



The Potomac Appalachian

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

Volume 31, Number 7
 July 2002

In our 75th Year!

First Backpacked Thru-Hike of the Massanutten Trail

Bonnie and Clyde Spotted!

The notorious outlaws Bonnie and Clyde were seen in mid-May on Massanutten Mountain. With towering backpacks, the pair were hiking the 71-mile Massanutten Trail, scanning the valleys and distant peaks, and stopping at a new hideout each night. Fort Valley citizens have formed a posse, but Bonnie and Clyde vanished after completing the first thru-hike on the recently opened trail that rings the mountain.

Trail Names

Bonnie and Clyde are really Joyce and Jim Maw, veteran backpackers. They use the trailnames “Bonnie and Clyde” when hiking on trails with shelters and huts that have sign-in books. Looking for a new challenge, and craving solitude away from crowded trails, the Maws decided to try the new Massanutten Trail. They had a week’s vacation, and their usual daily pace of 10 miles fit nicely into the trail’s 71-mile length.

See Thru-Hike, page 5



Joyce and Jim take advantage of filling up the “easy” way at Camp Roosevelt.

Photo by Will Kohlbrener

Easy Hikers Celebrate



Easy Hikers gather for Henry Shryock Jr.’s 90th Birthday, Wednesday, May 8, 2002.

See page 16 for story.

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Photo by Henri Comeaux

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Council Fire

The regular monthly meeting of the PATC Council on May 18 was held at Rosser Lamb House on the Club's Per-Lee Tract (Greene County, Va.). The Council broke into six working groups to ponder possible five-year goals in the context of the following topics encompassed in the 2027 Vision Statement: trails, land management, facilities, membership, education and outreach, and finance. The Council then reassembled as a whole to consider the suggestions of the six groups. Each group was asked to submit its recommendations to Director of Administration Wilson Riley for compilation in a draft to be reviewed at the June meeting of the Council.

Wilson reported two critical incident stress management sessions had been held at headquarters for persons connected with two individuals who died from a faulty heater during a PATC-sponsored excursion to Chile and one who died from a fall during the Dogwood Half Hundred.

Finance

Treasurer Gerhard Salinger said that the audit for last year was completed with a good report. He distributed monthly budget reports for January through April 2002, noting that the data is still incomplete. The Club does not appear to have any financial problems at this time. The Council transferred \$11,000 from the restricted account for Database Upgrades in the Headquarters Capital/Repair Fund to a special account in the general ledger, and stipulated that any

unspent funds in this account at the end of 2002 will be returned to the Headquarters Capital/Repair Fund. It was clarified that in subsequent years these expenses will be included in the regular operating budget.

The Combined Federal Campaign will include PATC again this year. Seventy-three persons pledged a total of \$21,900 through the campaign for this year.

Map Price Increase

The Council decided that the retail price of all PATC publications and maps would be increased by \$1.00, effective as soon as possible, presumably June 1, 2002. This is the first price increase in seven years.

Fire Alarm

The Council transferred \$7,000 from the unrestricted section of the Headquarters Capital/Repair Fund to the Headquarters Fire Alarm Project and authorized the fire alarm system upgrade. The system is being improved in the interest of personnel safety and protecting the building, because it is obsolete and does not comply with current codes. Completion is expected by September.

Cabins

Renovation of Weaver Cabin has begun, and the cabin will be out of the rental system for two months. The Cabins Committee is developing a form on which potential cabin

See Council Fire, page 6

HEADQUARTERS

HOW TO CONTACT US FOR CABIN RESERVATIONS, MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION, AND SALES

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

Hours: Monday through Thursday, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

and Thursday and Friday 12 noon to 2 p.m.

Phone #: 703/242-0315

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

To receive an information packet: Extension 10

To leave a message for the Club President Walt Smith: Extension 40

Club e-mail: Wriley1226@aol.com

Facsimile #: 703/242-0968

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

STAFF

DURING REGULAR BUSINESS HOURS

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Trails Management Coordinator: Heidi Forrest (Ext. 12) e-mail: heidif@erols.com

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Sales Coordinator: Maureen Estes (Ext. 19) e-mail: patcsales@erols.com

Bus/Metro Directions to Headquarters: When taking Metro Orange line, get off at Dunn Loring station (not Vienna, the last stop). Outside the station, find the stop for Metrobus 2C westbound in the direction of Tyson's Corner. When the bus starts down Maple Avenue in Vienna, exit at the library just past Center St. Walk half a block in the same direction the bus travels, and turn right at Park St. PATC will be on the left only a few yards down from the corner. The fare is \$1.10, but you can ride for \$.25 if you remember to get a transfer ticket at your originating station.

Walt's Notes

I was struck when I read Steven McCormick's column in the summer edition of *Nature Conservancy*. The President and CEO of The Nature Conservancy wrote that "the relevance of conserving nature is imbedded in who we are" and therefore we are "saving the landscapes of our hearts, our souls, our very being. These places harbor a wealth of animals and plants that sustain and enhance our quality of life, not just physically, but, I contend, spiritually as well ... we save them to nourish our souls."

Perhaps there is a compelling need to save the wilderness because we innately know that we would not feel comfortable in life without such landscapes. I believe that is how I felt on the Long Mountain Trail where I felt a spiritual experience, as I wrote last month, and became so grateful for the opportunity to be on the trail in that lovely natural setting.

The relevance of soul nourishment in the wilderness is not a new awakening. I believe that the 19th Century traveler Charles



Lloyd MacAskill is walking down the stone steps recently constructed for the Entry Run Trail by the Cadillac Crew. When completed, the Entry Run Trail will connect a trailhead adjacent to VA 643 to the Pocasin Fire Road in the Central District of Shenandoah National Park. The trail will pass through the Club-owned Per-Lee/West property on which is the recently dedicated John's Rest Cabin and the Rosser Lamb farmhouse that is currently being restored.



Photos by Walt Smith

John Oliver, Secretary of Conservation and Natural Resources for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, hiked on the Tuscarora Trail in PA in May as part of the state's "Hiking Trails Week." From left to right, at the view from Flat Rock, is Chris Firme, Hikes Chair for the North Chapter, Walt Smith, PATC President and Hike Leader, John Oliver, and members of the DCNR staff. Also present, in the front row, were two students from Shippensburg University.

Hoffman was alluding to such need when he wrote from Charlottesville on June 2, 1834:

"There is a singular joyousness in a wilderness; a vague feeling of solitude, and a vivid sense of the primal freshness which breathes around you, that mingle most strangely together, and make you own at the time that the subduing hand of culti-

vation and the golden embellishments of art, could add nothing here ... and in realizing this emotion, I have felt amid some scenes a kind of selfish pleasure, a wild delight, that the spot so lovely and so lonely was, as it were, all my own ... But Hark! That discordant post-horn, breaking in upon these idle musings, tells me that they must close here with the tour that called them

See Walt, page 8



On May 15th, John Oliver, PA Secretary for Conservation and Natural Resources, hiked with his staff on the Tuscarora Trail through Wildcat Hollow. The group also visited the Wagon Wheel Shelter, recently constructed by the North Chapter, while completing the 8.5 mile Tuscarora/Warner trails circuit from PA 233.



John Shannon, President of the Charlottesville Chapter, walking through a stand of tulip poplar trees on the Entry Run Trail in the Per-Lee/West property.

In Memory

Earl Victor Shaffer

Earl Shaffer (the first AT thru-hiker), who had been terminally ill with cancer, passed away on May 5 at Lebanon Veterans Hospital, Lebanon, Pa. He had been in and out of the hospital since February. His graveside service was private for the family and a few close personal friends. A memorial service is being considered for late summer to celebrate his life and accomplishments. This service will be somewhere in the greater York, Pa., area. Earl's biography may be found on the Earl Shaffer Foundation Web site at www.EarlShaffer.com/aboutearl.html.

Earl spoke at the ATC conference last summer, and he was a founding member of the Susquehanna AT Club.

Sylvia Gasch

Sylvia became a life member when she joined PATC in May 1932. She was a friendly, outgoing person and participated in many PATC activities until about four years ago. Sylvia loved to square dance and was instrumental in forming the Allemonde Lefters, PATC's square dance group. They first started dancing at her home. Sylvia also was an accomplished harpist and played at several of the Club's annual dinners in the 1960s.

—Carol Niedzialek

John Smith

After a long battle with cancer, John Smith of Edinburg, Va., a longtime volunteer with PATC, died peacefully at UVA in Charlottesville on Saturday, May 25. He was 87.

Until giving up his trail responsibilities several years ago for health reasons, John and his wife, Helen, maintained about two miles of the AT in SNP's North District, about three miles of the Dickey Ridge Trail, and the Crusher Ridge Trail in the Central District, among others. Even when his health started to fail, they could still be found weeding, cleaning waterbars, and painting blazes more days than not. John took pride in building erosion control devices that would hold for many years and in showing others how to do the same. He participated in the annual workshops at Mathews Arm Campground to learn, and to teach.

A graveside service and celebration of life was held Wednesday, May 29, at the Edinburg Town Cemetery. □

A Massanutten Trail Footnote

The article describing the Maws' thru-hike around the Massanutten Trail (*page 1*) requires that we mention an even earlier round-trip on the trail. In early April, Anstr Davidson and Chris Scott, took exactly the same route as the Maws. They traveled light, just water bottles and flashlights! They had a one-man crew in a van that met them at each road crossing – with sizzling cheeseburgers on a grill at one crossing.

They did the 71 miles in just under 28 hours.

Anstr and Chris are members of the Virginia Happy Trails Running Club. The VHTRC sponsors the Massanutten Mountain Trails 100 every year. The MMT 100 is regarded

as the toughest ultramarathon east of the Rockies. VHTRC members blazed some sections of the Massanutten Trail and roughed out one of the last sections because they wanted to include it in the MMT 100 a year ago.

Trail maintainers from PATC and VHTRC work together every year to prep the trail for the MMT 100, so these guys and their club members are our friends. We'd like to salute them for their first, and wish them many more first-place finishes.

For amusing accounts of their "thru-hike," visit www.vhtrc.org, click on the News page, and look for "Chris Scott and Anstr Davidson." □

—Wil Koblrenner

Thru-Hike, from page 5

clockwise or counterclockwise direction when looking at the map. The Maws were looking for a good place to leave their vehicle and were hoping to avoid crowded areas on weekend days. They chose to start early on a Saturday morning from the Signal Knob Parking area on Fort Valley Road and to hike clockwise. They would be past the popular Elizabeth Furnace area as soon as they began the climb to Shawl Gap. This choice would also bring them back through the popular Signal Knob area, but before the following weekend.

Campsites

The Maws assumed that the Little Crease Shelter would be crowded on Saturday evening, and that was an accurate guess. They filled water bottles from the spring and hiked up to a secluded campsite on the ridge near where the southbound Tuscarora Trail leaves the Massanutten to go east to its trailhead on the AT.

They camped again on the east ridge near the Stephens Trail intersection, along Big Run near the base of the old Waterfall Mountain Trail, on the south face of Waonaze Peak, and near the Strasburg Reservoir. The lack of campsites along the west ridges (even possible LNT sites are scarce) kept them going farther each day than they might have, so they finished a day earlier than expected. After enjoying the view from Signal Knob, they came down the former Signal Knob Trail, "rocky, but not as bad as we expected," to their vehicle.

Rocky Tread

When asked about the Massanutten's rocky tread, Jim said that hikers who are used to graded trails in the west are used to having the rocks removed. "Western hikers assume that lower altitudes in the East will translate to easier trails, but Eastern trails tend to be left natural – steeper, with more rocks. We prefer natural trails. We would hate to have trails like super highways. It would take away the challenge of the unexpected that we love about backpacking."

