



The Potomac Appalachian

The Newsletter of the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club
118 Park Street, S.E., Vienna, VA 22180-4609

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Message from the Departing President

It is with mixed emotions that I finish out my tenure as President of PATC. The past three years have been both rewarding and challenging. And while it is now time for me to focus my energies in other directions, I see my leaving more a hiatus than a true departure.

Looking back over the events of 1998, I am pleased to report that many of the changes I had hoped to effect while in this office have actually come to pass. The successful distribution of the Vos property proceeds along with the significant growth of the Endowment Fund has certainly placed PATC on firm financial footing. I am proudest of the financial management tools that are now in place to guide our annual budget planning, and of the project planning process that has been implemented this year.

The creation of our three restricted funds has proven to be a bedrock foundation upon which the Club may build a strong future. We have in place the mechanism to curb that most human of impulses—to immediately apply any unexpected profit or windfall into some sort of action or activity without due

regard to its ultimate benefit to our organization. With the Headquarters Capital/Repair Fund; the Trail Lands Fund; and the Cabins/Shelters Lands and Building Fund, we have given ourselves a way to set aside money we may need to fund our good works in times less prosperous than we now enjoy.

Similarly, the adoption of the Project Planning Process gives the PATC Council a tool for managing all of our on-going Cabins and Shelters projects in a comprehensive, yet unobtrusive way. It helps members wishing to undertake a major project to develop comprehensive plans and allows the Council to set certain project milestones at which progress may be measured and additional funding be granted or withheld as circumstances warrant.

The final achievement of what I hope you will see as a successful term in office is the re-emphasis of PATC's cooperative relationship with both the Appalachian Trail Conference and our many Government partners. I believe this was best illustrated by the very well-received Trail-building event this May in Harpers Ferry

in which PATC representatives worked not just with ATC staff, but also with President Clinton and Vice President Gore. The event helped to demonstrate to a national audience the importance of hiking trails and the volunteers that maintain them.

In closing, while in the near future my focus will be on my career and schooling, I have every intention of remaining active within the Club. I look forward to having an opportunity to actually spend time in the woods and will, naturally, stay involved with the renovation of the Blackburn Trail Center. It was through Blackburn that I first came to the Club, and it will always hold a special place in my heart. I also hope that I will again have the opportunity to serve the Club as it enters into the new millennium.

My presidency has been a true learning experience and one that I will treasure and refer back upon through the rest of my life. I feel blessed to have had such an opportunity. □

—Sandra Marra,
outgoing PATC President

An Evening with Ed Viesturs

Hudson Trail Outfitters, in coordination with Mountain Hardwear, presents an evening with American mountaineer, Ed Viesturs, on Sunday, January 24th at 7 pm. The 75 minute presentation will take place at George Mason University and will include a slide show on Ed Viesturs' adventures, including the making of the IMAX movie, "Everest," now playing at the Smithsonian. Ed will discuss alpine and expedition climbing and his quest to be the first American to summit all fourteen of the world's 8,000 meter peaks. A 20-minute question and answer period will follow the slide show.

Tickets are \$5 and will be sold in advance at all Hudson Trail Outfitters locations. All pro-

ceeds will benefit PATC and George Mason University's GEO Club. □

Remember, winter is a great time for Ski Touring and Mountaineering section activities. For more information on these two sections, check out their pages at PATC's web site, patc.simple.net.com, or stop by PATC headquarters to pick up a copy of the section newsletter. See the Forecast for further details on the Mountaineering Section, which meets at PATC headquarters on the second Wednesday of the month and for Ski Touring events.

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Final Budget Update

Just as this edition was heading for the press, Congress and the President enacted into law the final \$15.1 million in appropriations needed to bring the Appalachian Trail fully into public ownership by the end of the century. The funds were included in the end-of-session omnibus appropriations bill that the Senate passed and President Clinton signed on October 21.

Rep. Ralph Regula of Ohio, chairman of the House interior-appropriations subcommittee, had championed the two-years-in-one approach as far back as the 1997 federal budget deal. President Clinton strongly endorsed providing the final Trail-protection funds this year, in an April speech on the AT in Harpers Ferry, West Virginia.

For the last 20 years, the National Park Service (NPS) and US Forest Service (USFS) have been acquiring more than 3,000 small parcels of land outside other national-park units and within national forests to provide a basic buffer for the footpath, averaging 1,000 feet in width. The 1999 omnibus appropriations bill contained \$8.1 million for

the Park Service and \$7 million for the Forest Service to complete the protection program.

ATC Executive Director, David Startzell, thanked Rep. Regula and retiring Rep. Sidney Yates of Illinois, the ranking subcommittee Democrat and former chairman, for their years of support, as well as their Senate counterparts, Slade Gorton of Washington and Robert Byrd of West Virginia. He also noted that many senators and representatives speak up for the Trail each year.

At the end of September, NPS had left to acquire 5,103 acres in 10 states to protect 14.4 miles of trail; USFS, 4,720 acres in six states, covering 11.5 miles. In addition, four of the 14 Trail states have pledged to buy another 150 acres to protect 1.7 miles.

Just 20 years ago, 45 percent of the backcountry ridgecrest trail, begun in 1922 and completed as a continuous route in August 1937, was on private land subject to development. □

—Judy Jenner

reprinted from *Appalachian Trailways*

In this Issue

Welcome to a New Year of the *PA*! This issue features two important new columns. The first is Walt's Notes, by our new President, Walt Smith. Walt will be jotting down his thoughts to the membership each month and letting the Club know of important issues and concerns we all need to know about. The second is Featured...of the Month, where I will feature a work crew, cabin, shelter, overseer, Chapter, or section in *PATC* each month. This feature is meant to spread the

word about all the wonderful things going on in *PATC*. If you're looking for a new volunteer opportunity or just want to find out what other Club members are doing, look to this article. This month's Featured Cabin of the Month is Blackburn. If you're interested in having your work featured in the *PA*, let me know. Don't have anyone who likes to write on your crew? I can provide a writer to work with you in developing an article. □

—Bianca Menendez, Editor

IN MEMORIAM

Laskey J. Howard, *PATC* Life Member, died in November, 1998. Laskey was the wife of Victor A. Howard, also a Life Member, who died in 1997. Laskey and Victor became members in 1936 and both served as AT trail overseers. They were active with the square dance group, the Allemande Lefters, up to the 1970s. In the late 1940s and early 1950s, Victor served various officer positions of the Club including First Vice President, Second Vice President, and President.

Walt's Notes

The Past and the Future

It is a great honor to serve as the President of the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club. I will do my best to live up to the respected standards established by previous presidents. As I looked around the hall during the annual meeting in November, while Sandra Marra was presiding, I noticed several past presidents—John Oliphant, Warren Sharp, Jack Reeder—people who continue to serve their Club in different capacities today. There were others in the room who likewise have distinguished themselves by volunteering to work for the Club for many years. And as I reflected on their accomplishments, I thought of how thankful for their service we may be, those of us who hike on the trails, sleep in the cabins and shelters, and enjoy many other Club amenities. I should like to thank the officers who have just left the Executive Council for their excellent service.

There are many reasons for honoring Sandi for her work as President. Her commitment to establishing planning and financial systems comes to mind. But I shall personally not forget the workday night when she drove all the way out to Winchester to visit the local chapter. This action inspired me to commit myself, as President, to visiting as many of our activities in the outlying areas as I possibly can.

Bob Butt completed ten years as Supervisor of Corridor Management, skillfully resolving a myriad of problems associated with boundaries and neighbors. He continues his voluntary service as a member of the Board of Managers for the Appalachian Trail Conference.

Randy Minchew completed his term as the first General Counsel, a position that was created two years ago when the new constitution was adopted. However, Randy had been doing the work on a volunteer basis many years before the services were so formally recognized. His assistance in purchasing the headquarters building in 1991 is of special merit.

Membership climbed past six thousand during Lisa Still's term as Membership Secretary. Lisa will also be remembered for many occurrences that promoted the welfare of the members: her monthly new member meet-

ings, the family events, as well as her last event, the annual dinner itself!

Thank you all! The new Council will have its hands full in dealing with future issues.

The Council completed a planning session in December, which resulted in determining those issues that would require the most urgent attention in the coming months. (See "PATC Planning Session.") However, these issues are PATC issues. These issues belong to all of us. Moreover, there isn't much time to deal with some of them. For example, urban growth doesn't stop while we try to make up our minds as to how we are going to protect viewsheds along the trails or provide means for parking cars and hiking into Shenandoah National Park from the outer perimeter. And the population keeps growing around the national and Virginia state capitals. This means that, if we are to leave a hiking heritage for our grandchildren that is at least of the same high quality as we found it, we will need more trails in the future in order to provide the experiences we cherish now. I challenge you to think about how much you appreciate the hiking and backpacking part of your life; how much do you value the organization that maintains cabins, shelters, and one thousand miles of trails in the area; how much is the volunteer tradition worth to you? Shall we keep it alive so that we can make a real difference in so many people's lives in the future? I challenge all members to become involved in making that meaningful difference.

Why do We Volunteer?

There are many examples of PATC volunteers who inspire us. Recently, while looking over a list of overseers of the Appalachian Trail, I noticed that Sam Moore began work on a stretch of 2.8 miles in January 1948. Imagine that, being an AT Overseer for more than fifty years! Why do we volunteer to be an overseer or join a work crew to help maintain a trail? I suppose there are many reasons. In this case, none of the reasons seem to have much to do with a good-looking résumé! Some people respond to the question by saying that "its payback time. I have been hiking on these trails for years and now it is time to cut the weeds on one for awhile," or work on a cabin crew, or help at the PATC reservation desk in Vienna, or whatever might need

to be done. This is a good reason and every hour contributed here and there, as part of the team effort, helps produce the worthy end result for which our Club is noted.

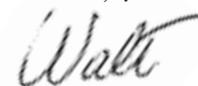
Other PATC members volunteer to lead a hike, work with the Tulip Tree Cabin Crew, the Trail Patrol, or the Shenandoah Mountain Rescue Group, or elsewhere because they want to learn new skills, or brush up on old ones, and enjoy working with a group of people.

Sometimes the camaraderie that develops between fellow volunteers results in forming meaningful friendships over time.

These are more good reasons for helping. For many folk, the opportunity to get away by themselves in scenic mountains is found to be healthy, even therapeutic. A trail or shelter overseer position provides a piece of familiar real estate to enjoy without the burden of ownership.

Whatever your initial reason may be for volunteering, the activity should be fun and interesting in order to sustain your participation. From among the vast number of tasks needing another hand, I recommend that you select one that makes your PATC membership rewarding for you personally. Look around and take on a bit of the organization that makes you feel good! My friends, I ask for your support so that we continue to make our volunteer system work. I ask for your support so that we may leave a hiking legacy of the high quality that we now enjoy. □

See you on the trail,



Patrons

Capital Hiking Club
Center Hiking Club
Potomac Backpackers Association
Sierra Club, Washington Outings Program
Wanderbirds Hiking Club

Corporate Supporters

Blue Ridge Mountain Sports
Campmor
Casual Adventures
Duron
Hewlett-Packard
Hudson Trail Outfitters
Outdoor Adventure
REI
The Outfitter at Harpers Ferry
The Trail House
Wilderness Voyagers

Overdue Hikers Located On Appalachian Trail

A moonlit Halloween night. A husband awaits at a trailhead parking lot for his wife and her hiking companion, who are long overdue after a two-day backpacking trip on a Potomac Appalachian Trail Club (PATC)-maintained section of the Appalachian Trail (AT) near Harpers Ferry.

The two backpackers had planned to leave their car at Ashby Gap on Route 50 and head north on the AT to Snickers Gap on Route 7. The husband of one of the hikers, after waiting for several anxious hours at the trailhead for the two women, contacted the VA State Police. After arriving at the scene and interviewing the husband, the police contacted the VA Department of Emergency Services, which in turn contacted the Appalachian Search and Rescue Conference (ASRC), the umbrella organization of local and regional wilderness search organizations. Personal pagers started buzzing across the state as ASRC members were notified of a missing-person incident.

Volunteers, including several men and women from the Shenandoah Mountain Rescue Group (SMRG), which consists entirely of PATC members, were on site within an hour, and after estimating the distance the hikers should have traveled, two teams of SMRG members and other ASRC volunteers were hastily dispatched to search the Sam Moore shelter and sections of the AT.

At approximately 11:00 p.m., a search team located the two hikers, who were bivouacked along the AT. They were tired and dehydrated, having run out of water several hours earlier, but they otherwise were in good condition and able to walk without aid. The hikers were escorted to the Bear's Den Hostel parking lot, where a county police car drove them to the impromptu search headquarters on Route 7.

All ended well. The overdue hikers and search teams arrived home safely. But the night's operation provided several important lessons for all PATC members embarking on outdoor adventures.

Hiking Precautions First

If your hiking trip involves being picked up at a specific destination, stick to your original plans and allow yourself ample time to get to your destination. Simply put, hike where you tell people you're going to hike. When you arrange to have someone pick you

up, don't assume that they have ESP and will somehow sense that you've changed your travel plans.

The two hikers in this case decided, at the last minute, to start their hike from Linden, VA, instead of Ashby Gap, parking their car near Route 66. This added several miles to their trip, and when police looked for their car at Ashby Gap (where they specifically said they were going to park) it wasn't there. This whimsical extension of the hike not only caused the two backpackers to be substantially overdue, but the fact that their car wasn't where it was expected to be raised grave concerns among authorities as to the possible fate of the hikers. Had they been kidnapped? Did someone on the trail attack them and steal the car keys? Obviously, none of these events occurred, but no one had any way of knowing that at the time.

