



# The Potomac Appalachian

The Newsletter of the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club  
118 Park Street, S.E., Vienna, VA 22180-4609  
<http://www.patc.net>

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## The “ATC” Conference: A Name and Direction Change

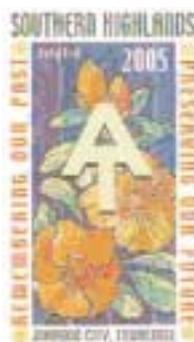
### The 35th meeting of the Appalachian Trail Conference

### And the unveiling of the Appalachian Trail Conservancy

*Remembering our Past, Preserving our Future*

Southern Highlands 2005  
July 1–8, 2005

East Tennessee State University  
Johnson City, Tennessee



The Appalachian Trail is one of this country’s premier long-distance hiking trails and is among the most extraordinary recreational icons of America. With all but nine miles of the trail corridor in public ownership, stewards of the AT are turning more focus to protecting the environment of the AT lands and the experiences they provide. To reflect the evolving needs for a full range of conservation work, our programs strive to educate others and ourselves about responsible use and management of the AT, preserving the trail’s natural and cultural treasures, and keeping the spirit of volunteerism strong and central for future generations.

The conference theme is *Remembering Our Past, Preserving Our Future*. ATC is building on its rich past of 80 years of trail protection and stewardship to enhance the ability of the organization to meet the growing challenges of preserving the unique Appalachian Trail experience amid the increasing complexity of the modern world. The “new look” of ATC will be the topic of the key presentation of the general meeting Saturday evening, and a new board of directors will be elected Monday. The week also will include entertainment from musical and comedic artists with a special Southern flair and excursions to the fun and scenic sights of the southern highlands of southwest Virginia, northeast Tennessee, and western North Carolina. Join us to make and renew

*See ATC, page 5*

## Trail Patrol Celebrates National Trails Day

Saturday, June 4, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

### Shenandoah National Park

Trail Patrol, in partnership with Shenandoah National Park, is sponsoring a day celebrating opportunities to experience our natural world. Join us for guided hikes, displays, and information on how you can improve your hiking skills while minimizing your impact on the environment. Events will occur throughout the day at Byrd Visitor Center and Dickey Ridge Visitor Center. The event is free and open to the public (normal park entrance fees apply).

#### Displays

Day hiking & backpacking techniques,  
Leave No Trace outdoor ethics,  
Trail maintenance

#### Hikes

Family hikes with children, Shorter hikes for all ages, Longer hikes for skilled hikers, Natural history hikes

For More Information:

visit [www.patc.net/activities/](http://www.patc.net/activities/) or e-mail [trailpatrol@patc.net](mailto:trailpatrol@patc.net)

#### In This Issue . . .

Council Fire . . . . .	2
Tom’s Trail Talk . . . . .	3
Volunteers Needed . . . . .	3
Trail Patrol: Leading Hikes . . . . .	3
Tuscarora-Allegheny Link . . . . .	4
A Good Home for Buddy . . . . .	4
Donor Appreciation Lunch . . . . .	5
In Memoriam, Elizabeth A. Vos . . . . .	5
Trail Patrol CPR . . . . .	5
Bob Pickett’s Appalachian Nature . . . . .	6
Lighter Weight Backpacking . . . . .	6
From the PATC Store . . . . .	7
New Name for West Va. Chapter . . . . .	9
Volunteers Appointed . . . . .	9
Hiker’s Notebook . . . . .	9
Forecast . . . . .	10
Tails from the Woods . . . . .	15
Trailhead . . . . .	16
Volunteer Opps/Swap Meet . . . . .	19
Help Wanted . . . . .	20

## Council Fire

The Potomac Appalachian Trail Club's regularly scheduled Council meeting was called to order on March 8, 2005, at Club Headquarters by President Tom Johnson. Wilson Riley reported that the annual PATC Combined Federal Campaign application had been submitted and accepted – PATC has received about \$20,000 a year in donations. He also issued a second call for nominations for 25-year ATC service awards and thanked Mickey McDermott for his services to PATC – Mickey will be going to Baghdad for extended periods in his new career. Tom announced that PATC has joined the Southeast Foot Trails Coalition. PATC is handling the part north of Burkes Garden to Lake Champlain; the coalition will be having its conference at Table Rock State Park in South Carolina April 28-May 1.

ATC has changed its name to Appalachian Trail Conservancy, reorganized, and given the regional offices the duty to focus on trails clubs. Kerry Snow is the ATC Regional Partnership Committee Chair. Since Mickey was the alternate, there is a need to identify a replacement and council is seeking nominations. Charles Cartwright is the new superintendent of SNP. ExCom has revised the access policy to ExCom Considerations, and Considerations will be released to the Archives one year after the date of the meeting.

### Finance

Treasurer Mickey McDermott distributed the monthly budget report for February 2005,

noting several points of interest. The increase in the budget line item for royalties as approved at the February Council meeting is not reflected in this report. The ExCom was scheduled to review the budget cuts at its March meeting to make recommendations for allocating the proceeds from the fundraising campaign and these recommendations will be presented to Council in April. Gerhard Salinger provided an overview of the PATC audit. PATC is unusual in that the liquid assets are almost four times the operating budget, and total assets are almost 10 times the operating budget. Gerhard had been asked to study the implications of PATC becoming more responsible for Bears Den management. He has visited Bears Den, has the financials, and plans to meet with the Bears Den volunteers to discuss their goals; he will make a presentation to Council when that study is complete.

### Trails and Lands

Vice President for Operations Bruce Glendening said Walt Smith is working on the management plan for Tuscarora Trail. Bruce said there was a great deal of interest in this.

Supervisor of Trails Liles Creighton met with the Forest Service on Feb. 26 in Edinburgh, Va. Liles is looking for a new manager for South Massanutten district. Hop Long will be reinvigorating the Stonewall brigade; the crew wanted to use treated wood from the Forest Service in its construction projects. The Fish and Wildlife National Training Center in

Shepherdstown has scheduled a one week class on trail management. Supervisor of Land Chris Mangold reported that at the tract managers' meeting last month they discussed chainsaw policy. Karen Brown was looking for a contact at US Silica that owns a property near Berkeley Springs that Walt Smith has said would be a good relocation site for part of the Tuscarora Trail; it is part of a flood plain and is currently used as an airport and rental farmland.

*Facilities Management* – Supervisor of Facilities Mel Merritt and Charlie Graf introduced two related appropriation motions totaling \$10,000 to provide funds to begin the construction of a cabin on the Aughwick Creek Tract. Due to time constraints – the road contractor needed to begin construction while the ground was still frozen – and as such these motions had not been presented to committees for action. Jim Peterson reported that the permitting process will take about 90 days, and by the time it was over we would need to have a construction crew out there. If this motion were not approved, the project would slip another year; a detailed plan will be presented to Council in April.

### Membership, Volunteerism, Training, and Communications

The Council approved a motion submitted by Vice President for Volunteerism Lee Sheaffer to rename the Volunteer of the Year to Myron Avery Volunteer of the Year Award to remember an early PATC leader who had a signifi-

*See Council, page 4*

## HOW TO CONTACT US: HEADQUARTERS, SALES, CABIN RESERVATIONS, AND MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

**Address:** 118 Park Street, S.E., Vienna, VA 22180

**Phone #:** 703/242-0315

24-hr. Activities Tape #: 703/242-0965

**To receive an information packet:** Extension 10

**Club President (leave a message), Tom Johnson:** Extension 40

**Hours:** Monday through Thursday, 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.  
and Thursday and Friday 12 noon to 2 p.m.

**Facsimile #:** 703/242-0968

**Club e-mail:** info@patc.net

**World Wide Web URL:** www.patc.net

### STAFF: DURING REGULAR BUSINESS HOURS

**Director of Administration:** Wilson Riley (Ext. 11) e-mail: Wriley@patc.net

**Trails Management Coordinator:** Heidi Forrest (Ext. 12) e-mail: hforrest@patc.net

**Business Manager:** Monica Clark (Ext. 15) e-mail: mclark@patc.net

**Membership/Cabin Coordinator:** Pat Fankhauser (Ext. 17) e-mail: pfankhauser@patc.net

**Sales Coordinator:** Maureen Estes (Ext. 19) e-mail: mestes@patc.net

### *Potomac Appalachian*

**Chief Editor:** Linda Shannon-Beaver, PA@patc.net

**Features Editor:** Joanne Erickson

**Forecast Editor:** Vince Ferrari, PA-Forecast@patc.net

### Club Officers and chairs contact info:

www.patc.net/about/contact.html

or call the main club phone number.

Contact list published twice annually in the PA.

## Tom's Trail Talk – Making the Connection

Not long ago the Appalachian Trail Conference, which had existed since 1925 under the same name, decided to rename itself. It is now the Appalachian Trail Conservancy. Why did the Board of Governors do that?

The board felt that it had reached a watershed. The trail itself was completed, and 30 maintaining clubs were keeping it open, so that issue was quiescent. The National Park Service has placed all but about seven of the 2,176 miles under governmental protection. Were there any worlds out there to conquer, or was the organization simply in the business of trail maintenance?

The word “conservancy” calls to mind the matter of conservation of resources, and there is where the connection lies: There is, or there should be, a connection between trails and conservation. ATC sees the connection and intends to refocus on conservation as part of its trail mission. Conservation is a central mission of the National Park Service, and so it is becoming with ATC.

Trails are best enjoyed in the raw. Hikers are usually out there to enjoy a woodland experience, and the concept of a “trail corridor” has grown up to cloak those trails in greenery. It should be a natural area where the wild lands are preserved in as close to a natural state as possible. In recent years, naturalists have been espousing the role of trail corridors as natural migratory routes for species that, because of development, have pooled up in enclaves. Without the trail corridors they would have no way to connect with other pools.

Development destroys habitat and degrades the environment. Trails are one of the few countervailing instruments we have to mitigate the effects of development. PATC works to preserve the natural environment that preserves habitat. Sometimes we work alone, sometimes in league with others, such as ATC, The Nature Conservancy, Piedmont Environmental Council, and other organizations whose mission it is to preserve open space. Our open spaces tend to be linear, to accommodate hiking. It isn't what everyone strives for in the open space

movement, but it does promote the migration of species (as well as humans).

PATC is doing more than just acquiring trail lands. In cooperation with ATC, we are monitoring rare and endangered species on Appalachian Trail Park lands. Bob Pickett, club naturalist, spearheads this program. Bob has also begun a program to monitor water quality on PATC (as opposed to Park Service) lands, and has already recruited several volunteers. In the future we hope to find and document rare and endangered species on our land and to establish programs for protecting them. The club also hopes to expand into the monitoring of invasives, with the long-range objective of improving the habitat. You will be hearing more about these programs as they develop, and Bob will be looking for more volunteers.

As an owner of natural lands, we have inherited an obligation to preserve what we have, so that future generations will find hiking trails much as they are today. We have looked at where ATC is going, and we must follow. □

—Tom Johnson



**We Need Volunteers at Headquarters**  
*Tom Maholchic and Eliza Beth Engle are enjoying an evening of answering phones and making cabin reservations. Working with the public and promoting the club is an important role for a club volunteer. The Headquarters is in need of evening volunteers. Please call Pat at 703/242-0693, Ext. 17 if you can work two hours any evening Monday through Thursday and be a part of the headquarters staff.*

### Potomac Appalachian Trail Club - Trail Patrol

presents

## Backpacking 202

### Planning & Leading Group Trips

Take your backpacking to the next level by developing the special skills needed to plan and lead group trips. Class members will plan and direct most of the preparations for an overnight backpacking trip, facilitated by experienced instructors. Covers leadership, equipment selection and use, route planning, food planning, improving safety and comfort, managing the unexpected, and Leave No Trace principles. Class pre-trip meetings will be scheduled with the participation of registered students, as part of the trip planning process. Limited to 25 students. Participants must be 18 or older and have completed Backpacking 101 or have equivalent backpacking experience.

Registration deadline - June 15, 2005

Overnight Backpacking Trip - July 16-17, 2005.

Fee (\$20 non-refundable): \$40.00 for PATC Members; \$55.00 for non-members.

Pre-registration is required. For more information contact Backpacking Committee Chair, John Bridges: 703/726-0188, TPBackpack@patc.net or go to [www.patc.net/volunteer/trailpatrol](http://www.patc.net/volunteer/trailpatrol)

## The Tuscarora-Allegheny Link - Sommersby Redux

An article in the September 2004 *PA* described meetings and plans to establish a hiking route between the Tuscarora and Allegheny Trails. Since then there have been more meetings, and sections of trail on Allegheny and Shenandoah Mountains have been hiked. But PATC still has a ways to go to evaluate the status of the entire route.

On the meeting side, this link section was discussed at the April meeting of the Southeastern Foot Trails Coalition as part of a broader plan to establish a second long hiking route through the Appalachians. This will also be the primary agenda item when trail clubs from Virginia to New York meet on May 6-7 at PATC's Gypsy Spring Cabin near Gettysburg, Pa.

With the summer hiking season about to get into full swing, the time is ripe to complete the necessary scouting and courthouse research on PATC's piece. Nearly all the proposed route is on public land, but the research still needs to be done to ensure that places where a Forest Service road or trail might cross a private inholding can be done so legally.

### *Council, from page 2*

cant impact on the AT construction and hiking in the region. Council also approved changing the West Virginia Chapter name to West Chapter. ExCom has approved a Wind River excursion in Wyoming. Tom reported that ExCom had approved the hiking program review from a safety and liability reduction perspective.

*Information, Education, and Activities* – Jane Thompson is looking for Trail Talkers to represent PATC at fairs, festivals, etc. There is a need for “talking points” from each PATC group so that all presenters have a consistent position. Holly Wheeler reported that SNP was contributing \$6,000 to support the Ridgerunner Program.

*Maps* – Dave Pierce said three new maps, sheets 12, 13, and L – Tuscarora trail, have been printed.