Trail Encounters

They met a thru-hiker on the Tuscarora section who had been hiking north on the AT for two months, but was taking the blue-blazed loop to the west to avoid the crowd. They encountered moderate trail traffic on Saturday, less on Sunday, three equestrians on Monday, then no one on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. They watched hang-glider enthusiasts near the Woodstock Tower, but otherwise had the trail to themselves. Well, there were deer, and two box turtles: one hiking clockwise, the other counterclockwise.

Highlight

The Maws especially liked the trail section from Camp Roosevelt to Jawbone Gap. "Something for everyone, a gradual ascent up Duncan Hollow, a drop along Big Run in its deep-V valley, a stiff climb up Waterfall Mountain, and an extremely nice ridge trail on Kerns Mountain with great views of the surrounding area. We loved it. Without a doubt, the highlight of the trail!" □

—Wil Koblrenner

Thru-Hike, from page 1

Planning

Using PATC's map G and the trail descriptions in PATC's "Guide to Massanutten Mountain," they began studying the route. This reporter supplied additional information on the latest sections of the trail and on blaze changes since the publication of the map and guide. (See Massanutten Trail Essentials.)

Planting Water

The hike was planned in late winter, when most springs were dry from two years of drought. The challenge was to ensure an adequate supply of water. Even when springs are running, there are long dry stretches on the ridges of the Massanutten. The Maws noted the reliable locations for water, then made a special trip in April to cache a gallon of water at four different locations. One of these required a 1.5 mile hike to the east ridge, but the other caches were near road crossings.

Although each cache was carefully hidden, Joyce explained, "We needed to have enough water left in our packs to allow us to make an emergency plan if we discovered that something had happened to the cached water." They carried three quarts each and collapsible containers that gave them added capacity when needed. They packed out all trash, with the emptied plastic jugs dangling off their packs.

There were frequent heavy rains in the weeks just before the hike, so all springs were flowing again and the Maws had more than adequate water. They had a "cache party" at each of their hidden jugs of water, treating themselves to an extra Gatorade mix – living it up on the trail.

To minimize the need for water, the Maws also had dry campsites – no campfires and no cooking. That also saved carrying a stove and fuel. For a campsite, they needed only a flat area big enough for their tent – leave no trace camping – when a hardened campsite was not available.

A Lost Cache

A gallon jug of water was hidden north of the Woodstock Tower Road. The cache was near a log that had fallen across the trail. A trail maintainer reported blowdowns in that area, and Mike Sutherland, PATC's District Manager for Massanutten North, went out with a



Photos by Vincent Ferrari

All jugs used for water were packed out after the "cache party."

chainsaw and a swamper. They cleared the trail of logs. The Maws arrived a few days later – no log, no water. Ahh, but the Maws had GPSed the position of the log and used their GPS unit again to narrow the search area. They found the cache, which illustrates the little known fact that a GPS unit can be used to find water!

Clockwise or Counterclockwise?

The Massanutten Trail is a closed loop. The circuit can be started at any of six widely spaced road crossings. Hikers also have to choose a

See Thru-Hikers, page 4

Massanutten Trail Essentials

To plan a backpacking trip on the Massanutten, you will need three pieces of information:

❑ "Guide to Massanutten Mountain Hiking Trails," published by PATC in 2000. The guide describes almost all of the Massanutten Trail, but under the trail names that were in use in 2000. The guide also describes the side trails and the road approaches, and supplies a great deal of information about the Forest Service and the history of the area. The Guide can be ordered through the PATC Web site, www.patc.net, the Forest Service Web site,

www.southernregion.fs.fed.us/gwj/lee, and is sold at most stores that cater to hikers.

❑ PATC's new map G for the north half of Massanutten. This is Edition 7, with a publication date of May 2002. This topographic map uses the latest color scheme to show national forest land and private land, has all the changes to trail names and blaze colors, highlights the Massanutten Trail, has a UTM grid, and shows the roads that cross the trail and tie to major highways. Enlargements of many areas on the map provide greater detail. The map can be ordered after July 1st from PATC and from the Forest Service, through their Web sites.

❑ "Hiking the Massanutten Trail," a supplement to the Guide, which provides hiking tips for the trail. The supplement assumes that the reader has both the Guide and map G, Edition 7. The supplement is about 10 pages (8.5 x 11). It provides two mile-by-mile descriptions of the trail, one going clockwise, the other counterclockwise. Water sources and campsite information are included. The supplement is available free from the PATC Web site and also from the Forest Service's Lee Ranger District Web site. ❑

—Wil Koblrenner

Annual Blackburn Summer BBQ – Last Chance!

To Those Who Love the Mountains, Great Friends, and Fabulous Food:

The annual summer “Texas BBQ” at Blackburn Trail Center, located a click off the AT – just outside of Round Hill, Va. – is getting into gear! This year the event is scheduled for July 6-7, 2002. If you have never experienced one of these delightful gatherings, we urge you to put it on your list of must dos! Come join us for a day of hiking, arts and craft activities for the kids, relaxing on the porch, and the best BBQ, some say, outside of Texas! (The Barbeque as always, features the famous Texan Chef Dean Caraway as well as his West Virginia sidekick Blaine Robinson. Can you imagine a better cultural combo to turn out some mean brisket, ribs, and chicken?) Besides bringing good people together to enjoy great food, hiking, and the wonderful views from Blackburn, this event seeks to find new members as well as to raise funds for the Club. Last year, the event provided funding for the Conservation Committee to support the purchase of property surrounding Blackburn and the AT. We raise funds at the event through registration fees and a raffle.

The Blackburn Trail Center can accommodate approximately 30 people in bunkrooms, which are available on a first-come first-served basis. In addition, the nearby campground has ample space for tents. Bring your lunch on Saturday; dinner Saturday evening and breakfast on Sunday are included. The cost of the BBQ is \$20

for adults and children 13 and older, \$7 for children 5-12, under five years old free. Please mail the attached registration form along with the appropriate fee to Lisa Still at 5812 Cove Landing Rd., Unit #302, Burke, VA 22015.

- CHECKS SHOULD BE MADE OUT TO LISA STILL AND SENT WITH THE ENCLOSED REGISTRATION FORM NO LATER THAN JUNE 21, 2002.

- AS MUCH AS WE LOVE THEM, PLEASE LEAVE YOUR DOGS AT HOME OR AT THE PET HOTEL!

- THIS YEAR WE ARE INTRODUCING THE FIRST-EVER DESSERT CONTEST. BRING YOUR BEST COOKIES, CAKES, PIES, OR OTHERWISE GRANDMA'S FAVORITE RECIPE. PRIZES AWARDED TO FIRST, SECOND, AND THIRD PLACE WINNERS.

Volunteers are welcome and needed for several activities. If you would like to assist with this event or have any questions, please call Caren Rothstein-Robinson at 703/560-1361 before 9:00 p.m. or e-mail her at: IMSHEMISH@AOL.COM. □

Blackburn Summer BBQ Registration — Saturday and Sunday, July 6-7, 2002

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: (day) _____ (evening) _____

DESSERT CONTEST ITEM: _____ (Please indicate what item you will be entering in the contest!)

Number of adults/children 13 and older: _____ (@ \$20.00 each) \$ _____

Number of children ages 5-12: _____ (@ \$7each) \$ _____

Total enclosed: \$ _____

Please mail reservation form and check to: Lisa Still at 5812 Cove Landing Rd., Unit #302, Burke, VA 22015.

Registration forms must be received immediately.

IMPORTANT: Please be sure to make your check payable to Lisa Still.

Council Fire, from page 2

Overseers can demonstrate their capability and a form for Regional Supervisors to report on annual cabin visits. The Committee requested storage space at Headquarters.

Park Anderson, Overseer of Rosser Lamb House, welcomed the Council to the facility and said he would like to see work crews and others make increased use of it, even while the renovation continues.

Opposition to Racetrack

President Smith reported that the Greene County (Virginia) Zoning Board rejected a proposal to build a racetrack in Bacon Hollow, near SNP. The Club had gone on record in opposition to the project.

Membership

The May membership report showed a total of 6,844 (up from 6,748 the previous month), but it is still not clear whether life

members are included in the figure. Since the last report, 250 new members were entered into the database. The cards sent as follow-up on dues renewal are continuing to receive a good response.

The May Council meeting was attended by six Club officers, eight committee Chairs, one chapter representative, one section representative, one staff person, and one other Club member. □

—George Meek, Recording Secretary

A Vision: 'That Big Loop Trail is Going To Come Someday'

The history of a trail is a part of its soul, as much a part of it as the scenery around it and the rocks that shore up its side; and so I would like to reminisce about a new trail that has an old history. PATC crews have finished their work and have opened the Massanutten Trail, a new 71-mile loop in the Lee District of the national forest near Front Royal, Va. This trail was once just a vision of trail-minded people back in the 1960s and early 1970s.

Back then, Colonel Andy Horton and Wendy Lobdell led a number of exploratory hikes and bushwhacks in the Massanutten Mountain region to locate good corridors for trails. Marie Schaap of PATC, I recall, was one of the leaders, the same Marie Schaap who later spearheaded the Cabin John Trail.

These people were on a mission. Behind the scenes, government Rangers Charley Huppuch and later John Coleman prodded on PATC with their vision of a recreational emphasis for the Lee District Forest, with timber production to be reduced to one-third of optimum. That would be good news for hikers, as the Lee Forest is nearly the size of Shenandoah National Park, its neighbor to the east, where some of the trails were getting crowded.

Earlier, in 1966 and 1967, Jim Denton and Woody Kennedy had scouted the mountains as forerunners to the new Big Blue Trail, which Fred Blackburn was then pushing through from the east. Word soon spread about the good trail lands west of the Appalachian Trail, and this brought other explorers close behind the Big Blue team.

That was when, in the winters of 1970 and 1972, Andy Horton and Wendy Lobdell led several excursions for PATC and the Wanderbirds Hiking Club charting routes for new trails and circuits in this hard-to-reach back country. They scouted the ridges and hollows in the Massanutten, Great North, and Shenandoah Mountains.

I recall vividly, this was the big talk around campfires in the Massanutten in the early 1970s. When Woody Kennedy was at the fireside he always talked about that big loop trail that was going to come someday. And I got caught up in the spirit.

Then one Saturday morning in 1970, Woody and I happened to stop for breakfast at the same restaurant where the

Wanderbirds scouting group had stopped near New Market Gap. And I got to sit at the same table with Andy Horton. It was cold and icy outside, and Andy was wrapped in heavy clothing. This was the man who was charting the course for new trails, and I could not have been more impressed if it had been Moses on the way to the mountain.

Meantime, the government people were in sync, and Ranger Charley Huppuch seized on the moment and added the log circuit trail to the forestry plans. It had the potential to become the biggest such trail in the Mid-Atlantic states. Later, PATC trail leader Bill Wilcox, in a meeting with ranger John Coleman, proposed setting up a series of one- and two-week summer work crews – or “volunteer vacations” – to build the trail. He had led similar volunteer crews in the Virgin Islands, Kentucky, and southern Virginia.

In Celebration of PATC's History

At first the idea met with square-jawed opposition among the Club leadership, as PATC just didn't do that sort of thing. Undeterred, Bill Wilcox held steady and gained support, then went on to organize the first and second years of the work crews, which he knighted as the “Massarock Crews.”

The first year, a crew of five regulars and two part-timers constructed a series of switchbacks on the west side of Massanutten Mountain, southwest of Buzzard rocks, replacing a steep ascent. They camped two weeks at the K-Lodge, a rock cottage off the Signal Knob Trail.

Bill the leader got the Forest Service to provide a seasonal trail builder to oversee the trail work. Bill himself decided to be the cook, staying back at the lodge, where he also had time to sit back with coffee and read the *New York Times*. Quite a good manager, I thought. He was also a good cook, turning out big breakfasts of eggs, bacon, and hot-cakes. Once for supper he cooked pork in a wok mixed with sliced bananas.