Second, carry enough water! An obvious point, but one that many hikers overlook. Due to the current drought, many water sources along the AT, especially at higher elevations, have dried up. Even "reliable" springs have turned off the taps for the season. The two backpackers in this case were thus unable to replenish their water supplies.

It is important to study your topo maps, ask hikers with recent experience in the area you plan on hiking where you'll be able to get water on the trail, and carry plenty of water when you start your trip. Bring a water filter pump or purifying tablets on hikes, especially long ones, and fill up your bottles at every opportunity. If a water source you've been counting on is dry, don't tough it out, cut your trip short. An exhausted and dehydrated hiker is well on the way to becoming a disoriented or injured hiker. In many cases of hypothermia, dehydration is an underlying component.

The Right Things To Do

"The hikers did several things right," says Todd L'Herrou, PATC member and ASRC Incident Commander for the search. "Although they changed their plans, at least they let someone know where they were going and when they were planning on finishing their trip. When they didn't return as scheduled, the husband did the right thing by waiting for a length of time and then contacting the police. Additionally, the women didn't continue hiking into the night. They conserved

their energy by stopping and making camp along the trail."

"Also," L'Herrou adds, "the search greatly benefited from the fact that the SMRG members who were involved in the search are active PATC members and were very familiar with the trails in this region. They've hiked in the area previously (several SMRG members had actually been hiking near Route 7 earlier that day) and knew where the shelters were and where a person would be likely to make an emergency camp along the trail. This knowledge greatly aided in the swift and safe completion of the night's search." □

—John Luck

Looking Back

20 Years Ago this Month....

Construction of a bridge in the Linn Cove area of Grandfather Mountain in North Carolina was announced. The bridge and 1.3 miles of Parkway remaining to be built were to complete the Blue Ridge Parkway. That portion of the Parkway was scheduled to open on September 11, 1985, the 50th anniversary of the beginning of construction on the Parkway.

40 Years Ago this Month....

A quiz on members' knowledge of the PATC pointed out that the entire AT was not blazed. Parts of the Trail were so clear that the relevant maintaining club or agency painted no blazes. At the time, that included the Trail in Shenandoah National Park.

60 Years Ago this Month....

The US Forest Service and the National Park Service signed an agreement "to promote the 'Appalachian Trailway' as a distinct type of recreational area devoted particularly to hiking and camping." At the time, 704 miles of AT in eight national forests and two national parks were included in the agreement, including Shenandoah National Park, George Washington National Forest, and Jefferson National Forest.

Corridor Monitoring Workshop

The Appalachian Trail passes through a strip of publicly owned land known as the AT Corridor. The corridor is a large "jigsaw puzzle" of parcels purchased by the National Park Service and other federal and state agencies. It is the responsibility of ATC and PATC to inspect and monitor the corridor lands purchased by NPS. The purpose of a monitor program is to serve as the "eyes and ears" of the land owner, NPS. Monitoring is the first step in identifying problem areas in the AT Corridor, and planning remedial action to protect the investment in the land. Volunteer corridor monitors are assigned a section of corridor and usually spend about a half a day on each inspection trip. A corridor monitor must enjoy bushwhacking as work is entirely off trail. Strong map and compass skills are necessary, and some detective work is required to locate corner markers or faded property lines. Monitors will look for illegal activities such as dumping, timber cutting, hunting, horseback riding or bike/ATV use. A corridor monitor workshop will be held on March 20, 1999 at Bears Den Hostel from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. This will be the first corridor monitor workshop held

in five years and there are currently several areas that need monitors. This workshop will be necessary to learn the technical skills needed to be a successful monitor. Registration is required to attend the workshop as space is limited. The hostel will provided free

overnight lodging Friday & Saturday nights. Please send your registration form to Heidi Forrest, 118 Park Street, S.E., Vienna, VA 22180 or fax to 703 242-0968 by February 28, 1999. □

CORRIDOR MONITORING WORKSHOP Saturday March 20, 1999 Registration Form

Name _____

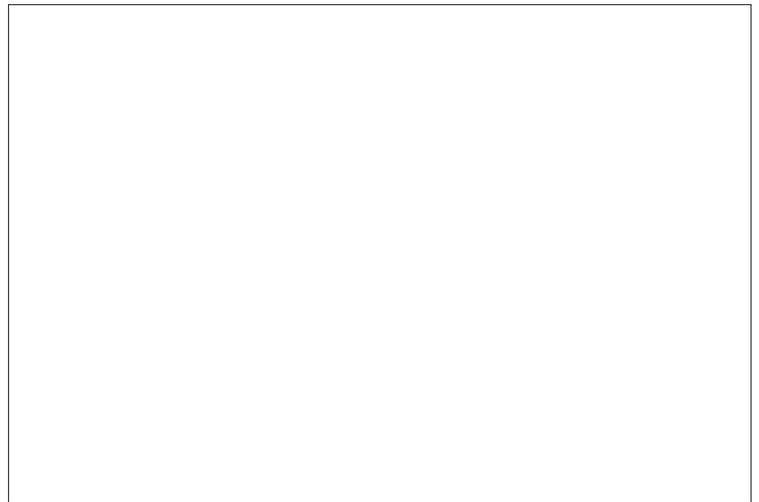
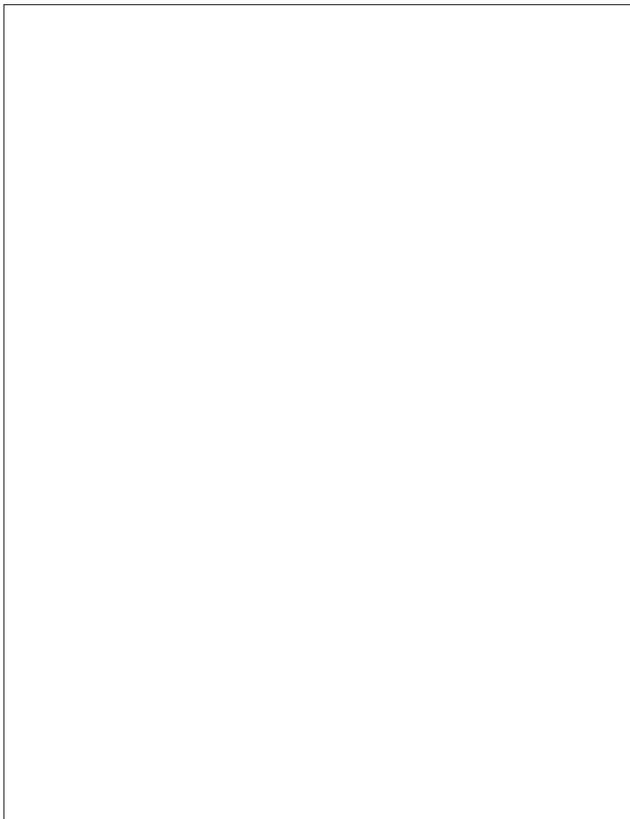
Address _____

Phone(day) _____ (evening) _____

I require overnight lodging for Friday _____ Saturday _____

Mail to: Heidi Forrest, 118 Park Street, SE. Vienna, VA 22180 or fax 703/242-0968
by February 28, 1999

Creative Uses for Trail Maintenance Tools



Members of the Shenandoah Work Crew really got creative when one of their compadres' inadvertently left their car keys inside their vehicle. It was a good thing Park Service Rangers were with them, or this exercise would have looked a little bit suspicious from the road. Maybe Heidi Forrest will add this to the Chainsaw Workshop program. You just never know when you might need to use this technique.

—Photo by Heidi Forrest

Technology and the Map (Part 1 of 4)

Information technology is affecting almost every area we deal in, and maps are no exception. In fact, geospatial information technology, such as the global positioning system (GPS) and digital mapping, are making significant changes in the cartographer's environment.

For the most part these changes are bringing about improvements, whether directly or indirectly. One example can be found at the US Geological Survey (USGS), where they are adding full Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM) grids to their large-scale maps. The UTM is a coordinate grid system, which, when printed on maps, provides a way to describe the position of any feature portrayed by the map. A "full" grid means the grid lines are drawn across the entire map sheet vs. being portrayed by small cross symbols at the grid intersections.

USGS adopted this system because experience and testing have proven that it is much easier to use for positioning than using a system based on geographic latitude and longitude expressed in degrees-minutes-seconds.

In one test, a group of firemen and backpackers were taught how to use both systems and

were polled as to their preference. The choice was 100 percent for using UTM over latitude and longitude.

While this change was brought about because of GPS, knowledgeable backpackers and hikers will find this grid adds a lot of value to their map even when they don't use GPS. Most of the time they will use the grid as a reference for measuring direction (for their compass) and distance.

Today, Potomac Appalachian Trail Club (PATC) maps carry full geographic latitude and longitude grid lines. In coming years, our maps will migrate to a system of full UTM grids just like those you'll find on USGS maps printed after 1993. In fact, most of the USGS maps of the northern Shenandoah National Park (SNP) already have this map feature. As part of the normal revision process, a new edition of Map 9, SNP's Northern District, was scheduled to be published in November 1999, and it is the first to carry the new grid.

To prepare PATC members for these upcoming changes, a series of articles published in the coming months will explain how to use this new map feature. The first article will

be how to measure direction on the map using the grid and a compass. The second article will feature using the grid in conjunction with measuring and relating distances. The last installment will explain how to measure a coordinate value for some place on the map.

Think of the UTM grid value as an "address in the woods." Someday you might use the grid to note in your journal the address of someplace special you visited on the Appalachian Trail. Or while out hiking, you might come across a person badly hurt and need to use a cell phone to call 911 for help. The UTM grid value will provide you with a precise address that local authorities will easily understand. And should you ever use GPS, you will find your UTM-gridded map an essential tool for use with your GPS receiver.

Information technology is bringing about many changes, and these include information portrayed by our hiking maps. Hikers and backcountry explorers can make use of UTM positioning information to know exactly where they're going. □

—Tom Terry in coordination
with Dave Pierce (Map Committee)

Of Maps and the Walkers

The maps of which the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club (PATC) is justifiably proud are, in large part, the creation of a botanist. The story of Egbert Walker's maps is only part of a larger story that began as a PATC romance and continued for over 50 years.

The Romance Begins

Dorothy Kimball Walker says that in 1930 and 1931 she saw Egbert Walker a number of times in the group at the corner of 15th Street where the bus picked up PATC hikers before she finally met him. This is not too surprising, because at that time, PATC trips brought out 40 to 60 people regularly.

Egbert's memory of their romance, as he recorded it, was he went along "as excess baggage" on a camping trip to Mount Katahdin that his sister Lucille and Dorothy Kimball had planned, "just in case a male might be useful in an emergency." Dorothy and Egbert checked out each other's camping skills, he

said, and "Eyes were opened, and dreams began to form."

In 1935, Dorothy learned a new word. The two were visiting her father at Sea Cairn in Maine and took a walk in the twilight woods. A shooting star passed overhead. "That means it's time for an osculation," Egbert observed. "What's that?" she asked. He demonstrated with an enthusiastic kiss. They were married in 1936, and Dorothy resigned as teacher of science in one of the District's junior high schools to become a housewife.

Egbert came to work in the herbarium of the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History. Although both were interested in outdoor activities, Egbert discovered PATC a few months earlier than Dorothy did.

Egbert's involvement in PATC mapmaking started out innocently enough. "Coming home from a hard day of trail clearing and

painting blazes in 1933, I was dozing on the back seat," Egbert said. "Myron Avery and Frank Schairer, the driver, were, as expected, discussing PATC problems. In a semilucid moment, I heard that the Club was having trouble getting maps made. Innocently and unguardedly I said that in my early high school days, using a cyclometer-equipped bicycle and an Ingersoll watch for measuring divergent angles of diagonal streets, I had made a map of my home town on the Wisconsin-Illinois border. 'You're on the Map Committee,' announced the President in his characteristic manner." In 1934, Egbert succeeded Gordon Kennedy as the third Maps Chairman, Ken Boardman being the first (1931-1932).

Early Maps

The first maps the Club made were included in the "Guide to Paths in the Blue Ridge." They were mostly reduced-in-scale reproductions of other maps, to which trail data had been added. However, hikers wanted maps

they could take with them, without having to carry the guidebook. They also wanted more information on heights and grades.

The Club's map of the Maryland section of the AT (1933) was the first attempt to show contours in some way. In 1935, the Maps Committee produced an experimental map of the Old Rag region with actual contour lines—at 150 feet apart. Later central and southern maps of Shenandoah National Park (SNP) appeared with contour lines at the now conventional 100-foot intervals.

The Maps Committee met monthly to plan its work, usually at the Walker residence, since PATC had no building of its own until 1946. Field testing was a large part of the committee's work because the available base maps were often quite out of date. Most field work was carried out by individuals or small parties, either operating on foot or by auto.

Back in town, volunteers would trace contours and other information from the base map onto a transparency overlay, then add trail data and lettering. After the map was printed, copies were returned flat to the Club where map-folding parties were held.

Egbert described how PATC maps were made at the ATC in Gatlinburg, TN (1937). Shortly thereafter the ATC's "Manual of Techniques for AT and Amateur Mapmaking," based on Egbert's speech, was published.

In 1940 and 1941, Egbert's Maps Committee reorganized the boundaries of the PATC and renumbered the existing 12 maps to create a series that provided continuous coverage of our part of the AT. Egbert also standardized map symbols. This was fortunate because when America entered World War II in late 1941, PATC had the most up-to-date and complete maps available of the Mid-Atlantic region, which the US Army wanted to use for training troops. Our maps of the SNP and of the area surrounding Camp Ritchie, Md., sold in quantity, enriching the Club's treasury.

