



# The Potomac Appalachian

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

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## Gypsy Springs Ready for Rental

The Gypsy Springs Cottage is ready for the rental system. Notice I did not say the cottage was finished. A project is never finished with me. It's an ongoing work in progress. There are always little things to do to complete the finishing touches. However, the rental system was notified that the cottage would be available on June 12, 2004.

The last phase on the renovations began the last week of December 2003 and continued every weekend into June. The existing structure was gutted, and work began to convert a cabin into a cottage. This is not the place for folks seeking the "primitive experience." The hardwood floors, tile bathroom with shower, modern kitchen with microwave, to the plastered ceilings with beams, to the wood-stained trim make Gypsy Springs warm and welcoming as you sit in front of the wood stove.

Over a thousand hours went into the project. Master craftsman Al Black lending his expertise and imagination along with his work ethics made the project possible. His constant presence made the project fun. His handmade touches such as the coat rack, the vanity cabinet, and table added the homey touches to the project. Not to mention the crafted cabinet hiding the electrical panel in the living room.



*Renters will find many changes at the newly-renovated Gypsy Springs "Cottage."*

Thanks go to many others who helped with the project. Master painter, Jack Danner, thanks for doing the messy work. You could not have done it without the instructions of Ron Kutz. Special thanks to Pat Yale and Neal Watson for the making and hanging of the custom draperies. Pat

*See Gypsy Springs, page 18*

## Overseers Workshop Returns to Mathews Arm

### Sept. 18-19: 17th Anniversary Of SNP North District Workshop

PATC and the trails staff of SNP will once again host their annual overseers workshop, designed to teach new trail overseers the basic skills of trail maintenance and trail repair and to give experienced overseers the opportunity to pick up a few more tricks by working with park personnel on major projects. Our base of operations will be at Mathews Arm Campground in the North District of the park.

The workshop will begin at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday morning and end on Sunday after lunch. There is a \$20 registration fee, which will include Saturday dinner and Sunday breakfast and lunch. Participants are asked to bring their own lunch on Saturday. There will be no charge for entering the park or campground.



Photo by George Walters

*Participants will learn about all facets of trail work from seasoned volunteers as well as park personnel.*

After many years of valued service, Esther Aulthouse will not be able to cater this year's workshop due to family circumstances, so

*See Workshop, page 3*

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**N. Shenandoah Valley Chapter:** Lee Sheaffer

**S. Shenandoah Valley Chapter:** John Held

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**AT Corridor Monitoring:** Tom Lupp

**Blackburn Trail Center:** Chris Brunton

**Budget:** David White

**Cabins Operations:** Mel Merritt

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**Conservation:** Jeff Percy

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**Potomac Appalachian:** Linda Shannon-Beaver

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**Publications:** George Meek

**Sales:** Tim Hanlon

**Shelters:** Frank Turk

**Trail Lands Acquisition:** Phil Paschall

**Trail Patrol:** Holly Wheeler

**Tuscarora Trail Land Management:**

Vacant

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**Archives & Library:** Carol Niedzialek

**Cabin Reservations:** Shakuntala Ghare

**Club Naturalist:** Bob Pickett

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**Deputy Supervisor of Trails:** Jon Rindt

**Headquarters Facility:** Orron Kee

**Information/Sales Desks:** Annetta DePompa

**Medical:** Vacant

**Shelters, Cabins, & Cabins Land Fund:** Larry Marcoux

**SNP Boundary Trailheads Study Group:**

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**Tuscarora Trail Shenandoah Valley Project:**

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## Council Fire

The Potomac Appalachian Trail Club's regularly scheduled Council Meeting was held at Club Headquarters on June 8, 2004. President Thomas Johnson thanked club members for their efforts on National Trails Day, particularly noting the hiking expo held at Big Meadows, Shenandoah National Park. The expo, "Beyond the Trailhead," was produced by Trail Patrol and supported by others in the club, including Dave Pierce of the Maps Committee and SMRG.

### Finance

Treasurer Gerhard Salinger distributed the monthly budget report for May 2004, noting that while 33 percent of expected 2004 income had been collected, we are 42 percent of the way through the year. According to the new procedure to review accounts on a monthly basis, Gerhard initiated a review of the Cabins, Shelters, Building, and Lands Fund. Gerhard noted that, although donations from the Land Acquisition Fund Drive have been placed in the Trail Lands Fund, the donations could be used for any land acquisition, either cabins or trails.

### Trails and Lands

Supervisor of Trails Liles Creighton made several announcements. On the Ovoka tract, the environmental assessment has been completed, and the Cadillac Crew will begin the Appalachian Trail relocation in June. Liles also referred to the development of a

Tuscarora Trail management plan and urged active recruitment of volunteers to the west for Tuscarora Trail maintenance. Liles advised Council that relations with our government partners in Maryland might be affected by a reduction in staff, as well as the combining of two formerly separate departments, the Maryland Natural Resources Police and the Maryland Department of Natural Resource Rangers.

### Facilities

Council approved a motion to allocate \$1,600 from the Cabins, Cabins Land, and Building Fund for the completion of the Rock Spring Cabin renovation. The money will cover the cost of the windows, cabinets, countertops, tables and benches, and plywood.

### Volunteerism

Council approved a PATC Dispute Resolution Policy. A committee composed of Vice President of Volunteerism Mickey McDermott, Supervisor of Membership Susan Nelson, and Vice President of Operations Hop Long developed the policy. Several changes were made to the motion during subsequent discussion; Council approved the amended motion.

### Other Business

**SMRG:** Mike Kennedy announced SMRG was working with SNP on a new Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

*See Council, page 5*

### 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

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**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:** For more information about Metrobus routes or Metrorail lines, schedules, fares, and parking fees, call the Metro at 202/637-7000. The TDD number is 202/638-3780.

## Tom's Trail Talk

### Who was Rosser Lamb? (And Who are Park and Peg?)

Last month we talked about the new Tulip Tree Cabin and the environmental programs planned for the Lambert Tract, over on the west side of Shenandoah National Park. This month we switch sides to discuss another big project on the eastern slopes of the Central District, and an entirely new focus.

The story on the eastern slope is not environmental education – it is history. Back in 1995 PATC was given 100 acres and an old farmhouse belonging to the Lamb family. The Lambs, one of the oldest families in Greene County, have lived in the hollows around Pocosin Mission for over 100 years. Several years ago Walt Smith, then PATC president, highlighted the property and the legacy left to the club by the Lambs. PATC had incurred an obligation to keep alive the traditions and the memory of the families who lived in the area of the park before it was created. It was more than just a cabin that was being refurbished – it was heritage.

To say that the house on the tract needed a little work is an understatement. When club construction experts first looked at it, there were serious questions about any sort of restoration.

Enter Park Anderson and Peg Manuel. They took on the project and have been at it ever since. Park and Peg have received some help from friends, but most of the time they have been alone. Not only have they donated thousands of hours, but they have purchased all the materials themselves. PATC is still waiting to get a bill from them – Park says we won't be seeing one anytime soon. The first time I saw the house all the siding was torn off it, and even the foundations were obviously in need of repair. Now that eight years have passed, it looks pretty good, doesn't it?

But it doesn't look like a "cabin" at all. The Rosser Lamb House (named after the last resident) was a traditional Appalachian farmhouse, and that is what Park and Peg have recreated. They want history to come alive on the tract – they want renters to see, and PATC to understand, what it was like to live in Appalachia 100 years ago. The



*Park and Peg stand in front of their masterpiece.*

tract is becoming a model for the Appalachia that Jack Reeder, Tom Floyd, and Darwin Lambert have written about in their histories of the lands that became the park. Many hundreds of houses like it have disintegrated, so this one will have to stand in for the others. The house has been preserved, but the opportunities to teach a history lesson have hardly been explored. It is a big project, and the possibilities stretch to the horizon.

Recently a local historian, Ellen Lawson, wrote a short history of the tract. It adds to our knowledge of the family and the land in the hollow. Would that every PATC cabin could benefit from this kind of research!

Visitors to the Pocosin area of the park can now walk all the way from Skyline Drive to the hollows below the Pocosin Mission because of a brand new trail. Built by PATC in partnership with Shenandoah National Park, it comes within 100 yards of the Rosser Lamb House. At that point it is along Entry Run, and so it takes its name from the stream – Entry Run Trail. It exits PATC land at VA 643, where the club

*See Tom, page 4*

### *Workshop, from page 1*

meals will be provided by Sherri Fickel and her Hoodlum Trail Crew chefs. Participants will not be disappointed!

A portion of Mathews Arm campground will be set aside for this event for exclusive use by PATC with numerous tent sites available, and the evening amphitheater program will be open to participants. You may arrive Friday evening or Saturday morning.

Workshop instruction will be provided by SNP trail professionals and PATC crew leaders. The sessions typically include basic skills of trail maintenance, rock work, wilderness trail skills, and advanced projects. Power tools may be discussed if there is an interest, but chainsaw instruction will not be provided at this workshop. Please make reservations early as the workshop is limited to 25 participants, and we always fill up early. Contact George Walters at [gjwalters@starpower.net](mailto:gjwalters@starpower.net) or 410/426-2724 for registration materials. Hope to see you there! ☐

—George Walters



*Steve Paull and Nathan Reigner crosscut a large blowdown on the Cedar Run Trail, during the June Overseer Workshop.*

## 38 Degrees North, 77 Degrees West

In the fall of 1997, 25-year-old Todd Dunbar was mountain biking alone west of Boulder, Colo., when a cougar appeared at the top of a rise.

Dunbar got off the bike and held it between him and the cat as it circled him, sparring at the animal when it came close. The cougar stalked Dunbar for a half-mile, but never attacked. Experts believe that the cat was young and still learning to hunt. The cougar that killed a 35-year-old man and seriously mauled a female mountain biker this past January in Orange County, Calif., however, was a full-grown adult.

Last spring Aron Ralston made news when he sawed off his own arm with a dull penknife. Trapped under an 800-pound boulder during a solo climb in Canyonlands National Park, Ralston waited for help until he ran out of food and water. Then, after weighing his options, he methodically severed his arm to free himself from the cliff face.

In January, Park Ranger Ken Holmes headed out on a solo backpacking trip in the White Mountains of New Hampshire. He intended to summit several 4,000-foot peaks over the three-day trip. The last thing he said to the friend who dropped him off at the trailhead?

“This is all I need to make me happy.” The temperature hovered around 25° below zero on the morning rescuers found Holmes. He had died of hypothermia, a few feet from where he had shed his gloves and coat.

There is a tendency to admire these extreme outdoors enthusiasts – these people who are so physically fit, so cool under pressure, so daring and dangerous, who live their lives so far away from our daily grind. But the truth of the matter is, had these people taken but a few precautions, perhaps the dramatic stories would never have happened. Dunbar did the right thing by staying in one place and making a lot of noise, but one shot of pepper spray might have resulted in an adrenaline-pumping few minutes instead of a one-hour nerve-wracking event. If Ralston had left a detailed itinerary with someone at home so rescue teams would have known where to look, perhaps he would still have both his arms. Had Holmes not set out despite the reports of inclement weather, he might have instead summited successfully the next weekend.



A cardinal rule is never to go out alone, but sometimes it's not always possible to have a hiking buddy. Sometimes none of your friends share your enjoyment of the outdoors, or perhaps they do, but their days off aren't your days off. That doesn't mean you've got to stay home if you don't have somebody to hold your hand up the trail. Just don't underestimate the raw power of nature, which, even if you are as fit as Ralston, is far beyond your own strength.

When you head out into the backcountry alone, extra precautions need to be taken. Plan a trip that is less challenging than something you might tackle with a friend along, and be sure to leave a detailed itinerary with a few friends with your expected time of return. Make sure you check in at the trailhead and/or ranger station and fill out all the information on the forms, including the trails you plan to take, your expected return, your license plate number, and any serious medical conditions or allergies.

It is also essential to be prepared, both in what you pack and knowing what you can expect in regards to weather and trail conditions. There's always a chance extra precautions won't prevent mishaps or tragedy. Solo outdoorspeople are those who accept the risks in exchange for what they get back: the freedom and adrenaline and excitement and peace that come with pushing both their limits and the laws of nature. But in an environment that challenges muscle strength, the one between our ears is the most essential. □

—Alexa Hackbarth



### National Park Service Photo Collection

<http://data2.itc.nps.gov/hafe/hfc/npsphoto.cfm>

Over the past century, a host of photographers have documented the grounds and buildings of the National Parks for the National Park Service, and in doing so have created a collection that contains over 2 million images.

Some of these eminent photographers include such personages as Jack Boucher, Arno B. Cammerer, and Abbie Rowe. The National Park Service has recently placed 2,000 of these images online, and added a fine search feature so that users can look for images by year, photographer, theme, parksite, or keyword. Some of these images included early photographs of the Virgin Islands National Park, rangers on location in Yosemite National Park, and Canyon de Chelly National Monument. The site is rounded out with links to other digital image archives, such as those housed on the American Memory Web site at the Library of Congress. □

—Submitted by Norman Bednarczyk

#### Tom, from page 3

has constructed a parking lot for hikers. Nearby is a second cabin, John's Rest, that will soon be open to renters. The Entry Run Trail resulted from a decision by park authorities to permit PATC to build this trail, the first new trail to exit the park in 40 years. It was a big change of direction for the park, and it will benefit hiking for years to come.

The trail is finished, and the Rosser Lamb House looks finished, too. But appearances deceive. There is still much work to be done, and Park and Peg are looking for volunteers. You can reach Park at [parkplva@yahoo.com](mailto:parkplva@yahoo.com); Peg can be contacted at [m.j.manuel@worldnet.net](mailto:m.j.manuel@worldnet.net). □

—Tom Johnson

# Thru-Hikers Making Their Way Through SNP

The main wave of N-bound Appalachian Trail hikers has passed through SNP.

The 2004 count through June is 816 N-bound AT hikers (AT thru-hikers and section hikers). This count is down 11 percent from 2003 and down 23 percent from the peak year, 2002. During June, 430 AT hikers entered the park at Rockfish Gap, or 14 hikers per day. We expect about 90 N-bound hikers in July.

It is interesting to see a slight decline in AT use, while the overall backcountry camper use at SNP is up by about 5 percent this year. A few more dry weekends this year might get the fair weather campers out.

—Shawn Greene, SNP Park Trails Coordinator

## Report from ATC

Our final estimate of northbound thru-hike starters for 2004 is 1,535. That's 14 percent fewer than last year. (Note that our total number of starters assumes a drop-out rate of 15 percent rather than 20 percent on the first leg of the hike – see explanation below). Elsewhere along the trail, the decreases range from 11 to 16 percent.