In later years PATC Supervisor of Trails Don White elevated the one-week projects into the mainstream of Club activities. The idea spread to Shenandoah National Park, and today Bill Wilcox's invention has become the state of art for big trail jobs in PATC.

Meantime, according to reports, the Cadillac Crew and others have come out on week-ends and pushed the loop trail to completion, connecting old trails and building new ones. It has been some 30-odd years since Andy Horton and Wendy Lobdell braced those cold winter days in the mountains armed with a vision. And 30-odd years since Woody Kennedy, sitting at those long-gone campfires, told us of the coming of the great loop trail.

These were not the first, nor should they be the last of the great PATC projects in the Lee District. Former Club President Scott Johnson has credited pioneer Charley Williams with early successes in the national forest, such as converting an old fire-warden cabin into a PATC primitive cottage in 1940. In 1989, Ranger John Coleman mapped a number of possibilities for trails of the future. I believe that map is still around.

And there is still the proposal for the Great Mountain Trail (first introduced in 1976 and approved three times) to tie together the Tuscarora, coming down from Pennsylvania, with the Dry River and Deerfield trails of the Ramsey Draft and the Confederate Breastworks on Shenandoah Mountain, someday to connect on to the Allegheny Trail and back to the AT.

Those trails may be the next visions for the future as hikers of the 21st Century seek more destinations in the remote forests and beyond. □

—Tom Floyd

Mike Karpie's Photo Tips: Available Light Photography – Part I

Each type of lighting used in photography presents its own challenges. Available light is no exception. Several issues need to be considered when shooting with available light, such as quantity, quality, color, and direction. But first let's define our use of the terms "available light" or "existing light." Both terms refer to the light that exists in your scene without the addition of photographic light sources such as electronic flash or studio lights.

Shooting with available light gives our photos a very natural appearance. It can be effectively used to emphasize texture, colors, mood, and zen. The flat lighting caused by electronic flash is avoided, and the peace and serenity of the scene are not interrupted by more than the quiet "click" of the camera's shutter.

The essence of some scenes simply cannot be captured as well with artificial lighting, such as a group singing around the campfire or the full moon rising behind silhouetted trees. Imagine a solitary hiker sitting in an AT shelter making his journal entry by the sun's light filtering through the morning haze, wisps of steam drifting from his coffee cup. How can this moment be captured except with available light?

To utilize existing light effectively we must be adequately prepared. It is important to include some good high-speed (high ISO-rated) film in our gadget bag or pack. It is also very helpful to carry a tripod or monopod. A hiking stick can be fashioned into a very adequate monopod with the addition of the proper sized screw above the handle. There are also some very small pocket-sized tripods available that come with a strap that will enable you to fasten them to a tree limb or hiking stick.

It is also important to remember the rules regarding shutter speeds (I use the term "rules" loosely). For hand-held photos the

Walt, from page 3

forth. I have parted with my horse, and booked a place in the stage-coach for Washington ..."

However, it is not just enough to save the wilderness. In order to "nourish our souls" we must be able to physically return to our roots. We must have a trail to take us there.

I was reminded in May, while hiking on the yet-to-be-completed Entry Run Trail in the Club's 200 acre Per-Lee/West property in Greene County, how vital our main mission is: to acquire, maintain, and protect trails. In conjunction with our partner, the Shenandoah National Park, we are creating another trail through beautiful wilderness from a trailhead on a public road into the Park. We are providing additional opportunities for experiencing the feelings of solitude, the "vivid sense of the primal freshness" and the "landscapes of our hearts, our souls, our very being." Let us not forget how important is our main mission since it may relate most directly to our own well-being and happiness.

See you on the trail,



¹A *Winter in the West* published by Harper and Brothers, 1835.



Photo by Keith Denson

reciprocal of your shutter speed should roughly equal the focal length of your lens. In other words, if you are using a 50MM lens your shutter speed should be faster than 1/50th of a second. If you need to drop down to a slower speed it is recommended that you use a tripod or other firm support for your camera to help ensure a sharp photograph.

Measuring available light sometimes requires great care and often intuitive guesswork. Remember that film generally cannot accommodate harsh lighting very well, so detail in the shadow or highlight areas may be lost unless supplemental light is used. If you wish to avoid additional lighting, be sure to expose for the most important part of the scene. A sunset is a good example. If you expose for the sky you will capture the beautiful colors of the display, but the mountains will become silhouetted. If you expose for the mountains in the foreground the sky will be "washed out" and colorless.

In the woods there is often a high degree of contrast between sunlight and the shade from the trees. Often the only practical solution is to use fill flash. If flash is not available be sure to measure the light in the most important part of your scene. If your subject is in a combination of direct sunlight and shade, take a meter reading in both areas and average them to determine a good compromise. However, the result may still be less than optimal.

Another option for dealing with high contrast is to use a reflective device, such as a silver thermal blanket, to add light to the shadowed areas on your subject. This technique works well with posed shots of fellow hikers but is not recommended for photographs of bears, skunks, rattlesnakes, and porcupines.

Next month: Available Light Photography - Part Two

Is there a topic you would like to see covered in this column? E-mail me at bkpkr@erols.com. I will try to respond to as many requests as possible. □

—Michael Karpie, PATC
District Trails Manager
Appalachian Trail, SNP South

Bob Pickett's Appalachian Nature: The Heat of Summer

July is the month of heat. It dominates the natural world. Heat is energy; the energy of molecular motion. It increases the rate of chemical reactions in the living substance of plants and animals. It's been said that there is a doubling of the rate of biological processes for every 10°C (18°F) rise in temperature. As a result, there is a tremendous increase in the rate of insect propagation and the growth of herbaceous foliage, or as we see it, more mosquitoes and weeds.

As any hiker can tell you, activity taken during the heat of the day extracts significant energy. In the natural world of animals, this theme also applies. You just won't find much activity during the day. To find the activity of the season, you've got to turn over a few rocks and rotting logs, where it is cooler and more moist.

Among the various creatures you may come across, you'll commonly find sow bugs and pill bugs, collectively known as wood lice. Sow bugs have a mottled, scalloped shell, while pill bugs are dark, streamlined, and have the ability to curl up into a ball for protection. Perhaps the most interesting thing about these creatures is that they are crustaceans, not insects. These terrestrial isopods have been wildly successful, with over 5,000 species living worldwide. They are generally scavengers, in the same class



as earthworms in their ability to improve soil quality.

Evolved from the marine ecosystem, many species still use a modified gill, an organ for extracting oxygen from water, while some species have supplemented it with a tube system for breathing in air.

Like aphids, balsam and hemlock wooly adelgids, succeeding generations of all females are produced parthenogenically by the mothers, which produce daughter clones of themselves. They need a male only to make sons. Additionally, a bacterium called *Wolbachia* skews sex ratios in many of the

terrestrial isopod species. It has a feminizing effect on males, which allows them to function as females.

They also are known to practice coprophagy; eating their own feces (like rabbits, beaver, a few shrews and most dogs). Animals do this to extract extra nutrients from their food, but in the case of wood lice, the reason is to recapture copper. Nearly all crustaceans use a copper-based pigment to carry oxygen in their blood, instead of the more usual iron-based pigment hemoglobin.

It's sad to say, even with over 5,000 species, many of our terrestrial isopods in North America are introduced. The familiar backyard species – sow bugs such as *Porcellio scaber* and *Porcellio laevis*, and the common pill bug, *Armadillidium vulgare* – almost certainly came over from Europe in ships.

Finally, for those who know me, it is well known that I don't shy away from tasting any number of nature's own creations. However, I must say I have never tried a wood louse (no one ever dared me). Perhaps, just as well. A renowned British isopodologist (yes, there are such people) has stated, "If you accidentally get one in your mouth, it's a most unpleasant experience. Basically, it tastes of strong urine." □

—Bob Pickett

Training for Tomorrow in our Backyard

The close-in Potomac Heritage Trail was the site of a "Trail Maintenance 101" course by Professor Bernie Stalman on a picture-perfect spring day. Together with his faculty of Dick Dugan and Bill Spach, Bernie explained to 18 more PATC members the mysteries surrounding such implements as loppers, McLeods, pick mattocks, and pulaskis.

The jobs of side-cutting eroded hillside, placing waterbars, and rock rip rap around the newly constructed stone steps by Chain Bridge was a great place to educate the former "glorified trash pickers" into becoming possible future members of a working trail maintenance crew. Although the students commented that Bernie and Bill "couldn't stop talking," work did occur.

Eating lunch in the middle of nearby Pimmit Run slowed afternoon activity a bit, but work had progressed so quickly that the group finished a half-hour early. Unfortunately, just as the last car door was being slammed, the local journalist arrived on the scene and the last, hard-core, small group stayed to tally the day's events for newspaper publication of another of history's great moments. With Bernie telling the stories, the group is fearful of what history will recount.

PATC is hopeful that the success of this workshop will lead to more local workshops being conducted and the "city dwellers" will become comfortable – and gain satisfaction – with taming the great outdoors. □

—Bruce Glendenning



Trail Maintenance 101 was the topic of discussion for a group of 18 members who sought to "tame the trail."

Massanutten Mountain Trail - A Journey Into History

Massanutten Mountain affords the jaded Shenandoah Park hiker a less structured alternative. Its jagged rock ridges and plunging hollows are raw, ragged, and unkempt. There are few if any trail signs to protect the unwary hiker from the perils of perplexity. And so the trails are less traveled, and the solitude that enriches the spirit rings in your ears. And the views of the Shenandoah Valley and surrounding mountains are magnificent.

The origin of the name Massanutten is attributed to a Native American word meaning either “potato” or “basket.” The potato legend purports that the Indians grew sweet potatoes in fields near Massanutten. This in my view is highly unlikely, as the sweet potato (*Ipomoea batatas*) is a tropical plant that is indigenous to Africa and perhaps to the Caribbean, but not to central Virginia. As an interesting historical note, the fleshy tuber that was brought back to Europe from South America by the Spanish conquistadors was found to resemble the African batata. So batata became potato, and the potato was actually named after the sweet potato, not vice versa. By the way, the yam has no relation to the sweet potato in spite of what you find on mostly Southern menus. It is in a different genus (*Dioscoria*). The basket legend has a more aesthetic appeal. The ring of mountains that forms the fort valley is shaped like the elongated baskets that the Indians of the region supposedly made. Hence the Massanutten is the big basket. I guess the Indians of the time didn't have any words for fort. They used the valley for a hunting ground.

The name Powell's Fort is equally obscure. Legend has it that a man named Powell occupied the valley just prior to its settlement by the expanding colonists in the early 18th Century. He was either a renegade, a counterfeiter, or a spy for the Indians, and perhaps all three. It is said that he found low-grade silver ore in the valley that he mixed with lead to produce fake specie. This sounds a bit far fetched to me, but nonetheless, the Fort Valley was originally named Powell's Fort Valley. Powell's Fort is a remnant of the original name.

The most significant historical footnote concerning Fort Valley is that George Washington planned to make a final stand against the British in the Revolutionary War using the valley as his natural fort. Washington began his distinguished and unique career as a soldier and leader work-



Photo by W. Needham

PATC hikers at Signal Knob Trailhead.

ing for Lord Fairfax as a surveyor. In about 1748, he surveyed the northern portion of the valley which was a part of the Fairfax grant. He made note of the fact that the valley was totally surrounded by Massanutten Mountain except for the narrow passage at the northern end where Passage Creek flows. Thirty years later, Washington found himself outnumbered and outgunned at the Battle of Long Island. In 1776, Lord Richard Howe was given command of the British forces in the colonies, and he promptly set out to attack New York City with the army that had evacuated Boston. With 32,000 regulars and a virtual armada, he surrounded and nearly obliterated Washington's 10,000-man army of continentals and militiamen on Long Island. Washington retreated, eventually settling in to Morristown, N.J., for the bitter winter of 1777. It was at this point that he is purported to have dispatched General Dan Morgan of Winchester, Va., to Fort Valley to build a road into the fort. The road is now considered to be the trail that goes up to Veach's Gap from Route 613 on the eastern slopes. There is a sign attesting to this fact on the trail, called "Morgan's Road." As events in the Revolutionary War unfolded and Washington regained the initiative in the ensuing battles of Germantown, Brandywine, and finally Yorktown, the need for a last stand was obviated. Had it been otherwise, Waterloo may have been "another Fort Valley."

