



The Potomac Appalachian

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

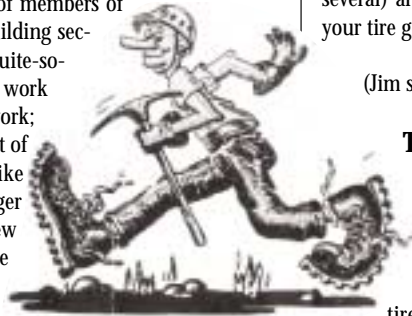
Volume 32, Number 7
July 2003

75 Years of Service

The Stonewall Way

Our Heroes...

are, in this case, your Humble Servants, the Acme Treadway Company. The company is (usually) composed of members of PATC who enjoy (?) building or rebuilding sections of famous, infamous, and not-quite-so-famous hiking trails. The crew can work anywhere within PATC's trail network; this work trip was in the South District of Shenandoah National Park. Mike Karpie, PATC Trails District Manager for this area, had suggested the crew work on a particular section of the Appalachian Trail in Brown Gap.



Sustain an Auspicious Beginning...

When do headaches start? At the beginning, of course. With this work trip of the fabled Acme Treadway Company, the headache began (literally) at Loft Mountain Wayside. We can pinpoint the time – 10:15 a.m. – and the reason: a rapidly deflating tire.

The crew's Fearless Leader pulled into the wayside precisely at 9:30 a.m., his announced start-time for this trip. Awaiting him (not so patiently) were Robert Nelson (Trusty Crew Lawyer – every crew

should have one) and new recruits Bill Weaver and Richard Morin. A few minutes later, Jim Wasel (Trusty Crew Engineer – every crew has several) arrived. Jim looked Fearless Leader in his eye and asked: "Is your tire going flat?"

(Jim should have been an intelligence analyst.)

The Fix Was In...

You've heard of those cans of Instant Tire-Fix? I have, too. Two of 'em didn't work, but Jim tried to make them work. So, after some delay, the crew arrived at the Brown Gap parking area, only to discover the sad fact that the tire was deflating faster than Fearless Leader's ego. (If the tire would only have emulated Fearless' stomach, instead...)

Jim, Robert, and Bill intuited the requirements (physical and meta-physical) for changing a flat tire on a Toyota Tacoma and jumped right in to meet the challenge. If a Technical Writer had been part of this Group, he or she might have noted with chagrin that none of the increasingly frustrated tire changers checked the Owner's Manual for hints on how to release the spare tire from its berth. Several more minutes passed, and things were set aright.

See Stonewall, page 6

Cabin Reservation Policy Changes as of Aug. 4

The following new and changed rules will go into effect on Monday, Aug. 4, 2003. Please keep this information with your cabins booklet for your convenience when renting cabins. As always, please consult the cabins booklet to know exactly what cabin you want to rent prior to making your call to the cabin reservation desk. What? You don't have a cabins booklet? Call the sales desk volunteer at 703/242-0693 between 7:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. and they'll help you obtain one. Or, go to www.patc.net/activities/cabins/ for more information on individual cabins.

Pre-Payment

The rental fee will be collected in advance upon making the reservation. A VISA or MasterCard credit card number and expiration date will be required at the time of reservation.

Payments made by credit card, check, or cash by walk-in renters will be accepted immediately. Renters wishing to make a reservation by phone and pay by check can make the reservation, yet need to have payment in seven full days prior to the first night of the reservation so there is time to mail the keys. Keys will be mailed only after the entire rent is received.

Refunds

Full refund is available if the reservation is cancelled more than 15 days prior to the first night of the reservation.

For cancellations occurring between 14 and seven days prior to the first night of the reservation, 50 percent of the rental fee will be refunded.

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Supervisor of Land Management: Chris Mangold, csm5749@yahoo.com
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General Counsel: Charles Sloan

Sections/Chapters

Mountaineering Section: Andy Britton
SMRG: Christopher Smith
Ski Touring Section: Steve Brickel
North Chapter: Pete Brown
N. Shenandoah Valley Chapter: Lee Sheaffer
S. Shenandoah Valley Chapter: Michael Seth
Charlottesville Chapter: John Shannon
West Virginia Chapter: Judy Smoot

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(Council Members)

AT Corridor Monitoring: Tom Lupp
Blackburn Trail Center: Chris Brunton
Budget: David White
Cabins Operations: Mel Merritt
Cabin Construction: Charlie Graf
Conservation: Jeff Pearcy
Grants & Donations: Susan Nelson
Endowment: Don Price
Finance: Gerhard Salinger
Hikes: Karen Brown & Lee Sheaffer
Internet Services: Stephen Raia
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Legal: Charles Sloan
Maps: Dave Pierce
Maryland Appalachian Trail Management Committee: Charlie Graf
Potomac Appalachian: Linda Shannon-Beaver
Public Affairs: Vacant
Publications: Susie LeBlanc & Linda Shannon-Beaver
Sales: Paul Dery
Shelters: Frank Turk
Trail Lands Acquisition: Phil Paschall
Trail Patrol: Kumait Jawdat
Tuscarora Trail Land Management: Lloyd MacAskill

Special Committees/Ongoing Activities

Archives & Library: Carol Niedzialek
Cabin Reservations: Shakuntala Ghare
Communications Team: Tom Johnson
Deputy Finance Committee Chair: John Ferguson
Deputy Supervisor of Trails: Vacant
Headquarters Facility: Orron Kee
Information/Sales Desks: Annetta DePompa
Medical: Vacant
Shelters, Cabins, & Cabins Land Fund: Larry Marcoux
SNP Boundary Trailheads Study Group: Mark Holland
Tuscarora Trail Shenandoah Valley Project: Phoebe Kilby & Larry Bradford

Potomac Appalachian

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Council Fire

The Potomac Appalachian Trail Club's regularly scheduled Council Meeting was held on May 13, 2003, at Club Headquarters. President Tom Johnson introduced the topic of fund raising. He said Susan Nelson, Chair of Grants and Donations, would address Council at a future date on the topic. Tom announced the resignation of Paul Dery from the Sales Committee. Tom reported that he, Liles Creighton, and Charlie Graf had represented PATC at the ATC Strategic Planning Summit. A total of seven PATC members had attended the summit; the goal of the summit was to formulate a 50-year plan, starting with the next 10 years.

Trails, Lands, and Facilities

Vice President of Operations Hop Long updated Council on findings of the Computer Committee meeting of April 23, 2003, stating that a major restructuring of the computer system is needed. Tom stressed the importance of the restructuring, noting that it would likely be an expensive undertaking. He added that a cost/benefit analysis would be performed before seeking a competitive bid for the contract.

Council approved a motion allocating \$5,000 from the Cabins Land Fund to build the Rocky Run replacement shelter.

Volunteerism, Training, and Communications

Vice President of Volunteerism Mickey McDermott introduced the Club's Archivist, Carol Niedzialek, to Council. She asked Council members to please remember to submit documents to the archives upon completing their term of office, or upon completion of a project such as a shelter. She asked for paper documents, rather than electronic files. Items she suggested for archives: project documents, correspondence with partners, legal documents, two copies of newsletters, old cabin log books, photos of projects and events, and minutes from meetings with partners such as parks, other clubs, or ATC.

Mickey also announced PATC had signed a memorandum of understanding with Washington, D.C., Parks and Recreation for an outreach program for 45 city youths. Three weekend programs, involving 15 youths each, are planned for the summer of 2003 at Blackburn Center. The three weekends will be May 31-June 1, July 19-20, and Aug. 16-17.

Supervisor of Membership Susan Nelson distributed the Membership Report from May 13, 2003. She noted that membership had dropped below 7,000 and is currently at 6,854 members. Susan asked

See Council Fire, page 3

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, Tom Johnson: Extension 40
Club e-mail: info@patc.net **Facsimile #:** 703/242-0968
World Wide Web URL: http://www.patc.net

STAFF

DURING REGULAR BUSINESS HOURS

Director of Administration: Wilson Riley (Ext. 11) e-mail: wriley@patc.net
Trails Management Coordinator: Heidi Forrest (Ext. 12) e-mail: hforrest@patc.net
Business Manager: Monica Clark (Ext. 15) e-mail: mclark@patc.net
Membership/Cabin Coordinator: Pat Fankhauser (Ext. 17) e-mail: pfankhauser@patc.net
Sales Coordinator: Maureen Estes (Ext. 19) e-mail: mestes@patc.net

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 27 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.

Tom's Trail Talk

Making Connections

On a recent hike with PATC's Southern Shenandoah Valley Chapter chapter I fell in with Lynn Cameron, a long-time chapter member and their resident environmentalist. As we walked, we talked about her passion, clean air. Lynn has been influential in the national movement to clean up the air we breathe to make hiking a healthier activity.

In addition to her passion for clean air, Lynn also works on wilderness designation. She is a former president of the Virginia Wilderness Committee, a citizens group that has promoted wilderness legislation for Virginia. So over lunch she talked about her attempts to persuade Congressman Bob Goodlatte, who represents Lynn's little patch of rural Virginia, to support these designations. Goodlatte is not only the representative from that area, he also chairs the Agriculture Committee, which has jurisdiction over the Forest Service. So if Goodlatte doesn't want it, it won't happen. And Goodlatte is very suspicious.

Now Goodlatte, who is a member of the hiker-friendly House Trails Caucus, probably opposed designation because of a complex of local concerns. So the trick is to get more allies on the local level.

Initially approaching this from the perspective of a hiker, Lynn found it necessary to acquire allies. She found that hunters formed a critical bloc of voters, and many hunters opposed such designations. When she met with them, she found them initially hostile. But they soon found common ground. Both groups wanted to preserve forests, although for different purposes. She is converting the hunters into cautious allies, and there is some prospect that the hikers and hunters can band together to support the legislation.

How about mountain bikers? The group has been working with the local bicycling organization to craft a compromise that will be good for both groups. This put me in mind of other PATC groups that work with cyclists. In some cases they jointly maintain trails and adhere to standards that make the trail safe for both groups. This is especially important in urban areas where there is not enough room to build trails for every user group. As for equestrians, PATC has many trails that are maintained for both people and horses. The world has not come to an end.

The point is that we are all engaged in recreation, and we have similar goals – keep wild places, forestall development in areas impor-



tant for recreation, and make the East Coast a recreation-friendly area. When you look at the areas of common interest with other trail users, they are far larger than the differences.

Lynn says that she learned a lot by listening to other user groups. The key, she says, is to keep an open mind. We could all learn from that. □

—Tom Johnson

Council Fire, from page 2

Council members to consider applying for grants or donations for projects ranging in cost from \$2,000 - \$10,000. The application process for this type of grant usually takes about six months. Susan asked for members to consider future projects for grants, keeping in mind how the project will affect the community and how many people will be impacted by the project.

Other Business

Trail Patrol: Kumait Jawdat announced two Trail Patrol members, Mal Fordham and Larry Knudson, had received awards from the American Hiking Society.

Maps: Dave Pierce reported that Map 10 would shortly be under contract, noting that 140 changes had been proposed for the revision.

Tuscarora Trail: Lloyd MacAskill reported that, as a result of new ownership, there is no longer any possibility of obtaining an easement to protect the trail at Rt. 340 and the SNP property line. On Massanutten, he reported a problem with a landowner posting signs.

North Chapter: Pete Brown announced that the Birch Run Shelter logs had been delivered, there was more fencing at Big Flat, and that the bridge project at Antietam had been approved.

SMRG: Chris Smith said the Shenandoah Mountain Rescue Group had participated in two searches in the past month. They had also completed the first phase of a three-phase plan to clean the Headquarters office and organize their gear.

Cabins Maintenance Chair: Mel Merritt reported the Schairer Trail Center has a new roof and Dawson has a new outhouse (constructed in 12 hours, a possible record). He noted the renovation on Cliff's House begins May 24 and that the Catoctin Furnace Cabin is temporarily out of the rental system for floor repairs. And he noted that Highacre would need painting this year, not next, particularly since it has new siding.