Winton Porter, owner of Mountain Crossings, reported a season-end count of 1,305 thru-hikers from Neels Gap.

The number of thru-hikers counted at Fontana Dam this year (864) for the period March 1 through May 31 was down 16 percent from last year. SNP reports a decrease of 11 percent in all northbound AT hikers (thru-hikers and section-hikers combined) this year.

As of July 7, 562 northbound thru-hikers had reached Harpers Ferry. That's 83 fewer than we had last year on that date, or a decrease of 15 percent. We can expect to see northbounders through the end of the month and even a few in early August.

## Southbound Thru-Hikers

Through the end of June, Baxter State Park registered 124 southbound thru-hikers, which is about 5-6 percent below last year.

## Northbound Drop-Out Rate

### Recalculation

For the first time in several years, we are changing the assumed drop-out rate between Amicalola Falls/Springer Mountain and Neels Gap. Since the success rate for northbound thru-hikers has slowly been climbing over the last several years, we believe it's reasonable to assume that the success rate of thru-hikers in this first 30-mile stretch has also climbed. Those on the southern end of

the trail observe that hikers are generally better prepared than they used to be. There is a wealth of information resources available and an increasing number of former thru-hikers who can serve as mentors. Lightweight gear has gone mainstream, and trekking poles may reduce the number of injuries.

This year in particular, applying the old formula of an assumed 20 percent drop-out rate resulted in figures that did not mesh with the Fontana Dam and Harpers Ferry numbers. This precipitated a long-discussed decision to reduce the drop-out rate percentage to 15. This is still a somewhat arbitrary number, arrived at by weighing anecdotal information from Winton Porter at Mountain Crossings, GA ridgerunner supervisor and former ridgerunner John Cavendar, Bob Boltz at Amicalola Falls State Park, and others.

Assuming that 15 percent of starters dropped out between Amicalola Falls and Neels Gap (or did not sign the register), we estimate that approximately 1,535 northbound thru-hikers started at Springer (or Amicalola Falls) this year. That's a decrease of 14 percent, and roughly equivalent to the number of starters in 1996. The peak year was 2000, when 2,900 started. □

—Laurie Potteiger, ATC

## Council, from page 2

concerning pre-positioning in the park on busy weekends.

*North Chapter:* Pete Brown announced the North Chapter was roughing out the Tuscarora Trail relocation near Rte. 30.

*AT Corridor Management:* Tom Lupp announced the Park Service completed a survey of the Ovoka tract, and Mickey McDermott has been appointed the corridor monitor for the tract. At Bears Den Hostel, Tom reported a problem with illegal campfires and excessively large group camping. Ranger Bob Gray was aware of the problems and will help monitor the situation.

*West Virginia Chapter:* Jane Thompson reported the Frederick Post had devoted a front-page write-up to the chapter and its activities on National Trails Day.

*Shelters:* Henry Horn noted recent damage to Maryland shelters involving garbage dump-

ing, vandalism, and campfires. In addition, the shelters still experience overcrowding/over-use by large groups.

*Public Relations:* George Still reported L.L. Bean is willing to donate funds and merchandise to PATC. In addition, L.L. Bean grants above \$3,000 are available for next year, upon approval of submitted proposals.

*Trail Patrol:* Holly Wheeler reported on the Trail Patrol's second annual National Trails Day Expo. The event offered a variety of hikes to the public, as well as information tables on hiking safety, equipment, Leave No Trace, trail maintenance, and other topics. Thirty Trail Patrol members were involved, and six different types of hikes were offered to the public. Other participants included the American Hiking Society, K9 Trailblazers, and Shenandoah National Park. Unfortunately, the event experienced poor weather of rain and fog for the second year in a row. However, about 80 visitors did attend, including hike participants. In other news,

Holly reported 11 participants for the recent Hike Leadership course in May. Upcoming courses included an LNT trainer course in June and a CPR/first aid course scheduled in July.

*Northern Shenandoah Valley Chapter:* Lee Sheaffer notified Council of a recent theft from a car at Key's Gap parking area. He also reported on a Clarke County planning meeting, noting the county has designated AT land as scenic highway. The county will also notify PATC of any zoning changes or land development plans. Lee also announced the Northern Shenandoah Valley Chapter had held a meeting at Glass House on the first weekend of June, which included a Sunday hike.

The June Council meeting was attended by eight club officers, 12 committee chairs, three chapter representatives, three section representatives, one staff member, and seven other club members. □

—Georgeann Smale, Secretary

## A Visit to Scotland – The Land of Skye, Part II

### Day 4 - First Rest Day

Our original plan for our rest day had been to walk from our B&B into Elgol and take the post office bus from Elgol to Broadford to buy souvenirs. But when the bus never showed up in Elgol, that plan was tossed into the breeze. This change in plans proved serendipitous. Being the adventurous soul that I am, I decided to venture into the Cuillin as the weather was fair and we had only received two small showers this morning. Jason and Judy decided to return to the B&B to rest up.

I started out on the path to Camasunary from Elgol while watching the sightseeing boat named the Bella Jane take passengers out to see Loch Coruisk with its sea birds and seals. My steps would lead me on a parallel journey with a mountain between us. Luckily I had my lunch packed and hiking boots on.

The views from the trail along the ocean cliff edge were spectacular, with the ragged peaks of the Cuillin in the background. The Cuillin refers to a range of mountains, at one time described as “the only real mountain range in Britain” by the Himalayan mountaineer Frank Smythe. I couldn’t stop ooh-ing and aah-ing all day. The trail eventually led to a beach that was paved with pebbles and rocks. Years of rough seas have made rounded cobblestones and flat sections of rock riddled with potholes, lines and smoothed surfaces.

Lunching on the beach with Sgurr na Stri and Sgurr Hain in the foreground was a treat indeed. These mountains are about 494 meters (1,600 feet) above sea level so you can see how they portray a profound scale of soaring height. My original intention was to visit the Camasunary beach and return the way I’d come, but that plan was to change ... for the better of course.

After lunch, I decided to take the low road, as low tide was on my side, and boulder hop along the coastline. Eventually reaching Camasunary, I picked my way slowly along the beach, watching the small waves and avoiding the sea trash littered here and there. Sheep scattered all along the trail whenever I approached. These sheep are differentiated from one another by that most modern of inventions, spray paint. Just when you thought you might get an idyllic photo of sheep in a pasture, one turns his back to you and you see a distinctive colored circle on his hide.

As I headed home that evening I took one last break looking around this special place, knowing I would be back someday to truly roam these hills. Hikers still kept coming sporadically down the hill at 4:30 and 5:00 pm. I asked one hiker why and he said that this is supposed to be one of the most spectacular settings for catching the sunset. I eventually turned my back on the Cuillin and headed downhill toward the road and delicious fare at Coruisk House.

### Day 5 - Hiking Day 4

Today our 9.25-mile hike had a choice of starting points, either to take the Bella Jane and be dropped off at Loch Coruisk or to walk up and over the hill I descended yesterday evening. We chose the latter. I promised Judy and Jason that the overwhelming beauty of the place would make anyone believe in the existence of God. I must say though that due to being more overcast than the day before, the clouds took away from the truly spectacular views that I had yesterday. But the impressive bulk of the hills was still there.



Photo by Susan Bly

We descended from the rim and headed into the Cuillin. I scampered around an upper set of waterfalls, having snapped the lower set yesterday. Then we were off to the valley to pass below the Blavin and head toward Roadh Stac. Jason spotted a hill that looked like it needed climbing, just above Loch na Creitheach, so climb we did. I can’t resist a good view any better than the next person.

Descending the hill, we tramped along the trail through the valley. We commented on the need for stepping stones here and there to relieve the soggy spots in the trail. Near Sligachan, which is the end, the trail is quite well done. I’m sure the trail nymphs will be here in the near future to fix things up. I must say that I wouldn’t mind volunteering to work on the trail as the surroundings are stupendous. The mist and rain continued off and on, in 15 – 20 minute segments.

As we rounded a bend in the valley, a mountain top seen through the fog caused us to pause and grab our cameras. The jagged peaks bathed in gray light looked like a scene from JRR Tolkien. Were we heading toward Mordor? After the next shower, the clouds parted and we were finally able to see the tops of the peaks around us. The rounded granite peaks of Druim na Ruaige and Marsco stood to our right and the jagged Black Cuillin to our left. Nothing to do but ooh and aaah. We encountered a sporadic stream of hikers heading either toward Camasunary or out for an afternoon hike from Sligachan. The end of the trail loomed near as we saw the white Sligachan Hotel in the distance, containing our beds for the evening. I sighed several times as we left the Cuillin and hoped very much that one day I would return.

### Day 6 - Hiking Day 5

Today’s 14.5-mile hike involved a lot of road walking. We skirted Loch Sligachan on a foot path until we reached Braes. From there the road passed by typical Skye scenery such as hedgerows, stone fences, closely clipped grass manicured by the ever present sheep, red telephone booths and red postal boxes stating the next pick-up date. Our blue boxes are huge compared to these rural boxes which are only one-quarter the size of U.S. boxes.

One thing worthy of note was a small campground just across the road from the hotel. These tent sites are usually not numbered plus the tents were just lumped into one small field. No terracing for drainage as that would seem to be an issue with as much rain as these folks seem to get. I think that UK campers are the bravest of all to withstand blowing rain and midges.

We passed a section where they were cutting peat. The process was explained by one of our taxi drivers in that the peat is cut, dried in

*See Skye, page 7*

Skye, from page 6

stacks, and then is ready for burning. He said the smoke smells similar to coal. At our stay in Sligachan they had a peat fire going that was toasty warm.

### Day 7 - Hiking Day 6

This morning we started our 7.5-mile hike straight from the door of the Isles Inn, our B&B in Portree. We ascended a hill and walked past colorfully painted shops and house fronts before reaching a town park and the coastline. We stopped to take a couple of photos of the harbor before the misty rain moved in for the regular 15-minute shower.

We followed a Scottish right of way and made our way along the cliff tops, pausing now and then to take in wider views of Portree, the fish farm, Rubha nah-Airde Glaise, and Sithean Cumhang across the Sound and to watch the Old Man of Storr pop in and out of patches of sunlight.

Another interesting formation of sheep approached later on, along a narrow sheep trail cut into the middle of a steep hill. The sheep had formed a single-file traffic jam, watching us pass below them.

I then headed uphill to see the Old Man. Since I've seen this geological oddity on postcards and brochures, I had to take the time to trot uphill and see it, in spite of the not-so-great conditions.

The trail halfway up the mountain was well built, but as it reached the open area, several



“rabbit” trails emerged. I met several hikers coming down the trail through the falling rain. As promised, the rock formations were spectacular. The rain and fog made the formations that much more mysterious, like coming illegally into a sacred site. This is definitely a place I'd love to revisit.

### Day 8 - Hiking Day 7

Today was our last full day of hiking, and it was a gorgeous one with a perfectly clear blue sky and warm temperatures. Our 6-mile hike would take us through the Quiraing, (koo rang) and end at Duntulm Castle. The Quiraing is another geological oddity on the 15-mile-long Trotternish Ridge, which contains the Old Man of Storr as well.

We started our trek near the top of a mountain and decided to enter the heart of the Quiraing rather than gaze down into it as our instructions had told us. I myself like to gaze up in wonder at things as I find them more awesome. Peering down into the Grand Canyon isn't nearly as thrilling as staring up at those awesome cliffs above you (then realizing you have to climb back out). We viewed such formations as the Needle, the Prison and the Table. I am sure that this area would be just as mysterious in yesterday's fog. But we were glad to see views and thankful to be able to dry out.

We ventured up behind the Needle and snooped around. Judy accidentally separated herself from us so our lungs blasted the air with her name. After we ate lunch and were getting ready to search again, Judy came down the trail from a different direction. The little fairies had led her the wrong way but at least she was safe and sound. There was the potential for twisted ankles and busted knees on the loose scree that leads up to the Needle (if you go the wrong way – the more interesting one that I took. Jason took the proper staircase way). While we rested, we enjoyed the free air show given by the RAF jet fighters as they flew over and under the level of our gaze.

Assembled together now we took our time gazing around and ascending out of the Quiraing. Back on the original path, we ascended the ridge top to a plateau of sorts just below the summit of Sron Vourlinn. It was a wonderful feeling to see the vast expanse of hill and sea around us.



Exiting through a cattle gate, Duntulm Castle rose before us ... or rather the ruins of the castle. The Duntulm Hotel where we would be staying was a more “formidable” structure. Upon our return we were greeted by the hotel concierge sheep. After having had sheep skitter away from us all week, this was a real surprise to be able to pet the woolly creatures. After cleaning up, we enjoyed watching the sunset from the Castle ruins.



Days 9 and 10 were given over to a few last sights: a grand pink sunrise over the castle and Duntulm Island beyond. We visited the Isle of Skye Museum of Island Life in Clachan and Flora MacDonald's monument. We investigated the Eileen Donan Castle, and finally, almost had a none-too-fortuitous close encounter with a bull while looking for the ruins of a castle. □

—Susan Bly

Editor's note: Please consider reading the full text of this article online at <http://webpages.shepherd.edu/SBLY/IsleofSkye/Index.htm>. This Web site includes many more spectacular photos of this trip.

K9, from page 11

a near perfect day for a hike. The day had heated up, but the shade of the woods kept us comfortable. Even the noisy cicadas seemed like an appropriate and pleasant accompaniment for the hike. And as we packed up and headed for home, we all

agreed to make sure that we didn't wait another 17 years before coming back to hike the trails at Gunpowder Falls State Park.

For more pictures from K9TB hikes, visit [www.k9trailblazers.org/trip\\_reports.htm](http://www.k9trailblazers.org/trip_reports.htm). □

—Jeff Bolognese



Photo by Jeff Bolognese

*Taking our mid-hike break.*

Bob, from page 16

In Virginia, the coyote is considered a nuisance animal, with an unlimited, year-round open hunting season. In fact, four southwest Virginia counties still offer \$50 bounties, with each county maintaining a budget of \$1,500 - \$2,500 per year. However, this is changing as counties realize the futility of bounties to control livestock damage (and as state budgets are being slashed).

More than 6,000 coyotes are "harvested" as a game animal each year in Virginia and Pennsylvania. An estimated 20,000 coyotes live in Virginia.

