



The Potomac Appalachian

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

Volume 29, Number 11
November 2000

An Evening on Everest

Join Hudson Trail Outfitters, for an exciting presentation by Pete Athans, a sponsored climber of The North Face. HTO is donating proceeds from the \$5 admission fee to PATC and George Mason University's GEO Club.

Pete Athans is perhaps the most successful and understated Everest climber ever. Since 1985, he has led 13 expeditions to Mt. Everest, attempted five different routes and on six occasions he has stood on the summit, more than any other western climber. You can find more information on Pete Athans by going to www.thenorth-face.com, and then go to the "Athletes" icon.

The presentation will be held at George Mason University's Harris Theater on Monday, November 13th at 7pm. Tickets are available at all Hudson Trail Outfitters. This is just one of many such events HTO has held to benefit PATC and the GEO Club. □



Chris Noble

It's Hunting Season

With the hunting season upon us, it's nice to know where the guns are shooting and the arrows are flying so we can hike elsewhere. Here is a list of area deer and bear seasons.

For your protection be aware and prepared for hunting activities. Don't wear white hats, gloves, scarves, etc., and do wear a bright color like blaze orange.

There is no hunting allowed in the Shenandoah National Park or on the Appalachian Trail, but there are poachers and people hunting close to the trails, so be careful!!

This schedule lists the first and the last date indicated for deer and bear seasons. The individual scheduled dates are too numerous to list. Please call the individual states for specific information.

Virginia—October 3-January 30
For specific information call: 804/367-1000

Maryland—September 2-January 31
For specific information call: 410/974-3195

Pennsylvania—October 3-January 30
For specific information call: 717/787-4250

West Virginia—October 17-February 27
For specific information call: 304/558-2771

Please be informed that hunting is permitted in the surrounding woods near the following cabin properties: Glass House, Meadows, Milesburn, Schairer T. C., Dawson, Hermitage, Sugar Knob, Firestone, and Michener. □

—Pat Fankhauser

In This Issue . . .

Council Fire	2
Walt's Notes	3
Garvey Shelter Update	3
The Blackburns	4
Building New Trail, Part III	5
Farewell to Dede	6
Donations	7
PATC's Annual Meeting	7
In Memoriam	7
Forecast	8
Notices	12
Moving?	12
Trailhead	13
New Hiking Guides	15
Volunteers Appointed	15
Trail Overseers Wanted	16
Mike Karpie's Photo Tips	16

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SMRG: Peter Pennington
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Potomac Appalachian

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Council Fire

The Council held its regular meeting on September 12, 2000 at the Club headquarters. The meeting was attended by 20 Council members, 1 staff, and 3 Club members. The PATC membership stands at 6,944 with 137 new members registering in the month of August.

Dealing with Legal Claims

The Council discussed and voted on a policy on evaluation of legal claims filed or threatened to be filed against the Club. An incident earlier in the year raised the need for the Club to have a policy for investigating events that might lead to legal claims. In the policy adopted, the General Counsel investigates a claim and reports the facts and the consequences of possible courses of action to the Executive Committee and the Council. The Council may decide upon a course of action.

Strategic Planning

The Council approved Club Goals for 2001 and for five years. The 2001 goals are to drive the process to develop the 2001 budget which is being prepared for a Council vote on December 11.

One of the five-year goals is to develop the Tuscarora Trail. In a meeting of the Land Management Committee, the North Chapter agreed to take the lead to determine the status of land ownership along the trail and determine the need for shelters and cabins.

Peter Pennington, Chair of the Shenandoah Mountain Rescue Group, said that the

Section is taking stock of its activities. SMRG has about 60 members, 38 of which are very active. The Section will seek more members at the Club new member meetings. Each SMRG member will be expected to increase his/her skills during the year by taking additional training. Peter noted that searches for light aircraft accidents are on the rise, presumably because of the economic boom.

Maps Update

David Pierce works with the Appalachian Trail Conference on the AT Databook. PATC now maintains 239.5 miles of the AT, an increase of 0.5 miles. David also reported that Map 10 (Shenandoah National Park Central District) has been revised and is being printed. The Website of the Shenandoah National Park (nps.gov/shen) now acknowledges that 101 miles of the AT are within the Park. Aaron Watkins of the Publications Committee reported that Guidebook 6 (Maryland and Northern Virginia) is at the printers and the Cabins book will be reprinted in the next few weeks.

Interested in Helping to Plan for the 75th Anniversary Celebration?

Vice President Mickey McDermott will chair a meeting on October 11 at 6:00 pm to begin the planning for the PATC 75th Anniversary Celebration in 2002. Volunteers should contact him at mcdermottj.aimd@gao.gov. □

—Gerhard Salinger
Recording Secretary

HEADQUARTERS HOW TO GET IN CONTACT WITH US FOR CABIN RESERVATIONS, MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION, AND SALES

Address: 118 Park Street, S.E., Vienna, VA 22180
Hours: Monday through Thursday, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.
and Thursday and Friday 12 noon to 2 p.m.
Phone #: 703/242-0315
To receive an information packet: Extension 10
To leave a message for the Club President Walt Smith: Extension 40
24-hr. Activities Tape #: 703/242-0965
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Club E-mail: Wriley1226@aol.com
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Walt's Notes

We Need "Friends of the Trail"

The North Chapter does a super job in maintaining the Tuscarora Trail, for 106 miles from its intersection with the Appalachian Trail north of Carlisle, Pennsylvania to Hancock, Maryland. However, there is one significant problem that we must solve. Much of the trail in this area is on private land and is not protected. Development could threaten its existence at any time. If you live in or know landowners in Franklin, Fulton, Huntingdon, Perry, and Cumberland counties in Pa., or Washington County, Md., then you may be able to help us develop "friends of the trail" in this area. I will get to "how" in a moment.

Introduce Your Friends

In order to introduce you and your friends to the beauty of the Tuscarora Trail, and the need for its protection, the Hikes Committee is planning on conducting a series of hikes on the Tuscarora in 2001. I hope that you will avail yourself of this opportunity and enjoy this interesting hiking route on the ridges west of Interstate 81. In the North Chapter area, for example, if you were hiking on the Tuscarora Trail north from the Potomac River to the AT in Pennsylvania, you would begin your journey at Hancock, Maryland and follow the historic towpath of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal before heading north near Camp Harding County Park. After ascending the Tuscarora Mountain you would note plenty of views as you continued north through the Buchanan State Forest. You might even wish to stop for a break and enjoy the facilities and swim in Cowans Gap Lake at the state park. After walking fifty miles or so, you would cross Path Valley, about half way on your journey, and then ascend onto one of several mountain ridges that you would

cross while in the Tuscarora State Forest. Farther along, near Colonel Denning State Park, you might decide to spend the night at the "Wagon Wheel", the shelter that the North Chapter has recently constructed (near a location where many trails intersect, forming a "wagon wheel"). In the morning, after walking through a lovely area with lots of ferns, and enjoying the magnificent view from Flat Rock, you would continue on to the finish of your journey, feeling fully refreshed, by following Blue Mountain until you reached the Appalachian Trail near Darlington Shelter.

How to Help

Now, as to how you can help. Do you live near the trail or know others who live near the Tuscarora Trail Corridor? Members of the Trail Lands Acquisition Committee need friends who can introduce them to landowners in the North Chapter area. The committee would like to explain the benefits of conservation easements, or in some cases "bargain sales," so that PATC can ensure that the trail will be protected in perpetuity. Protecting the Tuscarora Trail is a very important undertaking so that those who follow us may continue to enjoy the beauty of the area. Will you please give this request some thought? Will you contact members of North Chapter, or telephone or send an e-mail to Wilson Riley, Director of Administration at the Club Headquarters? You may contact Wilson at 703/242-0315 (ext. 11) or wiley1226@aol.com, and he will forward your request to the right person.

New Council Members

As we contemplate election of officers on the Executive Committee, I wish to recognize some recent appointments to the Council. Steve Brickel has succeeded Katherine Stentzel as leader of the Ski

Touring section for the next season; Paul Dery has been appointed to replace John Richards as Finance Committee Chair; and Don Price was elected to succeed Dick Newcomer after his term ended as the Endowment Committee Chair. Although not a member of Council, I also recognize the appointment of Orron Kee as Chair of the renamed Headquarters Facility (formerly House) Committee. Many thanks to the former chairs who have completed their leadership service and also to the members who have stepped forward to fill the vacancies.

What is Your Favorite View?

We hike for different reasons: some just for the exercise, some to check off completion of a trail or section of a trail, and some to see a specific natural condition. I enjoy hiking to observe both cultural and natural situations but especially to an area that has a view. Do you have a favorite view? Dave Pierce, Chair of the Maps Committee, is going to update our maps with "view" symbols. The definition of a view is one that is created by natural conditions such as a rock outcropping, but not a view that requires an overseer to maintain it. So if you have a favorite "natural" view, to which others may wish to hike, then simply: (1) make an enlarged photocopy of the appropriate section of the PATC map, (2) place a "dot" at the correct location with an arrow pointing in the general direction of the view, and (3) mail the suggestion to PATC, Attn: Maps.

See you on the trail, maybe with a view,

Garvey Shelter Update

As of Sunday, October 1 both the Ed Garvey shelter and privy log structures are assembled at the AT site awaiting the installation of the roofs as well as building windows, doors, loft and sleeping platform floors, the fire ring, and, and, and ... we will also put shovels and paintbrushes to good use.

Completion is anticipated to be late November and we continue to need skilled and unskilled volunteers. At this time experienced carpentry folks are especially needed to share their skill and contribute to this unique, meaningful project. For more information contact: FrankTurk@aol.com or Jim at Jskinner@erols.com. □

—Frank Turk

**PATC
Annual
Meeting
Wednesday,
November 15
Elks Lodge, Fairfax, Va.**

See the Forecast for details

The Blackburns: PATC's Foreign Ministers

This is the first in a three-part series about legendary PATC members Fred and Ruth Blackburn.

The contributions of a married couple, whose memberships in PATC are only a year shorter than the life of the Club, forged relations with other organizations that not only helped keep the C & O Canal from being turned into a highway and elevated the status of the National Park Service, but also largely quashed landowner efforts to divert the Appalachian Trail miles from its natural course onto blacktop highway.