The May Council Meeting was attended by seven Club officers, nine committee chairs, two chapter representatives, three section representatives, one staff member, and five other Club members. □

—Georgeann Smale, Secretary

THE Event for July? Don't Miss the Annual PATC Barbeque

And, what serves as one of our biggest Club fund raisers? The Annual Blackburn Summer Barbeque, of course!

If you've never attended one of the annual Blackburn Trail Center Summer Barbeques, you really should consider attending this year! Blackburn Trail Center is located very close to Round Hill, Va., just a few strides from the AT. This year the event is scheduled for July 12-13, 2003. 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! 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 to the Land Acquisition 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. The cost of the BBQ is \$30 for adults and children 16 and older, \$15 for children seven to 15, and \$5 for children under seven. (Babies are free!) The registration fee covers happy hour, beginning around 5:00 p.m., dinner, beverages, and dessert on the 12th, as well as camping or bunking privileges. In addition, breakfast is served to all participants on the 13th.

There is limited parking right at Blackburn, but cars can be parked in various locations, except where prohibited, along the dirt road leading to the cabin. For those who want to get in as much hiking as possible, cars can be parked at the bottom of the road, providing you with approximately a mile to stretch out those legs.

So pack up your gear, put on your hiking boots, and join us for a truly enjoyable, recreational, and culinary weekend. Please mail the attached registration form along with the appropriate fee to Lisa Still at: 5812 Cove Landing Rd., Unit No. 302, Burke, VA 22015.

Checks should be made out to Lisa Still and sent with the accompanying registration form no later than June 30, 2003.

As much as we love them, please leave your dogs at home or at the pet hotel!

Due to its success last year, we are holding the 2nd Annual 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 contact Caren or Blaine Robinson at 703/560-1361 before 9:00 p.m. or e-mail them at imshemish@aol.com.

—Caren Rothstein-Robinson



Schedule of Events:

Saturday, July 12- Blackburn Trail Center

- 10:00 a.m. Long Hike (7 miles)
- 11:00 a.m. Short Hike (3 miles)
- Lunch (On Your Own)
- 1:00-2:00 p.m. Arts and Crafts
- 2:30-3:30 p.m. Children's Scavenger Hunt
- 5:00-6:00 p.m. Happy Hour
- 6:30-7:30 p.m. BBQ Dinner
- 7:30-8:00 p.m. Dessert Contest Judging and Prize Award & Raffle Drawing
- 8:00 p.m.-? Relaxing, Game Time, and Music on the Porch (bring your favorite games and/or instruments)

Sunday, July 13 - Blackburn Trail Center

- 8:30-10:00 a.m. Breakfast and Farewells!

Blackburn Summer BBQ Registration – Saturday and Sunday, July 12-13, 2003

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: (day) _____ (evening) _____

DESSERT CONTEST ITEM: _____

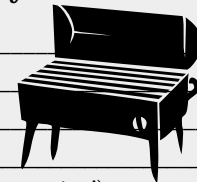
(If interested, please indicate what delicious item you will be entering!)

Number of adults: _____ (@ \$30.00 each) \$ _____

Number of children ages 7-15: _____ (@ \$15.00 each) \$ _____

Number of children 6 and under: _____ (@ \$5.00 each) \$ _____

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 no later than June 30, 2003.

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

The ATC Planning Summit Looks Down the Road 50 Years

Picture yourself locked in a compound from noon Friday to noon Sunday without a chance of escape. Think about non-stop meetings until 9:30 every evening. It pours all weekend, and you get soaked every time you go out the door. And as the final insult, it is Mothers' Day weekend, and you have left your spouse stewing at home with nothing to do but watch television. Congratulations! You just attended the ATC strategic planning summit!

Seriously, though, folks, were there any redeeming features to this 48 hours of incarceration? Of course, or we wouldn't be writing about it.

The general idea was to review the Appalachian Trail at a certain important moment in its history. The trail is complete, it is well maintained by a core group of volunteers, and the federal government corridor protection program nears completion with less than 12 miles out of almost 2,200 remaining to be placed under federal control. In other words, the big mountains have been climbed, and ATC has asked itself where it will go in the future. Are there other mountains on the horizon?

Rather than set a completely internal planning process, ATC and its federal partner ATPO (Appalachian Trail Park Office) went to their partners and constituents for input. What they assembled was a diverse group from trail-maintaining clubs, ATC and ATPO staff and representatives from the Forest Service, Park Service, Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation, Maryland DNR, and the entire ATC Board of Managers. Each trail club was invited to send three representatives. In all, about 150 delegates from all over the East Coast descended on the National Conservation Training Center, a magnificent, state-of-the-art conference center outside Shepherdstown, WV. A third of the group were women.

As I drove to Shepherdstown through a driving rain, I puzzled over how on earth ATC was going to conduct strategic planning with 150 people. I've been through these things with other organizations, and more than 10 or 15 people is a crowd. We generally limit trail crews to eight to 12 to minimize the chance that people will be whacking each other over

the head with Pulaskis. I just didn't understand how all this was going to work.

Part of the answer was the way it was organized. ATC engaged two high-powered facilitators, John Shorb and Dana Morris-Jones, from The Delphi Group. The organizing team (which included PATC's Sandi Marra) structured the discussions in such a way that the focus became ever sharper as the weekend progressed. There was a large "logistics team" to make sure everything worked right. (It included Chris Brunton of PATC.) The planning staff met frequently to review the feedback they were getting from the group and to modify the agenda accordingly. And they had the benefit of NCTC, one of the finest conference facilities around.

We proceeded from the general to the specific. We began by reviewing the objectives for the weekend and the strategic planning model that we would be dealing with. As the hours went by (and as the rain continued drumming on the high arched roof of the Frank Lloyd Wright-style meeting room), we moved haltingly toward a strategic vision and a set of goals. Finally, in what was the climactic session of the conference, we assigned priorities to the strategic goals. That is where we stopped. Other planning groups will evidently take up where we left off and fashion a strategic plan for the next 50 years.

The strategic focus had nine major components. Overall the greatest concern for the future was goal No. 9, to protect the "zone of concern" surrounding the AT corridor. Participants gave aspects of that part of the strategic vision 182 votes, easily the highest total. There was great concern about land protection and a desire to raise the money to do more. The delegates wanted ATC to help them get involved with this process, either to set up their own land trusts or to partner with local land trusts. (Mostly it will be the latter. Few clubs have the resources of PATC, which already has a land trust to protect the viewshed.)

Clubs want more help from ATC, especially on the regional level. For instance, they hoped that ATC could provide a training program for volunteer leadership. They did not generally understand or appreciate the intricacies of the roles of the various partners, and they wanted better communication with the ATC

staff. Aspects of vision Topic No. 7, "Roles and Relationships among the volunteers, clubs, and ATC/ATPO," got 167 votes.

Funding from public and private sources got 140 votes. Delegates wanted a capital campaign and strategic partnerships to enhance funding opportunities. This topic was closely related to the "zone of concern," since much of the money raised would go toward land protection.

Standing in the middle of the pack were concerns over resource preservation (cultural, historic, and natural), 108 votes, and enhancing the AT visitor experience, 113. Participants felt that the Trail should remain in its present fairly primitive state and when it threatens to become too crowded, develop alternate hiking experiences on blue-blaze trails. (It is nice to see that PATC is already very strong in this regard. Three-fourths of our trail mileage is on non-AT trails.)

Several other issues drew fewer votes, including doing more for public education, forging bonds with local communities, and better defining the relationship between ATC/ATPO and other federal and state agencies. However, each one was part of the long-term vision that will shape the final strategic plan, and some of the specific goals in these areas drew strong support.

By the time we set out for home, the weather had brightened, and we had some late afternoon sunshine. Just right for Mothers' Day.

P.S.: PATC inmates at Stalag ATC were Chris Brunton, Liles Creighton, Charlie Graf, Tom Johnson, Sandi Marra, Eric Olson, Chuck Sloan, and Mary Margaret Sloan. □

—Tom Johnson

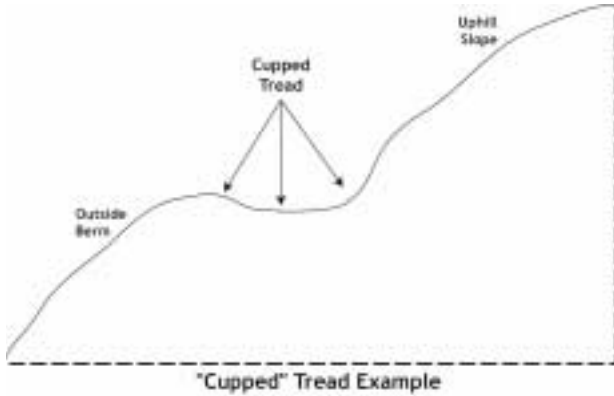
Get Ready for the AT Conference, July 25-Aug. 1

Planning is under way for the 34th Biennial Meeting of the Appalachian Trail Conference, scheduled for July 25-Aug. 1, 2003, in Waterville Valley in the White Mountains of New Hampshire. Check out the Web site at www.atc2003.org for more information on this opportunity. □

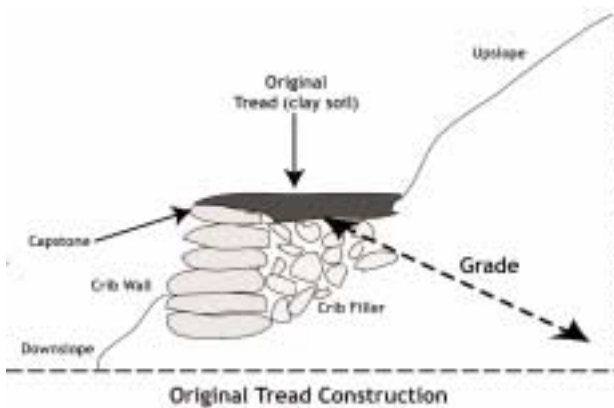
Stonewall, from page 1

Momentary Indecision?

Fearless scratched his head and gazed out through the mist of the clouds on the ridgetop. What was he forgetting? Trail work. As it happened, Mike Karpie was absolutely correct: The Appalachian Trail leading north out of the parking area at Brown Gap was cupped and getting more rutted.



Nearly 70 years ago, the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) had relocated the AT here (and elsewhere) to remove it from the path selected for Skyline Drive. In many cases, the CCC crews built cribbing of stone and brought in mineral soil (that is, clay) to top off their cribbing. Contemporary trail construction techniques that the CCC used dictated a level surface from side to side of the Trail. The sad fact is that this technique often results in erosion, as the treadway surface forms a path straight-way downhill. Rain water, like so many other inanimate objects



(students, politicians, zealots of any ilk, and so forth), automatically chooses to follow the path of least resistance. Therefore, the bulk of the tread material – the clay soil – was washed away over the years. That this erosion wasn't so bad is due mainly to the good grade on which the Trail was built.

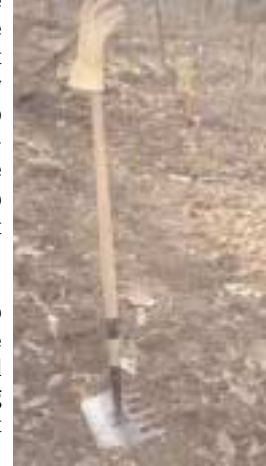
This photo shows how the Trail looked from the start of our work this dreary Shenandoah day. You can plainly see that the capstones of the original crib wall on the outside (left)



edge are higher than the tread in the center. This makes them act as a curb, funneling water down the Trail instead of encouraging it to run across and off of the tread.

Gentlemen, Start Your McLeods!

