



The Potomac Appalachian

The Newsletter of the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club
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National Trails Day Celebrates a Century of Trails

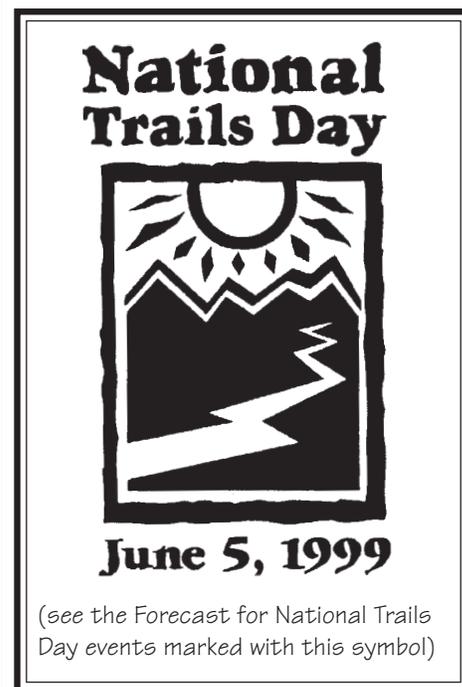
“Celebrating a Century of Trails” is this year’s theme for National Trails Day, June 5. The program is coordinated by the American Hiking Society and planned by trail clubs, conservation groups, outdoor retailers, and land managers. Events will be held at more than 3,000 sites nationwide to honor the passion, energy, and visionary effort that have brought communities together over the past 100 years to build trails and protect America’s open spaces. This year, 12 national Millennium Trails will be announced on National Trails Day. The Millennium Trails project is a White House initiative that will commemorate the pathways that tell America’s story. Selected over the next year, the Millennium Trails will represent a full spectrum of the nation’s most significant trails, from hiking

paths to waterways to historic routes of migration and exploration. For more on the Millennium Trails project visit the web site at www.millenniumtrails.org.

National Trails Day was created in 1993 to forward the goals of Trails for All Americans, a plan to establish a nationwide network of trails that brings people from their backyards to the backcountry, and joins small towns and big cities to the countryside and beyond. In 1998, National Trails Day participants hiked or rode 22,000 miles, performed maintenance work on 18,500 miles of trail, and opened or built 2,500 miles of new pathways. PATC held 15 work trips in every district where we maintain trails and participated in a trail fair near Roosevelt Island on the Potomac Heritage

Trail. This year we will be doing more work trips. See this month’s Forecast for the particulars. □

—Terry Cummings



American Wetlands Month

Sandwiched between Earth Day in April and National Trails Day in June is another environmental celebration: American Wetlands Month. Since 1990, the month of May has been a celebration of wetlands and their benefits. During this month educators and practitioners are encouraged to work together to educate the public about the many benefits of wetlands.

The Terrene Institute initiated this educational event in conjunction with the Environmental Protection Agency. Other federal agencies that support American Wetlands Month include USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, the Corps of Engineers, and the Bureau of Land Management and Reclamation. Activities during the month are also sponsored by companies and organizations as varied as Philip Morris Companies, Inc. and the World Wildlife Fund.

There are many different types of wetlands, from playa to marshes to vernal pools, which are found in different ecosystems. Because they

are found in so many places and in such varied ecosystems, it should be no surprise that the functions of wetlands vary widely. Wetlands serve many purposes in our environment. A sampling of the benefits of wetlands follows:

- Over 12 million ducks nest and breed in northern US wetlands.
- Nearly 100 percent of our wood ducks spend the winter in flooded bottomland forests and marshlands.
- Wetlands provide food and shelter for a great variety of furbearing animals, birds, and other wildlife.
- At least one third of all threatened or endangered species found in the US live in wetland areas.
- Roughly two thirds of our shellfish and important commercial and sport species of marine fish use wetlands for spawning and/or nursery grounds.
- Bottomland forests are rich sources of timber.
- Wetlands temporarily store flood waters. Their presence can reduce downstream losses of life and property damage.

See *Wetlands*, page 3

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Council Members, Chairs and Staff

Officers

President: Walt Smith, 703/242-0693,
wsmith@visuallink.com

VP Operations: George Still

VP Volunteerism: Tom Johnson

Supervisor of Trails: Peter Gatje

Email: PJGatje@aol.com

Supervisor of Corridor Management: Tom Lupp

General Secretary: Warren Sharp

General Counsel: Eric Olson

Membership Secretary: Terry Cummings

Treasurer: Dick Newcomer

Recording Secretary: Gerhard Salinger

Sections/ Chapters

Mountaineering Section: Ozana Halik

SMRG: Bud Hyland

Ski Touring Section: Katherine Stentzel

North Chapter: Steve Koeppen

N. Shenandoah Valley Chapter: Martha Clark

S. Shenandoah Valley Chapter: Lynn Cameron

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Land Management: Ed McKnew

Land Acquisition: Phil Paschall & Eric Olson

Legal: Eric Olson

Maps: Dave Pierce

Maryland Appalachian Trail Management

Committee: Charlie Graf

Public Affairs: Terry Cummings

Publications: Aaron Watkins

Shelters: Charlie Graf 410/757-6053

Trail Patrol: Mickey McDermott

Tuscarora Trail Land Management: Lloyd MacAskill

Special Committees/Ongoing Activities

Archives & Library: Paula Strain

Cabin Reservations: Darlene Wall

Deputy Supervisor of Trails: Rick Rhoades

Firestone Tract Management: Shirley Strong

Information/Sales Desks: Marguerite Schneeberger

Medical: Dennis DeSilvey

Vining Tract Management: Howard Johnson

Potomac Appalachian

Chief Editor: Bianca Menendez

bianca@moon.jic.com

Features Editor: Joanne Erickson

Forecast Editor: Joe O'Neill

JJO'Neill@visi.net

Pre-press: Nancy Merritt,

MeritMktg@aol.com

Headquarters

Tel: 703/242-0693 **Fax:** 703/242-0968

Email: WRiley1226@aol.com

24-hour Activities Tape: 703/242-0965

Staff

Director of Administration: Wilson Riley (Ext. 11)

Email: WRiley1226@aol.com

Trails Management Coordinator: Heidi Forrest

(Ext.12) Email: heidif@erols.com

Business Manager: Regina Garnett (Ext. 15)

Email: rgarnett@erols.com

Membership/Cabin Coordinator: Pat Fankhauser

(Ext. 17) Email: pfankh@erols.com

Sales Coordinator: Maureen Estes (Ext. 19)

World Wide Web URL: <http://www.patc.net>

New Honorary Life Memberships Awarded

The Club welcomes its newest Honorary Life Members, Sandra Marra, Jean Golightly, J. Randall Minchew, and Marjorie Dexter. The Honorary Life Membership is a very special award, reserved for members who have rendered outstanding service or contributions to the Club or its objectives over an extended period of time.

Qualifications for Honorary Life membership are:

- long-time Club member,
- exemplifies the service aims of the Club,
- has contributed to the Club across a broad range of service activities, and
- generates enthusiasm and has inspired others to become active in the Club.

Congratulations Sandi, Jean, Randy, and Marjorie.

Sandra Marra.

For her memorable service, and outstanding achievements as PATC's President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, and General Secretary. For being the driving force as Chairwoman of the Virginia '95 ATC Conference hosted by PATC, and instrumental in initiating three restricted funds, which has helped this organization maintain the solid financial ground it enjoys today.

Jean Golightly.

For more than fifteen years of service as Chairwoman of PATC's Publications Committee, authoring and editing many of the Club's best-known and best-selling trail guidebooks, which have introduced countless thousands of hikers to the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club.

J. Randall Minchew.

For years of outstanding, dedicated service as legal counsel and Chairman of PATC's Legal Committee. In this capacity he was instrumental in guiding the Club through two most important actions: obtaining property tax-exempt status for the Club when it moved from Washington, D.C. to Vienna, VA and the sale of the VOS property, which provided the Club with the financial means to continue its work for decades to come.

Marjorie Dexter.

For more than fifty years of service on the Headquarters staff, as Recording Secretary, Coordinator for the PATC Annual Dinner for decades, Assistant Archivist, and assistant with unheralded and unrecognized volunteer duties across a range of Club activities. □

—Patricia Fankhauser

CELEBRATE

Sam Moore is a very special person, in general and to the PATC. I don't know of any person in the entire AT maintenance community that can boast that he/she has been a trail overseer for over FIFTY YEARS! I believe Sam is the only one and others will play hell trying to beat that time. In addition to this feat, he donated the funds to purchase the materials, and was instrumental in building what is now the "Sam Moore Shelter" in the area of the AT just off Route 50. I'm not sure what Sam's age is, but he has been a member of the Club since 1938. He was given the Honorary Life Membership award in 1989. There's probably a lot more he has done, committees he's been on, but I can't spell them out at this time.

On May 16, at a special Sunday at the Club event, we will honor this great man and personal friend. (See the Forecast for more information about this event.) Please join us as Sam would be glad to see you, and you him. Then we will list all of Sam's accomplishments with the Club. I'm sure it will be quite impressive.

—Patricia Fankhauser

Correction

The April issue incorrectly stated that PATC maintains all of the 18 designated state hiking trails. PATC actually only maintains the Tuscarora and Rocky Knob trails. The editor apologizes for any confusion.

Walt's Notes

You do Make a Difference

It is easy to wonder sometimes, as we are dragging deadfall off the trail, or cleaning out the privy, whether our volunteer work makes a difference. Do hikers really appreciate the work that goes into keeping the trail open, or the shelter in shape?

In March I accepted a check for ten thousand dollars from David and Cynthia Cowall for the construction of the new Hemlock Hill Shelter in Maryland. The donation was made in memory of their son Ensign Phillip Cowall, US Coast Guard, who died at the age of twenty-three in a traffic accident in the summer of 1997.

The occasion for accepting the check was a hike, attended by the Cowalls and Charlie Graf, Shelter Chair, to the area among the hemlocks where the new log shelter will be built. It was a beautiful day for the hike, and I wondered whether it had been that lovely when Phillip Cowall, also known as "Coastie Phil", had hiked that portion of the Appalachian Trail in the mid-'90s. I could somehow picture him energetically coming up the hill; energetically because he evidently used up lots of energy. His father said that he witnessed him order ten Big Macs once, seven for a meal and three for the road!

I don't know whether any of the overseers ever saw "Coastie Phil" on the Trail. He and his father had hiked all of it through

Virginia in sections. Phil had also hiked the AT alone through Maryland and north into Pennsylvania when he had some free time during school breaks. But I am sure that he appreciated the work of the overseers. His folks explained that "he loved the wilderness and especially the AT." He had hoped that when time allowed some day he could through-hike the entire Trail. "Since that dream was never realized," David and Cynthia Cowall indicated, "perhaps we could help make that journey easier for others."

And so, as we drag deadfall off the trail, or clean out the privy, we know with certainty that we are participating in other people's dreams, and how important it is that we help make that personal journey an easier one.

Thank You Marilyn

Not all of the volunteers necessary to carry out Club objectives are working on the trails. Many are very busily working in the Headquarters building in Vienna. If you have ever tried to call the Club during the evening business hours and gotten a busy signal, even though there are three telephone lines, then you know how busy the volunteers are as they provide services from the cabins, sales, and information desks.

The volunteer supervisor responsible for managing the cabins reservations system and scheduling the volunteers necessary to staff the desk, four days a week, every week during the past three years has been Marilyn Stone.

Marilyn has also been working as a volunteer at the cabins desk since she became a member of the Club in 1982. Marilyn will continue to work a shift on the desk, but she relinquished her duties as supervisor in April.

Marilyn, thank you very much for being dedicated to providing this important Club function so that hundreds of people could enjoy their cabin experience out near the trails.

And thank you desk volunteers. You do make a difference.

See you on the trail,



A New Trail of Sorts

The idea of a bike path the whole length of the East Coast was proposed in 1991 at a meeting of the East Coast Bicycle Association. It would go right through the cities along the way, rather than avoid them, but it would connect with the existing networks of local bicycle trails so that the East Coast Greenway would be a "showcase of rural, suburban, and urban America." The idea has since been expanded to make it a trail for walkers, skaters, bicycle and wheelchair riders, and, in some portions, horseback riders and canoeists as well.

55.3 miles of trails are already designated portions of the East Coast Greenway: the Baltimore and Annapolis Trail (Maryland), the Delaware and Raritan Canal towpath (New Jersey), the Farmington Canal Greenway (Connecticut), and the Coventry Greenway (Rhode Island). Hundreds of additional miles are in various stages of development. The Alliance's quarterly newsletter carries, in its current issue, news of such developments in fourteen states.

—Paula Strain

Wetlands, from page 1

- Wetlands remove silt and filter out pollutants thereby purifying our water.
- Wetlands also offer recreational opportunities for the enjoyment of nature, hiking, fishing, hunting, photography, and environmental education.

Of the roughly 221 million acres of wetlands originally found in the lower 48 states, over half have been destroyed. Millions of these acres were lost due to draining for agricultural use. In addition to these losses was the deterioration of many of the remaining wetlands. Pollutants were just one factor in this deterioration. Although we now have several regulations that have reduced the rate of wetlands losses, there continues to be a net loss of 290,000 acres of wetlands each year.

The Terrene Institute has established a grass-roots organization that supports American Wetland Month. It is called Pals of American Wetlands (members are PAWs.) PAWs contribute money to help fund American Wetlands Month materials that help to educate the public. You can also support wetlands by purchasing Federal "Duck Stamps" at your local post office. So this May take time to celebrate and show your support for wetlands.