Amazingly spanning a generous part of the 20th Century, Fred and Ruth Blackburn actively pushed for—and were successful in achieving—legislative support for trails and the establishment of the trail Clubs we enjoy today. Though happily married, Fred and Ruth acted independently in their PATC and Trail-supporting activities, each partner being active in and working for differing different Trail goals during different periods of time.

George Frederick Blackburn's efforts were apparent first. He joined PATC early in 1929, but his name does not appear often in Club records until the later 1930s. Ruth Blackburn's name does not appear at all until the 1940s.

The Early Years

G.F. Blackburn, as he usually signed his name, or Fred Blackburn, as he was known in PATC, was born in Cessna, Bedford County, Pa., in 1903. He took an A.B. and an M.A. in mathematics at Princeton University. After a year's teaching, he came to Washington. Fred's first job was with the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey, where, he said, he and a co-worker developed a simplified and faster way to predict tides in the Chesapeake Bay: The co-worker's discovery of a way to predict two years of tides in half a day essentially did them out of a job.

Fred transferred to the National Bureau of Standards in 1928, where he remained for the rest of his working career. There he worked in aeronautical instrumentation, ignition, and temperature-sensing devices, including spark plugs. In the course of his career, Fred was granted several patents.

Ruth Elizabeth Miller was born in 1907 in Reno, Nev. About 1910 her family moved to Oregon, where they lived in a tent for some months. In 1914 they moved to

Washington, where Ruth attended local schools, being, at one time, a classmate of PATC Member Phil Stone. She also studied organ at the National Cathedral.

Ruth and Fred were married Sept. 6, 1930. PATC celebrated the couple's 50th wedding anniversary with a party memorialized in Club archives. The Blackburns lived on Conduit Road for 10 years before moving to Allan Road in Westgate (now Bethesda), Md., and remained there until 1996. During their Conduit Road residence, Ruth was choir director and organist at the Palisades Community Center. Later, she managed the kitchen at Westmoreland Congregational Church. These activities no doubt affected how much she could do on weekends with the Club at this time.

"A Hiking Trip in the Smokies," which Fred wrote for the October 1941 *PATC Bulletin*, tells of a week's backpacking trip by the cou-

In Celebration of PATC's History

ple. Wallace Haynes Walker, later to become a PATC President, provided the car support for the trip, but only Fred and Ruth hiked five days in constant rain. They happily cut the trip short when Wallace Haynes met them on the trail a day or so early. Fred's description of the equipment they carried is especially interesting. Then, it was state of the art equipment, but now we just have to admire how backpackers coped back then.

Support Of Club Grows

In the 1940s, Fred was the active Club member in the family. Ruth would weigh in later. Fred was a member of the Maps Committee, probably as a field checker. From 1945 through 1949, he was a member of the Shelters (now Cabins) Committee, rebuilding Sexton Shelter after its first fire. One Sexton Shelter work trip account mentions Ruth accompanying the party. Fred was also a member of the Lean-Tos (now Shelters) Committee from 1946 to 1950. In 1948, he was elected Second Vice President, becoming First Vice President the following year.

Apart from the occasional casual mention of a meal being prepared for a work party by

Ruth, her name appears in PATC records of the period only in 1946 as a member of the Shelters Reservation Committee and as a member of the Program Committee in 1948-1949. Perhaps those years were ones in which the two Blackburn sons, Frederick (Ted) and William, were too young for both parents to leave for any length of time.

The 11th Appalachian Trail Conference was held in 1948 at Gatlinburg, Tenn. Many PATC members had a part in its planning and programming, Fred being in charge of the photo exhibits. When he reported the meeting in the *Bulletin* (the predecessor to the *PA*), Fred mentioned that in the absence of the General Secretary he acted in that capacity. This may have been his first activity for the Conference itself, though the intermingling of the ATC and PATC work and volunteers during the first five decades of the two organizations' existence makes it hard to be sure. Ruth attended the Conference as one of the official PATC voting delegates.

In 1951, Fred became President of PATC, holding that position for four years. The first survey of Club membership was made in 1951; Fred's report on its findings commented on the large percentage of people who joined PATC for only a couple of years before dropping out. Those who remained members for four or five years were likely to become permanent members. This trend appears to be true to this day.

Fred found time in 1952 to construct a Club campsite just west of Israel Creek on the banks of the Potomac. A privy, a changing house, and a table were the amenities provided on a site rented for \$1 a year from Potomac Shores Corp., which owned the land between the towpath and the river. A few Club picnics and swimming parties following hikes in the 1950s are the only recorded use of the camp by PATC. In the 1980s, the C&O Canal Park management asked the Club to remove the now dilapidated buildings because of the abuse of the site by fisherman and others.

The C&O Battle

PATC took on a battle in 1950 when the Bureau of Public Roads and the National Park Service proposed turning part or all of the abandoned C&O Canal into a scenic highway similar to Skyline Drive, but it wasn't until late 1952 that opposition to the idea began to develop. At the January 1953

See Blackburn, page 6

Potomac Appalachian

Building New Trail

This is the last of three articles contrasting the work of the Cadillac Crew and the Massanutten Crew, two of PATC's trail crews, as they build a new section of trail. In Parts 1 and 2, we saw the crews planning and building a new section of sidehill tread. Each crew made decisions based on the expected trail traffic. Various controls were added to deal with runoff and the deterioration of the tread over time.

Part 3: Switchbacks

Imagine that you are ascending a mountain-side, with views across a valley on your right. You go around a sharp turn to the left, and now the valley is on your left. The switchback usually turns you about 150 degrees.

If you made the turn in one or two steps, you passed a typical switchback on a trail built for hikers. A 150-degree turn in two steps is easy for a hiker.

If you are ascending on a mountain bike, you will be stopped by the sharp turn. You will put a foot down and hitch the bike around and get it lined up with the new direction. Then you begin to pedal uphill from a dead stop. If you are riding downtrail, you will come to a stop, turn the wheel, and carefully allow the bike to roll around the turn.

If you are riding a horse, you must guide the horse's head to the side, as it steps in place to swing its hindquarters around.

The mountain bike rider and horse rider each look at the switchback to see if there isn't a shortcut that would make this a more friendly turn. The ascending biker, already stopped, might pause to move rocks and brush, creating a short path across the switchback. If the slope is not very steep, an ascending biker may be able to pedal up the shortcut without losing momentum. A descending biker can ride the shortcut with only moderate braking. A horse will find the shortcut much easier.

The Massanutten Crew attempts to build switchbacks that are friendly to all users. Sharp switchbacks are avoided. The crew builds a curving path, called a rising turn. The rising turn requires 10 or more steps on the part of the hiker. If it is not too steep or rocky, a biker who sees it coming gets into the right gear and powers up the turn without losing momentum. A horse is easily guided around such a turn.

Potomac Appalachian

Trail-Building Terms

Tread: The walkable surface of a trail.

Upslope and downslope: Areas of the hillside above and below the tread.

Uptrail and downtrail: Directions along the centerline of the tread.

Grade: A measurement of the steepness along the uptrail direction, expressed as a percentage. Most hikers go up an 8 percent grade without difficulty. (That's eight feet of elevation gain for 100 feet of horizontal movement.) Most hikers tire quickly on grades over 15 percent.

Outslope: A gentle tilt of the trail surface that allows runoff to flow over the edge of the tread onto the downslope.

Waterbar: A shallow ditch and a barrier that diverts water off the trail.

Grade dip: A short descending section of the trail built into an ascending trail to divert water off the trail.

Rising turn: A form of switchback that is easy for all trail users, but subject to erosion.

Turning circle: A form of switchback that is easy for all trail users and less subject to erosion.

Runout: A ditch alongside the tread at a switchback to carry runoff beyond the turn.

Curtain drain: A ditch on the hillside above a switchback that diverts runoff away from the turn.

The design of the switchback, hiker-only or all-traffic, must be decided when the trail is initially designed.

Hiker-only turns. The Cadillac Crew, which builds trail for hiker-only traffic, also tries to prevent shortcutting. The crew may locate the turn on a steep section of hillside to discourage the hiker from shortcutting. Crew members may increase the grade of the tread above and below the turn to produce separation. The crew might also place logs and brush on the hillside to make a shortcut more difficult.

All-traffic turns. The Massanutten Crew, which builds trail that can accommodate horses and bikes as well as hikers, tries to locate the switchback on a less steep section of the hillside. If the rising turn is visible to the approaching traffic, horse and bike riders can plan their turn. Halfway around the turn, the grade of the tread may be the same as the grade of the hillside, perhaps 20 percent and easily eroded, so the crew may

attempt to lower the grade and protect the tread. The grade can be lowered with a turning circle, and the threat of erosion can be controlled with a curtain drain.

A turning circle. When wagon roads were built 100 years ago, the road builders had the problem of getting the draft animals and the wagon around a switchback. To solve this problem, the road builders constructed a flat, circular turn by cutting the upper section of the road into the hillside to get half of a circle and extending the lower section of the road out from the hillside on rock fill to get the other half of the circle. Various trails on the Massanutten have excellent examples of turning circles built for stagecoach travel. The Tolliver Trail carried a stagecoach filled with summer guests over Milford Gap to the Seven Fountains Resort in Fort Valley. This trail has a turning circle just below the point where it joins the Milford Gap Trail. The Wagon Road Trail took the same guests up to the Woodstock Tower; it also has a turning circle.

Today's trail crew can build a smaller turning circle, since it is building only a three-foot-wide tread rather than a seven-foot-wide road surface. The descending trail is cut five feet into the upslope as it approaches the circle. The crew gathers rock to build a raised area of rock fill on the downslope, opposite the deepest part of the excavation. The dirt from the excavation is used to cover the rock fill. A circle 10 feet in diameter is created. The circle need not be perfectly level.

A 10-foot-diameter circle is an adequate turning space for horse or bike. The almost level surface will not be subject to much erosion—providing runoff is diverted before it reaches the turning circle.

Bikers and horse riders are not likely to shortcut this friendly turn. However, hikers are very likely to shortcut it, since there is very little separation between the upper and lower sections of the tread. The crew can erect a barricade of logs between the upper and lower sections, but a better solution might be to give hikers some steps as a ready-made shortcut. Bikers and horses will stay off the steps, and hikers will enjoy going up and down them, provided they are built correctly. However, good rock steps are very difficult to build and require the right conditions and the right materials. Note that this is the only situation in which the Massanutten Crew would build steps, since steps are not built on the part of the trail that is shared with bike and horse traffic.