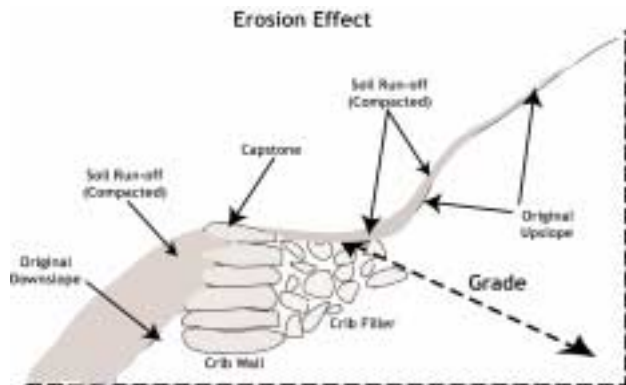
The only real "solution" to this problem in Shenandoah National Park is to cut and fill the cupped section of treadway. This technique usually requires the crew to cut dirt from the uphill section (the right-hand side in this view) and pull it into the cupped treadway. This will stabilize the tread for a period of time, but it will not fix the problem. To do that, the crew would need to pull enough dirt out into the trail to form a "lip" over the capstones of the crib wall and grade the tread to at least a 1 percent grade out to the edge of the capstones. There wasn't enough dirt available to do that.



It's time to introduce our favorite tool to use in situations like this: the **Venerable McLeod**. This tool lets you cut duff and mineral soil using the tines, pull it using the straight edge, and grade and tamp it using the flat side of the blade.

What 'Crib Wall'?

An interesting thing happened over the 70 years since the CCC built this section of the Appalachian Trail – erosion. The fact is that the only evidence you see of the original crib wall is the line of capstones along the side of the Trail. The rest of the crib wall lies buried under the soil that washed down off of the ridge and off of the original treadway. This next drawing illustrates the situation.



Theoretically, the crew could dig soil from the crib wall and replace it into the treadway. Unfortunately, Mother Nature invoked other plans for that material: It is no longer mineral soil (that is, clay) but has been transformed into, essentially, topsoil. Trees and shrubs and weeds and poison ivy and vines of all descriptions grow in it. It contains a lot of duff, and duff is not good for tread filler. (It compacts and causes more run-off problems too quickly.) Still, we did dig out a significant amount of clay from underneath the duff and used it in the tread. Most of the mineral soil we used, of course, came from cutting the uphill bank and pulling it into the treadway, as shown at the top of the next page.

See Stonewall, page 7

Stonewall, from page 6

What About Those Capstones?

Then, there was the matter of the bowed-out capstones that no longer sat atop the now-buried CCC crib wall.

Jim Wasel recognized the problem pretty quickly – I'd say that only two hours had passed since we started work before he brought this matter to the attention of Fearless Leader.



capstones off of the crib wall and over the side. This probably occurred due both to the erosive effect of water rushing over the stones and to hikers who started to hike upon the stones as the treadway narrowed from the uphill side. In

It did not take long for Fearless to understand the issue, either (if I do say so). As this touched-up photo (below) shows, some force pushed a section of CCC



any case, both PATC and Shenandoah National Park are committed to preserving the structures built by the CCC, including these capstones.

The next step was to remove all dirt from around the original capstones and expose the crib wall underneath. Then, the crew replaced and reset the stones and brought dirt back into the tread to stabilize both the stones and the Trail. This is not quite as easy to do as it is to describe.

The Prime Directive

Yes, there is a prime directive applied to stonemasonry: **The Rock Can't Rock!** It's not enough to set the capstones, in this case,



back where they appear to belong. That part is easy. They must, however, stay where they're placed. After



all, some hiker will step on them – if they move, the hiker may lose his or her balance, trip, and fall. Besides, the hiker will upset and kick out the capstone in doing this, and that is not permissible. So, those who work

with stone have to find smaller stone to use as shims to level and hold the larger stones in place, largely through friction-induced inertia.

When that is done, and done for each stone in the line, the crew takes mineral soil and packs it into the spaces between the capstones and the smaller rocks they set in place. Clay (mineral soil) is great for this purpose; it acts



See Stonewall, page 8

Reservations, from page 1

No refund will be made if the reservation is cancelled fewer than seven days prior to the first night of the reservation.

Reservations made less than a week prior to the first night will be charged the full fee even if the reservation is cancelled shortly thereafter.

Responsibility Statement

The requirement of having a Responsibility Statement on file will be eliminated. The pertinent clauses from the Responsibility Statement necessary to bind the renter responsible for the conduct of themselves and those persons in their party will be listed on the Record of Cabin Use Form, essentially the invoice. Once the

renter accepts the keys, he or she has consented to and is bound by the rules governing cabin usage.

Key Return

Keys must be returned within 10 days of the last date of the reservation. A \$25 lost key fee will automatically be charged if the key is not returned within 10 days from the last date of his/her reservation. Rental privileges will be revoked if the key is not returned a second time, even though the lost key return fee is received.

Processing Fee

The nonrefundable processing fee will be increased to \$5 per reservation. This is to defray the increased postage, bank fees, and material costs.

Cancellations

Part of a reservation cannot be cancelled. The whole reservation must be cancelled and the processing fee forfeited. The renter must then wait at least 24 hours to make another reservation. This is to avoid the now-popular practice of reserving a cabin two to three days before it is wanted, and then cancelling the previous days and keeping the weekend.

Arrival/Departure Time

The arrival and departure time has been changed to 3:00 p.m. Cabin renters have complained that 4:00 p.m. is too late to locate privy, wood, wood cutting tools, etc., especially in the winter months. □

—Cabins Reservations Committee

Stonewall, from page 7



much like concrete mix would (if we could use it). When all is thought to be done, it remains to test the work to ensure that the prime directive has been satisfied. This job fell, of course, to Fearless.

And There Appeared...

A large group of Boy Scouts came down the Trail, hiking south into Brown Gap. Troop 720, of Glen Allen (near Richmond), Va., were hiking and camping that weekend. And, their leaders were eager to have



the crew explain their work to the Scouts. This, too, devolved to Fearless Leader, who (according to some) approached this job with greater enthusiasm than the quality assurance task described above.

Boy Scouts on the Trail are held by some in undeserved low esteem. I am happy to report that the boys and leaders of Troop 720 exemplify all that is good about scouting and its goals, aims, and methods.

Hats off to Mark McKinnon, Brad Parsons, and Jim Duke (Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmasters) and to the Scouts: Scott Fincham, Matt Spencer, Bruce Rapp, Mike Braun, Tom McCue, Andrew Fisher, Robbie Kelleher, David Rapp, Steve Duke, and Ryan (whose last name I cannot transcribe)!

It's A Wrap!

When all was done, we still had to do something to help protect all the work we had done from the evils of – *gasp* – **Splash Erosion!** Splash erosion is the effect of raindrops hitting loosely compacted clay. Each drop falls far to Earth from somewhere Up There. The impact of a single drop is insignificant; however, the cumulative effect of *many* drops can cause serious problems before the newly re-established tread is fully set. How to handle this issue? Simple: Scatter leaves over the new tread! I

believe that, in eons past, some disgruntled trail crew worker snorted in disgust and claimed that his or her boss wanted him or her to litter the trail with leaves. Hence, we know this material as “Leaf Litter.” And, we scattered it with glee.

The Aftermath

We cleaned our tools and stowed them away and returned to Loft Mountain Wayside before going on to Ivy Creek Maintenance Hut for the night. Don't be fooled by the



description of this structure as a “maintenance hut!” Thanks to the Overseers, Mary and Tom, this is a premium facility, indeed. It sits snuggled in a very picturesque notch at the top of the hollow formed by Ivy Creek below. There are clean mattresses and well-built bunks in the enclosed hut, along with very comfortable furniture (and pads!). Jim, Rich, and Bill hiked up to the summit of Loft Mountain to take in the view whilst Fearless laid out his tools and concocted one of his (in)famous one-pot suppers. When the hikers returned, they chowed down on crackers, cheese, and salsa & chips, washed down with (ahem) some favorite (ahem) beverages. And, then, supper was delivered! (I am happy to report that *All Survived*.)

All in all, this was a very productive and positive weekend. New friends were made, needed work was done, and good times were enjoyed. Even the weather cooperated – despite the clouds on the ridge, no rain fell on Our Heroes. □

—D. H. White



Book Review: 60 Hikes 'Within 60 Miles, Washington, D.C.'

'60 Hikes Within 60 Miles, Washington, D.C.,' by Paul Elliott, 2002, Menasha Ridge Press, Birmingham, Ala., soft cover, 228p, appendices, index, \$15.95.

Most of the hikes in this book are in PATC's five pocket guides, but this book is laid out differently. The 60 hikes are in one book so it is a larger book: it is 6x9 inches and 3/4-inch-thick, compared to PATC's 4x7 inches and 1/4-inch-thick guides. Elliott separates his hikes by several categories – flat, steep, multipurpose, metro-accessible, secluded, historic sites, and for children and by distance, one to five, five to 10, up to 60 miles, as well as by state. Each hike has a number and is listed alphabetically, and each one has a large-sized map. One page is devoted to a full page of legends, which is nice, and two pages are for the whole region within 60 miles, showing hike location by number. Hike descriptions are in narrative format rather than mileage format and include a little history in some cases.

PATC gets little mention in this book, and Elliott attributes the trails' existence to nature and tax dollars. I think it's a large error to leave out PATC's hardworking volunteers, who do the trail work and make the famous maps. The only hiking clubs he mentions are the Sierra Club and the Appalachian Mountain Club of Boston's local chapter. His list of year-round high and low temperatures appear to be reversed.

Elliott includes urban hikes such as Brookland and new places such as Fraser Preserve and Winkler Botanic Preserve. This is a good book for planning a hike of one to five miles, but experienced hikers are probably more familiar with PATC's detailed maps and guides and will find them more handy and useful. □

—Carol Niedzialek



A Glimpse of History

Jon Rindt always asks us to share interesting tales with him to be included in the Trailhead. Last month he received this letter from Lou Per-Lee, a long-time supporter of PATC. She gives words to a piece of history of some of our lands.

Editor

Dear Jon,

My husband and I are honorary members of the Trail Club by virtue of having given the Club 104 acres on which stands the old Rosser Lamb home. We owned it for about 20 years and got to know both Mr. and Mrs. Lamb. We gave up our plan to build a more modern home when we found out what it would cost to bring electricity from the state road to our property. We spent weekends enjoying the place. My husband slept in the house with all the mice scurrying around, but I slept in the truck and later the Bronco.

Rosser came down now and then to get his cow, which wandered around. In addition he reserved the right to hunt on the place. One time during bear hunting season we met him on the road and stopped to chat. Charlie asked if he had gotten the one bear he was allowed. He answered "yup." Then Charlie asked how much it weighed. His reply was "Well, they said 125 lbs. but they didn't carry it out."

Mrs. Lamb was a remarkable lady. She had had no education and could neither read nor write. She couldn't identify numbers or use the phone. However she could fill her pantry with all kinds of dried or canned food, and she gathered sometimes to sell. In addition there was one year when that little house had not only their family of five but also a relative with six or seven children who needed shelter for a year.

We had visitors at the house from time to time. On one occasion our minister, his wife, and three daughters came Friday afternoon and left Saturday about the same time. Saturday morning we took Mrs. Booth and the girls around to see all our special features. Mr. Booth went off by himself to see whether he could find a trail up to the top. Several weeks later he went to Pocosin Cabin with the Boys Scouts and spent the same kind of weekend. The next time we came down to our place we found in the door his card and a note saying "your minister has called." □

Sincerely,
—Lou Per-Lee

Book Review: 'Benton MacKaye, ... Creator of the AT'

'Benton MacKaye, Conservationist, Planner, and Creator of the Appalachian Trail,' by Larry Anderson, The Johns Hopkins University Press, 2002, hard cover, 452 p, notes on sources, index, \$45.