*SMRG* – Peter Pennington reported there were no searches in February but two people got sick at a training session. The Loudoun County sheriff expressed interest in working with SMRG in its wilderness areas (while they still exist.)

*North Chapter* – Pete Brown said there was a new roof on Gypsy Spring Cabin.

*Bears Den* – Vern Conaway extended an invitation to see the facility.

*PATC Web site* – Holly Wheeler said there is new material on backpacking. □

—W. Alan Day, Secretary

The most suitable base camp for downstate hiking is the Hidden Valley Recreation Area, but it is a 4-hour drive from PATC HQ in Vienna – a bit remote for day hikes. To preview this camping venue near the Homestead, rent the 1993 video of Sommersby, starring Richard Gere and Jodie Foster. Never mind the domestic affairs of Jack and Laurel Sommersby, just focus on the Appalachian scenery!

An ideal arrangement for a multi-day scouting trip might consist of a pair of through-hikers supported by at least one other person who could provide shuttle service and emergency backup. It would take at least a couple of weeks to hike the entire Allegheny-Tuscarora link, but shorter sections could be pieced together to achieve the same purpose.

To view this tract, unscheduled, on-your-own hikes allow for greater flexibility than a formal, club led hike. To let club leaders know of your interest in participating, contact PATC President Tom Johnson (johnts3@juno.com) or Lloyd MacAskill (LloydMacA@aol.com). □

—Lloyd MacAskill

## Looking for a Good Home for Buddy

This is not your conventional article found in the *PA*, but I thought I would try to get the message out that our cabins are NOT the place to abandon pets. The little guy you see in the photo has been named Buddy Clifford Weaver by John Horsley, who is the overseer for Cliff's House.

John (as well as a lot of other club members, including me) was greeted by Buddy for a couple of months during the cold winter season at Cliff's House or at Weaver Cabin. Buddy would hobble up and immediately want to play. He survived by moving from one cabin to the other where generous renters would feed him scraps of food. After talking to some members staying at Weaver, I had thought that either Buddy was a neighbor's dog or, as it was somewhat apparent, he had been abandoned by his owner. You see, Buddy's hind leg is broken in two places, but he can get around pretty well on three legs. It doesn't appear to be painful, and he can climb stairs pretty well. No one can imagine why Buddy would be left there by his owner, but his broken leg indicated that the owner wasn't very humane.

In February, John went on another work trip to Cliff's House and saw Buddy again. This time the heart strings were tugged a little harder, and John took Buddy home with him. After considerable veterinary expense, John had Buddy treated for heart worms and had the leg examined. The veterinarian told John that Buddy is about a year old, a little over 13 pounds, and they believe he is a beagle-



**Buddy was apparently abandoned at a cabin after being abused.**

dachshund mix. He also said that his hind leg had been broken by being kicked by someone, and since some time had elapsed since the damage was done, the bones healed leaving the leg unusable. Despite neglect and abuse, Buddy is otherwise in good health.

Although John has given of himself as rescuer and provider of needed medical attention to Buddy, he can't keep him. So we're asking if there may be someone out there who would be willing to give this lovable little dog a good home. If you want to make this commitment, please call John Horsley at 540/878-3019. □

—Pat Fankhauser, Cabins Coordinator

## Second Donor-Appreciation Lunch

A small group of PATC donors joined President Tom Johnson for the second annual Donor-Appreciation Luncheon on Saturday, April 2. Those who braved the morning's torrential downpours were rewarded with Chinese food and the inside scoop on PATC's recent activities.

Vice President of Operations Lee Sheaffer shared an update on the club's efforts to build and maintain cabins and trails for the benefit of Mid-Atlantic hikers. Lee wowed the group with an amazing statistic – more than 63 million inches of trail are maintained by the club's volunteers! Even though hikers measure their progress by the mile, those who dedicate their time to trail upkeep know that the work is done inch by inch.

Jim Peterson talked about the ongoing effort to protect the Tuscarora Trail. At 252 miles in length, this trail crosses Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, and West Virginia. Jim educates landowners along the trail about the club and our mission, and uses his diplomatic skills to secure right-of-passage for the trail through their lands. Hikers tell Jim they prefer the Tuscarora to the AT, which they think is becoming too crowded.

Tom Johnson ended the luncheon by thanking our donors for their generous support of the club in 2004. We hope to see you at our luncheon next year! □

—Susan Nelson and Christine Iffrig, Co-chairs, Grants and Donations



### Chainsaw Certification

The latest agreement for chainsaw certification with ATC/USFS/NPS requires that sawyers maintain CPR/1st Aid certification for the chainsaw certification to be valid. The additional training requirement can be burdensome for volunteers to maintain, so some volunteers are choosing not to renew their chainsaw certification.

When you have blowdowns across your section of trail that require a chainsaw to clear, please let your district manager know. There is no expectation that every overseer is able to clear large blowdowns. — Heidi Forrest

#### ATC, from page 1

friendships, learn new skills, and enjoy the southern Appalachians! It will be a historic meeting unlike any you might have attended before.

PATC is always well-represented at these meetings, and it is hoped that we will continue to be a strong voice at this conference. Make plans now to attend by going to [www.southernhighlands2005.org/](http://www.southernhighlands2005.org/) to download the registration form. The completed form must be postmarked no later than June 1, but forms postmarked by May 1 qualify for the early registration discounts. And, the earlier you get your registration in, the better chances you have of there still being room available in the hikes and excursions you want. □

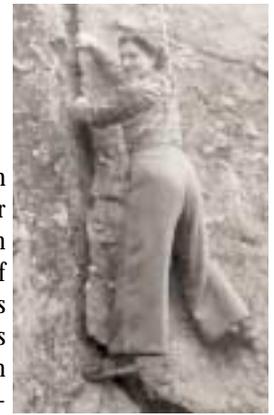


### In Memoriam Elizabeth A. Vos

Member 1942–March 22, 2005

Word has been received from Betty Vos of the death of her mother Elizabeth, who was 95. Elizabeth and her family were long-time residents of McLean, Va., and she was a most generous supporter of PATC. Elizabeth Aughey was General Secretary in 1945 and was active on the Headquarters Committee, shelter reservations, photos & exhibits, where she was in charge of the collections of slides illustrating the AT from Maine to Georgia and the PATC movie on trail technique. She composed the words of the Trail Workers' Song, using the tune "Heigh Ho" from Walt Disney's "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" while working on the Ridge Trail on Old Rag. She went on cabin work trips, which brought back memories of her grandfather using the scythe – her journal entry about this reminiscence appeared in the September 2004 issue of the *PA*. She was an active rock climber and hiker in the 1940s. In 1996 she had sent in a remembrance to Paula Strain about the apple picking work trips near Luray during the WWII when the farmers were short-handed. Dr. Bert Vos participated in those trips also, and eventually they were married in October 1944. Elizabeth had gotten Bert to become a member of PATC at that time, and both have been members since. Elizabeth worked for the Food and Drug Administration, where she participated in early research on vitamins. In addition to her activities in PATC, she enjoyed music, gardening, and bird watching. The Vos' outstanding donations to PATC in 1980 and 1990 have enabled PATC recreation and conservation programs well into the future, as well as enabling expansion of club Headquarters by moving to Vienna, Va. □

—Carol Niedzialek



### Trail Patrol and Emergency Response Training

presents

### CPR and On The Trail First Aid Class

July 9-10 at the PATC Headquarters.

This two-day course covers Adult, Child, and Infant CPR and First Aid. The students will learn basic first aid skills with hands-on time. Books and certificates are provided. The afternoon portion of the class is designed with wilderness situations in mind. Time will be spent going over items in your first aid kits and packs. The students will learn how to do basic splinting and bleeding control with supplies from their packs.

**Cost of the class is \$90 for Trail Patrol Members and \$110 for Non-Trail Patrol**

**Pre-Registration is required.**

**Download registration form at  
[www.patc.net/volunteer/trailpatrol.com](http://www.patc.net/volunteer/trailpatrol.com)  
or contact Saleena DeVore ([tp1staid@patc.net](mailto:tp1staid@patc.net))  
540/972-8394**

## Bob Pickett's Appalachian Nature: The Crayfish

I grew up walking Pimmit Run in the summer, catching snakes, crawdads, and whatever else my buddy and I could find. Once, we even caught a greater siren (go look that up!). In fact, I can trace my stream wanderings back to what turned out to be a monumental day in my life. I was probably five years old, and my family was visiting friends outside St. Louis, Mo. As it turns out, three memorable events happened on that day. First, it was the first time I was ever taken to a creek. Second, I caught my first crayfish. How cool was this! It looked just like a baby lobster.

In fact, the primary difference between the two is that crayfish inhabit freshwater while lobsters are ocean residents. Crayfish are crustaceans and are closely related to lobsters, crabs, and shrimp. They are invertebrates (animals without a backbone) that belong to the phylum Arthropoda (joint-footed), which includes the insects, spiders, scorpions, millipedes, and mites. They belong to the class Crustacea (shell) and the order Decapoda (10 legs). While most of our native crayfish are only one to six inches in length, the world's largest freshwater invertebrate, the Tasmanian crayfish, can grow to over 24 inches in length.

### Crayfish Everywhere

There are 550 species worldwide, 338 species in the United States, and more than 25 species in Virginia. Maryland and Pennsylvania have about 12, while North Carolina has about 40 species, although more species are being identified every year. North Carolina has seven endemic species. It's another tip of the hat to the diversity of the geologically old, moist, and rich mountain habitat of western North Carolina. Not only do the mountains of North Carolina have more tree species than all of Europe, the state can also boast the highest diversity of salamanders and crayfish of any region in the world.

Not all of the species of crayfish in our streams are native. The rusty crayfish is a Midwestern import, found in all of our regions' streams, presumably the result of discarded bait. It can be recognized by the rusty spots on the sides of the carapace. Being more aggressive than our native species, it does tend to dominate habitats where it is found.

### PATC Trail Patrol

Presents

## Lighter Weight Backpacking

Seeking ways to reduce your pack weight? This one-day workshop provides tips and techniques for developing a weight-conscious mindset when choosing and using equipment. Students will be encouraged to bring their packs fully loaded for a multi-day trip – for evaluation by instructors.

Sat., May 21, 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

PATC Headquarters,  
118 Park Street, SE, Vienna, Va.

Fee: \$30 PATC Members; \$40 Non-Members

For more information, contact John Browne  
(TPBackpack@patc.net) 703/425-5645

Crayfish are not confined to streams. We've probably all seen the mud "chimneys" in wet meadows. These are made by a group of crayfish that burrow (only some burrow). Their holes can be three feet in depth and will always go below the water line, creating their own private pools. Crayfish breathe by internal gills like fish, but many (especially burrowing crayfish) can remain out of water for considerable lengths of time under humid conditions.

This is the time of the season to look for female crayfish carrying young under their tail. She may still be carrying the 80 to 200 eggs under the tail, which look like a mass of minute berries; thus, leading to the term for females to be "in berry." In fact, for the first four days or so, the hatchlings will remain attached to her tail. Mating can occur in fall or spring. If mated during the fall, the female will hold onto the sperm throughout much of the winter, not enabling fertilization to occur until late winter (a practice called delayed fertilization, also utilized by bats and some fish).

### Crayfish Traits

I liken the role of the crayfish in the aquatic habitat to that of the black bear in his habitat. In the world of the small stream, the crayfish can be a large and intimidating predator. But more significantly, the crayfish and black bear are both omnivores, willing to eat most anything, including plants, living animals, and carrion. However, most crayfish are not active predators and have difficulty capturing fast-moving animals. Approximately 40 percent of their diet consists of worms and insects inhabiting the bottom muds. The remainder consists of living and decaying aquatic vegetation. Unlike the black bear, crayfish are not at the top of their food chain. In fact, crayfish serve as a preferred food item for a large number of aquatic and terrestrial animals.

One of the more striking characteristics of crayfish is their range of colors. Native crayfish come in a variety of colors (white, blue, red, brown, gray, yellow), shapes, and sizes. In fact, we have a species of blue crayfish that inhabits most of the Monogahela National Forest. Its botanical name is *Cambarus monongalensis*. It apparently is a true blue species, unlike some other blue species, where most of the species is brown or green. This burrowing crayfish eats vegetation and in the summer harvests the leaves of surrounding plants. Then in the autumn when the leaves from the deciduous forests fall to the ground, this species collects a large amount of leaves and takes them into the burrow for winter browse, much like beaver storing branches underwater.

Another interesting feature of crayfish is that, like all crustaceans, they can replace missing legs and pinchers. When they molt, the missing appendages reappear, although smaller than the original limbs. Molting occurs six to 14 times during the first year of life. Most crayfish live from two to four years, although some crayfish (including the Tasmanian crayfish and some cave crayfish) may live more than 10 years.

