



The Potomac Appalachian

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

Volume 31, Number 9
September 2002

In Our 75th Year!

A Hot Time at Naked Creek – Or, Just Another Work Trip

Again this year I solicited a group of rookies, misfits, and outcasts to help with a cabin renovation. Bringing in supplies to Weaver, Mary's Toyota motor blew up. In subsequent supply trips, my Jeep blew a radiator hose, lost the water pump, and my Honda battery died. Three days before the first trip of the season, the BSA scout who promised to complete the gable end, said he would be out two worktrips for summer camp, two worktrips to visit Grandma, and two worktrips for the BSA sailing trip in Florida. But, he assured me he still had plenty of time to complete the gable end.

On action day one, Blue Ridge Builders dumped \$3,000 worth of supplies in the middle of our car parking area and spread it over the torch lilies and stacked to the wood shed.

Regardless, volunteers showed up not knowing how to install logs into windows; how to meld chink, cement, and wood into a bond that won't leak water; or how to apply
See Naked Creek, page 5



Photo by Ken Lyons

Even the most timely picture is out of date! Work continues on this historic cabin.

Cabin Rates Increase To Start October 1

The PATC Cabins rental rates have gone up. The last time the cabin rates were increased was in 1998. At the August 13th Council Meeting, the Council members unanimously approved the Finance Committee's motion to implement the previously approved increase to the cabin rates to make them comparable to similar rentals in our region. For example at the Dundo Campground in Shenandoah National Park, a tent space is \$30 per night, and that's just for a place to put your tent. Also in the Park at Big Meadows a rustic cabin is from \$75 to \$87 per person and the Lewis Mountain cabins are \$61 to \$68 per person. The Council voted in favor of the increase in December, 2001, but the implementation of the new rates was not made as quickly as expected.

All rates will be in effect as of October 1, 2002. There will be more information in

the October issue, but here are some of the details:

- ❑ *Primitive cabins* (e.g., *Hermitage, Mutton Top, etc.*) are \$35 Weekends/Holidays and \$25 Weekdays.
- ❑ *Semi-primitive cabins* (e.g., *Little Orleans, Meadows, etc.*) are \$50 Weekends/Holidays and \$35 Weekdays.
- ❑ *Modern cabins* (e.g., *Glass House, Cliff's House, etc.*) are \$60 Weekends/Holidays and \$40 Weekdays.
- ❑ *Highbacre, in a class by itself, will be \$110 Weekends/Holidays and \$55 Weekdays.* ❑

—Pat Fankhauser
Membership and Cabins Coordinator

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Headquarters Facility: Orron Kee

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Council Fire

At its July 9 meeting at Headquarters, the PATC Council approved the Club's 2003 Action Plan with some editorial corrections to the sections on Membership, Information Education, Activities, and Finances. The plan was presented in the context of the 2027 Vision Statement ("The PATC Looks Ahead"), the constitutional objectives, and the five-year goals, and it will serve as a basis for planning the 2003 budget. It was noted that PATC might not have enough resources to execute all the actions being requested for FY 2003.

Finance

The Council received the monthly budget report for June, which showed that year-to-date revenue exceeded expenditures by more than \$102,000, thanks in part to two gifts totaling \$45,000, which had not yet been allocated. Some adjustments have to be made in the data for the General Operating Fund and the Endowment Fund.

The Council allocated \$2,100 from the general operating budget to the Shelters Operations budget to continue needed maintenance and repair on several shelters. The Council also allocated \$4,500 from the unrestricted line item to the Gypsy Spring Project line in the Shelters/Cabins/Cabin Land Fund, bringing the total project cost for repair of the cabin in preparation for entry into the rental system to \$11,125. North Chapter work crews already use the cabin.

The Executive Committee confirmed the appointment of David White as Chair of the Budget Committee, and John Ferguson as Deputy Chair of the Finance Committee (a nonvoting member of Council).

Trails and Lands

The Massanutten Trail was dedicated on June 22, all summer trail crews have been filled, and PATC and ATC will sponsor trail crews in the fall in Maryland, Pennsylvania, and the SNP. The completion of the Massanutten Trail is the culmination of 13 years of work by the Massarock Crew, and it may receive official designation as a National Recreation Trail.

The Maryland AT Memorandum of Understanding approved by the Council in February has been signed with appropriate ceremony, including demonstration of a Civil War cannon.

A concern was voiced by PATC and other groups over a proposal by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources to erect a 195-foot tower on Lamb's Knoll. A reconnaissance scheduled for Aug. 15 was cancelled (see article on page 6). Also in Maryland, the new mayor of Hagerstown appears willing to negotiate relocation of the AT on an easement through the Hagerstown watershed.