This is an important book both because this is the first biography of Benton MacKaye and because it explores the philosophy behind the Appalachian Trail, dealing with topics such as regional planning, land-use planning, outdoor recreation, conservation, and environment. The philosophy resonates today: The strategic planning summit in the spring was about protecting the Trail with a greenway in response to the assault of residential development all along the Appalachian Trail. An in-depth review by Tom Johnson will appear soon in the *Appalachian Trailway News*. □

—Carol Niedzialek

PATC Trail Patrol Presents Hike Leadership Training

July 12 and 13, 2003

The Trail Patrol is hosting a Hike Leadership Training course on July 12 and 13 at Prince William Forest Park. The two-day course uses classroom and hands-on instruction to teach participants the essential skills for leading safe, enjoyable hikes with minimal environmental impact.

The topics to be covered include: Medical Emergencies, Planning, Personal Equipment, Leave No Trace, Leadership Skills, Standard Procedures, Emergency Procedures, and Navigation and Map Reading.

For more information, contact Ben Fernandez at 703/327-9788 or go to our Web site: www.trailpatrol.patc.net

Trailhead, from page 19

lent shape this year and much improved over last year. Overseers for the Big Run Loop North and Doyles River Trails have been added at the request of the NPS.

There is now an SNP western boundary access for trail maintainers to enter the Big Run area in order to work on the Rockytop and Brown Mountain Trail sections. In mid-May, one crew tried a shortcut from the Rockytop trailhead to the access point and crossed Big Run downstream from the Big Run Portal Trail bridge. They ended up wading in three to four feet of very swift running water. The crew was cold, wet, and happy to get back to their heated cars. Seemed like a good idea at the time.

Concrete Tread

The North District Hoodlums split into two crews for their May SNP work trip under a somewhat threatening sky. One crew headed down the Tuscarora/Overall Run trail with crosscut saws and McLeods while a second crew rebuilt waterbars and dug some sidehill on the upper Piney Branch Trail. That is, until the rains came. And come they did! The crew persevered for a while but when the soil they were digging took on the consistency of wet concrete, they thought it prudent to sound the retreat. A thoroughly drenched crew retired to drier quarters where Cajun chefs who had been hired for the occasion whipped up a meal of two jambalayas, rabbit etoufee, red beans and rice, followed by Stephanie's famous pecan pie. Voodoo was needed that day to keep the rain away but all they got was Blackened Voodoo Lager instead!

Tuscarora Central District

George Schubert has graciously agreed to be the acting district manager for Tuscarora Central District while Walt Smith is assisting his daughter in Louisa, Va. Thanks, George, the trail deserves dedicated volunteers like you.

Frank Turk's shelter crew is in the process of erecting a new shelter on Shockey's Knob. The shelter is located on PATC's Brill Tract on the



A nicely cribbed set of steps.



The Crew - from left: Dan Dueweke, C.T. Campbell, Ron Kutz, Chris, Harry Glenn, Dale Welter, Mike Tully, Betsy Foster, and Jan Taddeo.

Tuscarora Trail about a mile south of the Sleepy Creek WMA on the trail relocation opened in July 2000. Getting the logs for the shelter up on the knob is going to be a memorable challenge.

Central District Crew Week

The May 11-16 Central District crew week somehow managed to find an island of nice weather to attack an eroded stretch of Ridge Trail on Old Rag mountain. With pick, shov-



Harry Glenn, Dale Welter, and Mike Tully wrestle a boulder off Ridge Trail.

el, and rockbar, the crew dug rocks out of the trailbed, cut back the sidehill, and re-cribbed the outside edge of the trail to better delineate the treadway. Concurrent with the trail grading, they also managed to install approximately 20 rock steps and rebuild a number of waterbars on a quarter-mile of trail.

Proving that crew week isn't all work and no play, the crew took in fine dining at Calhoun's in Harrisonburg, Dan's Steakhouse in Luray, and the newly opened

Griffin Tavern in Flint Hill (where lamb pie was the standout favorite). It wouldn't be spring without an occasional shower, and Friday proved to be the damp day. Since the last day of crew week is a short one, they focused on repairing some log steps and waterbars on the AT near Panorama, finishing just as the storm intensified. The fact that this stretch of trail is overseen by the crew leader had no influence on its selection as a crew project. Right.

Mosby District

Lloyd Parriott's prediction : In the near future the sun will come out and convert all that moisture to overgrown trails. A recent project for Lloyd and fellow DM Ed McKnew has been to attempt to control the unauthorized use of the trailhead parking lot off Rte. 638 south of Linden. It is becoming a hangout for drinking, drugs, etc. They have cut back the trees and brush and posted "under observation" signs. Better law enforcement has been promised by the Rangers and the Sheriff's Office. They have decided that the management success indicator will be "the condom count" - with trends indicating success or failure. Lloyd has also taken over the district bush hog work. Renting a bush hog and doing it yourself is cheaper and more reliable than using contractors.

Good Food Overcomes Bad Weather

Memorial Day weekend at Mutton Top Cabin saw the Cadillac Crew dodging a few periods of rain and clouds to work on the Vining Tract Boundary Trail and clear brush around Mutton Top and the ruins of an old cabin. (See photo, page 19.) The rain story was repeated earlier in the month when the crew was digging tread on Entry Run Trail and got caught in a downpour. Ever seen freshly dug sidehill turn into mud? In each case, the wet volunteers forgot the discomfort when the food was on the table. The quote "the way to man's heart is through his stomach" applies to trail crews as well. Thanks to Richard and Sybille Stromberg - could you fault hand-cranked ice cream in the woods!

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

Bob Pickett's Appalachian Nature: Close Encounters of the Wildlife Kind

It's the peak of the summer season, and the wonders of nature abound for our viewing. When I had two youngsters living with me, I would take them out to the woods with the creed, "You never know what you might find!" Take last month. I was doing maintenance on my Nicholson Hollow Trail when I heard a deer snort just ahead. Looking up, not only did I see the deer, but a smaller figure, looking much like a fox, just 10 yards from the protesting deer. Putting my binoculars to my eyes, I was rewarded with the sight, not of a fox, but a bobcat! And, what looked like a bushy tail was in fact a fawn the bobcat had securely in its mouth! As I approached the bobcat, it dropped the fawn and trotted into the forest, which caused the mother to initiate an active chase, snorting all the way as the two left the scene. This left me with the fawn, still deeply breathing, with an obvious broken neck. Leaving the fawn after a few minutes of petting, I was not surprised to return later in the day to find the fawn was gone.

I love the excitement of exploring new areas and bushwhacking off trails. Two days after the bobcat encounter, I came across a gray fox skull and another fawn that sat quietly 15 feet from Maureen Harris (who found it) and myself for 15 minutes, until my closer approach caused the fawn to flee.

Keeping Your Eyes Open

You never know when or how such encounters will occur. Once, eating lunch, a silver-spotted skipper butterfly landed on a paper napkin I held in my hand. Pulling out my 20x hand lens from my pocket, I watched a remarkable sequence of egg laying by the skipper on my napkin. She would uncoil her forked proboscis and extend it under her body and between her rear legs, probing the napkin fibers, using both tips independently to sweep the fibers in opposite directions, creating a small cavity. She then would curl her abdomen under her, pointing the tip at the opening, holding it about two to three mm above the cleared site. Then, not only would she "shoot" an egg into the opening, but would proceed to reach back again with her proboscis and neatly cover the egg with the surrounding napkin fibers! For the next 20 minutes, I watched her through my hand lens as she laid 20 to 30 eggs!

And, then there was the overnighter I spent by myself on Dolly Sods, near Dobbins Spring

(on the northwestern edge of the plateau). I wasn't using a tent, what with the nice weather and beautiful sky. As I lay there, a large bird flew directly over me, passing no more than 10 feet off the ground. Presuming it was a great horned or barred owl, I soon forgot about the incident until it happened a second time! Now, you have to realize these big birds have a wingspan of nearly four feet, so, if one flew 10 feet off the ground, it leaves you with a nice adrenalin rush! So, imagine how I felt, when the owl gave me a third pass, this time hovered directly over my head for about four seconds before departing!

Those who know me know I can't do an article like this without including a snake story. Well, this story is not about the rattlesnakes I've caught. Nor is this about the boa constrictor I wrapped around my neck, the Northern water snake I held by the tail, who, in turn, was holding a brook trout by its tail, nor even the family of seven garter snakes I had my 10-year-old son pose with for the camera. No, my snake story takes place in Fuller Lake, up in the Pine Grove area of the Michaux State Forest, Pa., in the summer of 1988. I was canoeing with my then 11-year old son, McLean, with him in the stern and me in the bow. On seeing a Northern water snake swimming across the lake, I canoed to it, where it submerged beneath the surface. On finding it surface 20 yards away, I repeated my approach, and it repeated its disappearing act. This happened two more times, as we zigzagged across the lake. Finally, on what was to be my last approach, the snake changed tactics. It turned toward the canoe, and swam past the stern where my innocent son sat, and stopped three feet from the side and end of the canoe, exactly by where I was sitting with its head extended above the water looking at me! I have to admit, I was intimidated then and left the snake alone.

If You'll Bear With Me...

I can go on with other stories, but let me wrap it up with a few "large mammal" stories. I'm sure we all have had close encounters with black bear, and, yes, I've been confronted with a mother bear who crouched and snorted when we surprised each other, and I've had cubs close enough to touch. But, my favorite bear story is the mother and cub I met along the Nicholson Hollow Trail on another main-

tenance trip. What I like about this encounter is that the mother wasn't intimidated by my presence in the least. In fact, what made this event so profound was that the mother, who was literally about 15 feet from me with her nervous cub at her heels sneaking peeks at me, was making very comforting, even pretty sounding, grunts to her cub. It was clearly a reassuring, calming message the mother was giving her child. She seemed to be saying, "Don't worry, he won't bother you." By the way, I'm still waiting for the ultimate bear challenge. Someday, I want to take a bluff charge from a bear. I'm still not sure what I'll do. Either I'll raise my arms and yell back at him, causing him to break away, or I'll just stand my ground and wait for him to stop (I'm not sure I can do that!). Once I change my clothes, I'll let you know how it went.

Saving the Best for Last

OK, if you've stayed with me this long, I'll tell you my best story, witnessed by both Chris Lamond and Jane Thompson. In the summer of 2001, we were driving FR 13 along Canaan Mountain, near Blackwater Falls State Park, when we saw what appeared to be a deer about 50 yards ahead of us in the road. It moved to the left side of the road, then turned back, crossing the road from left to right. As we got to within 30 yards of it, we all recognized that what we were looking at was a mountain lion, not a deer. It leaped into the woods to the right, leaving no recognizable tracks for us to ascertain. A brief view, but unquestionable in size and color.

To answer the general question about existence of cougars in this region, virtually every biologist will acknowledge the occasional occurrence of these big cats in the Shenandoah National Park, Monongahela National Forest, and other forested regions in eastern United States. In the same breath, most biologists will acknowledge these creatures as being human releases or escapees, not a relic native population.

So, get out and keep your eyes open, your ears perked, and your senses alerted. As I always say, you never know what you might find. In fact, I encourage you to e-mail me your good wildlife stories. I will gladly share them with our audience. My e-mail address is pickett@usna.edu. One hundred dollars for each story used! That is, if Tom Johnson approves it. ☐

—Bob Pickett

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 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 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@ininternet.net) 717/794-2855. 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 Lee Sheaffer, (thumpers@visuallink.com) 540/955-0736.

Southern Shenandoah Valley Chapter

Please refer to our Web site at www.ssvc.org or the one linked to the PATC Web site for descriptions of hikes and work trips. We usually hike in the southern and central districts of the SNP and in the GWNF. Contact the listed hike leader for information about a specific event, or contact Michael Seth 540/438-1301 for more information.