If you would like more information about American Wetlands Month, contact the Terrene Institute at 4 Herbert Street, Alexandria, VA 22305; 703/548-5473; (terrinst@aol.com); www.terrene.org. □

—Lynn Gulley



The PATC/SNP Trails Workshop comes to the Central District!

Don't forget to mark your calendars (and reserve your spot) for the 1st Annual Central District Trails Workshop. Learn trails skills from the pros! PATC Trail Crew regulars will be assisting the Rangers from Shenandoah National Park in a series of workshops designed to train current and prospective overseers in the techniques and standards employed in the Park.

The Workshop will be held at the Pinnacles Research Station in Shenandoah National Park (near Pinnacles Picnic Ground) and will run from 9 a.m. (sharp) on Saturday until afternoon Sunday. Participants will camp out (bring tents and sleeping bags) on the grounds of the Research Station. The \$20 registration fee will include all meals (see registration form).

Help inaugurate what we hope will be a long tradition in the SNP Central District. Reserve your spot early (the workshop will be limited to 25 participants).

Teamwork at last year's workshop helps to get the job done.



Photo by Susan Cahill

1999 SNP Central District Trails Workshop June 5&6 Pinnacles Research Station, Shenandoah National Park

Registration Form

Name _____
Address _____
City _____
State _____ ZIP _____
Phone (evening) _____ (day) _____
Email address _____

REGISTRATION
FEE: \$20
(includes lunch and
dinner on Saturday,
breakfast and lunch on
Sunday)

On Saturday, I'd like to:

- Practice basic skills
(waterbar construction and
maintenance, crosscut saw
skills, blazing, etc.)
- Learn trail rehab skills (tread repair, cribbing, etc.)
- Learn rigging techniques (Griphoist methods and safety)

On Sunday, I'd like to:

- Work on the trail project
- Finish my chain saw
certification process
(field training)

Please send registration form and \$20 per registrant to: Kerry Snow, P.O. Box 1169, Olney, MD 20830 (checks made to: Kerry Snow)

Appalachian Trail Days Festival sponsored by the Town of Damascus, Virginia is May 14, 15, and 16. This year's festival is dedicated to Earl Shaffer, the first through-hiker. For more information check out the website: <http://www.damascus.org>



Hike the Dolomite Mountains of Italy

No question that the US and Canada offer incredible beauty, challenges, and experiences in hiking. The splendor of the American and Canadian Rockies is an experience not soon forgotten, but the wanderlust for new hiking experiences never ceases. Last year 26 of us went to Catalonia (Spain) and hiked the Spanish Pyrenees. This year the Southern Alps of Italy are beckoning us to the village of Cortina d'Ampezzo, where the extraordinarily beautiful Dolomite mountains tower 2,000 meters (more than 6,000 feet) over the village. Cortina, nestled in lush green meadows, is encircled by mountains and is one of the most scenic spots in all the Alps.

There is an extraordinary variety of walks and hikes through every imaginable type of terrain, mountain formation, and setting. There are easy trails with little change in elevation as well as more difficult mountain trekking. Some of the hike itineraries require the use of uphill lifts/gondolas to get to the trailheads.

There are gradual ascents through meadows and forests, which end at picturesque small lakes. Some trails pass through World War I ruins, some pass through the heart of a WWI battle zone where cut-away galleries can be seen. One trail will bring you to the prehistoric grave of a hunter. There are some strenu-

ous but magnificent mountain treks over rugged tundra between towering mountain walls where the change in elevation is a gain of 1,000 meters and a loss of 1,000 meters. There are many 360 degree views to be found. One of the most spectacular trails is along the Passo Giau to the Cinque Torri. For a leisure day, since trails are well marked and publicized, one can forgo the guide, buy a map, and create one's own hiking experience.

After five days of hiking the Dolomites, a fitting end is two nights in Venice where history, art, architecture, culture, and beauty can be experienced. The city is small, and most

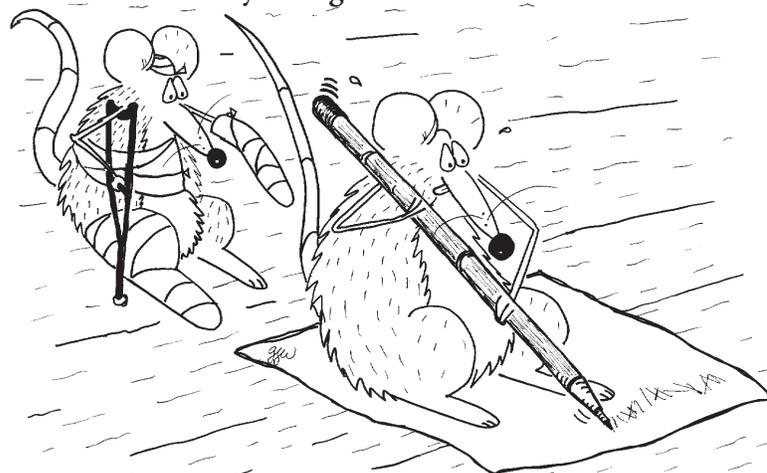
Italy, continued

sights can be visited on foot. Its heart is the Piazza San Marco, which is overlooked by the great Basilica and the Doge's Palace. Museums, palaces, and churches of Venice are world renowned, and the Byzantine Gothic, early and high Renaissance, Baroque, and Rococo architecture and art is breathtaking.

Hiking is my passion. I have hiked the Colorado and Canadian Rockies, The Great Smoky Mountains, Shenandoah National Park, the Berkshires of Connecticut, and the Spanish Pyrenees. I am also an experienced trip leader, having led treks and ski adventures to: 1) Rocky Mountain National Park (two hiking trips); 2) Spanish Pyrenees; 3) Panorama (British Columbia) ski trip; and 4) cross country skiing at Yellowstone National Park. The adventure begins on September 6, and you are invited to join your fellow hiking enthusiasts. For more trip particulars, see the Notices section or call me at 703/435-8315. □

—Donna Brother

Tails from the Woods by George Walters



"DEAR PATC, WE ARE WRITING TO PROTEST YOUR POLICY ON PETS IN THE CABIN... ESPECIALLY CATS!"



Where the Wildflowers Are... Hiking to Wildflowers in Shenandoah National Park

It is spring in the Shenandoah—thawing snows and lengthening days bring the promise of new life. Migrating birds fill the air with songs of courtship. Newborn fawns snuggle near their mothers. The scramble of visitors and through-hikers fills the trails, shelters, and campgrounds. And without a sound, the mountainsides and meadows are slowly being carpeted with a wondrous riot of color and texture. The wildflowers have returned once again to the Appalachians.

Shenandoah National Park possesses some of the most diverse flora east of the Rockies, boasting 1,100 species of vascular plants, including wildflowers, orchids, trees, shrubs, grasses, ferns, sedges, and rushes. After the continental glaciers of the Ice Age retreated northward, many forests were left stranded in the highland region of the southern Appalachians. As most boreal forests withdrew to New England and Canada, isolated stretches remained at the highest reaches of our Eastern mountains.

In the southern Appalachians, elevations between 3,500 and 6,000 feet are climatically similar to regions much further north. This provides a refuge for many species. Shenandoah, with a maximum elevation of 4,049 feet on Hawksbill Mountain, is high enough to support many of these distinct

Potomac Appalachian

Bloodroot



Photo by C.K. Webb

plant communities. Presently, the richness in flora of Shenandoah remains undeniable and can be attributed to the temperate climate, heavy precipitation, and geographical location.

Flowers Follow the Seasons

The blooming season begins in March with a first showing from hepatica, bloodroot, serviceberry, spring-beauty, trout lily, and trailing arbutus. April continues the momentum with blankets of trillium, violets, cut-leaved toothwort, Dutchman's breeches, dogwood, and redbud. Columbine, may-apple, azalea, marsh-marigold, waterleaf, wild geranium, rose twisted-stalk, and spiderwort transition the month of May, while parades of mountain laurel, golden ragwort, blue-eyed grass,

evening primrose, and Bowman's root march into June.

July proceeds with cow parsnip, tall meadow-rue, milkweed, loosestrife and flowering raspberry. Cardinal flower, aster, dayflower, lobelia, foxglove, and joe-pye-weed wrap up the late summer flowers in August. September brings the close to most of the flowering plants with final salutes from gentian, ironweed, harebell and goldenrod. Eighteen species of orchids have been recorded in Shenandoah, including showy orchis, round-leaved orchis, purple fringed orchis, yellow lady's slipper, pink lady's slipper, and nodding ladies' tresses, to name a few. Each contributes its unique charm and elegance to a different season.

Both native and non-native species are found in the Park. Many aliens or exotic species were introduced to the region prior to the Shenandoah's national park status. An alien or exotic plant is one that is not originally native but is now established. Non-native species usually grow in open fields or roadsides, while native flora are more prevalent beneath the forest canopy. Common non-native species include black mustard, heal-all, lousewort, ox-eye daisy, Queen Anne's lace and Deptford pink.

See *Wildflowers*, page 6

Wildflowers, from page 5

Have Fun Identifying Flowers

Identification for the novice wildflower enthusiast is usually based on visual impressions: color, general shape and structure, and distinctions between similar species (both leaves and flowers). Field guides, with their organizational charts and clear descriptions, are easy to use and probably the best means of wildflower identification. For example, *A Field Guide to Wildflowers of the Northeastern and North Central North America*, by Roger Tory Peterson and Margaret McKenny, clearly describes wildflower distinctions. Other helpful books are *Wildflowers of the Shenandoah Valley and Blue Ridge Mountains*, by Oscar Gupton; *Wildflowers of the Appalachian Trail*, by Leonard Adkins; and *The National Audubon Society Field Guide to North American Wildflowers: Eastern Region*, by William A. Niering. A calendar detailing blooming dates of the Park's more popular wildflowers is available from Park Headquarters, visitor centers, campgrounds, and entrance stations.

Where To Look

Big Meadows, intentionally maintained in its historic meadowlike condition, remains the largest open area in the Park. This is a remarkable place to stroll and view open field wildflowers in early to mid-summer and various berries in late summer. From April to September, most trails, overlooks, and roadsides in the Park will not disappoint the wildflower seeker. However, my favorite hikes are in the central district, where higher elevations offer considerable variety in a relatively concentrated area.

The following trails are excellent wildflower day hikes: South River Falls Trail, Pocosin Trail, Laurel Prong Trail, Mill Prong Trail, Lewis Falls Trail, the Appalachian Trail (AT) to Hawksbill Summit, Betty's Rock Trail, Crescent Rock Trail, Rose River Loop Trail, and AT at Fisher's Gap.

Diverse plant communities are crucial for maintaining sustainable ecosystems. Log-



Photo by C.K. Webb

ging, homesteading, and grazing have affected many species of the Shenandoah. In addition, aggressive alien plants compete for terrain. Shenandoah has seen the return of several native species as the indigenous ecosystems attempt to reclaim the land. But challenges remain for our native wildflowers as declining air quality and foreign pests attack the forest canopy, causing changes in temperature and exposure.

As you hike the mountains of Shenandoah, enjoy the myriad plant communities, and remember we all have to do our part to help preserve the integrity of the land. Take pictures, not plants—but you knew that! □

—Pam DeVier

It was unfortunate that most of the articles that observed the recent passing of Glenn Seaborg overlooked his contributions to the American hiking community. In a way, this was understandable: as someone who had spent the last 47 years of his life as a Nobel laureate, he was easily the dean of Nobel Prize winners and best known for his role in the discovery of plutonium and nine other trans-uranium elements.

Although he spent the 1960s in the DC area with his family, the demands on his time as Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission limited his involvement with the local hiking community. But he was always happy to be out on the trail with his family and friends and later became a charter member of the American Hiking Society (AHS).

While other early AHS members were at a meeting 20 years ago, debating the wisdom of sponsoring a trans-continental hike that would become known as Hike-A-Nation, Seaborg spurred the group into action and publicly committed himself to laying out the route across California. He spent much of his free time over the following year out on the trail with his wife, Helen, delivering on his promise.

After Hike-A-Nation finally got under way on April 13, 1980, Dr. Seaborg's busy schedule prevented him from hiking more than the cross-California part of the route, but he did rejoin the group before they reached Washington 13 months later.

One of Dr. Seaborg's sons, Eric, is a long-time PATC member and Appalachian Trail overseer who is best known for leading the American Discovery Trail (ADT) scouting expedition in 1990-91 with his wife, Ellen Dudley. Not surprisingly, this movement to add a permanent trans-continental route to the National Trails System received strong support from veterans of Hike-A-Nation, as well as from more recent enthusiasts at *Backpacker* magazine.

If other Californians in Congress could resolve some of their perennial wrangles over the best use of their land, we might yet see the ADT and the new category known as Discovery Trails added to the National Trails System. It would indeed be a fitting memorial to a hiker and scientist whose name had become nearly synonymous with discovery! □

—Lloyd MacAskill

Another Long Distance Trail

The most recently opened long distance footpath in Britain is the Thames Way, connecting the wetland in Gloucestershire where the river begins to the Thames Barrier east of London where it meets the sea. This 180 mile streamside path offers many sightseeing opportunities as well as notable dining and overnight accommodations, according to the *Conde Nast Traveler* author reporting his own through walk (November 1998). He admits to being a "taxi-packer" who sent his backpack from inn to inn by taxi while he walked unencumbered.