Facilities

At Headquarters, installation of the new fire alarm system was under way. Tulip Tree and

See Council Fire, page 3

HEADQUARTERS

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

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

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

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

Phone #: 703/242-0315

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

To receive an information packet: Extension 10

To leave a message for the Club President Walt Smith: 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: W Riley@patc.net

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

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

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

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

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

Walt's Notes

Celebrating & Looking Ahead

We should celebrate the 75-year history of the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club. We should also be grateful for the work and dedication of the early volunteers. As a Club we have accomplished much since 1927. It is appropriate to review past events because they may stimulate us to support present endeavors as well as anticipate the future.

The Council has been looking beyond our current celebration. It has approved a vision for the year 2027, our 100th anniversary. This vision may seem premature to some. After all, we haven't even finished our 75th-year festivities and here we are mentioning the 100th! However, we have been asking the question "Where are we going?" for a few years now and so the Council has approved a general route. More specifically, how do we continue to be stewards of hiking trails and trail lands in a geographic area that is experiencing a rapidly expanding population?

Future Trails

It is the judgment of the Council that during the next 25 years "the primary focus of PATC will continue to be to secure and maintain protected, natural-surface foot trails for use by both members and non-members. Additional trails will need to be developed to keep pace with an anticipated growing population that will want an outdoor experience."

It is anticipated that by our 100th, volunteers will be maintaining an additional 500 miles of hiking trails in the area, in order to keep up with population growth, bringing the total miles of trails to about 1,500. Some of the trails will be accessible to persons with varying degrees of disabilities.

Where will they be located? It is not anticipated that the Club will expand much beyond our current operational area in the four states of Pennsylvania, Maryland, West Virginia, and Virginia. We do foresee that some of the new trails will be located in urban parks as well as in national and state forests and parks. We also think that there will be more trails that will connect the main mountain trails, the AT and Tuscarora, with populated areas.

Some trails will connect PATC-owned or -administered tracts, expected to expand from 5,000 to 7,000 acres by 2027, while others will open up existing wilderness areas from newly established trailheads.

Need for More Maintainers

Who will maintain the additional trails? We expect that the Club's membership will grow from the current 7,000 to the 10 to 15,000 range. The Club will continue to manage trails "using an organizational structure that facilitates volunteer effort. ... Increasingly sophisticated management and training for volunteers and staff will be required in order to address ecological and other goals and

requirements. The Club will also need to meet its goals of increasing natural-surface trails by expanding its efforts of giving technical advice and assistance to other trail organizations, both public and private, in the area."

What's next? In July the Council adopted a list of five-year goals and an action plan for 2003 in order to support this vision. These goals and action plan will become more visible as the 2003 budget process takes place. I plan to write more about this subject and other aspects of the 2027 vision in future notes.

In conclusion, "over the years the land around our trails has continuously changed. What appears 'natural' to us today may have been quite unnatural to people just 50 years ago. Fires, insect infestations, storms, and population shifts have changed the views, the kinds of trees in the forests and even the path of the trails. But one thing has remained constant: the desire to maintain these stretches of green space that give us all – hikers and nonhikers alike – a sense of breathing room. With our enthusiastic volunteers, the Club remains dedicated to increasing and maintaining trails so that the woods will remain for the pleasure of future generations."

See you on the trail,



Council Fire, from page 2

Eaton Hollow cabin projects are making good progress, while work on Johns' Rest Cabin is moving more slowly. An old barn has been located which will supply beams for use in the Devil's Racecourse Shelter, and the roof of Gravel Springs Shelter has recently been painted.

Membership

The July membership report showed a total of 6,793 (up from 6,774 the previous month). Since the last report, 126 new members were entered into the database. Follow-up letters to dropped members have resulted in 49 reinstatements.

The Club's annual meeting will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 12, at the Atrium in Meadlowlark Gardens in Vienna, a property that is being made available to PATC without cost in recognition of its trail work. Annual

reports of officers are due Oct. 15, and nominations for awards should be sent to Membership Chair Liles Creighton.

Other reports

Trail Patrol held training for hike leaders in Prince William Forest Park.

The North Chapter has submitted a request to the District Forester to permit erection of a shelter on the Tuscarora Trail in Buchanan Forest. Plans are also under way to relocate the Tuscarora Trail north of Route 30 off the road.

The Council viewed freshly printed versions of Map G, with 275 changes, and Map 12, with 175 changes.

The Shenandoah Mountain Rescue Group helped rescue a hiker with an injured foot on the AT near Linden, Va.

The Mountaineering Section reported a recent incident which revealed that Pennsylvania regulations require that rock climbing groups engaged in formal instruction obtain a permit, while other groups are exempt from the requirement. The permit does not guarantee availability of a specific rock face to climb.

The American Hiking Society and PATC sponsored three hikes on June 22 for congressional staffers and officials of the Interior Department, Park Service, and Forest Service.