The mountains of Fort Valley literally played a signal role in the Civil War. The northern prominence was used by the Confederates as an observation post and was hence named Signal Knob. Federal troop movements in the Potomac and Shenandoah

River valleys that extend north and east into Maryland and eastern Virginia were signaled to Richmond via Stoney Man Mountain to the southeast (now in Shenandoah Park). The use of Signal Knob as a vantage point was eventually discovered by the federals, who assaulted it and were victorious, closing this line of communication. What effect this had on the outcome of the war is unknown. Although several bodies of troops passed through Fort Valley, General Imboden's Confederate Army in 1863 and a detachment of General Sheridan's Federal Cavalry in 1864, no other battles took place within its confines.

Today Fort Valley is as quiet and serene as ever it was. Its many trails and jagged overlooks becalm the harried refugee from the cacophony of the city. I think S. Munch said it best in his 1925 essay on the history of the fort:

"Once the city folks find their way into the quiet retreats of Fort Valley, they long for the time ... when they can seclude themselves among the charms of God's great nature. There breathe the pure ozone (sic) of mountain air mingled with the perfume of wild mountain flowers and listen to the songs of birds among the trees ... and fortify themselves against the stifling heat and impure air of the town and city."

Not much has changed in 75 years. The violets and bluets of Milford Gap come up every year, and the blueberries and huckleberries on the Buzzard Rock Trail mark the autumnal harvest of nature's bounty. It is a hiker's Mecca. □

—William Needham and Jack Thorsen

Second Tree Planting at Big Flat Appears Successful

On April 20 six PATC members planted 600 trees at Big Flat, Pa., as part of a continuing project to stop ATV and snowmobile trespass on NPS property. This was the second planting at the site.

The site at Big Flat was purchased in the mid-eighties as part of the AT corridor. In that vicinity there is a large open field that has been used for snowmobile drag racing. Snowmobiles would race from the east end then drive down the AT at the west end. A 1990 report noted that snowmobilers had illegally mowed the site to keep it open and clear of trees. Due to its open nature controlling access was a difficult problem.

In the winter of 2000 several representatives from NPS, ATC, and PATC were in the area for another project and noticed the impact to the site from the trespass. In the spring of 2001 a group of North Chapter members led by Bill Jones planted about 800 pitch pines at the west

end of the field around the AT. To protect the trees about 200 feet of snow fence was placed across the opening to stop the vehicles. A 450-foot section of snow fence was placed along the boundary on the east end and split rail

fence placed along the road front to deter vehicles from entering the field. Even with the drought of 2001 there was good survival of the pines, and, with no snow during the winter, there was no impact from snowmobiles.



The 2002 planting involved planting 100 black locust and 500 pitch pines. The trees were planted along the east end of the field just behind the boundary snow fence. Led by Beth Firme, project manager; Chris Firme, Tom Lupp, Mike O'Conner, Jim Stauch, and Dave Trone planted the trees in about two and a half hours. Planting was completed just before it started to rain. It is hoped that this planting will help break up the open area to discourage illegal vehicle use.

Plans for the future are to plant additional trees across the field but to allow natural regeneration to take place in other areas. □

—Tom Lupp
*Supervisor, Corridor
Management*

Trail Across New York Relies on '40 and Over the Hills'

This was the motto on the T-shirts being sold at the Mt. Morris, N.Y., meeting of the Finger Lakes Trail Conference this April. The Conference is celebrating its 40th year of existence as a builder and maintainer of a long-distance hiking trail.

In March 1962, about 100 men and women representing four outdoors organizations and independent walkers in upstate New York (three hiking clubs and a chapter of the Adirondack Mountain Club) met at Keuka College to discuss the possibility of a foot trail across upstate New York. The Mt. Morris meeting brought about 150 people together. They represent 17 conservation, hiking, and other environmental organizations; seven Boy Scout troops; and 57 individuals who maintain sections of the 565.65-mile Finger Lakes Trail and the 243.2 miles of branch trails that connect Buffalo, N.Y., and the Allegheny National Forest on the New York-Pennsylvania boundary to the Catskills and the Long Path. 14,772 volun-

teer hours of trail work were reported in 2001.

While the Finger Lakes Trail was completed in 1992, relocations continue, as is necessary on all foot trails, to improve individual sections. The five long branches are Conservation, Bristol Hills, Interlaken, Letchworth, and Onondaga. Along the trail are 37 open shelters, 47 campgrounds, and 20 campgrounds requiring a fee, with plans for more and for additional water sources to accommodate the day hikers as well as the thru-hiker.

One hundred and twenty five End-to-Enders of the Finger Lakes Trail are on record, although some of them made the trip before the trail was completed. The No. 2 End-to-Ender has since hiked the entire trail three more times – as a thru-hike and as a section hike – and plans to make a fifth trip this summer. The list of those who have hiked both the main trail and the branch

trails was not reported but is believed to be a shorter list.

Something like 95 maps are required to cover the trail system. All are large-scale and about half of them are tied in with GPS positioning. The remainder is continuing to be GPS-positioned. (A single map costs 95¢ but the price goes down as more maps are purchased. The entire set costs under \$20.)

The North Country Trail is accepting much of the main Finger Lakes Trail as part of its 5,000+ miles. However, the Conference is an active partner in the North Country Trail Association, influencing the development of that younger organization, just as the FLTC came under the influence of the ATC in 1962 when an ATC member and a PATC'er chaired the FLTC's Constitution Committee.

The address of the Finger Lakes Trail Conference is 6111 Visitor Center Road, Mt. Morris, NY 3410. □

—Paula Strain

FORECAST

Chapters

Charlottesville Chapter

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

North Chapter

The North Chapter of PATC conducts monthly trail work trips on the Maryland and Pennsylvania sections of the Appalachian Trail (AT) and on the Pennsylvania sections of the Tuscarora Trail. We also lead hikes on these and other trails. Maryland AT work trips are generally held on the first and third Saturdays - contact Mark Mitchell (mdtrail@yahoo.com) 301/461-7048 for information. Pennsylvania work trips are generally held on the AT on the first Saturday and on the Tuscarora on the third Saturday - contact Charlie Irvin 301/447-2848 or Pete Brown (peter.brown4@worldnet.att.net) 410/343-1140. Pennsylvania AT work trips also include an optional Saturday night stay at the Gypsy Spring cabin. Dinner, breakfast, and camaraderie available. For information on upcoming hikes, contact Chris Firme (bncfirme@innet.net) 717/765-4833. For general chapter information, contact chapter president Pete Brown or visit the North Chapter home page (www.patc.net/chapters/north/).

Northern Shenandoah Valley Chapter

The Northern Shenandoah Valley Chapter sponsors hikes in national and state parks and forests in the Shenandoah Valley vicinity, open to the public, on a monthly basis except during the winter. Hikes are posted in the Forecast. Other activities are in the NSV Chapter Newsletter. For further information contact Gerry Boyd (gerryb@compuserve.com) 703/281-7216.

Southern Shenandoah Valley Chapter

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

West Virginia Chapter

Chapter meeting at Highacre are on the second Wednesday of Feb., Apr., Jun., Aug., Oct., and Dec. See Forecast for upcoming activities. For information about the chapter or to receive the newsletter, contact Judy Smoot 540/667-2036 or e-mail wvpatc@hotmail.com.

Ski Touring Section

The Ski Touring Section has served since 1974 to introduce Washington area residents to cross-country skiing and to provide cross-country skiing opportunities to experienced skiers. The Section sponsors winter weekend ski trips for all levels of skiers to nearby mountains in Maryland, West Virginia and Pennsylvania, as well as periodic social events year round. INFO: Steve Brickel 301/946-2520 or sbrickel@erols.com.

Mountaineering Section

We're a diverse group of local Washington, DC area climbers. Young and old, male and female, crag rat, sport climber, and alpinist, active and armchair types - we all enjoy climbing in its many varieties. We also share common interest in promoting safe climbing, conserving the outdoors, developing new climbers' skills, representing the Washington area climbing community, and having fun! We provide instruction for those wanting to learn the basics - we're not a school, but we can get you started. We go climbing, either locally or further afield, nearly every weekend. In the winter we organize trips to the Ice Festivals in the Adirondacks and the White Mountains for beginning and advanced ice climbers. For further information contact Mack Muir 703/768-5724 (MackMuir@edisaurus.com).

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. The schedule of West Virginia Highland Conservancy outings in the Monongahela National Forest and surrounding areas is on their web site at www.wvhighlands.org.

KEY to Forecast Activities

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

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

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

Meetings

Meetings

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

New Members (PATC) - First Wednesday

7:30 p.m. Curious about the Club? Want to learn more? The best way is to attend a new Members meeting (but you don't have to be new to qualify). Attend the meeting and find the mysteries of PATC revealed in full. Refreshments will be served. Directions to PATC: Take Rt. 23 into Vienna, Va. and turn east on Park St. (Rt.675) to 118 Park St. on your left. INFO: Liles Creighton 410/573-0067.

Mountaineering Section - Second Wednesday

8:00 p.m. Second Wednesday of every month. INFO: Mack Muir at 703/768-5724 or (MackMuir@edisaurus.com) or PATC's website: (www.patc.net/chapters/mtn Sect).

PATC Council - Second Tuesday

7:00 p.m. sharp. The PATC Council meets the second Tuesday of every month to conduct business of the Club. All members are welcome. INFO: Wilson Riley (wriley@aol.com) 703/242-0693 x11.

Shenandoah Mountain Rescue Group

(New Members meeting) - Second Monday, 7:30 p.m. New members meeting. INFO: Martin Juenge (mjuenge@pihq.com) 703/255-5034, then press #5.

Shenandoah Mountain Rescue Group

(Business meeting) - Last Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. INFO: Martin Juenge (mjuenge@pihq.com) 703/255-5034, then press #5.

Trail Patrol - First Tuesday

7:30 p.m. Trail Patrol volunteers are PATC's goodwill trail ambassadors to the hiking public. They provide a visible, reassuring presence on the trails, educating the public on good hiking practices, minimum impact hiking and camping ethics. Patrol members are trained in land navigation, emergency procedures, radio communications and personal equipment. All patrol volunteers are also expected to become certified in a recognized basic first aid course. Some equipment and uniform items are provided upon completion of training. INFO: Kumait Jawdat 202/328-8137 or see PATC's website: (www.patc.net/volunteer/trailpatrol).

July

1 (Monday)

DEADLINE - August Potomac Appalachian Headquarters, Vienna, VA

5:00 p.m. All items for the next issue of the newsletter must be submitted electronically, if possible, to headquarters, or by e-mail to PA@patc.net. Allow one week for postal service delivery. Please e-mail Forecast events to PA-Forecast@patc.net.

1 (Monday)

HIKE - Family Hike Fairfax Station, VA

Fountainhead Regional Park. Join us for a 1.5 mile kid-friendly hike through this beautiful park. Not jogging-stroller passable, lots of short, steep ups and downs. There are views of the widest part of the Occoquan Reservoir. After the hike we will picnic near the cars, then we may hike the southern section of the Bull-Run Occoquan Trail or play mini-golf. INFO: Lauren Lang (LEvansAT94@aol.com) 703/631-9278. Prefer e-mail.