—Paula Strain



Hiking with Willow — Part I

Willow was born in January of 1992, and she came into our house the following March. She didn't look much like a hiker—small, short-legged, and furry, with a decided streak of hypochondria and a fear of the wider world that was, well, almost human. Being an only dog, she had the usual relationship problems with her own set, and it took her a long time to understand that other people, too, had dogs with similar phobias. She chose to solve most problems by barking.

More than a year elapsed before we ventured out onto a trail. It was the winter of 1993-'94, the fearsome "winter of the ice," when Willow began hiking. Our first hikes were icy and harrowing. Even with four paws, Willow was tentative on ice—she didn't like it any better than I did. I remember crawling up and down steep slopes on all fours, with Willow sliding around behind me and trying to avoid careening over the edge of the bluff. She would probably have preferred a warm fire, but she never said a thing.

Willow Encounters Adventures

Her baptism by fire came three or four months into her hiking career. It was the now-infamous Little Devils Stairs hike of February 1994. Six inches of glare ice lay on the land, and walking resembled skating. When we emerged from our cars at the lower parking lot, we had to hold onto the roof racks to stay upright. The first hundred yards, negotiated mostly by crawling, led to our first stream, crossing a raging, icy torrent overlaid with a couple of fragile blowdowns across which we all had to crawl. The crossing alone took almost half an hour, but worse was to come.

Little Devils Stairs is essentially a hand-over-hand climb alongside a waterfall of two miles. Everything was iced—rocks, branches, the trail underfoot—and the raging stream sent arcs of spray over us at every unsteady step. We were all drenched before we had surmounted the first cataract, and continuing on was a moment-to-moment decision. It was at that first cataract that I came to realize something about Willow that I had never known—she was afraid of heights and was greatly intimidated by the roaring water. So I climbed Little Devils Stairs holding a wet, squirming collie, weighing easily 40 pounds or so.

Once on top, we had to get back down, and that involved an encounter with Piney Run. Several encounters, really; there must be 10 or 15 crossing points. All were over-swollen, and Willow, at that point revealed another phobia—a fear of crossing raging torrents. So while most of us shimmied across logs or jumped from icy rock to icy rock, I waded across each ford carrying Willow in my arms, frigid water up to my knees. At the end of the hike, my boots dissolved and had to be pitched. A kind soul took pity and loaned me her extra socks.

Willow's Genes Come to the Fore

Willow is what is called a "smooth" collie; that is, she has short hair and striking markings that turn heads on the trail. (The "rough" collies have long hair.) Her body language bespeaks a gentle nature, and people who would shy from other dogs come up and pet her. So she quickly became a popular and much-in-demand hiker in the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club. At the parking lot she is known to bound out of the car and run from hiker to hiker, thrusting her overlong nose into outstretched hands in greeting. Her circle of friends has expanded as she has become a more and more experienced hiker.

Once on the trail she becomes just another hiker, falling in step with the hiker ahead of her. But, being a gazelle among plodders, she periodically circles around, first cycling to the back of the pack, then weaving her way to the front. After a few minutes in front she will stop abruptly (sometimes causing the unwary leader to stumble into her), then goes to the side of the trail and waits for others to pass, thus beginning the cycle all over again.

Collies are herd dogs, and I think she is just checking on everyone. On a recent hike I stopped at a trail junction to wait for the sweep. Willow did not wait. She walked back three hundred yards or so and escorted the last two hikers to where I stood. There were other hikers on the trail, but she knew which two were supposed to be with our group and intended to ensure their safety.



When a hiking group splits up for any reason, Willow doesn't know quite what to do. She runs from one group to the other, but when she must choose, she generally chooses the group that I am in. Herd dogs are not happy with humans who won't herd: Sheep are easier. There is clearly something defective in our makeup.

Making Friends

Willow gets around. One day we were hiking the Appalachian

Trail in Pennsylvania. I had seen no one all day. Willow was up ahead, and as she rounded a sharp turn in the trail she stopped. I could see her hindquarters, tail wagging, and knew that there was a hiker or hikers yet unseen. Then I heard a shout: "Well, hello, Willow! What are you doing here, and where's old what's-his-name today?"

Lunchtime is an event for Willow. She begins with a good swig from the dog water dish, followed by a few dog treats. She then waits patiently for me to peel the orange—she likes citrus fruit. After that is over, she proceeds to mooch from the other hikers. Such a genteel dog would never snatch a sandwich from the unwary—she just stands there silently, looking mournfully into your eyes until you relent. Being omnivorous, she gets a great variety of food using this approach.

One day she successfully mooched a complete Chinese stir fry dinner from one of our hikers. Having taken a fancy to Willow, he considered it money well spent, because every time we hiked with him, she was never out of his sight. (You never know when a Chinese stir fry might be lurking in someone's pack.) □

—Tom Johnson

Patrons

Capital Hiking Club
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Potomac Backpackers Association
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FORECAST

Chapters

Charlottesville Chapter

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

North Chapter

The North Chapter of PATC conducts monthly trail work trips on the Maryland and Pennsylvania sections of the Appalachian Trail (AT) and on the Pennsylvania sections of the Tuscarora Trail. We also lead hikes on these and other trails. Maryland AT work trips are generally held on the first and third Saturdays—contact Mark Mitchell (mdtrail@yahoo.com), 301/461-7048 for information. Pennsylvania work trips are generally held on the AT on the first Saturday and on the Tuscarora on the third Saturday—contact Charles Irvin at 301/447-2848 or Pete Brown (peter.brown4@worldnet.att.net) 410/343-1140. Pennsylvania AT work trips also include an optional Saturday night stay at the Gypsy Springs cabin. Dinner, breakfast, and camaraderie available. For information on

upcoming hikes, contact Chris Firme (bncfirme@innet.net) 717/765-4833. For general chapter information, contact chapter president Steve Koeppen (patcnorth@iname.com) 410/756-2916 or visit the North Chapter home page (http://www.patc.net/north_ch.html).

Northern Shenandoah Valley Chapter

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

Southern Shenandoah Valley Chapter

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

West Virginia Chapter

Chapter meeting at Highacre on the first Wednesday of the month; see **Forecast** for up-coming activi-

ties. For further information on chapter activities or to receive the chapter newsletter contact Jane Thompson 301/865-5399.

Ski Touring Section

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

PATC Midweek Hikes

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

Other Clubs' Hikes

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

KEY to Forecast Activities

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

National Trails Day Events

Hiking Trips

Backpacking Trips

Trail Work Trips

Cabin/Shelter Work Trips

Special Events

Meetings

Cross-Country Skiing

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

Meetings

Meetings

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

Trail Patrol - First Tuesday

7:30 p.m. Trail Patrol volunteers are PATC's good will trail ambassadors to the hiking public. They provide a visible, reassuring presence on the trails, educating the public on good hiking practices, minimum impact hiking and camping ethics. Patrol members are trained in land navigation, emergency procedures, radio communications and personal equipment. All patrol volunteers are also expected to become certified in a recognized basic first aid course. Some equipment and uniform items are provided upon completion of training. INFO: MickeyMcDermott 703/866-0928 or see PATC's website (<http://www.patc.net/patrol.html>).

New Members (PATC) - First Wednesday

7:30 p.m. Curious about the Club? Want to learn more? The best way is to attend a New Members Meeting (but you don't have to be new to qualify). Attend the meeting and find the mysteries of PATC revealed in full. Refreshments will be served. Directions to PATC: Take Rt. 123 into Vienna, VA and turn east on Park St. (Rt. 675) to 118 Park St. on your left. INFO: Terry Cummings (TCIVP@aol.com) 410/489-4594.

Shenandoah Mountain Rescue Group (New Members meeting) - Second Monday

7:30 p.m. New members meeting. INFO: Greg Huska (ghuska@rpihq.com) 703/241-4195 (w) or 703/567-7960 (h).

PATC Council - Second Tuesday

7:00 p.m. - sharp. The PATC Council meets the second Tuesday of every month to conduct business of the Club. All members are welcome, but members wishing to address the Council should call two weeks prior to the meeting in order to be included on the meeting agenda. INFO: Wilson Riley (wrliley1226@aol.com) 703/242-0693 x11.

Mountaineering Section - Second Wednesday

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

Conservation Committee - Third Monday

7:00 p.m. For information on the Conservation Committee, or to join its meetings with the Piedmont Environmental Council or Virginia Planners, e-mail Mary Margaret Sloan at mmsloan@americanhiking.org or call her at 703/807-0746.

The Futures Group - Third Tuesday

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

Shenandoah Mountain Rescue Group (Business meeting) - Last Tuesday

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

May

1 (Saturday)

DEADLINE - June Potomac Appalachian Headquarters, Vienna, VA

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

1 (Saturday)

TRAIL WORK TRIP - South Mountaineers Appalachian Trail, MD

The work of the South Mountaineers seems never to get done. Lend a hand and give back to the trail on a beautiful spring day. We meet in Frederick County, MD at 9:00 a.m. INFO: Mark Mitchell (mdtrail@yahoo.com) 301/461-7048.

1 (Saturday)

CLASS - Using the GPS (Global Positioning System) REI, Baileys Crossroads, VA

10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Increase your outdoor safety and navigation skills by learning to use the GPS. The class will cover the technology of the system, capabilities of the receiver, and operation of a typical receiver. The class will include field exercises to obtain firsthand experience navigating with a GPS receiver. Participants are encouraged to bring a compass, water, snacks and know their pace count, and dress for the outdoors. All other necessary materials will be provided. The class fee is \$35. Class size is limited to ensure individual attention. Register early! INFO: REI 703/379-9400.

1 - 2 (Saturday - Sunday)

TRAIL WORK TRIP - North Chapter Appalachian Trail, PA

Meet at US 30 and PA 233 at the parking lot of Caledonia State Park. Departure 9:00 a.m. sharp. Join us for a group dinner and overnight at the Gypsy Spring cabin Saturday and breakfast on Sunday. INFO: Charlie Irvin 301/447-2848.

1 - 2 (Saturday - Sunday)

SHELTER WORK TRIP - PATC's newest shelter Appalachian Trail, MD

Work has begun on the site preparation phase. We will fell trees, remove roots, dig for foundation and privy then begin laying block. INFO: Frank Turk (FrankTurk@aol.com) 301/249-8243.

1 - 2 (Saturday - Sunday)

CABIN WORK TRIP - Tulip Tree Cabin Shaver Hollow, VA

For good fun, good food and a sense of accomplishment join us in Shaver Hollow working on a brand new cabin being built from the ground up with primitive hand tools. Working in the woods this time of year is like taking a refreshing tonic. The weather should be comfortable and the wildflowers are in bloom. INFO: Charlie Graf 410/757-6053.

2 (Sunday)

HIKE - Natural History Trillium Hike G. Richard Thompson WMA, Linden, VA

The first weekend of May is the time the millions of white-flowered trillium are in full bloom along the Appalachian Trail near Sky Meadows State Park. This is the Mecca of the wildflower crowd in this neck of the woods. In addition to the trillium, both pink and yellow lady's slippers, as well as the showy orchis, should be in bloom. This is also a favorite place for the scarlet tanager and other newly arrived nesting

and migratory birds. The "merkles" in this area are often ripe for picking at this time as well. This is a moderately difficult seven mile hike. Reservation/ INFO: Bob Pickett 301/681-1511.

2 (Sunday)

CLASS - Waterfall Photography Workshop REI, Baileys Crossroads, VA

8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Come and explore the photographic possibilities of falling water. We will explore the natural beauty of selected waterfalls in Shenandoah National Park. Photo objectives will cover exposure and metering, depth of field and composition. The workshop fee is \$60. Each participant will be provided with a roll of professional grade slide film, light metering guide and course materials. Space is limited. Register early. INFO: REI 703/379-9400.

4 (Tuesday)

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

5 (Wednesday)

TRAIL WORK TRIP North District, Shenandoah National Park, VA

Trail work trip on Dickey Ridge. The yellow ladyslippers should be out by now and maybe the fringe trees also. All tools furnished except for work gloves. INFO: Cliff Noyes 703/451-5181.

5 (Wednesday)

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

5 (Wednesday)

MEETING - West Virginia Chapter Highacre, Harpers Ferry, WV

7:00 p.m. Clyde Hicks from the Trail House in Frederick, MD will talk about hiking and biking along the Catocin Trail which they maintain. This local trail will be featured in a 3-part hiking series during March, April and May. He will bring along some new sleeping bags for us to check out. INFO: Jane Thompson 301/865-5399 before 9:00 p.m.

5 (Wednesday)

HIKE - Easy Hikers Wheaton Regional Park, Silver Spring, MD

Come join us at 10:00 a.m. for about a 5-mile hike through Wheaton Regional Park, with a stop at the fabulous greenhouse and a stroll through the gardens. Take I-495 to the Georgia North exit. After about 1 or 2 miles turn right onto Shorefield Dr. (at a traffic light) to the end of Shorefield. Turn right into the park, and park near the miniature train station (large yellow building). Bring lunch. INFO: John Giblin 301/585-5172.

5 (Wednesday)

CLASS - Rock Climbing REI, Baileys Crossroads, VA

REI and Inner Quest offer Basic Climbing year-round. The course covers all the essential skills for top-roped climbing, as well as climbing technique. The class is conducted on REI's indoor wall at Bailey's Crossroads. Class size is limited to eight participants to two instructors. The fee is \$65.00. Registration/ INFO: REI 703/379-9400.