The July Council meeting was attended by six Club officers, seven committee chairs, one chapter representative, two section representatives, one staff member, and two other Club members. □

—George Meek, Recording Secretary

Bob Pickett's Appalachian Nature: Let's Talk About Mushrooms!

September is a good month for mushrooms. While the diversity of mushroom species may be highest in the summer, fall is a wonderful time for finding some of the more delectable species. The knowledgeable mushroom hunter can now find hen-of-the-woods, boletes, chanterelles, oyster shell, and honey caps, among others.

There are about 3,300 species of mushrooms throughout the world, and about 3,000 found in North America. Mushrooms are not plants or animals. Historically part of the Plant Kingdom, they now, along with the other fungi, make up the Kingdom of Fungi. Fungi lean toward an animal lifestyle in that they consume other organisms for nutrition (through the release of enzymes that break down material into simpler, usable compounds). Yet, like spore-bearing plants (ferns and club mosses, for example), certain fungi cast their fate to the wind, sending forth spores to drift where they will, something that allergy sufferers feel all too keenly. Yet, fungi lack roots, leaves, stems, flowers, seeds, and chlorophyll.

Mushrooms are the fruiting body of the fungi, produced seasonally over a few weeks or throughout the growing season, depending on the species. Outside this reproductive stage, the fungi exist underground as a com-

pact mass of single-celled strands called hyphae (collectively known as mycelium).

Mushrooms are functionally separated into two groups: saprophytes (decomposers) and mycorrhizas. While we're familiar with the forest plant and animal decomposers, the mycorrhizal mushrooms are much more interesting. The hyphae of these mushrooms grow underground into plant roots and perform the beneficial function of extending the reach of the roots, enabling more nutrients to be absorbed by the host plant. In return, the plant gives some of its produced sugars to the mycorrhizal fungus. With few exceptions, mycorrhizas have been observed in all plant species of economic importance to humankind, including hemlocks, oaks, pines, and poplars. In fact, it is believed some seeds, such as orchids, cannot develop without the nutritional support of these mycorrhizal fungi. Some of our favorite edible mushrooms are strictly mycorrhizal, including chanterelles, russulas, boletes, and, the most famous of all, truffles. Conversely, the deadly amanitas are also obligatory mycorrhizas.

Speaking about the common deadly amanitas, species of this genus are responsible for 90 to 95 percent of all mushroom-related deaths. But, when it comes to eating the wrong mushroom, deadly encoun-

ters are rare. Out of 85,556 documented questionable mushroom ingestions reported to the American Association of Poison Control Centers in a recent 11-year period, only 14 resulted in fatalities. This doesn't seem so odd when you realize that only 5 percent of all mushrooms in North America are poisonous.

Edible mushrooms are not the only event associated with fall mushrooming. My best "mycological" experience was a September evening in Scott's Run Nature Preserve, just outside the beltway in Virginia. After a day hike with the Kensington-based Mycological Association of Washington (MAW), I returned after dark to observe the bioluminescent jack-o-lantern, found earlier in the day. Not only did I find the dimly glowing green light of the jack-o-lantern, but I also found a green glow from mycelium in decaying wood along the trail. While you can't read a newspaper by the faint glow of either, it was fun to hold the two and compare the relative glow. In my case, the green glow was about the same. Other fungi that are known to produce this foxfire in both the gills of the mushroom, and the vegetative mycelium include the prized edible oyster mushrooms of the Genus *Pleurotus*, and the golden trumpets. □

—Robert W. Pickett

Mike Karpie's Photo Tips: Available Light Photography - Part III

When shooting with available light the quality of your photo can be greatly influenced by the direction of light. Strong sidelighting will enhance texture and form but presents exposure challenges due to contrasting lighting. For the best overall exposure in a sidelit scene, it is best to measure both the highlight areas and the shadow areas and average your settings. This rule can be broken if you wish to exaggerate the highlight or deepen the shadows.

Frontlighting is the easiest type when it comes to exposure settings but often yields a "flat," shadowless image and sometimes causes squinty eyes.

Perhaps the most dramatic type of available light, and yet the most challenging, is backlighting. Strong backlighting can really set your subject off from the background and create some extraordinary effects. Great care is required because the intense background light can have a strong effect on your meter reading and cause your subject to come out as a silhouette. In some cases this may be desirable or even preferred, but if you are not looking for a silhouette effect move in close and take a meter reading off of your subject's face before shooting.

Next month: Available Light Photography – Part IV

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

—Michael Karpie



Photo by Michael Karpie

Book Review

"Long Distance Hiking on the Appalachian Trail for the Older Adventurer," David Ryan, Tesuque, NM: New Mountain Books, 2002. Soft cover, 76 p., 17 photographs, map of whole AT, \$10.00.