Coyotes readily breed with domestic dogs and give birth to fertile offspring (coydogs), who also can breed with either dogs or coyotes. While all members of the Canis genus (dogs, wolves, and coyotes) can (and do) interbreed, due to the size difference, male wolves are known to breed with female coyotes or dogs, but not typically the other way around. Before

the advent of Man, geographic isolating mechanisms kept the various species from interbreeding. With coyotes coming into heat only once a year in late winter, and dogs twice a year, overlapping breeding periods are not common (male coyotes are only able to breed when females are in estrus - males can only produce viable sperm for a period of three to four months). With male dogs capable of mating year-round, most coydogs are from male dogs and female coyotes. Since male coyotes help in pup-rearing, while male dogs do not, this lessens the likelihood of successful coydog raising. Additionally, estrus in coydogs comes especially early, producing young in January or February; a time unfavorable for survival. For these reasons, the amount of domestic dog genes in coyote bloodline is probably extremely low.

The coyotes are back! Look for them in a neighborhood near you! □

—Bob Pickett

Potomac Appalachian Trail Club - Trail Patrol presents

## BACKPACKING 101

### An Introductory Backpacking Course

A second chance in 2004 to take this popular class. The class provides those persons, 18 years and older, who have moderate or no backpacking experience with the opportunity to expand their enjoyment of the outdoors through the practice of backpacking. The class provides basic instruction in equipment selection and use, information and techniques to enhance safety and comfort, and Leave No Trace methods to protect our fragile backcountry environment. It also provides more experienced backpackers an opportunity to hone or renew their skills and adapt their backpacking techniques to the Leave No Trace wilderness ethic. The students will then use their new skills on an overnight backpacking trip accompanied by experienced backpacking instructors.

#### Introduction Night

September 13, 2004 (Monday)

7:30 - 9:30 p.m.

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

#### Instructional Weekend

September 18- 19, 2004

8:00 AM Sat. - 4:00 p.m. Sun.

Prince William Forest Park, Triangle, Va.

(Sat. overnight car camping in campground encouraged but not required)

#### Overnight Backpacking Trip

October 2 - 3, 2004 (Sat.- Sun.)

Trip destination and times TBD

\$60.00 PATC Members; \$75.00 Non-Members

For more information, contact John

Browne: 703/425-5645,

e-mail: [back2\\_packing@cox.net](mailto:back2_packing@cox.net)

Potomac Appalachian Trail Club - Trail Patrol presents

## Backpacking 202

### How to Plan and Enjoy a Backcountry Outing

An Intermediate Course Focused On Planning Small Group Trips

Working in groups of eight or less, participants can expand or renew their skills by planning and executing a three-day group backpacking trip. The course covers equipment selection and use, route planning, food planning, safety and comfort in challenging conditions, and Leave No Trace (LNT) principles. Experienced instructors facilitate group planning sessions and accompany the weekend trip.

#### Group Planning Sessions

Three Monday nights, 7:30-9:30: Sep 13, 20 and 27, 2004

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

#### Weekend Outing - Location TBD

Three days, two nights: Columbus Day weekend, Oct 9 - 11, 2004

\$40.00 PATC Members; \$55.00 non-members

**Pre-registration is required. Applicants must know the basics and have some backpacking experience.**

To receive a registration form and for all other information, call or e-mail

John Browne: 703/425-5645,

[back2\\_packing@cox.net](mailto:back2_packing@cox.net)

# Volunteers Appointed in June



## Trail Overseers

|                |  |
|----------------|--|
| Scott Miller   | Upper Hawksbill Trail                      |
| Nathan Reigner | AT - Marys Rock trail to Byrds Nest 3      |
| Charlie Rounds | Tuscarora Trail - Shawn Gap to Sherman Gap |

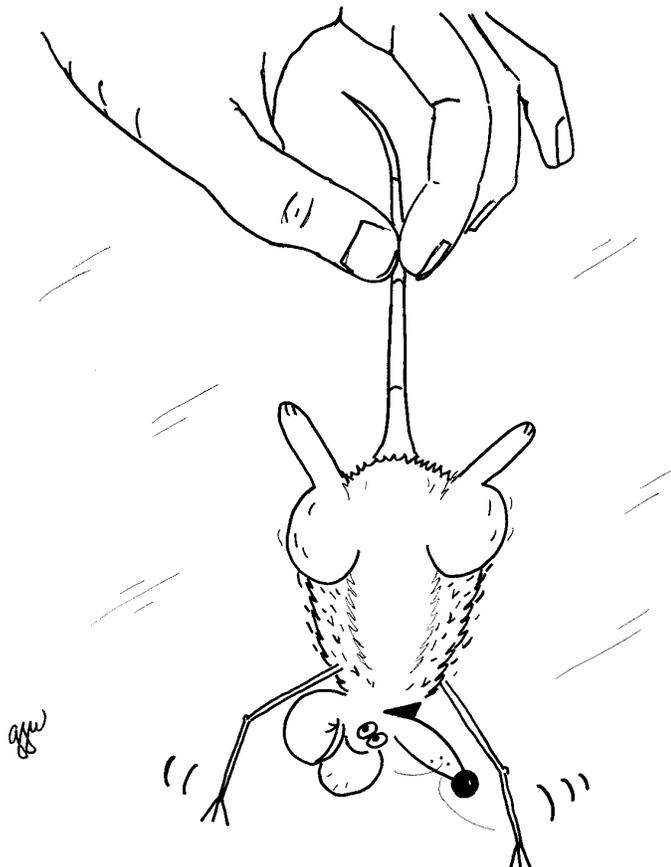
## Virginia Tax Rate Goes Up, Get Your Merchandise before Sept. 1

We've received a letter from the Virginia Dept. of Taxation notifying us of changes in the retail Sales and Use Tax. Effective Sept. 1, 2004, we will need to charge 5 percent instead of 4.5 percent tax on items paid for and delivered on or after Sept. 1, 2004. However, if a customer prepays an item before Sept. 1, 2004 and the item is not delivered until after Sept. 1, the old rate is in effect.

The good news (which does not affect PATC sales) is that the sales tax on food items will be lowered by 0.5% beginning July 1, 2004. There will be additional 0.5% decreases in the sales tax on food items on July 1, 2006 and July 1, 2007.

—Monica Clark, Business Manager

## Tails from the Woods by George Walters



"OK!... OK!... I WAS JUST PASSING  
THRU THIS CABIN!... HONEST!!"

## PATC Trail Patrol

Presents

# Hike Leadership Training

September 11 and 12, 2004

The Trail Patrol is hosting a Hike Leadership Training course on September 11 and 12 at the PATC HQ. 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 [3ferns@adelphia.net](mailto:3ferns@adelphia.net) 703/327-9788.

Potomac Appalachian Trail Club Trail Patrol

Presents

# Leave No Trace Trainers Course

Oct. 2-3, 2004

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

After completing the course you will be a 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

Fee: \$30 (non-refundable)  
Includes course material

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

## It's Pig Roast Time Again!

Join us for the 21st Annual Blackburn Pig Roast, scheduled for Saturday/Sunday, Oct. 9-10, 2004. The organizers will be the same as always - Rick Portal with help from Tim Rahn and Nancy Hughes. Registration this year is once again being taken by Trailboss Chris Brunton and Sandi Marra.

As is the tradition, black beans and rice, potato gratin, and apple crisp will accompany our Cuban-styled roast pig. Happy hour will lead off the evening with Rick's famous tamales. In addition, Tim will make sure anyone wak-

ing up Sunday morning still hungry will be taken care with his quality breakfast fare.

In keeping with our family-oriented events, we will have planned activities for children of all ages, culminating in our annual jack-o-lantern contest, complete with scary stories and prizes for all. Of course all attendees can take a hike along the "AT" or simply enjoy the changing leaves from our front porch.

Dinner will be served early evening on Saturday, but anyone wanting to participate in the Friday night Pig grease down and season-

ing (an event worth experiencing at least once in your life) are welcomed! Dinner on Friday and breakfast and lunch on Saturday are up to each individual.

Members and friends interested in attending the event should complete the registration form below and send a check for \$25 per adult and for children over 10 to Sandi Marra, 6245 Walkers Croft Way, Alexandria, VA 22315. MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO SANDRA MARRA. INFO: Chris Brunton, (703/924-0406) trailbossbtc@msn.com. □

### Blackburn Pig Roast — Saturday and Sunday, October 9-10, 2004

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (day) \_\_\_\_\_ (evening) \_\_\_\_\_ Number of reservations: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$25.00 each

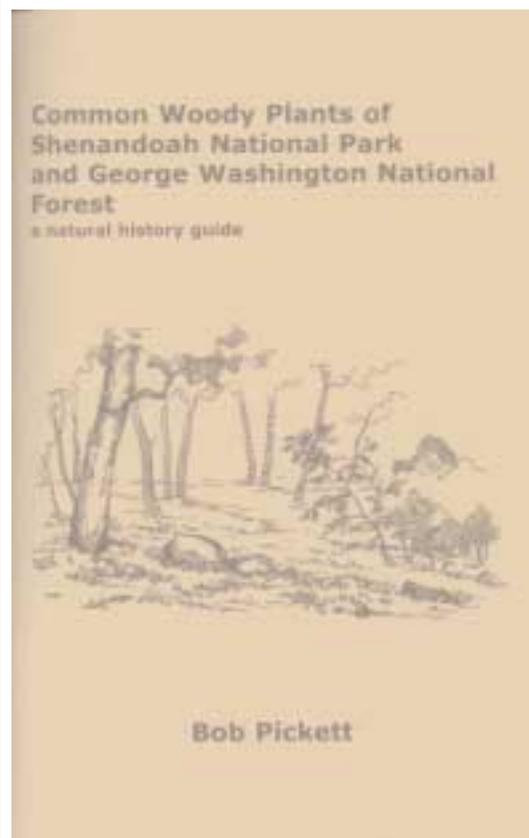
Total enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

I will also be bringing \_\_\_\_\_ # children aged 10 and under (for whom there is no charge)

Include a \$25.00 payment per person for each reservation with checks payable to Sandra Marra and mail to:

Sandra Marra, 6245 Walkers Croft Way, Alexandria, VA 22315.

**IMPORTANT: Please be sure to make your check payable to Sandra Marra.**



### 'Common Woody Plants of Shenandoah National Park and George Washington National Forest'

Second Edition, 2004, 72 pp.

This invaluable natural history guide will help you identify and appreciate 42 of the most common woody plants in the PATC area. The first section gives useful background on the geology and physiography, followed by a detailed description of forest types and how specific species fit into their habitats. The second section, organized by leaf arrangement, makes it easy to identify the individual trees and shrubs and gives interesting facts, such as how early colonists used them and how they are currently used by various animals.

Originally written by PATC Naturalist Bob Pickett for the 1995 ATC biennial conference, Common Woody Plants has been completely revised and expanded to include detailed current information on the threat to these plants from diseases and insect pests, such as the Gypsy moth and the Hemlock wooly adelgid.

This concise guide is an easy-to-understand reference work that every hiker and forest lover will want to use in the field.

Retail price \$4, Member price \$3.20. □

FROM THE PATC STORE

## K9 Trailblazers Hike With Their Dogs - And Cicadas

We won't have another hike like this for 17 years! Our hikers met at Gunpowder Falls State Park near Hereford, Md., on a sunny spring morning that promised an afternoon preview of the summer heat to come. Hike leaders for the day were Jeff and Cindy, who were hiking dogless. We were glad to see "regulars" Chuck, Lisa, and Jester as well as Shirley and Princess. We welcomed back Jill and Brooks, who had hiked with us for the first time at Catoctin the previous month. Joining us for the first time were Joan and Bear and Jerri and Cubby. We're always glad to see new faces (furry or otherwise) on our hikes. And, of course, we had additional company throughout the hike: Cicadas! Our first hike with a sound track.

### Spring Morphs into Summer

After the traditional hike orientation speech and distribution of dog biscuits and chocolate, we headed into the woods along the Bunker Hill Trail. The trail took us through rolling woodlands and along streams. The forest had gone from pale green with splashes of color from wildflowers just a few weeks before to vibrant, lush green. Cindy, our club naturalist, pointed out some of the interesting flora and fauna along the way, including a lesson on tulip trees and, of course, cicadas.

From Bunker Hill we headed onto the Mingo Forks Trail, which led us by the park's archery range. We didn't see any archers that day, but enjoyed the wide, flat trail and tried to pick



*A newly emerged cicada drying out.*



Photos by Jeff Bolognese

*The Gunpowder from Masemore Road.*

out the various archery targets through the trees. The archery range consists of a "path" of archery target ranges that bowmen follow to hone their skills.

From there it was back down into the woods and along Mingo Forks. The day began to warm up, and the cicadas started getting louder. As we climbed up out of the stream valley, the noise grew in intensity. The sound was all around us at that point: the eerie, "War of the Worlds" hum, underneath the oscillating wave of noise that was almost painful at its peak. As we started back down into the valley, the sound died down as well. While we were all fascinated by this, the dogs didn't seem to be fazed, or even particularly interested. The other sites and smells along the trail were much more fascinating.

The trail finally brought us all the way down to Gunpowder Falls itself. We ran into a bit more traffic down here. There were a few other hikers on the trail and, down in the water, fly fishermen trying for trout. We made our way along the river to Masemore Road. This part of the park is popular for fishermen, canoers, and kayakers since it offers easy access to the water and to the trails on both sides of the river. It also boasts a very nice grassy spot, perfect for a snack break and a quick rest. As we sat enjoying the sunny day, we watched the fishermen in the river, horse-

back riders across the river, and, as an added bonus, a precision aircraft team practicing far above the river. Food, rest, and entertainment. Who could ask for more?

### What is a Falls?

Fed, refreshed, and recuperated, we packed up and headed back along the river, or rather, "falls." Interestingly, Maryland is one of the only places in the country that uses the term "falls" to refer to what most everyone else would call a "river." There aren't really any waterfalls along the Gunpowder. Reportedly the name comes from the river "fall line" or the point where it is no longer navigable by large boats. There are also different stories about how the Gunpowder got its name. The most colorful, printed in the 1802 "The Traveller's Directory, or a Pocket Companion to the Philadelphia-Baltimore Road," claims that the Native Americans, initially thinking gunpowder to be a vegetable seed, "planted" it along the banks of the river. Most likely (and far less insulting to the Native Americans!) is that it was named for the local mills, which ground charcoal, sulfur, and saltpeter used to make gunpowder.

Not that we were pondering any of this as we finished up the last leg of the hike and arrived back at the parking lot. It had been

*See K9, page 8*

## 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 9:00 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](http://www.patc.net/chapters/char/hikes.html). INFO: Jere Bidwell 434/295-2143 or John Shannon 434/293-2953.