2 (Tuesday)

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

2 (Tuesday)

HIKE - Vigorous Hikers

Southern District Shenandoah National Park, VA
Brown Mountain Overlook, Brown Mountain Trail, Big Run Portal Trail, and Patterson Ridge Trail on the AT. 13 miles and 3000 feet. INFO: Chris Nolen (chrishiker@erols.com) 301/469-8931, before 9:30 p.m.

3 (Wednesday)

MEETING - New Members (PATC), CANCELLED

5 (Friday)

HIKE - Family Hike Calvert County, MD

Calvert Cliffs State Park, along the Chesapeake Bay. Bring out the sand toys and sunscreen and join us for a 4 mile out and back kid friendly hike. The hike will be flat, leading us through a forest, and along a boardwalk through wetlands. Our destination will be a sandy beach along the Chesapeake Bay with lots of fossils. Designed for families with young children, older children welcome. INFO: Lauren Lang (LEvansAT94@aol.com) 703/631-9278. Prefer e-mail.

6 (Saturday)

TRAIL WORK TRIP - South Mountaineers Appalachian Trail, MD

If you like it hot, come out on this event and bring plenty of water. Some of our best work is done with sweat on our brows, moving rocks or weeding. INFO: Mark Mitchel (mdtrail@yahoo.com) 301/461-7048.

6 (Saturday)

TRAIL WORK TRIP - Yankee Clippers Trail Crew Appalachian Trail, PA

Meet at US 30 and PA 233 at the parking lot of Caledonia State Park. Departure 9:00 a.m. sharp. INFO: Charlie Irvin 301/447-2848 or Pete Brown (peter.brown4@worldnet.att.net) 410/343-1140.

6 - 7 (Saturday - Sunday)

CABIN WORK TRIP - Blackburn Trail Center Round Hill, VA

Join us for the combination Work Trip and Annual Summer Bar-B-Q. We'll be doing work in the morning and releasing the crew early to enjoy afternoon hikes and activities. Dinner is our delicious Texas-style Bar-B-Q of brisket, ribs, and chicken. If you plan on attending the event, you must register. See the article and registration form in this issue of the PA. INFO: Chris Brunton 703/560-8070.

Oops!

We are sorry to report that this past month we experienced an error with the internet server in use by the editorial staff of the PA. Consequently, we did not receive any e-mail sent directly to PA@PATC.net and PA-Forecast@PATC.net accounts for a period of about two weeks. We made every attempt to retrieve and/or contact anyone we could think of to try to retrieve lost messages, but there may have been some of which we were not aware, and unfortunately, some message may have been missed. If events you e-mailed are not included please accept our apology. You may send them again to be included on the web and phone messages. The server is functioning correctly now.

8 (Monday)

HIKE - Family Hike Potomac, MD

Billy Goat Trail, central section, 3.5 mile hike along the rocky and scenic, less popular middle section of the Billy Goat Trail. We will circle back along the C & O Canal Towpath. Not jogging-stroller passable. The trail is likely to be muddy, so dress accordingly. Designed for families with young children, older children welcome. INFO: Lauren Lang (LEvansAT94@aol.com) 703/631-9278. Prefer e-mail.

8 (Monday)

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

9 (Tuesday)

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

9 (Tuesday)

HIKE - Vigorous Hikers Shenandoah National Park, VA

From Thompson Hollow climb Heiskell Hollow Trail, then north on AT to return via Overall Falls and a swim. 16 miles and 3000 ft. INFO: Chris Nolen (chrishiker@erols.com) 301/469-8931, before 9:30 p.m.

10 (Wednesday)

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

13 (Saturday)

HIKE - North Chapter Tuscarora State Forest, PA

Iron Horse Trail, easy 10 miles. A historical hike of the Tuscarora State Forest with part being in the Big Spring State Park with its tunnel. Come out to enjoy an early summer hike. INFO: Christopher Firme (bncfirme@innet.net) 717/794-2855 after 6:00 p.m.

13 (Saturday)

TRAIL WORK TRIP - Massanutten Crew Massanutten, VA

Walk in the footsteps of George Washington who first surveyed the Fort Valley area (and planned to retreat there if the revolution failed.) Join us as we rebuild tread and waterbars on Massanutten Mountain. Appreciate our history and take pride in the support you give to the trail community! INFO: Mike Sutherland (msutherland@cox.rr.com) 703/591-8330.

13 (Saturday)

TRAIL WORK TRIP - Rock Creek Park Washington, DC

8:15 a.m. to noon. We go to once a month work trips starting in July to beat the Washington heat. Come out for one of our early morning work trips before the heat kicks in. Meet at the Rock Creek Nature Center. Rain date July 27. INFO: Mark Anderson (mhacca@starpower.net) 202/462-7718 or Ranger Ken Ferebee 202/426-6834 ext. 31.

13 - 14 (Saturday - Sunday)

CABIN WORK TRIP - Tulip Tree Cabin Shaver Hollow, VA

The main structure may be completed but there are a myriad of little details that need to be finished to make the cabin complete. The landscape has endless opportunities for artistic contributions. We are scrambling now to put the finishing touches on this beautiful labor of love that has occupied hundreds of people over the past seven-and-a-half years. Join our ranks and experience the satisfaction that comes of creating a beautiful work of art. INFO: Charlie Graf (cagraf@aol.com) 410/757-6053.

13 - 14 (Saturday - Sunday)

CABIN WORK TRIP - Vining Tract Crew Lydia, VA

The Vining Tract crew meets once a month to work on cabin and land management projects on the beautiful Vining property. We are now building a small cabin using logs from an old barn, as well as projects at Conley and Wineberry cabins and around the property to keep everything in top shape. Come join us and raise a hammer, a paintbrush, or a log in the cause. Overnight at Conley and Wineberry. INFO: Larry Lang 703/631-9278 or Hugh Robinson 703/525-8726.

13 - 14 (Saturday - Sunday)

CABIN WORK TRIP - Weaver Work Crew Elkton, VA

HELP. We need anyone to hold a paintbrush or work a hammer. Paint the roof, paint the cement, and paint the chinking. Hammer the gable ends, hammer the bridge flooring, and hammer the windowsills. INFO: Thomas Jorgensen (Hairatheart@aol.com) 540/248-7009 (work), 540/456-4760 (home).

13 - 14 (Saturday - Sunday)

CLASS - Wilderness First Aid (WSC) Alexandria, VA

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

13 - 14 (Saturday - Sunday)

TRAIL WORK TRIP - Acme Treadway Company Shenandoah National Park, VA

Acme Treadway Board Meeting. Is it not warm enough for you? Do you wish that summer would really happen? Need to sweat? Come out and help the Company start Project Peach Orchard. Maximum growth potential. Dividends immediately apparent. We will begin work on the AT below Manassas Gap east of Linden, Va. Opportunities for spectacular views of the Piedmont and stargazing at night. Okay, we're camping onsite. All who participate receive a crew T-shirt to commemorate their first trip. Please RSVP. INFO: Don White (whitedh@attbi.com) 804/795-2914.

FORECAST

13 - 14 (Saturday - Sunday)

✂ TRAIL WORK TRIP - Cadillac Crew
Blackburn Trail Center, Round Hill, VA

The Crew is nearing completion of the trail rehab project started last year on the side trail to the AT. Chris Brunton may have additional projects for the Crew at Blackburn so join us for an interesting summer weekend and try the solar shower. Bring a lunch Saturday noon. Community dinner on Saturday night. Overnight at Blackburn Trail Center. INFO: Fran Keenan (outdoorsnow@cox.rr.com) 703/938-3973 or Jon Rindt (jkrindt@erols.com) 540/635-6351.

15 (Monday)

👤 HIKE - Family Hike
Quantico, VA

Prince William Forest Park. Come discover this beautiful National park tucked close to D.C. It will be a 2.5 mile toddler paced hike up to a waterfall (not stroller friendly). We will picnic along the way, and wade in the stream. INFO: Lauren Lang (LEvansAT94@aol.com) 703/631-9278. Prefer e-mail.

16 (Tuesday)

👤 HIKE - Vigorous Hikers
George Washington National Forest, VA

Starting at Runkles Gap, we go up Boone Run Trail to Massanutten Mountain South Trail to Morgan Run Trail, returning via Martin Bottom Trail. 16 miles and 1,600 foot climb. INFO: Chris Nolen (chrishiker@erols.com) 301/469-8931, before 9:30 p.m.

20 (Saturday)

✂ TRAIL WORK TRIP - Potomac Heritage Work Crew
Potomac Heritage Trail, Washington, DC

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. They're back! The Blue and White crew, constructors of the stone steps by Chain Bridge, are back to reconstruct the PHT boulder crossing at Pimmit Run. Beat the heat with water shoes or waders as we wrap chains around boulders to be heaved using the highline system. Bring water, gloves and footwear to go into the water. Rain date Sunday, July 21. Call for information on parking. INFO: Bruce Glendening (bglen-dening@yahoo.com) 703/532-9093.

20 (Saturday)

👤 HIKE - Massanutten Mountain Series
Bentonville, VA

The sixth hike will be 18.6 miles with a 15 mile option on the Sherman Gap, Massanutten East, and Milford Gap Trails. Total elevation gain is 3500 feet. Be prepared to ford the South Fork of the Shenandoah River. If water level or temperature is not favorable the August hike of the series will be substituted. PATC Map G. Meet at 7:30 a.m. at the Oakton Shopping Center parking lot. INFO: Jack Thorsen (thorsen4@juno.com) 703/339-6716 or William Needham 410/884-9127.

20 (Saturday)

✂ TRAIL WORK TRIP - Stonewall Brigade
Shenandoah County, VA

Great North Mountain on the VA/WV state line. Join the Stonewall Brigade at Wolf Gap Recreation Area at 9:00 a.m. to get tools then work on a trail in the nearby area. This popular venue offers fine panoramic views of Trout Run Valley from the mountain crest. We will decide that morning just what the worksite will be; either continue the relocation on Tibbet Knob Trail or clean waterbars near the campground. RSVP by Wednesday evening if you plan to attend. Bring lunch, work gloves, water, seasonal clothing, and hiking shoes. INFO: Hop Long (mgrngnd@hotmail.com) 301/942-6177.



20 - 21 (Saturday - Sunday)

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

The roof is up. Now we need help installing the siding, painting, and finish work. We also need to build a deck out back. So, use this experience to learn how and then you can build that deck you've always wanted at home. Blackburn is beautiful this time of year and there are lots of thru-hikers sharing their stories with us. So join the group for good company, good food, and relaxing summer evenings on the wrap around porch. INFO: Chris Brunton 703/560-8070.

20 - 21 (Saturday - Sunday)

✂ TRAIL WORK TRIP - North District Hoodlums
North District Shenandoah National Park, VA

Summer Bar-B-Q Work Trip! What better time than July for summer picnics, festivals, fireworks, and mixing trailwork with fixing BBQ on the grill! The Hoodlums Trail Crew works on the AT in the North District of SNP, focusing on treadwork and major trail projects. We build rock steps, log waterbars, and engage in other activities by day. After a good days work, the crew settles down to enjoy the fruits of its labor in grand fashion via the theme meal and festivities at a facility within the park. No trail work experience is necessary and newcomers are always welcome. Visit our Web site at www.patc.net/volunteer/trails/hoodlums/hoodlums.html for more information. Come for the day, stay for the evening meal, and camp out overnight in SNP. Lots of options. We generally meet at the work site or at Piney River Ranger Station, MP 22 on Skyline Drive, at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday morning. Please RSVP by mid-week prior. INFO: George Walters (gjwalters@starpower.net) 410/426-2724.