The author makes the point that his book is not for "Olympian athletes," but is for ordinary folk who are considering a long-distance hike. Ryan completed his hike at age 51. The book is a resource for information for the prospective thru-hiker, as the author provides various lists of items the hiker will need. He discusses the psychological reasons for doing a long-distance hike and compares the logistics and weather of the three long-distance hikes in the U.S. It is surprising that among his five recommended readings, he does not include Colin Fletcher's or Ed Garvey's books for background

information. Earl Shafer's book is mentioned in passing as the first person to hike the AT. Ryan makes some interesting points. For example: After hiking the first 200 miles, the hike switches from physical to mental challenge. He discusses the physical changes as the hiker progresses, so it's nice to know what bodily changes to expect. He suggests the mileage per day at various levels and projects the length of time to complete the whole hike. As with other books on hiking, he covers advantages and disadvantages of all kinds of equipment used on the hike. Another good point he makes is about bounce boxes. He provides his daily diet, which he enjoyed, and the effects of it, as well as food in general, and he also talks about the trail culture. This is a handy little book for anyone contemplating a thru-hike. □

—Carol Niedzialek

Naked Creek, from page 1

SealKrete, and not a single person there had ever built a bridge. They arrived in rusty pickups, church vans, Mercedes', Miatas – and then I saw the Snap-On Tool Truck roll in. Perfect.

And, we did exactly what volunteers do. Killed snakes, fell off ladders, lost the engineering bridge drawings the first week, stained in the rain, painted the roof in 100 degree sunshine, used pickets for firewood, gathered rocks for the chimney, got thrown out of the National Park on a Naked Creek swimming expedition, burnt up my drill, and cut the cord on my skill saw. This was the smoothest work trip renovation of all.

The volunteers were great. Ages ranged from six to 78. We used volunteer cooks (a little better food than my cooking was last year) and had a BSA Eagle Project to take care of a gable end. We never had more than three dogs at once to help. We again had eight to 10 people who were not PATC members show up to help.

Weaver Cabin renovation is all but complete. It was expected to be back in the rental system Aug. 11, 2002. Come out and see what Weaver looks like now. This is your chance to stay in a freshly renovated 1780-1800 circa log cabin, complete with gas lights and a propane stove to cook on. I hope you like the bridges, the new porch deck, the gable ends, the hand-scrubbed floor, the new hand-hammered slate hearth, and the new rock chimney. Heck, I even hope you appreciate the stink pipe added to the privy.

This was so smooth I'll do it again next year. If you want to join in the fun, be helpful, and learn or teach something, send me an e-mail, I'll put you on my beggar list. □

—Thomas C. Jorgensen
Southern Region Cabin Supervisor

Work Trip Fun at Meadows/Weaver

Following is a letter submitted by Thomas Jorgensen. He has been bringing a neighborhood teenager, Ricky, on work trips to Weaver and Meadows cabins. Ricky wants to let others know how rewarding these work trips can be.

—PA Editor

To Whom it May Concern,

I am informing you all about the fabulous time you will have on the Weaver Cabin work trips this year. I have been on numerous work (and leisure) trips with Tom and Mary, and I am sure these will be as invigorating and exciting as any other trip. I always seem to learn something new when I go on one of these trips. I am currently not a member of PATC but I hope to join it someday. Most people DO NOT realize how special these cabins truly are. For me, they are a window to the past and should be preserved

like any painting in an art museum. I promise you (this comes from first-hand experience) that the weekend will be an enjoyable time for all. The more people that come, the more work we will get done, and the more time we will have to sit back, relax, and commence in general merrymaking, after a long day of hard work, with the satisfaction of a job well done overflowing through us all. Ms. Smith also cooks very good crock-pot meals (some of the finest American cuisine I have ever tasted – Tom). This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity (O.K., maybe not once-in-a-lifetime, but you get the picture). So come on out and join the crew this fall for fun, laughter, general merrymaking, and (oh yeah) the work. □

Sincerely,
Richard P. Fink

Potomac Appalachian Trail Club Trail Patrol

Presents

BACKPACKING 202

*How to Enjoy the Backcountry Under Challenging Conditions
A Course for Intermediate & Advanced Backpackers*

The course teaches the needed skills for planning and executing an early winter backpacking trip. The classes cover equipment selection and use, route planning, food planning, safety, comfort and Leave No Trace principles. A weekend trip accompanied by experienced instructors gives you the opportunity to try out your new skills.