West Virginia Chapter

Chapter meetings 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 interests in promoting safe climbing, conserving the outdoors, developing new climbers' skills, representing the Washington area climbing community, and having fun! We provide instruction for those wanting to learn the basics – we're not a school, but we can get you started. We go climbing, either locally or further afield, nearly every weekend. In the winter we organize trips to the Ice Festivals in the Adirondacks and the White Mountains for beginning and advanced ice climbers. For further information contact Andy Britton, (tallandyb@aol.com) 703/622-1920, or (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 Club hike on both Saturdays and Sundays using carpools, which often leave from a suburban Metro stop. Schedules are available at PATC Headquarters and are published in area newspapers on Fridays. The schedule of West Virginia Highland Conservancy outings in the Monongahela National Forest and surrounding areas is on their web site at www.wvhighlands.org.

KEY to Forecast Activities

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

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

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

Meetings

Meetings

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

New Members (PATC) – First Wednesday

7:30 p.m. Curious about the Club? Want to learn more? The best way is to attend a New Members meeting (but you don't have to be new to qualify). 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: Jane Thompson 301/565-6704 x208.

Mountaineering Section – Second Wednesday

8:00 p.m. – We meet every month unless noted in the Forecast. INFO: Mack Muir (MackMuir@edisaurus.com) 703/960-1697 or PATC's Web site: www.patc.net/chapters/mtn_sect.

Shenandoah Mountain Rescue Group

Business meeting – Last Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. INFO: Zeb Whitaker (zw@tdcarchitects.com) 703/255-5034, then press #5.

PATC Council – Second Tuesday

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

Trail Patrol – First Tuesday

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

JULY

1 (Tuesday)
DEADLINE - August Potomac Appalachian Headquarters, Vienna, VA
 5:00 p.m. All items for the next issue of the newsletter due. Send Forecast events to PA-Forecast@patc.net and all other articles to PA@patc.net.

1 (Tuesday)
 🦋 **HIKE - Vigorous Hikers**
George Washington National Forest, VA
 Runkles Gap, Massanutten Mountain. 16 miles, 3000 ft climb. Boone Run Trail to Morgan Run Trail, returning via Cub Run Rd and Martin Bottom Trail. INFO: Chris Nolen (chrishiker@erols.com) 301/469-8931.

1 (Tuesday)
 🏠 **MEETING - Trail Patrol, 7:30 p.m.**

2 (Wednesday)
 🏠 **MEETING - New Members (PATC), 7:30 p.m.**

5 - 6 (Saturday - Sunday)
 🏠 **CABIN WORK TRIP - Tulip Tree Cabin**
Shaver Hollow, VA
 We are getting down to the finishing touches on this beautiful cabin. There are lots of little details to finish up before the cabin is put into the rental system. We can use all skills and all skill levels. This may be your last chance to have a hand in building the first cabin to be constructed by the PATC from the ground up using native materials and primitive tools. INFO: Charlie Graf (cagraf@aol.com) 410/757-6053.

5 - 6 (Saturday - Sunday)
 🦋 **TRAIL WORK TRIP - Blue and White Crew**
Central District, Shenandoah National Park, VA
 The B&W Crew will tackle several projects on SNP side trails in the Park's Central District. We'll be staying at the Pinnacles Research Station, on the crest of the Virginia Blue Ridge. Saturday Dinner and Sunday breakfast are pot-luck. Blue and White Crew Calendar: www.blueandwhitecrew.org. INFO: Kerry Snow (kerrysnow@comcast.net) 301/570-0596.

7 (Monday)
 🦋 **HIKE - Family Hike - Great Falls National Park**
Great Falls, VA
 Come join us for a 4-mile kid-friendly hike. The path is not stroller-friendly. If there is enough interest, we could have a companion group hike along the Matildaville Trail, which is jogging-stroller passable; meet us for lunch in the meadow, and we'll hike down the Carriage Road together. The main hike will be along the River Trail with magnificent views of the river at Mather Gorge. It is rocky, and a little rugged and hilly in spots. We will hike to Sandy Point, then along the Old Carriage Trail, which is a wide gravel path, and mostly level. INFO: Lauren Lang (at94L@netzero.net) 703/631-9278.

8 (Tuesday)
 🏠 **MEETING - PATC Council, 7:00 p.m.**

9 (Wednesday)
 🏠 **MEETING - Mountaineering Section, 8:00 p.m.**

12 (Saturday)
 🦋 **HIKE - Appalachian Trail**
Waynesboro, PA
 Rocky Mountain/Chimney Rocks section. Caledonia State Park to Old Forge Picnic area. 10.7 miles-moderate hike, elevation 1100 ft. This section of the AT will go past the Rocky Mountain with views of the

small town of South Mountain. At Chimney Rocks one will be able to look east and see the Waynesboro Reservoir. We will descend the mountain and go past Tumbling Run shelters and end up at the picnic grounds at the Old Forge. Meet at 10:00 a.m. at Caledonia State Park. INFO: Christopher Firme (bncfirme@innet.net) 717/794-2855.

12 (Saturday)
 🦋 **TRAIL WORK TRIP - South Mountaineers**
Appalachian Trail, MD
 If you like it warm, come out for 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 Mitchell (mdtrail@yahoo.com) 301/461-7048.

12 (Saturday)
 🦋 **TRAIL WORK TRIP - Yankee Clippers Crew**
Appalachian Trail, PA
 Set a good example and join the Yankee Clippers trail crew for a National Trails Day weekend work trip. Meet at US 30 and PA 233 in the parking lot of Caledonia State Park. Departure 9:00 a.m. sharp. INFO: Pete Brown (peter.brown4@worldnet.att.net) 410/343-1140.

12 - 13 (Saturday - Sunday)
 🦋 **CLASS - Hike Leadership Training**
Prince William Forest Park, VA
 See ad on page 9 for more details about this course. INFO: Ben Fernandez (www.trailpatrol.patc.net) 703/327-9788.

12 - 13 (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: http://wfa.net. INFO: Christopher Tate 703/836-8905.

12 - 13 (Saturday - Sunday)
 🦋 **SPECIAL EVENT - PATC'S Annual Barbeque**
Blackburn Trail Center, Round Hill, VA
 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! 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. See page 4 in this PA for more information or contact: Caren or Blaine Robinson (imshemish@aol.com) 703/560-1361 before 9:00 p.m.

12-13 (Saturday - Sunday)
 🦋 **TRAIL WORK TRIP - Cadillac Crew**
Sugarloaf Mountain, MD
 Join the crew as we work on the Northern Peaks Trail on Sugarloaf Mountain. Erosion control and tread repair are needed on this popular, heavily used trail.

HELP US GET FORECAST EVENTS RIGHT!
 Send in your correctly formatted event (Date, type of event, location [city/county and state], description [including a member contact, phone, and e-mail contact]), before 5:00 p.m. on the first of the month before the publication, to: PA-Forecast@patc.net

Community dinner on Saturday night. Overnight at Thompson's house near Leesburg. INFO: Trudy Thompson (going2home2@yahoo.com) 703/938-3973 or Jon Rindt (jkrindt@shentel.net) 540/635-6351.

13 (Sunday)
 🦋 **HIKE - AT Rattlesnake Run**
Pen Mar Park, MD
 Old Forge Picnic area to Pen Mar Park-7.2 miles-moderate hike, elevation 700 feet. We will hike past the Deer Lick Shelters on our way to Pen Mar Park. Since it is a Sunday, as we cross Falls Creek we should be able to hear the band playing at the park. We will have views to the west from this park to be seen by all. Meet at 10:00 a.m. at Pen Mar Park. INFO: Christopher Firm (bncfirme@innet.net) 717/794-2855.

15 (Tuesday)
 🦋 **HIKE - Vigorous Hikers**
Central District, Shenandoah National Park, VA
 Climb to the AT on the Slaughter Trail, south on the AT descending via Poccosin Hollow Trail. 16 miles, 3100 ft. INFO: Chris Nolen (chrishiker@erols.com) 301/469-8931.

19 (Saturday)
 🦋 **HIKE - Waterfall and Wild Flower Series**
Central District, Shenandoah National Park, VA
 The second hike of the Waterfall and Wild Flower Series will be 16-mile hike starting at the Bluff Trail to include about 4 miles of bushwhacking. Elevation gain is 3300 feet. Waterfalls to be visited are Big Devil Stairs, Jordan River, and Waterfall Run. The Walking Fern, rare in the park, could possibly be found. A side trip to see the columnar jointing is optional. There will be a 6-mile shuttle along Skyline Drive. Shorter distances are optional. PATC Map 9. Meet at the Oakton Shopping Center parking lot at 7:30 a.m. INFO: Jack Thorsen (thorsen4@Juno.com) 703/339-6716 or William Needham (Needham82@AOL.COM) 410/884-9127.

19 (Saturday)
 🦋 **TRAIL WORK TRIP - Rock Creek Park Crew**
Rock Creek Park, Washington, DC
 8:15 a.m. to noon. This is the only July work trip in Rock Creek Park. We take all comers. Meet at the Rock Creek Nature Center. INFO: Mark Anderson (dc.trails@verizon.net) 202/462-7718 or Ranger Ken Ferebee at 202/895-6221.

19 (Saturday)
 🦋 **TRAIL WORK TRIP - Yankee Clippers Crew**
Tuscarora Trail, PA
 Call for more details. INFO: Pete Brown (peter.brown4@worldnet.att.net) 410/343-1140.

19 - 20 (Saturday - Sunday)
 🏠 **CABIN WORK TRIP - Tulip Tree Cabin**
Shaver Hollow, VA
 There is still time to join our skilled and fun loving crew in the construction of a beautiful one-of-a-kind log house. Lots of opportunities for learning a new skill or getting experience in an old one. Enjoy the opportunity to sleep free in this outstanding new cabin before it is put into the cabin rental system. INFO: Charlie Graf (cagraf@aol.com) 410/757-6053.

19 - 20 (Saturday - Sunday)
 🦋 **TRAIL WORK TRIP - North District Hoodlums BBQ**
Northern District, Shenandoah National Park, VA
 July means fireworks, lemonade, BBQ on the grill and of course, TRAIL WORK! The Hoodlums Trail Crew works on the Appalachian Trail in the North District of SNP, building rock steps and log water-

FORECAST

bars, and engaging in similar other down-and-dirty trail chores by day, but after a good day's work, the crew settles down to enjoy the fruits of their labor afterwards 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. Come for the day, stay for the evening meal, camp out overnight in SNP – lots of options. What a way to spend a weekend! We meet at Piney River Ranger Station, MP 22 on Skyline Drive, at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday morning. Please reserve by mid-week prior. INFO/RSVP: George Walters (gjwalters@starpower.net) 410/426-2724.

22 (Tuesday)

HIKE - Vigorous Hikers

North District, Shenandoah National Park, VA

The classic Old Rag & White Oak Canyon Circuit of about 17 miles includes an invigorating scramble through the big rocks to the great views from the summit of "Old Raggedy" and then, perhaps, a cooling dip in a secluded pool below the waterfalls of White Oak. INFO: Cliff Noyes (cliff.noyes@juno.com) 703/451-5181.

28 (Monday)

HIKE - Family Hike - Burke Lake Park Burke, VA

Come enjoy this beautiful, mostly shaded park on a kid-friendly hike. The jogging-stroller-friendly trail is dirt and gravel, with some short ups and downs. It is about 5 miles around the lake with a playground stop near the end. We will picnic along the way and ride the carousel and mini-train after the hike. INFO: Lauren Lang (at94L@netzero.net) 703/631-9278.

28, August 2 - 3 (Monday, Saturday - Sunday)

CLASS - Leave No Trace

PATC Headquarters and Shenandoah National Park, 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 7:30 p.m. to 9:45 p.m. The field experience will be a backpacking trip in the SNP. Instructors are LNT Masters from Trail Patrol. Goals: enhance LNT skills and ethics, and teach others the principles and practices of LNT. Pre-registration is required, space is limited, Fee: \$20. See ad on page 15. INFO: Anniell Miller (amill1@yahoo.com) 703/250-8113.