That infamous day as a child started me in a lifetime of stream wanderings. And, you might recall, I said three memorable events happened that day. I can say that this third event has affected my life even more than the first two events. As it happened, when we got back to the house, I was introduced to Nestle's Quik, which I still drink every morning. Talk about monumentous! □

—Bob Pickett

# From the PATC Store

## PATC Publications

ITEM #	DESCRIPTION	RETAIL	MEMBER
PA100 Map 1 (ed. 9, 1998)	AT Cumberland Valley, PA (Susquehanna River to Route 94)	6.00	4.80
PA110 Map 2-3 (ed. 9, 2000)	AT Michaux State Forest, PA (Route 94 to Route 30)	6.00	4.80
PA120 Map 4 (ed. 8, 2000)	AT Michaux State Forest, PA (Route 30 to PA-MD State Line)	6.00	4.80
PA130 Map 5-6 (ed. 16, 2002)	AT Maryland	6.00	4.80
PA140 Map 7 (ed. 14, 2004)	AT Northern Virginia (Potomac River to Snickers Gap)	6.00	4.80
PA150 Map 8 (ed. 12, 2001)	AT Northern Virginia (Snickers Gap to Chester Gap)	6.00	4.80
PA160 Map 9 (ed. 16, 2002)	AT Shenandoah National Park (North District)	6.00	4.80
PA170 Map 10 (ed. 20, 2003)	AT Shenandoah National Park (Central District)	6.00	4.80
PA180 Map 11 (ed. 14, 2001)	AT Shenandoah National Park (South District)	6.00	4.80
PA190 Map 12 (ed. 9, 2002)	AT GWNF Pedlar District (Rockfish Gap to Tye River)	6.00	4.80
PA200 Map 13 (ed. 4, 1999)	AT GWNF Pedlar District (Tye River to James River)	6.00	4.80
PA210 Map D (ed. 4, 2004)	Potomac River Gorge Area and Cabin John Trail	6.00	4.80
PA220 Map F (ed. 6, 2004)	Great North Mountain-North Half (Virginia/West Virginia)	6.00	4.80
PA230 Map G (ed. 7, 2002)	Massanutten Mountain-North Half (Signal Knob to New Market Gap)	6.00	4.80
PA240 Map H (ed. 3, 1999)	Massanutten Mountain-South Half (New Market Gap to Mass. Peak)	6.00	4.80
PA250 Map J (ed. 3, 2004)	Tuscarora Trail AT, PA to PA Route 641	6.00	4.80
PA260 Map K (ed. 2, 1997)	Tuscarora Trail PA route 641 to Hancock, MD	6.00	4.80
PA270 Map L (ed. 2, 1996)	Tuscarora Trail (Hancock, MD, to Capon Springs, WV, and Cacapon St. Pk.)	6.00	4.80
PA290 Map N (ed. 4, 2000)	Rock Creek Park Area, DC	6.00	4.80
PA300	PATC Elevation Profile of Appalachian Trail (Pine Grove Furnace to Rockfish Gap)	2.75	2.20
PB100	AT Guide Book #6 (ed. 16, 2000) Maryland and Northern Virginia	8.00	6.40
PB110	AT Guide Set #6 (AT Guide Book to MD and Northern VA with Maps 5-6, 7 & 8)	22.00	17.60
PB120	AT Guide Book #7 (ed. 12, 1999) Shenandoah National Park	10.00	8.00
PB130	AT Guide Set #7 (AT Guide Book to Shenandoah National Park with Maps 9, 10 & 11)	24.00	19.20
PB135	Guide to Great North Mountain Trails (ed. 1, 2001)	7.00	5.60
PB140	Massanutten Guide Set (Guide to Massanutten Mountain with Maps G & H)	16.00	12.80
PB150	The Guide to Pedlar District set with maps 12 and 13	18.00	14.40
PC100	Circuit Hikes in Shenandoah National Park (ed. 14, 1996)	7.00	5.60
PC110	Circuit Hikes in Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland, and Pennsylvania (ed. 7, 2004)	7.00	5.60
PC115	Hikes in Western Maryland (ed. 2, 2004)	7.00	5.60
PC116	The Tuscarora Trail North (Guide to Maryland and Pennsylvania) (ed. 3, 1997)	7.00	5.60
PC117	The Tuscarora Trail South (Guide to West Virginia and Virginia) (ed. 3, 1997)	7.00	5.60
PC120	Hikes in the Washington Region: Part A Northern Maryland Counties (ed. 4, 2001)	7.00	5.60
PC130	Hikes in the Washington Region: Part B Northern Virginia Counties (ed. 3, 1993)	7.00	5.60
PC140	Hikes in the Washington Region: Part C DC/Southern Maryland Counties (ed. 2, 1999)	7.00	5.60
PC160	Guide to Massanutten Mountain (ed. 3, 2004)	7.00	5.60
PC180	Hiking Guide to the Pedlar District, George Washington National Forest (ed. 3, 2002)	7.00	5.60
PC190	Climbers' Guide to the Great Falls of the Potomac (2001)	12.95	10.36
PC200	Carderock Past & Present: A Climbers Guide (1990)	7.00	5.60
PC205	Pioneering Ascents (the origins of climbing in America)	14.00	11.20
PC210	Clearing Trails in War Time	5.95	4.76
PC215	Time For Everything	9.00	7.20
PC220	Breaking Trail in the Central Appalachians - a narrative	12.50	10.00
PC225	A Footpath in the Wilderness	9.00	7.20
PC230	Lost Trails and Forgotten People: The Story of Jones Mountain (ed. 2, 1985)	7.50	6.00
PC240	The Dean Mountain Story (1982)	5.50	4.40
PC250	Shenandoah Heritage: The Story of the People Before the Park (6th printing, 2000)	10.00	8.00
PC260	Shenandoah Vestiges: What the Mountain People Left Behind (4th printing, 2001)	6.00	5.00
PC270	Shenandoah Secrets: The Story of the Park's Hidden Past (Revised 1998)	12.95	10.36
PC280	PATC Cabins Booklet (2004)	6.50	5.20
PC300	Wildflowers of the Potomac Appalachians: A Hikers Guide (1979)	2.50	2.00
PC310	The Blue Hills of Maryland (ed. 1, 1993)	14.00	11.20
PC320	Memories of a Lewis Mountain Man (1993)	8.00	6.40
PD100	Map of the Stony Man Region of the Shenandoah National Park (Illustrated) (1964)	2.00	1.60
PE120	PATC Member Decal	N/A	1.00
PE130	PATC Member Patch	N/A	2.00
PE140	PATC Member Pin	N/A	2.95
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XX420	The Appalachian Trail Fieldbook, 2nd Edition	4.95	3.95
XX700	Natural History Guide to Common Woody Plants of the GWNF and SNP (2004)	4.00	3.20
XX860	Rock Climbing	17.95	14.50
XX870	Grandpa's Mountain	4.99	3.99

## Publications from Other Publishers

DESCRIPTION	RETAIL	MEMBER
50 hikes in Northern Virginia (1998)	13.00	10.40
Appalachian Trail Names (David Edwin Lillard)	16.95	13.50
Appalachian Trail Thru-Hikers' Companion (1998)	10.00	8.00
Backpacker Magazine Guide to the AT (1989)	16.95	13.56
Camping and Backpacking with Children (1995)	16.95	13.56
Cross-Country Skiing	9.00	7.20
Finding Wildflowers in Washington/Baltimore Area (1995)	15.95	12.76
Food & Lodging Along the C&O Canal (1994)	3.00	2.40
Guide to the Mason-Dixon Trail System (1992) Map Series	15.12	12.60
Grandpa's Mountain (Carolyn Reeder)	4.99	3.99
Hikes to Waterfalls (1997)	3.00	2.40
Hiking Guide to the Monongahela National Forest (2001)	12.00	10.00
Hiking Virginia's National Forests (1998)	10.00	8.00
Hollow Boy By Rayner V. Snead (1995)	13.95	11.16
Insiders Guide to Virginia's Blue Ridge (1998)	15.00	12.00
Lightly on the Land	19.95	15.95
Moonshiner's Son by Carolyn Reeder	4.79	3.99
Mountaineering First Aid (1996)	7.00	5.60
Pennsylvania Hiking Trails	10.00	8.00
Rock Climbing (A Trailside How-to Guide) (Don Mellor)	17.95	14.50
The 18 Cabins of Old Rag	6.00	6.00
The Appalachian Trail Backpacker (1994)	11.00	8.80
The C&O Canal Companion (1997)	23.50	19.60
The New Appalachian Trail (Ed Garvey) (1997)	14.95	11.95
The Potomac River and the C&O Canal (1992)	8.50	6.80
There are Mountains to Climb (1996)	12.95	10.36
Thru-hikers Handbook (Dan "Wingfoot" Bruce)	15.95	12.80
Towns along the Towpath	14.00	11.20
Towpath Guide to the C&O Canal (1999)	14.00	11.20
Trail Design, Construction and Maintenance 2000	14.95	11.96
Trails in Southwest Virginia (1997)	6.95	5.50
Undying Past of the Shenandoah National Park	18.95	15.16
W & OD Railroad Trail Guide (1996)	8.00	6.40

Walker's Guide to Harpers Ferry (1994)	8.00	6.40
Walking The Appalachian Trail	16.95	13.56
Wilderness Navigation (1999)	9.95	8.00
Workbook for Planning Thru-Hikes	6.00	4.80
184 Miles of Adventure (C&O Towpath)	4.75	3.80

### Appalachian Trail Poster Maps

AT strip map with forest green border 9" x 48"	3.50	2.80
AT Poster Map, Eastern Coastline	6.95	5.56

### Other AT Guide Books with Trail Maps

AT Data Book (supplement to guide sets) (2003)	4.95	3.95
Central Virginia (1994)	18.00	14.40
Maine (1993)	25.00	20.00
Massachusetts-Connecticut (1994)	20.00	16.00
New Hampshire-Vermont (1995)	17.00	13.60
New York-New Jersey (1994)	16.00	12.80
North Carolina-Georgia (1998)	25.00	20.00
Pennsylvania	40.00	32.00
Southwest Virginia (1994)	17.00	13.60
Tennessee-North Carolina (1995)	25.00	20.00

### Trails Illustrated Topo Maps

Shenandoah National Park (1994)	9.00	7.20
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### Trinkets

Appalachian Trail South Bandana	5.00	5.00
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PATC Water Bottles	5.00	5.00
Smokey the Bear Pins	4.00	3.20
Tuscarora Trail Patch	2.00	2.00
PATC Detachable Neck Lanyards	5.00	5.00

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## New Name for the West Virginia Chapter

The West Virginia Chapter has changed its name to the West Chapter. The motion requesting the name change was approved by PATC Council at the March 8, 2005, Council meeting. The first meeting for the newly reorganized and renamed chapter was held on March 16, 2005, at Gambrill State Park near Frederick, Md.

The reason for the name change was that the former name "West Virginia Chapter" was not an accurate reflection of the geographic area where the membership resides. Many chapter members live in Maryland and some in Virginia. Furthermore, the portion of the state of West Virginia that is within PATC's territory covers only the three-county eastern panhandle area, which is not really representative of the entire state. West Virginia has 55 counties, hence the former chapter name was somewhat of a misnomer in this regard as well.

The chapter certainly does not confine its activities to the state of West Virginia. There was also some confusion, especially with the general public, as to why a chapter that supposedly represents West Virginia conducts activities outside of the state. For example, the chapter oversees and maintains the Black Locust trail in Gambrill State Park, located in Maryland. This confusion among the general public also did not help with recruitment of new members. For instance, the name was somewhat of a turnoff to Frederick residents who visited our booth at last fall's Frederick-in-the-Street festival. We do not want to discourage people from checking out what our chapter has to offer because of the chapter's name.

The general geographic area that the chapter is meant to cover is defined roughly by Leesburg, Va., and Frederick, Md., in the east, to Hancock, Md., and Berkeley Springs, W. Va., in the west. This includes Winchester, Martinsburg, and Hagerstown

along the I-81 corridor. There is some minor geographic overlap with the North Chapter in Maryland, and with the Northern Shenandoah Chapter in the south.

The chapter meets semi-annually, the third Wednesday in March and September. The meeting locations will vary and is intended to recruit people from the local area. Spring and summer events are announced and described at the March meeting and fall events at the September meeting. In past years as the West Virginia Chapter, meetings were always held at Highacre House in Harpers Ferry. The chapter may still meet there, but will not be restricted to this location.

Currently, the chapter is still using the [wvpatc@hotmail.com](mailto:wvpatc@hotmail.com) e-mail address and [www.patc-wv.org](http://www.patc-wv.org) as the chapter's Web site. The e-mail and Web site addresses will be changed shortly to reflect the new chapter name. An announcement regarding these address changes will be forthcoming. All chapter events are listed in the Forecast and on the chapter's Web site. Also, the chapter's home page ([www.patc.net/chapters/west](http://www.patc.net/chapters/west)) can be accessed from the main PATC Web site.

Every Monday an e-mail broadcast is sent to the members listing the chapter activities and perhaps occasionally non-chapter events related to hiking and trail maintenance in the chapter's local geographic area.

Any PATC members may join the West Chapter regardless of where they reside, but obviously the Chapter would serve those people best who live in the geographic area that has been defined above. Currently, the chapter does not collect any dues in addition to PATC dues. □

—Dave Jordahl, West Chapter President  
[wvpatc@hotmail.com](mailto:wvpatc@hotmail.com)



### Hiker's Notebook

**Common Name:** Witches' broom (for the appearance of the densely grouped twig structures that form at the end of the branch of an infected tree)

**Botanical Name:** hexenbesen (from the German *hexe* which is from *hagazussa* meaning witch; the term hag has a similar root; *besen* is derived from *besom*, a type of broom made by tying a bunch of twigs to a wooden handle)

**Potpourri:** A witches' broom is a symptom of diseased trees and shrubs that is manifest in the formation of densely clustered twigs in a broom-like mass. Fungi, rust, mites, insects, viruses, bacteria, and mistletoe can all be causative agents. The cancer-like growth remains attached to the parent plant for nutrition and support, but otherwise leads an independent existence, branching out vertically instead of horizontally and generally forming leaf buds earlier in the spring than the host plant.

Witches' brooms do not kill trees directly. However, they do deplete the tree of its nutrients, which can slow down growth and reduce the yield. This is a significant problem in the production of cocoa from cacao trees in South and Central America. A fungus (*Crinipellis pernicioso*) causes witches' brooms resulting in cacao bean losses of up to 90 percent.