Classroom Instruction:

October 16 (Wed.), 21 (Mon.), and 30 (Wed.), 2002. 7:30-9:30 p.m.
PATC Headquarters, 118 Park Street, SE, Vienna, Virginia

Weekend Outing: November 9-11, 2002

(Veteran's Day weekend)

Fee: \$40.00 for PATC Members; \$55.00 for non-members

Pre-registration is required. To receive a registration form and for all other information, please call or e-mail: John Browne 703/425-5645; jbrown11@cox.net

Nineteenth Annual Blackburn Pig Roast Scheduled for October

The 19th Annual Blackburn Pig Roast is scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 12-13, 2002. Once again, the event will be planned and organized by Tim Rahn and Rick Portal with help from Nancy Hughes. Registration this year is 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 waking up Sunday morning still hungry will be taken care of 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 seasoning (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 12 to Sandi Marra, 9000 Piney Grove Dr., Fairfax, VA 22031. MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO SANDRA MARRA. INFO: Chris Brunton, 703/560-8070 or e-mail trailbossbtc@msn.com. ☐

Get Set for the Nineteenth Annual Blackburn Pig Roast

Blackburn Pig Roast — Saturday and Sunday, October 12/13, 2002

Name: _____

Address: _____

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

Total enclosed: _____

I will be bringing _____ # children under 12 years of age (no charge for children under 12)

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

Sandra Marra and mail to: 9000 Piney Grove Drive, Fairfax, VA 22031

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

National Public Lands Day, September 28

PATC and other local conservation organizations are joining the Government of the District of Columbia, the USDA Forest Service, the National Park Service, and the Bureau of Land Management in recognizing National Public Lands Day by helping to clean up public land along the Anacostia River, near the Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens.

We'll be removing debris and vegetation in preparation for recreational trails that will be constructed along the river. Join us for this day of public service and help represent PATC. We're looking for crew leaders and other enthusiastic volunteers. For more information contact Kerry Snow, PATC Supervisor of Trails at kerrysnow@telocity.com or 301/570-0596. The NPLD Web site address is: <http://www.npld.com/Anacostia/index.htm>. ☐

—Kerry Snow



Lambs Knoll Tower Meeting Cancelled, Plans Halted

The Maryland state government has halted its plan for a 195' communications tower atop Lambs Knoll on South Mountain. The public meeting scheduled for Aug. 15 at Greenbrier State Park was scrapped.

There was a groundswell of opposition to the communications tower by the Harpers Ferry Conservancy, Appalachian Trail, and South Mountain Battlefield interests. Governor Glendenning announced that the tower proposal had been nixed as it was inconsistent with the state's plans for protection of the historic and natural features of South Mountain.

There is still the possibility that the state may decide to replace the old firetower atop Lambs Knoll with a tower at the same location and height. This possibility will not have the detrimental impact that a tower twice its height would have, which is what was originally proposed. ☐

—Rick Canter

Potomac Appalachian

2002 Potomac Heritage Trail Annual Caucus Planned For Oct. 11

The sixth meeting among Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail (PHT) advocates will take place from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Oct. 11 at Rockwood Manor Park in Potomac, Md. Participants will include representatives of local governments, citizen groups, and state and federal agencies as well as interested individuals. Situated on approximately 30 acres of secluded woods, the park is within walking distance of the C&O Canal towpath and Great Falls on the Potomac River.

As in past years, goals for the 2002 Caucus will provide an opportunity for coordination and discussion through review of a draft PHT Corridor Assessment of outdoor recreation, tourism, and education projects; recognition of PHT supporters in bringing greater public attention to the connections between local projects and the PHT; and concept developing agreement on priorities for advocacy and coordination in 2003.

The Caucus is being organized by the Potomac Trail Council. To register, make a presentation, and/or receive directions, contact Jennifer Burke, Outreach Coordinator, at jburke@potomactrail.org or call 888/223-4093. Newsletters on PHT activities over the past year can be viewed at www.potomactrail.org; general information about the Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail is available at www.nps.gov/pohe. □

—Jennifer Burke

PATC Trail Patrol Presents Leave No Trace (LNT) Trainers Course Oct. 5-6, 2002

This weekend course is designed for those who want to become LNT trainers, as well as those who want to learn about LNT principles. In addition to teaching LNT skills and ethics, it describes different methods of teaching LNT.

During the weekend you will have opportunities to better understand our impact on our environment (backcountry and front country issues) and how to lessen that impact, discuss the choices you have, and learn how to teach and help others understand LNT.

The course takes place in Shenandoah National Park. We will be hiking during the day, and all course work will be outdoors. You will have the option of staying in a cabin at night.

Fee: \$20. For more information or to register, please contact Anniell Miller at amill1@yahoo.com or 703/250-8113. □

Correction

Last month's article on the Massarock Crew (*page 9*) was authored by Mike Sutherland. The article was incorrectly attributed. Mike, thanks for the great article. —Editor

15th Annual SNP North District Overseers Workshop Sept. 14 & 15, Pinnacles Research Station

PATC and the Trails Staff of SNP will once again host this annual workshop, designed to teach new trail Overseers the basic skills of trail maintenance and repair, and to give experienced Overseers the opportunity to pick up a few more tricks by working with park personnel on major projects. We will be moving our base of operations this year to the Pinnacles Research Station in the Central District of the park (near Thornton Gap).