29 (Tuesday)

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

30 (Wednesday)

CLASS - Outdoors on the Edge of VA (REI)

Bailey's Crossroads, VA

7:30 p.m. From Mustoe to Forks-of-Water there are no fast-food emporia, more open country and public recreation lands with fewer crowds, than almost anywhere else and still be in Virginia. Highland and Bath Countys are nestled in the ridge and valley country west of Shenandoah Mountain, 90 miles of high ridgeline, which even in the 21st century is crossed by only two paved roads. This mountain barrier isolates the land to the west from the Shenandoah Valley. Whether you like backpacking in solitude, mountain biking on endless fire roads and singletrack, flyfishing in sparkling streams, or just traveling the backroads, adventure and quiet await you. Join nature photographer, Ed Neville, for an evening of great pictures and new destinations for your next adventure. INFO: Mark Nelson (mnelson@rei.com) 703/379-9400.

AUGUST

1 (Friday)

DEADLINE - September Potomac Appalachian Headquarters, Vienna, VA

5:00 p.m. All items for the next issue of the newsletter due. Send Forecast events to PA-Forecast@patc.net and all other articles to PA@patc.net.

2 (Saturday)

TRAIL WORK TRIP - South Mountaineers Anniversary Appalachian Trail, MD

Come celebrate the TENTH anniversary of the South Mountaineers on this event. Food and frolic after the event. This crew began its stewardship in Maryland in August 1993 by performing erosion control near Gathland State Park. Join this event and christen the crew's second decade of success. INFO: Mark Mitchell (mdtrail@yahoo.com) 301/461-7048.

2 (Saturday)

TRAIL WORK TRIP - Yankee Clippers 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: Pete Brown (peter.brown4@worldnet.att.net) 410/343-1140.

2 - 3 (Saturday - Saturday)

CABIN WORK TRIP - Tulip Tree Cabin Shaver Hollow, VA

Are you looking for a way to escape the city heat and bustle? Join the Tulip Tree Cabin Construction Crew for a weekend in Shaver Hollow Virginia putting the finishing touches on a beautiful new PATC rental cabin. There will not be many more opportunities to experience first-hand how our forefathers built their homes. INFO: Charlie Graf (cagraf@aol.com) 410/757-6053.

5 (Tuesday)

HIKE - Vigorous Hikers

North District, Shenandoah National Park, VA

About 16 miles, 3000 foot climb. From Thompson Hollow climb Heiskell Hollow T. then north on AT to return via Overall Falls and a swim. INFO: Chris Nolen (chrishiker@erols.com) 301/469-8931.

5 (Tuesday)

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

6 (Wednesday)

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

8 - 10 (Friday - Sunday)

BACKPACKING - Dolly Sods Waterways Petersburg, WV

Looking for a way to cool off this summer? How about dowsing your head under a waterfall in one of WV's premier hiking destinations? Help find swimming holes in Red Creek as we backpack both in and out of the Creek. This trip is moderate to strenuous and is located in the Dolly Sods Wilderness near Petersburg, WV. INFO: Susan Bly (sbly@shepherd.edu) 304/258-3319 between 7:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m.

9 (Saturday)

HIKE - South Mountaineers

Appalachian Trail, MD

Appalachian Trail Hike VI-High Rock/Raven Rock section. Pen Mar Park to Wolfsville Rd-9.6 miles-difficult hike. This section includes the steep climb to

High Rock with views westward. At Raven Rocks we will be on a fairly new piece of the AT built by the South Mountaineers. This portion of the trail is considered the rollercoaster section in Maryland. Meet at 10:00 a.m. at Pen Mar Park. INFO: Christopher Firme (bncfirme@ininternet) 717/794-2855.

9 (Saturday)

TRAIL WORK TRIP - Rock Creek Park Washington, DC

8:15 a.m. to noon (Rain Date Aug. 30) When Washington slows down in August it is a great time to check out trail maintenance in this gem of an urban park. Meet at the Rock Creek Nature Center. INFO: Mark Anderson (dc.trails@verizon.net) 202/462-7718 or Ranger Ken Ferebee 202/895-6221.

12 (Tuesday)

HIKE - Vigorous Hikers

George Washington National Forest, VA/WV

Little Sluice Mountain Trail to Tuscarora Trail west to Mill Mountain Trail to Big Schloss rock towers. Return on Cutoff Trail. 17 miles, 3000 feet. INFO: Chris Nolen (chrishiker@erols.com) 301/469-8931.

12 (Tuesday)

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

13 (Wednesday)

MEETING - Mountaineering Section, 8:00

p.m.

13 (Wednesday)

MEETING - West Virginia Chapter, 7:00 p.m.

Highacre Cabin, Harpers Ferry, VA

15-18 (Friday - Monday)

BACKPACKING - Family Backpacking Trip

Dolly Sods, WV

We will hike about 3 miles in and set up a base camp on Friday, day hike and swim in Red Creek on Saturday and Sunday, and hike out on Monday. (If you need to leave Sunday, that's fine) Each family will be responsible for its own gear and meals. Designed for families with young children, older children welcome. INFO: Lauren Lang (at94L@netzero.net) 703/631-9278.

16 (Saturday)

HIKE - Waterfall and Wild Flower Series

Central District, Shenandoah National Park, VA

The third hike of the Waterfall and Wild Flower Series will be a 10-mile circuit to include a 3.5 miles wading up Naked Creek. Total elevation gain is 2300 feet. Expect to get your feet wet. Consider wearing old boots, athletic shoes or sandals. No promises but on prior hikes we have seen rattlesnakes. PATC Map 10. Meet at the Oakton Shopping Center parking lot at 7:30 a.m. INFO: Jack Thorsen, (thorsen4@juno.com) 703/339-6716 or William Needham, (Needham82@AOL.COM) 410/884-9127.

16 (Saturday)

TRAIL WORK TRIP - Yankee Clippers Crew Tuscarora Trail, PA

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

16 (Saturday)

TRAIL WORK TRIP - Stonewall Brigade Shenandoah County, VA

Great North Mountain on the VA/WV state line. Join the Stonewall Brigade at the Wolf Gap Campground parking lot at 9:00 a.m. We will get tools at the campground and work on a trail in the nearby area. We may leave the parking area so, please, be on time. Let me know by Wednesday evening if you plan to attend. Bring lunch, work gloves, water, seasonal clothing, and hiking shoes. RSVP/INFO: Hop Long (thefSLongs@comcast.net) 301/942-6177.

FORECAST

16 - 17 (Saturday - Sunday)

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

The Tulip Tree Cabin Construction Crew is looking for a few good men, and women who would like to wield primitive hand tools to help in the construction of a beautiful log cabin in Shaver Hollow. There is work for all skill levels, even for unskilled labor. INFO: Charlie Graf (cagraf@aol.com) 410/757-6053.

19 (Tuesday)

HIKE - Vigorous Hikers

Central District, Shenandoah National Park, VA
Circuit follows Nicholson Hollow to Corbin Cabin, climbs the Cutoff Trail to the AT south. Return on Indian Run Trail and Corbin Mountain. About 14 miles, 4000 foot climb. INFO: Chris Nolen (chrishiker@erols.com) 301/469-8931.

23 - 24 (Saturday - Sunday)

**TRAIL WORK TRIP - Cadillac Crew
Shockeys Knob, VA**

Near Gainesboro, VA west of Winchester. The Cadillac Crew will be working on the side trails to the new shelter on Shockeys Knob. Some work may still be needed to help complete the shelter. Community dinner on Saturday night. Overnight at Brill Cabin. INFO: Trudy Thompson (going2home2@yahoo.com) 703/938-3973 or Jon Rindt (jkrindt@shentel.net) 540/635-6351.

23 - 24 (Saturday - Sunday)

**TRAIL WORK TRIP - Blue and White Crew
Central District, Shenandoah National Park, VA**

Escape the doldrums. Avoid Monkey Pox. Join the B&W Crew on the AT in the Central District of Shenandoah. The crew will be working on the AT, near Swift Run Gap, and will return to the Pinnacles Research Station for the Annual August Chili-Fest. Blue and White Crew Calendar: www.blueand-whitecrew.org. INFO: Kerry Snow (kerrysnow@comcast.net) 301/570-0596.

26 (Tuesday)

HIKE - Vigorous Hikers

George Washington National Forest, VA/WV
Great North Mountain. Bucktail Cutoff Trail to Pond Run Trail to Waites Run Road returning on German Wilson Trail with view from Half Moon Lookout. 14 miles, 2500 foot climb. INFO: Chris Nolen (chrishiker@erols.com) 301/469-8931.



26 (Tuesday)

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

30 (Saturday)

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

Say good-bye to summer with a walk in the woods with the South Mountaineers. We perform weeding, lopping, blazing, deadfall and graffiti removal, and erosion control; all sorts of good work. INFO: Mark Mitchell (mdtrail@yahoo.com) 301/461-7048.

30 - 31 (Saturday - Sunday)

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

Can you believe that this is the end of August and that fall will soon be upon us? We hope to have the cabin ready to put into the rental system before the end of this fall. Join our crew in the completion of the cabin and enjoy an opportunity to use it over the weekend. You will be amazed at the amount of work done by our crew and the skill with which it was done. INFO: Charlie Graf (cagraf@aol.com) 410/757-6053. ☐

PATC

Trail Patrol

Presents

Leave No Trace Trainers Course

July 28 (classroom) and
August 2-3 (backpacking)

This course is designed for those who want to learn more about Leave No Trace (LNT) and want to help others better understand their impact on the backcountry. You will have opportunities in the indoor and outdoor classroom to learn more about LNT skills and ethics, to practice your LNT skills, and to gain confidence in helping others understand LNT.

After completing the course you will be certified as an LNT trainer. It is our hope that you will be willing to give LNT presentations to community groups if your schedule permits.

Indoor classroom instruction:

Monday, July 28, 2003
7:15 p.m. to 9:45 p.m.

Outdoor Instruction:

(low-mileage backpacking weekend):
Sat. - Sun. Aug. 2-3, 2003
Shenandoah National Park

Fee: \$20 (non-refundable)

For more information or to register (required), please e-mail Anniell Miller at amill1@yahoo.com or call 703/250-8113 (before 11:00 p.m.)

Volunteers - Appointed in May

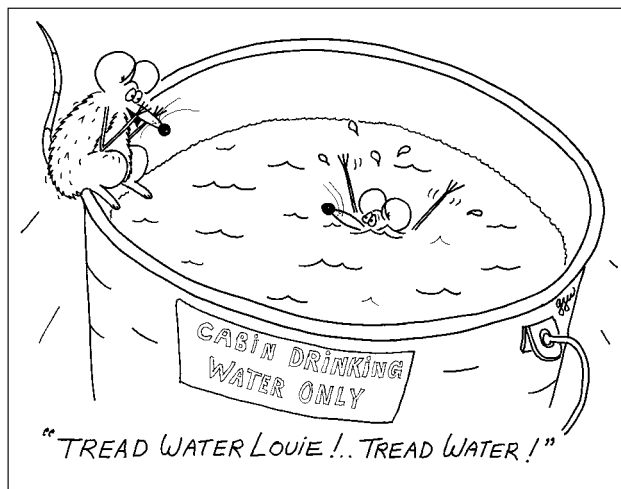
Trail Overseers

Dane Byers Massanutten Mt. South Trail -
 Pitt Spring to Morgan Run
 Trail

Jennifer Jones
& Satch Alwin Loudoun Heights Blue Trail
 [lower]

Alvin Black AT - PA 16 to Rattlesnake
 Run Road

Tails from the Woods by George Walters



25 Years And Counting: Long-Time PATC Members Get Together

If you want to acknowledge longevity in the Club, throw a party for the old time members. They have stuck with us for more than two and a half decades and that really shows that they care about the PATC.