See New Trail, page 6

Blackburn, from page 4

Council meeting, Fred appointed a committee to study the future of the C&O Canal. The committee reported in February suggesting two actions: first, to write all Maryland legislators in support of the Annapolis bill appropriating money to buy land along the canal for public use; second, to call a meeting of all local groups interested in outdoor recreation to discuss the canal's future. Council adopted both suggestions. A permanent Conservation Committee was also appointed; it was to be concerned with matters that could affect foot trails and hiking in the region. This committee functioned until the early 1980s, when PATC interest seems to have faded.

About 90 people appeared at a March 1953 meeting in the auditorium of the old District Building. Fred presided. The first speaker was the Assistant Superintendent of the National Capital Parks unit of the National Parks Service, Harry Thompson, who spoke enthusiastically of a scenic highway leading west, rather than a weed-grown canal bed. Another speaker was Dr. Irston Barnes of the Audubon Society of the Central Atlantic, now Audubon Naturalist Society, who spoke of the recreational and natural history values of the land along the C&O towpath. The Audubon Society minutes for January 1953 show that that group also had become concerned about the future of the canal.

While the meeting produced no concerted plan of action, each of the organizations represented took some action. PATC's Excursions Chairman, for instance, instituted a series of hikes on the towpath to introduce members over a two- to four-year period over the entire length of the canal. The hikes were not taken in sequence, east to west, though the series was completed over Washington's Birthday weekend in 1957 with a two-day hike, Paw Paw tunnel to the Western Maryland Railroad Station in Cumberland. Happily, the C&O Canal did not turn into a highway, and the towpath is a popular hiking and cycling trail.

In 1953, PATC also conducted a survey on how PATC members used trails. Fred reported that findings showed a very low percentage of people in the 25- to 35-year age group to be hiking. "They were probably climbing rocks," he concluded, the still new Mountaineering Section being very active at that time. □

—Paula M. Strain

Next month: the Blackburns participate in the restoration of a mountaineer's cabin.

New Trail, from page 5

Protecting The Switchback

While a turning circle neatly solves the horse and bike problem, it is subject to erosion from water flowing in the tread and runoff flowing down the hillside directly above the turn area.

Therefore, when the Massanutten Crew builds a rising turn or turning circle, they attempt to minimize the water in the tread by building a waterbar or grade dip. To deal with runoff flowing down the hillside, the crew installs a curtain drain, which is a ditch, dug on a diagonal across the hillside, about five feet upslope from the turn. The lower end of the curtain drain dumps water onto the hillside beyond the turn. There is no scuffing action to cause dirt to wash into this ditch, but it fills with leaves and requires cleaning every few years.

The Cadillac Crew uses a different approach to water control: On the sharp switchback of a hiker-only trail, the crew inslopes the tread above the point of the turn and digs a ditch

along the upslope side of the tread. The ditch is taken straight ahead at the point of the turn so that water is dumped onto the hillside beyond the turn. The ditch is called a runout. It catches any water that is already in the tread and also catches runoff that is coming down the hillside. The runout may fill with leaves and dirt and requires yearly maintenance.

The Cadillac and Massanutten Crews build new sidehill trail to suit the expected traffic. PATC's other trail crews face similar problems. Each trail crew has its "standards." The crew may even use other terms for things like grade dips, curtain drains, or runouts.

Our crews do all kinds of work to keep trails in good condition. If you would like to help out, visit the crew descriptions on PATC's Web site (www.patc.net) and consult the Forecast section of the PA to see when a crew may be working in your favorite hiking area. Contact the crew leader, and come out for a day of hard but rewarding work. □

—Wil Koblrenner leads the Massanutten Crew and is an occasional member of the Cadillac Crew.

Swallow Hard, and Just Say Farewell

The PATC Staff and a handful of fellow volunteer members and friends bid a fond farewell to Ms. Adelia "Dede" Bauer this past September. Dede joined the Club as a volunteer in 1965. She worked in many facets of the Club including trail work, cabin construction, cabin maintenance (Doyle River Cabin co-overseer), and as a valuable volunteer at the Club Headquarters.

During her tenure as Headquarters volunteer, she worked on the sales, information, and the cabins reservations desks. Dede came to work every Thursday and Friday, never failing, and

put in at least 10 to 16 hours a week. She even came out during the snowstorms that kept the paid staff stranded at home.

Now, at the young age of 84, she has decided that she needs to be closer to her family who live in upstate New York. We will truly miss her. The Club now needs to recruit at least five people to do the work she did. Anybody want to take on that challenge?

Thank you Dede. For All that you did for us.

—Pat Fankhauser, PATC Staff



Well-wishers from left to right: Sitting - Robert Hilbish, Carol Niedzialek, Dede Bauer, Paula Strain, Pat Fankhauser. Standing — Robert Humphrey, Wilson Riley, Heidi Forrest, Ruth Durloo, Andy Kapfer, Harry Bridges, Regina Garnett.

Potomac Appalachian

PATC's 2000 Annual Meeting

Join us at PATC's Annual Meeting, November 15th at the Elks Lodge in Fairfax, Va. Activities include our Executive Committee election (see the October PA for details on the candidates), a talk by Steve Elkinton from the National Park Service, and the premiere of the long-awaited PATC video. Looking for a new PATC activity? Committees will have displays set up, so come find out more about PATC's many opportunities.

A buffet dinner will be served with a cash bar. A modest fee of \$15.00 per person will be collected for those who come for dinner. The children's fee is \$8.00. There is no fee for those not wanting dinner. So don't hesitate to fill out the attached form and mail it back to Pat Fankhauser at PATC Club headquarters, 118 Park St., SE, Vienna, VA 22180.

The Elks Lodge is at 8421 Arlington Boulevard in Fairfax. It is just west of I-495 on Route 50. The meeting starts at 6:30 and will conclude by 10:00. Please make a reservation before November 1, and bring a friend.

Please fill out the attached form and mail it back to PATC by November 1, 2000. ☐

Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____ E-mail: _____
Number of adults: _____ Number of children: _____
Please enclose a check in the amount of \$15.00 per adult/\$8.00 per child for dinner.
Mail to: Potomac Appalachian Trail Club
118 Park Street SE
Vienna, Virginia 22180
Attn: Annual Meeting – Pat Fankhauser

Because PATC pays for dinners in advance, no refunds after November 1, 2000.

In Memoriam

Shirley Ruth Campbell, 80, of Harper's Ferry, West Virginia, died June 29, 2000. A PATC member since 1962, Shirley worked as a volunteer at the PATC Headquarters in 1964 and worked primarily with the Highacre Committee from 1967 to 2000. She served as chair of the committee from 1971 until 1975. Shirley living close to Highacre in Harpers Ferry was very much an advantage for the Club. She was there to assist in whatever small emergencies that would arise. She was one of the dozen or so Wanderbirds who joined PATC during the presidency of Larry Gage, who also hiked with that Club.

Clara M. Cassidy was a PATC member from 1954 to 1999 and in that time was the editor of the PATC Bulletin from 1956 to 1969. After her move to Harpers Ferry in 1960, she frequently gave overnight shelter to through hikers. And, after the Appalachian Trail Conference moved into the village, she volunteered in their offices. Both these experiences are reflected in the two books she wrote in the 1980s, which are available from the PATC and Conference libraries. ☐

—Pat Fankhauser

Donations

PATC wishes to thank the following members and supporters who have recently given donations to the Club. 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.

Names listed with (**) are donations made in memory of PATC member and hiking companion, Alice Deming Ruddiman, who died July 13, 2000.

CONTRIBUTOR (\$25 to \$99)

Harold and Claudia Alderman
Dennis M. Barry
William T. Eady
Coralie Farlee
Dr. and Mrs. Oliver Flint, Jr.**
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Potomac Appalachian

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Sam Moore

PRESIDENT'S CLUB (\$50,000 and above)

Clifford Firestone
Philip Stone
Bert and Elizabeth Vos

Life Memberships were purchased recently by Jim Lautenberger as of August 15, Mary Louise Hotovy as of September 9, Elizabeth P. Muhlbaum as of September 19, John F. (Fran) Keenan as of September 27, and Phillip S. Hughes as of September 27, 2000. Life Memberships can be purchased for \$500 (the spouse of a Life Member \$250), which is allocated to go into the Club's Endowment Fund. ☐

FORECAST

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 Mark Mitchell (mdtrail@yahoo.com), 301/461-7048 for information. Pennsylvania work trips are generally held on the AT on the first Saturday and on the Tuscarora on the third Saturday—contact Charlie Irvin, 301/447-2848 or Pete Brown (peter.brown4@worldnet.att.net) 410/343-1140. Pennsylvania AT work trips also include an optional Saturday night stay at the Gypsy Spring cabin. Dinner, breakfast, and camaraderie available. For information on upcoming hikes, contact Chris Firme (bncfirme@innet.net) 717/765-4833. For general chapter information contact chapter president Steve Koeppen (patcnorth@mail.com) 410/756-2916 or visit the North Chapter home page (www.patc.net/chapters/north).

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 Martha Clark (mclark@visallink.com) 540/665-2101.

Southern Shenandoah Valley Chapter

See Forecast (or our link from PATC website) for work trips and hiking events sponsored by the Southern Shenandoah Valley Chapter. Hikers from the DC area should allow about 3 hours to get to our region. INFO: in Harrisonburg, call Alvin 540/434-6244 or Lynn 540/234-6273; in Waynesboro, call Michael 540/943-8695; in Staunton, call Doris 540/885-4526.

West Virginia Chapter

Chapter meeting at Highacre on the first Wednesday of the month. See Forecast for upcoming activities. For information about the chapter or to receive the newsletter, contact Judy Smoot at 540/667-2036 or wvpatc@hotmail.com.

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: Steve Brickel 301/946-2520 or sbrickel@aol.com.

