.



Highest peak is center back

The snow here was about six inches deep and getting to the lot was fun, but my all-wheel drive Rav4 managed to make it up. I hiked over a snowy trail to the high point, took the photos and didn't spend much more time on top. It was cold, windy and I still had two more peaks. The high point is located on private property, but the owners are cool to the fact they own the high spot and let the folks put up a marker and registry.

It was now about 8:30am and I still had to drive north to my next stop, the Maryland high point, about 60 miles north on West Virginia highways. Early on March 21, 2017, West Virginia became my 25th high point.



Spruce Knob, West Virginia March 21, 2017 Hi Point 25 4,863 Feet

Maryland

On my way to the trail head for Maryland's high point, you drive past the Seneca Rock scenic area. If you get a chance to check this place out, it looked very interesting. I looked around for a few minutes, but got back on the road to keep to my tight schedule. After a few state highways, I would wind up on US 219 and the town of Silver Lake, West Virginia.

Hoye-Crest, Maryland's high point is just yards into Maryland from the West Virginia line. You park your car along US 219 and hike up an old logging road towards the state line as you climb the 3,360-foot peak. After a forty-five-minute walk, you crest the ridge and walk a trail to the marker.



It was raining lightly when I signed the log book, but at least it was snow free. It was also before lunch, so I was still on schedule with one state to go. On March 21st Maryland became my 26th state high point. I walked back to the car, grabbed some lunch and headed north and east to south central Pennsylvania.

Pennsylvania

It would be a straight run up US 219 about 60 miles to the town of Keyser's Ridge, Maryland where I would then make my way over the

Continued on page 9

High Pointing Part 10 continued

Mt. Davis Natural Area in far south-central Pennsylvania.

It was about 2pm and I was happy to be on schedule for an arrival in Harrisburg by 6. All that was left was to do like I did in West Virginia: drive to a parking

lot and walk the quarter mile to the high point on Mt. Davis. But like West Virginia, the ground here was covered in snow. Unfortunately, it was twice as deep, a foot or more, so my car was not able to drive directly to the parking lot near the marker.

After about an hour of trying, I saw there was a plowed road and lot about a mile from the high point that I could reach through the hiking trail system. About 3pm I started walking down the path in calf-deep snow for the next half hour. I reached the park that contained the high point marker and took my photos about 3:45pm. I had done it!



Three state high points in one day. Now I had to leave the 3,213-foot high-point and walk back in the snow to my car and finish the day 160 miles away in Harrisburg, Pa. On March 21st, Pennsylvania became my 27th state to reach the highest point.



So, we've finally caught up to where I am on my journey, 41 state high points in the books as of May 2020. My plans for this summer have been shot due to the Covid-19 virus. I was planning on a weeklong backpack on the John Muir Trail in California, with a finish on Mt. Whitney. The trip back home was to include a visit to Boundary Peak, Nevada to top off my summer. Those two peaks will have to wait while I try to salvage some sort of visit to one or more of the remaining nine states. Hopefully, I will have a report of a trip somewhere before the next newsletter is out in the fall. Stay safe and have a great summer.

Ozark Society Board Meeting July 11, 2020 By David Peterson, Ozark Society President



It is evident that the Covid-19 virus is going to be here for a considerable time and therefore the Board meeting currently scheduled for July 11 at the Peterson's castle will be conducted via Zoom. The zoom format for meetings is proving to be effective given the circumstances and we hope it is not inconvenient for our Board and any other members who wish to join us. If you are not on the Board but wish to join the meeting, contact me at ospres@ozarksociety.net.





The Ozark Society Membership Application/Renewal

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My Total is: \$					
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