Balloons, cake, sandwiches and lots of good memories were served at a celebration the Club threw June 1, 2003, for those who have kept their membership with us for 25 years or more. Close to 70 people turned out to find out 'What ever happened to ...?' and 'What have you been doing?'

For many it was their first visit to headquarters in Vienna and a look around was encouraged. But most of the afternoon was spent just gabbing, seeing old friends and catching up. Some even took the opportunity to buy some of the maps and guide books from the headquarters store.

One of the highlights of the event was the recognition of two very special attendees. Lyman Stucker was presented a boutonniere, as he was the male attendee with the longest membership record having joined the Club in 1939. Dorothy Walker was presented a corsage, as she was the female attendee with the longest membership record, having joined the Club in 1929. Yes, we said 1929. Just two years after the Club was

formed. Dorothy's daughter, Jean Houghton, was delighted to bring her mother to this special occasion. She brought a photo album of her family activities with the Club when she was young. Her father, Egbert Walker, was the Club's Maps Committee chairman in the 1930's.

Also for this occasion, Carol Niedzialek, the Club's archivist, had selected several movie reels from the PATC archives and had them transferred to a VHS video cassette. The movies showed clips of the early days - 1932 and 1933 - featuring Benton MacKaye, Myron Avery, Frank Schairer, Egbert Walker, and other charter Club members blazing the "new" Appalachian Trail. The film had no audio but one could imagine "Let's get going!" ringing out.

This may have been the first annual 25 plus-year party. Everyone had a great time and voiced that it should be done again. Thank you to Paula Strain for initiating the get together. We also thank all of you who came out, and for those who didn't, we look forward to seeing you next time. □

—Co-authors - Susan Nelson,
Supervisor of Membership and

Patricia Fankhauser, Membership Coordinator

A list of all members who attended and their join date:

Dorothy Walker	1929	Joanne Amberson, Author	1970
Lyman Stucker, Cabin Overseer	1939	Helen Harkins	1970
Marjorie Dexter, Honorary Life	1944	Kenneth Harkins	1970
Bruce Burnside	1945	Nancie Coan	1970
Marie Schaap	1947	David Brownlee	1970
Ruth Durloo, HQ Volunteer	1953	Joe Schifrin	1972
Bob King	1954	Nancy Schifrin	1972
John Christian, Trail Overseer	1954	Tom Johnson, President	1972
Eleanor Stoddard	1955	Shirley Strong, Cabin Overseer	1972
Paula Strain, Past President	1956	Hannah Kaufman	1973
John Kominski	1958	Bernard Kaufman	1973
Suzanne Kominski	1958	Len Wheat, Author	1973
Jack Reeder, Past President	1959	Carol Niedzialek, Archivist-Librarian	1973
Carolyn Reeder, Author	1959	Margeurite Schneeberger	1973
Phillip Hughes	1960	William H. Miller	1973
Edward Mark	1960	Randall Brooks	1973
Henry Shryock, Hike Leader	1961	Pauline LeMarie, Hike Leader	1974
Harry Bridges, Info Desk Volunteer	1961	Warren Sharp, Past President	1975
Robert Humphrey, Cabin Construction	1962	Olivia Pickett	1975
Ken Lacey, ATC 25 Yr. Vol. Nominee	1963	Jean Dwelle	1975
Mari Noster	1963	Phil Paschall, Lands Committee	1976
James Skidmore	1964	Betty Cox, Cabin Overseer	1976
Elizabeth Skidmore	1964	Mary Massey	1976
Dianna Niskern, Cabin Overseer	1966	Richard Terwilliger, Hike Leader	1976
Michael T. Shoemaker, Author	1968	Myrtle Sharp	1978
Jack Meiners	1968	Hugh Robinson, Vining Tract Mgr.	1983
Jim Denham Info Desk Volunteer	1969	Susan Nelson, Supervisor of Membership	1988
Carol Flint	1970	George Meek, Author	1989
Oliver Flint	1970	Jean Meek	1989
Lois Johnson	1970	Pat Fankhauser, Cabins/Membership Coordinator	1990
Russel E. Johnson	1970	Wilson Riley, Director of Administration	1993

NOTICES

NEW NOTICES

C&O CANAL NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK is seeking volunteers for the Williamsport Visitor Center. This is an opportunity to share your knowledge and enthusiasm for trails and the towpath, and to meet and greet visitors to the towpath. The positions involve staffing the visitor center and bookstore, and can include informal interpretation. We are looking for people who can volunteer as part of a regular schedule, even if it is only for half a day a week. Please call Gloria Updyke, 301/582-0813 or email Gloria_Updyke@nps.gov.

ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE VACANCY: A person with experience in investing is sought to serve on the PATC Endowment Committee. The Committee meets quarterly to review performance and the asset allocation of the PATC Endowment. Interested people should send a resume to Wilson Riley, Director of Administration, at wriley@patc.net.

FOR SALE GREAT OPPORTUNITY to outfit yourself with like-new items at reasonable cost – Mountainsmith Frostfire III backpack, fits tall people well, 6037-7213 c.i. capacity; MSR WhisperLite Internat'l stove; Mountainsmith Alouette dog pack for large dog; EMS down sleeping bag rated to zero; Karhu x-c 215 cm. skis w/150 cm. poles AND size 47 Heierling boots. And for family activity: Kelty child carrier with sun/rain hood, small zip-off day pack and large capacity detachable day pack; Burly D'Lite bike trailer for 2 children; Baby Jogger II stroller w/ sun shade, rain cover, basket, folds flat. Will donate 10 percent of sale to PATC. Joy Imel, 703/642-8350, 703/403-5206 or Kijimel@aol.com.

LOST AND FOUND

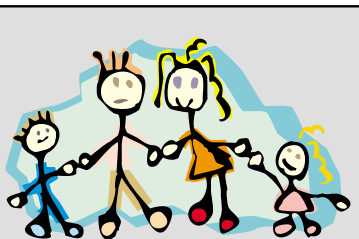
FOUND: at the Glass House on April 21, a backpacking item (too generic to describe further). Contact Dan at 703/742-7993 or ZootSuit@comcast.net to identify and claim.

FOUND: Watch found along a trail (not sure which) in Madison County, Va. The watch brand is Uptick and is silver tone. If you lost this, please call 301/229-2751.

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED: Help is needed for a new project at the Blackburn Trail Center. Work includes electrical, plumbing, drywall and painting. Volunteers may stay at the Center while working on this project and work may be done on weekends or during the week. We would like to get this project finished as soon as possible. For info call Chris Brunton at 703/560-8070 or e-mail at trailbossbtc@msn.com

CALLING ALL LAWYERS, ACCOUNTANTS AND TAX ATTORNEYS. Want to give something of value to the Club, but don't want to swing a Pulaski? Virginia has enacted a new law that permits donors of conservation easements to sell the tax credit and reap a substantial cash infusion. PATC owns property in



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

PA HELP WANTED: A volunteer is needed to attend monthly Council meetings and report via e-mail on the meeting. Please contact Linda at PA@patc.net.

EVENING DESK VOLUNTEERS NEEDED to work the Sales or Information desks once or twice a month 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. We will train you. Call Sales and Information Coordinator Annetta DePompa at 410/535-5171.

ALSO NEEDED:

NEED TO HIRE – PLUMBER. Need help at a PATC Cabin over a work weekend this summer. No pay, use your own tools, supply your own transportation, and bring money for your meals. If you finish the job on Saturday you will be allowed to use the commode and shower on Sunday. Contact Thomas C. Jorgensen (hairatheart@aol.com) 540/456-4760.

DESPERATE - NEED A COOK for weekend work trips. We slackers will eat anything. Your duties are to buy food (we'll reimburse you), cook, take pictures at the site, clean up after meals. Sat. evening, Sun. morning, Sun. lunch. If you can take this job for one weekend, it would be a big help. It pays as all other volunteers on a worktrip, but I don't tongue-lash the cook the way I do laborers. Contact Thomas C. Jorgensen at hairatheart@aol.com or call 540/456-4760.

CREW LEADER TO PLAN, ORGANIZE, and carry out the assembly of a milled – log cabin kit. The cabin will be erected on PATC owned property near Shawneeland, West Virginia. All materials are pre-cut and fit and the kit comes with a full set of plans and instructions. The construction site is in a heavily wooded area well up the mountain but is accessible by A dirt road. INFO: Charlie Graf (410/ 757-6053) or e-mail: Cagraf@aol.com.

MEDICAL CHAIR VACANCY: If interested please contact Mickey McDermott at patcvolunteer@patc.net.

NOT INTERESTED IN WORKING IN THE GREAT OUTDOORS?

It takes a lot more than trail workers to keep the Club going! INFO: Wilson Riley, Wriley@patc.net or 703/242-0693, ext.11.

SALES OFFICE NEEDS VOLUNTEERS please contact the Sales Coordinator, Maureen Estes, by either calling headquarters at 703/242-0693, ext. 19, or by e-mail at mestes@patc.net.

NEEDED: PEOPLE to help plan and conduct our Club events. If you are willing, please contact Susan Nelson, Supervisor of Membership (snelson@patc.net) 703/243-7867, or Pat Fankhauser at Club headquarters - 703/242-0693, Ext. 17, pfankhauser@patc.net.

Virginia that would be eligible for such a rebate. The Club needs you to help write the proposals that would help the Club save thousands of dollars. Contact: Phil Paschall (betty-cox@erols.com), or phone 540/882-3027. But hurry – before the State changes its mind.

DONATIONS WANTED

LAPTOP AND COMPUTER PROJECTOR NEEDED: PATC HQ needs a laptop computer and computer projector for presentations at conferences, meetings, and community gatherings. Projection at 1024 X 768 desired. If you work for a corporation which might make such a donation, contact Wilson Riley (wriley@patc.net).

CONSERVATION OPPORTUNITIES

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.

TRAIL OVERSEER OPPORTUNITIES

PATC OVERSEERS GET DISCOUNTS from the following merchants who support our volunteer programs: Blue Ridge Mountain Sports (Charlottesville, Tidewater) – 20%, Hudson Trail Outfitters (Metro DC) – 15%, The Trail House (Frederick, Md.) – 15%, Casual Adventures (Arlington, Va.) – 10%, Campmor (mail order via PATC HQ) – 10%, and Weasel Creek Outfitters in Front Royal – 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.

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

Trailhead

May proved to be another unique month after February's snowstorm. Coolest average temperature in 25 years and maybe the wettest on record. Cold front after cold front met warm moisture from the Gulf, resulting in some wet days as witnessed by numerous Trail Overseers and crews. The will and enthusiasm were there, but conditions limited the effort. The scary part is that, despite a slow start, trail-side vegetation now has conditions for rapid growth. By the time this is published, most Overseers will have had to deal with this first-hand.

Lest We Forget - Report From Backpacker

A friend and I hiked down to the Overall Run Falls on the 29th of March. Yep, it was in the 70s. So we decided to spend the night on a cliff overlooking the falls. We awoke about 4:00 a.m. with the tent caving in! Very different in a three-season tent! Snow was falling all around - by 8:00 a.m. it was still coming down, and all we had was rain gear. We were both thinking that it would stop - but it did not. So by 10:00 a.m. we packed up and started walking back to Milepost-21. May Trailhead mentioned four inches of snow that day but from where I was walking it looked a lot deeper! The trails were in GREAT SHAPE - my hat is off to the trail keepers - GREAT JOB! It was well worth it. It was one of my most enjoyed hikes. But next time I won't believe the weather forecast of one inch. It was a blast.

—John Holderfield



Photo by John Holderfield

A morning surprise on Overall Run.

Can't Keep A Good Man Down

Dave Fellers, DM for Bull Run – Occoquan Trail, underwent surgery for colon cancer on April 16. Dave says the surgery was successful and with a good prognosis for full recovery. He expects to lead his Aug. 17-22 SNP Summer Trail Crew. Our best to you Dave.