Mountaineering Section

We're a diverse group of local Washington, DC area climbers. Young and old, male and female, crag rat, sport climber, and alpinist, active and armchair types - we all enjoy climbing in its many varieties. We also share common interest in promoting safe climbing, conserving the outdoors, developing new climbers' skills, representing the Washington area climbing community, and having fun! We provide instruction for those wanting to learn the basics - we're not a school, but we can get you started. We go climbing, either locally or further afield, nearly every weekend. In the winter we organize trips to the Ice Festivals in the Adirondacks and the White Mountains for beginning and advanced ice climbers. For further information contact Greg Christopulos at greg.christopulos@do.treas.gov.

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 Sunday evening for the following seven days. The Forecast can also be found on PATC's web site at www.patc.net.

-  Hiking Trips
-  Backpacking Trips
-  Trail Work Trips
-  Cabin/Shelter Work Trips
-  Special Events
-  Meetings

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!

Meetings

Meetings

Meetings are held at PATC HQ, 118 Park Street, S.E., Vienna, VA unless otherwise noted.

Trail Patrol - First Tuesday

7:30 p.m. Trail Patrol volunteers are PATC's goodwill 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: Kumait Jawdat 202/328-8137 or see PATC's website (www.patc.net/volunteer/trailpatrol).

New Members (PATC) - First Wednesday

7:30 p.m. Curious about the Club? Want to learn more? The best way is to attend a new Members meeting (but you don't have to be new to qualify). Attend the meeting and find the mysteries of PATC revealed in full. Refreshments will be served. Directions to PATC: Take Rt. 23 into Vienna, Va. and turn east on Park St. (Rt.675) to 118 Park St. on your left. INFO: Terry Cummings (TCIVP@mindspring.com) 410/489-4594

Shenandoah Mountain Rescue Group

(New Members meeting) - Second Monday 7:30 p.m. New members meeting. INFO: SMRG Operations 703/255-5034, then press #5.

PATC Council - Second Tuesday

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. INFO: Wilson Riley (wiley@aol.com) 703/242-0693 x11.

Mountaineering Section - Second Wednesday

8:00 p.m. Second Wednesday of every month. INFO: Greg Christopulos (greg.christopulos@do.treas.gov) or see PATC's website (www.patc.net/chapters/mtn Sect).

The Futures Group — Third Tuesday

7:00 p.m. Meets to research, develop, and recommend to membership changes to PATC organization, constitution, and bylaws in order to meet challenges of the new century. PATC members welcomed. INFO: Gerhard Salinger (evger@erols.com) or Wait Smith (wsmith@visallink.com), Co-Chairs.

Shenandoah Mountain Rescue Group

(Business meeting) - Last Tuesday

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

November

1 (Wednesday)

DEADLINE - December 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 jns-bianca@home.com. Allow one week for postal service delivery.

1 (Wednesday)

MEETING - New Members (PATC), 7:30 p.m.

1 (Wednesday)

**HIKE - Easy Hikers
National Zoo, DC**

Quite a short hike — probably around 4 miles round trip. Meet 10:15 a.m. in the Pierce Mill parking lot on Beach Drive. Bring lunch and water. Directions: Connecticut Ave., turn on Tilden towards Rock Creek Park. INFO: Betty G. Sanders 202/686-1022.

4 (Saturday)

**TRAIL WORK TRIP - Maryland Metrolites
C&O Canal Park, MD**

Join the Maryland Metrolites for a work trip in C&O Canal Park, Montgomery County. We meet at 9:00 a.m. at the Great Falls Parking lot. Bring lunch, gloves, water, and high spirits. INFO: Liles Creighton 410/573-0067.

4 (Saturday)

**TRAIL WORKTRIP - North District Hoodlums
North District, Shenandoah National Park, VA**

Join us as we assist the overseers in repairing the treadway on the Appalachian Trail near Neighbor Mountain. Bring workgloves, lunch, water, a strong back, and a willing mind. Overnight at a nearby cabin. Dinner's on me!! INFO: John McCrea (mccrealj@aol.com) 610/352-9287.

4 (Saturday)

**TRAIL WORK TRIP - South Mountaineers
Appalachian Trail, MD**

With leaves freshly falling around us, we will work on the AT amongst beautiful color and cool crisp air. Join us for the fun and rewards of this work event. Bring water, lunch, gloves, and boots. INFO: Mark Mitchell (mdtrail@yahoo.com) 301/461-7048.

4 (Saturday)

**CLASS - Outdoor Leadership and Wilderness Risk Management (REI)
REI, Baileys Crossroads, VA**

10:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Much has been written about wilderness survival skills. Comparatively little attention has been given to avoiding wilderness survival situations. This class covers prevention, planning, preparation, safety management and risk assessment. The class is taught by Christopher Tate, Director, Wilderness Safety Council. The class fee is \$75, and includes the course, text and materials, and a copy of *Outdoor Leadership*, by John Graham. Registration/INFO: REI 703/379-9400.

4 (Saturday)

**CROSS-COUNTRY SKI FAIR - Ski Touring Section
Headquarters, Vienna, VA**

12:00-5:00 p.m. For novices and skiers at all skill levels from simply curious to firmly committed. Demonstrations, slide shows, gear to swap or buy, new equipment presentations, advice on cross-country skiing areas from West Virginia to New York and beyond. Interested in joining a Learn-to Ski trip, Telemark Clinic, Tug Hill Christmas, or any other of our 20 some weekend (or longer) trips this winter? This is your best opportunity to sign up! Snacks welcome. INFO: Dave Holton 202/364-7055.

Potomac Appalachian

4 - 5 (Saturday - Sunday)

**CLASS - Chainsaw Certification (ATC)
Scott Farm, Carlisle, PA**

Trail volunteers should be certified if they use a chainsaw in their maintenance activities. This two-day course will cover safety issues, chainsaw function and maintenance, proper use of equipment, and modern felling, limbing, and bucking techniques. INFO: John Wright (jwright@atconf.org) 717/258-5771.

4 - 5 (Saturday - Sunday)

**CABIN WORK TRIP - Tulip Tree Cabin
Shaver Hollow, VA**

Hopefully by this time the roof is completed and we will be installing windows and doors; that is, after we make the doors. As usual all work will be done the old fashioned way, with hand tools. There is insulation to install in the gable ends, and board on board to install in the gable ends on the inside of the cabin. If you want to learn how to use and care for all the old classic carpentry hand tools give me a call. INFO: Charlie Graf 410/757-6053.

4 - 5 (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.

4 - 5 (Saturday - Sunday)

**SHELTER WORK TRIP - Ed Garvey Shelter
Weverton Cliffs, MD**

The Ed Garvey shelter and the privy log structures are assembled at the AT site awaiting the installation of the roofs as well as building windows, doors, loft and sleeping platform floors, the fire ring, and, and, and, we will also put shovels and paintbrushes to good use. Completion is anticipated to be late November and we continue to need skilled and unskilled volunteers. At this time experienced carpentry folks are especially needed to share their skills and contribute to this unique, meaningful project. Additional information available via the internet at www.trailjournals.com/edgarveysshelter/ and <http://patc.net/garvey/>. INFO: Frank Turk (FrankTurk@aol.com) 301/249-8243(h) or 202/651-5847(w) or Jim Skinner (Jskinner@erols.com) 301/588-8607.

5 (Sunday)

**HIKE - Family Hike
Prince William Forest Park, VA**

Join us for a kid-friendly afternoon hike. Babies and toddlers in backpacks on up — all ages welcome. We will hike 5-6 miles along the South Fork of the Quantico Creek. INFO: Lauren Lang (LevansAT94@aol.com) 703/631-9278.

6 (Monday)

**HIKE - Family Hike
Theodore Roosevelt Island, VA**

Stroller friendly, 2 mile, toddler paced hike. Great wide, long boardwalk for the kids to walk along part of the way, wide gravel path the rest of the way. INFO: Lauren Lang (LevansAT94@aol.com) 703/631-9278.

7 (Tuesday)

MEETING - Trail Patrol, 7:30 p.m.

7 (Tuesday)

**CLASS - Geology of Maryland's Catoctin Mountains (REI)
REI, College Park, MD**

7:30 p.m. Although not grand and imposing, Maryland's Catoctin Mountains have some of the steepest, rockiest most beautiful trails anywhere. Join REI's resident Earth scientist, Ed Neville, as he details the underlying rock that creates this beautiful rocky plateau cut by deep, cool hollows and rushing streams. Ed's slides will also show some great trails to hike this fall, and geologic features and overlooks we'll see on our geology hike on Saturday, November 11. INFO: REI 301/982-9681.

8 (Wednesday)

**CLASS - Geology of Maryland's Catoctin Mountains (REI)
REI, Baileys Crossroads, VA**

Same as 11/7 except at Baileys Crossroads. INFO: REI 703/379-9400.

8 (Wednesday)

MEETING - Mountaineering Section, 8:00 p.m.

8 (Wednesday)

**HIKE - Easy Hikers
Cabin John Regional Park, MD**

We will hike about 5 miles in this park west of 1270, from Locust Grove Nature Center going to Tuckerman Lane. Bring lunch and water. Meet at 10:15 a.m. Directions: I-270 to Democracy Blvd. West. Continue for about 1.5 miles to just before the intersection of Seven Locks Road. CJRP is on the north side of Democracy; parking lot is at the indoor tennis court building. PATC book *Hikes in the Washington Region, Part A*. INFO: Carol Niedzialek 301/949-9729.

10 - 12 (Friday - Sunday)

BACKPACKING TRIP - Backpacking 202 course — Call for location

The Trail Patrol Backpacking 202 course concludes with a three-day outing on Veteran's Day weekend in which students will have the opportunity to implement their newly learned skills. INFO: Larry Marcoux 703/968-4771.

10 - 12 (Friday - Sunday)

**BACKPACKING TRIP - Veterans Day Weekend
Mount Rogers, VA**

Two nights of backpacking over a 19-mile circuit in this scenic area on the Appalachian Trail in southern Virginia. Leaving Friday morning, returning on Sunday. Group limit ten. INFO: Dave Wilcox (davewilcox@worldnet.att.net) 703/212-0991.

11 (Saturday)

**HIKE - Catoctin Mountain Geology Hike (REI)
Catoctin Mountain, MD**

8:30 a.m. Join us as we hike through the last of the fall colors to some grand viewpoints and geologic features detailed in the Catoctin Geology programs on November 7 and 8. Meeting place, time and directions supplied at the in-store programs. Don't miss this great chance to explore YOUR outdoors! INFO: REI 301/982-9681 or 703/379-9400.