Other Walker Activities

Egbert, who had received his Ph.D. in 1940 from Johns Hopkins, did more than make PATC maps in his spare time. He continued blazing trail and leading hikes. Meanwhile, Dorothy had been going on Club trips, but did not become involved in other Club work until 1941 when she was a member of the Photo Committee. In 1942 through 1945,

she is listed as a member of the Shelters (that is, Cabins) Reservations Committee and was also on the Headquarters Committee in 1945.

The birth of young William about 1944 did not curtail the Walkers' activity much. The baby went along in a canvas and wood back-carrier. The design and instructions for its construction can be found in a 1944 PATC Bulletin article written by H.F. Stimson and Egbert Walker.

Egbert became PATC's third president in 1947-1948, resigning as Maps Chairman, but remaining on the committee. Dorothy also was listed as a member of the Maps Committee in 1947-1948.

Later Involvement

The Walkers became active again in PATC committees in the 1960s. Egbert was a Map Committee member in 1963 and Chairman in 1964-66. He resumed the chairmanship in 1969, holding it till 1976. Dorothy was a member of Headquarters staff in 1960 and remained there until 1966 when she took over as Headquarters Committee Chair from

Ruth Blackburn, holding that post through 1972.

Dorothy explains her Headquarters work this way: "Egbert always came to Headquarters after leaving work at the Smithsonian. He would work there several hours in the evening. I got in the habit of coming there with something for him to eat, so it was easy for me to get to know Headquarters operation and to help there."

While Egbert had officially retired in 1958, it was not until the couple sold their Takoma Park home and moved to the Friends Retirement Village in Sandy Spring in 1976 that Dorothy and Egbert dropped out of active Club participation, though they continued to appear at annual meetings and dinners until 1990.

Mr. Maps died in 1991. Old-timers of the Club miss them both and appreciate Egbert's contributions. New-timers may not realize how much outdoors fun mapmaking was back then—and sometimes still is today. □

—Paula M. Strain



ARE YOU MOVING?!!

Did you know that the Post Office charges PATC 50 cents every time they let us know a member has moved? You can help save money and get information to you faster just by telling us yourself.

Please fill out the following form and mail it to 118 Park Street, S.E., Vienna VA 22180-4609. You can also call Pat Fankhauser at 703/242-0693 or e-mail her at pfankh@erols.com.

Name: _____

Effective date of New Address: _____

Old Address: _____

New Address: _____

New Phone Number: _____

Chapters

Charlottesville Chapter

The Charlottesville Chapter hikes every Saturday, summer, winter and in between. Hikes are about 8 miles. Trail maintenance is usually done on the last Saturday of the month. Meet at Sprint parking lot, 2307 Hydraulic Road at 9 a.m. with food and water for the day. We hike trails in the Southern, Central and occasionally Northern Districts of Shenandoah National Park, and in George Washington National Forest. INFO: Jere Bidwell 804/295-2143, John Shannon 804/293-2953 or Lois Mansfield 804/973-7184.

North Chapter

The North Chapter of PATC conducts monthly trail work trips on the Maryland and Pennsylvania sections of the Appalachian Trail (AT) and on the Pennsylvania sections of the Tuscarora Trail. We also lead hikes on these and other trails. Maryland/AT work trips are generally held on the first and third Saturdays—contact Rick Canter (rbcanter@erols.com), 301/824-4942 for information. Pennsylvania work trips are generally held on the AT on the first Saturday and on the Tuscarora on the third Saturday—contact Charles Irvin at 301/447-2848. Pennsylvania AT work trips also include an optional Saturday night stay at the Gypsy Springs cabin. Dinner, breakfast, and camaraderie available. For information on upcoming hikes, contact Chris

Firme at 717/765-4833. For general chapter information, contact chapter president Steve Koeppe (skoeppe @qis.net) 410/756-2916.

Northern Shenandoah Valley Chapter

The Northern Shenandoah Valley Chapter sponsors hikes in national and state parks and forests in the Shenandoah Valley vicinity, open to the public, on a monthly basis except during the winter. Hikes are posted in the **Forecast**. Other activities are in the NSV Chapter Newsletter. For further information contact to Martha Clark (mclark@visuallink.com) 540/665-2101.

Southern Shenandoah Valley Chapter

See **Forecast** for work trips and hiking events sponsored by the Southern Shenandoah Valley Chapter. Most trips meet in Harrisonburg at the Cloverleaf Shopping Center at 8:00 a.m. Hikers from the DC area should allow about 3 hours to get to our region. INFO: in Harrisonburg, call Suzanne 540/269-4341; in Staunton or Waynesboro, call Vernon 703/886-9218, or Doris 540/885-4526.

West Virginia Chapter

Chapter meeting at Highacre on the first Wednesday of the month; see **Forecast** for up-coming activities. For further information on chapter activities or to receive the chapter newsletter contact Jane Thompson 301/ 865-5399.

Ski Touring Section

The Ski Touring Section has served since 1974 to introduce Washington area residents to cross-country skiing and to provide cross-country skiing opportunities to experienced skiers. The Section sponsors winter weekend ski trips for all levels of skiers to nearby mountains in Maryland, West Virginia and Pennsylvania, as well as periodic social events year round. INFO: Katherine Stentzel 703/781-3249.

PATC Midweek Hikes

PATC's **Vigorous Group** hikes 8-10 miles at a fast pace; and the **Easy Hikers** hike 5-8 miles on trails with little elevation change. See below for scheduled trips; check the weekly tape (703/242-0965) on Thursday or Friday for any changes or additions.

Other Clubs' Hikes

Capital and Wanderbirds hike on Sundays, traveling by bus and leaving from downtown, with suburban stops as well. Center Club, Northern Virginia Hiking Club and Sierra Clubs hike on both Saturdays and Sundays using carpools, which often leave from a suburban Metro stop. Schedules are available at PATC Headquarters and are published in area newspapers on Fridays.

KEY to Forecast Activities

All events are marked for easy identification. Late changes or cancellations are listed on the weekly information tape (703/242-0965), which is updated on Wednesday evening for the following seven days. The *Forecast* can also be found on PATC's Web site at <http://patc.simplenet.com/forecast.html>

-  **Hiking Trips**
-  **Backpacking Trips**
-  **Trail Work Trips**
-  **Cabin/Shelter Work Trips**
-  **Special Events**
-  **Meetings**
-  **Cross-Country Skiing**

Note to all hike leaders: Please ask nonmembers on your hike if they would like to join PATC, then get names and addresses so a club volunteer can send them information packets. Thanks!

January

1 (Friday)

DEADLINE - February Potomac Appalachian Headquarters, Vienna, VA

5:00 p.m. All items for the next issue of the PATC newsletter must be submitted on disk if possible to headquarters, or via e-mail or e-mail attachment to bianca@moon.jic.com. Allow one week for postal service delivery.

1 - 3 (Friday - Sunday)

 **Ski Trip - Ski Touring Section New Germany State Park, MD**

Ski Touring Section x-c ski weekend. New Years Weekend at Castelman Inn/Motel in Grantsville, MD. Ski the lovely trails of New Germany State Park in Western Maryland. INFO: Jack Wise 410/256-3963.

5 (Tuesday)

 **MEETING - Trail Patrol Headquarters, Vienna, VA**

7:30 p.m. Trail Patrol volunteers are PATC's good will trail ambassadors to the hiking public. They provide a visible, reassuring presence on the trails, educating the public on good hiking practices, minimum impact hiking and camping ethics. Patrol members are trained in land navigation, emergency procedures, radio communications and personal equipment. All patrol volunteers are also expected to become certified in a recognized basic first aid course. Some equipment and uniform items are provided upon completion of training. INFO: John Moore (trailptrl@aol.com) 703/368-1952 or see PATC's website (<http://patc.simplenet.com/patrol.html>).

5 (Tuesday)

 **HIKE - Vigorous Hikers**

A fast paced hike of about 12-17 miles for strong hikers who enjoy a fast paced workout in the clear winter air. INFO: Cliff Noyes 703/451-5181.

6 (Wednesday)

 **CLASS - Where To Cross-country Ski REI, Baileys Crossroads, VA**

7:30 p.m. Get your gear ready! When it snows, you want to get the best of it! But where can you find snow? REI's Mark Nelson will detail the best places to skinny-ski and the probabilities for good snow from Northern Virginia, Western Maryland, West Virginia and Pennsylvania. Whether you like skiing in tracks or the solitude of breaking trails, there's a place with snow for you! INFO: REI 703/379-9400.

6 (Wednesday)

 **HIKE - Easy Hikers Washington, DC**

About 5 miles city walk around the Washington monuments. Meet at 10 a.m. at the Metro elevator on 12th Street at the Federal Triangle Station (across the street from the Old Post Office). INFO: Renee Schick 301/493-9525.

7 (Thursday)

 **CLASS - Cross-country Ski Destinations REI, College Park, MD**

7:30 p.m. Where can you find reliable snow in the Mid-Atlantic Region? REI's Mark Nelson will discuss and detail some of the best places to ski in Virginia, Western Maryland, West Virginia and Pennsylvania. Whether you like skiing in tracks or backcountry solitude, there's a place in the snow for you! INFO: REI 301/982-9681.

9 (Saturday)

**HIKE - Northern Shenandoah Valley Chapter
Roosevelt Island and Washington, DC**

All are invited to join the NSVC as we explore the Potomac River area from the Arlington Cemetery Metro Station to the Foggy Bottom Metro Station, a distance of about eight miles. After noting monuments in the Arlington Cemetery area, we will pass through Rosslyn, hike around the Theodore Roosevelt Island, and cross the Key Bridge into DC. We will walk through Georgetown, enjoy lunch at Georgetown Park, hike along the C&O Canal towpath and the Potomac River, and eventually reach the Foggy Bottom Metro. Come and enjoy a change of scenery from January in the Valley. Leader/INFO: Betsy Fowler (efowler@logicon.com) 703/553-7833 (w), 540/933-6136 (h).

9 (Saturday)

HIKE - Natural History Hike

North District, Shenandoah National Park, VA

Join Bob Pickett on an 8.2 mile loop along Little Devil's Stairs and Piney Branch Trail. This is a moderately difficult trail, ascending 1500 feet, and involves several small stream crossings and walking over wet/icy rocks. At least the nettles and poison ivy will not be a problem. Cultural resources, woody plants, mammals and geology will be discussed. INFO: Bob Pickett 301/681-1511.

9 (Saturday)

**HIKE - North Chapter Tuscarora Trail Hike #II-8
George Washington National Forest, VA**

Route 11 to Elizabeth Furnace. 13.5 miles with 1100 feet elevation difference. Come join in the fun with the North Chapters hiking crew. Enjoy the winter scenery from atop the Massanutts. INFO: Chris Firme 717/765-4833 after 6:00 p.m.

9 (Saturday)

**TRAIL WORK TRIP - Massanutten Crew
Massanutten Mountain, VA**

Call 5 days ahead. INFO: Wil Kohlbrenner 540/477-2971.

9 - 10 (Saturday - Sunday)

**TRAIL WORK TRIP - North Chapter
Appalachian Trail, PA**

Meet at US 30 and PA 233 at the parking lot of Caledonia State Park. Departure: 9:00 a.m. sharp. INFO: Charlie Irvin 301/447-2848.

9 - 10 (Saturday - Sunday)

**TRAIL WORK TRIP - Cadillac Crew
Vining Tract, Lydia, VA**

Got cabin fever? Put on your brand new thermal Christmas skivvies and come work outdoors with the Cadillac Crew! Weather permitting (meaning if we can drive up the mountain to the parking area) we're going to reclaim old trails so we can hike them in the summer. Overnight at Morris Cabin. Bring a lunch and water for Saturday. Saturday night community dinner. Please call by January 2 to let us know if you're participating! INFO: Fran Keenan (frannanc@erols.com) 703/938-3973 or Jon Rindt (jkrindt@erols.com) 703/573-2261.

11 (Monday)

**MEETING - Shenandoah Mountain
Rescue Group**

Headquarters, Vienna, VA

7:30 p.m. New members meeting. INFO: Martin Juenge (mjuenge@rpihq.com) 703/255-5034 then press 5.

12 (Tuesday)

**MEETING - PATC Council
Headquarters, Vienna, VA**

7:00 p.m. - sharp. The PATC Council meets the second Tuesday of every month to conduct business of the Club. All members are welcome, but members wishing to address the Council should call two weeks prior to the meeting in order to be included on the meeting agenda. INFO: Wilson Riley (wriley1226@aol.com) 703/242-0693 x11.

12 (Tuesday)

HIKE - Vigorous Hikers

A fast paced hike of about 12-17 miles for strong hikers who enjoy a fast paced workout in the clear winter air. INFO: Cliff Noyes 703/451-5181.

13 (Wednesday)

**MEETING - Mountaineering Section
Headquarters, Vienna, VA**

8:00 p.m. Second Wednesday of every month. INFO: Tony Sanders 202/362-3819 or see PATC's website (http://patc.simplenet.com/mtn_sect/).

13 (Wednesday)

HIKE - Easy Hikers

Washington, DC

Pierce Mill to the Zoo. 4 mile round trip (but can gain by walking around Zoo). Very pleasant. Connecticut Avenue to Tilden Street or Beach Drive to Pierce Mill. Parking lot across road (same side) from the Mill. INFO: Betty Sanders 202/686-1022.

13 (Wednesday)

**CLASS - Basic Climbing
REI, Baileys Crossroads, VA**

REI and Inner Quest offer the Basic Climbing class year-round. The course is taught on the wall at REI Baileys Crossroads and covers the essential skills for top-roped climbing, climbing safety and climbing skills. Class size is limited to ensure plenty of individual attention. The course fee is \$65.00 and includes all equipment. Each class is comprised of three 2-hour sessions on consecutive Wednesday nights. The next class is: Jan. 13, 20 and 27. Since space is limited, early registration is advised! Visit REI Baileys Crossroads for further information and registration. INFO: REI 703/379-9400.