7 (Friday)

Wildflower HIKE - Northern Shenandoah Valley Chapter G. Richard Thompson WMA, Linden, VA

Join the NSVC as they take a short, easy walk through the G. Richard Thompson Wildlife Management Area and an area of the Appalachian Trail. This area is renowned for its displays of wildflowers in general, and the trillium in particular. Besides lit-

erally millions of trillium, there are hundreds of other wildflowers in bloom in the area at this time, some quite rare. Time permitting, we may extend this hike in either direction on the Appalachian Trail, and get a larger view of this very special place in all its spring-time glory. Leader/ INFO: Debbi Richter (Whalenwolf@aol.com) 540/955-1813.

8 (Saturday)

TRAIL WORK TRIP - DC Metro Rock Creek Park, Washington, DC

8:15-11:30 a.m. Your mother would want you to give back to the hiking trails through a morning of volunteer work in Rock Creek Park. Wouldn't she? Don't disappoint her by coming to this pre-Mother's Day work trip. Meet at Rock Creek Nature Center. INFO: Mark Anderson 202/462-7718 or Ranger Ken Ferebee 202/426-6834 x31.

8 (Saturday)

HIKE - Strong Hikers North District, Shenandoah National Park, VA

Meet locally at 8:15 a.m. and leave promptly at 8:30. Hike Jeremys Run. Circuit route is 14 miles with an elevation change of 2,765 feet. INFO: Donna Brother 703/435-8315.

8 (Saturday)

TRAIL WORK TRIP - Massanutten Crew George Washington National Forest, VA

Near Elizabeth Furnace area. INFO: Wil Kohlbrenner (wmaxk@shentel.net) 540/477-2971.

8 (Saturday)

TRAIL WORK TRIP - Tuscarora South Crew Tuscarora Trail, Massanutten Mt., VA

Spring cleanup time is here, and we can use all the help we can get to get these trails in shape quickly. Come out and join this one-day trip; newcomers particularly welcome. INFO: Rick Rhoades 703/239-0965.

8 (Saturday)

HIKE - Natural History Hike Probably in the Jug Bay Area, MD

A short, family oriented hike to celebrate American Wetlands Month conducted at a "naturalist's shuffle". We will be stopping frequently to discuss the wetland ecosystem and to identify some of the life along the trail. Group size will be limited. INFO: Lynn Gulley (earthconc@aol.com) 410/730-3672.

8 (Saturday)

CLASS - Wilderness Safety and Outdoor Leadership Seminar REI, Baileys Crossroads, VA

10:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. This seminar will cover concepts and protocols for planning and preparing for outdoor trips and events, safety management, and risk assessment, and introduce participants to preventive search and rescue, time control plans, confrontation and intervention, and setting people up for success. This is an excellent class for youth leaders, hiking club members and outdoor enthusiasts. The seminar will be conducted by Christopher Tate, Director of the Wilderness Safety Council. The seminar fee is \$75 and includes course materials and a copy of the book, Outdoor Leadership, by John Graham. Space is limited. Early registration is advised INFO: REI 703/379-9400.

8 - 9 (Saturday - Sunday)

CABIN WORK TRIP - Blackburn Trail Center Round Hill, VA

Work on the Trail Center continues at a great rate. Those of you who have not been up on one of our trips for a while will be amazed at the changes. Those of you who have never had the opportunity to see

FORECAST

Blackburn will be even more amazed to find out just what a "Jewel along the Blue Ridge" the Club owns. Lots of jobs for all skills. We are finishing up the screened porch and the new upstairs bunk room. Interested in learning stone work? Come out and work with Bill Ladd, the Club's original "stoneman". Lots of sleeping space, both inside or out. Share a Saturday evening meal and take an after dinner hike to the view at the top of the mountain. INFO: Chris Brunton 703/560-8070 or Bruce Clendaniel 410/820-7550.

8 - 9 (Saturday - Sunday)

✂ TRAIL WORK TRIP - Cadillac Crew

Sugarloaf Mountain, MD

Come on out and help us do tread repair and erosion control on a Sugarloaf Mountain hiking trail. We'll be staying overnight at a nearby campground, so bring your gear! Bring a lunch and water for Saturday noon. Community dinner on Saturday night. Please call by May 1 to let us know if you're participating! INFO: Fran Keenan (frannanc@erols.com) 703/938-3973 or Jon Rindt (jkrindt@erols.com) 703/573-2261.

9 (Sunday)

👤 HIKE - Mother's Day/Family Hike

Sugarloaf Mountain, MD

Bring mom on the road less traveled to White Rocks near Sugarloaf Mountain (or Dads - give her a break for the day). Pack your child - suggested age 6 months to 4 years. Up to 6 miles (depending on experience). 2 miles per hour pace. Meet at Sugarloaf entrance on the Comus Road at 10:00 a.m. (or convey there). Limit: 12 participants. INFO: John Butler (John-Butler@msn.com) 301/263-0141.

9 (Sunday)

👤 SHELTER WORK TRIP - PATC's newest shelter

Appalachian Trail, MD

Work has begun on the site preparation phase. We will fell trees, remove roots, dig for foundation and privy then begin laying block. INFO: Frank Turk (FrankTurk@aol.com) 301/249-8243.

10 (Monday)

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

11 (Tuesday)

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

12 (Wednesday)

👤 HIKE - Vigorous Hikers

North District, Shenandoah National Park, VA

Vigorous midweek hike in North District of SNP down Hull School Trail and up Piney Branch for about 15 miles total hiking distance. INFO: Cliff Noyes 703/451-5181.

12 (Wednesday)

👤 HIKE - Easy Hikers

Rockville, MD

Easy hike from Meadows Nature Center, 5100 Meadows Lane, Rockville, MD. Turn into Meadows Lane from Muncaster Mill Rd. Hike is about 5 miles on fairly level path through mostly wooded area near Lake Frank. Bring lunch for picnic. INFO: Dawn Carlisle 301/924-4765.

12 (Wednesday)

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

13 (Thursday)

👤 HIKE - In-between Hikers

Leesylvania State Park, Woodbridge, VA

A scenic and historic 6.2 mile circuit hike. \$2 vehicle fee. From beltway take I-95 South, exit 156 east, pass NOVA college to route 1, turn right and follow posted park signs. Meet at 10:00 a.m. next to entrance gate. Henri Comeau (hankcomeau@aol.com) 703/451-7965.

13 (Thursday)

CLASS - Stove Operation & Maintenance

REI, College Park, MD

7:30 p.m. Improve your backcountry skills. Learn to use a variety of stove types, and do routine maintenance, troubleshooting and field repair. INFO: REI 301/982-9681.

14 - 16 (Friday - Sunday)

👤 BACKPACK TRIP - North Fork Mountain Trail

Monongahela National Forest, WV

24 miles of backpacking on one of the most scenic trails in the Monongahela National Forest, West Virginia. We will leave Friday evening and car camp that night at the Seneca Shadows campground. Saturday morning we will set up the shuttle and begin. This is a rugged trip because there are no springs or streams near the trail so we need to carry water for the entire trip. INFO: Dave Wilcox (davewilcox@worldnet.att.net) 703/212-0991.

15 (Saturday)

✂ TRAIL WORK TRIP - South Mountaineers

Appalachian Trail, MD

This will be our last tread repair event for awhile; June means weeding. Enjoy the spring weather and camaraderie of these one-day events. INFO: Mark Mitchell (mdtrail@yahoo.com) 301/461-7048.

15 (Saturday)

✂ TRAIL WORK TRIP - North Chapter

Tuscarora Trail, PA

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

15 (Saturday)

👤 Fossil Collecting HIKE - Northern Shenandoah Valley Chapter Sites

in Northern Shenandoah Valley, VA

A science trip with Chris Morrow of Shenandoah University for those interested in geology and paleontology. Collect fossil samples from approved sites west of Winchester; study sharply folded and faulted rocks. A hammer and rock chisel is helpful but not required as we learn some techniques of fossil extraction from the experts. Bring sturdy clothes and shoes as well as a lunch and plenty of water, and enjoy a day of learning about the prehistoric life and times of your nearby surroundings. Leader/INFO: Carl Bock (cgbock@erols.com) 703/323-5306.

15 (Saturday)

✂ TRAIL WORK TRIP - Stonewall Brigade

Racer Camp Hollow Trail, WV

We are constructing the Racer Camp Hollow Trail in West Virginia. Work either day or both days. INFO: Will Kohlbrenner (wmaxk@shentel.net) 540/477-2971.

15 (Saturday)

👤 HIKE - Tuscarora Trail Series #13

Wardensville, WV

A moderately paced 15-mile hike northeast of Wardensville, WV over the Jemima Section of the Tuscarora Trail between Loman Branch and WV 55. Elevation gain is 2300 feet. A car shuttle is required. PATC maps F and L. Meet at Vienna Metro, Nutley

Street North at 7:30 a.m. INFO: Jack Thorsen 703/339-6716 or William Needham 703/256-6735.

15 (Saturday)

👤 HIKE - Appalachian Trail

Central District, Shenandoah National Park, VA

Moderately paced 11-mile hike on the Appalachian Trail between Fishers Gap and Jewel Hollow Overlook. We will pass several overlooks including Crescent Rocks, Pollocks Knob, Little Stony Man, and The Pinnacle. Lunch at Skyland or one of the overlooks. Elevation change of 2000 feet. Car shuttle is required. Meet at 7:30 a.m. at Oakton Shopping Center in Vienna. INFO: Todd Birkenruth 703/318-7735.

15 (Saturday)

CLASS - Pur Water Filter Demonstration

REI, Baileys Crossroads, VA and College Park, MD

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon at College Park; 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. at Baileys Crossroads. Finding water while backpacking in the central Appalachians can be difficult, especially in dry seasons. And when you find what little there is, how can you be sure it's safe to drink? By using a Pur filter! Come by and pump a quart, taste test the finished product, and get your questions answered by the Pur representative and REI staff. INFO: REI 703/379-9400 or 301/982-9681.

15 (Saturday)

👤 HIKE - West Virginia Chapter

George Washington National Forest, VA

Vigorous circuit hike. Magnificent views on this strenuous 12-mile hike to Big Schloss in George Washington National Forest (see Circuit Hikes in Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania). This annual hike experiences the beauty and heady fragrance of the azaleas; lady slippers should also be in bloom. Not suitable for slow, inexperienced or unconditioned hikers. RSVP/INFO: Janet Dombrowski 703/243-4232 before 10:00 p.m.

15 - 16 (Saturday - Sunday)

👤 HIKE - Potomac Heritage Trail series

Potomac Heritage Trail, MD

Join us on the second weekend of our hike through the "original" route proposal for this, the eighth National Scenic Trail, hiking the section from Cumberland, Maryland, to Confluence, Pennsylvania. The series continues with a two-day hike from Frostburg, Maryland to New Germany State Park. Saturday is about 11 miles; Sunday, about 7 miles. Saturday is overnight either in local motels or at New Germany State Park campground. This route is mapped but unblazed, so bring your compass and be ready for adventure. INFO: Tom Johnson 410/647-8554.

15 - 16 (Saturday - Sunday)

👤 BACKPACK TRIP - Dolly Sods

Dolly Sods Wilderness, WV

Spring is here and it's time to put on the boots and sling the pack. We'll do a moderate 16-18 miles in this unique wilderness area. Depending on the weather we'll either explore Red Creek Canyon or head south to Roaring Plains. Depart Friday evening. INFO: John Koutze or Kathy McDermott 703/846-9207.

15 - 16 (Saturday - Sunday)

👤 CABIN WORK TRIP - Vining Tract Crew

Lydia, VA

Join us on the first official worktrip of the Vining Tract Crew, who will be doing cabin projects and maintenance on the property. We will be putting some finishing touches on Wineberry Cabin, cleaning out and shoring up the old barns, and marking the property

boundary. Overnight at Conley Cabin. Call Hugh Robinson or Marilyn Stone 703/525-8726.

15 - 16 (Saturday - Sunday)

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

Have you been spending money going to a health club to get exercise and lose weight? We have a better way. Join the Tulip Tree Cabin Crew and get your exercise free and learn a valuable skill as well as contributing to an outstanding project. After you have worked your buns off all day on Saturday we'll relax and socialize and have a gourmet meal. Sorry, but we will have to charge a nominal fee for the meal! INFO: Charlie Graf: 410/757-6053.

15 - 16 (Saturday - Sunday)

✂️ SOUTH-OF-THE-BORDER-WORKTRIP - North District Hoodlums

North Section, Shenandoah National Park, VA

Señors et Señoritas! Come and help work on the Appalachian Trail in the North District of SNP por favor. The crew will probably be working on erosion problems on one or more sections of trail within easy access off Skyline Drive. No experience necessary—tools provided. Bring work gloves, lunch and a smile. This month's theme meal will be Tex-Mex—all may contribute. Mucha cerveza. Overnight stay provided at Indian Run hut within the North District. Come for the day, stay for the evening meal, or spend the entire weekend. The crew meets at 10 a.m. at Piney River Ranger Station in the park. INFO/RSVP: George Walters 410/426-2724.

16 (Sunday)

❖ SPECIAL EVENT - Sunday at the Club PATC Headquarters, Vienna, VA

Do you know of any trail overseers that can say they have been one for over FIFTY YEARS?! Come out to PATC HQ from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. at a special Sunday at the Club gathering to honor and meet Sam Moore. Sam, solely, has the fame of that title (that we know of), and has been immortalized by having a shelter along the AT named after him. We'll have cake and other refreshments. Sam will be presented with a special plaque and a rocker bar patch "50 year overseer," the only one of its kind. Please let us know you're coming. INFO/RSVP: Heidi Forrest 703/2420693, Ext 12.