11 - 12 (Saturday - Sunday)

**SHELTER WORK TRIP - Ed Garvey Shelter
Weverton Cliffs, MD**

Please see 11/4-5 for details. INFO: Frank Turk (FrankTurk@aol.com) 301/249-8243(h) or 202/651-5847(w) or Jim Skinner (Jskinner@erols.com) 301/588-8607.

FORECAST

11 - 12 (Saturday - Sunday)

TRAIL WORK TRIP - Cadillac Crew Cabin John Trail, MD, near C&O Canal

It's getting late in the season but we're still going to help out PATC employee Pat Fankhauser with her trail! Bring a lunch and water. Community dinner on Saturday night. Overnight location at nearby Rockwood Manor Park. INFO: Fran Keenan (outdoorsnow@cox.rr.com) 703/938-3973 or Jon Rindt (jkrindt@erols.com) 540/635-6351.

11 - 12 (Saturday - Sunday)

CABIN WORK TRIP - Blackburn Trail Center Round Hill, VA

Pay attention everybody. We are down to our last two trips of the year and we don't see your name on our list of volunteers!! So, don't miss out, call us now and sign up for a day or a weekend. We have trim work to finish inside, a new pump room to build in the basement, wood to collect and stack, and leaves to rake out of the ditches along the road. INFO: Chris Brunton 703/560-8070 or Bruce Clendaniel 410/820-7550.

13 (Monday)

MEETING - New members (Shenandoah Mountain Rescue Group), 7:30 p.m.

15 (Wednesday)

SPECIAL EVENT - PATC Annual Meeting Elks Lodge, Fairfax, VA

6:30 to 10:00 p.m. Come, visit, vote, and enjoy special guest Steve Elkinton from the National Park Service. There will be food, drink, door prizes and the PATC video. Children are welcome. See reservation form page 7 for details. INFO: Pat Fankhauser 703/242-0693, Ext. 17.

15 (Wednesday)

HIKE - Easy Hikers Crescent Trail, Bethesda4a, MD

A hike of about 6 easy miles, taking the Capital Crescent Trail from the Bethesda Pool to the Dalecarlia Reservoir and returning via the Little Falls Trail to downtown Bethesda for optional lunch at Thymes Square. Meet at 10:15 a.m. at the Bethesda Pool parking lot on Little Falls Parkway between Arlington and Hillandale Roads. INFO: Renee Schick (RS530@AOL.COM) 301/493-9525.

17 (Friday)

Dinner MEETING - Northern Shenandoah Valley Chapter

Dean's Steak House, Front Royal, VA

6:30 p.m. Annual meeting of the NSVC. We will have a review of the past year, and we'll elect officers for the year 2001. Gerry Boyd and Mary Powell will show slides from their nature tour of Newfoundland and Labrador. Reservations (by 11/14 please). INFO: Martha Clark (mclark@visuallink.com) 540/665-2101.

18 (Saturday)

HIKE - Mason-Dixon Trail Series # 10 Newark, DE

A moderately paced 16-mile hike from Newark north to White Clay Creek, PA. A car shuttle is required. Mason-Dixon trail map 9. INFO: Jack Thorsen 703/339-6716 or William Needham 410/884-9127.

18 (Saturday)

HIKE - GWNF VA/WV border

A 9.2-mile, moderately paced out and back hike traversing the Tibett Knob and Mill Mountain Trails along Great North Mountain. Panoramic views from Tibett Knobb and Big Schloss. Elevation change of about 2000 feet. Meet at Vienna Metro at 7:30 a.m. INFO: Todd Birkenruth 703/318-7735.

18 (Saturday)

HIKE - Western Maryland C&O Canal, MD

Hike the Four Locks/Big Pool/Fort Frederick hikes in Jean Golightly's book *Hikes in Western Maryland*. I'm fact-checking the book for PATC and need some help shuffling this section. This is one of the most interesting and scenic sections of the canal, and less visited by hikers. INFO: Ralph Heimlich (heimlich@erols.com) 301/498-0918.

18 - 19 (Saturday - Sunday)

SHELTER WORK TRIP - Ed Garvey Shelter Weverton Cliffs, MD

Please see 11/4-5 for details. INFO: Frank Turk (FrankTurk@aol.com) 301/249-8243(h) or 202/651-5847(w) or Jim Skinner (Jskinner@erols.com) 301/588-8607.

18 - 19 (Saturday - Sunday)

CABIN WORK TRIP - Tulip Tree Cabin Shaver Hollow, VA

The cool weather is conducive to working hard at a labor of love, such as working on a beautiful primitive cabin in the woods. Who knows what we will be doing, but whatever it is will be interesting and challenging. With the cool weather the conditions are right for a roaring campfire in the evening. With luck someone will show up with a musical instrument. INFO: Charlie Graf 410/757-6053.

18 - 19 (Saturday-Sunday)

TRAIL WORK TRIP - North Chapter Tuscarora Trail, PA

We will work in and around Cowans Gap State Park and will be staying overnight on Friday and Saturday at a cabin in the park. Reservations are required. INFO: Charlie Irvin 301/447-2848.

18 - 19 (Saturday - Sunday)

TRAIL WORK TRIP - Joint Extravaganza Shenandoah National Park, VA

November is the month for the Second Annual Blue & White / North District Hoodlums Joint Extravaganza. The Crews will cohabit in the newly renovated Range View Cabin, and swing picks simultaneously on an AT project in the Park. Join the Crews as we sample beverages from many lands, swap tall tales, and compete in the Annual North District / Central District Snoring Showdown. INFO: Kerry Snow (KerrySnow@prodigy.net) 301/570-0596 or George Walters (gjwalters@erols.com) 410/426-2724.

18 - 19 (Saturday - Sunday)

TRAIL WORK TRIP Central District, Shenandoah National Park, VA

Tired of the emotional drain caused by your eco-tour? Somewhat soured on that digital cell phone that gives the world (i.e. boss, creditors, marketers, etc.) access to you 24/7 over a variety of media? Don't wanna see one more brake light, or make one more decision? Then come on out for a weekend in Shenandoah National Park. Make new friends, as you meet our regulars: Mr. Pulaski, Ms. McLeod, and others. Listen to stories by Dave, a former FBI Agent. Sit quietly on the porch of a rustic cabin, sipping whatever you've put in that cup, and just watching the sky. BYOB, we supply the food. INFO: Don White (whitedh@hotmail.com) 804/217-9700 x318 (w).

19 (Sunday)

TRAIL WORK TRIP - South Mountaineers Appalachian Trail, MD

In order to miss hunting season, the South Mountaineers move the last two events of the year to Sundays. Join us for a fun journey into the woods. Bring lunch, water, gloves, and boots. INFO: Mark Mitchell (matrail@yahoo.com) 301/461-7048.

19 (Sunday)

HIKE - Natural History Geology Hike Central District, Shenandoah National Park, VA

Tim Rose, Smithsonian geologist and longtime PATC member, leads a six-mile hike with Bob Pickett. This trip will include the swamps of Big Meadows, the Rose River loop and the Dark Hollow trail. In addition to a visit to the Blue Ridge Copper Company mining site, this hike includes waterfalls, cultural history (both mountain men and Indian), unique botany, and prime bear habitat. Reservations/INFO: Bob Pickett 301/681-1511.

20 (Monday)

HIKE - Family Hike Prince William Forest Park, VA

Put your baby or toddler in a front or back carrier, and join us for a beautiful 5-mile hike up to a waterfall. All ages welcome. INFO: Lauren Lang (LevansAT94@aol.com) 703/631-9278.

21 (Tuesday)

MEETING - The Futures Group, 7:00 p.m.

22 (Wednesday)

HIKE - Easy Hikers C&O Canal, MD

Hike from Swains Lock to Pennyfield and return to Swains, a distance of approximately six miles. Meet at 10:00 a.m. Bring lunch and water. Directions: From River Road (MD 190) Exit 39 off Capital Beltway, go 2 miles past Potomac, Md., then left 0.3 miles on Swains Lock Rd. INFO: Mary-Margaret McGrail 703/751-8126.

25 (Saturday)

HIKE - WV Chapter North District, Shenandoah National Park, VA

Ascend the Jeremy's Run waterfall route/trail and descend the heights of Knob Mountain, glimpsing views of the Shenandoah River Valley along the way. Now that the leaves have fallen and the turkey has stuffed you, why not come out for this 11.5-mile circuit hike in Shenandoah NP to walk off a pound or two? This trail will involve several stream crossings so plan on bringing dry socks. INFO: Susan Bly (sbly@shepherd.edu) 304/258-3319 7:00-9:00 M-F.

27 (Monday)

HIKE - Family Hike Great Falls, MD

4 miles along the Billy Goat Trail and the C & O Canal Towpath. Bundle up your baby or toddler, and come get some exercise and fresh air! Toddlers can walk at the beginning or end of the hike along the towpath. Designed for the under 5 crowd, but all ages welcome. INFO: Lauren Lang (LevansAT94@aol.com) 703/631-9278.

28 (Tuesday)

MEETING - Shenandoah Mountain Rescue Group (Business meeting), 7:30 p.m.

28 (Tuesday)

CLASS - LD Backpacking Skills/Mid-Atlantic Destinations (REI)

REI, College Park, MD

7:30 p.m. We constantly hear from backpackers lamenting the lack of longer, multi-day trips in our region, especially long circuits. There is no need to lament. Those long circuits and great trips are out there! REI's Mark Nelson and Ed Neville will detail some outstanding multi-day backpacking circuits in the Mid-Atlantic region, and skills and gear that can make those trips more fun. INFO: REI 301/982-9681.

FORECAST

29 (Wednesday)

CLASS - LD Backpacking Skills/Mid-Atlantic Destinations (REI)

REI, Baileys Crossroads, VA

Same as 11/28 except at Baileys Crossroads. INFO: REI 703/379-9400.

29 (Wednesday)

HIKE - Easy Hikers

Scotts Run Nature Preserve, Langley, VA

About 4.5 miles. Meet at 10:15 a.m. From I-495 beltway, Exit 13, go W on Va. 193 (Georgetown Pike) 0.5 miles to Swinks Mill Rd. and turn right into parking lot. Rain or shine. Reservation not needed. Bring lunch and water. Sorry, no pets. INFO: Henri Comeau (henricomeau@aol.com) 703/451-7965.