23 (Tuesday)

👤 HIKE - Vigorous Hikers
George Washington National Forest, VA

Little Sluice Mountain Trail to Tuscarora Trail east to return on Cedar Creek Trail. 15 miles and 2500 feet. INFO: Chris Nolen (chrishiker@erols.com) 301/469-8931, before 9:30 p.m.

24 (Wednesday)

CLASS - Ultralight Backpacking (REI)
REI Bailey's Crossroads, VA

7:30 p.m. Lighter can be better! Dragging you and your pack over a couple of ridges can make you conscious of "useless" items and lighter materials really fast. REI's ultralight experts will discuss methods of shedding pounds from your pack, lightweight meal planning and demonstrate new gear, like bivvy sacks, hammocks, and titanium cookware that can help lighten the load, and put a spring in your step. INFO: Mark Nelson (mnelson@rei.com) 703/379-9400.

27 - 28 (Saturday - Sunday)

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

If you hate the heat, humidity, noise, and traffic of the city come into the cool and beautiful Shaver Hollow of the Blue Ridge Mountains to help us finish Tulip Tree Cabin. This is a unique project, a log cabin which has been built from the ground up with native materials harvested on the site using primitive hand tools. We are putting the finishing touches on the cabin and the landscape in an attempt to culminate what is now a seven-and-a-half year project. We can use diverse skills and all skill levels. INFO: Charlie Graf (cagraf@aol.com) 410/757-6053.

27 - 28 (Saturday - Sunday)

✂ CABIN WORK TRIP - Weaver Work Crew
Elkton, VA

Finale! Finish the old windows, complete the bridges, terminate gable woodwork, and end of roof painting. People will be begging for Weaver to re-open, come help it be the best. INFO: Thomas Jorgensen (Hairatheart@aol.com) 540/248-7009 (work), 540/456-4760 (home).

29 (Tuesday)

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

30 (Tuesday)

👤 HIKE - Vigorous Hikers
Shenandoah National Park, VA

Climb to the AT on the Slaughter Trail, south on the AT descending via Pocosin Hollow Trail. 16 miles and 3100 feet. INFO: Chris Nolen (chrishiker@erols.com) 301/469-8931, before 9:30 p.m.

August

1 (Thursday)

DEADLINE - September Potomac Appalachian
Headquarters, Vienna, VA

5:00 p.m. All items for the next issue of the newsletter must be submitted electronically, if possible, to headquarters, or by e-mail to PA@patc.net. Allow one week for postal service delivery. Forecast events may be e-mailed directly to PA-Forecast@patc.net.

3 (Saturday)

✂ TRAIL WORK TRIP - South Mountaineers
Appalachian Trail, MD

Humiturefest, the anniversary date of the South Mountaineers, now 9 years old. Work on the AT in Maryland and celebrate another fine year of volunteer stewardship. INFO: Mark Mitchel (mdtrail@yahoo.com) 301/461-7048.

3 (Saturday)

✂ TRAIL WORK TRIP - Yankee Clippers Trail Crew
Appalachian Trail, PA

Work trip followed by Charlie's annual corn roast (reservations required). Meet at US 30 and PA 233 at the parking lot of Caledonia State Park. Departure 9:00 a.m. sharp. INFO: Charlie Irvin 301/447-2848 or Pete Brown (peter.brown4@worldnet.att.net) 410/343-1140.

3 - 4 (Saturday - Sunday)

✂ TRAIL WORK TRIP - North District Fire Squad
North District Shenandoah National Park, VA

Join the fire squad as we continue and hopefully complete the rehabilitation work on the north face of Hogback Mountain. We will be doing some side hill work as well as installing rock and locust fixtures. Overnight at Range View Cabin. The chef promises another great meal. Meet at Piney River maintenance area at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday. Bring lunch, gloves, water, etc. INFO: John McCrea (mccrea@erols.com) 610/352-9287.

5, 10 - 11 (Monday, Saturday - Sunday)

CLASS - LNT Backpacking PATC Headquarters, Vienna, VA

Leave No Trace Trainers course will be held in a two-part series. The classroom instruction (introduction and planning) will be held Monday evening 7:00 - 9:30 p.m. The field experience will be a backpacking trip in the SNP. Instructors will be LNT Masters from the Trail Patrol. The goal will be to enhance LNT skills and ethics to model and teach others the principles and practices of LNT. Pre-registration required, space is limited. Fee: \$20. INFO: Anniell Miller (amill1@yahoo.com) 703/250-8113 (before 10:30 p.m.).

6 (Tuesday)

HIKE - Vigorous Hikers Shenandoah National Park, VA

Cedar Run, Hawksbill, Whiteoak Circuit in Central SNP. Climb up near the waterfalls of Cedar Run to the top of Shenandoah Park's highest peak. Travel a bit of the AT then descend Whiteoak Canyon for a total of about 14 miles and an elevation gain of 2700 feet. Maybe swim in a beautiful, secluded pool on Whiteoak. INFO: Cliff Noyes (cliff.noyes@juno.com) 703/451-5181, before 9:00 p.m.

6 (Tuesday)

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

7 (Wednesday)

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

10 (Saturday)

HIKE - North Chapter Appalachian Trail, PA

Appalachian Trail Hike 1 - Susquehanna River to PA 944. Moderate hike 14.6 miles in length. There are several good views of the Susquehanna River; plus, we will be stopping at the new Cove Mountain shelter. INFO: Christopher Firme (bnc-firme@ininternet.net) 717/794-2855, after 6:00 p.m.

10 (Saturday)

TRAIL WORK TRIP - Massanutten Crew Massanutten, VA

Exercise, fresh air, and the camaraderie of your fellow hikers, it just doesn't get any better than this. Join us as we rebuild tread and waterbars on Massanutten Mountain. Work with us and take pride in the support you give to the trail community. INFO: Mike Sutherland (msutherland@cox.rr.com) 703/591-8330.

10 (Saturday)

TRAIL WORK TRIP - Rock Creek Park Washington, DC

8:15 a.m. to noon. Rock Creek Park is 1,700 acres of sprawling parkland in the nation's capital city where the PATC maintains 25 miles of foot trails. Meet at the Rock Creek Nature Center. Rain date August 24. INFO: Mark Anderson (mhacca@star-power.net) 202/462-7718 or Ranger Ken Ferebee 202/426-6834, ext. 31.

10 - 11 (Saturday - Sunday)

CABIN WORK TRIP - Vining Tract Crew Lydia, VA

The Vining Tract crew meets once a month to work on cabin and land management projects on the beautiful Vining property. We are now building a small cabin using logs from an old barn, as well as projects at Conley and Wineberry cabins and around the property to keep everything in top shape. Come join us and raise a hammer, a paintbrush, or a log in the cause. Overnight at Conley and Wineberry. INFO: Larry Lang 703/631-9278 or Hugh Robinson 703/525-8726.

10 - 11 (Saturday - Sunday)

TRAIL WORK TRIP - Acme Treadway Company Shenandoah National Park, VA

Acme Treadway Board Meeting! Do you hunger for that personal mountain-top experience? Do you ache for outstanding views of the Page Valley and Massanutten Mountain? The Company announces another brand new effort - Project Pinnacles. We seek enterprising persons with arms and legs (brains optional) as we begin work on this section of the AT in Shenandoah National Park. Camp out overnight at a wonderful location. All who participate receive a crew T-shirt to commemorate their first trip. Please RSVP. INFO: Don White (whitedh@attbi.com) 804/795-2914.

10 - 11 (Saturday - Sunday)

TRAIL WORK TRIP - Cadillac Crew Gore, VA

The Crew plans to repair and rework sections of the Tuscarora Trail near Shockey's Knob, west of Winchester. Plan on some hard trail work during the warmest time of year. Bring a lunch and water for Saturday noon. Community dinner on Saturday night. Overnight at Brill Cabin near Shockey's Knob. INFO: Fran Keenan (outdoorsnow@cox.rr.com) 703/938-3973 or Jon Rindt (jrindt@erols.com) 540/635-6351.

12 (Monday)

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

13 (Tuesday)

HIKE - Vigorous Hikers Shenandoah National Park, VA

Robertson Mountain and Hughes River Circuit in Central SNP. Up Robertson, down Indian Run, up to AT, and descend mostly on Nicholson Hollow Trail for a total of 14 miles and 3300 feet elevation gain. There's a nice swimming hole on the Hughes River near the end of the hike. INFO: Cliff Noyes (cliff.noyes@juno.com) 703/451-5181, before 9:00 p.m.



13 (Tuesday)

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

14 (Wednesday)

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

14 (Wednesday)

MEETING - West Virginia Chapter Highacre, Harpers Ferry, WV

7:00 p.m. Join us at our annual picnic! Bring a favorite food to share for the potluck dinner. In addition to a great meal and visiting, Katherine Lollar of Inchworm Yoga (www.inchwormyoga.com) will give us a yoga demonstration and discuss how it relates to hiking. INFO: Judy Smoot (wvpatc@hotmail.com) 540/667-2036.

17 (Saturday)

HIKE - Massanutten Mountain Series Shenandoah, VA

The seventh hike will be 17.9 miles with a 16.6 mile option on the Fridley Gap, Boone Run, Second Mountain, and Massanutten Peak Trails. The elevation gain is 5100 feet. Contact leaders for requirements and details. PATC Map H. INFO: Jack Thorsen (thorsen4@juno.com) 703/339-6716 or William Needham 410/884-9127.

17 (Saturday)

TRAIL WORK TRIP - Stonewall Brigade Shenandoah County, VA

Great North Mountain on the VA/WV state line. Join the Stonewall Brigade at Wolf Gap Recreation Area at 9:00 a.m. to get tools then work on a trail in the nearby area. This popular venue offers fine panoramic views of Trout Run Valley from the mountain crest. We will decide that morning just what the work site will be; either continue the relocation on Tibbet Knob Trail or clean waterbars near the campground. RSVP by Wednesday evening if you plan to attend. Bring lunch, work gloves, water, seasonal clothing, and hiking shoes. INFO: Hop Long (mgrgrmd@hotmail.com) 301/942-6177.

17 (Saturday)

TRAIL WORK TRIP - Yankee Clippers Trail Crew Tuscarora Trail, PA

Call for meeting place and other details. INFO: Charlie Irvin 301/447-2848.

20 (Tuesday)

HIKE - Vigorous Hikers Shenandoah National Park, VA

Climb Browntown Trail to AT then north to geology at Compton Peak and on to descend Lands Run Gap Road. 14 miles and 2700 feet. INFO: Chris Nolen (chrishiker@erols.com) 301/469-8931, before 9:30 p.m.

23 - 25 (Friday - Sunday)

BACKPACKING TRIP - Family Hikers Dolly Sods, WV

We will hike about 3 miles in and set up a base camp on Friday, day hike on Saturday, and hike out on Sunday. Each family will be responsible for their own gear and meals. Designed for families with young children, all ages welcome. INFO: Lauren Lang (LEvansAT94@aol.com) 703/631-9278. Prefer e-mail.

27 (Tuesday)

HIKE - Vigorous Hikers George Washington National Forest, VA

Massanutten Jughandle. Climb to Buzzard Rock, south to Sherman Gap, wade Passage Creek, return via Elizabeth Furnace and Shawl Gap. 12 miles and 2700 feet. INFO: Chris Nolen (chrishiker@erols.com) 301/469-8931, before 9:30 p.m.

27 (Tuesday)

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

Henry Turns 90

Continued from page 1

Henry Shryock Jr. blows out the candles on his birthday cake at an Easy Hikers hike at Colvin Run Mill Park in Great Falls, Va., in May. Henry's 90th birthday follows the celebration of his wife Pauline LeMarie's 90th birthday in June of 2001. Henry was serenaded as 28 fellow hikers joined in with a rousing rendition of "Happy Birthday" followed by a cheerful round of applause and cake for all.