The two most common hosts in the Southern Appalachians are the honey-suckle witches' broom, caused by an aphid, and the hackberry witches' broom, thought to be caused by a combination of a mildew fungus (*Sphaerotheca phytophila*) and an eriophid mite. □

—William Needham

Visit the Hiker's Notebook Web site at:  
[www.mwrop.org/W\\_Needham/h\\_notebook.html](http://www.mwrop.org/W_Needham/h_notebook.html)

## Trail Overseers - Appointed in March

Wilfred Burr	Dickey Ridge – Snead Farm Road to Low Gap
Matthew Van Mater	Co-overseer, Billy Goat Trail – B section
Matt Novinger	Co-overseer, Billy Goat Trail – B section
Peter Le Comte	Little Devils Stairs Trail
Phillip D. Estes	Knob Mountain Cutoff Trail
Bill Cooke	AT – Hightop Parking to Hightop Hut Trail

## Charlottesville Chapter

The Charlottesville Chapter hikes every Saturday; summer, winter, and in between. Hikes are usually 8 to 10 miles. We usually maintain trails on the last Saturday of the month. Meet at Sprint parking lot, 2307 Hydraulic Road, at 9:00 a.m., with food and water for the day. The majority of hikes are in the south and central districts of SNP, with some in the north district and in George Washington National Forest. Our Chapter hikes are posted at [www.patc.net/chapters/char/hikes.html](http://www.patc.net/chapters/char/hikes.html). INFO: Jere Bidwell 434/295-2143 or John Shannon 434/293-2953.

## North Chapter

The North Chapter of PATC conducts monthly trail work trips on the Maryland and Pennsylvania sections of the 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 Nancy Hammond ([mdtrail@yahoo.com](mailto:mdtrail@yahoo.com)) 301/739-0442 for information. Pennsylvania work trips are generally held on the AT on the first Saturday and on the Tuscarora on the third Saturday – contact Pete Brown ([peter.brown4@worldnet.att.net](mailto:peter.brown4@worldnet.att.net)) 410/343-1140. Pennsylvania AT work trips also include an optional Saturday evening dinner at the Gypsy Spring cabin. For information on upcoming hikes, contact Chris Firme ([bncfirme@innet.net](mailto:bncfirme@innet.net)) 717/765-4833. For general chapter information, contact chapter president Pete Brown or visit the North Chapter home page ([www.patc.net/chapters/north/](http://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 Betsy Fowler ([efowler@shentel.com](mailto:efowler@shentel.com)).

## Chapters

### Southern Shenandoah Valley Chapter

See [www.ssvc.org](http://www.ssvc.org) or the one linked to the PATC Web site for descriptions of hikes and work trips. We usually hike in the southern and central districts of the SNP and in the GWNF. Contact the listed hike leader for information about a specific event, or contact Michael Seth 540/438-1301.

### West Chapter

The West Chapter meets twice a year in March and September. The Chapter maintains a section of the Black Locust circuit trail in Gambrill State Park near Frederick, Md. Work trips and hikes are usually scheduled monthly from March through December. We also lead overnight weekend trips for day hikes or backpacking. All activities are listed in the PA Forecast. For further information contact Dave Jordahl ([wvpatc@hotmail.com](mailto:wvpatc@hotmail.com)) 304/876-7062 (evenings) or 240/777-7741 (days).

### 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: Bert Finkelstein ([berf@erols.com](mailto:berf@erols.com)) 703/715-8534.

### 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 interests 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 Ozana Halik, ([mrkayak1@verizon.net](mailto:mrkayak1@verizon.net)) 703/242-0177, or Mack Muir ([MackMuir@edisaurus.com](mailto:MackMuir@edisaurus.com)).

### PATC Hikes

PATC offers organized hikes appealing to the diverse interests of our members. There are K-9 Hikes, which invite you to bring your favorite dog; Family Hikes tailored to kids; Natural History Hikes stalking the fascinating but often elusive flora and fauna of the region; hikes featuring varying levels of difficulty with the Easy Hikers, In-Between Hikers, and Vigorous Hikers; Birding Hikes with experts to help sight and identify our avian neighbors; Historical Hikes tracking little-known structures in Shenandoah National Park; Series Hikes tracing the entire length of the Tuscarora Trail or the trails of Pennsylvania, section by section; Backpacking Hikes traversing the tracts of West Virginia and Southern Virginia; hikes scheduled for weekends; ones scheduled for weekdays; Geology Hikes led by experts from the Smithsonian focused on the unique stratigraphy of our area; Mushroom Hikes with mycologists; Waterfall Hikes to beat the summer heat; and Outreach Hikes to get together with the members of area groups like the Sierra Club or the Congressional Hikers. That is just to name a few. Check out the Forecast calendar and hear updates on the weekly tape (703/242-0965).

### Other Clubs' Hikes

Capital ([www.capitalhikingclub.org](http://www.capitalhikingclub.org)) and Wanderbirds ([www.wanderbirds.org](http://www.wanderbirds.org)) hike on Saturdays and Sundays, traveling by bus and leaving from downtown, with suburban stops as well. Center Club, Northern Virginia Hiking Club and Sierra Club 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. The schedule of West Virginia Highland Conservancy outings in the Monongahela National Forest and surrounding areas is on their web site at [www.wvhighlands.org](http://www.wvhighlands.org).

## 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/activities/forecast.html](http://www.patc.net/activities/forecast.html).

-  Hiking Trips
-  Backpacking Trips
-  Trail Work Trips
-  Cabin/Shelter Work Trips
-  Ski Trips
-  Special Events
-  Meetings
-  Classes
-  K9 Trail Blazers (dogs permitted)

**Note to all hike leaders:** Please ask non-members 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.

### 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). Refreshments will be served. Directions to PATC: Take Rt. 123 into Vienna, Va., and turn east on Park St. (Rt.675) to 118 Park St. on your left. INFO: Georgeann Smale ([gsmale99@yahoo.com](mailto:gsmale99@yahoo.com)) 301/581-9584.

### Mountaineering Section – Second Wednesday

7:30 p.m. – We meet every month unless noted in the Forecast. INFO: Ozana Halik ([mrkayak1@verizon.net](mailto:mrkayak1@verizon.net)) 703/242-0177 or PATC's Web site: [www.patc.net/chapters/mtn\\_sect](http://www.patc.net/chapters/mtn_sect).

### Shenandoah Mountain Rescue Group

Business meeting - Last Tuesday of each month, 7:30 p.m. INFO: Doug Sigman ([join@smrg.org](mailto:join@smrg.org)), 703/255-5034, or [www.smrg.org](http://www.smrg.org).

### PATC Council – Second Tuesday

The council meets at 7:00 p.m. sharp. The PATC Council meets every month to conduct business of the club and once a year for a dinner meeting. All members are always welcome. Come see how we make decisions about your club. INFO: Wilson Riley ([wriley@patc.net](mailto:wriley@patc.net)) 703/242-0693 x11.

### 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, and strive to educate 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 Trail 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: Holly Wheeler ([trailpatrol@patc.net](mailto:trailpatrol@patc.net)) 301/486-1598, or see our section in PATC's Web site: [www.patc.net/volunteer/trailpatrol](http://www.patc.net/volunteer/trailpatrol).

## MAY

## 1 (Sunday)

**DEADLINE – June Potomac Appalachian Material due to editors 5:00 p.m.**

All items for the next issue of the newsletter due. Send Forecast events to PA-Forecast@patc.net and all other articles to the editor at lindashannonb@mac.com. NOTE: Do not send photos or articles to headquarters. E-mail for address.

## 3 (Tuesday)

**HIKE – Family Hike Oakton, VA**

This out-and-back hike will take us along the Difficult Run Trail near Colvin Run Mill. The trail follows the stream to an open meadow where we will take a break and have a snack. This jogging-stroller passable hike will be 3-4 miles long, depending on the desires of the group. INFO: Lauren Lang (at94L@net-zero.net) 571/242-3950.

## 3 (Tuesday)

**HIKE – Vigorous Hikers Linden, VA**

An annual excursion into the fabulous trillium and other wildflowers of the Thompson Wildlife Management Area, about 15 miles and 3,300 feet of elevation gain. INFO: Chris Nolen (chrishiker@erols.com) 301/469-8931.

## 3 (Tuesday)

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

## 4 (Wednesday)

**HIKE – Easy Hikers Brandywine, MD**

This is a 4-mile, easy circuit hike with an optional 2-mile extension in Cedarville State Forest. From Beltway exit 7, south on MD route 5 (Branch Ave.) merging with US 301 after 10 miles. Stay in left lane for 1.8 miles, left at Cedarville Road. Go 2.4 miles to intersection with Bee Oak Road. Turn right, proceed 1 mile to meeting place outside forest office at 10:15 a.m. Entrance fee \$4.00 per car. Bring lunch and water. INFO: Paul Van Order 703/536-4378.

## 4 (Wednesday)

**HIKE – Midweek Hikers Location to be determined**

The PATC Midweek Hikers carpool each Wednesday from the Washington, DC area to various trailheads. Hikes are at a moderate pace and about 8 to 12 miles in length with varied elevations. Current information, including meeting place, time, leader's name and phone number, and a detailed description of the hike are available on the PATC Activities Recording: 703/242-0965.

## 4 (Wednesday)

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

## 5 (Thursday)

**HIKE – In-Between Hikers Great Falls, MD**

Ten-mile hike over varied terrain to include Goldmine, River, and Billy Goat Trails. Joint hike with Sierra Club MWRP. Meet at 10:00 a.m. in parking lot across from Old Anglers Inn. Bring lunch and water, but no pets. INFO: Henri Comeau (HenriComeau@aol.com) or Ray Evert 703/893-3792, before 9:00 p.m.

## 7 (Saturday)

**HIKE – K9 Trailblazers Hereford, MD**

We'll hike at a moderate pace for approximately a 5-mile loop through the Hereford section of Gunpowder Falls State Park. This will be our spring wildflower hike, and we'll take in the wide variety of flowers blooming in the woodlands and flood plains of Gunpowder Falls. This hike will be on wooded, rocky trails and on sometimes muddy trails down near the river. There will be relatively moderate climbs in and out of the valley (about 250 ft. total elevation change). Sturdy hiking boots with good ankle support are required. This is a joint hike with K9 Trailblazers so well-behaved dogs are welcome as long as you keep them on a leash and scoop up after them. Maps, chocolate, and dog biscuits provided at the trailhead! Bring lunch, snacks, and water for you and your dog. Visit [www.k9trailblazers.org](http://www.k9trailblazers.org) for more details. INFO: Jeff Bolognese (jbolognese@k9trailblazers.org) 410/247-4434.

## 7 (Saturday)

**TRAIL WORK TRIP – Pinnacle Crew Shanghai, WV**

The crew will be opening up a view and a new one-quarter mile trail to Pee Wee Point in Sleepy Creek Wildlife Management Area. Meet at 9:00 a.m. in Shanghai, WV (WV Rt. 7). INFO: Walt Smith (wsmith@visuallink.com) 540/678-1043.

## 7 (Saturday)

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

Everyone goes home happy and a bit tired from South Mountaineers events. We start at 9:00 a.m. in Frederick County. Why not join us? Please bring water, lunch, boots, and gloves. INFO: Nancy Hammond, (mdtrail@yahoo.com) 301/739-0442.

## 7 (Saturday)

**TRAIL WORK TRIP – Yankee Clippers Fayetteville, PA**

Meet at US 30 and PA 233 in the parking lot of Caledonia State Park. Departure 9:00 a.m. sharp. INFO: Pete Brown (peter.brown4@worldnet.att.net) 410/343-1140.

## 7 – 8 (Saturday – Sunday)

**CABIN WORK TRIP – Rosser Lamb Stanardsville, VA**

Join Park and Peg with the rest of the cabin construction crew in restoring this grand old farmhouse

**Special Cabin Worktrip Week****14 - 26 June (Tuesday - Sunday)****CABIN WORK TRIP (extended) - Corbin Shenandoah National Park, VA**

Handyman skills? Lots to do at this historic log cabin deep in SNP on the bank of a bubbling native trout stream. Week days a small team will remove the bunkroom roof and prep for weekend re-roofing, and tackle other projects like replacing rake boards, re-glazing windows, painting and mortar repair. Weekend June 18-19 is the primary date for roofing, with June 25 -26 as back-up. Easy to reach Range View cabin also reserved for weekend crew. Corbin sleeping quarters limited because of bunkroom work, but tenting at cabin will be allowed during worktrip. Come for a day or two or more. Details on request. INFO: Cliff Willey (trail\_crew@yahoo.com, preferred) 410/267-0716.

to its former glory. This is not a historic restoration, but an improvement. You will not get better meals on any PATC work trip than here. INFO: Charlie Graf (cagraf@aol.com) 410/757-6053.

## 8 (Sunday)

**HIKE – North Chapter Sylvan, PA**

Tuscarora Trail Hike I: Tuscarora Mountain section: PA Rte 456 to PA Rte 16. This is a difficult hike of 14.4 miles, with an elevation change of 1200 feet. We'll see excellent views at the top of this ridge to the east of the valley below. It has a fantastic view at the southern half looking towards the west and on a very clear day one can see the Sidling Hill cut from this view. INFO: Christopher Firme (bncfirme@inner-net.net) 717/794-2855, after 6:00 p.m.

## 9 (Monday)

**CLASS – New Mexican Wilderness (REI) Fairfax, VA**

7:00 p.m. REI will host this multi-media presentation about Otero Mesa, New Mexican wild lands, and the search for a viable energy policy. Come to find out how you can help protect Otero Mesa. INFO: Mark Nelson (mnelson@rei.com) 703/379-9400.

## 10 (Tuesday)

**HIKE – Vigorous Hikers North District, Shenandoah National Park, VA**

Bushwhack down the old Jeremy's Run Fire Foot Trail from Skyline Drive. Rock hop across the many stream crossings of the run and then amble along the ridge of Knob Mountain, back down to the stream and up and over Neighbor Mountain, back to the start. INFO: Cliff Noyes (cliff.noyes@juno.com) 540/373-8267.