14 (Thursday)

**HIKE - Northern Shenandoah Valley Chapter
Old Rag Mountain, Shenandoah
National Park, VA**

Legend states that Thomas Jefferson would celebrate his birthday every year by hiking Old Rag Mountain. Thomas Jefferson was lucky; he was born on April 13. However, in the great Jefferson tradition, and weather permitting, I will celebrate my birthday with the classic Old Rag hike. All are invited to climb the famous Ridge Trail, and return via the fire road on a day that will be cold and clear enough to inspire even old Tom Jefferson. Leader/INFO: Lee Sheaffer (thumpers@visuallink.com) 540/662-1524.

15 - 18 (Friday - Monday)

**SKI TRIP - Ski Touring Section
Sandy Creek, NY**

Martin Luther King weekend. Ski Touring Section X-C Ski weekend. The Tug Hill region of upstate New York. Spend an extended skiing weekend at the rustic All Seasons Lodge in Sandy Creek, NY and enjoy the heavy lake effect snowfalls that are guaranteed in this region. Ski on the many trails at the nearby Winona State Forest, or visit the groomed trails at Salmon Hills, Osceola and other touring cen-

ters and forests. Driving time is 7+ hours, but the roadways are all interstate to within a mile of the lodge. Several restaurants are within walking distance in the town. Since sudden, heavy snowfall is always possible here, car chains are recommended as is schedule flexibility—you MIGHT get snowed in for a day! The perfect trip for skiers who feared they might never see a decent snowfall again on the East Coast due to greenhouse warming. Cost is \$100 per person for 3 nights lodging; any other nights additional. INFO: Rob Swennes 703/532-6101.

16 (Saturday)

**HIKE - Tuscarora Trail Series #9
Sleepy Creek Mountain, WV**

A moderately paced 13 mile hike on the Tuscarora Trail south of Hancock, MD from Ruth Morris Forest to Whites Gap. There will be a water crossing. Elevation gain is 1900 feet. A car shuttle is required. PATC map L. Meet at Vienna Metro, Nutley Street North at 7:30 a.m. INFO: Jack 703/339-6716 or William 703/256-6735.

16 - 17 (Saturday - Sunday)

**CABIN WORK TRIP - Blackburn Trail Center
Round Hill, VA**

Blackburn continues to grow and change before our eyes. Will you lend a hand to make this the most memorable Trail Center along the Appalachian Trail? Already we have built a new kitchen and bunk room, replaced the old roof, added huge sun-loving windows, and replaced the old porch roof. Still needed are stone work, porch extension and re-screening, the installation of crimped-metal roofing and much, much more. No special skills are needed; we offer on-the-job training. Just bring a lunch, work clothes and work gloves, your sleeping bag (if staying the night) and lots of enthusiasm. We provide the Saturday dinner and Sunday breakfast - the meal cost is shared, and is usually between \$7 and \$10 per person. Please be sure to call by Wednesday prior to the trip so we can tell the cook to buy your portion too. Reservations/INFO: Chris Brunton 703/560-8070 or Bruce Clendaniel 410/820-7550.

18 (Monday)

**MEETING - Conservation Committee
Headquarters, Vienna, VA**

7:00 p.m. INFO: Mary Margaret Sloan 703/807-0746.

19 (Tuesday)

**MEETING - The Futures Group
Headquarters, Vienna, VA**

7:00 p.m. (third Tuesday of each month). Meets to research, develop, and recommend to membership changes to PATC organization, constitution, and by-laws in order to meet challenges of the next century. PATC members welcomed. INFO: Walt Smith (wsmith@visuallink.com) 703/242-0693.

19 (Tuesday)

HIKE - Vigorous Hikers

A fast paced hike of about 12-17 miles for strong hikers who enjoy a fast paced workout in the clear winter air. INFO: Cliff Noyes 703/451-5181.

20 (Wednesday)

**MEETING - PATC Shelters Committee
Headquarters, Vienna, VA**

7:30 p.m. Come and learn about shelters along the Appalachian Trail and other PATC trails; help us plan 1999 activities; get YOUR assignment (or your own shelter) and go home happy. This meeting is open to PATC members and nonmembers alike (the secret meetings are held a different night!). INFO: George 703/425-3884.

FORECAST

20 (Wednesday)

CLASS - Snowshoeing (with slides)
REI, Baileys Crossroads, VA

7:30 p.m. Breaking trail through the silent woods under a bright, full moon is an amazing way to experience the outdoors. Sliding along through the shadows on snowshoes is a great new way to see the outdoors. Local adventurer Ed Neville will detail the gear, skills and training necessary to get the most out of this growing winter activity, and show, and detail some great regional destinations to float over the snow! INFO: REI 703/379-9400.

20 (Wednesday)

HIKE - Easy Hikers
Silver Spring, MD

About 5 miles along Sligo Creek Parkway in Silver Spring (paved, flat). Meet at 10 a.m. near the Giant store at Kemp Mill Plaza. From the Beltway take Georgia Ave. north about 2 miles to Arcola (light, red public library). Right on Arcola about 1.5 miles to Kemp Mill Shopping Plaza. Turn right into parking lot to Giant store. Bring lunch and water. INFO: John Giblin 301/585-5172.

21 (Thursday)

CLASS - Snowshoeing
REI, College Park, MD

7:30 p.m. Snowshoeing! Yes, there are places you can glide silently over the snow and anyone can do it! REI's Caroline Walker will discuss the gear and skills that will have you gliding over the snow, and the destinations that have the most reliable snow in the Mid-Atlantic region. INFO: REI 301/982-9681.

22 - 24 (Friday - Sunday)

SKI TRIP - Ski Touring Section
Canaan Valley Resort State Park, WV

Ski Touring Section x-c ski weekend. Canaan Valley Resort State Park. Stay at one of the well appointed cabins that includes full kitchen and fireplace. In years past we have skied right out the backdoor. Take advantage of the resort's amenities, such as indoor swimming pool, whirlpool, and ice skating rink after a day of skiing. You can ski trails in the park, or after a short drive, ski trails in Blackwater Falls State Park, White Grass Touring Center or do lift served skiing at the Canaan Ski Resort. Cost \$60 for two nights stay. INFO: Erma Cameron 703/273-4578.

22 - 24 (Friday - Sunday)

SKI TRIP - Ski Touring Section
Canaan Valley, WV

Sponsored by Ski Touring Section. NATO Telemark Clinic, Canaan Valley, WV. Two day telemark clinic based at White Grass Touring Center organized by Dick Hall and using local telemark instructors. Instruction provided for all levels from beginner to expert. Cost for two days instruction is \$116 (this includes a special 20 percent discount for PATC participants). Rental equipment and area use fees (including discounted lift tickets) extra. Clinic is usually conducted one day at White Grass and one day at downhill area (Timberline or Canaan); both days will be at downhill area if there is no natural snow. Lodging is available at Blackwater Falls for the first 9 participants for the price of \$75 per person. Make separate checks out to NATO for \$116 and \$75 to Mitch Hyman if you desire lodging. INFO: Mitch Hyman (MitchHyman@compuserve.com) 202/244-0148.

22 - 24 (Friday - Sunday)

SKI TRIP - Ski Touring Section
Laurel Highlands, PA

Ski Touring Section x-c ski weekend. Learn to Ski Weekend, Laurel Highlands, Western Pennsylvania. Cross Country ski instruction for novices and beginners from expert PATC skiers. Stay at the motel-like facilities at Camp Sequanota near Jennerstown, PA. Cost of \$70 covers lodging, breakfasts, instruction. INFO: Greg Westernick 301/839-1762.

23 (Saturday)

TRAIL WORK TRIP - North Chapter
Tuscarora Trail, PA

For meeting place and other details, call Charlie Irvin 301/447-2848.

23 - 24 (Saturday - Sunday)

CABIN WORK TRIP - Tulip Tree Cabin
Shaver Hollow, VA

Who knows what the weather will be like this time of year, but you can depend on the Tulip Tree Cabin Crew to be hard at work, come rain, snow, sleet or hail. We will be making floor joists, cutting down trees, making dovetail joints to install floor joists and all sorts of other interesting jobs. We work in the quiet winter woods with our primitive hand tools resurrounding skills used by our forefathers in their daily lives. INFO: Charlie Graf 410/757-6053.

23 - 24 (Saturday - Sunday)

TRAIL WORK TRIP - Cadillac Crew
Vining Tract, Lydia, VA

Want to be outdoors, but you're afraid to ski? Come work outdoors instead! Put on that new double-sided, polar fleece hat over your grown-out Christmas haircut and come work outdoors with the Cadillac Crew! Weather permitting (meaning if we can drive up the mountain to the parking area) we're going to reclaim old trails so we can hike them in the summer. Overnight at Morris Cabin. Bring a lunch and water for Saturday. Saturday night community dinner. Please call by January 16 to let us know if you're participating! INFO: Fran Keenan (frannanc@erols.com) 703/938-3973 or Jon Rindt (jkrindt@erols.com) 703/573-2261.

26 (Tuesday)

MEETING - Shenandoah Mountain
Rescue Group

Headquarters, Vienna, VA

7:30 p.m. Meet in conference room. INFO: Martin Juenge (mjuenge@rpihq.com) 703/255-5034 then press 5.

26 (Tuesday)

HIKE - Vigorous Hikers

A fast paced hike of about 12-17 miles for strong hikers who enjoy a fast paced workout in the clear winter air. INFO: Cliff Noyes 703/451-5181.

29 - 31 (Friday - Sunday)

SKI TRIP - Ski Touring Section
New Germany State Park, MD

Ski Touring Section x-c ski weekend. New Germany State Park, Western Maryland. Stay at the Martin House in the park with the ski trails right outside of the door for the bargain price of \$20 for the weekend. In case of low snow conditions, New Germany is also close to other cross country ski areas in MD, PA, and WV, as well the Wisp downhill resort. INFO: Dave Holton 202/3664-7055.

29 - 31 (Friday - Sunday)

SKI TRIP - Ski Touring Section
Blackwater Falls, WV

Ski Touring Section x-c ski weekend. Blackwater Falls WV. Stay at the lovely, rustic, Blackwater Falls Lodge overlooking the Blackwater Falls Gorge in Canaan Valley. Ski the trails in the park or drive to nearby White Grass Touring Center and other backcountry skiing areas. \$75 per person for two nights for lodging. INFO: Jim Lautenberger 301/371-4084.

30 (Saturday)

HIKE - Blue Moon Night Hike
Cumberland Valley, PA

One night before full moon is the setting for this 11.6 mile night hike on the Appalachian Trail from Sherwood Drive to Boiling Springs (Pennsylvania A.T. section 10- PATC map 1). This will be my third time leading this hike at night because the terrain, which is mostly flat, is excellent for night hiking. Moonlight is enough to see by in most places, and snow on the ground will be even better. The combination of farmers fields, woods, bridges, puncheon, and creeksides make this a unique hiking experience. Moderate pace. INFO: Rob Shaw (rshaw@coltplumbing.com) 717/697-4618 x233.

30 - 31 (Saturday - Sunday)

CABIN WORK TRIP - Blackburn Trail Center
Round Hill, VA

Blackburn continues to grow and change before our eyes. Will you lend a hand to make this the most memorable Trail Center along the Appalachian Trail? Already we have built a new kitchen and bunk room, replaced the old roof, added huge sun-loving windows, and replaced the old porch roof. Still needed are stone work, porch extension and re-screening, the installation of crimped-metal roofing and much, much more. No special skills are needed; we offer on-the-job training. Just bring a lunch, work clothes and work gloves, your sleeping bag (if staying the night) and lots of enthusiasm. We provide the Saturday dinner and Sunday breakfast - the meal cost is shared, and is usually between \$7 and \$10 per person. Please be sure to call by Wednesday prior to the trip so we can tell the cook to buy your portion too. Reservations/INFO: Chris Brunton 703/560-8070 or Bruce Clendaniel 410/820-7550.

February

1 (Monday)

DEADLINE - March Potomac Appalachian
Headquarters, Vienna, VA

5:00 p.m. All items for the next issue of the PATC newsletter must be submitted on disk if possible to headquarters, or via e-mail or e-mail attachment to bianca@moon.jic.com. Allow one week for postal service delivery.

2 (Tuesday)

MEETING - Trail Patrol
Headquarters, Vienna, VA

7:30 p.m. Trail Patrol volunteers are PATC's good will trail ambassadors to the hiking public. They provide a visible, reassuring presence on the trails, educating the public on good hiking practices, minimum impact hiking and camping ethics. Patrol members are trained in land navigation, emergency procedures, radio communications and personal equipment. All patrol volunteers are also expected to become certified in a recognized basic first aid course. Some equipment and uniform items are provided

upon completion of training, INFO: John Moore (trailptrl@aol.com) 703/368-1952 or see PATC's website (<http://patc.simplenet.com/patrol.html>).

2 (Tuesday)

HIKE - Vigorous Hikers

A fast paced hike of about 12-17 miles for strong hikers who enjoy a fast paced workout in the clear winter air. INFO: Cliff Noyes 703/451-5181.

5 - 7 (Friday - Sunday)

SKI TRIP - Ski Touring Section

Canaan Valley, WV

Ski Touring Section X-C ski weekend. Canaan Valley / White Grass. Ski Canaan Valley which has an annual average snowfall of 150 inches. For beginners, for additional cost, leader will arrange for cross country ski instruction from the expert staff of the White Grass Touring Center. Accommodations will be at suites in the Village Inn Chalet, holding a total of 13 people, which is very close to White Grass and backcountry skiing. Cost for two nights lodging is \$75. INFO: Mitch Hyman 202/244-0148.