### North Chapter

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

### Northern Shenandoah Valley Chapter

The Northern Shenandoah Valley Chapter sponsors hikes in national and state parks and forests in the Shenandoah Valley vicinity, open to the public, on a monthly basis except during the winter. Hikes are posted in the Forecast. Other activities are in the NSV Chapter Newsletter. For further information contact Lee Sheaffer, ([thumpers@visuallink.com](mailto:thumpers@visuallink.com)) 540/955-0736.

### Southern Shenandoah Valley Chapter

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

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

### Mountaineering Section

We're a diverse group of local Washington, DC area climbers. Young and old, male and female, crag rat, sport climber, and alpinist, active and armchair types – we all enjoy climbing in its many varieties. We also share common interests in promoting safe climbing, conserving the outdoors, developing new climbers' skills, representing the Washington area climbing community, and having fun! We provide instruction for those wanting to learn the basics – we're not a school, but we can get you started. We go climbing, either locally or further afield, nearly every weekend. In the winter we organize trips to the Ice Festivals in the Adirondacks and the White Mountains for beginning and advanced ice climbers. For further information contact Andy Britton, ([tallandyb@aol.com](mailto:tallandyb@aol.com)) 703/622-1920, or Mack Muir ([MackMuir@edisaurus.com](mailto:MackMuir@edisaurus.com)).

### PATC Hikes

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

### Other Clubs' Hikes

Capital ([www.capitalhikingclub.org](http://www.capitalhikingclub.org)) and Wanderbirds hike on Saturdays and Sundays, traveling by bus and leaving from downtown, with suburban stops as well. Center Club, Northern Virginia Hiking Club and Sierra Club hike on both Saturdays and Sundays using carpools, which often leave from a suburban Metro stop. Schedules are available at PATC Headquarters and are published in area newspapers on Fridays. The schedule of West Virginia Highland Conservancy outings in the Monongahela National Forest and surrounding areas is on their web site at [www.vwhighlands.org](http://www.vwhighlands.org).

## KEY to Forecast Activities

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

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

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

## Meetings

### Meetings

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

### New Members (PATC) – First Wednesday

7:30 p.m. Curious about the club? Want to learn more? The best way is to attend a New Members meeting (but you don't have to be new to qualify). Attend the meeting and find the mysteries of PATC revealed in full. Refreshments will be served. Directions to PATC: Take Rt. 123 into Vienna, Va. and turn east on Park St. (Rt.675) to 118 Park St. on your left. INFO: Jane Thompson 301/349-2496.

### Mountaineering Section – Second Wednesday

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

### Shenandoah Mountain Rescue Group

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

### PATC Council – Second Tuesday

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](mailto:wriley@patc.net)) 703/242-0693 x11.

### Trail Patrol – First Tuesday

7:30 p.m. Trail Patrol volunteers are PATC's goodwill trail ambassadors to the hiking public. They provide a visible, reassuring presence on the trails, 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: Holly Wheeler ([trailpatrol@patc.net](mailto:trailpatrol@patc.net)) 301/486-1598, or see our section in PATC's Web site: [www.patc.net/volunteer/trailpatrol](http://www.patc.net/volunteer/trailpatrol).

## AUGUST

**1 (Sunday)**

**DEADLINE - September Potomac Appalachian Material due to editors**

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

**3 (Tuesday)**

**HIKE - Family Hike  
Arlington, VA**

Potomac Heritage Trail, Southern Section. Join us for a 3.4-mile, kid-paced hike along the Potomac River. We will begin at the Roosevelt Island parking lot and hike up 1.7 miles to the waterfall at Windy Run. We'll picnic along the way, weather permitting. This hike is suitable for walking children, or kids in backpacks or front carriers only, the trail is not jogging-stroller passable. INFO: Lauren Lang (at94L@netzero.net) 703/631-9278.

**3 (Tuesday)**

**HIKE - Vigorous Hikers  
Great North Mountain, VA**

George Washington National Forest, WV & VA From Cedar Creek pick up the Tuscarora Trail west, visit White Rock, see the puncheon, descend superbly maintained Pond Run Trail returning on the Old Mail Path. Around 15 miles with 3000 foot climb. INFO: Dave Kennamer (dkennamr@yahoo.com) 301/299-9563.

**4 (Wednesday)**

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

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

**4 (Wednesday)**

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

**5 (Thursday)**

**MEETING - (PATC), 7:00 p.m..  
Vienna, VA**

PATC? Never heard of it. The PATC Public Affairs Committee needs men and women with writing, design, layout, and speaking skills (or no skills at all) to help get the word out about the club and its activities. Volunteers will plan advertisements, create news releases, represent the club at festivals and fairs, and just generally schmooze with the glitterati. INFO: George Still (patcinfo@cox.net) 703/425-3884.

**7 (Saturday)**

**HIKE - Natural History  
North District, Shenandoah National Park, VA**

Bob Pickett leads a hike from the Tom Floyd Shelter and along the Appalachian Trail to Compton Peak and returns through Hickerson Hollow. This approximately 9-mile hike passes old homesites and the most spectacular columnar jointing rock formation found in the Park. INFO: Bob Pickett 301/681-1511

**7 (Saturday)**

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

The anniversary date of the South Mountaineers Trail Crew, now 11 years old. Our first-ever event was the first Saturday of August, 1993. Meet at 9:00 a.m. in

Frederick County. Please bring lunch, water and gloves; expect to hike 1-4 miles. Work on the AT in Maryland and celebrate another fine year of volunteer stewardship. INFO: Nancy Hammond (mdtrail@yahoo.com) 301/739-0442.

**7 (Saturday)**

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

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

**7 - 8 (Saturday - Sunday)**

**CABIN WORK TRIP - Southern Slackers  
Lydia, VA**

Johnson Cabin. Finish up the cook shed. Look at the list of cabins you can visit this summer. Get off your duff and let me know when you can help out. Deal the same. \$10/weekend/person for the meals. Need cooks. Need workers. Need help. INFO: Thomas C. Jorgensen (hairatheart@aol.com) 540/456-4760 (home), 540/248-7009 (work), 540/248-7046 (fax).

**10 (Tuesday)**

**HIKE - Family Hike  
Springfield, VA**

Pohick Creek at Hidden Pond Nature Center. We will hike around the pond, then South along Pohick Creek for about three miles. We will picnic along the way on this kid-friendly hike. The trail is jogging-stroller passable. INFO: Lauren Lang (at94L@netzero.net) 703/631-9278.

**10 (Tuesday)**

**HIKE - Great Summer Hikes (REI)  
Fairfax, VA**

7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. REI's destination expert, Mark Nelson, will reveal some of his favorite places to cool off during the dog days of August. Mark will also provide advice on trip planning, maps and guides and essential gear. INFO: Mark Nelson (mnelson@rei.com) 703/379-9400.

**10 (Tuesday)**

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

Vigorous out-and-back hike along the AT. Stay high from Skyland to Big Meadows and back with an eat in or bring-your-own lunch at Big Meadows. 15 miles. INFO: Cliff Noyes (cliff.noyes@juno.com) 703/451-5181.

**11 (Wednesday)**

**CLASS - Potomac Canoe/Camping (REI)  
Bailey's Crossroads, VA**

7:30 p.m. The upper Potomac is a beautiful river, with long stretches suitable for canoeing, and plenty of islands for camping. Matt Berres, Director of Community Action for the Potomac Conservancy will provide tips on planning your Potomac canoe adventures. Matt will also discuss plans to utilize an REI grant to establish canoe campsites on Sharpshin and Tenfoot Islands, incorporating Leave No Trace principles. Matt will also be recruiting volunteers for worktrips to complete portions of this project. INFO: Mark Nelson (mnelson@rei.com) 703/379-9400.

**11 (Wednesday)**

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

The PATC Midweek Hikers carpool each Wednesday from the Washington DC area to trailheads. Hikes are at a moderate pace and about 8 to 12 miles in length with varied elevations. Current information, including meeting place, time, leader's name and phone number, and a detailed description of the

hike are available on the PATC Activities Recording: 703/242-0965.

**11 (Wednesday)**

**MEETING - West Virginia Chapter, 7:00 p.m.  
Highacre House, Harpers Ferry, WV**

**14 (Saturday)**

**HIKE - K9Trailblazers  
Clarksburg, MD**

Little Bennett Regional Park. We'll hike at a moderate pace for 5 miles in the woods and meadows of Little Bennett Park. We'll travel on rocky trails and old forest roads, mostly unpaved, with a few short but fairly steep climbs (100 ft elevation change) and a few stream crossings on wooden bridges. This is a joint hike with K9Trailblazers so well behaved dogs are welcome as long as you keep them on leash and scoop after them. Maps, chocolate, and dog biscuits provided at the trailhead. Bring snacks, and water for you and your dog. Visit www.k9trailblazers.org for more details. INFO: Jeff Bolognese (jabolognese@k9trailblazers.org) 410/247-4434.

**14 (Saturday)**

**TRAIL WORK TRIP - Rock Creek Park Crew  
Rock Creek Park, DC**

8:15 a.m.-noon. It might be sweltering on Pennsylvania Ave., but we can offer shade among the trees of Rock Creek Park. Meet at the Rock Creek Nature Center located south of the Military Road NW park entrance. INFO: Mark Anderson (dc.trails@verizon.net) 202/462-7718 or Ranger Ken Ferebee 202/895-6221.

**14 - 15 (Saturday - Sunday)**

**TRAIL WORK TRIP - Cadillac Crew  
C&O Canal, MD**

Near Potomac. The Crew will assist overseer Georgeann Smale in trail repairs on the popular Billy Goat Trail. Always an adventure, the trail provides a challenge and many views of the Potomac River Gorge. Bring water and a lunch for Saturday noon. Community dinner on Saturday night. Overnight at nearby C&O Camp site. INFO: Trudy Thompson (going2home2@yahoo.com) 703/938-3973 or Jon Rindt (jkrindt@shentel.net) 540/635-6351.

**17 (Tuesday)**

**CLASS - Canoe Camping (REI)  
Fairfax, VA**

7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. The upper Potomac is a beautiful river, with long stretches suitable for canoeing, and plenty of islands for camping. Matt Berres, Director of Community Action for the Potomac Conservancy will provide tips on planning your Potomac canoe adventures. Matt will also discuss plans to utilize an REI grant to establish canoe campsites on Sharpshin and Tenfoot Islands, incorporating Leave No Trace principles. Matt will also be recruiting volunteers for worktrips to complete portions of this project. INFO: Mark Nelson (mnelson@rei.com) 703/379-9400.

**17 (Tuesday)**

**HIKE - Family Hike  
Fairfax, VA**

Lake Royal. Come enjoy a fun 2-mile hike around this beautiful lake in Fairfax. We usually see lots of wildlife; like blue herons, snakes, turtles, etc. We'll stop at a playground halfway around. The trail is jogging-stroller friendly, regular-stroller passable. There are some log steps to go up and down. INFO: Lauren Lang (at94L@netzero.net) 703/631-9278.

**17 (Tuesday)**

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

Knob Mountain loop climbs Neighbor Mountain, AT to off trail descent to Jeremy's Run, Knob Mountain

# FORECAST

trail. Dip at end. About 17 miles, with 4100 foot climb. INFO: Chris Nolen (chrishiker@erols.com) 301/469-8931.

**18 (Wednesday)**

👤 **HIKE - (Midweek Hikers)**

**Location to be determined**

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

**21 (Saturday)**

👤 **CLASS - SMRG**

**George Washington National Forest, VA**

SMRG: Search Simulation. Ever wonder how SMRG conducts a search for a lost person? If so, come on out and see! All PATC members are invited to participate in a simulated search operation, which SMRG will be conducting in northern George Washington National Forest. Please bring water & food for the day, and wear boots appropriate for an off-trail day hike. Camping and a \$5 spaghetti dinner will also be available for intrepid souls staying for the whole day. INFO: TJ Willis (sim@smrg.org) 703/304-9973.

**21 (Saturday)**

👤 **HIKE - Moderate**  
**Brown Mountain, VA**

9:00 a.m. meeting time. Onemile Run and Brown Mountain Loop. Visit a little-known gem of a trail, with airy hillside and stream shaded by hemlocks, then enjoy the vistas from Brown and Rocky mountains (see report on Onemile Run Trail in PA, Dec. 2003, p.19). Meet at the Brown Mountain Trail Overlook, walk along Skyline Drive to the Onemile Run Trail, descend to Onemile Run, follow the Run among healthy Hemlocks and across 12 stream crossings, take animal trails (lined with struggling Chestnut trees) to the lower Brown Mountain Trail, and ascend across sunny rock outcroppings (9.7 miles, 2,500 foot elevation change, moderate pace). Limited to 10 experienced hikers. INFO: John Ruppe (utilma\_84@yahoo.com) 540/271-3915.

**21 (Saturday)**

👤 **HIKE - Waterfall and Wild Flower Series**  
**North District, Shenandoah National Park, VA**

The thirteenth hike of the Series will a 14-mile circuit on the Bluff, Marshall and Appalachian Trails to include the 2 miles of bushwhack to the fall on Waterfall Run. Total elevation gain is 3600 feet. 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.

**21 (Saturday)**

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

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

**21 - 22 (Saturday - Sunday)**

👤 **TRAIL WORK TRIP - Acme Treadway Co.**  
**Gore, VA**

Tired of listening to those cicadas? Want to strike them where they live? Come on out and dig! We're set to continue construction of the public access trail to the Tuscarora Trail north of The Pinnacles shelter and south of Gore, VA on Saturday, August 20th. We will meet for breakfast at 9:00 A.M. in the Hayfield Family Restaurant west of Winchester on US Route 50: we will camp overnight near the work site. Space on the Crew is limited and fills up quickly.

INFO: Don White (tribldr@comcast.net) 804/795-2914 by Wednesday, August 18th.

**21 - 22 (Saturday - Sunday)**

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

The crew will perform maintenance on trails in the Central District of SNP. Overnight accommodations are at the Pinnacles Research Center, just off Skyline Drive. INFO: Kerry Snow (kerry@trailcrews.net) 301/345-9408.

**21 - 22 (Saturday - Sunday)**

👤 **JAMAICAN TRAIL WORK TRIP - ND Hoodlums**  
**North District, Shenandoah National Park, VA**

Come to de mountains, mon!! Trail work followed by Island fare of the Caribbean! The Hoodlums Trail Crew works on the Appalachian Trail and Blue-Blazed Trails in the North District of SNP. We work hard and enjoy the fruits of our labor afterwards via the theme meal and good company at a facility within the park. Old trail dogs and newcomers are always welcome. Come for the day, stay for the evening meal, camp out overnight in SNP - lots of options. Not a bad way to spend a weekend! We meet at Piney River Ranger Station, MP 22 on Skyline Drive, at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday morning. INFO/RSVP: George Walters (gjwalters@starpower.net) 410/426-2724.