## 10 (Tuesday)

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

## 11 (Wednesday)

**HIKE – Easy Hikers McLean, VA**

Repeat of a March washout! The Easy Hikers will hike 4-5 miles in Turkey Run Park. Some hilly stretches and minor stream crossings. Meet at 10:15 a.m. on parking lot C-1, immediately to the left upon entering the park. Bring lunch and water. Directions: From the beltway take exit 14, the George Washington Parkway about two miles to the exit for Turkey Run Park. Also accessible from GW Parkway northbound. INFO: Gary Abrecht (GAbrecht@AOL.com) 202/546-6089. Cell on day of hike: 202/365-2921.

## 11 (Wednesday)

**HIKE – Midweek Hikers Location to be determined**

See May 4 event for more information.

## 11 (Wednesday)

**MEETING – Mountaineering Section, 8:00 p.m.**

## 13 (Friday)

**HIKE – NSVC Linden, VA**

This is the classic wildflower hike of the North Shenandoah Valley Chapter without the crowds. We will hike in the G. Richard Thompson WMA, doing the loop plus a little extra to an area where the showy orchids are abundant. Pace will be slow and stops for flower viewing will be often. Bring a camera as the yellow ladyslippers should be full and the trillium will be into their darker phase. INFO: Lee Sheaffer (thumpers@visuallink.com) 540/955-0736.

# FORECAST

**14 (Saturday)**

✦ **HIKE – Difficult**

**Central District, Shenandoah National Park, VA**  
16-mile circuit-hike 4000 ft. elevation change on Staunton River and Jones Mountain trails. Stops at Fork Mountain and Bear Church Rock. Meet at Oakton Shopping Center at 7:30 a.m. Inexperienced hikers call for hiker requirements. INFO: William Needham (Needham82@aol.com) 410/884-9127.

**14 (Saturday)**

✦ **TRAIL WORK TRIP – Cadillac Crew**

**Washington, DC**

Mark Anderson, District Manager for D.C. trails has asked the crew to help relocate an eroded trail in Rock Creek Park. This is a one-day trip that should be an opportunity to enjoy the Park and learn basic trail construction techniques. Bring water and a lunch for Saturday noon. INFO: Trudy Thompson (going2home2@yahoo.com) 703/938-3973 or Jon Rindt (jkrindt@shentel.net) 540/635-6351.

**14 (Saturday)**

✦ **TRAIL WORK TRIP – Rock Creek Park**

**Washington, DC**

8:15 a.m. to Noon. We're bringing in the big guns for this trip. The Cadillac Crew will join the Rock Creek crew to begin and possibly finish a re-route near the historic Boulder Bridge. Did someone say come-along? Meet at the Rock Creek Nature Center located south of the Military Road NW park entrance. INFO: Mark Anderson (dc.trails@verizon.net) 202/462-7718 or Ranger Ken Ferebee (ken\_ferebee@nps.gov) 202/895-6221.

**14 – 15 (Saturday – Sunday)**

✦ **CABIN WORK TRIP – Vining Tract**

**Stanardsville, VA**

Come join us on the Vining Tract for a weekend of cabin construction, maintenance, and trail projects. The logs are in place at the new Butternut cabin, and now it's time for chinking. We also have trails to build, and work to be done to keep Conley and Wineberry cabins in mint condition. Community meals. Overnight at Conley and Wineberry. INFO: Hugh Robinson (mes.htr@verizon.net) 703/525-8726.

**14 – 15 (Saturday – Sunday)**

✦ **HIKE – West Chapter**

**Ohiopyle, PA**

Section 1, Ohiopyle State Park to Maple Run Road, 11 miles (18 km). Car camp at Ohiopyle State Park Saturday night, hike on Sunday. INFO: Dave Jordahl (wvpatc@hotmail.com) or (dave.jordahl@askdep.com) 240/777-7741.

**14 – 15 (Saturday – Sunday)**

✦ **TRAIL WORK TRIP – Shenandoah Bartenders**

**Central District, Shenandoah National Park, VA**  
Old Rag's Ridge Trail is one of the most popular hikes in the Park, and the target for work this month. Come join the overseer's crew, for either day, or both. The crew will overnight in the backcountry and participants need to be prepared for a backpack trip. INFO: Cathie Cummins (Cathie@wfa.net) 703/631-7421.

**15 (Sunday)**

✦ **HIKE – Sunday Hikers**

**Comus, MD**

We're going to visit an old favorite, Sugarloaf Mountain. In May on Sugarloaf the mountain laurel and many other wildflowers come into bloom, and we are hopeful that we'll catch them on their best weekend. This is an 8.5-mile moderate hike, with an elevation change of 1,700 ft. On this route we'll catch all the great overlooks and get a good workout as well. INFO: Vince Ferrari (vincentferrari@gmail.com) 301/249-2210.

**17 (Tuesday)**

✦ **HIKE – Family Hike**

**Great Falls, VA**

Come on out for this 3-mile, kid-friendly circuit hike. This jogging-stroller-passable hike will take us along the stream down to the mouth of Difficult Run at the Potomac River. We will return along the Ridge Trail in Great Falls Park. INFO: Lauren Lang (at94L@netzero.net) 571/242-3950.

**18 (Wednesday)**

✦ **HIKE – Easy Hikers**

**Swain's Lock, MD**

6-mile hike on C&O Canal Towpath to Pennyfield Lock and back. Bring lunch and water. No pets. Meet at 10:15 a.m. at Swain's Lock. Take Exit 39 West on Beltway to River Road. Go 2 miles past Potomac, Md., then left 0.3 miles on Swain's Lock Road. INFO: Mary-Margaret McGrail, 703/751-8126.

**18 (Wednesday)**

✦ **HIKE – Midweek Hikers**

**Location to be determined**

See May 4 event for more information.

**18 (Wednesday)**

✦ **CLASS – Penguins of Antarctica (REI)**

**College Park, MD**

7:00 p.m. 44 years ago Tom Ballard spent a year on a tiny Antarctic peninsula surrounded by mountains rising out of a frozen bay: the nesting site for 125,000 Adelie penguins. Tom will provide an overview of their amazing life cycle, the intense beauty of the ice, and how humans adjust and cope where day and night each last 4 months, and life depends on the supply plane. INFO: Mark Nelson (mnelson@rei.com) 703/379-9400.

**18 (Wednesday)**

✦ **CLASS – Waterfalls of Virginia (REI)**

**Bailey's Crossroads, VA**

7:30 p.m. Nature Photographer, Ed Neville, has hiked to, stood under, and photographed every accessible waterfall in Virginia! Ed will provide outstanding images of falling water, and directions, hiking, and photo tips for your own Virginia waterfall adventures. Spring is a great time to visit these roaring, cascading Appalachian gems! INFO: Mark Nelson (mnelson@rei.com) 703/379-9400.

**19 (Thursday)**

✦ **CLASS – GPS 101 (REI)**

**College Park, MD**

7:00 p.m. Learn how GPS receivers work and what affects accuracy, as well as features, benefits, and choosing a model based on your intended activities. We'll also include a brief overview of online resources and batteries, water, and shock resistance and accessories. INFO: Mark Nelson (mnelson@rei.com) 703/379-9400.

**21 (Saturday)**

✦ **CLASS – Ultralight Backpacking (REI)**

**Bailey's Crossroads, VA**

1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Instructors Alan Dixon and Alison Simon believe most couples can travel the backcountry with 14-16 lb. packs for a 3-day trip and still be comfortable and safe. Their techniques and light-gear discussions are valuable to all backpackers, especially to women, and couples wishing to start, continue or resume backcountry hiking adventures. Registration is necessary. The \$50 class fee (\$40 per person for attending couples) includes the class and all course materials. INFO: Mark Nelson (mnelson@rei.com) 703/379-9400.

**21 (Saturday)**

✦ **CLASS – Lighter Weight Backpacking**

**Vienna, VA**

8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. For both experienced and new backpackers. This one-day workshop is designed to acquaint backpackers with the importance of weight considerations when choosing and using equipment, and to instill a weight-conscience mind set when packing for an overnight trip. Fee: \$30.00 for PATC Members; \$40.00 for non-members. See ad elsewhere in this issue. INFO: John Browne (TPBackpack@patc.net) 703/425-5645.

**21 (Saturday)**

✦ **HIKE – In-Between Hikers**

**Springfield, VA**

Enjoy the spring flowers on a 10-mile, linear hike in Pohick and South Run Valley Stream Parks, as we follow the water on its way to the Chesapeake Bay. We will discuss how watersheds within Fairfax County are part of the larger Potomac River basin. Meet at 9:30 a.m. at 1 Wadebrook Terrace, Zip Code 22153. Bring water and lunch but no pets. INFO: Henri Comeau, (HenriComeau@aol.com) or Frank Wodarczyk 703/569-6737 before 9:00 p.m.

**21 (Saturday)**

✦ **HIKE – West Chapter**

**Central District, Shenandoah National Park, VA**

Section 4, AT from Skyland to Fishers Gap, 6.5 miles (10.5 km). Supplemental hike to the top of White Oak Canyon after AT hike. INFO: Dave Jordahl (wvpatc@hotmail.com) or (dave.jordahl@askdep.com) 240/777-7741.

**21 (Saturday)**

✦ **TRAIL WORK TRIP – Stonewall Brigade**

**Woodstock, VA**

Join the Stonewall Brigade to keep trails clear in one of PATC's least crowded and scenic districts. Experience unnecessary, all tools and training provided. Help us put together a new group of interested volunteers who like to be outdoors making trails more enjoyable for others. Our schedule will be the third Saturday of every month; you are welcome to join us every month, a few times a year, or as many times as you can. Work will usually be in the area covered by PATC Map F – Great North Mountain on the VAWV border. Meet at the Wolf Gap Recreation Area campground parking lot (PATC Map F coordinates E-19) at 9:00 a.m. This trip is subject to prevailing or forecast weather. Please check before going to the meeting site. INFO: Hop Long (theFSLongs@comcast.net) 301/942-6177 or Jim Tomlin (jtomlin@helix.nih.gov).

**21 (Saturday)**

✦ **TRAIL WORK TRIP – Yankee Clippers**

**Tuscarora Trail, PA**

INFO: Pete Brown (peter.brown4@worldnet.att.net) 410/343-1140.

**21 – 22 (Saturday – Sunday)**

✦ **CABIN WORK TRIP – John's Rest**

**Stanardsville, VA**

We are close to being done with this wonderful cabin but there are still lots of trim details to finish and plenty of clean up. You will be amazed how cozy and attractive this cabin is. Don't miss out on a chance to contribute to the completion of this great addition to our rental system. INFO: Charlie Graf (cagraf@aol.com) 410/757-6053.

**21 – 22 (Saturday – Sunday)**

✦ **TRAIL WORK TRIP – Acme Treadway Co.**

**Winchester, VA**

It's early spring – a great time to be alive and in the woods, again! Come and work with the Acme Treadway Company as we build new trail. In this case, we're working on a trail to provide the public access to the fabled Tuscarora Trail north of The

Pinnacle west of Winchester, Va. You'll have lots of opportunities to learn the arts of sidehill construction, outloping, and rock cribbing on this project. INFO: Don White (tribldr@comcast.net) 804/795-2914.

## 21 – 22 (Saturday – Sunday)

✂ **TRAIL WORK TRIP – North District Hoodlums North District, Shenandoah National Park, Va**  
Come on down to the bayou and join the North District Hoodlums on their CAJUN work trip in May! Jambalaya, gumbo, and trail work, and a good time is gar-on-teed! The North District Hoodlums Trail Crew works on the AT and Blue-Blazed Trails in the North section of the park. We work hard and enjoy the fruits of our labor afterwards via the theme meal and good company at a facility within the park. Newcomers are always welcome. Come for the day, stay for the evening meal, camp out overnight in SNP – lots of options. Not a bad way to spend a weekend! We meet at Piney River Ranger Station, MP 22 on Skyline Drive, at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday morning. INFO: George Walters (gjwalters@starpower.net) 410/426-2724.

## 22 (Sunday)

✂ **TRAIL WORK TRIP – South Mountaineers Appalachian Trail, MD**  
An unusual Sunday South Mountaineers work event. We meet at 9:00 a.m. in Frederick County. Please bring water, lunch, boots and gloves. INFO: Nancy Hammond, (mdtrail@yahoo.com) 301/739-0442.

## 22 (Sunday)

✂ **TRAIL WORK TRIP – West Chapter Frederick, MD**  
Meet at 10:00 a.m. at the Nature Center in Gambrill State Park. INFO: Dave Jordahl (wvpatc@hotmail.com) or (dave.jordahl@askdep.com) 240/777-7741.

## 24 (Tuesday)

✂ **CLASS – Outdoor Trip Planning (REI) Fairfax, VA**  
7:00 p.m. For that long distance adventure, we'll show you how to plan food, gear, routes, and fun. Taught by professional guide Ashby Robertson. INFO: Mark Nelson (mnelson@rei.com) 703/379-9400.

## 24 (Tuesday)

✂ **HIKE – Family Hike Location to be determined**  
Kid-friendly hike. Location to be determined. INFO: Lauren Lang (at94L@netzero.net) 571/242-3950.

## 24 (Tuesday)

✂ **HIKE – Vigorous Hikers Central District, Shenandoah National Park, VA**  
Climb Rose, or Rowes River Fire Rd. connecting to Rose River Loop Trail. Climb to AT south to the Lewis Falls. Return via Rapidan Fire Rd. & Dark Hollow Falls Trail. 18 miles 4,300 ft. climb. INFO: Chris Nolen (chrishiker@erols.com) 301/469-8931.

## 25 (Wednesday)

✂ **CLASS – Camping with Kids (REI) Rockville, MD**  
7:00 p.m. Family outdoor adventures are a great way to have fun, learn new activities and enjoy quality time. Do you remember camping as a kid; when every rock, plant or path seemed to come alive with the possibility of adventure? Whether it's watching meteors from the back yard or launching off on a weekend jaunt, camping lets kids have a built-in sense of wonder and excitement when it comes to exploring the world around them. It can be contagious! Bring the kids! INFO: Mark Nelson (mnelson@rei.com) 703/379-9400.