December

1 (Friday)

DEADLINE - January 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 jns-bianca@home.com. Allow one week for postal service delivery.

2 - 3 (Saturday - Sunday)

CABIN WORK TRIP - Tulip Tree Cabin Shaver Hollow, VA

Would you believe that we are still working on the roof? Well it's a distinct possibility! Hopefully by now we have all the double-cripped standing seam term installed and are applying the primer and final coat of paint. It has been a challenge but one that we have met, albeit slowly. We may be installing doors and windows too now that the roof is on, and thinking can go in now too. There are a thousand tiny details left to finish the cabin, none of which are insignificant, and all challenging and interesting. Come out and get the opportunity to work on, and sleep in this beautiful cabin before it goes into the rental system. INFO: Charlie Graf 410/757-6053.

2 - 3 (Saturday - Sunday)

CLASS - Wilderness First Aid (WSC) Annandale, VA

A program of the Wilderness Safety Council, this eighteen-hour class includes classroom study, hands-on practice, and results in a two-year certification. The cost is \$140. Registration is limited to 25 people. More information and registration at: <http://wfa.net>. INFO: Christopher Tate 703/836-8905.

3 (Sunday)

TRAIL WORKTRIP - South Mountaineers

Appalachian Trail, MD

This is South Mountaineers' 19th and final event of the year. Thanks to all who came out and contributed in 2000. As usual, we meet in Frederick County. Bring water, lunch, gloves, and boots. INFO: Mark Mitchell (mdtrail@yahoo.com) 301/461-7048.

5 (Tuesday)

CLASS - Backpacking Maine (REI)

REI, College Park, MD

7:30 p.m. The name brings visions of a stern and rock-bound coast with small, neat fishing villages in the coves, or long canoe trips on the inland rivers and lakes. But there is great backpacking too. From Baxter State Park to Grafton Notch and Acadia, Maine has trails and unique natural areas protected for outdoor recreation. REI's Ed Neville will discuss some great destinations, accompanied by his excellent photography. INFO: REI 301/982-9681.

Potomac Appalachian

5 (Tuesday)

MEETING - Trail Patrol, 7:30 p.m.

6 (Wednesday)

CLASS - Backpacking Maine (REI)

REI, Baileys Crossroads, VA

Same as 12/5 except at Baileys Crossroads. INFO: REI 703/379-9400.

6 (Wednesday)

MEETING - New Members (PATC), 7:30 p.m.

9 (Saturday)

HIKE - Northern Shenandoah Valley Chapter North District, Shenandoah National Park, VA

Overall Run Falls Loop, SNP. Join the NSVC on a moderately difficult hike to the highest waterfall in the park. We will begin by hiking up the Tuscarora/Overall Run Trail, gaining approximately 1150 feet in elevation, but with plenty of time to stop and admire Overall Run and the Falls. We will then return via the Beecher Ridge Trail. This hike of 8 or 9 miles, with the leaves off the trees, should afford some interesting views. INFO: Martha Clark (mclark@visuallink.com) 540/665-2101.

9 (Saturday)

HIKE - Natural History Hike

North District, Shenandoah National Park, VA

Steve Bair, SNP Resource Specialist, is joined by Bob Pickett on another one of their interesting hikes through the Park. This year, they travel about six miles along the Hull School and Thornton River Hollow trails. This area is rich in cultural history and Steve has much information about the last inhabitants of this area that he has obtained from the Park resources. Join them for a very informative hike. Reservations/INFO: Bob Pickett 301/681-1511.

9 - 10 (Saturday - Sunday)

Annual Holiday Party - Cadillac Crew Highacre, Harpers Ferry, WV

If you've been out on at least one work trip with the Cadillac Crew this year, please join us at Highacre in Harper's Ferry to help us celebrate the holidays! We'll stroll through the streets of the town, hike the trails and try not to spend too much money in the bookstore. Saturday, we'll buy our own lunches in town and Saturday night we'll have a big community dinner. Please call by 12/4 to let us know if you're participating! INFO: Fran Keenan (outdoorsnow@cox.rr.com) 703/938-3973 or Jon Rindt (jkrindt@erols.com) 540/635-6351.

11 (Monday)

MEETING - New members (Shenandoah Mountain Rescue Group), 7:30 p.m.

11 (Monday)

HIKE - Family Hike

Lake Accotink, VA

Get away from the mall and into the woods! This 5 mile hike starts in Wakefield Park, follows Accotink Creek, then goes around Lake Accotink. It's jogger stroller passable. Designed for the under-5 crowd, but all ages welcome. INFO: Lauren Lang (levansAT94@aol.com) 703/631-9278.

12 (Tuesday)

CLASS - Bear Awareness (REI)

REI, College Park, MD

7:30 p.m. Most of us will never see a bear in the wild, but knowing what to do if we do come upon a bear can't hurt. REI's Veronica Marjerison, who has backpacked extensively from Alaska to Shenandoah Park, will discuss basic bear biology, incident prevention and incident management. Veronica will detail bear canister use, how to recognize potentially dangerous situations before they develop, and where to get solid bear information for your destination, so that you feel confident in evaluating your level of risk. INFO: REI 301-982-9681.

12 (Tuesday)

MEETING - PATC Council, 7:00 p.m. sharp.

13 (Wednesday)

CLASS - Bear Awareness (REI)

REI, Baileys Crossroads, VA

Same as 12/12 except at Baileys Crossroads. INFO: REI 703/379-9400.

13 (Wednesday)

MEETING - Mountaineering Section, 8:00 p.m.

13 (Wednesday)

HIKE - Easy Hikers

Great Falls, VA

Difficult Run loop. A scenic 4-5 miles over variable terrain. Meet at Great Falls Visitor Center at 10:15 a.m. Bring lunch and water. We go rain or shine and a reservation is not needed. Sorry, no pets. I-495 beltway exit 13, go W. on Va. 193 (Georgetown Pike) for 4 miles, turn right at Old Dominion Road. INFO: Henri Comeau (henricomeau@aol.com) 703/451-7965.

16 (Saturday)

HIKE - Mason-Dixon Trail Series # 11

Chadds Ford, PA

This moderately paced 16-mile hike from White Clay Creek, PA to Chadds Ford completes the Mason-Dixon Trail Series. Mason-Dixon trail maps 9 and 10. INFO: Jack Thorsen 703/339-6716 or William Needham 410/884-9127.

16 - 17 (Saturday - Sunday)

CABIN WORK TRIP - Tulip Tree Cabin

Shaver Hollow, VA

Can you say extension jamb? If so, and you know what it means, you could be just the person we are looking for. There is a very good possibility that we will be installing windows in the cabin and building door jambs and doors. Maybe you don't know what an extension jamb is, but want to learn. No interviews; no entry exams; all applicants accepted. Equal opportunity employer. INFO: Charlie Graf 410/757-6053.

16 - 17 (Saturday - Sunday)

Cabin Christmas

Michener Cabin, PA

Escape the mobs, malls, and parking lots and spend a cozy Yuletide weekend in the country. We'll dayhike, cross-country ski (if there is snow), and share the camaraderie of the season with a group meal and holiday spirit(s). Depart Friday evening. INFO: John Koutze or Kathy McDermott 703/846-9207.

17 (Sunday)

TRAIL WORK TRIP - Stonewall Brigade

Shenandoah County, VA

Great North Mountain on the VA/WV state line. Join the Stonewall Brigade at Wolf Gap Recreation Area at 9:00 a.m. to work on the Tibbet Knob Trail and other trails on the mountain near Big Schloss. This popular area offers fine panoramic views of Trout Run Valley from the mountain crest. We will remove or break up rocks in the tread, build or clean and repair water bars, and remove brush and weeds. RSVP/INFO: Hop Long (mgrngmd@hotmail.com) 301/942-6177.

19 (Tuesday)

MEETING - The Futures Group, 7:00 p.m.

26 (Tuesday)

MEETING - Shenandoah Mountain Rescue Group (Business meeting), 7:30 p.m.

NOTICES

NEW NOTICES

HELP PATC CELEBRATE ITS 75TH ANNIVERSARY IN 2002. Vice President Mickey McDermott is in charge of planning. INFO: mcdermottj,aimd@gao.gov

FOUND. A clip-on watch, Levi's brand, wind-up, compass framed (but no compass), on Rocky Mountain-Brown Mountain Trail. Found August 12. If you're looking for it, contact Tim 540/289-6293 (h) or 540/298-1212 x4465 (w) or by e-mail at Hupp_Tim@msn.com

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

HIKERS: Have you noticed locations along a trail that have good scenic views? Do you want this "view" location labeled on PATC hiking maps so future hikers can better plan their trips? It is best that the viewpoint is noticeable from the trail and is a year-round clearing. The process is simple: Make an enlarge photocopy of the appropriate section of the PATC map, place a "dot" at the correct location with an arrow pointing in the general direction of the view, and mail the suggestion to PATC, Attn: Maps.

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, wriley1226@aol.com or 703/242-0693, ext.11.

THE SALES OFFICE is looking for volunteers interested in working as little or as long as you can manage it—Monday through Friday between 9 and 5 p.m. If interested, please con-

tact the Sales Coordinator, Maureen Estes, by either calling headquarters at 703/242-0693, ext. 19 or by e-mail at patcsales@erols.com.

PATC OVERSEERS get big discounts from the following merchants who support our volunteer programs: Blue Ridge Mountain Sports (Charlottesville, Tidewater)—20%, Hudson Trail Outfitters (Metro DC)—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: SMRG Operations 703/255-5034, then press #5.

HIKING VACATIONS

ELEPHANTS, LIONS, WILD DOGS. The mobile camping safari in 2001 to Okovango Delta, Moremi, and Chobe Reserves, Victoria Falls, class reservations October 15. Projected costs are

\$4,500 for a 12-day safari plus \$1,500 round-trip air. INFO: Paula Strain, 301/340-6895.

WANTED/FOR SALE /FOR RENT

ATTENTION CONSERVATION BUYERS. If you are interested in teaming up with like-minded individuals to purchase property along the AT, (1/2 mile from the trail) then look no further. There are 200+ acres of beautiful pasture and forested property in Bland, Virginia, at the base of Big Walker Mountain. If you would like to discuss this further, please call Melody Blaney, or Patti Landovek at Bears Den Hostel 540/554-8708, or e-mail us at bearden@crosslink.net.