**21 - 22 (Saturday - Sunday)**

👤 **TRAIL WORK TRIP - Shenandoah Bartenders**  
**Old Rag Mountain, VA**

We need your help on Ridge Trail, keeping this popular hike in navigable condition. Don't let another hiker be swallowed alive by overgrown brush. Come for either a day, or join us for a backpack camp in Nicholson Hollow, with a swim in the Hughes River. INFO: Cathie Cummins (Cathie@wfa.net) 703/631-7421 evenings.

**21 - 22 (Saturday - Sunday)**

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

The crew will perform maintenance on trails in the Central District of SNP. Overnight accommodations are at the Pinnacles Research Center, just off Skyline Drive. INFO: Kerry Snow (kerry@trailcrews.net) 301/345-9408

**24 (Tuesday)**

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

Climb from Broad Hollow on the Hazel Mountain Trail to Meadow Spring, return down Hannah Run, up Hot-Short Mountain Trail to Pine Hill Gap. About 16 miles with 3500 ft climb. INFO: Chris Nolen (chrishiker@erols.com) 301/469-8931.

**25 (Wednesday)**

👤 **HIKE - Great Summer Hikes (REI)**  
**Bailey's Crossroads, VA**

7:30 p.m. REI's destination expert, Mark Nelson, will reveal some of his favorite places to cool off during the dog days of August. Mark will also provide advice on trip planning, maps and guides and essential gear. INFO: Mark Nelson (mnelson@rei.com) 703/379-9400.

**25 (Wednesday)**

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

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

**28 - 29 (Saturday - Sunday)**

👤 **HIKE/CAMP - WV Chapter**  
**Laurel Highlands, PA**

Laurel Ridge SP headquarters (Rte 653) to Kooser State Park, 12 miles. Car camp on Saturday at Ohiopyle State Park, hike on Sunday. Dave Jordahl (dave.jordahl@askdep.com) 240/777-7741.

**28 - 29 (Saturday - Sunday)**

👤 **TRAIL WORK TRIP - Cadillac Crew**  
**Fauquier County, VA**

AT between I-66 and Rte. 50. Join the Crew as we attempt to complete the Ovoka Farms AT relocation project. The relocation, on land recently purchased by the ATPO, will provide open areas and views to the east. The environmental impact analysis has been completed and we are able to dig tread on the proposed route. Bring water and a lunch for Saturday noon. Community dinner on Saturday night. Overnight at project site. INFO: Trudy Thompson (going2home2@yahoo.com) 703/938-3973 or Jon Rindt (jkrindt@shentel.net) 540/635-6351.

**29 (Sunday)**

👤 **HIKE - Leave No Trace**  
**Great Falls, MD**

9:00 a.m. to noon. Join a hike along the Billy Goat Trail A for an introduction to Leave No Trace (LNT). See hike on July 25 for more information. INFO: Georgeann Smale (gsmale99@yahoo.com) 301/581-9584.

**31 (Tuesday)**

👤 **HIKE - Vigorous Hikers**  
**Massanutten Mountain, VA**

Bring back memories of past Dogwood Events. Signal Knob Trail then down to Tuscarora Trail on Three Top Mountain returning via Powell Fort Camp and Mudhole Gap Trail 15 miles and 3000 foot climb. INFO: Chris Nolen (chrishiker@erols.com).

## SEPTEMBER

**1 (Wednesday)**

**DEADLINE - October Potomac Appalachian**  
**Material due to editors**

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

**1 (Wednesday)**

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

**4 (Saturday)**

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

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

**7 (Tuesday)**

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

**8 (Wednesday)**

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

**11 (Saturday)**

👤 **TRAIL WORK TRIP - Rock Creek Park Crew**  
**Washington, DC**

(8:15 - Noon). Meet at the Rock Creek Nature Center located south of the Military Road NW park entrance. INFO: Mark Anderson (dc.trails@verizon.net) 202/462-7718 or Ranger Ken Ferebee 202/895-6221.

**11 (Saturday)**

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

The South Mountaineers Trail Crew has been working on the Appalachian and Catoctin Trails in Maryland since 1993. We are always happy to see new faces. Please bring lunch, water and gloves and meet us near Frederick, MD at 9:00 a.m. Expect to work into the afternoon and hike 1-4 miles. INFO: Nancy Hammond, (mdtrail@yahoo.com) 301/739-0442.

**11 - 12 (Saturday - Sunday)**

**CABIN WORK TRIP - Southern Slackers Highacre House, Harpers Ferry, WV**

Paint, clean, finish the barn cleaning. INFO: Thomas C. Jorgensen (hairatheart@aol.com) 540/456-4760 (home) 540/248-7009 (work) 540/248-7046 (fax).

**11 - 12 (Saturday - Sunday)**

**CLASS - Hike Leadership Training Vienna, VA**

The Trail Patrol is hosting this two day course which 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. INFO: Ben Fernandez (3ferns@adelphia.net) 703/327-9788.

**11 - 12 (Saturday - Sunday)**

**TRAIL WORK TRIP - Cadillac Crew**

**Tuscarora Trail East of Berkeley Springs, WV**

The Cadillac Crew will be working on the Tuscarora Trail at the north end of Sleepy Creek WMA. The project involves a trail relocation across a ridge line to avoid ATV traffic and provide views. Community dinner on Saturday night. Overnight at Brill Cabin near Shockeys Knob. INFO: Trudy Thompson (going2home2@yahoo.com) 703/938-3973 or Jon Rindt (jkrindt@shentel.net) 540/635-6351.

**13 (Monday)**

**CLASS - BP101 - Introductory Night Vienna, VA**

7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. The BP101 class provides those persons, 18 years and older, who have moderate or no backpacking experience with the opportunity to expand their enjoyment of the outdoors through the practice of backpacking. The class provides basic instruction in equipment selection and use; information and techniques to enhance safety and comfort; and Leave No Trace methods to protect our fragile backcountry environment. It also provides more experienced backpackers an opportunity to hone or renew their skills, and adapt their backpacking techniques to the Leave No Trace wilderness ethic. After classroom instruction, the class will take their new skills out in the field. Instructional Weekend: Sep 18-19. Backpacking trip: Oct 2-3 accompanied by experienced backpacking instructors. Fee: \$60.00 for PATC Members; \$75.00 for non-members. INFO: John Browne (back2\_packing@cox.net) 703/425-5645 or see ad elsewhere this issue.

**13 (Monday)**

**CLASS - Backpacking 202 - Planning 1 Vienna, VA**

7:30 - 10:00 p.m. Trail Patrol presents an intermediate backpacking course focused on planning small group trips. First of three planning sessions. Working in groups of eight or less, participants have the opportunity to expand or renew their skills by planning and executing a three-day group backpacking trip (Columbus Day weekend, Oct. 9-11). Covers equipment selection and use, route planning, food planning, safety and comfort in challenging condi-

tions, and Leave No Trace (LNT) principles. Experienced instructors facilitate group planning sessions and accompany the weekend trip. Fee: \$40.00 for PATC Members; \$55.00 for non-members. Applicants must know the basics and have some backpacking experience. INFO: John Browne (back2\_packing@cox.net) 703/425-5645 or see ad on page 8 of this issue.

**14 (Tuesday)**

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

**15 (Wednesday)**

**HIKE - Easy Hikers Carderock, MD**

To Great Falls. A 6-mile hike along picturesque section of C&O Canal. Meet at 10:15 a.m. Take Exit 41 off Beltway (Interstate 495) and follow signs to Carderock. Go to third parking lot. One small rocky stretch. Lunch will be at the halfway point. Bring plenty of water. Group will return to starting point after lunch. INFO: Jim Flanigan (jflanigan@aol.com) 202/554-3775.

**18 (Saturday)**

**HIKE - Tuscarora Trail Morgan County, WV**

Enjoy a 5 mile hike with 300 ft elevation gain, on the Tuscarora Trail in woods and on country roads from Spruce Pine County Park north to River Road. Hikers will pass through the PATC owned Ruth Morris and Hauvermale tracts. Hike is co-sponsored by the Sleepy Creek Watershed Assoc & the Morgan County Ecotourism Assoc. INFO: Walter Smith (wsmith@visuallink.com) 540/678-0423.

**18 (Saturday)**

**HIKE - Waterfall and Wild Flower Series Central District, Shenandoah National Park, VA**

The 14th hike of the Waterfall and Wild Flower Series will a 15-mile circuit on the Slaughter, Appalachian, Bearfence and Conway River Trails to include the bushwhack to the Devil's Ditch Falls. Total elevation is approximately 3400 feet. PATC Map 10. Meet at the Oakton Shopping Center parking lot at 7:30 a.m. INFO: Jack Thorsen (thorsen4@juno.com) 703/39-6716 or William Needham, (Needham82@aol.com) 410/884-9127.

**18 (Saturday)**

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

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

**18 - 19 (Saturday - Sunday)**

**CLASS - Backpacking 101**

**Prince William Forest Park, Triangle, VA**

This instructional weekend follows the introductory night (see Sep 13 event listing). The BP101 Introductory BACKPACKING Course provides those persons, 18 years and older, who have moderate or no backpacking experience with the opportunity to expand their enjoyment of the outdoors through the practice of backpacking. The students will then use their new skills on an overnight backpacking trip Oct. 2-3 accompanied by experienced backpacking instructors. INFO: John Browne (back2\_packing@cox.net) 703/425-5645 or see ad elsewhere this issue.

**18 - 19 (Saturday - Sunday)**

**HIKE - Natural History Backpacking Trip St. Mary's Wilderness, GWNF, VA**

Join Bob Pickett and friends as we visit a nearby wilderness area for an overnight backpacking trip into this interesting area. We'll hike down the Minebank trail and then up the St. Mary's trail to Green Pond for the night. Mileage is about six miles on Saturday and four on Sunday. The hike must be

considered moderately difficult, with a steep 800' ascent as we approach Green Pond Saturday. Sunday is an easy hike out. INFO: Bob Pickett 301/681-1511.

**18 - 19 (Saturday - Sunday)**

**CLASS - North District Trails Workshop North District, Shenandoah National Park, VA**

Mathews Arm Campground. Come and join PATC and SNP trails professionals for the 17th annual North District workshop. See article elsewhere this issue. INFO/RSVP: George Walters (gjwalters@star-power.net) 410/426-2724.

**18 - 19 (Saturday - Sunday)**

**TRAIL WORK TRIP - Acme Treadway Co. Gore, VA**

Are you frustrated by your high-tech, high-stress job? Think there's something better out there, but you just don't have the skills and don't know where to turn? You, too, can be a Certifiable Rock Mason! That's right, and YOUR Club offers YOU free training!!! On the Tuscarora Trail, when the Acme Treadway Co. continues construction of the public access trail to the Tuscarora Trail north of The Pinnacles shelter and south of Gore, VA on Saturday, September 18th. We will meet for breakfast at 9:00 A.M. in the Hayfield Family Restaurant west of Winchester on US Route 50; we will camp overnight near the work site. Space on the Crew is limited and fills up quickly. INFO: Don White (ribldr@comcast.net) 804/795-2914 by Wednesday, September 15.

**20 (Monday)**

**CLASS - BP202 - Planning Session 2 Vienna, VA**

7:30 - 9:30 p.m. Trail Patrol presents an intermediate backpacking course focused on planning small group trips. Second of three planning sessions (see Sept. 13 event listing). INFO: John Browne (back2\_packing@cox.net) 703/425-5645 or see ad on page 8 of this issue.

**20 (Monday)**

**MEETING - Group Planning Sessions Vienna, VA**

Three Monday nights, 7:30-9:30: Sep 13, 20 and 27, 2004. PATC Headquarters, 118 Park Street, SE. Weekend Outing - Location to be determined. Three days, two nights: Columbus Day weekend, Oct 9 - 11, 2004. Fee: \$40.00 for PATC Members; \$55.00 for non-members Pre-registration is required. Applicants must know the basics and have some backpacking experience. To receive a registration form and for all other information, call or email John Browne (email back2\_packing@cox.net) 703/425-5645.

**22 (Wednesday)**

**HIKE - Easy Hikers Washington, DC**

The Easy Hikers will hike about 4 moderate miles in Scott's Run Park along the Potomac near the American Legion Bridge. Meet at 10:15 a.m. at the SECOND parking area on Georgetown Pike (VA 193). Bring lunch and water. No restrooms. Directions: Exit the Beltway (I-495) at Exit 44. Go west on Georgetown Pike (VA 193) 0.6 miles to Swink's Mill Rd. (on left) and turn right into parking lot. INFO: Shirley Rettig 703/836-0147.

**See Forecast, page 16**

# Bob Pickett's Appalachian Nature: Coyotes Make a Comeback?

A few weeks ago, I was visiting with my parents, who live in McLean, Va. They were lamenting the fact that the raccoons they used to feed on their back porch were no longer appearing. In fact, nor were the cats. It seemed to them that someone must have put out poisonous bait to eliminate the raccoons, affecting the cat population as well. That may well be the case. However, I proposed an alternative hypothesis to account for this sudden disappearance. How about coyotes? It's not that farfetched. I recently read about coyotes making an appearance in Fairfax City. In fact, during the preparation of my Appalachian Mammals Web site ([www.bobpickett.org](http://www.bobpickett.org)), I was told by the state fur bearer biologists that coyotes could be found in every county in Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, and North Carolina! I was also told the word should be pronounced, "ky-o-tee" not "ky-ote." The name coyote comes from the Aztec word coyotl, meaning barking dog.

## Coyotes Bulk up, Hit the Trail East

Coyotes and their close relatives, the timber, or gray, wolves, had been extirpated from this region over a hundred years ago by our farming ancestors who feared for the well-being of their livestock. But, the coyote is back. Traveling east from the Great Plains, our coyotes mixed their genes with the much larger timber wolf as they met in the Great Lakes region before continuing east and south to our neighborhoods. Western coyotes weigh 20 to 25 pounds, while our Eastern coyotes average 35 to 40 pounds (this contrasts with the 110-pound gray wolf). Concurrently, coyotes spread through Texas to the east and northeast to Virginia.