## 25 (Wednesday)

✂ **CLASS – Intro to Family Camping (REI) College Park, MD**  
7:00 p.m. Are you thinking about trying family camping for the first time? This free clinic will discuss all of the basics you will need to get started and have a safe, enjoyable trip with your family. Some of the topics we will explore are: new equipment for 2005, trip planning, camping with kids, tents, sleeping systems, stoves, 10+ essentials, etc. INFO: Mark Nelson (mnelson@rei.com) 703/379-9400.

## 25 (Wednesday)

✂ **HIKE – Easy Hikers Great Falls, VA**  
A five-mile hike in the Park. Bring lunch, water and your Golden Age Passport or pay entrance fee. We will meet at 10:15 a.m. in the parking lot next to the Visitor Center. Directions: Take Georgetown Pike at Beltway Exit 44 towards Great Falls. Turn right at first stoplight into Park. INFO: Sigrid Crane (introibo@worldnet.att.net) 703/938-0954.

## 25 (Wednesday)

✂ **HIKE – Midweek Hikers Location to be determined**  
See May 4 event for more information.

## 27 – 29 (Friday – Sunday)

✂ **TRAIL WORK TRIP – Cadillac Crew Stanardsville, VA**  
Memorial Day weekend is a great time to join the Crew as we maintain some tract trails and clear around cabins. The Vining Tract provides a lot of opportunities to enjoy the outdoors. Bring water and a lunch for Saturday noon. Community dinner on Saturday night. Overnight at Mutton Top Cabin – great views. INFO: Trudy Thompson (going2home2@yahoo.com) 703/938-3973 or Jon Rindt (jkrindt@shentel.net) 540/635-6351.

## 28 (Saturday)

✂ **HIKE – Northern Shenandoah Valley Chapter North District, Shenandoah National Park, VA**  
Highlights of this trip include the 93-foot high Overall Run Waterfalls, the highest in SNP. The geology along the trail is spectacular, including a debris avalanche, ancient volcanic features, and the oldest rocks of the vast Appalachian basin. Geologist Bill Nelson will point out these and other features along the trail. This is a long, strenuous hike (about 6 hours, 7 miles or so). It involves a steep climb along the north side of the Overall Run Falls, an ascent of about 1,500 feet. Hike will start at 10:00 a.m. from near Bentonville, Va. INFO: Bill Nelson or Judy McCarthy (wjmelson@shentel) 540/33-6276.

## 29 (Sunday)

✂ **CLASS – GPS 202 (REI) College Park, MD**  
1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. This class is for GPS owners. It concentrates on using GPS to find position and plot routes using the UTM grid system on USGS Topo Maps. It will cover: Navigation Terms, the UTM

grid system, waypoints and routes, and following a route with GPS. There will be classroom exercises, and weather permitting, field exercises. Participants should be familiar with the basic operation of their GPS. Bring your GPS, fresh batteries, and your owner's manual. Class fee is \$25 REI Members/Non-members \$40. INFO: Mark Nelson (mnelson@rei.com) 703/379-9400.

## 31 (Tuesday)

✂ **HIKE – Vigorous Hikers Central District, Shenandoah National Park, VA**  
Climb to the AT on the Slaughter Trail, go south on the AT, visit South River Falls, descend Pocosin Hollow Trail. 16 mi. 3100 ft. uphill. INFO: Chris Nolen (chrishiker@erols.com) 301/469-8931.

## 31 (Tuesday)

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

# JUNE

## 1 (Wednesday)

**DEADLINE – July Potomac Appalachian Material due to editors 5:00 p.m.**  
All items for the next issue of the newsletter due. Send Forecast events to PA-Forecast@patc.net and all other articles to the editor at lindashannonb@mac.com. NOTE: Do not send photos or articles to headquarters. E-mail for address.

## 1 (Wednesday)

✂ **HIKE – Easy Hikers Croom, MD**  
For this hike at Jug Bay, in Patuxent River Park, we'll meet at 10:15 a.m. in the parking lot near the park office. This is a four-mile hike preceded by a 1.5-hour cruise on the "Otter" with a park naturalist. Boat capacity is 20 passengers; reservations required. Directions: From Beltway, take Exit 11-A, Pennsylvania Ave., SE (Rt. 4). Go 8 miles. Take Rt. 301 South, go 3.6 miles. Turn left onto Croom Road (Rt. 382), go 3.5 miles. Turn left onto Croom Airport Road, go 2 miles. Turn left into park driveway to visitor parking, 1.6 miles. Bring lunch and water. INFO: John or Suzanne Kominski, 703/751-3026.

## 1 (Wednesday)

✂ **HIKE - Midweek Hikers Location to be determined**  
See May 4 event for more information.

## 2 (Thursday)

✂ **HIKE – In-Between Hikers McLean, VA**  
Approximately 8-mile hike over varied terrain including parts of the Scott's Run Nature Preserve and western end of the Potomac Heritage Trail, including some good overviews of the Potomac River. Meet at 10 a.m. in the Scott's Run Nature Preserve Parking Lot (West Parking). Bring lunch and water. INFO: Ray Evert (Hikerdude22@msn.com) 703/893-3792 or Henri Comeau at (Henricomeau@aol.com) 703/451-7965.

## 4 (Saturday)

✂ **HIKE - Wilderness Hike Shawnee Land, VA**  
First-ever hike to the Tuscarora Trail through recently acquired PATC Biby Tract on wilderness trail under development, then south to The Pinnacle, stopping at the waterfall. Views and exploration of cave on the Rock Cave & Overlook Trail; continue south on the Tuscarora Trail to Larricks Overview; returning on access roads to pre-positioned cars at the power line. About seven miles with 800 ft. elevation gain. INFO: Walt Smith (wsmith@visuallink.com) 540/678-1043.



# FORECAST

4 (Saturday)

**SPECIAL EVENT –  
National Trails Day  
Shenandoah National Park, VA**



Events will be held at the Byrd Visitor Center and Dickey Ridge Visitor Center, in partnership with SNP, will sponsor a day celebrating opportunities to experience our natural world. Join us for guided hikes, displays, and information on how you can improve your hiking skills while minimizing your impact on the environment. Events will be held throughout the day at Byrd Visitor Center and Dickey Ridge Visitor Center. Admission is free and open to the public (normal park entrance fees apply). Visit [www.patc.net/activities/](http://www.patc.net/activities/) INFO: (trailpatrol@patc.net).

4 (Saturday)

**TRAIL WORK TRIP –  
Rock Creek Park  
Washington, DC**



8:15 a.m. - Noon. The good folks at REI will join us for National Trails Day this year for what promises to be a great trail celebration. But watch out – we will do some work. Meet at the Rock Creek Nature Center located south of the Military Road NW park entrance. INFO: Mark Anderson (dc.trails@verizon.net) 202/462-7718 or Ranger Ken Ferebee (ken\_ferebee@nps.gov) 202/895-6221.

4 (Saturday)

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



The Trail House in Frederick is proudly sponsoring this Trails Day event. Come out and celebrate this special day and enjoy a complimentary meal afterwards. INFO: Nancy Hammond (mdtrail@yahoo.com) 301/739-0442.

4 (Saturday)

**TRAIL WORK TRIP –  
Yankee Clippers  
Appalachian Trail, PA**



Set a good example and join the North Chapter trail crew for a National Trails Day work trip. We will meet at US 30 and PA 233 at the parking lot of Caledonia State Park. Departure 9:00 a.m. sharp. INFO: Pete Brown (peter.brown4@worldnet.att.net) 410/343-1140.

4 – 5 (Saturday – Sunday)

**CABIN WORK TRIP – Rosser Lamb  
Stanardsville, VA**

There are lots of opportunities to engage in innovative carpentry and demonstrate your superior skills. If you are a novice you will not want to miss this outstanding learning opportunity. To top things off, in the evening you will be treated to outstanding food and interesting and entertaining conversation. INFO: Charlie Graf (cagraf@aol.com) 410/757-6053.

4 – 5 (Saturday – Sunday)

**CLASS – Wilderness First Aid (WSC)  
Alexandria, 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 \$160. INFO: Christopher Tate (<http://wfa.net>) 703/836-8905.

5 (Sunday)

**TRAIL WORK TRIP –  
West Chapter  
Frederick, MD**



Meet at 10:00 a.m. at the Nature Center in Gambrill State Park for this National Trail's Day weekend work trip. INFO: Dave Jordahl (wvpatc@hotmail.com) or (dave.jordahl@askdep.com) 240/777-7741.

7 (Tuesday)

**HIKE – Vigorous Hikers  
North District, Shenandoah National Park, VA**

Begin with the scenic ascent up Little Devil's Stairs, connecting to the Sugarloaf Trail to inspect the Laurel in season, joining the AT to the Tuscarora, the Elkwallow Trail, the AT, then descending the Piney Branch Trail and the Hull School Trail for a 4,000-foot climb and 17 miles. INFO: Chris Nolen (chrishiker@erols.com) 301/469-8931.

7 (Tuesday)

**MEETING – Trail Patrol, 7:30 p.m.**

8 (Wednesday)

**HIKE – Midweek Hikers  
Location to be determined**

See May 4 event for more information.

8 (Wednesday)

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

11 (Saturday)

**HIKE – Difficult  
Woodstock, VA**

Great North Mountain: Crackwhip Furnace Trail. 18-mile circuit hike with 4000 ft. elevation change. Meet at Oakton Shopping Center at 7:30 a.m. Inexperienced hikers call for hiker requirements. INFO: William Needham (Needham82@aol.com) 410/884-9127 or Jack Thorsen (Thorsen4@juno.com) 703/339-6716.

11 – 12 (Saturday – Sunday)

**CABIN WORK TRIP – Vining Tract  
Stanardsville, VA**

Come join us on the Vining Tract for a weekend of cabin construction, maintenance and trail projects. The logs are in place at the new Butternut cabin, and now it's time for chinking. We also have trails to build, and work to be done to keep Conley and Wineberry cabins in mint condition. Community meals. Overnight at Conley and Wineberry. INFO: Hugh Robinson (mes.htr@verizon.net) 703/525-8726.

11 – 12 (Saturday – Sunday)

**TRAIL WORK TRIP – Cadillac Crew  
Gainesboro, VA**

The Crew will continue building a new trail that connects the Tuscarora Trail to the old Packhorse Road Trail through Sleepy Creek WMA. This new trail will ultimately be part of a loop trail including Shockey's Knob Shelter and High Rocks Trail. Bring water and a lunch for Saturday noon. Community dinner on Saturday night. Overnight at TBD. INFO: Trudy Thompson (going2home2@yahoo.com) 703/938-3973 or Jon Rindt (jkrindt@shentel.net) 540/635-6351.

11 – 12 (Saturday – Sunday)

**TRAIL WORK TRIP – Shenandoah Bartenders  
Central District, Shenandoah National Park, VA**

Join the overseer's crew on Old Rag's Ridge Trail. We'll be looking into doing some stone work, as



well as beginning the annual beat the brush campaign. First timers are welcome. Come for just a day, or do a backpack overnight with the crew in Nicholson Hollow. Anyone for a dip in the Hughes River or Broken Back Run? INFO: Cathie Cummins (Cathie@wfa.net) 703/631-7421.

12 (Sunday)

**HIKE – North Chapter  
Mercersburg, PA**

Tuscarora Trail Hike II: Tuscarora Mountain section: PA Rt. 16 to Fannettsburg-Burnt Cabins Rd. 15.4 miles, difficult hike. Elevation change of 800 feet. We will be hiking on some of the new section of the newly relocated Tuscarora Trail and hiking to the new shelter. We will be hiking through one of the two state parks, Cowen's Gap State Park, which is surrounded by the Buchanan State Forest. We will also be hiking past the Aughwick property, which in the future will have a cabin built on it. INFO: Christopher Firme (bncfirme@innernet.net) 717/794-2855. after 6:00 p.m.

12 (Sunday)

**HIKE – Sunday Hikers  
Harpers Ferry, WV**

We'll repeat an old favorite, hiking approximately 10 miles in and around this historic town. Starting from the historic district, we'll hike along the AT, past Jefferson Rock, and across the Shenandoah River to climb Loudon Heights. Once we reach the overlook, we'll descend to cross the Potomac River bridge, hike down the C&O Towpath, and then climb once again up to Maryland Heights for another terrific view. INFO: Vince Ferrari (vincentferrari@gmail.com) 301/249-2210.

14 (Tuesday)

**HIKE – Vigorous Hikers  
South District, Shenandoah National Park, VA**

Brown Mountain Overlook — Brown Mountain Trail, Big Run Portal Trail, Patterson Ridge Trail, AT, 13 mi. and 3000 ft. climb with options for longer hike. INFO: Chris Nolen (chrishiker@erols.com) 301/469-8931.

14 (Tuesday)

**MEETING – PATC Council, 7:00 p.m.**

14 – 26 (Tuesday – Sunday)

**CABIN WORK TRIP – Corbin  
Central District, Shenandoah National Park, VA**

Handyman skills? Lots to do at historic log cabin deep in SNP on the bank of a bubbling native trout stream. Weekdays a small team will remove the bunkroom roof, prep for weekend re-roofing, and tackle other projects like replacing rake boards, re-glazing windows, painting and mortar repair. Weekend June 18-19 is the primary date for roofing, with June 25 -26 as backup. Easy to reach Range View cabin also reserved for weekend crew. Corbin sleeping quarters limited because of bunkroom work, but tenting will be allowed at cabin during the work trip. Come for a day or two or more. Details upon request. INFO: Cliff Willey (trail\_crew@yahoo.com) 410/267-0716.

15 (Wednesday)

**HIKE – Midweek Hikers  
Location to be determined**

See May 4 event for more information.

15 (Wednesday)

**MEETING – Mountaineering Section, 8:00 p.m.**

# FORECAST

18 (Saturday)

👤 HIKE – West Chapter

**North District, Shenandoah National Park, VA**  
Section 2, Gravel Springs Gap to Thornton Gap, 14.5 miles (23.5 km). INFO: Dave Jordahl (wvpatc@hotmail.com) or (dave.jordahl@askdep.com) 240/777-7741.