The workshop will begin Saturday morning and end on Sunday after lunch. All meals will be provided for the \$20 registration fee (Saturday dinner, Sunday breakfast, and lunches for both days). Camping facilities are provided at the Research Station with a large clearing for tent camping. You may arrive Friday evening or Saturday morning. 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 410/426-2724 or gwalters@starpower.net for registration materials. □

Our Annual Meeting is Set for Nov. 12

It's a special time at a special place in a special year. We're getting together to celebrate many things – our new slate of officers, a great year in trail maintenance excellence, improvements to the Club and other facilities, and the Club's 75 years of public service. Thanks to the generosity of the Northern Virginia Park Authority, the celebration will be held at the glorious Atrium reception hall next to the Meadowlark Gardens in Vienna, Va. Officials from the NPS and USFS will be there, and we hope to see YOU there too. Look for more information in next month's issue and on the Club's Web site. □

—Pat Fankhauser
Membership and Cabins Coordinator

FORECAST

Chapters

Charlottesville Chapter

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

North Chapter

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

Northern Shenandoah Valley Chapter

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

Southern Shenandoah Valley Chapter

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

West Virginia Chapter

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

Ski Touring Section

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

Mountaineering Section

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

PATC Midweek Hikes

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

Other Clubs' Hikes

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

KEY to Forecast Activities

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

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

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

Meetings

Meetings

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

New Members (PATC) - First Wednesday

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

Mountaineering Section - Second Wednesday

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

PATC Council - Second Tuesday

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

Shenandoah Mountain Rescue Group

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

Shenandoah Mountain Rescue Group

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

Trail Patrol - First Tuesday

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

September

1 (Sunday)

DEADLINE - October Potomac Appalachian Headquarters, Vienna, VA

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

3 (Tuesday)

HIKE - Vigorous Hikers

Great North Mountain, WV

Climb Bucktail Cutoff Trail to Pond Run Trail to Waites Run Road returning on German Wilson Trail, with a view from Half Moon Lookout. 14 miles 2500 feet. INFO: Chris Nolen (chrishiker@erols.com) 301/469-8931, before 9:30 p.m.

3 (Tuesday)

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

4 (Wednesday)

HIKE - Easy Hikers

Battery Kemble, Washington, DC

Back for another year, the Easy Hikers will hike 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. Directions: From MacArthur Blvd., turn NE (left if inbound, right if outbound) onto Chain Bridge Road. Go .5 mile to park entrance on right. Follow road to parking area. INFO: Gary Abrecht (Gabrecht@AOL.com) 202/546-6089.

4 (Wednesday)

MEETING - New Members (PATC), Postponed - see Sept. 19.

5 - 9 (Thursday - Monday)

TRAIL WORK TRIP - Mid-Atlantic Crew

Appalachian Trail, PA

Come out and work with the Mid-Atlantic Crew south of Antietam Shelter. Where this section of the AT ascends steeply, it is to be rehabilitated to control erosion and side-hill slippage. This will be a chance to learn and improve your trail building and maintenance skills. Supper will be provided on Saturday. Reservations required at least a week in advance. INFO: Pete Brown (peter.brown4@worldnet.att.net) 410/343-1140.

7 (Saturday)

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

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

9 (Monday)

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

10 (Tuesday)

HIKE - Vigorous Hikers

Shenandoah National Park, VA

Climb new trail over Doubletop for view, then down to Rapidan and lunch at historic Hoover Camp, returning via Dark Hollow Falls and Stony Mountain Trail. 16 miles 4000 feet. INFO: Chris Nolen (chrishiker@erols.com) 301/469-8931, before 9:30 p.m.

10 (Tuesday)

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

11 (Wednesday)

CLASS - Hiking through the Civil War (REI) REI, Baileys Crossroads, VA

7:30 p.m. Join REI's geologists Ed Neville for an evening exploring how the mountains and streams affected the battle of Antietam. Then, join him on Saturday, September 14, for a hike of the Maryland Heights, to look at the approaches to the battlefield. INFO: Mark Nelson (mnelson@rei.com) 703/379-9400.

11 (Wednesday)

HIKE - Easy Hikers

Burke Lake Park, VA

Five easy miles counterclockwise around Burke Lake. Meet at 10:15 a.m. From the Beltway, exit West onto Braddock Road. At your leisure, move into the left-hand lane (excluding left turn lanes) and stay in this lane. In 1.9 miles from the Beltway, the lane you are in becomes one of a pair of left-turn lanes onto Burke Lake Road (RT 645). Stay with it and make the turn. (Don't worry about the misleading sign before the preceding left.) Go 4.9 miles, then Left onto Ox Road (RT 123). In 0.5 miles (passing the Golf Center), left into Burke Lake Park. Follow signs to the marina. Bring lunch and water. INFO: Sue King 703/356-6659.