5 - 7 (Friday - Sunday)

SKI TRIP - Ski Touring Section

Crystal Lake, PA

Ski Touring Section x-c ski weekend. Stay at the cozy White Pine Cabin and ski out the door on the camp's well maintained trails in the snowy Endless Mountains of Northern PA. \$90 covers two nights lodging, breakfasts, Saturday night dinner, and the trail fees. INFO: Greg Westernik 301/839-1762.

6 (Saturday)

HIKE - Northern Shenandoah Valley Chapter Manassas National Battlefield Park, VA

Enjoy both nature and history as the NSVC hikes through the Manassas National Battlefield. This five mile hike will trace the Battle of First Manassas, the first major battle of the Civil War. Join us as we step back into history to a turbulent time in our past when brother fought brother and a general held back the Union surge just like a stonewall. Leader/INFO: Catherine Pipan (Pip1atfc@aol.com) 703/263-0420.

6 - 7 (Saturday - Sunday)

CABIN WORK TRIP - Tulip Tree Cabin

Shaver Hollow, VA

Tulip Tree Cabin is really starting to look like a cabin now. It has doors and windows cut out of the walls, which are up to full height now. Joists for the second floor are going on now, and before long we will be putting up rafters. Don't worry though there is still plenty of interesting work to be done. If you still haven't had an opportunity to hew a log there is still time. INFO: Charlie Graf 410/757-6053.

6 - 7 (Saturday - Sunday)

TRAIL WORK TRIP - North Chapter

Appalachian Trail, PA

Meet at US 30 and PA 233 at the parking lot of Caledonia State Park. Departure 9:00 a.m. sharp. INFO: Charlie Irvin 301/447-2848.

6 - 7 (Saturday - Sunday)

CLASS - Wilderness First Aid Alexandria, VA

This sixteen-hour class includes classroom study, hands-on practice and results in a two-year certification. The cost is \$125. Registration is limited to 25 people. Additional information on the Internet at: <http://wfa.net>. INFO: Christopher Tate 703/836-8905.

8 (Monday)

MEETING - Shenandoah Mountain Rescue Group

Headquarters, Vienna, VA

7:30 p.m. New members meeting. INFO: Martin Juenge (mjuenge@rpihq.com) 703/255-5034 then press 5.

9 (Tuesday)

MEETING - PATC Council

Headquarters, Vienna, VA

7:00 p.m. - sharp. The PATC Council meets the second Tuesday of every month to conduct business of the Club. All members are welcome, but members wishing to address the Council should call two weeks prior to the meeting in order to be included on the meeting agenda. INFO: Wilson Riley (wiley1226@aol.com) 703/242-0693 x11.

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10 (Wednesday)

MEETING - Mountaineering Section

Headquarters, Vienna, VA

8:00 p.m. Second Wednesday of every month. INFO: Tony Sanders 202/362-3819 or see PATC's website (http://patc.simplenet.com/mtn_sect/).

12 - 15 (Friday - Monday)

SKI/HIKE/DANCE

Laurel Highlands, PA

Escape to the Laurel Highlands of western Pennsylvania to cross-country ski out of your cabin. Evenings will be spent singing and folk dancing. Bring both your "left feet" as we will teach you how to cross-country ski and folk dance. A complete children's program is provided. This event is cosponsored by the Sierra Club and the Folklore Society of Greater Washington. Costs: \$142 adults, \$55 for children. This covers all instruction, music, accommodations and lodging. INFO: Bob Mathis (Robert_Mathis@fc.mcps.k12.md.us) 301/589-7539.

12 - 15 (Friday - Monday)

SKI TRIP - Ski Touring Section

Laurel Highlands, PA

President's Day Weekend, Friday-Monday. Ski Touring Section x-c ski weekend. Join us for a trip to the Laurel Highlands of Pennsylvania. We've expanded the trip to three nights (Friday, Saturday and Sunday) this year. We'll be staying at the Laurel Manor and the Ligonier Inn. Costs estimated to range from \$55-\$90 per room per night. We'll be skiing at Laurel Mountain, Hidden Valley and Laurel Ridge. INFO: Kathy McDermott or John 703/846-9207.

13 (Saturday)

TRAIL WORK TRIP - Massanutten Crew Massanutten Mountain, VA

Call 5 days ahead. INFO: Wil Kohlbrenner, 540/477-2971.

13 - 14 (Saturday - Sunday)

CABIN WORK TRIP - Blackburn Trail Center Round Hill, VA

Blackburn continues to grow and change before our eyes. Will you lend a hand to make this the most memorable Trail Center along the Appalachian Trail? Already we have built a new kitchen and bunk room, replaced the old roof, added huge sun-loving windows, and replaced the old porch roof. Still needed

are stone work, porch extension and re-screening, the installation of crimped-metal roofing and much, much more. No special skills are needed; we offer on-the-job training. Just bring a lunch, work clothes and work gloves, your sleeping bag (if staying the night) and lots of enthusiasm. We provide the Saturday Dinner and Sunday Breakfast - the meal cost is shared, and is usually between \$7 and \$10 per person. Please be sure to call by Wednesday prior to the trip so we can tell the cook to buy your portion too. Reservations/INFO: Chris Brunton 703/560-8070 or Bruce Clendaniel 410/820-7550.

13 - 14 (Saturday - Sunday)

SKI TRIP - Cadillac Crew Annual Ski Weekend Little Orleans Cabin, MD

If you've been out on at least one work trip with the Cadillac Crew in 1998, please join us at Little Orleans Cabin in Maryland for our annual ski weekend! (You don't have to ski to enjoy the company.) Bring a lunch and water for Saturday. Saturday night community dinner. Please call by February 6 to let us know if you're participating! INFO: Fran Keenan (frannanc@erols.com) 703/938-3973 or Jon Rindt (jkrindt@erols.com) 703/573-2261.

15 (Monday)

MEETING - Conservation Committee

Headquarters, Vienna, VA

7:00 p.m. INFO: Mary Margaret Sloan 703/807-0746.

16 (Tuesday)

MEETING - The Futures Group

Headquarters, Vienna, VA

7:00 p.m. (third Tuesday of each month). Meets to research, develop, and recommend to membership changes to PATC organization, constitution, and by-laws in order to meet challenges of the next century. PATC members welcomed. INFO: Walt Smith (wsmith@visualink.com) 703/242-0693.

16 (Tuesday)

HIKE - Vigorous Hikers

A fast paced hike of about 12-17 miles for strong hikers who enjoy a fast paced workout in the clear winter air. INFO: Cliff Noyes 703/451-5181.

19 - 21 (Friday - Sunday)

SKI TRIP - Ski Touring Section

Laurel Highlands, PA

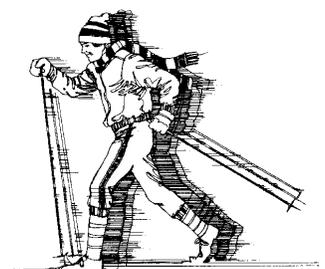
Ski Touring Section X-C ski weekend. Ski Laurel Highlands which usually has the best snow conditions within a few hours drive of DC. Stay at a modest motel in Jennerstown, PA which is less than ten miles from Laurel Mountain and also close to Hidden Valley and Laurel Ridge. Cost is \$55 for two nights lodging. INFO: Erma Cameron 703/273-4578.

20 (Saturday)

TRAIL WORK TRIP - North Chapter

Tuscarora Trail, PA

For meeting place and other details, call Charlie Irvin 301/447-2848.



FORECAST

20 (Saturday)

CLASS - Outdoor Leadership and Wilderness Risk Management Seminar

REI, Baileys Crossroads, VA

10:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Much has been written over the years about wilderness survival, first aid, and outdoor skills. Comparatively little has been written about accident prevention, proactive planning and organization, wilderness safety management, group dynamics and decision making and effective outdoor leadership. This seminar will cover concepts and protocols that assist individuals in planning and preparation and running of outdoor trips and events, safety management and risk assessment. It will also introduce participants to preventative search and rescue, time control plans, confrontation and intervention techniques, and setting people up for success. This is a timely and excellent class for youth leaders, hiking club members and leaders and any outdoor enthusiast. The seminar will be conducted by Christopher Tate, Director of the Wilderness Safety Council. The seminar fee is \$60 and includes course materials and a copy of *Outdoor Leadership*, by John Graham. Space is limited. Early registration is advised! Registration/INFO: REI Customer Service 703/379-9400 or 301/982-9681.

20 (Saturday)

HIKE - Tuscarora Trail Series #10 Shanghai, WV

A moderately paced 12 mile hike on the Tuscarora Trail between Whites Gap and Hampshire Grade Road in Sleepy Creek Mountain. There will be a water crossing. Elevation gain is 900 feet. Car shuttle is required. A 22 mile circuit is optional for those who want to avoid the shuttle. PATC map L. Meet at Vienna Metro, Nutley Street North at 7:30 a.m. INFO: Jack 703/339-6716 or William 703/256-6735.

23 (Tuesday)

MEETING - Shenandoah Mountain Rescue Group

Headquarters, Vienna, VA

7:30 p.m. Meet in conference room. INFO: Martin Juenge (mjuenge@rpihq.com) 703/255-5034 then press 5.

23 (Tuesday)

HIKE - Vigorous Hikers

A fast paced hike of about 12-17 miles for strong hikers who enjoy a fast paced workout in the clear winter air. INFO: Cliff Noyes 703/451-5181.

26 - 28 (Friday - Sunday)

SKI TRIP - Ski Touring Section New Germany State Park, MD

Ski Touring Section x-c ski weekend. Ski the well-maintained trails right outside of the door for the bargain price of \$20. Close to other ski areas of MD, PA, or WV. INFO: Steve Brickel 703/920-9535.

27 (Saturday)

CLASS/HIKE - Outdoor Leadership Workshop & Hike

North District, Shenandoah National Park, VA

For new and established outdoor leaders, this workshop and day hike discusses leadership types, setting people up for success, and modeling behavior. It covers 8 miles and 1,500 feet of climb at a moderate pace in Shenandoah National Park! Instructor/INFO: Christopher Tate 703/836-8905.

27 - 28 (Saturday - Sunday)

CLASS - Land Navigation Baileys Crossroads and Prince William Forest Park, VA

Back By Popular Demand! This comprehensive two day course teaches the skills necessary to use map and compass in an integrated land navigation system, through classroom lecture and exercise, followed by a full day of practical field exercises on and off-trail in Prince William Forest Park. Participants will be taught to plot positions by latitude and longitude and UTM coordinates; point and self location techniques; topographic map interpretation and terrain association; taking compass bearings; correcting for declination; and how to factor time and distance. The course fee is \$60 and includes workbook text, course materials, compass, map, and grid reader. Space is limited to ensure individual attention. Register Early! Registration/INFO: REI Customer Service 703/379-9400.

27 - 28 (Saturday - Sunday)

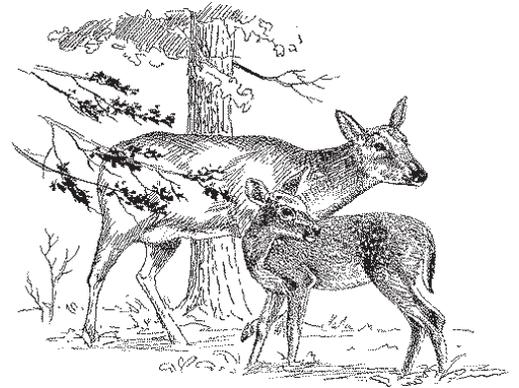
CABIN WORK TRIP - Blackburn Trail Center Round Hill, VA

Blackburn continues to grow and change before our eyes. Will you lend a hand to make this the most memorable Trail Center along the Appalachian Trail? Already we have built a new kitchen and bunk room, replaced the old roof, added huge sun-loving windows, and replaced the old porch roof. Still needed are stone work, porch extension and re-screening, the installation of crimped-metal roofing and much, much more. No special skills are needed; we offer on-the-job training. Just bring a lunch, work clothes and work gloves, your sleeping bag (if staying the night) and lots of enthusiasm. We provide the Saturday Dinner and Sunday Breakfast - the meal cost is shared, and is usually between \$7 and \$10 per person. Please be sure to call by Wednesday prior to the trip so we can tell the cook to buy your portion too. Reservations/INFO: Chris Brunton 703/560-8070 or Bruce Clendaniel 410/820-7550.

27 - 28 (Saturday - Sunday)

TRAIL WORK TRIP - Cadillac Crew Shockeyville, VA

Shockeys Knob. Start the new season by helping to prepare trail tools and check the trail in advance of the summers outdoor work trips. Bring a lunch and water for Saturday. Saturday night community dinner while we listen to tall tales around a warm woodstove. Please call by February 20 to let us know if you're participating! INFO: Fran Keenan (frannanc@erols.com) 703/938-3973 or Jon Rindt (jkrindt@erols.com) 703/573-2261.

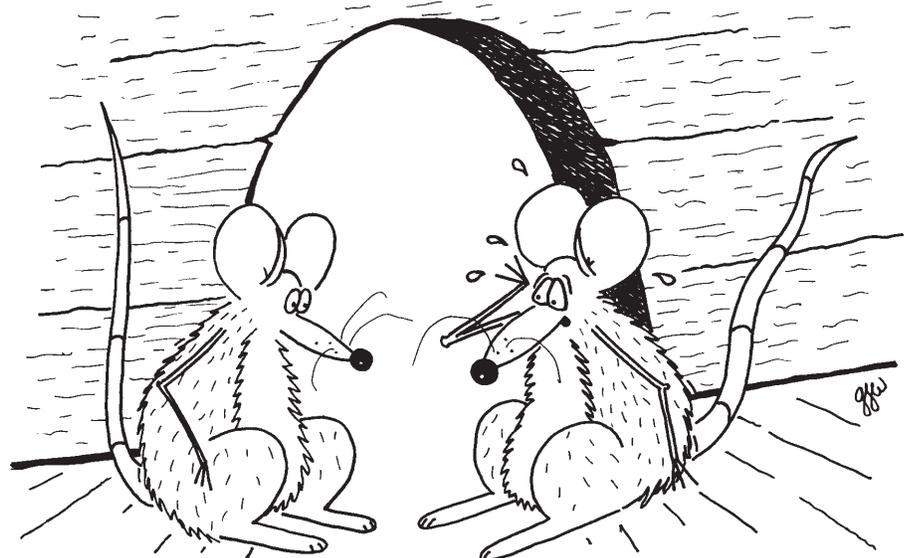


Do you Know??