MAGAZINES FOR SALE. 20 years of PATC Newsletter, Virginia Wildlife, Natural History, Sierra Amicus, Audubon, and many others. Bargain-priced or free. INFO: Don Walsh 703/548-5742.

FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

Attention Federal Employees. PATC is participating in the Combined Federal Campaign of the National Capital Area. Please consider a payroll donation to PATC. Our 2000 Designation Number is 7956. Thank you for your support.

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. Notices will be run for 3 months unless we are otherwise advised.



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: _____

Trailhead

September saw the continuation of the summer rains. The positive—reduced risk of forest fires. The negative—check dams and waterbars full of debris and weeds. The wet weather promises a very colorful Fall, but by November many of the leaves will have fallen. The positive—opening of the views blocked by foliage all summer. The negative—drains clogged by leaves. This brings up an interesting observation by those who have spent many hours removing leaf litter from drains, especially long lateral drains. To wit, deep, narrow drains tend to trap leaves while wide, shallow drains allow the wind to help remove the buildup of leaves. Check it out.

Moving South

Pete Gatje, our retiring Supervisor of Trails, has decided to move slightly south of PATC country to Wintergreen, Va. He plans to stay active as an overseer in the Central and/or South Districts of the SNP. Thanks Pete for the four great years of PATC Trails leadership.

The candidate to relieve Pete will be Kerry Snow, current District Manager for SNP Central District AT. Congratulations on your nomination Kerry. Along with Kerry a number of Trails stalwarts have been nominated to serve on PATC's Executive Committee. These include Bernie Stalman—VP of Operations, Liles Creighton—Membership Secretary, and Jon Rindt—General Secretary. Join us at PATC's Annual Meeting (see Forecast for details) to cast your votes.

Egyptian Device?

September found the Blue and White Crew starting a new AT rehab project near Bootens Gap. Displaying the meteorological hubris that the Crew is known for, predictions of weekend rain were ignored, and the weather cooperated beautifully. The project for the weekend was a sidehill tune-up for a section of trail that had "slipped" downhill. The Crew cut new sidehill, restored the tread and installed erosion control devices. Blue and White Pharaoh Dan Dueweke designed an Egyptian-style rolling device to move heavy rocks down the restored trail (to install as steps at a short turnpike). While the Crew lost several members under the huge rolling timbers and pyramid-sized stones, all agreed that the final result was worth the bloodshed. The Crew retired to the Pinnacles Research Station (miraculous-

ly opened by B&W locksmiths) for a spaghetti feast and fond remembrances of crew members now pressed into the AT tread.

A Reminder

Rick Canter, District Manager for AT in Maryland, reports that an exuberant overseer mistook his leg for a branch while clearing trailside brush. It required some stitches to repair the damage. Those Corona hand-saws are sharp—be careful out there.

Tales from the North Woods

Should you always believe your weatherman? The weather for the last week of August in SNP was going to be not too warm, sunny, and maybe one mid-week thundershower. The SNP North District Summer Crew project for the first week was two-fold: finish the AT relocation on the south side of Compton Peak and keep the flow of water from the Thompson Hollow Trail during periods of rain. Veterans Dave Fellers, Bill Wallace, Gale Gibson, Stan Turk, Bernie Stalman, and SNP's North District's Don Harvey were joined by Dale Weltner, who maintains a section of the AT close to Ashby's Gap, and Ralph Garboushian, a newcomer to trail maintenance. This experienced crew exuded lots of energy even before the first meal at Skyland Lodge on Sunday evening.

Day One reveille had everyone moving by 6 AM ready to go. Memories were revisited by one crewmember that misplaced his lunch the previous year, but we did not allow him to put it next to his pillow Sunday night. We met Don Harvey at 7:30 but were put on a picture taking hold so a Park photographer could capture our enthusiasm for a Park-PATC volunteer photo display at the Big Meadows Byrd Visitor Center. Not sure after a careful review that our crew photo will win a prize for most photogenic. In the interim Don filled us in on his two weeks of fire fighting duties north of Las Vegas just prior to our crew week. After picture taking we were off to the Compton Peak relocation. The remainder of Day One was spent opening the adjacent ends to the existing trail, knocking down some high spots to ensure good off-slope drainage, building one water bar, and closing off the now "old trail section" with brush and check dams. This culminates an effort that began in March of this year undertaken by George Walter's Hoodlums.

On the return to Pinnacles we detoured to allow Stan Turk to show us the latest efforts on Tulip Tree Cabin. The roof is going on and the end is in sight—in another year and a half, hopefully less.

On Day Two after an hour's drive we arrived at the Thompson Hollow Trail Trailhead on the Park's west boundary. Among the challenges of lotsa bugs, poison ivy, and a few infrequent showers, we started to improve the drainage and add checkdams in the badly eroded lower sections of the trail. This continued through day three and we were making great progress. We were spurred on by the venerable Jon Rindt who joined us to see if a PATC North District crew could measure up to the high standards of his Cadillac Crew. By the end of the week we envisioned that frequent hikers to the Thompson Hollow Trail would never recognize our revitalized tread.

Day Four turned out to be the weatherman's surprise. After a long ride in relentless rain, we picked up our tools and returned to Piney River Ranger Station for a long lunch. We decided that the rain was not going to stop. And it did not for two days. So on Thursday we bid a fond farewell to the Shenandoah, filled with good memories of great dinners at Skyland, three days of fun and friendship building trail, and a thought or two of returning next year to do it all over again.

Week Two began Monday evening with the kickoff dinner in Skyland Lodge with Bernie and his all-female crew. Ranger Shawn Green was looking forward to a successful venture. Come Tuesday morning we were charged up and ready to go, but once again we had to smile for the camera. This was a very veteran crew. Mary Ann Lepore and Martha Spohn were three timers; Carmelita Williams, second timer and trail overseer, was joined by her daughter Rebecca; Judy Langenhorst has been a trail maintainer of two Park trails; and Sandi Slonaker joined us while on a sabbatical as a middle school physical education teacher. For three days we returned to the lower Thornton River Trail to continue tread rebuilding from where we left off with last year's crew. The four stream crossings and tread rebuilding from last year were very much intact. For two days we continued to build up one side of the trail with rocks and provide a lateral ditch on the other for both water coming down the trail profile as well as side hill drainage. On our third day we rebuilt waterbars and cleaned ditches to keep the tread on

Trailhead

that part of the trail intact. On Day Four, we took a break and removed blowdowns, weeds, and briars on the section of Piney Ridge Trail from the Range View Cabin Road to Fork Mountain Trail. We finished by cross cut sawing several blowdowns on Fork Mountain Trail. Both Don and Bernie were both impressed and pleased with our second week's success and look forward to the ladies all returning next year.

Looking back over two weeks of trail work, the first week challenged by the rain, the second week filled with ideal weather, it was an opportunity to once again have camaraderie with old friends and make an enjoyable contribution to those hikers of the Park's North District.

Tree Gods

Rick Rhoades thought you might appreciate the comment portion from a recent work trip report from overseer George Schubert. "... At the 1,651 ft. elevation level on Doll Ridge, encountered a most disgusting sight. Right on top of some masterful rockwork with large boulders that the Cadillac Crew had installed in late June, found two large trees crossing the trail at a switchback, inflicting quadruple damages to said trail. Suspected motive is jealousy by the tree gods. After 1.5 hours of tense yet thoughtful negotiations, a most aesthetic resolution was reached. Further examination farther up found no reoccurrence."

North District Workshop

The 13th Annual North District Trails Workshop was held on September 9th and 10th at Mathews Arm Campground in SNP and judging by the smiling faces, dirty work clothes, and hearty appetites of all the folks attending, the event was a great success by every measure! Approximately 20 Club members, including new overseer Steve Willeumeir who commuted from Bloomfield, Michigan for a record 3rd consecutive weekend, and three SNP trails professionals attended the event and divided up into three trail crews. Weekend projects included the construction of rock steps near the Big Falls of Overall Run, tread rehab and drainage device construction on the Thompson Hollow Trail, and basic maintenance and waterbar construction on the Tuscarora-Overall Run Trail. Much good trailwork was accomplished during the weekend and many thanks go out to SNP's Shawn Green, Don Harvey, and C.T.

Campbell for supporting this workshop and helping make it happen.

Workshop participants occupied a portion of the campground that was newly refurbished by the park and set aside for exclusive use by PATC. The new tent pads of wood chips, fireplaces and paths got put to good use. And once again, the Aulhouse family chuckwagon served up excellent fare for this annual event! C.T. and George Walters noted that, in 13 years, this event has always enjoyed both great weather and a perfect safety record—the trail gods must be pleased! On to the 14th Annual Workshop!

AT Relo Opened

During their September worktrip, the North District Hoodlums "officially" opened the AT relocation on the south side of Compton Peak in SNP. Actually, Bernie Stalman, Don Harvey and the Shenandoah Crew opened the relo a few weeks earlier. But the Hoodlums put in the finishing touches on this weekend, completed the rehab of the old section, and opened the new trail with a flagging cutting ceremony complete with champagne provided by Stephanie Bill. In addition, waterbars and checkdams were constructed and rebuilt immediately south of the new section of trail. The crew then retired to Indian Run Hut for their "Italian" feast. Many thanks are due to the "regulars": Bernie, Stephanie, John McCrea, Dick Dugan, Ray Galles, Maureen Harris, Tex Herbel, George Ivey, Jon and Katherine Rindt, Tom Ryan, John and Robin Shoemaker, Mike White, Bronna Zlochiver, and all the others who participated in this project.

The Well

During the opening of the Tuscarora relocation at Shockeys Knob in July, Dave Pierce, PATC Chair for Maps, kindly documented the change for the Tuscarora Trail Guide. The new trail has a side trail to one of the few springs on the knob but when Dave checked it, it was just a damp, muddy spot. The term intermittent wasn't that pleasing so the Cadillac Crew set out to remedy the situation.