17 (Monday)

👉 MEETING - Conservation Committee, 7:00 p.m. CANCELED.

18 (Tuesday)

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

19 (Wednesday)

👉 HIKE - Vigorous Hikers Catoctin Trail, MD

Very vigorous end-to-end hike on the Catoctin Trail in Maryland from the Visitor Center, past Cunningham Falls and on south to Gambrell State Park for a total distance of 24 miles. Car shuttle will be used. INFO: Cliff Noyes 703/451-5181.

19 (Wednesday)

👉 HIKE - Easy Hikers Old Angler's Inn, 10801 MacArthur Blvd., Potomac, MD

Meet at 10:00 a.m. at the parking lot on MacArthur Boulevard across the street from Old Angler's Inn. Do not park on the Inn's parking lot. We'll walk down to the C&O Canal tow path from there and go to Great Falls where we'll have lunch. We'll return on the other side of the canal, overlooking Widewater.

6 flat, easy miles. Bring water and lunch. INFO: Renee Schick (RS530@aol.com) 301/493-9525.

22 (Saturday)

✂️ TRAIL WORK TRIP - DC Metro Rock Creek Park, Washington, DC

8:15-11:30 a.m. By now, we hope to have moved beyond the much touted trail relocation. Come find out what we will do next on the D.C. trails. Meet at Rock Creek Nature Center. INFO: Mark Anderson 202/462-7718 or Ranger Ken Ferebee 202/426-6834 x31.

22 (Saturday)

👉 HIKE - Central District Shenandoah National Park, VA

7:30 a.m., meet at Vienna Metro, Nutley Street North for a moderately paced 10.9 mile hike with an elevation change of 1600 feet. We shall take the Nicholson Hollow Trail (downhill), Indian Run and Corbin Mountain Trails (steady climb), and Old Rag Fire Road to the beautiful Limberlost, then back via the Appalachian Trail north (nice views, detour to Stony Man Summit). INFO: John Rothberg 540/948-6745 or Tom Johnson 410/647-8554.

22 (Saturday)

👉 HIKE - Half Moon Peak & Views (Northern Shenandoah Valley Chapter) Trout Run Valley, GWNF

Join the NSVC and enjoy great views on this scenic, seven-mile hike from 1600' at the Trout Run trailhead to the 2800' summit on Half Moon Mountain, location of a former fire lookout station. Hike in diverse environments from open deciduous woods with spring flowers, up the hollow created by Half Moon Run, to the pine and boulder-covered top. Vistas include surrounding mountains in WV and Trout Run Valley. We will also hike to the view of Half Moon Mountain itself, seen from the rock outcrop in vicinity of the intersection of the Half Moon Run & Tuscarora trail. One mile of the return from this vista will be via an old road, off the trail, downhill to Half Moon Run. For those not wishing to hike off the trail, you may return from Half Moon Mountain directly to the trailhead, for a total distance of six miles. Leader/INFO: Walt Smith (wsmith@visuallink.com) 540/678-0423.

22 - 23 (Saturday - Sunday)

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

See 5/8-9 for details. INFO: Chris Brunton 703/560-8070 or Bruce Clendaniel 410/820-7550.

22 - 23 (Saturday - Sunday)

CLASS - Wilderness First Aid Certification Scott Farm/Mid-Atlantic Training Center, Carlisle, PA

This ATC-sponsored course will be taught by instructors from Stonehearth Open Learning Systems (SOLO). The course will introduce trail maintainers, chainsaw operators and trip leaders to the basic principals of wilderness first aid. Minimum class size is 12 participants and the maximum number is 20. Participants must be 18 years of age. There will be a fee for this course. For details, costs and registration deadline INFO: John Wright (jwright@atconf.org) 717/258-5771.

22 - 23 (Saturday - Sunday)

CLASS - Wilderness First Aid Arlington, VA

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

22 - 23 (Saturday - Sunday)

🏠 SHELTER WORK TRIP - PATC's newest shelter Appalachian Trail, MD

Work has begun on the site preparation phase. We will fell trees, remove roots, dig for foundation and privy then begin laying block. INFO: Frank Turk (FrankTurk@aol.com) 301/249-8243.

22 - 23 (Saturday - Sunday)

✂️ TRAIL WORK TRIP - Cadillac Crew Shenandoah National Park, VA

This weekend we'll be working on the AT in SNP. Come join us for our erosion control get-together on a section of the Appalachian Trail. The weather's getting warm, but not too warm, for an overnight at Indian Run Maintenance Hut. Bring a lunch and water for Saturday noon. Community dinner on Saturday night. Please call by May 17 to let us know if you're participating! INFO: Fran Keenan (frannanc@erols.com) 703/938-3973 or Jon Rindt (jkrindt@erols.com) 703/573-2261.

25 (Tuesday)

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

26 (Wednesday)

✂️ TRAIL WORK TRIP North District Shenandoah National Park, VA

Trail work trip on Dickey Ridge. Bring work gloves, lunch, and liquids and we'll have a great day. INFO: Cliff Noyes 703/451-5181.

26 (Wednesday)

👉 HIKE - Easy Hikers Carderock/Great Falls, VA

Carderock to Great Falls and back, 6-mile round trip. Take Beltway to exit #41. Follow signs carefully to Carderock. After underpass in park, turn right and go to last parking lot on left. INFO: Patricia Flanagan 202/554-3775 or Mary Margaret McGrail 703/751-8126.

29 (Saturday)

👉 HIKE - North Chapter Appalachian Trail, VA

Appalachian Trail series # II-1. Va. Rte. 601 (PATC parking area) to Manassas Gap (Va. Rte. 55). 11.0 moderate-to-difficult miles with an elevation change of 900 ft. INFO: Chris Firme 717/765-4833 after 6:00 p.m.

29 (Saturday)

CLASS - Outdoor Leadership Workshop & Hike North District, Shenandoah National Park, VA

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

29 - 30 (Saturday - Sunday)

👉 BACKPACK TRIP - Parent with Kids and/or Teens Backpacking to Corbin Cabin

Come join us for a 5 to 8 mile backpacking trip and stay in a beautiful rustic cabin nestled in Nicholson Hollow of SNP. See waterfalls, visit old cabin sites and wade in the chilly waters of the Hughes River. Space is limited so call early. INFO: Jim Ward 301/296-8940 (w) or 703/451-3283 (h).

29 - 30 (Saturday - Sunday)

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

There was a time when most homes were owner-built. In the early days of our country and extending

FORECAST

up until about 100 years ago log cabins were fairly common and were almost always owner-built with the help of a few neighbors of course. In Shaver Hollow of Virginia we are recreating those times. We are building a new log cabin from the ground up with volunteer labor. We are using all the old hand tools and primitive methods that were used 100 years ago. If you can't wait to get your hands on a broad axe and use it to hew a bunch of floor joists or rafters, give me a call. INFO: Charlie Graf 410/757-6053.

29 - 31 (Saturday - Monday)

SHELTER WORK TRIP - PATC's newest shelter Appalachian Trail, MD

Work has begun on the site preparation phase. We will fell trees, remove roots, dig for foundation and privy then begin laying block. INFO: Frank Turk (FrankTurk@aol.com) 301/249-8243.

June

1 (Tuesday)

DEADLINE - July Potomac Appalachian Headquarters, Vienna, VA

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

1 (Tuesday)

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

2 (Wednesday)

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

2 (Wednesday)

HIKE - Vigorous Hikers

Central District, Shenandoah National Park, VA

Vigorous circuit hike in Central SNP visiting Hoover Camp, Jones Mt., Bear Church Rock, and Cat Knob for a total of 15 miles. With luck, the wild flowers should be near their spring peak. INFO: Cliff Noyes 703/451-5181.

2 (Wednesday)

SLIDE SHOW - Mexico to Canada: The Continental Divide Trail

REI, Baileys Crossroads, VA

7:30 p.m. Longer and higher than the Appalachian Trail or the Pacific Crest Trail, at 3,100 miles, the CDT is truly North America's high traverse. It also crosses some of the largest tracts of wilderness, where man really is just a visitor in the homes of grizzly, mountain lion and bighorn. Nick Williams, who has hiked all three great trails, will take us on an evening's ramble through the peaks, passes, and high meadows along the Divide, and discuss the planning, gear and skills necessary for your CDT adventure! INFO: REI 703/379-9400.

2 (Wednesday)

MEETING - West Virginia Chapter Highacre, Harpers Ferry, WV

Join us as Steve Bair, Shenandoah National Park Backcountry/Wilderness/Trails Manager, addresses the park's new Backcountry and Wilderness Management Plan and specifically changes in backcountry management policies and regulations that will affect backcountry campers. The park has developed these new policies after years of research and public involvement including input from backpackers. The new camping system should be more user friendly and yet more protective of

the park's backcountry resources. Steve will be glad to answer any questions you have about backpacking in SNP and other park related issues. INFO: Jane Thompson 301/865-5300 before 9:00 p.m.

3 (Thursday)

SLIDE SHOW - Mexico to Canada: The Continental Divide Trail

REI, College Park, MD

See 6/2 for details. INFO: REI 301/982-9681.

5 (Saturday)

National Trails Day

TRAIL WORK TRIP - DC Metro Rock Creek Park, Washington, DC

8:15-11:30 a.m. This is the National Trails Day outing for the Rock Creek Park trail crew. We probably won't work you as hard so you can take a moment to enjoy the beautiful wooded setting located in the heart of D.C. Meet at Rock Creek Nature Center. INFO: Mark Anderson 202/462-7718 or Ranger Ken Ferebee 202/426-6834 x31.

5 (Saturday)

National Trails Day

TRAIL WORK TRIP - REI/NVRPA/ACP Northern Virginia

8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Celebrate National Trails Day on The Trail by joining REI, The Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority and Arlington County Parks for a day of trail maintenance, erosion control, and cleanup along Donaldson Run in Potomac Overlook Park. Donaldson Run is one of a number of trails that provide access to the Potomac Heritage Trail and the beauty of the Potomac Palisades. We'll be reconstructing the 30th street access trail, and other short sections, working on erosion control and stream bank stabilization. More than 100 volunteers are needed to complete the day's objectives. Call REI Customer Service to register for this opportunity to make a real impact on the quality of outdoor recreation resources in our community. Registration/INFO: REI 703/379-9400 or 301/982-9681.

5 (Saturday)

National Trails Day

TRAIL WORK TRIP - Maryland Metro Cabin John Trail, MD

Join the Maryland Metrolites for work on the Cabin John Trail. Bring lunch and water. We meet at the Cabin John Park tennis court parking lot just off Democracy Boulevard at 9 a.m. INFO: Liles Creighton, 410/573-0067.

5 (Saturday)

National Trails Day

TRAIL WORK TRIP - South Mountaineers Appalachian Trail, MD

Eastern Mountain Sports is proud to sponsor our National Trails Day event for the second consecutive year. Bring gloves, boots, a lot of water and lunch. If you have a gas powered weeder, a spare blade, and a gallon of mixed gas, please contact us! INFO: Mark Mitchell 301/461-7048.

5 (Saturday)

HIKE - West Virginia Chapter Gambrell State Park, MD

Join us on the third, and final, leg of the Catoctin Trail series. We will include a circuit through Gambrell State Park. This beautiful section of the Catoctin Trail will take us along a stream and through lots of mountain laurel. The circuit will include two views of the town of Frederick, MD. Total hike will be about 13 miles. INFO: Janet Dombrowski 703/243-4232 before 10:00 p.m.

5 (Saturday)

HIKE - Northern Shenandoah Valley Chapter Massanutten Mt., George Washington National Forest, VA

All are invited to join the NSVC on a 5.5-mile hike of moderate difficulty traversing forest and farm in Shenandoah County. The hike will start in George Washington National Forest at Powell's Fort Camp and continue a steep 0.5 mile to Three Top Mountain. There we will stop to investigate a Civil War signal station on the ridge. We will then descend through the forest and into open farmland, before crossing the Shenandoah River on a low water bridge. Following country roads, we head west to the Shenandoah County Farm. This historic property has been in the county's ownership since the Revolutionary War, when it was the Glebe Farm for Peter Muhlenberg, Episcopal pastor and officer in the war. We will end our hike at the County Park, where we will visit a new interpretive area for the Battle of Tom's Brook, a battle of the Civil War, October 9, 1864. Leader/INFO: Phoebe Kilby (slp@shentel.net) 540/459-4567.

5 (Saturday)

Family HIKE - Northern Shenandoah Valley Chapter

C & O Canal near Antietam, MD

This short hike is designed for parents with small children. We will walk the C&O Canal towpath near the Antietam Aqueduct and north to some caves where local folks hid during the fierce Battle of Antietam during the Civil War. This hike is stroller capable, and will be at a slow pace to accommodate parents and small children. Bring water, your children, and good shoes, as we discover nature and history through the inquisitive eyes of our children. Leader/INFO: Terrie Sheaffer (thumpers@visualink.com) 540/662-1524.

5 - 6 (Saturday - Sunday)

TRAIL WORK TRIP - North Chapter Appalachian Trail, PA

Meet at US 30 and PA 233 at the parking lot of Caledonia State Park. Departure 9:00 a.m. sharp. Join us for a group dinner and overnight at the Gypsy Spring cabin Saturday and breakfast on Sunday. INFO: Charlie Irvin 301/447-2848.