Which PATC President and his son were active in establishing a Shenandoah Mountain Rescue Group as part of PATC?

Answer on page 17.

Tails From the Woods by George Walters



"I TELL YA... NOW THAT WAS A CLOSE CALL!!!... THE BIG GUY HAD ME CORNERED WITH A BROOM... THEN I RAN OVER THE LADY'S FOOT AND ALL HELL BROKE LOOSE!"

NOTICES

NEW NOTICES

THE TIDEWATER APPALACHIAN TRAIL CLUB has arranged to bring Wilderness First Aid to Virginia Beach to teach a 16-hour wilderness first aid course. The course will be offered January 23rd and 24th from 8 am to 5 pm, at First Landing/Seashore State Park. The cost is \$125.00. A non-refundable deposit of \$50 is required to reserve a space. INFO: Jenny DeArmond, 757/481-2445 (eve). If you wish to speak directly with Wilderness First Aid, then call Christopher Tate at 703/836-8905 or e-mail him at ctate1@webmentor.com.

SUMMER CARETAKER JOB IN THE BLUE RIDGE. Perfect summer job for a couple who enjoy the sometimes quiet but always beautiful Blue Ridge mountains of Northern Virginia. Meet and greet hikers stopping at the Blackburn Trail Center located on the AT 12 miles south of Harpers Ferry. Duties include some light maintenance of the house, the hiker's hostel, and the camp ground. Prefer April through October stay, but dates are negotiable. Knowledge of the AT a plus. Modest stipend provided. For more information, write PATC, 118 Park Street, SE, Vienna, VA 22180. At: Chris Brunton or call Chris at 703/560-8070.

DONATIONS OF ANY OF THE FOLLOWING BOOKS TO THE PATC LIBRARY WILL BE WELCOMED: *American Discovery: Scouting the Coast to Coast Recreational Trail* by Ellen Dudley and Eric Seaborg, The Mountaineers, 1996.

The New Appalachian Trail, by Edward B. Garvey, Menash Ridge Press, 1997.

Yankee Snow and Ice, by Laura and Guy Waterman. Appalachian Mountain Club, 1991.

Space in our reference library is almost as limited as its budget, so please consult with the Archivist/Librarian Paula Strain before giving the library any other titles. Thank you!

A WINTER WEEKEND JOB FOR A HOME MOVIE HOBBYIST. Archives has 7000 feet of 8mm movies (some on reels, some not) of PATC activities made between 1935 and 1950 that need to be reviewed for possible transfer to VCR format. Do it at Headquarters on PATC equipment or at home. INFO: Archivist Paula Strain, 301/340-6895.

THE PATC WEBMASTER MAINTAINS A SPECIAL "MEMBER'S ONLY" EMAIL LIST. The list is used to distribute special information of interest to the PATC membership, special volunteer opportunities that miss the regular issues of the Potomac Appalachian, and other items of note. If you'd like to be added to the list, send an email to PATC Webmaster Andy Hiltz (ahiltz@idsonline.com), and you'll be included following membership confirmation.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

PATC DOGWOOD HALF HUNDRED: The premier endurance hike on the east coast needs your help. Give something back to the trail by volunteering to watch a checkpoint, arrange logistics, cook, make phone calls, assemble and mail packets, or just clean up afterward. This unique trails happening WILL NOT HAPPEN in 1999 unless volunteers are found NOW! Please take one small step now to make this 50-K hike a reality. Phone Tom Johnson for additional information or to volunteer. 410/647-8554

PUBLICATIONS CHAIR is seeking person to oversee all major PATC publications to assure professional editorial and production standards. A great opportunity to use your creative mind! Works closely with the Appalachian Trail Conference, the National Park Service, the US Forest Service, the PATC Council, and the Maps Chairperson. Handles administrative requirements as well as editing and design of publications. Please contact Walt Smith: wsmith@visualink.com, or 540-678-0423.

THE PATC SHELTERS COMMITTEE is looking for trouble-please get involved and help us find it. Volunteer opportunities abound for EVERYONE. Overseers are needed for more than 10% of PATC-maintained shelters, and volunteers are sought for administrative duties and for renovation and construction trips. This dormant club function will set an active and vigorous pace in 1999 and will provide a mark that other Trail Maintenance Organizations will strive to meet. Committee meetings will be held monthly on the third Wednesday of the month (see the Forecast) and are open to anyone ranging from the rabidly interested to the morbidly curious. Club members in good standing may vote on any raised issue, non-members are free to participate in an advisory capacity. For information, or to satisfy your Shelters Cravings, contact George Still at (703) 425-3884 or email at "Stills2@aol.com".

DEAF TRAIL WORKERS. PATC's Massanutten Crew has an interpreter who will volunteer her time if there are deaf members who want to maintain trails with us. We work the second Saturday of the month. Call a week ahead so that we can send our usual newcomer material about what to expect on a work trip. Interpreter: Kelli Watts 202/543-4618 (tty). Crew leader: Wil Kohlbrenner: 540/477-2971 (relay).

PATC MEDICAL COMMITTEE Looking for Help Newly-appointed medical committee chair for PATC needs assistance with computer presentations for wilderness medicine classes. Will work at PATC HQ in Vienna. No equipment needed - just some time and expertise with computers. Call Dr. John McNamara at 703/528-4519.

NOT INTERESTED IN WORKING OUTDOORS? PATC has a continuous need for Headquarters Volunteers willing to help out with a variety of tasks — from manning the sales desk in the evening, to providing typing or office support. It takes a lot more than trail workers to keep the Club going! INFO: Wilson Riley (wiley1226@aol.com) 703/242-0693, Ext. 11.

PATC OVERSEERS get BIG discounts from the following merchants who support our volunteer programs: -Blue Ridge Mountain Sports (Charlottesville/Tidewater)-20% -Hudson Trail Outfitters (DC Metro Region) 15% -The Trailhouse (Frederick, MD) 15% -Casual Adventures (Arlington, VA) 10% -Campmor (Mail Order via PATC HQ) 10% Check the back page of the PA for the latest trail, cabin, and shelter overseer opportunities. And all PATC members receive a 10% discount from Blue Ridge Mountain Sports. Be sure to have your membership ID or overseer ID ready when you shop.

SHENANDOAH MOUNTAIN RESCUE GROUP (SMRG) is seeking people interested in wilderness search and rescue. New member orientation meetings are held every month at PATC headquarters. NO EXPERIENCE IS NECESSARY. INFO: Martin Juenge 703/255-5034, then press #5.

TOOL ROOM VOLUNTEERS NEEDED to help sharpen and maintain tools at PATC Headquarters. INFO: Pete Gatje 703/242-0693 x13.

THE INTERNET SERVICES COMMITTEE is searching for an individual interested in doing two small video authoring projects for the PATC website. The goal is to develop two short streaming video movies that will appear on PATC's opening page. Interested individuals should have a video camera, computer, and video authoring tools that produce content that can be viewed without external plug-ins (such as Real Audio G2). Contact Andy Hiltz (ahiltz@idsonline.com) 703/764-0121.

HIKING VACATIONS

DISCOVER THE LAKE DISTRICT IN ENGLAND. An invitation to fellow PATC members. Come and enjoy a leisurely guided hiking and sightseeing holiday in this beautiful corner of England. It is an area of outstanding natural beauty - land of Wordsworth, lakes and mountains. For more details contact Derek Teasdale on DTeasdale1@aol.com or write to 25 Queens Drive, Whitley Bay, NE26 2JU, England (tel 0191-2520752) Call John Mason at 703-450-5009 for local reference.

MISCELLANEOUS

THE PATC STORE would like to ask our members for their opinion. We would like to have your suggestions as to what you would like to see available for sale in our store. You can send your suggestions to the PATC Headquarters to the attention of Maureen Estes, Sales Coordinator. We appreciate your feedback and hope to receive some helpful suggestions.

Notices are published free of charge for PATC members only. PATC cannot vouch for any of the advertised items. No commercial advertisement or personal notices unrelated to hiking will be accepted. Deadline for inclusion is the first day of the month preceding issuance of the newsletter. PLEASE let us know when your notice is no longer applicable.

Happy New Year!

Featured Cabin of the Month...Blackburn

Two Weeks of Good Eats and Hard Work

The article about Blackburn Trail Center in the August edition of the *PA* extolled the virtues of Blackburn, claiming what a special place it was, but I had never been to Blackburn until the Pig Roast in early November. I was eager to see what George Still had been raving about.

Chris Brunton treated my husband Michael and me to a tour of the premises, which include the recently expanded Blackburn, complete with new kitchen, then-non-functioning living room stove, bunk loft, caretaker quarters, and a new addition. (It was the addition that rendered the stove non-functional, as the roof was now higher than the chimney.) A carriage house and hiker's hut yielded more bunk space. Chris explained the impending roof work, the expansion of the wrap-around porch to match the added kitchen, and a planned second shelter for the future. We were impressed with the work done so far. The kitchen is a cook's dream, with a large work island, boasting two sinks and two dishwashers, a conventional range and oven, two refrigerators (one for the caretakers), long tables with benches, a very warm stove, and my favorite piece—the massive gas range with several burners and large oven.

It was on the range that the accompaniments to that night's pig roast were cooking. I joined in the tamale making for a while and enjoyed the company of the other pig roast revelers. I soon realized that many of them had worked at Blackburn and had been attending the pig roast for years.

To say that the food was delicious would be an understatement. The tamales were a heartily welcomed appetizer. Cold fingers vied for corn husk after corn husk. As the food neared completion, everyone crowded into the living room, which was a bit chilly for lack of heat. The dinner was all that it promised to be, and everyone lingered in the kitchen until long into the night. Later in the evening, those left standing raided the pig once again and enjoyed, among other bits of meat, the tastiest ribs I have ever sampled. The camaraderie was perhaps the best part of the evening.

We left the next day after breakfast, convinced that Blackburn indeed was a special place. We'd felt fellowship with other PATC'ers and eaten good food. We departed with two bags of old roof shingles and a vague promise to come back the next weekend to work.

Despite busy schedules and mounting chores at home, Michael and I turned the vague promise into a trip back out to Blackburn the next weekend. If we thought we'd had fun at the pig roast, the next weekend was even better. My husband and I worked on the chimney liner, so the stove could be used again, and helped dig a ditch for the foundation of the porch extension. Bruce Clendaniel marveled at the kind of work people would do as volunteers that they'd be hard pressed to do if paid. My legs and arms ached from digging, but I loved every minute of it.

Meanwhile, Sharon Johnson prepared a fabulous Thanksgiving meal. The group was joined by five visiting teachers from Japan who helped dig and prepare food in the kitchen. They showed the kids how to do origami and showed the adults an effective technique for massaging very sore hands. There was a strong feeling of family as we gathered in the kitchen for dinner and songs after working hard all day. Michael and I sorely regretted having to leave to go home that night. Next time we are definitely staying overnight.

It was these experiences at Blackburn that inspired this column, thus why it was chosen to be the first Featured Cabin. At the pig roast, several people discussed the fact that most Blackburn events are attended by folks who have worked at Blackburn. They couldn't believe that most of the Club has never experienced such a wonderful place and wondered what they might be missing elsewhere in the Club.

So this column will present an article about a different activity, cabin, or work crew each month, just so you know about all the wonderful things you're missing, since you can't possibly do everything the Club has to offer. If you're looking for a way to get more involved, maybe one of these articles will inspire you. In the meantime, come check out Blackburn (see the Forecast for a schedule of work trips). □

—*Bianca Menendez*

Giving Back to the Trail

I was raised in rural Tennessee, near the Appalachian Trail (AT). My family made a living from the land. We raised tobacco, corn and livestock and grew most of our own food. I rambled the woods from the time I was able to hook my little fingers in my father's belt loops and follow him around. I learned to find Ginseng, Mayapple, and all sorts of nature's gifts to man.

At the age of 17 I finished high school and joined the US Air Force and stayed 22 years. I served on a transport flight crew and was stationed in Charleston, SC, in 1978—I live

here still. I have traveled to every corner of the world, been on every continent, and have seen wondrous sights.

But one thing that has always been at the top of the list is my love of the AT. I load my pack and head for some section at every opportunity. I have found two great friends that share the same love, and we hike whenever we can. We hope to someday make the grand trip from Springer to Kathadin, but in the meantime we will chip away at it one section at a time.

Finding PATC

This past summer I became acquainted with the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club (PATC). I came across the Web page and saw that the Club was looking for volunteers for various Trail projects.

One stood out in particular, The Massarock Crew in the George Washington National Forest. This is an ongoing project that involves total construction of a hiking trail. I saw this as a wonderful opportunity to contribute to the hiking community and leave a little bit of legacy. I met many wonderful

people during my three weeks of work, people who felt the same as I did about walking around in the woods and enjoying Mother Nature's grand scenery. I learned a tremendous amount about the construction and maintenance of trails.

I later spent some time with a Trail Overseer in the Shenandoah National Park and assisted him in the maintenance of his section of the Trail and construction of a large waterbar in an eroded area. The work was hard, but I felt rewarded because I was helping to preserve that part of the Trail.