As coyote populations increase in our Eastern states, their presence will eventually be known to all. They are incredibly adaptable and behaviorally variable as a species. Coyotes may live singly, in pairs, or in packs. The available prey will in large part determine size of the social unit (solitary in areas of rodents; packs of three to seven in areas with only large ungulates). Thus, as opposed to coyotes in the West, where

open-grasslands support large herbivores, it would be reasonable to assume most coyotes in the East would tend to be in pairs or singles.

A coyote's diet in our area would be primarily small rodents and rabbits, with some fruits, herbs, insects, and winter carrion to add to their omnivorous nature. The coyote is also a significant predator of deer fawns in the spring and weakened adult deer in winter. However, it is noted that they can, and will, prey on other small mammals they might find, including raccoons and roving felines!

Similar to a slightly built German shepherd, this carnivore has a busy tail tipped in black. Large variations in pelage exist from nearly all black to nearly all white phases (approximately 25 percent of the coyotes in Virginia are mostly black). In the continuum of canid sizes, from largest to smallest, our native species include the gray wolf, red wolf, coyote, red fox (see my Web site for details about the debated origin of this species), and gray fox. This size difference enables each species to specialize on a slightly different prey base.

## Coyote Characteristics

Although some coyote pairs are monogamous, bonding for life (especially in areas of low densities), coyotes normally don't mate for life, but may stay as a pair for several years. Nor do they live in dens, except for birthing. Rather, they will sleep anywhere a concealed site can be found within their flexible home range.

The Eastern population doesn't seem to howl as much as Western populations, but their calls are becoming more prevalent. When running, coyotes distinguish themselves by holding their tails between their legs. All other canids run with their tails either horizontal (wolves) or curled over the back (domestic dogs).

*See Bob, page 8*

## FORECAST

### Forecast, from page 15

24 - 25 (Friday - Saturday)

🦋 **SPECIAL EVENT - Retreat at Glass House Fort Valley, VA**

Come enjoy the cool fall air, and the changing leaves as the Northern Shenandoah Valley Chapter spends another weekend in the secluded glass house in beautiful Fort Valley. Bring food to share and clothes to hike in and enjoy the beginning of fall in a fine setting. INFO: Lee Sheaffer ([thumpers@visuallink.com](mailto:thumpers@visuallink.com)) 540/955-0736.

25 (Saturday)

🦋 **HIKE - Northern Shenandoah Valley Chapter Appalachian Trail, VA**

Another in our series of hikes along the AT in Northern Virginia. Enjoy the beginning of fall along a lovely stretch of trail in the Northern Shenandoah Valley. INFO: Lee Sheaffer ([thumpers@visuallink.com](mailto:thumpers@visuallink.com)) 540/955-0736.

25 (Saturday)

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

Don't be fooled, this is a work event of the South Mountaineers. But its also a hobby ... maintaining the trails for hikers since 1993. Join our ranks and

have fun with us in the woods, novices welcome. The South Mountaineers' events meet near Frederick, MD at 9:00 a.m. Please bring lunch, water and gloves; expect to hike 1-4 miles. INFO: Nancy Hammond ([mdtrail@yahoo.com](mailto:mdtrail@yahoo.com)) 301/739-0442.

25 - 26 (Saturday - Sunday)

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

The crew will perform maintenance on trails in the Central District of SNP. Overnight accommodations are at the Pinnacles Research Center, just off Skyline Drive. INFO: Kerry Snow ([kerry@trailcrews.net](mailto:kerry@trailcrews.net)) 301/345-9408.

26 (Sunday)

🦋 **HIKE - Civil War History Gettysburg, PA**

We'll be touring the battlefield at Gettysburg on foot for this approximately 9-mile, moderate hike. We'll see such historic locations as Little Round Top, Devil's Den, the Confederate High Water Mark, and pass by the Eisenhower Farm as well. Contact Vince Ferrari ([ferrari3@ix.netcom.com](mailto:ferrari3@ix.netcom.com)) 301/249-2210.

27 (Monday)

🦋 **CLASS - BP202 - Planning Session 3 Vienna, VA**

7:30 - 9:30 p.m. Trail Patrol presents an intermediate backpacking course focused on planning small group trips. Third of three planning sessions (see Sep 13 event listing). INFO: John Browne ([back2\\_packing@cox.net](mailto:back2_packing@cox.net)) 703/425-5645 or see ad on page 8 of this issue.

28 (Tuesday)

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

29 (Wednesday)

🦋 **HIKE - Easy Hikers Battery Kemble, DC**

The Easy Hikers will make a 4- to 5- mile circuit on the Battery Kemble and Glover Archbold trails and the C & O canal towpath. Meet at 10:15 a.m. at Battery Kemble Park. Bring lunch and water. Dogs welcome. Directions: From MacArthur Blvd., turn NE (left if inbound, right if outbound) onto Chain Bridge Rd. Go 1/2 mile to park entrance on right. Follow road to parking area. INFO: Jennifer Newton ([jnewton700@aol.com](mailto:jnewton700@aol.com)) 202/543-3039. ☐

## Trail Community Will Miss

### Longtime Advocate

#### William Harry Wilcox

William Harry Wilcox died May 21, 2004, at Hospice of the Valley, Scottsdale, Ariz., at age 84 – a man of many accomplishments and enthusiasms.

Bill Wilcox was born in Philadelphia in 1919 and grew up in Wilkes-Barre, Pa., and Garden City, Long Island. He earned his BA from the University of Connecticut, where he met his wife, Madeleine. During World War II he was a bombardier and flew many missions over Southeast Asia. Returning from the war, he earned a master's degree in public administration and began a series of jobs reflecting his life-long interest in government, public policy, and politics.

From 1954 to 1971 Bill was the executive director of the Greater Philadelphia Movement, a nationally recognized reform nonprofit organization composed of Philadelphia's elite "movers and shakers." In 1971 Pennsylvania Gov. Milton Shapp appointed him Secretary of Community Affairs, and Bill soon became head of the state's disaster relief activities after Hurricane Agnes in 1972. In 1977, President Jimmy Carter appointed him to head the Department of Housing and Urban Development's Federal Disaster Assistance Administration, which was later merged into the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

With the end of the Carter administration, Bill became a senior legislative assistant in the Washington, D.C., office of Sen. Arlen Specter (R-Pa.). Then in 1983, he did something typically unexpected and adventurous – he joined the Peace Corps. He spent two years in Jamaica, wrote about his experiences, and published the first guide ever written to hiking trails in the Blue Mountains of Jamaica. At the end of his Peace Corps time, he was nearing retirement age but showed little interest in stopping work. He continued to work part-time for Partners of the Americas, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and FEMA.

After the accidental automobile death of his wife in 1988, he moved from Fairfax, Va., to Arizona in 1991 to start a new life. He became a housing co-op shareholder and in 1998

president of its board of directors. He was active in many local organizations, including Valley Forward and Pueblo Grande Museum (where he was a docent), and in 2002 he established Arizona's first Senior Environmental Corps.

Bill was a frequent world traveler; a tireless hiker, trail worker, bicyclist, camper; and a prize-winning photographer. He was long affiliated with the Appalachian Mountain Club, the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club, the American Youth Hostel, and the American Hiking Society. He loved Arizona and particularly its Native American culture.

Bill was indefatigable and seemed indestructible (he survived two cancers, a broken neck, and a broken hip). It is hard to believe that he is not still with us. He is survived by his son, Gregory Wilcox, and daughter-in-law, Yaqi Zhang, of Berkeley, Calif.; his daughter, Robin Wilcox, of Dallas; and his sister, Betty Wieland, of Easton, Md.

If Bill were here, he would gratefully appreciate gifts of flowers, but would much prefer that his friends send a contribution in his memory to Pueblo Grande Museum and Archaeological Park, 4619E. Washington St., Phoenix, AZ 85034-1909. □

—Submitted by William Newsome

### Douglas Dwight Faris:

#### Former Park Superintendent

Douglas Dwight Faris, age 58, died from complications of cancer July 9, 2004, at his home in Fayetteville, Ark. Although he was a native of Washington County, Va., he had lived in South Carolina, Colorado, Massachusetts, New Mexico, and Maryland and had recently moved to Arkansas.

Doug graduated from Emory and Henry College in 1968 with a BA in history and psychology. He received an MA in geography at the University of South Carolina in 1972.

In 1973 he took a position as an environmental planner for the city of Denver. He also taught courses in land planning at Denver Metropolitan State College. In 1974 he began his permanent career with the National Park

Service after being a seasonal employee at Yellowstone National Park in the late 1960s. From 1974 to 1978 he was a planning team captain at the Denver Service Center and worked on plans for many parks, including the Fire Island National Seashore and Assateague Island National Seashore.

From 1978 to 1980, Doug was project planner for the Lowell National Historic Park, which was the first national park dedicated to the industrial revolution in the country. In 1981, he was a park planner for the Southwest Regional Office of the National Park Service in Santa Fe, N.M. For the past nine years he had served as park superintendent for the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Park, which runs 185 miles from the Georgetown area of Washington, D.C., into Cumberland, Md. He had a long distinguished career with the National Park Service and retired after 30 years in January 2004.

Throughout his career, Doug received numerous awards, including 2003 Superintendent of the Year for the National Capital Region, The Justice William O. Douglas Award for Leadership and Outstanding Achievement from the C&O Canal Association and the Conservation Achievement Award from the Southwest Regional Office of the National Park Service.

In Fayetteville, Ark., Doug was a member of Sequoyah United Methodist Church and a consultant for the Northwest Arkansas Land Trust. He enjoyed gardening and traveling and was the family genealogist.

Doug is survived by his wife of 34 years, Jean Spears Faris, Fayetteville, Ark.; one daughter, Shelly Bohach, and her husband Lt. Joshua Bohach, Jacksonville, Fla.; one son, Shane Faris, Springfield, Mo.; his parents, Gale and Lois Bethel Faris, Glade Spring, Va.; his brother Ron and his wife Charlotte Faris, Marion, Va.; his brother Gale Jr. and his wife Sandra Faris, Chapel Hill, N.C.; and several nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers the family requests memorial contributions to be made in his honor to the Northwest Arkansas Land Trust, PO Box 687, Springdale, AR 72765; the C&O Canal Association, PO Box 366, Glen Echo, MD 20812-0366; or a charity of your choice. □

—Submitted by Jack Reeder

## Amenities – Much Ado About Nothing?

*In response to the recent articles in the June issue of the PA by club President Tom Johnson and ATC representative Karen Lutz, I submit this attached point of view.*

After reading the articles in the current issue (June) of the *Potomac Appalachian* under the headings Tom's Trail Talk and Shelters: Luxurious or Simplistic, I thought it about time I weighed in on the discussion. I'm the person who may have initiated the discussion of amenities on the trail as the overseer and offender for providing a significant threat to the "primitive experience" of the AT user by placing solar accent lights and hanging plants at the Quarry Gap shelter site.

Just a quick background. I have been caring for the Quarry Gap shelter area and surrounding trails since the late 1970s. I am nearing 12,000 volunteer hours with PATC as a shelter, trail, and cabin overseer as well as a corridor monitor. I have logged over 150,000 miles on vehicles on behalf of PATC. This is just to say I take my commitment to my responsibilities on behalf of PATC seriously. Not as a casual undertaking when I have nothing better to do but as a regularly scheduled commitment to my word to the club that I will maintain my shelter, trail, cabin and corridor to the highest standards – MY standards.

Karen Lutz states that Benton Mackaye's vision for the user of the AT was a "primitive experience." I agree. However, the meaning of "primitive experience" for the early users such as Mackaye, Myron Avery, and Earl Schaffer was quite different from the primitive expectations of the user of the trail today. Primitive today means no electricity, no running water, no flush toilets, no TV or AC. These men hit the trail with a knapsack, bedroll and a hatchet to seek the "primitive experience" on their journey. Today's users come to the trail dressed in the latest of fashion, Gor-tex boots, the latest in technology in backpacks loaded with ultra-light tents and sleeping gear, stoves, water filters, head lamps, Trekking poles, and oh yes, don't forget the cell phone. Hikers seeking the "primitive experience" – I don't think so. While the motive of the users of the trail remains the same – escape from the urban rat race – it is not to

seek the wilderness experience but to seek a change of scenery as comfortably as they can.

As a shelter overseer I come in contact with hundreds of thru-hikers each year. Many are overnight guests at my nearby cottage. Great conversation, great experiences, and longtime friendships have been generated from these many guests. Talking with these folks and hundreds of other trail users about the amenities Lutz mentions, I have never heard a complaint about them spoiling their "primitive experience." Sitting at the Quarry Gap shelter area in the quiet of the evening, listening to the burbling of the small stream as the water makes its way in front of the shelter, and to the last song of the day of the songbird and smelling the fragrance of the flowers on each end of the shelter structure the overnight guest can relax and reflect on his individual journey and come to the conclusion that this setting is really worth the walk. As possibly the last person connected to PATC that the northbound hikers will see, I strive to give these folks something of PATC to remember.

It scares me to death to think that with ATC's decision to delegate more responsibility to regional offices that the issue of amenities along the trail should receive such high priority and attention. I would think that protecting and keeping the trail passable would receive a much higher priority.

Imagine hiking along a gravel trail two abreast along a beautiful flowing water source, passing park benches by the water, in the distance you see a structure with a picnic table with a roof over it. Hikers are eating. There is someone rocking in a chair – not an Adirondack chair – a register box, flowers, and a porch swing. Have you arrived at the Quarry Gap Shelter? NO! Add to the above a pay telephone, a bulletin board with advertisements beckoning the weary hikers to eat and sleep and an outside water spigot and you are at the Mid-Atlantic office of the ATC just 10 feet off the AT. Interesting that Lutz carefully worded her comments to state "back-country sites" when referring to where the offending amenities should not be present and not at the Mid-Atlantic office. Apparently these amenities only affect the "primitive experience" at certain locations along the trail and not others.

Lutz probably did not know of the question posed to the PATC membership on this subject when she submitted the article. It is obvious from the response of the membership (37 out of 6,000+) that the membership does not care. The people who we should pose the question to would be the trail users. I suggest that the Mid-Atlantic office add to their list of questions to ask of hikers at the office what they think of each maintaining club's performance along the trail and if the amenities provided detract or enhance the hiker's experience. Also, ask which shelter sites they favored. I suspect that PATC and Quarry Gap will be mentioned quite frequently at the top of the list.

I am proud to represent PATC in southern Pennsylvania, and I will continue to try to add a pleasant memory to the hiker's experience along their journey by providing a safe, clean, and tranquil (Tom's description) shelter site for all users. □

—*Respectfully submitted,*  
Jim Stauch Jr.  
"Innkeeper"

P.S. Hiker's remember to deadhead and water the flowers before you leave. Leave the area as you have found it, and take your trash with you.