11 (Wednesday)

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

12 (Thursday)

HIKE - In-Between Hikers

Rock Creek Park, Washington, D.C.

Hike sections of the Western Ridge and Valley Trails, totaling about 8 miles. Meet at 10:00 a.m. at the Rock Creek Nature Center. From the Beltway take Connecticut Avenue south to Military Road. Turn left (east) on Military. Go 1.1 miles and turn right on Glover Road. Fork left and follow signs to Nature Center. E-mail or call for directions from VA. Bring lunch and water. INFO: Gary Abrecht (GAbrecht@AOL.com) 202/546-6089.

14 (Saturday)

HIKE - Antietam History Hike (REI)

Maryland Heights, MD

9:00 a.m. Join REI's Ed Neville for an invigorating hike up Maryland Heights, across the Potomac from Harpers Ferry. Views from the summit show the strategic points along the approaches to and retreats from Antietam, and demonstrate the difficulty of overland travel, supply, and reinforcement. Come along for a great hike, great views, geology, and Civil War History. Details available at September 11 presentation. INFO: Mark Nelson (mnelson@rei.com) 703/379-9400.

14 (Saturday)

HIKE - North Chapter

Appalachian Trail, PA

Appalachian Trail Hike II, Susquehanna River to Clarks Valley, PA (RT 325), 16.6 miles in length. Excellent views of the Susquehanna River and the valley below as we hike north on the trail. We will be stopping at the Peters Mountain Shelter. INFO: Christopher Firme (bncfirme@innet.net) 717/794-2855, after 6:00 p.m.

14 (Saturday)

TRAIL WORK TRIP - Annual Service Project (REI)

Cascades, VA

Algonkian Regional Park. Create a new nature trail past wildlife wetlands to the Potomac River with REI and the Northern Virginia Regional Park

Authority. We will be constructing the one-mile trail through lush forest along Sugarland Run and along forested edges of several wildlife ponds. Work will include clearing the corridor, minor trail construction and grading, blazing and signage, litter and debris collection, as well as other projects. No previous experience is necessary and families, youth, and children are especially encouraged to come lend a hand. All tools will be supplied. Volunteers must register and supply their t-shirt size. INFO: Mark Nelson (mnelson@rei.com) 703/379-9400.

14 (Saturday)

TRAIL WORK TRIP - Massanutten Crew

Massanutten, VA

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

14 (Saturday)

TRAIL WORK TRIP - Rock Creek Park

Washington, DC

8:15 a.m. to noon. The Rock Creek trail system passes through some of the oldest growth forest in the region and traverses an entire watershed. Meet at the Rock Creek Nature Center. Rain date September 28. INFO: Mark Anderson (mhacca@starpower.net) 202/462-7718 or Ranger Ken Ferebee 202/426-6834 ext. 31.

14 (Saturday)

TRAIL WORK TRIP - South Mountaineers

Appalachian Trail, MD

Enjoy cooler air in the woods of western Maryland on this work event. The South Mountaineers' day events meet west of Frederick, MD at 9:00 a.m. INFO: Mark Mitchell (mdtrail@yahoo.com) 301/461-7048.

14 - 15 (Saturday - Sunday)

CABIN WORK TRIP - Vining Tract Crew

Lydia, VA

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

14 - 15 (Saturday - Sunday)

CLASS - Hike Leadership Training Course

Prince William Forest Park, VA

The Trail Patrol is hosting a Hike Leadership Training course at Prince William Forest Park. The two-day course uses classroom and hands-on instruction to teach participants the essential skills for leading safe, enjoyable hikes with minimal environmental impact. The topics to be covered include: medical emergencies, planning, personal equipment, Leave No Trace, leadership skills, standard procedures, emergency procedures, navigation, and map reading. Visit the Trail Patrol Web site at trailpatrol.patc.net. INFO: Ben Fernandez 703/327-9788.

FORECAST

14 - 15 (Saturday - Sunday)

CLASS - North District SNP Overseers Workshop Shenandoah National Park, VA
Pinnacles Research Station. See article elsewhere in this issue for information. INFO: George Walters (gjwalters@starpower.net) 410/426-2724.

14 - 15 (Saturday - Sunday)

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

14 - 15 (Saturday - Sunday)

TRAIL WORK TRIP - Acme Treadway Company Rockfish Gap, VA
Acme Treadway Board Meeting. This Company is growing its business by leaps and bounds. Actually, we know no bounds. We invite you to combine your sweat with ours as we start work on Project Rockfish Gap. Overnight accommodations at Ivy Creek Hut. All who participate receive a crew T-shirt to commemorate their first trip. Please RSVP. INFO: Don White (whitedh@attbi.com) 804/795-2914.