The picnic/party followed a five-mile hike along a portion of the developing Fairfax Cross County Trail (CCT) that will go from the Occoquan River in Lorton to north of Great Falls Park when completed. □

—Henri J. Comeau

Man is Indicted In 1996 SNP Slayings

United States Attorney John L. Brownlee, Senior Resident Agent Clark D. Guy of the National Park Service, and Special Agent in Charge Donald W. Thompson, Jr. of the Federal Bureau of Investigation have announced that a Federal Grand Jury sitting in Charlottesville, Va. indicted Darrell David Rice, age 34, of Columbia, Md., for the 1996 slayings of two SNP backpackers.

Rice was charged with capital murder in a four count indictment in the killings of Julianne Marie Williams, 24, and Laura "Lollie" S. Winans, 26. Rice has pleaded innocent.

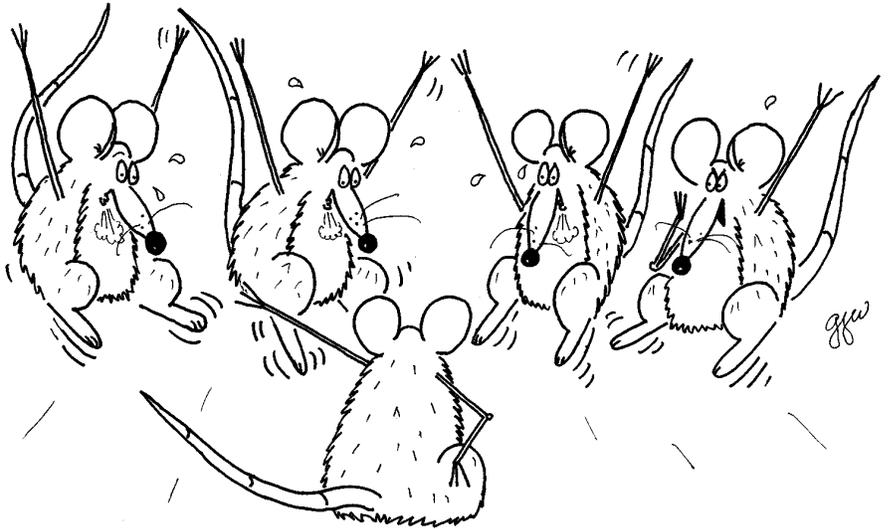
These charges arose from a May 1996 investigation into the disappearance of these two hikers in the Shenandoah National Park. The victims were discovered with their throats cut. Since then, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the National Park Service have joined forces to follow up on an estimated 15,000 leads and contacts during the investigation.

Rice has been charged with capital murder in the case of each victim. Rice has also been charged with capital murder and

Trail Overseers – Appointed in May

Kim Grutzik	Manassas Gap Shelter Trail
Don Hess	AT - Milesburn Road to Ridge Road at Sandy Sod
James Thompson	Billy Goat Trail – Carter Rock to Lock 14
Eliza Engle	Billy Goat Trail – Carter Rock to Lock 14
Michael Crowe	Rocky Mount Trail - Skyline Drive to Intersection of Gap Run Trail
David Muhlbaum	Cabin John Trail - River Road to Bradley Boulevard
David & Marty Hill	Catlett Mountain Trail
Ric Nauen	Pine, Holly, & Whittier Trails
John Hampton	Western Ridge Trail
David Holton	Glover-Archbold Trail
David Lillard	AT – Weverton RR to the Potomac River

Tails from the Woods by George Walters PRIOR TO CABIN VISITS, THE MICE ALWAYS WORK OUT.



“LOUIE HASN'T BEEN THE SAME SINCE HE SAW THAT RICHARD SIMMONS VIDEO!”

intentionally selecting and murdering the victims because of their actual or perceived gender or sexual orientation. These “hate crime” murder counts are based on a sentencing enhancement in the Federal Sentencing Guidelines. This case is believed to be the first federal murder prosecution brought under these provisions.

If convicted on any counts in the indictment, the defendant could be subject to the death penalty.

A Grand Jury indictment is only a charge and not evidence of guilt. The defendant is entitled to a fair trial with the burden on the government to prove guilt beyond a reasonable doubt. □

—Patricia A. Grisetti

NOTICES

NEW NOTICES

FOUND: Weekend of May 18-19, at intersection of Keyser Run Fire Road and Little Devil's Stairs - small black "Peak" Outdoor Equipment bag containing several headlamps - 2 Pretzl and one Energizer. Contact Anne at 301/774-6491.

SOME MOUNTAINEERING GEAR, mostly carabiners against generous donation to PATC. Also most issues of "Mountain" magazine available. Please call Elizabeth at 202/265-0747 after July 10th.

FOR SALE: Two time-share unit-weeks at Massanutten Mountain Resort. Each unit sleeps 8. Can be purchased separately or together. Early May (2 weeks back-to-back.) Near hiking trails, Skyline Drive, Big Meadows. \$3,500 each. Call Judith 410/749-3369.

LOST AND FOUND

LEFT AT FIRST BIRCH RUN SHELTER (South to North) to dry on rafters, NEW Smartwool socks and liners. Please mail to J. Foster, Rt. 1, Box 761, Roseland, VA 22967.

HIKING OPPORTUNITIES

APPALACHIAN TRAIL SECTION HIKE Opportunity: AT Section Hiker (200 mile sections) seeks fellow hikers as companion/s for adventure on the AT in Fall 2002. The first section starting from Georgia will be in the Fall of 2002. Be prepared to hike an average of 20 miles per day carrying a 35-40 lb pack, over the course of 10-12 days, with 1 travel day on either end of the trip. If you are reasonably fit and eager to get involved in such an undertaking please contact me at alex.mclellan@intcominc.com.

DONATIONS WANTED

NEEDED FOR SCHAIRER CABIN: Large, durable, comfortable arm chair covered with naugahyde or equivalent. No recliners or fabric upholstery please. Call Shirley Strong at 301/229-6905.

LAPTOP AND COMPUTER PROJECTOR NEEDED: The PATC Officers, Staff and Committee Chairpersons need a laptop computer and computer projector which can be used to make presentations at conferences, meetings, and community presentations. Projection at 1024 X 768 desired. If you work for a corporation which might make such a donation, contact Mike Sutherland at msutherland@cox.rr.com or 703/591-8330.

FOR SALE

STAMP COLLECTORS - New Zealand first day stamp covers, 1988 Scenic issue, and a dozen special issue US stamps from 1960 - 1985 period. Reasonably priced. Call Paula Strain at 301/215-4569.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

MEDICAL CHAIR VACANCY: The Medical Chair is the Principal Advisor to the Club's President on medical risk management. The Chair is also expected to have access to various medical community resources that can assist Trail Patrol, Shenandoah Mountain Rescue Group, and other volunteers in obtaining qualified medical training and advice. We need volunteers for this position and for committee members. If interested

please contact Mickey McDermott at patcvolunteer@aol.com.

CABIN MONITORS NEEDED: If you are a Club member who would like to contribute your time toward a good cause (and be able to get the annual advance cabin reservation privilege), then we need you. We are looking for members who live within 1/2 hour of any of our various cabins. These individuals would need to be willing to give a couple of hours a few times per year to spot check a cabin. If interested please contact Pat Fankhauser at PATC headquarters at 703/242-0693, Ext. 17 or pfankh@erols.com as soon as possible.

WANTED TO HIRE COOKS. Duration from one (1) day to six (6) weekends. Paying \$0.00/hr, transportation and personal food costs not included. Weaver Cabin is being renovated over June & July, 2002. Work crews need someone to serve soup. If you plan, prepare, cook, and clean there is no need to work on the cabin. If you are interested in fresh air, a weekend out, meeting a group of volunteers, and having a good time, we could use the assistance. Earn the same wage as trainees, carpenters, painters and engineers on site at Weaver Work Trips, Elkton, VA. Contact Thomas Jorgensen at Hairaheart@aol.com or 540/248-7009 (w) (h) 540/456-4760.

DAYTIME SALES DESK VOLUNTEERS BADLY NEEDED every Thursday and/or Friday at the PATC Headquarters between 12 Noon and 2 p.m. We will train you. Once or twice per month. If interested call Pat Fankhauser at 703/242-0693, Ext. 17 or e-mail at pfankh@erols.com or Maureen Estes at Ext. 19 or at patcsales@erols.com.

WANTED-VOLUNTEER to assume Budget Chair responsibilities. Exposure to all areas of the Club provides greater understanding of the breadth of services offered. Do your part to help PATC grow & prosper. Financial background preferred. Please contact either Gerhard Salinger or Paul Dery @ 703/208-5818.

PROJECT LEADERS/CONSTRUCTION Foremen needed to plan, organize and supervise several restoration projects. The Club owns 2 old (historic?) log cabins that need to be restored so that they can be placed in the Club's cabin rental system. There is also the possibility of the Club obtaining permission from the National Park Service to restore a stone lock house on the C&O Canal to be used for a rental cabin. You don't need to be a construction professional but good building skills and knowledge are desirable. Good management skills are also desirable. What we are looking for is the will and the courage to try. Some help is available in all aspects of the jobs. For info call Charlie Graf at: 410/757-6053 or e-mail cagraf@aol.com.

PUBLICATIONS CHAIR NEEDS HELP on a book celebrating the 75th anniversary of PATC. One, two or three people are needed to interview a handful of members who joined the club in the 30s and 40s. Please contact Aaron Watkins at 410/740-7082 or publications@patc.net.

HELP PATC CELEBRATE ITS 75TH ANNIVERSARY. Larry Rockwell, Public Affairs, is in charge of planning. INFO: rockwell@usa.redcross.org.

NEEDED: PEOPLE TO HELP PLAN and conduct our Club events. We are planning a number of events, such as a picnic in SNP summer 2002. We receive many invitations to provide a Club display at other people's activities. Often we just don't have members to attend. If you are willing, please contact Liles Creighton, Membership Secretary at 410/573-0067, lcrei@aol.com or Pat Fankhauser at Club headquarters.

DO YOU WANT TO BE A LANDOWNER along the AT? And have a home in the woods! Are you in a position to become a Conservation Buyer through the Appalachian Trail Conference Land Trust? Our program matches conservation buyers - people like you - with people who are selling land along the AT. You locate your home or cabin out of sight from the Trail. All we ask is that you donate a conservation easement on the rest of the property. A conservation easement "runs with the land;" that is, no present or future owner can develop it! AND, because an easement is an irrevocable gift of a property right, you get a nice income tax deduction equal to the value of the easement. Contact Bob Williams, Director of Land Trust Programs, at bwilliams@appalachiantrail.org, or at 304/535-6331, or write to P.O. Box 807, Harpers Ferry, WV 25425.

THE SALES OFFICE is looking for volunteers interested in working as little or as long as you can manage it - Monday through Friday between 9 and 5 p.m. If interested, please contact the Sales Coordinator, Maureen Estes, by either calling headquarters at 703/242-0693, ext. 19 or by e-mail at patcsales@erols.com.

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

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

NOT INTERESTED IN WORKING IN THE GREAT OUTDOORS? PATC has a continuous need for Headquarters Volunteers willing to help out with a variety of tasks - from manning the sales desk in the evening, to providing typing or office support. It takes a lot more than trail workers to keep the Club going! INFO: Wilson Riley, wriley1226@aol.com or 703/242-0693, ext.11.

Notices are published free of charge for PATC members only. PATC cannot vouch for any of the advertised items. No commercial advertisement or personal notices unrelated to hiking will be accepted. Deadline for inclusion is the first day of the month preceding issuance of the newsletter. Notices will be run for 3 months unless we are otherwise advised. □

Trailhead

Weeds, weeds, weeds. As anticipated, the abundant spring rains have given weeds and other trailside vegetation a roaring start this year. At least that is what we are hearing from District Managers. If you didn't make a pass in June or earlier, you may not be able find your trail by July! C'mon now, briar scratches, stinging nettles, biting gnats, and ticks are no deterrent to a dedicated Overseer who wants to spend some hot, sweaty days bonding with his or her trail.