### *Gypsy Springs, from page 1*

made the drape and told Neal to hang them. They add a touch of class. Thanks. To Becky Miller's parents for the donation of the couch that blends right in and to Becky and Chris Miller for their help on the project and for delivering the couch. Becky, you still have painting to finish. Too many others, Chip Black, Pete Brown, Dave Trone, Ester Althouse, and to whomever I forgot, I apologize. A very special thanks to the lovely and talented Barb Black for sending Al to help and providing great treats for yours truly and great suppers. How can we work so much and gain 10 pounds?

We have tried to make Gypsy Springs Cottage the very best in the system. We hope those that use the cottage will think so and use it many times.

With pride Al and I present Gypsy Springs Cottage to the members and public for their use on behalf of the PATC. □

—*Jim Stauch*

# AT's Comprehensive Plan Stands the Test of Time

## Managing the Appalachian Trail Under Cooperative Agreements

In the last two *PA*s, we discussed the National Trails System Act (NTSA) and the 1981 Comprehensive Plan for the Appalachian Trail, including the cooperative management system for implementing it. With those articles as background, we will address a single contract, the 1994 Cooperative Agreement between the National Park Service and the Appalachian Trail Conference.

This contract establishes the relationship between the federal agency with overall responsibility for the AT, the National Park Service, on the one hand, and the Appalachian Trail Conference and its 31 trail-maintaining member clubs on the other. Thus, while there are many cooperative agreements between federal, state, and local agencies and ATC and its member clubs, this one sits at the top of the pyramid and creates a basic division of responsibility for the trail. Discussing the agreement also highlights the extent to which ATC depends on federal payments to carry out its responsibilities.

## Cooperative Agreements Under the NTSA

The cooperative agreement is grounded in a number of provisions in the original 1968 law and the 1983 amendments, as well as the 1978 comprehensive plan mandate and the AT plan under it (see July 2004 *PA* article). It is important to review these statutory bases.

1. Cooperative Agreements. As applied to the AT, a provision of the NTSA allows the secretary of the interior to "enter into written cooperative agreements with the states or their political subdivisions, landowners, private organizations, or individuals to operate, develop, or maintain any portion [of the AT] either within or outside a federal administered area." ATC and its member clubs qualify, and NPS can enter into cooperative agreements with them. This statutory language was part of the original 1968 law and has not been changed. Using this authority, NPS began entering into agreements with ATC in 1970.

In 1983, this section was amended to add two provisions that may be included in cooperative agreements. They are ones: a.) providing "limited financial assistance to encourage participation in the acquisition, protection, operation, development, and maintenance" of trails, and b.) according "volunteer in the park or volunteer in the forest status" under other federal laws (see March 2004 *PA* article).

2. Volunteer Management and Planning Role. Consistent with the emphasis on the volunteer resource in the 1981 Comprehensive Plan (see July 2004 *PA* article), in 1983 Congress also gave volunteers a role in the planning and management of trails by adding two new provisions. In a statutory purpose section (Section 2(c)) and later in a substantive section (Section 11), Congress authorized the Secretary of the Interior "to encourage volunteers and volunteer organizations to plan, develop, maintain, and manage, where appropriate, trails throughout the nation." The Secretary's authority was in "addition to the cooperative agreement and other authorities contained" in the NTSA. The Secretary "may assist volunteers and volunteer organizations" in all these areas and was authorized to make "federal facilities, equipment, tools, and technical assistance" available to them.

## The NPS-ATC Cooperative Agreement

1. History and General Terms. The first cooperative agreement under the present statutory scheme was executed in 1984 for a five-year term and renewed in 1989 for another five years. The current cooperative agreement was signed on Feb. 28, 1994. Unless terminated sooner, the agreement "shall remain in effect until Sept. 30, 2003, at which time it is the intention of the parties that it will be renewed and continue to be renewed for additional 10-year periods." A new agreement has not been signed, and NPS and ATC continue to operate under the 1994 contract.

There is a unilateral termination clause, allowing either ATC or NPS to terminate it with a year's written notice to the other party. However, after 34 years of operating under similar agreements, ATC and NPS are more than a little joined at the hip, and neither party is likely to trigger this clause.

2. Responsibilities of NPS and ATC; Delegations and Redelegations. A basic legal concept in the cooperative agreement is delegation. In this case, NPS is delegating its primary legal authority over the trail to ATC.

Delegations can be limited and conditional, and that is true here. Delegated authority must also be exercised consistent with applicable legal requirements (that is, a federal agency cannot, for example, shed a statutory duty), and the cooperative agreement also contains provisions along those lines. And, while less common, an agreement can provide for "redelegations." The cooperative agreement does that as well by allowing ATC to redelegate its responsibilities to its 31 member clubs.

Under the agreement, "the NPS delegates, and the ATC accepts responsibility for, management of lands, including easements and other restrictions, acquired by the NPS" for the trail and which are described in an attachment. ATC is required to manage the trail "consistent with the purposes for which the AT was established" (that is, primarily as a footpath) and as further described in the agreement. ATC, in turn, is authorized to "redelegate all or part" of its management responsibilities to its trail-maintaining member clubs (of which PATC is one) for designated sections of the trail. ATC is barred from further redelegations of management responsibility without NPS approval.

Under the agreement, ATC guarantees that the AT will be "adequately managed" in accordance with certain requirements. These include the NTSA, applicable laws and regulations governing NPS, and the 1981 Comprehensive Plan. For these, NPS retains a compliance "oversight function."

ATC shall use the "Local Management Planning Guide" (199 pages) to "guide trail-maintaining clubs ... in the preparation of local management plans," which, once approved, govern assigned trail sections (see July 2004 *PA* article). The parties also joint-

*See Plan, page 20*

## Virginia Wilderness Bill Aimed at Expanding Lands

On Earth Day, 2004, U.S. Rep. Rick Boucher and U.S. Sen. John Warner introduced companion bills in Congress (H.R. 4202 and S. 2342) to create four new wilderness-designated areas and two new national scenic areas on the Jefferson National Forest in southwest Virginia. The proposed legislation will also expand five existing wilderness areas on the Jefferson.

The bill, the Ridge and Valley Wilderness and National Scenic Area Act of 2004, would provide lasting protection for around 40,000 acres in portions of Craig, Grayson, Giles, Lee, Montgomery, and Smyth counties.

### The proposed wilderness areas are:

Stone Mountain (Cave Springs) – 3,200 acres,  
Lee County  
Raccoon Branch – 4,400 acres, Smyth County  
Brush Mountain – 4,700 acres, Montgomery  
County  
Brush Mountain East – 3,800 acres, Craig  
County

The following existing wilderness areas will be expanded:

Lewis Fork – 748 acres added  
Little Wilson Creek – 1,862 acres added  
Peters Mountain – 1,570 acres added  
Mountain Lake Wilderness – 5,573 acres  
added  
Shawvers Run – 2,789 acres added

### The proposed national scenic areas are:

Crawfish Valley – 5,400 acres, Smyth County  
Seng Mountain – 6,400 acres, Smyth County

For more information on this legislation and the wilderness preservation movement in Virginia, go to the Virginia Wilderness Committee ([www.vwwilderness.org](http://www.vwwilderness.org)). □

—Bob Pickett

## Four Month Detour Set on Tuscarora Trail Section

The Tuscarora Trail will be closed between US30 and PA16 near McConnellsburg, Pa., from about the end of July 2004 through the end of November 2004. Texas Eastern Transmission is planning construction work on a natural gas pipeline not too far from where the trail crosses PA16. During construction, the normal route of the trail across the pipeline will be closed. However, the company proposes to set up a detour of about 1,100 feet for hikers to safely pass the area. If you are hiking southbound, you will be routed along the edge of the pipeline right-of-way to PA16 and then along PA16 to where the trail normally crosses the highway. Northbound hikers will follow the same route in the reverse direction. The company plans to install fencing and signs to clearly mark the detour route. □

—Pete Brown, *Pennsylvania Trails DM*

### Plan, from page 19

ly prepare a “scope of work” describing the activities that ATC shall undertake during each federal fiscal year.

The delegation and redelegations are not unlimited. NPS remains responsible for law enforcement; trail relocations (see June 2004 *PA* article); U.S. land acquisitions, transfers of title and use, and related functions (boundary surveys, structure and hazardous material removal); and NEPA environmental compliance.

The delegation principles and other terms and conditions of the cooperative agreement are designed to ensure maximum consistency with the purpose and substantive provisions of the NTSA. Needless to say, administering the cooperative agreement entails a lot of cooperation (pun intended) between ATC and NPS. To facilitate that, the NPS unit responsible for the trail, the Appalachian Trail Park Office, and ATC are both headquartered in Harper’s Ferry, WV.

This contract is only one of many AT cooperative agreements, and PATC is party to a large number. Certainly, the planning, management, and contract administration now governing the trail were not envisioned by Myron Avery or early PATC presidents.

3. Financial Assistance; Volunteer Protection. NPS provides volunteer-in-the-park status to individuals and organizations participating in activities under the cooperative agreement. The cooperative agreement also states that NPS will provide limited technical, material, and financial assistance to ATC to meet its delegated and assumed responsibilities.

### Financing ATC

Federal financial assistance depends on the “availability of appropriated funds” and the agreed annual “scope of work” for ATC. Driving home this point, the agreement states that nothing therein shall be construed as binding NPS to expend any sum in excess of congressional appropriations or amounts administratively allocated for the AT.

ATC’s Web site ([www.appalachiantrail.org](http://www.appalachiantrail.org)) contains a report showing that it received \$858,792 from NPS in 2002. To put this figure in perspective, ATC’s total support revenue from federal and state agencies was \$984,242, and ATC’s 2002 total expenses were \$3,931,736 (of which \$3,468,140 is for program services). The NPS payments represent about 22 percent of ATC’s total expenses. In suitably cautionary language, the notes to ATC’s financial statements say that a “significant reduction in the level of this support [from federal and state agencies], if this were to occur, may have a significant impact on [ATC’s] programs and activities.”

The cooperative agreement is the core AT contract and illustrates the legal principles and statutory predicates for federal agency agreements and funding. ATC and its 31 member clubs have the primary management role; but NPS retains responsibility over U.S. land acquisitions and property interests, trail relocations, NEPA environmental compliance, and law enforcement. The cooperative agreement needs to be renewed. It will be interesting to see what terms and conditions are included in any new contract. □

—Robert Nelson

# NOTICES

## NEW NOTICES

**HELP WANTED:** We need volunteers with experience in creating sales materials and/or catalogs. If you are interested please send a note to Tim Hanlon, Sales Chair, care of Maureen Estes at MEstes@patc.net.

## HIKING PARTNERSHIPS

**LOOKING FOR SOME WOMEN TO HIKE WITH:** Are any of you ladies interested in hiking sections of the AT - mostly by slackpacking, dayhiking and occasional overnight? I've finished about half. Let's compare notes. INFO: Stacy (dslabare@corlink.com.) 304/358-3154

**TREKKERS WANTED** to round out a group trekking in **Nepal** for three weeks from Oct. 14 to Nov. 7. This will be in the Annapurna region of Nepal, moderate to strenuous hiking. The highest pass will be ca. 17,000 ft. INFO: David (dsaah@cox.net) 703/352-4685.

## HELP WANTED

**PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE** needs someone proficient in desktop publishing (Quark and/or Pagemaker) to work with chairman in updating guidebooks. Adobe Photo Shop also helpful for scanning photos. Need to prepare final disk for printer. Minimal time requirement - only 2 or 3 publications per year would require your expertise. If you are interested or have questions, call George Meek, publications committee chair, (george@meekconsulting.com) 703/875-3021.

**ARE YOU LOOKING TO GET AWAY** to the mountains for the day or weekend, have fun and meet new people all while doing something worthwhile? If so, we have the perfect opportunity for you. We are forming a new crew to work on and around the Blackburn Trail Center. Meeting on a monthly basis, we will carry out work projects at the Center and along the AT in the Northern Virginia/West Virginia District. Work at the Blackburn Center will include new construction, day-to-day maintenance and painting, and grounds and road upkeep. Trail projects will be at the request of the trail volunteers as needed. We are looking for a few good members willing to put in a good day or a weekend's worth of work and we welcome all skill levels. Each trip will end with a community meal made up of good food and good company. INFO: Chris (trailbossbtc@msn.com) 703/924-0406.

**BEARS DEN TRAIL CENTER** is in need of immediate part-time assistant managers and has openings for two summer internships that include on-site housing. Bears Den is located right on the A.T. near Bluemont, Va., and offers accommodations to A.T. hikers, hostellers, families, youth groups and other organizations. The primary responsibility is to welcome guests and provide them with a pleasant and comfortable visit. Guest registration, house keeping, and store sales are some basic roles. For more information, please email info@bearsdencenter.org or call 540/554-8708.

## FREE TO GOOD HOME

**FREE FIREWOOD** for the asking. A pickup truck full of cut and seasoned (by this fall) wood is available on a first come, first served basis. Kindling also available. Must get rid of it quickly. Please call Bernie Morgan at 301/864-1324.

## LOST AND FOUND

**FOUND:** Two trekking poles left at Glass House sometime prior to April 2. Contact Sam Perdue, 703/241-8664, sam\_perdue@yahoo.com.

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

**DAYTIME RESERVATIONISTS NEEDED** If you are available during the day to work a busy reservation desk, I've got an opening for you on alternate Thursdays. I really need to secure a volunteer every other Thursday afternoon between 12 noon and 2:00 p.m. Will train. No pressure calls. Please call Pat Fankhauser at 703/242-0693, Ext. 17 if you can help us out.

**DAYTIME AND EVENING CABIN RESERVATIONISTS NEEDED:** Openings are available to any individual who can give attention to detail, work independently, and work under pressure some seasons of the year. Daytime volunteers are needed on Thursday afternoon between 12 noon and 2:00 p.m. Evening volunteers are needed to take one or two nights per month. We Need You Now! Call Pat Fankhauser for interview at 703/242-0693 or e-mail, pfankhauser@patc.net.

**WE NEED SOMEONE TO HELP POUR PAINT** for trails and corridor workers. Contact Heidi Forrest (hforrest@patc.net) 703/242-0315 x12.

**DO YOU HAVE A KNACK FOR HANGING TOOLS?** We could use your help in the HQ Tool Room. Contact Liles Creighton (lcrei@aol.com) 410/573-0067.