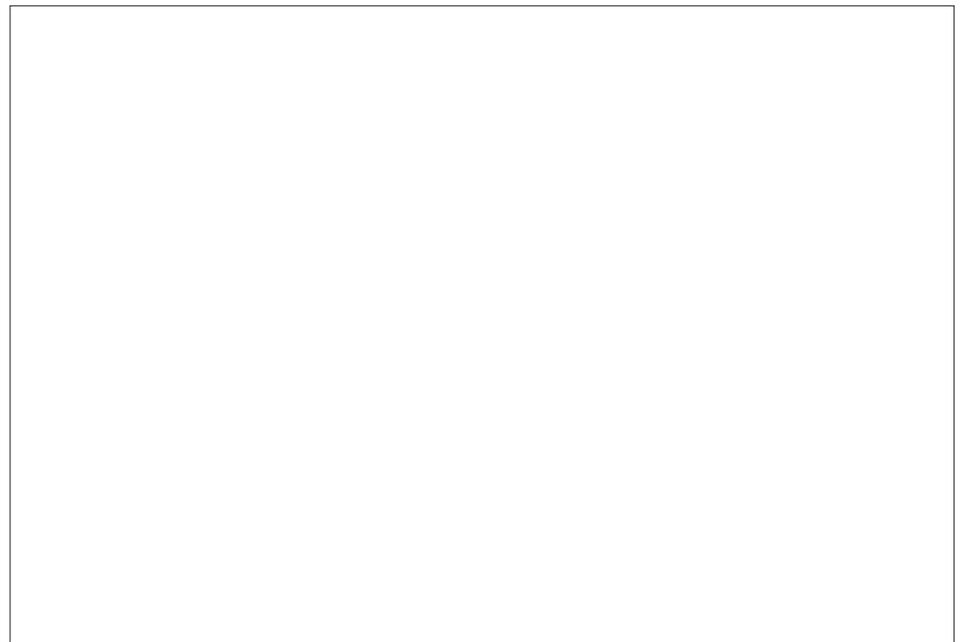
I also met up with some other Trail workers on a weekend of maintenance on a section that had been a past victim to flood. A couple had "adopted" that portion of the Trail, tackling the washouts and blowdowns to reestablish it. I had the opportunity to help this couple, along with several other PATC volunteers, to install waterbars, steps, checkdams, and cribbing to stabilize the Trail. There was no rock we could not move and no job that anyone shunned. But the greatest feeling came when hikers would pass and say, "Wonderful job. We appreciate all the hard work you do." It made me stop and think of all the hard work that others had done before me. If you are one of those people, thank you!

I guess I was spoiled in the Shenandoah. The AT was immaculate, my pack never once hung on a branch, footing was good, and the shelters were neat and clean. My experiences on other parts of the Trail have not always been as pleasant, including waterbars that had been long filled to capacity, trash-filled shelters, full privies, faint blazes, and eroded trails.

Now I sometimes think to myself that my efforts should extend to these less-tended sections of the Trail. In other words, I should be looking to help where my help is needed most. After all, my back is strong, and my hands know the feel of a Pulaski, a McLeod, a firerake, a pick mattock and crosscut saw. I can do rock work, and I am a fair carpenter.

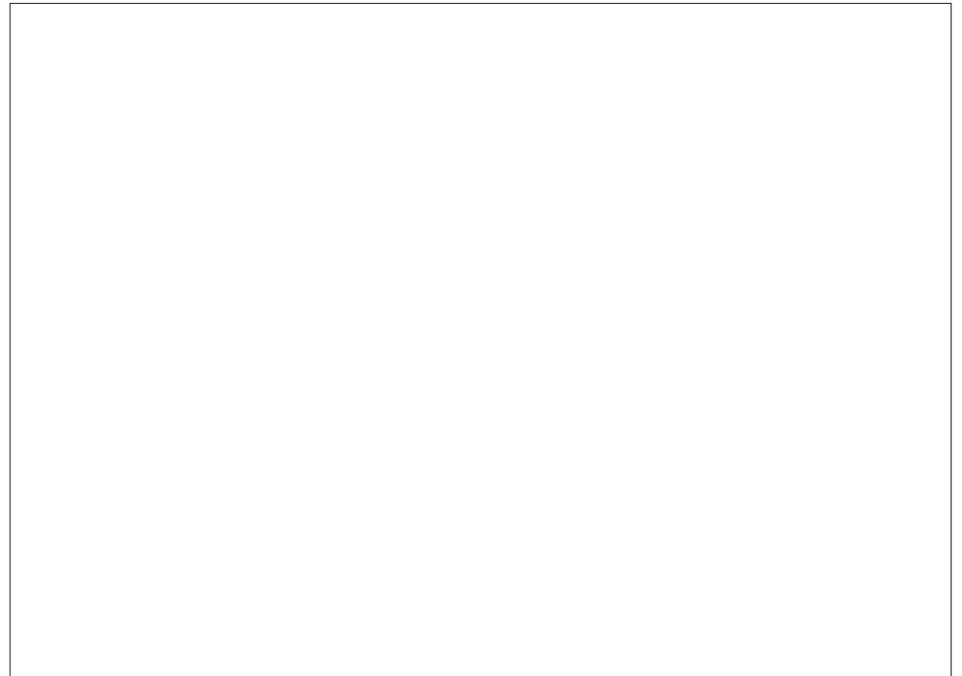
My thanks to the PATC: You have shown me much. And thanks to all of you reading this. If you can do anything to help a trail, any trail, PLEASE do it. □

—Don Watts



PATC members and other climbing enthusiasts scaled the climbing walls (more like canyons) at EarthTreks during the October 25th event sponsored by Hudson Trail Outfitters. EarthTreks, located in Columbia, Maryland, hosted the exhibition where many brand name manufacturers of various climbing apparatus, clothing and footwear displayed their wares. These same companies donated articles for a raffle in which half of the proceeds were donated to PATC. The Club was well represented by Public Affairs Committee member, Pat Fankhauser, and Mountaineering Section's president Tony Sanders.

—Photo by Pat Fankhauser



Tulip Tree Cabin as it appeared on the October 24th worktrip. All construction work on this cabin is done by using hand tools, elbow grease, honest sweat, as well as tears of joy as each facet comes to completion. Just look at the great rockwork on the foundation and chimney. With a few more hand-hewed logs, it just might start looking like a cabin in the woods. Construction is expected to continue for the next two years. Help with the work is greatly needed. Look for the worktrip schedules and Charlie Graf's phone number in the Forecast section if you think you might want to.

—Photo by Walt Smith

The PATC In W W II—Part 3

By 1943, PATC began organizing more and further trips. In July of 1943 about 20 members of the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club (PATC) made a trip to Green Ridge State Forest near Great Cacapon, WV. That same summer, from Aug. 25 to Sept. 8, Marion Park, Jean Stephenson, Ruth Hammer, Betty Samson and Jack Hess took off on a mission to help out on the Appalachian Trail (AT) in Maine.

Members back in the area on leave from the service often made a special work trip to the Trail, finding some kind of transportation. Married couple Madeline and Mose Fleming from York, PA, for example, took their vacations on the Trail, hiking and working on it, camping out at night.

The AT was kept in relatively hikeable shape during these years. As always, working and hiking were conducted with a lighthearted attitude. If a group could get to the mountains, hike or clear trail, camp and cook out and return safely, this was enough. Never mind about crowded trains or buses, a full truck or auto, it was all fun.

The National Park Service kept the AT and other trails in Shenandoah National Park open with regular Park workers and also conscientious objectors assigned to work there. Between this program and periodic PATC work trips, the AT was in pretty good shape inside the Park.

Hikers As Harvesters

In the late summer and early fall of 1943 and 1944, the PATC organized trips to the Winchester, VA, area to help harvest the apple crop from the orchards in that section of the state. Landowners, many of whom knew of the Club through giving permission for the AT to cut through their property, asked the Club for help since they were very short on labor. Bureaucratic problems with the Internal Revenue Service, the Social Security Administration and the U.S. Employment Service had to be worked out, but a way was found to satisfy all regulations. Salary issues were settled mostly by having the workers' pay donated to the Club's treasury by the orchard owners, and a deal was cut so working members could buy apples at reduced prices. In 1943, three trips were made, with 86 members taking part and picking 2,373 bushels of apples. The next summer, seven trips were made, with 85

members going out and picking 5,714 bushels and making the Club richer by \$300.

Hiking Closer To Home

During the war years when travel was difficult, the Club's climbing group went to Great Falls, MD. The area was not settled then like it is now, and there was plenty of space to park for a full week-end, room to camp out with permission from landowners, and a wide variety of climbs on the cliffs beside the river. It was an excellent place to go during these years. The government had brought many skilled, nationally known climbers to the Washington area, and the Club's climbing section learned a great deal from them. The leader, Paul Bradt, was a stickler for safety, and the PATC mountaineering group had an excellent record in that area. It was evolving into the Mountaineering Section of the PATC in those years, and in spite of differences of purpose, the groups learned from one another.

An annual summer picnic was introduced during these years. It was held in Rock Creek Park, with a songfest led by Jan Conn from the climbing group playing her guitar and followed by a moonlight hike. Rock Creek Park was easy to get to by bus or car, and it gave everyone a chance to keep in touch, including those who could not, for whatever reason, go on excursions or work trips to the mountains. This affair gave everyone a chance to visit and hike, and it was so popular that it was repeated. It is still held, though often elsewhere than in the local D.C. area.

End Of An Era

Close relations with the interesting and often helpful mountain folk came to an end around this time, as most had been moved out of the National Park. Members like Frank Schairer, Charlie Williams and Al Jackman, who had a sympathetic feeling for the mountain men and their families, were not able to get up to see the few left in or near the Park. The old days of adventurous dealings with them and the friendships formed through both cooperation and difficult times were over for good. No more night hunts for raccoons and possums and no more white lightning liquor from their stills!

Getting Back To Work

The war wound down. Germany gave up in early May of 1945, and the Japanese surren-

dered in mid-August of the same year. The conflict was over, restrictions were lifted on most products and services, and the nation could begin to get back to a normal state. Buses could be chartered, gas could be bought in any quantity, and tires were being manufactured again. Also, steaks could be bought any time in grocery stores again, so excursions and work trips could be scheduled on the basis of need and desire and sent out with the participants assured of being well fed.

Much needed to be done, and the Club set out with enthusiasm to return to something like the old days of full weekend trips. Trips could be organized by the Mersch Committee or Trail Overseers, or the Club could run a full bus trip to clean up a big section of Trail, if need be, until all of the Overseers were back from the services or their spots were otherwise permanently filled. Everyone was hoping for a return to a pre-war system, in which the Overseers ran their own trips and took care of the AT unless there was a real emergency, like an ice storm bringing down trees on a long section of the Trail. For that, as always, a big Club work trip would be set up in short order.

Best of all, for many members, weekend hikes and overnight camping could be scheduled again, including large Club groups and small, private groups, without worrying about gas, tires, or food.

It was obvious that the Trail was not in top shape at the end of 1945. Hard work and determination of a few had kept it in hikeable shape, but that was about all. There had been heavy growth in the summer of 1945, and some signs were down. These defects could be remedied with time and effort. Some very large blowdowns needed to be removed, with some rerouting to consider. The Park Service had been short of workers in that last wartime summer; Club workers had made fewer trips because of the aging of their autos. It had been a real achievement to keep the AT open as much as it was. Changing conditions would bring more workers, better transportation and much more time to go up to the Trail. The PATC was strong and solid and had a bright future. Its past was a record of real accomplishment; its future would be outstanding. □

—Dave Bates

Trail News around the World

Last July, President Clinton formally designated the Potomac River as one of the first 14 American Heritage Rivers in a program designed to aid local efforts to protect the natural, cultural, and economic resources of the waterways. The Potomac was nominated for this designation by Friends of the Potomac, a group of citizens, elected officials, communities, businesses, agencies, and citizen groups. The group will serve as a liaison with federal agencies and will provide coordination as local communities and organizations implement such projects as fisheries enhancement, agricultural technology, heritage tourism, recreation, and environmental education—from the May/June 1998 *Potomac Basin Reporter* (the newsletter of the Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin).

The Roanoke Appalachian Trail Club was one of the recipients of the “Trails for Tomorrow” award. The award, sponsored by DuPont Cordura Nylon and presented to the top 10 National Trails Day events each year, provides a check for \$500 and over \$1,500 worth of gear and apparel to each winner. The RATC’s event was themed “Take the Pledge,” to encourage more people to become involved, and included informative exhibits and presentations, work and leisure hikes, and door prizes. Numerous area organizations participated in the event, and the Honorable Mayor David Bowers presented a proclamation declaring June 6, 1998 to be National Trails Day in Roanoke City. The mayor also presented Bill Gordge with the “Vibram Volunteer of the Year” award for the state of Virginia—from the Autumn 1998 *Trail Blazer* (the newsletter of the Roanoke Appalachian Trail Club).

The Great Smoky Mountains National Park is continuing its 39-year battle to remove wild hogs from the 530,000 acre park. The non-native hogs’ destructive foraging is damaging what is considered to be one of the world’s most biologically diverse regions. The hogs also dine on species of snails and salamanders found only in the park, eat wildflowers and the eggs of ground-nesting birds, and compete with black bears and wild turkeys for nuts. Efforts to eradicate the hogs include hunting, trapping, and relocating. Officials believe the hog population might finally be in check—from “Great Smokies in Perpetual Effort to Snuff Out Wild Hogs,” the *Enterprise Mountaineer* (a Waynesville, NC newspaper)

—Lynn Witwer

Barbara and Gilbert Loo, PATC members since 1959, completed hiking the Appalachian Trail this last May. It took them 58 years, and “they definitely hold the record for the longest section-hike,” according to Laurie Peel Potteiger of the AT Conference Staff.—*AT News*, Nov-Dec 1998.