18 (Saturday)

👤 TRAIL WORK TRIP – South Mountaineers  
**Appalachian Trail, MD**

The weather is so nice this time of year that the woods beckon. Have fun working with a jovial group of trail stewards known as the South Mountaineers. Please bring plenty of water, lunch, gloves, and boots. We meet in Frederick County, Md. INFO: Nancy Hammond (mdtrail@yahoo.com) 301/739-0442.

18 (Saturday)

👤 TRAIL WORK TRIP – Stonewall Brigade  
**Woodstock, VA**

Join the Stonewall Brigade to keep trails clear in one of PATC's least crowded and most scenic districts. Experience unnecessary, all tools and training provided. Help us put together a new group of interested volunteers who like to be outdoors making trails more enjoyable for others. Our schedule will be the third Saturday of every month; you are welcome to join us every month, a few times a year, or as many times as you can. Work will usually be in the area covered by PATC Map F; Great North Mountain on the VA/WV border. Meet at the Wolf Gap Recreation Area campground parking lot (PATC Map F coordinates E-19) at 9:00 a.m. This trip is subject to prevailing or forecast weather. Please check before going to the meeting site. INFO: Hop Long (theFSLongs@comcast.net) 301/942-6177 or Jim Tomlin (jtomlin@helix.nih.gov).

18 (Saturday)

👤 TRAIL WORK TRIP - Yankee Clippers  
**Tuscarora Trail, PA**

INFO: Pete Brown (peter.brown4@worldnet.att.net) 410/343-1140.

18 – 19 (Saturday – Sunday)

👤 CABIN WORK TRIP – John's Rest  
**Stanardsville, VA**

This may be your last chance to add your own special little touch to this great cabin. Come on out and enjoy the satisfaction of making a contribution to another PATC landmark. Get to know the members of the cabin construction crew, which has brought to life such wonders as Jones Mountain Cabin and Tulip Tree Cabin. Enjoy the camaraderie and delicious meals and revel in the knowledge that you have been a part of this significant accomplishment. INFO: Charlie Graf (cagraf@aol.com) 410/757-6053.

18 – 19 (Saturday – Sunday)

👤 TRAIL WORK TRIP – Acme Treadway  
**Company**  
**Front Royal, VA**

Okay, we're taking a break from construction to help an overseer. Come out with us this weekend and see the wonders of a truly remote section of Great North Mountain as we clear weeds and limbs (not ours – tree limbs, only!). You'll see spectacular scenery and enjoy the wonders of staying overnight at Glass House. INFO: Don White (trlbldr@comcast.net) 804/795-2914.

19 (Sunday)

👤 TRAIL WORK TRIP – West Chapter  
**Frederick, MD**

Meet at 10:00 a.m. at the Nature Center in Gambrill State Park. INFO: Dave Jordahl (wvpatc@hotmail.com) or (dave.jordahl@askdep.com) 240/777-7741.

21 (Tuesday)

👤 HIKE – Vigorous Hikers  
**Front Royal, VA**

A 12-mile hike along the east ridge of the Massanutten ridge followed by a 12-mile canoe paddle down the Shenandoah River. Suitable for amateur paddlers. INFO: Cliff Noyes: (cliff.noyes@juno.com) 540/373-8267.

22 (Wednesday)

👤 HIKE – Midweek Hikers  
**Location to be determined**

See May 4 event for more information.

25 (Saturday)

👤 TRAIL WORK TRIP – Rock Creek Park  
**Washington, DC**

8:15 a.m. - Noon. The Trails Day parties are over, but we'll still be working to improve the trails in Washington's Rock Creek. Meet at the Rock Creek Nature Center located south of the Military Road NW park entrance. INFO: Mark Anderson (dc.trails@verizon.net) 202/462.7718 or Ranger Ken Ferebee (ken\_ferebee@nps.gov) 202/895.6221.

25 – 26 (Saturday - Sunday)

👤 HIKE – West Chapter  
**Somerset, PA**

Laurel Highlands Trail. Section 3, PA Route 643 to Kooser State Park, 12 miles (19 km). Car camp at Kooser State Park Saturday night, hike on Sunday. INFO: Dave Jordahl (wvpatc@hotmail.com) or (dave.jordahl@askdep.com) 240/777-7741.

25 – 26 (Saturday – Sunday)

👤 TRAIL WORK TRIP – Cadillac Crew  
**Gainesboro, VA**

The Crew will continue building a new trail that connects the Tuscarora Trail to the old Packhorse Road Trail through Sleepy Creek WMA. This new trail will ultimately be part of a loop trail including Shockey's Knob Shelter and High Rocks Trail. Bring water and a lunch for Saturday noon. Community dinner on Saturday night. Overnight at TBD. INFO: Trudy Thompson (going2home2@yahoo.com) 703/938-3973 or Jon Rindt (jkrindt@shentel.net) 540/635-6351.



26 (Sunday)

👤 TRAIL WORK TRIP – South Mountaineers  
**Appalachian Trail, MD**

You can get your exercise in for the weekend gardening on a large scale on the AT in Maryland. Enjoy the camaraderie of other volunteers in the woods and make a difference. Please bring plenty of water, lunch, gloves, and boots. Tools provided. We meet in Frederick County, Md. INFO: Nancy Hammond (mdtrail@yahoo.com) 301/739-0442.

28 (Tuesday)

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

29 (Wednesday)

👤 HIKE – Easy Hikers  
**Gaithersburg, MD**

About 5 varied miles over rolling terrain. Meet in the Visitor Center parking lot in Seneca Creek State Park at 10:15 a.m. Bring water. No dogs. From the Beltway, exit to I-270 N. After about 7 mi. (at the exit for Rt. 370), move into the local lanes. In about 3 mi., take Exit 10 (for Rt. 124 West and Rt. 117 West). Follow the signs for Rt. 117, which becomes Clopper Rd. (and is still Rt. 117). After 2.1 mi., turn left into the park. In 0.1 mi., take the first right toward the Park Offices (Visitor Center). In 0.1 mi., park at the end of the road. Since this is our last hike until September, we will lunch at Roy's Place in Gaithersburg after the hike. INFO: Sue King (monarch@cpcug.org) 703/356-6659.

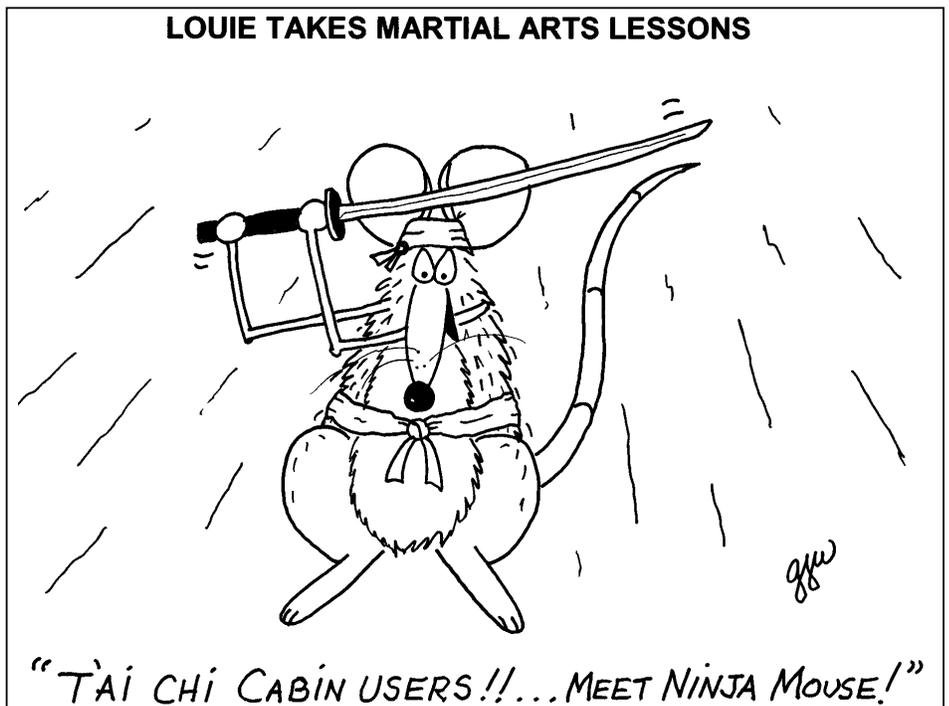
29 (Wednesday)

👤 HIKE – Midweek Hikers  
**Location to be determined**

See May 4 event for more information. ☐

## Tails from the Woods by George Walters

### LOUIE TAKES MARTIAL ARTS LESSONS



“T'ai Chi Cabin Users!!... MEET NINJA MOUSE!”

Winter appeared to be a long time coming, but March proved it could be a long time leaving. March's cool, wet, dreary days delayed the arrival of spring's green things, but the blossoms (and weeds) will eventually return.

## District Managers Meeting

PATC Trails conducted the bi-annual district managers (DM) meeting at Headquarters on March 23. Liles Creighton, supervisor of trails, kicked off the meeting by introducing Tom Johnson, PATC president, who thanked the assembled DMs as the key volunteers in accomplishing PATC's mission to maintain trails. Tom also said that PATC logged 84,000 volunteer hours last year.

Dennis DeSilvey, DM for SNP South District AT, has been helping to define an appropriate first aid course for chainsaw certification. He has also volunteered to be the PATC advisor on medical matters. Melvin Ellis, DM for SNP Central District Blue Blazed trails, showed the group a series of detailed maps he is using to help overseers locate and report problems. The maps are created using a layering technique that combines PATC map data with topo maps and on-the-ground features.

The more interesting part of the meeting concerned situation and planned activity reports from each district. In general, this year's winter had been kind with fewer blow-downs reported than in previous years. The Tuscarora Trail is receiving increased attention from PATC as development pressure is forcing changes. New property owners are testing previous agreements concerning the trail on private property. Liles pointed out that much of our effort over the next several years will be to get Tuscarora Trail back on course and open. For those interested, there could be a lot of priority trail construction projects out "west."

## Tuscarora Central District

Walt Smith reported on the Central District of the Tuscarora Trail at the March DM meeting. Among the anticipated events that will affect future hikers are:

- Many new trails, along with the Tuscarora Trail relocation through Shockey's Knob, are illustrated on the new Map L, revised in December 2004.



*Cadillac Crew completes junction of the AT relocation on Ovoka Farms north of Sky Meadows State Park.*

Photo by Jon Rindt

- The mayor of Hancock reported to President Tom Johnson that the town will build a campsite along the C&O Canal tow-path where there are now only picnic tables and port-a-johns.

- The Shelter Crew will build a new shelter in the Hauvermale Tract overlooking Dugan Hollow. They anticipate that construction will begin in late summer.

- The Spruce Pine Hollow Campsite has been upgraded by Boy Scout Troop 31 with new tent pads, fire ring, trails, and three benches around the fire ring.

- The Tuscarora Trail section that goes from the Spruce Pine Hollow Subdivision to Sleepy Creek Wildlife Management Area (SCWMA) must be relocated. It will be moved to the PATC Lutkins Passage Tract from private land due to the request of the landowner. The mile-and-half relocation will probably take about two years to complete because of the difficult terrain.

- The Central District Sleepy Creek Crew will complete the opening of several new trails in SCWMA this spring as indicated on the new Map L.

- The Cadillac Crew is constructing the Millrace Trail in SCWMA near Shockey's Knob in order to complete a hiking circuit that includes the Tuscarora, High Rock, and Packhorse trails. The Millrace Trail will

replace a portion of the Packhorse Trail that is on private land and subject to closure.

- The Land Acquisition Committee is completing negotiations for the relocation of the Tuscarora Trail off one-plus miles of road through Gore and onto easements through woods from PATC's Howze Tract to the intersection of Back Creek and U.S. 50. It is hoped that construction of the relocation may begin by the end of this year. A portion of the trail leading to Gore from the Howze Tract will be maintained as a white-blazed trail.

- The Acme Treadway Co. is constructing a one-mile wilderness trail through the recently acquired Biby Wilderness Tract (a gift of 20 acres from Richard Biby). This trail will provide public access to the Tuscarora Trail from the Timber Ridge Trail Road on Great North Mountain, as illustrated on the Pinnacle Insert on the back of the revised Map L.

Walt indicated the need for bridges to be constructed over Meadow Branch in Spruce Pine Hollow, a difficult rocky wade for hikers in high water, and over Back Creek once the Gore relocation is completed. He also noted that various volunteers are currently surveying land with the aim of moving the Tuscarora Trail off roads noted in the southern part of Map L to Great North Mountain, off Va. 688 between Gore and Gainesboro, and off River Road near the Potomac River. Lastly, Walt said that the club needs to find a trail center for construction crews in the area

*See Trailhead, page 17*

Trailhead, from page 16

since the Brill Cabin will not be available in the future due to new ownership of the tract. There are no PATC-owned cabins in the area.

### Ovoka AT Relocation

National Trails Day, June 4, has been chosen for the official opening of the AT relocation on the Ovoka Farm property purchased by ATPO last year. The relocation starts at the Sky Meadows State Park boundary and continues north for over a mile before connecting with the existing AT before Rte. 50. The trail passes through open pastures and provides a welcome change to the enclosed feeling of the current trail. ATPO, Piedmont Environmental Council, and PATC are organizing the occasion, which will include hikes of the area. The Cadillac Crew opened the AT relocation to hikers in March, but some of the associated side trails are awaiting proper Sky Meadows-provided signs.

### Forest Service Meeting Update

On March 13 the Forest Service held its annual Lee District cooperators meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss items of interest to all the users of the trails in the Lee District. More than 40 people attended, including PATC, horse clubs, mountain bike clubs, running clubs, ATV and ORV groups, and local landowners.