5 - 6 (Saturday - Sunday)

SHELTER WORK TRIP - PATC's newest shelter Appalachian Trail, MD

We will be placing the shelter onto the foundation and working on the roof. INFO: Frank Turk (FrankTurk@aol.com) 301/249-8243.

8 (Tuesday)

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

9 (Wednesday)

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

9 (Wednesday)

HIKE - Vigorous Hikers Great North Mtn., VA/WV border

Vigorous circuit hike near VA/WV border climbing Great North Mtn., past Sugar Knob Cabin, down to Waites Run, and back up and along the ridge of Mill Mtn. to the crenelated towers of Big Schloss for a total of 18 miles. INFO: Cliff Noyes 703/451-5181.

9 (Wednesday)

CLASS - Rock Climbing REI, Baileys Crossroads, VA

See 5/5 for details. Registration/INFO: REI 703/379-9400.

12 (Saturday)

✕ **TRAIL WORK TRIP - Massanutten Crew**
Massanutten Mtn, VA

Near Elizabeth Furnace area. INFO: Wil Kohlbrenner (wmaxk@shentel.net) 540/477-2971.

12 - 13 (Saturday - Sunday)

🏞️ **SHELTER WORK TRIP - PATC's newest shelter**
Appalachian Trail, MD

We will be placing the shelter onto the foundation and working on the roof. INFO: Frank Turk (FrankTurk@aol.com) 301/249-8243.

12 - 13 (Saturday - Sunday)

🏞️ **HIKE - North Chapter**
Appalachian Trail, VA

Appalachian Trail series # II-2. Manassas Gap (Va. Rte. 55) to Snickers Gap (Va. Rte. 7). Second overniter. First day: Manassas Gap to Myron Glaser Cabin. 14.2 moderate miles with an elevation change of 960 ft. Second day: Myron Glaser Cabin to Snickers Gap. 12.0 difficult miles with an elevation change of 501 ft. Must bring sleeping bag, food, and water. INFO: Chris Firme 717/765-4833 after 6:00 p.m.

12 - 13 (Saturday - Sunday)

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

Do you know what a misery whip is? or a Swedish fiddle? an adze? draw knife? broad axe? slick? mortising chisel? If so, you are just the person we need; and if not, but you are curious and want to not only find out what they are but learn how to use them, call for INFO: Charlie Graf 410/757-6053.

12 - 13 (Saturday - Sunday)

✕ **TRAIL WORK TRIP - Cadillac Crew**
Shockeysville, VA

Shockeys Knob. Its the first trip in June and we think its high time we got back to our "home" project of relocating the Tuscarora Trail over Shockeys Knob. We have a lot of fun, so come on out and join us. Overnight at a local cabin. Bring a lunch and water for Saturday noon. Community dinner on Saturday night. Please call by June 5 to let us know if you're participating! INFO: Fran Keenan (frannanc@erols.com) 703/938-3973 or Jon Rindt (jkrindt@erols.com) 703/573-2261.

12 - 13 (Saturday - Sunday)

FAMILY WEEKEND
Michaux State Forest, PA

Join us as we enjoy PATC cabins, family fun, and make new friends. Possible activities include nature hikes, inspecting Pine Grove Furnace museum and ruins, swimming at Pine Grove Furnace and Caledonia State Parks, visiting the Stevens ironworks and more. We will split costs. Reserve your space now. INFO: Lynn Gulley (earthconc@aol.com) 410/730-8034 or Bob Mathis (Robert_Mathis@fc.mcps.k12.md.us) 301/589-7539.

12 - 13 (Saturday - Sunday)

CLASS - Winch Techniques
Scott Farm/Mid-Atlantic Training Center, Carlisle, PA

This course teaches techniques for using winches and cable rigging. These simple mechanical devices enable human-powered lifting and hauling, as well as the use of high lines, for the safe, efficient and environmentally-friendly transportation of tons of building material. INFO: John Wright (jwright@atconf.org) 717/258-5771.

12 - 13 (Saturday - Sunday)

🏞️ **CLASS - Backpacking**
REI, Baileys Crossroads, VA

This course will cover the most important aspects and

skills of backpacking. The format will be lecture and discussion, with plenty of demonstrations and hands-on exercises. Topics covered will include: dayhiking vs. backpacking; physical conditioning; gear - boots and socks, fitting boots, clothing and layering, packs, tents, sleeping systems, raingear, stoves and fuel, first aid kits; water purification; food and cooking; map and compass navigation; trip planning and preparation; campsite selection; wilderness ethics; information sources. The instructor has more than 30 years of experience hiking and backpacking. The course fee is \$75, and covers all necessary materials. Registration/INFO: REI 703/379-9400.

12 - 13 (Saturday - Sunday)

CLASS - Wilderness First Aid
Arlington, VA

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

14 (Monday)

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

15 (Tuesday)

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

16 (Wednesday)

🏞️ **HIKE - Vigorous Hikers**

North District, Shenandoah National Park, VA

Point to point hike on the AT in North District of SNP from Compton Gap south to Panorama - a total of 22 miles. Don't plan on an evening of Contra Dancing after this one (not with the leader anyway). INFO: Cliff Noyes 703/451-5181.

19 (Saturday)

✕ **TRAIL WORK TRIP - North Chapter**
Tuscarora Trail, PA

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

19 (Saturday)

🏞️ **HIKE - Tuscarora Trail Series #14**
Wardensville, WV

A moderately paced 18 mile hike east of Wardensville, WV over the County Line and Sugar Knob Sections of the Tuscarora Trail between WV 55 and Peer Trail. Elevation gain is 3100 feet. A car shuttle is required. PATC map F. Meet at Vienna Metro, Nutley Street North at 7:30 a.m. INFO: Jack Thorsen 703/339-6716 or William Needham 703/256-6735.

19 (Saturday)

🏞️ **HIKE - Northern Shenandoah Valley Chapter**
Twin Falls of Overall Run, Shenandoah National Park, VA

This is a moderately long hike with great rewards. Start outside the park, just outside Bentonville, and hike to the lower falls of Overall Run, an area known as The Ponds. If the weather is warm, this is a great swimming hole, as well as a beautiful waterfall. Continue down Overall Run to the Beecher Ridge Connecting Trail and up Beecher Ridge. This is a long, steady climb, eventually reaching the upper falls of Overall Run or "Big Falls", the tallest falls in the park. This area also affords one of the most breathtaking views in Shenandoah National Park. From here it is a steep descent on the Tuscarora Trail and back to our cars. Leader/INFO: Bill Hendrickson (Bhendric@nas.edu) 703/519-9410.

19 - 20 (Saturday - Sunday)

🏞️ **SHELTER WORK TRIP - PATC's newest shelter**
Appalachian Trail, MD

We will be placing the shelter onto the foundation and working on the roof. INFO: Frank Turk (FrankTurk@aol.com) 301/249-8243.

19 - 20 (Saturday - Sunday)

🏞️ **HIKE - Potomac Heritage Trail series**
Potomac Heritage Trail, MD/PA

Join us on the third weekend of our hike through the "original" route proposal for this, the eighth National Scenic Trail, hiking the section from Cumberland, Maryland, to Confluence, Pennsylvania. This series continues with a two-day hike from New Germany State Park, MD, to Forbes State Forest, PA. Saturday will be about 13 miles; Sunday, about 7 miles. Stay Saturday in local motels or New Germany State Park campground. Have your compass at the ready to follow this mapped but unblazed route. INFO: Tom Johnson 410/647-8554.

19 - 20 (Saturday - Sunday)

✕ **TRAIL WORK TRIP - Stonewall Brigade**
Racer Camp Hollow Trail, WV

We are constructing the Racer Camp Hollow Trail in West Virginia. Work either day or both days. INFO: Wil Kohlbrenner (wmaxk@shentel.net) 540/477-2971.

21 (Monday)

🏞️ **MEETING - Conservation Committee,**
7:00 p.m.

23 (Wednesday)

🏞️ **HIKE - Vigorous Hikers**
Central District, Shenandoah National Park, VA

Old Rag and either White Oak or Cedar Run circuit for a total of 16 to 19 miles. Maybe time for a dip in a Tahitian-like pool part way up White Oak - skimpy undies OK cause it's pretty secluded. INFO: Cliff Noyes 703/451-5181.

26 (Saturday)

✕ **TRAIL WORK TRIP - DC Metro**
Rock Creek Park, Washington, DC

8:15 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Summer has officially started, making this one of the last work trips you can attend and have a chance of escaping Washington heat and humidity. Even if it is hot, we start early and end before the noon day sun. Meet at Rock Creek Nature Center. INFO: Mark Anderson 202/462-7718 or Ranger Ken Ferebee 202/426-6834 x31.

Obituary

Winona George Rhodes (PATC member from 1948) who died Feb. 12, 1999, held the distinction of being part of two PATC romances. Her first husband was Henry (Hank) George (PATC 1938-1952) who was Excursions chair at the time of their marriage. After his death, she married Fred B. (Dusty) Rhodes (PATC 1956-). The Georges were close friends of "Bill" and Ruth Mersch and helped create the PATC New Year's at Allenberry Inn tradition in 1948. The Rhodes participated in PATC activities until their move to Anderson, N.C., a quarter of a century ago.

—Paula Strain

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Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation
(Required by 39 USC 3685)

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PS Form 3526, September 1995 (See Instructions on Reverse)

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a. Total Number of Copies (Net press run)	5,100	5,500
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e. Free Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or other means)	225	374
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g. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15f)	5,050	5,500
h. Copies not Distributed (1) Office Use, Leftovers, Spoiled (2) Returns from News Agents	50 0	0 0
i. Total (Sum of 15g, 15h(1), and 15h(2))	5,100	5,500
Percent Paid and/or Requested Circulation (15c / 15g x 100)	91.09%	84.11%
16. Publication of Statement of Ownership <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Publication required. Will be printed in the February 1999 issue of this publication. <input type="checkbox"/> Publication not required.		
17. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner <i>Monica S. Menendez, Editor, Potomac Appalachian</i>		Date 10/01/98
I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including multiple damages and civil penalties).		
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2. In cases where the stockholder or security holder is a trustee, include in items 10 and 11 the name of the person or corporation for whom the trustee is acting. Also include the names and addresses of individuals who own or hold 1 percent or more of the total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities of the publishing corporation. In item 11, if none, check the box. Use blank sheets if more space is required.		
3. Be sure to furnish all circulation information called for in item 15. Free circulation must be shown in items 15d, e, and f.		
4. If the publication had second-class authorization as a general or requester publication, this Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation must be published; it must be printed in any issue in October or, if the publication is not published during October, the first issue printed after October.		
5. In item 16, indicate the date of the issue in which this Statement of Ownership will be published.		
6. Item 17 must be signed.		
Failure to file or publish a statement of ownership may lead to suspension of second-class authorization.		

PS Form 3526, September 1995 (Reverse)

Donations

Our heartfelt THANK YOU to those members who have given additional donations with their dues renewal fee, and from the goodness of their heart to the individual funds listed below.

Our mission of protecting the Appalachian National Scenic Trail and side trails throughout Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland, and Pennsylvania, is assured through generous donations from you. It also helps greatly to ensure that these protected trail lands can be enjoyed by future generations.

Donations received in February and March

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

Anonymous	T	Benita and Walter Kaplan	T	William E. Schmidt	S/C W.
Clifford and Patricia Astill	T	Ralph J. Keene	T;S/C	Allan Sharrett	S/C
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Keith and Tammy Boswell	S/C	Barbara Lynch	T;S/C	E. Leo Slaggie	G
Chris Brunton	T	Dan McGill	T;S/C	Walter M. Smith	T
Kent Campbell and Monica Gorman	T	Bernie and Mary Morgan	T	Eleanor Stoddard	E
Olivia E. Carolin	T	Merle and Donna Nelson	T;S/C	Mary E. Szpanka	T
Chester County Trail Club	G	Stephen Osbrach	T	Richard G. Terwilliger	HQ
Jeffrey and Sharon Deyerle	T	David E. Over	G;T	Stephen Turow	G
Mary Lou Eaton	T	Elizabeth Philbrook	S/C	David E. Utz	T
Chris and Beth Firme	T	John P. Railey	T;S/C	Cornelius and Patricia Van Cott	T;T/C
Raymond and Ruth Goelz	G	Douglas and Mary Rankin	G	Rebecca G. Ward	T
Donald and Jean Higgs	S/C	Richard W. Redick	G	Wilfred and Ann Wright	E
John and Jamey Jackson	G	In memory of Frieda Kunze	G		
Russell C. Johnson	T				

We have four new Life Memberships in the Club: John H. Bryce, Jr. on February 26; John Kerechek on March 1; Marjorie Prochaska on March 2; and Paul Dery on March 8.

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

-Pat Fankhauser, Membership Coordinator

NOTICES

NEW NOTICES

TUSCARORA TRAIL SLIDE SHOW. John Tate would like to put on a slide show of the Tuscarora Trail to show at the October ALDHA gathering and for a showing for interested PATC members. However he needs some slides to do the show. If anyone has some slides and would be interested in sharing please call John at 703/273-5471.

TABLEWARE WANTED for the Blackburn Trail Center. We are in dire need of table spoons, tea spoons and knives. If you have some put away in your attic or basement that you would like to donate to a great cause, call Chris Brunton at 703/560-8070.

FOUND: WATER FILTER on March 21 on Corbin Mountain Trail between Indian Run Trail and Old Rag Fire Road. Call 703/631-7421 evenings R. Cummins.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT FOR KEYSTONE TRAIL CREW.