Virginia’s first Greenways and Trails Conference will be held May 2-4, 1999 in Roanoke,

sponsored by the US Forest Service and Virginia Department of Forestry. The theme will be Connecting our Commonwealth, and there will be workshops, field trips, and the dedication of a local greenway. Further information may be had from Angela Lacombe, 804/798-0045.—*AT News*, Nov-Dec 1998.

—Paula Strain

Donations

Our heartfelt THANK YOU to those members who have given additional donations with their dues renewal fee to the individual funds listed below. Our mission of protecting the Appalachian National Scenic Trail and side trails throughout Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland, and Pennsylvania, is assured through generous donations from you. It also helps greatly to insure that these protected trail lands can be enjoyed by future generations.

Donations received in November

Funds: G - General; T - Trail Lands; S/C - Shelters, Cabins, Cabin Lands; HQ - Headquarters Capital Repair; E - Endowment

John W. Bridges	G	Dee and Robert Leggett, Jr.	G;T;S/C
Peter and Julie Coan	E	Lawrence Linebrink	T
Michael and Edie Daharsh	T	Carol L. MacKinnon	G
John E. Dent	T	Eric and Jane Massant	S/C
Jeanine and Peter Faulkner	S/C	Thomas E. Mullen	G
Gerard Gold	G	Judy Guse-Noritake	S/C
Leslie and Richard Harps	S/C	Jean Patterson	T;S/C;E
Jane D. Highsaw	S/C	Robert H. Poole	S/C
Joseph and Mary Howard	T	Carol Anne Robertson	T

Three new Life Memberships were purchased since the last issue of the PA: Gerard Gold as of November 12, Lawrence Linebrink as of November 19, and Marilyn Stone as of November 24. Thank you all for becoming Life Members of the PATC.

Life Memberships can be obtained by sending \$500 in one sum, or you can make four monthly payments of \$125 each. Don’t forget that the spouse of a current Life Member can obtain Life Member status by paying \$250, which is half the regular Life Membership fee. All Life Member payments go directly into the Endowment Fund and are totally tax deductible.

A brief note about DUES RENEWAL NOTICES. The expiration date on your membership card reflects the month in which I generate the dues notices. Your membership will not expire exactly on the date shown, but it will shortly thereafter if the dues notice remains unpaid after that month. I normally generate the dues notices sometime after the 10th of the month, so please be patient if you think your membership has passed the expiration date. If it passes a couple of months, then please contact me as there is a problem we need to correct.

—Pat Fankhauser, Membership Coordinator



Answer:

John and Curt Oliphant.

Trailhead

Winter Activities

Although most hikers and trail workers attend to lay low during hunting season—at least in those areas where hunting is allowed—and then break for the holidays, cabin fever can easily set in early in the New Year. Not to mention the need to burn off a few of the thousands of calories consumed in those holiday meals!

In spite of the unpredictability of mid-Atlantic winters, PATC maintains a surprisingly active schedule through the winter months. Most of the series hikes continue on a year-round basis and are cancelled only when road conditions would make it difficult for most people to reach the trailhead.

Even trail maintenance continues during the off season: An occasional balmy day during the January thaw or at other times might encourage overseers to shed their outer garments and venture out to do a little clearing or blazing, particularly if there is little or no snow on the ground. But in other years, severe weather has all but shut down most trail activities. Only time will tell what the winter of '99 will bring!

Breaking trail in foot-deep snow can be hard work, but one alternative could be to use snowshoes. Let the Trailhead editor know if you have had any experiences with snow shoeing in PATC-land, and we will try to publish something on the subject in next month's column.

Fire Danger

Hopefully, by January, enough rain will have fallen to reduce the risk of forest fires caused by the lack of rain since July. The Park Service has posted severe restrictions on any open fires in the SNP and, in general, these same conditions exist on most of PATC trails. There has already been forest fire activity in the SNP and nearby national forest lands. The situation has been compounded by last winter's ice storm, which has left abundant fuel on the forest floor. Most of the shelter springs are dry so if you are planning to backpack, carry plenty of water or make sure you take advantage of known sources.

PATC North in Action

From Charles Irvin come some recent highlights from the PATC North Chapter. Ed France, with 24 high school students from

Big Spring High School Environmental Club in Newville, PA, worked 157 hours on the Tuscarora Trail in PA and on the Warner Trail. North Chapter volunteers also recently installed a new bridge on the Tuscarora Trail. An October 3rd work trip brought out 19 hearty souls to work on the AT and most paused, at the end of the day, to enjoy a delicious steak dinner at Gypsy Spring Cabin. A pleased Charles commented that this was the best work trip so far this year.

Cadillac Crew On Sugarloaf Mountain

Led by MD Metro District Manager, Liles Creighton, and trail overseer, Trudy Thompson, the Cadillac Crew tackled some serious erosion problems on the Sugarloaf Mountain Northern Peaks Trail. The threat of rain over the weekend never materialized, and the weather was excellent for trail work. Saturday the crew continued the work from a previous trip on a steep section near the northern peak. Sunday the crew worked a steep section of the trail near West View parking. The excellent weather and popularity of the trail near the parking lot resulted in over 300 hikers passing through the work site. With all the hikers, the trail traffic was the equivalent to a bad day on the beltway. A lot of the hikers stopped to ask, "what are you doing?" and expressed appreciation for our efforts. The crew spent Saturday night at a campground provided by the Stronghold Corporation. Robert Duffin brought a telescope, and the crew was treated to views of the moons of Jupiter and the rings of Saturn through breaks in the clouds.

More Work In Rock Creek Park

Due to enthusiastic support, Mark Anderson plans to expand the 1999 schedule for work trips in Rock Creek Park. The first trip will be on Saturday, March 13th to continue the

Theodore Roosevelt Side Trail relocation project to move the trail up the hill away from Rock Creek's lapping waves. Thus far, three work trips have focused on this relocation project. As usual, the crew will meet on Saturday morning for a half-day of work, leaving the remainder of the weekend for other activities such as hiking in the park.

Central District's Blue & White Crew

Continuing our feature on trail crews. The Blue & White Crew was formed in the mid-80's by the former SNP Central District Manager, Anneliese Ring, to support Central District overseers with projects too big for a single overseer such as clearing storm damage, erosion control, and major tread rehabilitation. One might think Blue & White refers to the colors of the blazes on the trails in the Central District maintained by PATC. Not so, it stands for the colors of the Bavarian flag and reflects Annliese's heritage (and the colors of the BMW symbol).

Weekend work trips are usually scheduled monthly and average 10 to 15 crewmembers. Starting next year the crew hopes to settle on either the 2nd or 4th weekend of the month and plans to continue crew work in the winter months, weather permitting. The crew spends Saturday night at selected PATC or Park Service cabins close to the work site and meets either at the cabin or at a designated trailhead. Saturday is usually spent working blue blaze trails while Sunday is spent on the AT. Crewmembers chip in on Saturday dinners and Sunday breakfasts. An added culinary delight is the chocolate-covered peanut-butter cake courtesy of Judy Kutz. The crew has also been known to sample a few brews on Saturday evening. Next season the crew will focus on building a core of Blue & White regulars, helping educate overseers on trail

Volunteers - Appointed in November

Trail Overseers

Katharine Sharpe	Bull Run-Occoquan Trail - Bull Run Park to Route 28 Parking Lot
Sharon & Roger Vines	Massanutten East Trail - Kennedy Peak Trail to Camp Roosevelt
Keith Trevvett	Trayfoot Mountain Trail - 2nd Summit (3121 elev.) to Paine Run Trail
Dale Saylor	Chancelorsville History Loop Trail to Maury Birthplace Trail

Trailhead

maintenance and repair techniques, establishing close communications with the Park Service trail crew, and keeping the trail system in the Central District as one PATC can be proud of. The crew plans to conduct a Central District Overseers Workshop in the spring modeled after George Walters' North District Overseers Workshop. Current crew leaders Kerry Snow, 301/570-0596, and Charles Hillon, 703/754-7388, welcome all volunteers, young and old, new and experienced.

By the way, Anneliese Ring "retired" last year to finish her hikes of the PCT and AT. Besides being a District Manager, she has served PATC as Supervisor of Trails and is a well-loved long-time PATC member.

Range View Cabin

Renovation of Range View Cabin in the SNP North District continues, with two-thirds of the new pine floor nailed in place as of the

end of November. George Still, who is heading this project, stated he hoped that work would be completed by the end of the year. During the last two months, the cabin was completely emptied, the old floor boards and floor support system were removed, new sill timbers were set, and a joist-and-header system was installed. Construction work is being performed under the tutelage of Mike Ritoli, who drew up plans for the work, and Mike Etherington, the cabin overseer. Heidi Forrest is repointing the old stone chimney and relining the fireplace. In order to meet the National Park Service Cultural Compliance mandates, the new floor is being constructed to replicate the floor that was removed — 5/8 inch thick tongue-and-groove Southern yellow pine. It is estimated that the floor was last replaced in the 1960's. No record has been found of the original floor construction, which occurred in about 1933. One interesting discovery, and one that has

somewhat slowed the work, is that the original stone walls are not exactly in-square. But, considering what tools were available 65 years ago, it's pretty darn close! Look for Range View Cabin to be ready for overnight stays in the near future.

Tool Time

During the off season, take advantage of "Tool Time" with Liles Creighton and bring your trail tools to PATC Headquarters tool room for sharpening and repair. Please tag the tools with your name, type of repair, and need date before dropping them off at Park Street. If you need to make special arrangements, contact Liles at 410/573-0067.

Please send any interesting tale, technical advice, individual or group accomplishments, and trail maintenance questions to Trailhead, c/o Jon Rindt, 7861 Colonial Village Row, Annandale, VA 22003 or to jkrindt@erols.com □

PATC Planning Session

On December 5, at Highacre in Harpers Ferry, PATC council members, committee chairs, and others attended a planning session as a follow-up to the August planning retreat at Blackburn. After some discussion in the morning about the most important issues facing the Club, the group divided into three smaller sessions to discuss each of the three issues they decided to tackle that day.

The first group discussed volunteerism in the Club; the second group, management, acquisition, and protection of lands; and the third group, the optimum balance between emphasis on cabins and trails. Other issues were tabled for future discussion throughout the year and at a possible second planning meeting.

Each group discussed the major challenges surrounding their issue and developed action

plans for ensuring success in their area. The three groups will continue to meet separately, as necessary, to further develop their ideas. Look to the PA throughout the year for updates on these issues.

For more information or if you're interested in providing input to these groups, please contact Walt Smith at wsmith@visuallink.com or 703/242-0693.

—Bianca Menendez

PATC members resting during the Wineberry Cabin dedication, which occurred on Saturday, November 14, in Lydia, VA, on PATC's Vining Tract.

Pictured here in the foreground left to right are Richard Vetland (who sported a highly appropriate tuxedo a la denim jeans for the occasion), Lauren Lang, Larry Lang (who showed his own unique dress for the event with suit coat and tie over jean overalls), Hugh Robinson, and Marilyn Stone. Good food and spirits were enjoyed and many stories were told of notable events that occurred during the refurbishing of this wonderful old cabin. Richard and Larry will continue as co-overseers of Wineberry Cabin. Word has it that it will be available for rental as soon as the "finishing touches" have been put into place. Many kudos go out to the crew for all of their work put into the great transformation of Wineberry Cabin (see the November PA Wineberry article for more information). Look for rental information in upcoming PA announcements.

TRAIL OVERSEERS WANTED

Trail Overseer Openings December 7, 1998. Contact the District Manager for the region that interests you.

VIRGINIA SOUTH AT (Maps # 8 & 9) NEW AT SECTIONS

[CALL ED MCKNEW AT 540/622-6004]

Appalachian Trail

Ashby Gap to Second Logging Road (creek crossing) [1.7 miles]

Appalachian Trail

Dick's Dome Shelter Road to Parking Lot #8 Side Trail [1.3miles]

Appalachian Trail

Pipeline to the Davenport Meadow [1.2 miles]

Appalachian Trail

South end of the waterline to Bear Hollow Creek [0.9miles]

Appalachian Trail

Bear Hollow Creek to Route 522 [0.8miles]

SHENANDOAH SOUTH BLUE-BLAZE (Map #11)

[CALL PHIL SCHROEDER AT 540/828-0476]

Gap Run Trail

Rte. 638 Access Trail to the Rocky Mount Trail
(lower end) [.8 miles]

MASSANUTTEN SOUTH (Map # H)

[CALL BILL SCHMIDT AT 301/585-2477]

Massanutten Mountain South Trail

TV Tower Road (FR375) to Pitt Spring [3.4 miles]

Massanutten Mountain South Trail

Pitt Spring to Morgan Run Trail [3.3 miles]

Morgan Run Trail

Cub Run Rd. to Massanutten Mt. South Trail [1.4 miles]

TUSCARORA BLUE - SOUTH (Maps # 9, E, G & H)

[CALL RICK RHOADS AT 703/239-0965]

Tuscarora Trail

US 340 to SNP boundary [1.10 miles]

Tuscarora Trail

Glass House Trail to Elizabeth Furnace [2.20 miles]

Beautiful weather and enthusiastic workers contributed to the successful cabin construction worktrip for John's Rest Cabin in Lydia, Virginia. We have the roof on and the chinking started and porch footers ready for posts. The worktrip schedule has come to a halt for the rest of this winter, but look for them to start up again in the early spring. Robert Humphrey is the crew chief for this project and welcomes any help, skilled or unskilled. Funds for the reconstruction of this cabin came from a gift donated by John Fischbach's family. John's Rest Cabin is nestled in a little hollow near the South River in Stanardsville, VA. You gotta see it.

—Photo by Pat Fankhauser

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