Tom Johnson presented an overview of the planning for a new long trail west of the AT that will join the Tuscarora Trail on Great North Mountain. Other discussions included the potential future expansion of the Scothorn Gap and Stephens trails, a planned burn in the few miles south of the Camp Roosevelt area, consideration of a fee for ATV use, and an upcoming revision to the Forest Management Plan for the Lee District.

### Forest Service Chainsaw Training

PATC members Heidi Forrest, Rick Rhoades, Jim Tomlin, and Hop Long attended the U.S. Forest Service chainsaw certification/training



Photo by Eric VanNortwick

Dick Dugan removing a blowdown from the AT on Pass Mountain during the Hoodlums' March "Irish" worktrip.



Photo by Mike Vento

Rock steps for Buzzard Rock Trail courtesy of the Cadillac Crew.

weekend at the Forest Service Depot in Edinburg, Va., on March 19 and 20. The instructor was the USFS chainsaw maestro Jay Collett, assisted by Don Sawyer and Wade Bushong. The first day was a brief classroom overview of chainsaw safety, maintenance, and cutting strategies, with a flavorful sidelight of the annual Edinburg VFW chicken barbecue for lunch. The second day was spent cutting at Trout Pond Recreation Area, where "hazard trees" had previously been felled for practice. Participants were treated to an exhibition of chainsaw prowess by Jay, whose techniques could fell a tree in the opposite direction that it was leaning, with a precision such that the falling trunk could have hammered in a previously placed tent peg. Nature provided quite a show a few dozen yards away from the cutting site, where wood frogs (*Rana sylvatica*) were arriving in great numbers from all directions and breeding en masse in a small pond.

### North Mountain Connector

On March 26, Jim Tomlin and Mike Juskelis of the Sierra Club and West Virginia Highlands Conservancy led a scouting hike to the end of Tea Mountain Hollow Trail in the Great North Mountain District. The goal was to identify a route for a 0.6-mile trail to connect the end of the Tea Mountain Hollow Trail to the Tuscarora. The 2004 PATC Map F shows the trail as already present, but it could not be located during two scouting trips. The scouted route is very suitable for a new trail and would make for a very attractive 7.5-mile loop hike using the Tea Mountain Hollow Trail, the Tuscarora, and Rte. 600. Jim and Mike's findings have been forwarded to the Forest Service and are awaiting the next steps.

See Trailhead, page 18

### Stonewall Brigade

The trail work crew for the George Washington National Forest, Lee Ranger District, and Great North Mountain PATC District, known as the Stonewall Brigade, will begin its 2005 campaign on Saturday, May 21. Work will continue on the third Saturday of each month until fall. Trail work will mostly consist of keeping trails open that have no official overseers. Many trails in this area are without overseers, perhaps because of the perception that Great North Mountain is too long of a drive from the Metro area (it is only a half hour further than the North District of SNP), or it lacks the glamor of a national park. However, the uncrowded scenic area contains quite a few hiking gems, such as Big Schloss, Tibbet Knob, Halfmoon Mountain, and the Tuscarora Trail. Those interested in helping the Stonewall Brigade, or volunteering to oversee one of the beautiful but orphaned trails, please contact Hop Long (theFSLongs@comcast.net, 301/942-6177) or Jim Tomlin (jtomlin@helix.nih.gov). No experience is necessary, and your help is greatly needed and will be highly appreciated.

### Shenandoah Bartenders

The Shenandoah Bartenders Trail Crew is looking for any thirsty trail workers to join them for some hard work on Old Rag and the SNP Central District AT. Contact Cathie Cummins (Cathie@wfa.net, 703/631-7421) for more information. Check the Forecast for work trip dates.

### SNP Central District Sweep

The Blue and White Crew celebrated the Annual "Snowed-Out AT Sweep" in March. The crew split into two groups, sending a crosscut team up Cedar Run and a chainsaw team up White Oak Canyon. The groups encountered a day-long light snowfall, a fair number of large over-winter blowdowns, and deep snow at the higher elevations. After work, the crew retired to the home of B&W regulars, Aksel and Melanie Falk, for happy hour, dinner, and a billiards tournament (this year's champion: David Falk). Before dinner, the crew gathered 'round for a reading from Patrick Wilson's Big Book of Chimp Tales. The March recitation was a heart-warming story of "Moe's Special Birthday." Crew photos can be viewed at: <http://blueandwhitecrew.org>

Due to scheduling problems, the crew will not host its annual overseer workshop in June. The workshop will return in 2006. New overseers, however, are encouraged to join the crew for a day or a weekend. Crew projects in 2005 will include re-hab projects on the AT, as well as visits to several SNP Central District side trails. Contact Kerry Snow (kerry@trailcrews.net) for details, or visit the crew Web site for more information.

### SNP North District Power Weeder

A large new toolbox has been located at the Front Royal entrance station to Skyline Drive. The new box will contain a power weeder so overseers working the north end of the district will not have to go all the way to Piney River

to get a power weeder. Any new overseers needing lessons on use and care of the weeder should contact DMs Peter Harris or Dick Dugan. That big box was not inexpensive for the club, so we hope it gets a lot of use and is not "abused."

### Celtic Hoodlums

Twenty folks signed up for the North District Hoodlums March work trip, and all 20 brave souls showed up despite the weekend forecast of rain. In the misty fog, the crew split into four groups and removed the remaining winter blowdowns that were reported on seven AT and BB trail sections in the district. After the work, the crew fought its way through the fog down to Range View Cabin where a Celtic feast was put together in short order. It is said that it rains a wee, good bit in Ireland, and the Hoodlum's "Irish" worktrip was no exception.

### Buzzard Rocks

On a cool, drizzly weekend in March, the Cadillac Crew attacked an erosion problem on the Buzzard Rock Trail on the north end of East Massanutten Mountain. The crew resorted to using the nearby rocks as the only suitable material to build a series of waterbars and a set of steps. After the arduous task of collecting and moving large rocks, the vintage-aged crew decided it needed to recruit some younger volunteers before older backs give out. However, the sore muscles were rewarded with a spiral ham dinner courtesy of Katherine Rindt. Overseer Dick Bemis later reported the waterbars were very effective during a heavy rain the next day. At least there were no "uphill" drains.

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 [jkrindt@shentel.net](mailto:jkrindt@shentel.net). ☐@



Photo by James Martin

*John Hedrick, Wayne Limberg, Dick Dugan, and Peter Harris try out newly installed coffin, er, tool box for weed whackers at the SNP's Front Royal entrance. Memorial services to be announced.*

### POTOMAC APPALACHIAN

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## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

### Needed – IT Planning Subcommittee Chair

PATC just purchased new computers and now wants to attack the many hardware and software questions bringing PATC into the 21st century. I want someone to lead – making a commitment of 8 hours per week – a group to plan and execute PATC's future in Information Technology. If someone wants to lead this IT Planning Subcommittee give me a call. Bruce Glendening, Vice President Operations. 703/532-9093 or e-mail [bglendening@yahoo.com](mailto:bglendening@yahoo.com)

### Volunteers Needed: Viva! Vienna! May 29 & 30

Looking for something to do in the DC area over the Memorial Day Weekend? Come on over to Vienna, Va., to enjoy the many shows, bands, and activities at Viva! Vienna! Stop by to see Pat Fankhauser at the PATC booth introducing visitors to our trail world. Would you like to help out at the booth for an hour or more? Contact Pat ([pfankhauser@patc.net](mailto:pfankhauser@patc.net)) 703/242-0693 x17 to let her know when you will be there or that you are coming and would be glad to stop by to help out. She, too, would like to enjoy some of the festivities and would appreciate your support. For more information on Viva! Vienna! visit [www.vivavienna.org/vivaviennapage.htm](http://www.vivavienna.org/vivaviennapage.htm).

### Help the Club at the ATC Conference July 1-8

Are you coming to the ATC Conference at East Tennessee State University, Johnson City, Tenn., for the Biennial Conference? Would you be willing to volunteer some time at the PATC booth? Pat Fankhauser will be there promoting PATC and would like some help for an hour or more on July 2 or 3. Give Pat a call ([pfankhauser@patc.net](mailto:pfankhauser@patc.net)) 703/242-0693 x17 to let her know when you will be at the Conference and find out how you can assist the club.

### TRAIL OVERSEER DISCOUNTS

**PATC OVERSEERS GET DISCOUNTS** from the following merchants who support our volunteer programs: Blue Ridge Mountain Sports (Charlottesville, Tidewater) – 20%, Hudson Trail Outfitters (Metro D.C.) – 15%, The Trail House (Frederick, Md.) – 15%, Casual Adventures (Arlington, Va.) – 10%, Campmor (mail order via PATC HQ) – 10%, Weasel Creek Outfitters in Front Royal – 10%, The Outfitter at Harpers Ferry – 15%, and the sole source (Harrisonburg) – 10%. Check the back page of the *PA* for the latest trail, cabin, and shelter overseer opportunities. 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.

### PATC EXCURSION TO WIND RIVER

PATC members are invited to join a 7-day Llama Trek starting July 31 going into the Wind River Mountains west of Lander, WY. To learn more about this outfitter, go to [www.LanderLlama.com](http://www.LanderLlama.com). This Excursion is designed for members who have moderate walking ability (8 miles per day at altitudes of 10,000 feet). Tents, sleeping bags, and sleeping pads are provided so all you need to carry is your day pack. All meals are furnished, prepared, and served by outstanding staff. The outfitter fee of \$1,400 is all-inclusive for the Trek itself. For other details, contact Dave Appel ([dwappel@juno.com](mailto:dwappel@juno.com)) or by phone at the Bears Den Trail Center, 540/554-8708.

## PATC Swap Meet

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 three months, at the discretion of the editor, unless we are otherwise advised. □

### HIKING PARTNERSHIPS

I live in Gaithersburg, Md., and am looking for hiking and camping buddies within 120 miles of the DC area. I am 29 and willing to hike/camp anywhere. I also have a dual propane stove that I am giving away. Any takers? Contact Jeffrey Scott ([knight\\_1\\_nu@yahoo.com](mailto:knight_1_nu@yahoo.com)) 301/466-3373.

### LOST AND FOUND

**GOLD COLORED BULOVA MEN'S WATCH**, analogue, with a dark leather band at Meadows cabin on approximately 3/20/05. It was most likely lost outside on the property near the cabin. Contact: Randy Wilcox ([rrwilcox1@juno.com](mailto:rrwilcox1@juno.com)) 703/532-5767

### FOR SALE

BICYCLE TRAILER, Burley D'Lite, in good condition. \$175 OBO. Located in Rockville, Md. Contact Al Taylor ([alt@ieee.org](mailto:alt@ieee.org)).

# Trail, Shelter, and Corridor Overseers / Monitors Wanted

## **CORRIDOR MONITOR OPENINGS**

Tom Lupp, 301/271-7340  
tlupp@erols.com

**Shannondale [near Blackburn] - VA -  
PATC Map 7**

**Wilson Gap -VA - PATC Map 7**

**Ashby Gap South - VA - PATC Map 8**

## **DISTRICT MANAGER MASSANUTTEN SOUTH —MAP H**

Liles Creighton, 410/573-0067  
lcrei@aol.com

**Trail Overseer Openings.** Contact the District Manager for the section that interests you.

**TUSCARORA PENNSYLVANIA MAPS J & K**  
Opportunity to work long hours with no pay or benefits. Generous allowance of blisters, stinging/biting insects, and poisonous plants. Special provision for rain and mud. Little or no supervision. Work hours optional. Location somewhere on the Tuscarora Trail in Pennsylvania. No certification from your doctor or hospital required.

Pete Brown, 410/343-1140  
peter.brown4@worldnet.att.net

## **HARPERS FERRY/ASHBY GAP AT & BB —MAP 7 & 8**

Chris Brunton, 703/924-0406  
trailbossbtc@msn.com

### **Appalachian Trail**

Loudoun Heights Trail to Powerline  
(2.3 miles)

## **ASHBY/POSSUMS AT/BB [RTE. 50 TO SNP] — MAP 8 & 9**

Lloyd Parriott, 540/622-2743  
laparriott@hotmail.com

New AT trail sections being developed near Ashby Gap, Va., Hwy# 50. Some open meadow, some wooded. Available soon.

### **Appalachian Trail**

Dicks Dome Shelter Rd. to Parking lot 8  
(0.43 miles)

### **Barking Dog Trail**

AT to Barking Dog Spring/Rte 604  
(0.34 miles)

## **SNP CENTRAL BB [NORTH END]—MAP 10**

Dan Dueweke, 703/266-3248  
danjan3@cox.net

New overseer opportunities coming available soon. Choice trails rich in Shenandoah history.

Don't miss this rare opportunity to stake your claim.

# Wanted!



## **SNP CENTRAL BLUE-BLAZED [SOUTH END]—MAP 10**

Steve Paull, 703/361-3869  
stevepaull@yahoo.com

### **Rose River Loop — Co-Overseer**

Rose River Fire Rd. to Skyland-Big  
Meadows Horse Trail (2.7 miles)

## **TUSCARORA CENTRAL —MAP L**

Walt Smith, 540/678-0423  
wsmith@visuallink.com

### **Tuscarora Trail**

Yellow Spring Road to Capon Springs  
Road

## **TUSCARORA SOUTH —MAP F, G, 9**

Rick Rhoades, 540/477-3247  
rrhoades@shentel.net

### **Tuscarora Trail**

Fetzer Gap to Maurertown (5.7 miles)

### **Tuscarora Trail**

Cedar Creek to Ridge Crest (2.8 miles)

### **Tuscarora Trail**

Ridge Crest to Fetzer Gap (3.1 miles)

## **GREAT NORTH MOUNTAIN —MAP F**

Hop Long, 301/942-6177  
theFSLongs@comcast.net

### **Gerhard Shelter Trail**

Tuscarora Trail to Vances Cove  
(1.5 miles)



## **The Potomac Appalachian**

118 Park Street  
Vienna, VA 22180-4609

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