The Keystone Trails Association is seeking volunteers for its 1999 Pennsylvania summer Trail crew. Crews will work for five days each (Thurs.-Mon.) on three different trails around the state. Housing will be in cabins or tents and meals and equipment will be provided. Outdoorspeople, retired persons, college or high school students 18 or older, male or female, anyone in good health and interested in keeping hiking trails alive and viable in Pennsylvania are urged to apply for positions on the crew. Applicants can sign up for one or more weeks. To apply, or for more information, contact: Joe Healey, 93 Cedarwood Drive, Laffin, PA 18702. PHONE: 570/655-4979. Deadline to Apply: May 10, 1999.

TRAINER. Seeking person to develop training and provide training on "How to Train". Experience with leading teams, especially work teams, desirable. For information contact Walt Smith: wsmith@visuallink.com or 703/242-0693.

MAINTENANCE AND PLUMBING. Seeking persons with relevant experience to work with the Headquarters Committee in improving and maintaining the Club Headquarters. For information contact Walt Smith: wsmith@visuallink.com or 703/242-0693.

MARKETING SPECIALIST. Seeking person with marketing experience to assist Publications Committee in developing marketing strategy for Club sales of publications and CD-ROMs. For information contact Walt Smith: wsmith@visuallink.com or 703/242-0693.

ARCHITECT. Seeking person, with space design experience, to assist in redesigning interior of Club Headquarters building. To work with President, General Secretary, and Headquarters Committee. For information contact Walt Smith: wsmith@visuallink.com or 703/242-0693.

SIGNMAKERS NEEDED. PATC needs volunteer with router available to produce some new signs for our trail system. Materials and bits will be reimbursed. Please contact Heidi Forrest at 703/242-0693x12.

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

NOT INTERESTED IN WORKING OUTDOORS? PATC has a continuous need for Headquarters Volunteers willing to help out with a variety of tasks — from manning the sales desk in the evening, to providing typing or office support. It takes a lot more than trail workers to keep the Club going! INFO: Wilson Riley (wriely1226@aol.com) 703/242-0693, Ext. 11.

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

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

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

HIKING PARTNERS WANTED

PARENT AND CHILD HIKING PARTNERS WANTED. My son and I would like company for day and weekend hikes. If you have a child (or children) approx. 3 to 6 years old and are interested in joining us please contact Lynn at Earthconc@aol.com or call 410/730-3672.

HIKING VACATIONS

GRAND TETON HIKE. Join a group of 6 PATC members and 6 members of the Idaho Alpine Club for an extended backpack in the heart of Grand Teton National Park. Enjoy short days for opportunities to peak-bag and explore side canyons. September 3-September 11, 1999. For details contact Frank Francisco 301/352-5832 or John Hagarty, 703/620-2485.

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

HIKE THE SPECTACULAR DOLOMITE MOUNTAINS OF NORTHEASTERN ITALY September 6-15. Sandwiched between the Austrian border on the north and the vast Venetian plain of the south, its enormous rock walls (a rock climber's paradise) explode to startling heights above the pastoral green countryside. The

Dolomites are stunning in shapes and dramatic with brilliant colors and enjoy a reputation of unsurpassed appeal and beauty. Join us for 6 nights in Cortina, our hiking home base, and for 2 nights experience the culture and beauty of Venice. The fee includes: air (British Airways from Dulles); ground transfers between Venice and Cortina and airport transportation; lodging in a superior tourist class hotel (Cortina) and a first class hotel (Venice); all breakfasts and 7 dinners; guide; and hotel taxes and service charges. Price \$1,615 if 25 participants; \$1,645 for 20 to 24 participants. INFO: Donna Brother, 703/435-8315.

MISCELLANEOUS

HIKING RECOMMENDATIONS NEEDED! Family will be hiking and camping in Nova Scotia late July, early August. We would like information on where to stay and hikes to take. Contact Bob Huber at 301/277-6736.

SUGARLOAF MOUNTAIN. House to share on the mountain (access from Rte. 270 Urbana exit). Enjoy the mountain culture, the wildlife, and the view. Walk 10 minutes to blue trail. Drive 10 minutes to downtown Frederick. Non-smoking male/female. INFO: John, 301/253-3050.

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

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

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

ARE YOU MOVING?!!

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

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

Name: _____

Effective date of New Address: _____

Old Address: _____

New Address: _____

New Phone Number: _____

PATC PUBLICATIONS

ITEM #			DESCRIPTION	RETAIL	MEMBER
PA100	Map 1	(ed. 9, 1998)	AT Cumberland Valley, PA (Susquehanna River to Route 94)	5.00	4.00
PA110	Map 2-3	(ed. 8, 1998)	AT Michaux State Forest, PA (Route 94 to Route 30)	5.00	4.00
PA120	Map 4	(ed. 7, 1998)	AT Michaux State Forest, PA (Route 30 to PA-MD State Line)	5.00	4.00
PA130	Map 5-6	(ed. 15, 1998)	AT Maryland	5.00	4.00
PA140	Map 7	(ed. 12, 1998)	AT Northern Virginia (Potomac River to Snickers Gap)	5.00	4.00
PA150	Map 8	(ed. 12, 1998)	AT Northern Virginia (Snickers Gap to Chester Gap)	5.00	4.00
PA160	Map 9	(ed. 14, 1996)	AT Shenandoah National Park (North District)	5.00	4.00
PA170	Map 10	(ed. 18, 1997)	AT Shenandoah National Park (Central District)	5.00	4.00
PA180	Map 11	(ed. 12, 1996)	AT Shenandoah National Park (South District)	5.00	4.00
PA190	Map 12	(ed. 7, 1996)	AT GWNF Pedlar District (Rockfish Gap to Tye River)	5.00	4.00
PA200	Map 13	(ed. 3, 1995)	AT GWNF Pedlar District (Tye River to James River)	5.00	4.00
PA210	Map D	(ed. 2, 1991)	Potomac River Gorge Area and Cabin John Trail	3.50	2.80
PA220	Map F	(ed. 4, 1995)	Great North Mountain-North Half (Virginia/West Virginia)	5.00	4.00
PA230	Map G	(ed. 6, 1998)	Massanutten Mountain-North Half (Signal Knob to New Market Gap)	5.00	4.00
PA240	Map H	(ed. 2, 1995)	Massanutten Mountain-South Half (New Market Gap to Mass. Peak)	5.00	4.00
PA250	Map J	(ed. 2, 1997)	Tuscarora Trail AT, PA to PA Route 641	5.00	4.00
PA260	Map K	(ed. 2, 1997)	Tuscarora Trail PA route 641 to Hancock, MD	5.00	4.00
PA270	Map L	(ed. 2, 1996)	Tuscarora Trail (Hancock, MD, to Capon Springs, WV, and Cacapon St. Pk.)	5.00	4.00
PA290	Map N	(ed. 1, 1993)	Rock Creek Park Area, DC	5.00	4.00
PA300	PATC Elevation Profile of Appalachian Trail (Pine Grove Furnace to Rockfish Gap)			1.75	1.40
PB100	AT Guide Book #6 (ed. 15, 1995) Maryland and Northern Virginia			7.00	5.60
PB110	AT Guide Set #6 (AT Guide Book to MD and Northern VA with Maps 5-6, 7 & 8)			18.00	14.40
PB120	AT Guide Book #7 (ed. 11, 1994) Shenandoah National Park			9.00	7.20
PB130	AT Guide Set #7 (AT Guide Book to Shenandoah National Park with Maps 9, 10 & 11)			20.00	16.00
PB140	Massanutten Guide Set (Guide to Massanutten Mountain with Maps G & H)			14.00	11.20
PC100	Circuit Hikes in Shenandoah National Park (ed. 14, 1996)			6.00	4.80
PC110	Circuit Hikes in Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland, and Pennsylvania (ed. 5, 1994)			6.00	4.80
PC115	Hikes in Western Maryland (ed. 1, 1997)			6.00	4.80
PC116	The Tuscarora Trail North (Guide to Maryland and Pennsylvania) (ed. 3, 1997)			6.00	4.80
PC117	The Tuscarora Trail South (Guide to West Virginia and Virginia) (ed. 3, 1997)			6.00	4.80
PC120	Hikes in the Washington Region: Part A Northern Maryland Counties (ed. 3, 1992)			6.00	4.80
PC130	Hikes in the Washington Region: Part B Northern Virginia Counties (ed. 3, 1993)			6.00	4.80
PC140	Hikes in the Washington Region: Part C DC/Southern Maryland Counties (ed. 1, 1984)			Not	Available
PC160	Guide to Massanutten Mountain (1993)			6.00	4.80
PC180	Hiking Guide to the Pedlar District, George Washington National Forest (ed. 2, 1990)			6.00	4.80
PC190	Climbers' Guide to the Great Falls of the Potomac (1985)			6.00	4.80
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
PC220	Breaking Trail in the Central Appalachians - a narrative			12.50	10.00
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 (5th printing, 1995)			7.00	5.60
PC260	Shenandoah Vestiges: What the Mountain People Left Behind (3d printing, 1993)			5.00	4.00
PC270	Shenandoah Secrets: The Story of the Park's Hidden Past (Revised 1998)			12.95	10.36
PC280	PATC Cabins Booklet (1997)			4.00	3.20
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
PE150	PATC Ballpoint Pen with gift box			3.00	3.00
PE250	Long Sleeve T-Shirts			20.00	20.00
PE260	Short Sleeve T-Shirts			15.00	15.00
PE265	Notecards with Drawings of 3 PATC Cabins (box of 10 with envelopes)			4.00	4.00
PE280	PATC Coffee Mugs			7.50	6.00
PE320	PATC HAT			12.00	12.00
XX700	Natural History Guide to Common Woody Plants of the GWNF and SNP (1995)			3.00	2.40

PUBLICATIONS FROM OTHER PUBLISHERS

DESCRIPTION	RETAIL	MEMBER
184 Miles of Adventure (C&O Towpath) (1991)	\$ 4.75	\$ 3.80
50 hikes in Northern Virginia (1994)	13.00	10.40
Appalachian Trail Field Book (1982)	3.50	2.80
Appalachian Trail Patch	3.00	2.40
Appalachian Trail Thru-Hikers' Companion (1996)	10.00	8.00
Backpacker Magazine Guide to the AT (1989)	16.95	13.56
Backpacking: One Step at a Time (1986)	9.00	7.20
Camping and Backpacking with Children (1995)	16.95	13.56
Common Sense Medical Guide (1987)	15.00	12.00
Cross-Country Skiing (1988)	9.00	7.20
Exploring Washington on Foot	12.95	10.36
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 Skyline Drive and SNP (1997)	7.50	6.00
Guide to the Mason-Dixon Trail System (1992)	15.12	12.60
Hikes to Waterfalls (1997)	3.00	2.40
Hiking Guide to the Monongahela National Forest (1993)	12.00	10.00
Hiking Virginia's National Forests (1998)	10.00	8.00
Hollow Boy By Rayner V. Sneed (1995)	13.95	11.16
Insiders Guide to Virginia's Blue Ridge (1995)	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 (1990)	7.00	5.60
Pennsylvania Hiking Trails (ed. 12, 1998)	7.00	5.60
Potomac Trails (1997)	14.95	12.00
Skyland: The Heart of Shenandoah National Park (1960)	6.00	4.80
The 18 Cabins of Old Rag		5.00
The Appalachian Trail Backpacker (1994)	11.00	8.80
The Appalachians (1975) (Maurice Brooks)	18.95	15.16
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
The Undying Past of the Shenandoah National Park	18.95	15.16
There are Mountains to Climb (1996)	12.95	10.36
Thru-Hikers Handbook (Dan "Wingfoot" Bruce, 1998)	12.00	9.60

DESCRIPTION	RETAIL	MEMBER
Thru-Hikers Planning Guide	\$ 12.00	\$ 9.60
Towns along the Towpath	14.00	11.20
Towpath Guide to the C&O Canal (1994)	14.00	11.20
Trail Building and Maintenance (ed. 2, 1981) (AMC)	12.95	10.36
Trail Design, Construction and Maintenance	9.00	7.20
Trails in Southwest Virginia (1997)	6.95	5.50
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 (1994)	16.95	13.56
Workbook for Planning Thru-Hikes	6.00	4.80
Appalachian Trail Poster Maps		
b) AT and eight full-color trail photos 32" x 47"	6.95	5.56
c) AT strip map with forest green border 9½" x 48"	3.50	2.80
Other AT Guide Books with Trail Maps		
AT Data Book (supplement to guide sets) (1999)	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 (1998)	40.00	32.00
Southwest Virginia (1994)	17.00	13.60
Tennessee-North Carolina (1995)	25.00	20.00
Trails Illustrated Topo Maps		
American Discovery Trail (covers DE, MD, & WV) (1995)	9.00	7.20
Shenandoah National Park (1994)	9.00	7.20
Trinkets		
Appalachian Trail South Bandana	5.00	5.00
Hand Painted Scenic's on Slate Rock	19.95	19.95
PATC Water Bottles	5.00	5.00
Smokey the Bear Pins	4.00	3.20
Tuscarora Trail Patch	2.00	2.00

ORDER FORM

TELEPHONE HOURS:

Monday - Thursday, 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
 Thursday - Friday, 12:00 noon - 2:00 p.m.
 (703) 242-0693 Fax (703) 242-0968

SEND ALL ORDERS TO:

PATC
 118 Park Street, SE
 Vienna, VA 22180-4609

Name _____
 Shipping Address _____
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 Phone: (h): _____ (w): _____

Credit card orders (Visa or MasterCard only).
 Please have all information ready when you call. Make checks payable to the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club (PATC).
 Do not send cash, stamps, or C.O.D. orders.
 Please allow 3 weeks for delivery. Orders may be shipped by UPS or First Class Mail.
 Please include Shipping and Handling costs to expedite your order.