An eight-foot diameter, six-foot deep hole was dug. The muddy task was challenging as the hole kept filling with ground water. The presence of water was reassuring but as one of the crew would dig, another had to keep bailing out the accumulated water. The hole was then lined with large rocks (an abundant resource at this location) until an opening of about two feet was left in the center. This opening quickly filled with water to the depth of over four feet where the excess water was channeled through a side drain in the rock lining. The crew was surprised that it only took a couple days for the muddy water to clear. A special thanks to crew members Phil Abruzzese, Kurt Fisher, and Steve Pebley who were undaunted by the mud and hard work. The photo shows Kurt Fisher and Phil Abruzzese filtering some drinking water from the freshly completed well.

Please send any interesting tale, technical advice, individual or group accomplishments, and trail maintenance questions to Trailhead, c/o Jon Rindt, 621 Skyline Forest Drive, Front Royal, VA 22630 or to jk_rindt@erols.com. □



Kurt Fisher and Phil Aburzzose filtering water from the well.

New Hiking Guides

In recent months, the PATC Publications Committee released new editions of two guides in the Club's catalog. The *Guide to Massanutten Mountain Hiking Trails* was edited by Wil Kohlbrenner. Expanded from 88 to 116 pages, the guide includes trails covered by PATC maps G and H. This edition includes more than 20 trails not covered in the previous edition, including six interpretative trails, two motorized trails and the 26-mile Massanutten Mountain West Trail. Still under construction by the Massarock Crew, the trail can be hiked end to end or used to create a variety of circuit hikes. In addition to the new trails, the *Massanutten Guide* introduces a revised descriptive system for grading the difficulty level of hikes and includes parking locations among the trail information in the heading for each trail description. The editor is the leader of

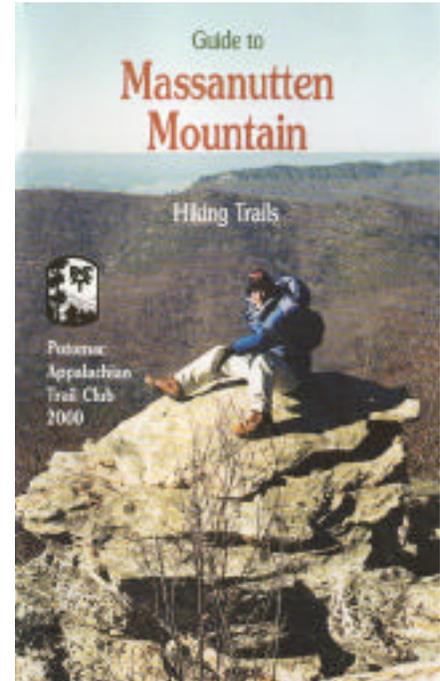
the Massanutten Crew and the final installment of his three-part series on trail construction appears in this issue of the *Potomac Appalachian*.

The sixth edition of *Circuit Hikes in Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania* was edited by its original author, Jean Golightly. As the title suggests, each of the 25 hikes included in this guide forms a complete circuit hike, making this guide a favorite companion of day-hikers. Trails range from 2.9 to 12.5 miles and cover five different areas—Northern Virginia, Massanutten Mountain, Great North Mountain Wolf Gap Area, Maryland, and Pennsylvania-Michauch State Forest. The latest edition includes extensive revisions of trail descriptions and 20 updated maps. The editor currently serves PATC as Assistant Chair of the Publications

Committee, after serving 16 years as the Publications Chair and earning a Lifetime Honorary Membership in the Club.

To purchase these items from the PATC store, check out the website or fill out the order form in the October *PA*. □

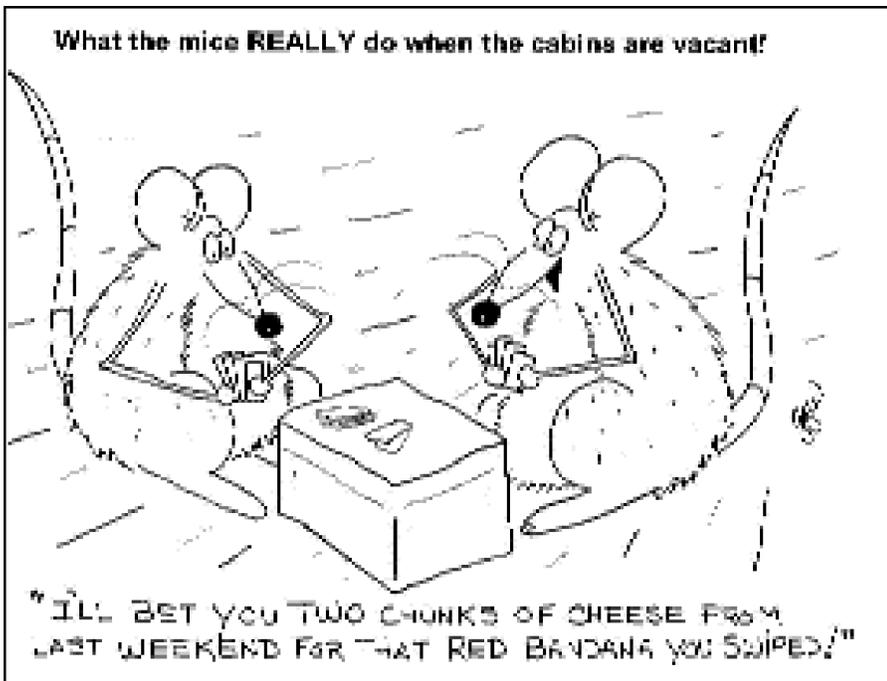
—Aaron Watkins, Publications Chair



Volunteers - Appointed October 8, 2000

Trail Overseers

- Craig & Marci Steidle AT - Loudoun Heights to the Power Line
- Holly Wheeler & Joe Gareri AT - Rte. 605 to Bolden Hollow
- Mary Ann Lepore Upper Piney Ridge Trail
- John Luck Tuscarora Trail - US 340 to SNP Boundary



**Attention Federal Employees!
Combined Federal Campaign # 7956**

POTOMAC APPALACHIAN

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TRAIL OVERSEERS WANTED

Trail Overseer Openings 10/08/2000. Contact the District Manager for the section that interests you.

ASHBY GAP/RTE. 638 AT & BB-MAP 8 (RTE. 50 TO RTE. 638)

CALL ED MCKNEW AT 540/622-6004
or E-mail: emcknew@aol.com

Trico Tower Trail

AT to Trico Tower (0.50 miles)

Manassas Gap Shelter Trail

AT to Manassas Gap Shelter (0.10 miles)

SNP NORTH AT-MAP 9

CALL JOHN MCCREA AT 610/352-9287
or E-mail: mcreajf@aol.com

Appalachian Trail

Overseer positions available. Call for details.

SNP CENTRAL BLUE-BLAZE (MAP #10)

CALL CHARLES HILLON AT 703/754-7388
or E-mail: hillon@erols.com

Mill Prong Trail

AT to Mill Prong Horse Trail (1.00 mile)

Laurel Prong

AT to Fork Mountain Trail (2.2 miles)

SNP CENTRAL BLUE-BLAZE (MAP #10)

CALL BERNIE STALMANN AT 301/725-8876
or E-mail: bstalman@aol.com

Leading Ride Trail

Skyline Drive to Park Boundary (1.30 miles)

SNP SOUTH BLUE-BLAZE (MAP #11)

CALL LOIS MANSFIELD AT 804/973-7184
or E-mail: lem@Virginia.edu

Rocky Mountain Run Trail

Big Run Portal Trail to Rocky Mt.-Brown Mt. Trail (2.7 miles)

Rockytop Trail [Co-overseer]

Big Run Portal Trail to Big Run Loop Trail (5.70 miles)

Schairer Trail Center Trail

Eaton Hollow Overlook to Schairer Trail Center (.46 mile)

Blackrock Hut Trail

AT to Blackrock Hut (.2 mile)

TUSCARORA SOUTH-MAP F, G, 9

CALL RICK RHOADES AT 703/239-0965

or E-mail: RTRhoades@aol.com

Tuscarora Trail

Mill Mountain Trail to White Rocks Trail (2.90 miles)

GREAT NORTH MOUNTAIN-MAP #F

CALL "HOP" LONG AT 301/942-6177

or E-mail: theFSLongs@erols.com or mgrnmd@hotmail.com

Gerhard Shelter Trail

Tuscarora Trail to Gerhard Shelter (0.10 miles)

MASSANUTTEN NORTH-MAP #G

CALL WIL KOHLBRENNER AT 540/477-2971

or E-mail: wmaxk@shentel.net

Massanutten Mt. North Trail

Scothorn Gap Trail to Waterfall Mt. Trail (2.0 miles)

Massanutten Mt. North Trail

Waterfall Mountain Trail to US 211 (1.8 miles)

MASSANUTTEN SOUTH-MAP #H

CALL BILL SCHMIDT AT 301/585-2477

or E-mail: weschmidt@aol.com

Massanutten Mt. South Trail

Pitt Spring to Morgan Run Trail (3.3 miles)

Fridley Gap Trail

VA 868 to Cub Run (2.60 miles)

NORTHERN VIRGINIA METRO-MAP D

CALL PETE GATJE AT 703/255-4705

or pjgatje@aol.com

Lee Drive Trail

Howison Hill to Landsdowne Valley Road (3.00 miles)

Lee Drive Trail

Landsdowne Valley Road to Prospect Hill (3.50 miles)

Mike Karpie's Photo Tips: Fun With Filters, Part II



Last month we mentioned the skylight filter and its protective qualities.

Eventually your skylight filter might become scratched or damaged and need to be replaced. It is recommended that you do this before more than ten percent of the filter's surface is damaged.

When you remove the old filter do not throw it away! You may now add it to your "special effects" filter collection. Try this: from your medicine cabinet select a jar of petroleum jelly (tooth paste may also be used) and smear the substance around the outer area of the old filter. This will give you a "dreamy" effect around the edges of your image while the center

remains clear. This is a great effect for use in portraiture, waterfalls, or close-ups of flowers.

Next Month: Fun With Filters, Part III

The archive of Photo Tips and sample photos can be found at: www.geocities.com/mkarpie/tips.html. □

—Mike Karpie



The Potomac Appalachian

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Vienna, VA 22180-4609

Telephone: 703/242-0315
Mon.-Thurs. 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Thurs. & Fri. 12:00 noon - 2:00 p.m.

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