2003 Chainsaw Workshop

Never fear! April rains once again hit the Shenandoah's chainsaw workshop, but 11 hardy sawyers and sawyers-to-be showed up for both classroom and field instruction. Led by the venerable CT Campbell, the instructors did their best to instill how to use a chainsaw, safety, and maintenance over a day and a half. Between raindrops and the classroom, old sawyers Bob Laughlin, Mike Ritoli, Earle Hunter, and Bill Spach gained re-certification. They joined new sawyers David Appel, Dave Kiel, Carol Tolbert, Nathan Reigner, Madison Brown, George Jones, and Keith Denson as ready to go. Special thanks goes to John McCrea for helping with the Saturday dinner and Sunday breakfast served at Inn Pinnacles on the Skyline Drive.



Photo by Jan Rindt

Walt Smith and Tom Johnson check Pinnacle Shelter log after the Biby Tract excursion.

Rebuilding Overlooks - PHT

Sometimes using the George Washington Memorial Parkway as a canopy against short thunderstorm bursts, Boy Scouts rebuilt a stream crossing and a Potomac River overlook along the Potomac Heritage Trail in late May. More than 10 scouts were gaining the community-service hours required to be able to hike in Philmont Scout Ranch, N.M. this summer.

The rebuilt overlook is 100 feet above the river, on the palisades, and gives you a panoramic view of Chain Bridge and the downstream area. Cormorants circle the river each spring when the shad are running, so the view from above the circling birds is spectacular. This year, spring PHT projects are all high above the river, since the "month of rain" left many sections under water.

Konnarock 2003

For several years some of PATC's oldest and finest trail dogs have joined ATC's Konnarock Crew for its first week. Working out of the Konnarock Trail Crew Base Camp in Sugar Grove, Va., adjacent to the Mount Rogers National Recreation Area, the first week crews support the Mount Rogers ATC, which is both the smallest and oldest of the 31 ATC maintaining clubs. This year Charles Hillon, Cliff Willey, Don Watts, and Bernie Stalman joined 11 other volunteers and three crew leaders to work on the AT in the Elk Garden/Whitetop Mountain area, about 24 miles north of Damascus, Va. Joined by the Mount Rogers ATC Supervisor of Trails, Jack Farley, who at age 77 is just reaching his prime (move over Pete Gatje – you only think you are old), much was accomplished considering that it rained for three of the five days. Trophy steps, waterbars, checkdams, and a few thousand feet of side sloping were completed in style. And the best part of this is the first night's dinner prepared by members of the Mount Rogers ATC. If you want to participate in this great vacation adventure, just look in the 2003 November-December issue of the *Appalachian Trailway News* for the 2004 application.

See Trailhead, page 19

Trailhead, from page 18

Biby Tract Excursion

Richard Biby plans to donate a 20-acre tract of land that borders the Tuscarora Trail near Shawnee Land on Great North Mountain. On May 1, Richard and Walt Smith, DM Central Tuscarora, led a party of interested volunteers, including our President, Tom Johnson, and Acme Treadway Company's Don White, in an effort to find and mark the tract boundary. Don's trail crew will construct an access trail from the road across the tract to the Tuscarora Trail. The effort was interrupted by a local landowner who thought we were on her property. Using recorded property plot, Richard was able to convince her that we were not on her property. (See photo on previous page.)

Four Saws Attack Entry Run

The Blue and White Crew used their May outing to begin clearing the many old-growth blowdowns that blocked the upper reaches of the up-and-coming Entry Run Trail. The crew hauled four chainsaws and a grip hoist winch to the trail and completed the project in a day. Blue and White Rockwork Artisan Patrick Wilson used the Lunchtime Seminar to demonstrate the recently FDA-approved method of cementing foot tissue with duct tape. Not to be outdone, Mill Prongman Mark Holland offered to demonstrate the Ralston Arm Removal Technique, but time limitations forced a delay of the demonstration. See photos of this work trip (oops!) in the June *PA*.

Rain And Mud Shorten Crew Week – As Reported by Dick Dugan

On Sunday, May 18, the North District Shenandoah Trail Crew met to begin what we hoped would be a productive week of trail work. That afternoon, in the fog and rain, the six of us (Dick Dugan, Kathy Doyle, John



Cadillac Crew's Steve Pebley attacks 36" blowdown on Vinings Boundary Trail.

Hebbe, Wayne Limberg, Scott Miller, and Dave Nebhut) got acquainted (and reacquainted in some cases) at Pinnacles Research Station and later that evening had dinner together at Skyland. This is the first year we have tried having some of the crew weeks in May when the weather tends to be cooler and wetter than in August/September, and this week's weather forecast gave us reason to wonder whether it was a good idea.

But when we got up early Monday morning, we were greeted with a beautiful sunny day. After meeting Shawn Green and Don Harvey of the NPS at Piney River Ranger Station, we headed for Broad Hollow where we wanted to complete the treadwork begun by last year's crew. Finding very high water on the first stream crossing, we decided to work instead on the lower part of Little Devils Stairs that first day, and hoped the water in Broad Hollow would subside in the next 24 hours. We put in a good day's work on Little Devils Stairs, building rock cribbing and steps in an eroded section of that trail. After this day's work, the crew members had all increased their proficiency with the rock bar and had some well-earned aches and pains. I can assure everyone that the search for the "perfect rock" continues! At dinner Monday evening, we continued our survey begun last year of the Luray waitresses' pronunciation of their town's name. Among those claiming to be natives, it appears that LURay is clearly in the lead.

Tuesday morning we awoke to another beautiful sunny day. Not to be discouraged by the high water, the crew (accompanied by old trail dog Bernie Stalman) returned to Broad Hollow. With the assistance of wooden planks to place between rocks, we stayed dry at the first stream crossing. However, we found the second and third crossings much worse than expected. Stream crossings this time of year can be quite an adventure! Rocks that normally could be used to cross were under fast-flowing water and very slippery. We found that successful crossings require some bushwhacking and the imaginative use of all resources available, including rocks and tree limbs. Three of us chose to wade at least some of the crossings: Scott barefoot, Wayne in his sandals, and me in Jamaican water shoes. Ferrying the tools across, with our pants rolled up above our

knees and boots hanging around our necks, while the others were trying to balance on tree limbs to stay dry, we were an odd looking group of trail maintainers! We did, however, get in a good day of crosscutting and treadwork once we got above the third stream crossing. We built and repaired rock water bars and steps, and worked on channeling water off the trail.

Unfortunately, Tuesday night the rain and fog moved back in, and we awoke on Wednesday to the same rainy weather we started with on Sunday. With the rain came increasingly muddy conditions and a greater risk of injury. Since the weather forecast was for even wetter conditions through the weekend, the decision was reluctantly made to cancel the rest of the week's work. We spent a good part of Wednesday cleaning all the tools in the tool caches at FRES, Piney River, and Thornton Gap, before departing for home.

While this has been an unusually wet spring and next year may be drier, crews in May should generally be prepared for wetter conditions than those in August or September. The disadvantages of spring crew weeks include muddy conditions, difficult stream crossings, and the chance of rainouts. Among the advantages: the weather is cooler, and there are fewer bugs. While we were disappointed at not being able to work the full week, we were thankful for the ideal weather we had on Monday and Tuesday. Despite the shortened work week, we had a great time and look forward to doing it again next year.

Southern Progress

Despite the rain, the SNP South Side Trail Crews, Wild Ones, and Blue Blazers, have been getting out on a weekly basis and doing some great work removing blowdowns and helping the Overseers. The trails are in excel-

See Trailhead, page 10

POTOMAC APPALACHIAN

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Trail, Shelter and Corridor Overseers / Monitors Wanted

SHELTER OVERSEERS WANTED

Call Frank Turk, 301/249-8243

E-mail: frankturk@aol.com

Calf Mountain Shelter – SNP South District

Co-DISTRICT MANAGER FOR DC METRO – MAP N

Rock Creek, Glover Archbold, Battery Kemble, Dumbarton Oaks, Melvin Hazen & Soapstone Valley Park

DISTRICT MANAGER FOR SNP CENTRAL SIDETRAILS [NORTH END] MAP 10

US Rte. 211 to Old Rag
Call Dan Dueweke, 703/266-3248
E-mail: danjan@fcc.net

TRAIL OVERSEER OPENINGS. CONTACT THE DISTRICT MANAGER FOR THE SECTION THAT INTERESTS YOU.

TUSCARORA PENNSYLVANIA MAPS J & K

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

Call Pete Brown, 410/343-1140

E-mail: peter.brown4@worldnet.att.net

HARPERS FERRY / ASHBY GAP AT & BB – MAP 7 & 8

Call Chris Brunton, 703/560-8070
E-mail: trailbossbtc@msn.com

Appalachian Trail

Trans Mountain Trail to Duke Hollow (1.3 miles)

Rod Hollow Shelter Trail
AT to Rod Hollow Shelter (0.2 miles)
Fishers Hill Loop Trail
AT to AT (1 mile)

SNP NORTH DISTRICT APPALACHIAN TRAIL – MAP 9

Call John McCrea, 610/352-9287
E-mail: mcreajjf@aol.com

Co-Overseers needed on AT sections

SNP NORTH DISTRICT BLUE-BLAZED – MAP 9

Call Dick Dugan, 703/836-0391
E-mail: rdugan@bellatlantic.net

Elkwallow Trail

Mathews Arm Campground to Elkwallow Wayside (2 miles)

Thornton River Trail – Co-Overseer
Skyline Dr. to Hull School Trail

SNP CENTRAL BLUE-BLAZED [SOUTH END] – MAP 10

Call Steve Paull, 703/361-3869
E-mail: stevepaull@yahoo.com

Cedar Run/White Oak Link Trail

White Oak Canyon Trail to Cedar Run Trail (0.8 miles)

McDaniel Hollow Trail

Staunton River Trail to Jones Mountain Trail (0.5 miles)

SNP SOUTH BLUE-BLAZED – MAP 11

Call Pete Gatje, 434/361-1309
E-mail: pjgatje@aol.com

Big Run Loop South Trail

Rocky Top Trail to AT (0.7 miles)

Riprap Trail

Skyline Drive to Cold Spring Hollow (1.8 miles)

Riprap Trail

Cold Spring Hollow to Crimora Fire Road (2.7 miles)

TUSCARORA SOUTH – MAP F, G, 9

Call Rick Rhoades, 540/477-3247

E-mail: Rrhoades@shentel.net

Tuscarora Trail

Rock marker to Massanutten Trail (1.5 miles)

Tuscarora Trail

Fetzer Gap to Maurertown (5.7 miles)

Tuscarora Trail

Shawl Gap to Sherman Gap (2.5 miles)

MAJSSANUTTEN NORTH - MAP G

Call Ed Brimberg, 703/430-6481
E-mail: brimberg@cox.net

Massanutten Trail

Kennedy Peak Trail to Camp Roosevelt (3.3 miles)

Massanutten Connector Trail

Massanutten Trail to US 211 (1.8 miles)

GREAT NORTH MOUNTAIN – MAP F

Call Hop Long, 301/942-6177
E-mail: theFSLongs@comcast.net

Gerhard Shelter Trail

Tuscarora Trail to Vances Cove (1.5 miles)

Tibbet Knob Trail

Wolf Gap Campground to SR 691 (2.4 miles)

Big Schloss Cutoff Trail

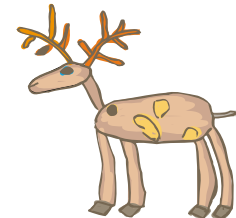
FR92 to Mill Mountain Trail (1.9 miles)

BULL RUN OCCOQUAN TRAIL

Call Dave Fellers, 703/560-2171
E-mail: Fellers_2000@excite.com

Bull Run Occoquan Trail

Little Rocky Run to Johnny Moore (2.0 miles)



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