- Member Nonmember
 Please send membership information & application

SHIPPING AND HANDLING CHART

Order Subtotal	\$ & H Cost
Up to \$10.00	\$2.00
\$10.01 to \$25.00	\$4.00
\$25.01 to \$50.00	\$6.00
Above \$50.00	\$8.00

ITEM #	QUANTITY	DESCRIPTION	UNIT PRICE	TOTAL

METHOD OF PAYMENT:

- Check or Money Order
 Visa or MasterCard

Order Subtotal _____

4.5% Sales Tax (VA residents only) _____

Shipping and Handling (see above) _____

Signature _____
credit card number expiration date (mth/yr.)

Grand Total for Order _____

Trailhead

March came in like a lion, but left like a lamb. PATC trails, which had escaped the harsh winter weather to this point, saw some high winds and a good amount of snow on two occasions during the month. However, the feared ice has spared us this year, and trails are generally in good shape. District Managers are assessing trails at winter's end and waiting for more detailed reports from overseers who are encouraged to report blowdowns, clear waterbars, and check blazes.

New District Managers

Several District Managers have changed over the course of the winter. Lois Mansfield replaced Phil Shroeder for SNP South District Blue Trails. Randy Buie replaces Nancy and David Carey for Massanutten North Trails. Mike Karpis takes over for Larry Linebrink for SNP South District AT. Pete Gatje and the Trails Organization extend special thanks for the fine job and many dedicated hours Phil, Nancy, David, and Larry have contributed to PATC's mission.

Charlottesville Chapter Worktrip

Fifteen dedicated volunteers showed up at the Sprint Parking Lot for February's monthly worktrip in the SNP South District. After stoking up on chocolate bread and bagels provided by the Chapter President, three groups were formed. Two smaller groups went to the blue blazed trail near the Rockfish Gap Entrance Station and to the bottom of Onemile Run. The larger group worked on the Trayfoot Mountain Trail where the major objective was to remove an oak with three 10-inch diameter trunks across the trail just below the Mountain summit. Because the Skyline Drive was closed, the group had a four mile, 1,700 foot climb to reach the work site from the Shenandoah Valley. Armed with three handsaws, five people made the six cuts necessary to remove the tree in a little over half an hour. As a result of previous years' storms and gypsy moth damage, the summit ridge of Trayfoot Mountain contained innumerable step-overs lying on the ground or nearly lying on the ground. The group removed all those not flat on the ground and some that were. The Onemile Run Trail group worked on the nearly level bottom portion where they removed some of the blowdowns reported by a hiker a few weeks earlier, but left some step-overs to retain the wilderness character of the trail. Those working on the blue blazed trail near the entrance

station lopped branches, removed a blowdown, and noted some tread work that should be done on a later trip.

Mt. Rogers in WV?

West Virginia may be about to get its own Mt. Rogers, as the Tuscarora Trail relocation over Beacon Hill in West Virginia's Sleepy Creek area nears completion. Although this hill, which is the high point of the Eastern Panhandle, is really part of Third Hill Mountain, the Crew has been thinking of renaming it Mt. Rogers, since most of the clearing and blazing for the relocation were done by veteran overseer, Al Rogers. The relocation passes by the old airline beacon tower and offers views and ambience that were missing from the current route, which is mostly a road walk. Al, long time Cadillac Crew member, coerced the Crew to schedule a March work trip to do tread work, brushing, and blazing on the relocation. By the way, coercion involved treating the crew to a lasagna dinner with wine prepared in his RV at Wolf Spring Campsite.

Since the relocation follows old woods roads, it has been hikeable for some time and has already been used by group hikes organized by the PATC North Chapter and the Northern Virginia Hiking Club. However, the official opening date will require some coordination, so watch for a formal announcement, perhaps as soon as next month.

Earlier in March, the Cadillac Crew resumed trail construction at the north end of the Brill easement on Shockey's Knob, very close to the West Virginia State line. On hand for the this work trip were PATC president Walt Smith, as well as Doug Wood, visiting from the West Virginia Scenic Trails Association. Doug is the district manager for the south end of the Allegheny Trail, which joins the Appalachian Trail west of Roanoke.

Snow Removal On Massanutten

Trailhead's roving photographer submitted this photo of a newly appointed trail overseer at work for the first time on his trail. It seems a certain trail crew has been rebuilding switchbacks on the overseer's trail. Good

weather was predicted for the trail crew's March trip, but nine inches of snow covered the mountain! Desperate to complete the work, the nefarious crew leader tricked our neophyte into shoveling snow off his trail! Our photographer was also trapped by the crew leader and pressed into snow removal. She gained her release by promising not to reveal names.



Photo by Nonny Mum

Report From The North Country

PATC's North Chapter worked over 25 miles of the AT in one day in early March. The day concluded with a fine supper at Gypsy Spring Cabin. A major North Chapter project for the Tuscarora Trail involves selection of a site for a new shelter. Led By Charlie Irvin, North Chapter overseers met with the Head Rangers from the Tuscarora and Michaux State Forests at Catocin Cabin on March 20. The planning meeting went very well with a lot of interaction and discussion, over a good lunch, of plans for the coming year. Opportunities abound as the North Chapter has many good projects for this coming year including trail rehab, bridge construction, shelter, and cabin repair. Give Charlie a call to get details.

Irish Hoodlums

The North District Hoodlums turned Irish in March—although they found no leprechauns on the trails, they cleared branches and removed a dozen and a half blowdowns from eight miles of the AT. The trail had previously been cleared end-to-end in the district, but storms and high winds in early March signaled that winter wasn't through with us yet. Since there were still 4 to 6 inches of snow on the trail with drifts of a foot or more, it was not easy going. But, a pot of corned beef and cabbage, Celtic music, and a warm campfire at Indian Run Hut provided some reward for a hard day's work.

Preparing for Central District Workshop

SNP Central District Managers Charles Hillon and Kerry Snow (along with District bon vivant Mike Dyas) hiked several of the trails in the Hughes River watershed in late February. They were accompanied by SNP Trails Rangers (Shawn Green, C.T. Campbell, Roger Dovell, and Don Harvey) in an effort to scout projects for the upcoming gala Central District Workshop on June 6-7. The PATC and SNP trails managers hope to find projects that will utilize a variety of wilderness tools and techniques.

Volunteer Appreciation

The Club has ordered a number of ball caps with the PATC logo and overseer tab. Trail overseers who have served at least five years will receive these caps in the mail. Ball caps with just the PATC logo are available for purchase through PATC Headquarters.

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

Volunteers - Appointed in March

Trail Overseers

Chris Mayfield
Lee Sheaffer
Carl Bock
George Still
Melvin Ellis
Walter (Tilly) Smith
and Co-overseer
Gary Steele

Shelter Overseers

Roger Barbee
Kent Query
Steve Shivers

Corridor Monitors

Mark Taylor
Joan Reker
Tom Merrigan
Joe Beben
Ben Eckert
Molly Moorehead
Sara Grossman
Jane Hershey
Joe Mackrell
Blair Dobbs
John Shoemaker
Dave Pierce

Catlett Mountain Trail
Sidewinder Trail
Crusher Ridge Trail
White Oak Canyon Trail (1st Section)
Corbin Hollow Trail
Potomac Heritage Trail - Roosevelt Island to Windy Run
Potomac Heritage Trail - Water Tower to Live Oaks Drive
Nicholson Hollow Trail - AT to Indian Run Trail

Dicks Dome
Rocky Run
Paul Gerhard

Big Flat
Lambs Knoll
Keys Gap North
Blackburn
Sand Spring
Rod Hollow
Rod Hollow
Ashby Gap South
Ashby Gap South
Sky Meadows
Apple Orchard
Calf Mountain



Annual PATC- Lee District Meeting

PATC had its annual Planning Meeting with Lee District of the George Washington National Forest on March 27th. The meeting was well attended and productive as usual. Attending from PATC were George Still, Rick Rhoades, Will Kohlbrenner, Heidi Forest, Bill Schmidt, and Charlie Graf. Forest representatives included Don Sawyer, Deputy District Ranger, Wade Bushong, Fires and Trails, and Dean Kelley, Forest Technician.

The group determined that this year's weeklong Massarock Trail Building Crew dates will begin on June 13, June 20, September 12, and September 19. These are wonderful opportunities to do one week of solid trail building on the Massarock Trail, a long ongoing trail construction project, now approximately 80% done.

The group also discussed two trail relocation projects, both in the Waites Run area of Great North Mountain. The Forest Service has approved relocation of a short section, the Pond Run segment of the Tuscarora Trail recommended earlier by PATC. Actual trail relocation will take place this summer. Also

the Peer Trail approach to Sugar Knob will be closed and an alternate approach opened through a linking of the Paddy Mountain Trail and Racer Camp Hollow Trail. This considerably more extensive work will also take place this summer, led by Wil Kohlbrenner.

Charlie Graf led discussions regarding three shelters requiring maintenance in the Lee District area. As it has in the past, the Forest Service offered to help PATC work crews transport materials to these shelters.

The Forest Service will also assist PATC with transport of water and some supplies to some of the inaccessible areas of the Dogwood Half Hundred.

Deputy District Ranger Don Sawyer concluded the meeting by announcing that Wil Kohlbrenner, PATC Member and also Forest Service Volunteer has been recognized for his outstanding volunteer service by the Forest Service National leadership and will receive its prestigious Chief's National Award. Wil was selected from among 90 nominees

submitted from across the country. PATC is equally proud of Wil Kohlbrenner. He has previously received the PATC Service Award.

This successful partnership meeting ended with a wonderful lunch of Forest Service chili. □

—Rick Rhoades

Marie Ridder recently donated a conservation easement of 7.86 acres of her property in the Potomac River Gorge. The easement, which is visible from the Potomac River and the C&O National Historic Park, will be held by the Potomac Conservancy and Virginia Outdoors Foundation. The easement will protect the forest, ravines, streams, and rocky bluffs on the property, as well as the deer, red foxes, and variety of birds that live there. From *RiverScape* (newsletter of the Potomac Conservancy).

—Lynn Witwer

TRAIL OVERSEERS WANTED

Trail Overseer Openings April 1, 1999. Contact the District Manager for the region that interests you.

SNP NORTH BLUE-BLAZE (Map #9)

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

Dickey Ridge Trail

MP 2.1 to Snead Farm Road [2.60 miles]

SHENANDOAH CENTRAL BLUE-BLAZE (Map #10)

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

Cat Knob Trail

Laurel Prong Trail to Jones Mountain Trail [.50 mile]

Corbin Mountain Trail

(Co-Overseer) Nicholson Hollow Trail to Old Rag Fire Rd. [4.4 miles]

Jones Mountain Trail

Fork Mountain Fire Road to Cat Knob Trail [.80 mile]

Jones Mountain Trail

Bear Church Rock to Cat Knob Trail [2.80 miles]

McDaniel Hollow Trail

Staunton River Trail to Jones Mountain Trail [.40 mile]

Staunton River Trail

Fork Mountain Fire Road to Jones Mountain Trail [1.50 miles]

TUSCARORA (Map # L)

[CALL LLOYD MACASKILL at 703/978-4070
or E-mail: LloydM3160@aol.com]

Tuscarora Trail

Pinnacle Powerline to Larrick Overlook [1.40 miles]

Tuscarora Trail

Larrick Overlook to Lucas Woods [2.30 miles]

Tuscarora Trail

Shanghai Road to Third Mountain Trail [2.70 miles]

MASSANUTTEN NORTH (Map # G)

[CALL RANDY BUIE at 540/622-6476]

Massanutten Mt. East Trail

Waterfall Mountain Trail to US Rte. 211 [1.8 mile]

Kennedy Peak Trail

Massanutten East Trail to Kennedy Peak [0.4 mile]

MASSANUTTEN SOUTH (Map # H)

[CALL BILL SCHMIDT AT 301/585-2477
or E-mail: weschem@gwis2.circ.gwu.edu]

Massanutten Mountain South Trail

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

Massanutten Mountain South Trail

Pitt Spring to Morgan Run Trail [3.3 miles]

Morgan Run Trail

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

PATC Porcupines

In May 1985, I was backpacking on the Tuscarora Trail in southern PA with a college friend, TJ. We were hiking in State Game Lands No 124 on Tuscarora Mountain, when TJ yelled back to me. When I caught up to him he told me he had seen a porcupine. I found it hard to believe him, as porcupines are a more northern species. I figured he misidentified some other animal, so I forgot about it.

In August of 1996 I was in the same area working on the new Tuscarora Trail Guide with Dave Keaton, the trail maintainer. Around noon we came to a small peak with one set of blazes going over and another set going around the peak. I pushed the wheel over the peak, and Dave walked around. Dave yelled "Tom, come quick. There's a porcupine." I found Dave looking at a porky up a maple tree! We ate lunch on the peak and then left the porky still in the tree.

I did a little checking up on porcupines with a friend in the PA Game Commission. It seems that porcupines are expanding their range and can be found on Tuscarora and Blue Mountains, the main ridges followed by the Tuscarora Trail. He also said that they haven't crossed the Cumberland Valley to reach South Mountain yet. So next time you're on the Tuscarora, look for evidence of porkies.

— Tom Lupp

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