From The SOT

PATC District Managers are the backbone of our organization. District Managers are responsible for recruiting and training Trail Overseers in their geographic region, for organizing and directing the work crews that tackle tasks too big for a single Overseer, for maintaining their tool caches and ensuring that adequate tools are available for their Overseers and crew, and for annual inspections of the trails in their District. District Managers maintain a working relationship with the government partners in their region, with other volunteer organizations, and with the PATC leadership. In addition to their DM duties, many PATC District Managers maintain a trail or two of their own, along with other assorted volunteer commitments (such as shelter maintenance, corridor monitoring, Chapter leadership, etc.). PATC is blessed with an extraordinary group of volunteers who serve as District Managers, and we thank them for their hard work and enthusiasm.

The Club is currently recruiting for two District Manager positions.

Bill Schmidt has served for many years as the DM of the South Massanutten District. For Bill, this has entailed routine trips from his home in Silver Spring, Md., to the trails of the George Washington National Forest. Bill has worked closely with the Forest Service and his Overseers to make sure that trails of South Massanutten are maintained to PATC standards.

He has worked with Scout troops and other groups of volunteers to encourage participation in the District and to assist with the endless work of trail maintenance. After many years of hard work on the Massanutten trails, Bill would like to train an assistant District Manager, with the idea of giving over the reigns when the training is complete. This volunteer opportunity affords not only the chance to help the



Photo By Jon Rindt

Sybille Stromberg attacks a stubborn root with a pulaski while Katherine Rindt digs sidehill tread on the new Entry Run Trail.

PATC maintain a section of its trail inventory, but to work with a man who has been a true PATC stalwart and an inspiration to his Overseers and fellow District Managers.

The second available District Manager position involves management of a new PATC District, the PATC tract trails. PATC has constructed many trails on our lands over the years, but has not, as yet, included them in our trails system. The Tract Trail District Manager would be responsible for organizing the District, for working with the Tract Managers and the Land Management Committee, and for assisting the Trails Coordinator in including the designated trails in our trails database. The actual trail mileage of the new District is relatively small, but the District is geographically dispersed.

Both of the above positions are critical to the activities of the PATC and to our continued reputation as maintainers of trails in the Mid-Atlantic region. If you're interested in either position, please call Kerry Snow at 301/570-0596 (e-mail: kerrysnow@telocity.com).

Cedar Run Repair

The Blue and White Crew visited the Cedar Run Trail in May, repairing waterbars, rock steps, and sidehill on both the lower and upper sections of the trail. Saturday found the B&W Griphoist Squad pulling large rocks up the side of the Cedar Run ravine in order to rebuild a stone staircase that had fallen into disuse. Other members of the

Crew cleaned and rebuilt most of the waterbars on the lower half of the trail. The B&W Away Team (Mssrs. Stalmann and Dueweke) sprinted the upper reaches of the Sam's Ridge Trail, crosscutting as they ran. Saturday activities were filmed by John "Fellini" Hebbe, in his directorial debut (John promised to include the X-rated scenes in the "Director's Cut" only). The Crew retired to the Pinnacles Research Station on Saturday evening for a banquet/birthday party, augmented with a selection of fine "Ripples" selected and provided by B&W wine steward, Pious Choi. Cedar Run work continued on Sunday, with the crew overhauling the upper 1/2 mile of trail. The Crew spent the afternoon planning projects for the June Workshop with NPS trail professional, C.T. Campbell.

Blowdown Removal

In this month's article on the thru-hike of the Massanutten Trail (*beginning on page 1*), Wil Kohlbrenner noted that he and Mike Sutherland cut up some blowdowns on the trail just north of the Woodstock Tower Road. One of those blowdowns was being used as a "marker" for finding a gallon of water hidden nearby. Without the marker, the thru-hikers had to dowse with a GPS unit to find the water that they had hidden there a month before.

Is this the first instance where the removal of a blowdown had a negative impact on a trail user? It raises the important question:

See Trailhead, page 19

Trailhead, from page 18

Should trail maintainers reconsider whether to clear blowdowns near road intersections?

Waterbars and Zydeco

In May the North District Hoodlums Trail Crew returned to the flanks of “unnamed mountain” on the AT just south of Jenkins Gap in SNP. Bark knives were peeling locust logs just as quick as sawyer John McCrea could fish them out of the nearby woods. Earth waterbars were reconstructed, and several new bars were installed. Sherri Fickel took inventory at day’s end, and no one guessed the correct total of 19 new waterbars at dinner.

And what a dinner it was! The Cajun menu at Indian Run Hut featured blackened catfish, Jambalaya, red beans and rice, cornbread, etc. but hats off to Kevin Kraditor for his Rabbit Etoufee! Best eatin’ this side of N’arlins, I garontee. Waterbars and Zydeco ... now that’s living, y’all!

Spotsylvania Report

Frank Haas reports May was the month to deal with the spring weeds and the tree limbs falling from the high winds on the Battlefield Park trails. For now the trails are in good shape but as with all trails, by the time you finish the first cutting, it is time for another pass.

The North Lee Drive Trail is in need of an Overseer. The trail is about two miles long, with a small hill or two. Just right for running. A bit of Civil War history centers in this area. Be glad you were not there to be part of it. Tall trees go the length of Lee Drive that begins at Lafayette Blvd, and ends at Lansdowne Drive. The Park should hopefully complete two work areas in the



PATC’s Mike Karpie demonstrating personal protection safety gear while NPS instructors Roger Dovell and C.T. Campbell look on.



The North District Hoodlums Trail Crew gather for a Kodak moment at the Jenkins Gap parking lot in SNP during their May worktrip.

next month or so. If interested, contact Frank at 540/898-2213.

Entry Run Revisited

Mining rocks was the task as the Cadillac Crew continued building the new Entry Run Trail on the Per-Lee Tract. Arriving at steep terrain approaching a ridge top near the Lamb family cemetery, the Crew looked left and right only to see even steeper slopes. The stone masons on the Crew decided to bite the bullet on this one and build steps. So the search began for rocks, the bigger the better. After a long day of digging, prying, and pushing with rock bars the steps began to take shape. A large rock with a nice flat surface was saved for a critical finishing step but when put in place, Robert Fina decided to chip off a sharp edge with a rock bar. You guessed it, the rock split down the middle forming a Vermont-New Hampshire configuration. Meanwhile part of the Crew (those not wanting to destroy their vertebrae) dug sidehill tread on a more reasonable section of the trail, and Carrie Fickes completed a painting of Rosser Lamb, which is now framed and mounted inside the house.

The Crew thanks Peg Manuel and Park Anderson for the use of Rosser Lamb Cabin. Even though it is still under construction, it provided fine accommodations for the Crew.

The Rosser Lamb and John’s Rest cabins are located on the tract, which will include an access trail into SNP and will be an excellent addition to the PATC cabin system when completed.

PHT - Weedwacking Fun

Darting across traffic on the George Washington Memorial Parkway, Overseer Alex Sanders and District Manager Bruce Glendening took on the toughest weed overgrowth on the Potomac Heritage Trail (PHT) between Spout Run and Theodore Roosevelt Island. The beautiful spring weather gave nature a good head start, but grasses, weeds, and brush went flying under the power weedwackers’ blades, keeping a generous path open for PHT hikers. This more open section of the PHT needs constant attention throughout the summer, and future “weedwacking fun” will be had by all.

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

POTOMAC APPALACHIAN

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DISTRICT MANAGER
MASSANUTTEN SOUTH

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

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

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

Appalachian Trail
2nd Logging Road to Pipeline (1.2 miles)
Appalachian Trail
Pipeline to Davenport Meadow (1.2 mile)

Dicks Dome Shelter Trail
AT to shelter (0.20 miles)

SNP NORTH BLUE-BLAZED – MAP 9
CALL BERNIE STALMANN, 301/725-8876
E-mail: Bstalmann@aol.com

Piney Branch Trail [lower]
Powerline to Hull School Trail (2.2 miles)
Pass Mountain Trail [upper]
Pass Mountain Hut to breakpoint
(1.5 miles)

Tuscarora/Overall Run Trail
Thompson Hollow Jct. to Mathews Arms
(2.3 miles)

Overall Run Trail
Thompson Hollow Trail to Overall
Run-Beecher Ridge Trail (0.7 mile)
SNP CENTRAL BLUE-BLAZED [NORTH END]
– MAP 10

CALL DAN DUEWEKE, 703/266-3248
E-mail: danjan@fcc.net

WILDERNESS OVERSEERS NEEDED
FOR REMOTE TRAILS.
HARD WORK, LOW PAY,
ADVENTURE GUARANTEED.

SNP SOUTH AT – MAP 11
CALL MIKE KARPIE, 540/785-9553
E-mail: BKPKR@erols.com
Appalachian Trail
Powell Gap to Flattop Mt. Summit (1.7 miles)
Appalachian Trail
Riprap Trail Parking to Hairpin Switchback
(1.5miles)

SNP SOUTH BLUE-BLAZED – MAP 11
CALL PETE GATJE, 434/361-1309
E-mail: pjgatje@aol.com

One-Mile Run Trail
Two-Mile Run Overlook to
west Park boundary (3.7 miles)
Furnace Mountain Trail
Trayfoot Mt. Trail to Madison Run FR
(3.4 miles)

Lewis Peak Trail
Rocky Top Trail to West Park Boundary
(2.6 miles)

Hightop Hut Access Road
Smith Roach Gap Road to Hightop Hut
(.7 mile)

Rockytop Trail
Big Run Loop Trail to Lewis Peak Trail
(2.2 miles)

Rockytop Trail
Lewis Peak Trail to Big Run Portal Trail
(3.5 miles)

TUSCARORA SOUTH – MAP F, G, 9
CALL RICK RHOADES, 540/477-3247
E-mail: RRhoades@shentel.net

Tuscarora Trail
Mill Mountain Trail to White Rocks Trail
(2.90 miles)



Tuscarora Trail
White Rocks Trail to Cedar Creek
(2.7 miles)
Tuscarora Trail
Rock marker to Massanutten Trail (1.5 miles)

MASSANUTTEN NORTH – MAP G
CALL MIKE SUTHERLAND, 703/591-8330
E-mail: msutherland@cox.rr.com

Massanutten Trail
Rte. 758 to 7-Bar-None Trail (3.3 miles)
Massanutten Trail
7-Bar-None Trail to Bear Trap Trail
(2.7 miles)

Massanutten Trail
Bear Trap Trail to Peters Mill Run Trail
(1.6 miles)

Massanutten Trail
Moerlan Gap Road to Jawbone Gap Trail
(1.6 miles)

Massanutten Trail
Jawbone Gap Trail to Crisman Hollow Road
(4.8 miles)

MASSANUTTEN SOUTH – MAP H
CALL BILL SCHMIDT, 301/585-2477
E-mail: wmeschmidt@aol.com

Massanutten Mt. South Trail
TV Tower to Pitt Spring (3.40 miles)
Massanutten Mt. South Trail
Pitt Spring to Morgan Run Trail (3.3 miles)

Second Mountain Trail
Boone Run Trail to Kaylor Knob (1.1 miles)
Morgan Run Trail
Cub Run Road to
Massanutten Mt. South Trail (2.6 miles)

GREAT NORTH MOUNTAIN – MAP F
CALL HOP LONG, 301/942-6177
E-mail: mgrgnd@hotmail.com

Mill Mountain Trail
Big Schloss Cutoff Trail to
the Tuscarora Trail (3.3 miles)
Great North Mountain Trail
Stack Rock to FR 720 (4.2 miles)
Gerhard Shelter Trail
Tuscarora Trail to Vances Cove Trail
(1.5 miles)



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