## HELP WANTED

**REQUEST FOR VOLUNTEERS:** Trail Crew Maintenance, DC-Based. Want some trail maintenance experience and exercise, but still sleep in your own bed? Is SNP just too far a drive? I've got all these problems and will try to fill a need by building a local-based trail crew. The Potomac River Trail Crew will work one day a month, mostly just 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The crew would begin its focus on the Potomac Heritage Trail on the Virginia side of the river, but the crew could also help in Rock Creek and Great Falls. INFO: Bruce Glendening (bglendening@yahoo.com) 703/532-9093 (night).

**C&O CANAL NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK** is seeking volunteers for the Williamsport Visitor Center to staff the center and bookstore, and can include informal interpretation. INFO: Gloria Updyke (Gloria\_Updyke@nps.gov) 301/582-0813.

## CALLING ALL LAWYERS, ACCOUNTANTS,

**AND TAX ATTORNEYS.** Virginia now permits donors of conservation easements to sell the tax credit for cash. PATC owns property in Virginia that would be eligible for such a rebate. The club needs your help writing proposals that would help the club save thousands of dollars.

Contact: Phil Paschall

(bettycox@erols.com), 540/882-3027.

Hurry - before the state changes its mind.

## FOR SALE/RENT

**32 FT. MOTOR HOME FOR SALE** — 1993 Rexhall Airex, 33,000 miles — Ford Chassis. Queen Bed, Sleeps 6, 460 hp engine, Dual Air Conditioning, Tag Axle, Granny Air Suspension. SKW Generac Generator with 160 Hours, NADA: \$26,000, Asking \$19,000. If interested call Jim Hill (JKH.Jr@mail.com) 949/510-9304.

**FRIENDS OF CUNNINGHAM FALLS AND GAMBRILL PARKS NEEDS YOUR HELP:** The volunteer organization coordinating activities in support of Cunningham Falls and Gambrill State Parks in Maryland welcomes the involvement of motivated "new blood". Traditionally, the Friends group has done tremendous work in support of the park and its current viability is in question. New volunteers have the opportunity to make a major, positive impact on this organization. For details contact Rick Canter (southmountaineers@yahoo.com) 301/594-4379.

**LAND MANAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES:** The Land Management Committee is looking for volunteers with various skills to help out on several important projects. We are hoping to find members with the following professional skills that they can apply at PATC.

**GIS Specialist** - Help contact and develop the club's GIS capabilities.

**Forester** - Assist committee in developing Forestry Plans for club lands. We have a process and existing leadership but have a lot of land to cover.

**Surveyor** - Assist committee members in identifying boundaries on our existing properties. Assist in purchasing of new properties identified for cabins and trail protection.

**Land Appraiser** - Assist the club in determining values of potential land purchases and conservation easements. Efforts are targeted in the VA, PA, MD and WV areas.

If you're interested in helping out in any of the above areas please contact Chris Mangold at csm5749@yahoo.com.

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

As the summer starts winding down and trailside vegetation becomes dormant, overseers rejoice in another season's accomplishments. Barring a natural disaster like Hurricane Isabel last fall, there is now time for deferred maintenance on waterbars, freshening blazes, and tread improvements. By this time of year we long for winter's open understory and mini-views that have been blocked by the green tunnel of summer growth.

## It is Appreciated

David Nebhut, overseer for Elkwallow Trail, was out weeding his trail in early June and ran into a sizeable contingent of thru-hikers who were refueling at Elkwallow Wayside. One of them commented, "The trail in the park is the best. This thing you guys have about cutting the weeds back is great." Almost makes weeding fun!

## SNP Southern District AT

Dennis DeSilvey reports that by now all SNP South AT overseers should have availed themselves of the opportunity to study the vegetation growth on the Southern Section. The combination of the rains, humid weather, and sun have resulted in more growth than most of us have experienced in a long time. For those of us who feel overwhelmed, realize that a weedwhacker is a good way to practice one's golf swing. We are hopeful that the rains will slow with the warmer weather, but until then, we are committed to the task at hand.

## Pass Mountain Assault

On June 12, DM John McCrea, Overseers Karen Mostellar and Terry Allen, and new Overseer Tom Brooks were joined by three members of the Maryland Outdoor Club (Jesse Allen, J.R. Withers, Travis Fritz) in the annual assault on the weedy wilderness area at the summit of Pass Mountain. After a long day of swinging weed whips and machetes the crew retired to Range View Cabin where Chef Jesse plied everyone with food, and the crew enjoyed a relaxing evening.

## New Link

Pete Gatje reports a couple of the SNP South District blue blaze overseers have shown some real initiative. They have made an unsanctioned trail link between the One Mile Run Trail and the Brown Mountain Trail. Their names are John Ruppe and Tim Hupp. Thus the link is called the Hupp-Ruppe Link.

## Entry Run Trail Dedication

Another moment for the history books occurred on June 19 when PATC President Tom Johnson and SNP Park Superintendent Doug Morris performed the ribbon cutting to officially open the new Entry Run Trail. This was the successful culmination of a three-year project that required close cooperation between SNP and PATC. The trail is located at coordinates L22 on PATC Map 10, July 2003 edition.

This is the first new trail opened from the park boundary since the 1960s, thanks to the

efforts of SNP's Shawn Green working with PATC to lay out the route and tackling the bureaucracy to get the trail approved. SNP trail crews built the trail from the park boundary to the Pocosin Fire Road while PATC's Cadillac Crew, assisted by the Blue and White, built the trail from Entry Run Road near John's Rest Cabin up over the ridge to the park boundary. Thanks to Per-Lee Tract Managers Park Anderson and Peg Manuel in providing the crews access to Rosser Lamb Cabin and lots of moral support.

## Cultural Exchange

On June 26, SNP North District AT DM John McCrea participated in somewhat of a trails "cultural exchange" when he joined the members of the West Jersey Trail Crew (New York-New Jersey AT Conference) rehabbing and installing waterbars on the heavily used section of the AT north of Delaware Water Gap. David Day and Monica Resor run the crew. Also joining in were AT Manager and section Overseer Bob Sickley, Larry Wheelock, and seven other regular crew members. The trail runs through Dunnfield Creek Gorge and climbs up to Sunfish Pond on an old, wide roadbed, making some long and large rock waterbars the rule here. It was a long day of hard, dirty work, and afterwards there was the usual trail socializing. The trails here are very challenging due to the layout and very heavy volume, and some different techniques need to be employed. John was grateful to meet and exchange ideas with the crew that does some of the great work on his favorite hiking trails in the DWG area.

## Interest in Tuscarora is Growing

Tuscarora Trail Central District Manager Walt Smith is enjoying getting to know the neighbors in the West Virginia Panhandle. Many are becoming new supporters for the Tuscarora Trail in the Sleepy Creek area. It all started when Walt got an e-mail from an intern who was forming a group (to be called the Eastern Panhandle Trails Coalition) interested in promoting trails for hiking, biking, or equestrian activities. Walt decided to attend the first meeting, which was held this spring in Martinsburg. He discovered that some other PATC members had also decided to attend, along with bikers and horseback riders. Sub-groups by county were formed at the meeting, and Walt joined the Morgan County group. Their group decided to meet



Photo by Jon Rindt

*PATC President Tom Johnson watches as SNP Superintendent Doug Morris cuts the ribbon officially opening the Entry Run Trail.*

*See Trailhead, page 23*

in Berkeley Springs over dinner. Wow, do they know how to have an enjoyable meeting! A member of the group is also on the board of the Sleepy Creek Watershed Association (SCWA), and SCWA has decided that it would like to co-sponsor one of Walt's hikes in the fall so that more people in the Panhandle become acquainted with the Tuscarora Trail. The trail passes through some land that is important from a conservation standpoint. Another member of the SCWA board is also a member of the board of the Morgan County Ecotourism Association (MCEA) that promotes businesses and activities that capitalize on the county's natural assets. MCEA also wants to co-sponsor Walt's fall Tuscarora Trail hike. Walt is not sure where this will all end, but he sure is enjoying getting to know the neighbors and trusts that it will increase community support for the Tuscarora Trail.

### Hoodlums Work Dickey Ridge Trail

The North District Hoodlums were pleasantly surprised on their June worktrip to find that 22 locust logs were not only provided by NPS' Don Harvey and crew, but also placed neatly at intervals along the Dickey Ridge Trail between Mile 2 and the visitor center for the crew's peeling and installation. The crew was expecting to carry in the logs from the trailhead. All 22 waterbars were installed. Thanks, Don!

After the trailwork, pick mattocks and McLeods were replaced by spatulas and cook pots as the Hoodlum chefs whipped up a Mediterranean-theme feast at Indian Run hut. Rumor has it that these infamous chefs may be preparing something special for the North District workshop.

And, taking advantage of such a segue, George Walters would like to announce that the 17th Annual North District Trails Workshop will be returning to Mathews Arm Campground this year on Sept. 18-19. (See article on page 1 in this issue.) An invitation is extended to all the old trail dogs out there who are reading this, as well as any and all new folks, to come and join us. Esther Aulthouse and family will not be able to cater this year's event, and she will be sorely missed. But a contingent of Hoodlums led by Sherri Fickel will man the grills, and we anticipate that the participants will be well fed. A portion of the campground will be reserved for PATC use.



Vic Fickes and Richard Stromberg work the rocking rocks on the Tuscarora Trail near the Shockey's Knob Shelter.

### Waterbars in Action

In the grand tradition of SNP Central District overseer workshops, prayers for torrential downpours were once again answered. Thirty hearty PATC volunteers enjoyed the November-in-June weather as they labored to improve the trails in the park. Plans for several advanced-skills projects had to be scrapped, due to the flooded trail conditions, but new overseers were able to learn some basic techniques (including an excellent demonstration of waterbars in action), and the experienced volunteers in the group chipped in to take care of some trail sections in need of basic maintenance. With any luck, and if the meteorological trend continues, next year's workshop crowd will be lucky enough to witness the park's first June ice storm. Sign up early!

### Rocking Rocks

That rock moved. It was stable the last time we were here. And so the story goes as the Cadillac Crew reworked a section of the Tuscarora Trail across a rock field near the Shockey's Knob shelter. With rock bars, sledgehammer, and a lot of "remove and replace," the rocking rocks were stabilized. Mike Vento, the largest member of the crew, provided the final jump and stomp test to ensure the rocks were seated properly. Now pretend you have a heavy backpack and walk up and down the newly adjusted rocks. Does it feel right? Discussion – no, we need to move that rock. But I just spent half an hour getting it in place! Isn't trail work fun.

In appreciation of the effort, trail Overseer Al "Old Smuggler" Rogers treated the crew to grilled steaks at the always relaxing Brill

Cabin. Now if the whippoorwills will be quiet enough for a good sleep tonight.

### Winds of May

Frank Hass, DM for Spotsylvania Battlefield Park trails, completed an inspection of district trails in April, and they were in good shape. That was until Friday, May 7, when wind that didn't seem that strong, passed through the area. Hit hard by Hurricane Isabel last year, the park trails again had numerous blowdowns. The North Trail had six, Chancellorsville had eight, Gordon Flank had eight, and there were several on the Federal Line Trail. It will take about a month to clear the trails and, as usual for this type of problem, more time is spent clearing debris than cutting. Frank says he has used five tanks of gas so far. Passing runners and walkers take time to give overseers a bit of thanks for their work.

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

#### POTOMAC APPALACHIAN

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# Trail, Shelter, and Corridor Overseers / Monitors Wanted

## Shelter Overseer Opening

### Manassas Gap Shelter - Northern VA - Map 8

Shockeys Knob Shelter - WV - Map L

Frank Turk, 301/249-8243

FrankTurk@aol.com

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### District Manager for Massanutten South - Map H

Liles Creighton, 410/573-0067

lcrei@aol.com

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### Co - District Manager for SNP North AT - Map 9

Front Royal to US Rte. 211

John McCrea, 610/352-9287

mccreajf@aol.com

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

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### Tuscarora Pennsylvania Maps J & K

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

Pete Brown, 410/343-1140

peter.brown4@worldnet.att.net

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### Harpers Ferry / Ashby Gap AT & BB - Map 7 & 8

Chris Brunton, 703/924-0406

trailbossbtc@msn.com

#### Blackburn North

Blackburn North to the AT (0.3 mile)

Blackburn South

AT to the view and the short trail to the view (0.3 mile)

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### Ashby/Possums AT/BB [Rte. 50 to SNP] - Map 8, 9

Lloyd Parriott, 540/622-2743

laparriott@hotmail.com

#### Appalachian Trail

2nd creek crossing to pipeline (1.2 miles)

#### Appalachian Trail

Va. 602 to 4H access Trail (0.7 miles)

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### SNP Central AT - Map 10

Charles Hillon, 703/754-7388

charleshillon@comcast.net

Inquiries welcome for future overseer & co-overseer assignments.

### SNP Central Blue-Blazed [north end] - Map 10

Dan Dueweke, 703/266-3248

danjan3@cox.net

### Corbin Mountain Trail Co-overseer

Nicholson Hollow Trail to Old Rag Fireroad (4.4 miles)

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### SNP Central Blue-Blazed [south end] - Map 10

Steve Paull, 703/361-3869

stevepaull@yahoo.com

#### Jones Mt. Trail

Bear Church Rock to Cat Knob Trail (2.8 miles)

#### Saddleback Mountain Trail

AT to AT (1.4 miles)

#### Salamander [Naked Top] Trail

Hawksbill Summit to AT (.7 miles)

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### SNP South Blue-Blazed - Map 11

Pete Gatje, 434/361-1309

pjgatje@aol.com

### Brown Mountain Trail - Co-overseers

Skyline Drive to Big Run Portal Trail (5.3 miles)

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### Tuscarora Central - Map L

Walt Smith, 540/678-0423

wsmith@visuallink.com

#### Tuscarora Trail

Yellow Spring Road to Capon Springs Road (3.7 miles)

#### Tuscarora Trail - [on road/blazing only]

C&O Canal to Ruth Morris Forest (3.9 miles)

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### Tuscarora South - Map F, G, 9

Rick Rhoades, 540/477-3247

rrhoades@shentel.net

#### Tuscarora Trail

Fetzer Gap to Maurertown (5.7 miles)

#### Tuscarora Trail

Doll Ridge to Rock marker (1.5 miles)

#### Tuscarora Trail

Rock marker to Massanutten Trail (1.5 miles)

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### Great North Mountain - Map F

Hop Long, 301/942-6177

theFSLongs@comcast.net

#### Gerhard Shelter Trail

Tuscarora Trail to Vances Cove (1.5 miles)

**Wanted!**



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