14 - 15 (Saturday - Sunday)

TRAIL WORK TRIP - Cadillac Crew Madison, VA
The Crew will continue building the Entry Run Trail on the Per-Lee Tract with the ultimate goal to connect with the SNP trail system. We have some difficult tread to build down the ridge toward John's Rest Cabin. Bring water and a lunch for Saturday noon. Community dinner on Saturday night. Overnight at PATC's Rosser Lamb Cabin. INFO: Fran Keenan (outdoorsnow@cox.r.com) 703/938-3973 or Jon Rindt (jkrindt@erols.com) 540/635-6351.

15 (Sunday)

HIKE - Meet the Trail Patrol Appalachian Trail, WV
Hike with the Trail Patrol and learn what the PATC's goodwill ambassadors do. This month's hike covers about 7 miles, with mild elevation change, except for the end which descends along the AT. The trip offers a spectacular view of the Potomac, with Harpers Ferry in the distance. During the trip, we will provide an introduction to Trail Patrol functions. We will meet near Harpers Ferry at 9:00 a.m. INFO: Mal Fordham (mfordham@erols.com) 410/798-7926.

17 (Tuesday)

HIKE - Vigorous Hikers Shenandoah National Park, VA
Climb Sam's Ridge with Max the Phat, jaunt down the Hot Short and up Hannah Run cutting across on the Catlett Spur to White Rocks finishing on the Hazel River Trail. Two tough ascents total 3800 feet and 15 miles. INFO: Chris Nolen (chrishiker@erols.com) 301/469-8931, before 9:30 p.m.

18 (Wednesday)

MEETING - Trails Committee Meeting PATC Headquarters, Vienna, VA
The Fall meeting of the Trails Committee will be held at PATC headquarters in Vienna. The meeting will commence at 7:00 p.m. (pizza at 6:00 p.m.). If you are a Trails Committee member, please contact Heidi Forrest or Kerry Snow if you CANNOT attend (we'll assume you can).

18 (Wednesday)

CLASS - Trekking Exotic Indonesia (REI) REI, Bailey's Crossroads, VA
7:30 p.m. Accompany Sandy and Gail Cohen on their recent adventure to four islands of Indonesia - Sumatra, Komodo, Flores, and Bali. Revel in the antics of the wild orangutans and attend the weddings and funerals of the native Batak and Minangkabau peoples of Sumatra. Hike in search of the Rafflesia, the largest flower in the world, and chase the biggest and scariest lizards, the Komodo Dragon. Attend the whip dance and the house-raising ceremonies on the rarely visited Island of Flores. And complete your trip amongst the arts and rice fields of Bali, where you will attend the monkey dance and the preparations for the cremation. INFO: Mark Nelson (mnelson@rei.com) 703/379-9400.

19 (Thursday)

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

21 (Saturday)

HIKE - Massanutten Mountain Series Shenandoah, VA
The eighth hike will be a 17-mile circuit on the Boone Run, Massanutten Mountain South, Fridley Gap and Martin Bottom Trails. Total elevation gain is 3200 feet. There will be a 9 mile shuttle. PATC Map H. Meet at the Oakton Shopping Center parking lot at 7:30 a.m. Contact leaders for requirements and details. INFO: Jack Thorsen (thorsen4@Juno.com) 703/339-6716 or William Needham (Needham82@AOL.com) 410/884-9127.

21 (Saturday)

HIKE - Natural History Mushroom Hike Central District, Shenandoah National Park, VA
Mary Willeford Bair, Park health biologist will be leading Bob Pickett and friends on a search for mushrooms. Some of you might recall her famous hikes she led for us before she got engulfed by her master's degree. Now that her seminal work on the Shenandoah salamander is complete, she can show us many of the wonderful mushrooms that should be fruiting at this time of the year. We'll hike through the Limberlost area near Skyland, and move on to other areas as dictated by the season/weather. This is a learning hike, with many stops to identify these fungal entities. We will probably hike about four miles in all. RSVP please. INFO: Bob Pickett 301/681-1511.

21 (Saturday)

TRAIL WORK TRIP - South Mountaineers Appalachian Trail, MD
Bring water, lunch and gloves. Tools and training provided. Enjoy comradeship and the peace of the woods. Go home happy and tired, it's that simple. INFO: Mark Mitchell (mdtrail@yahoo.com) 301/461-7048.

21 (Saturday)

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

21 (Saturday)

TRAIL WORK TRIP - Yankee Clippers Trial Crew Tuscarora Trail, PA
Call for meeting place and other details. INFO: Charlie Irvin 301/447-2848.

21 - 22 (Saturday - Sunday)

TRAIL WORK TRIP - Blue and White Crew Shenandoah National Park, VA
Join the Blue and White Crew in the Central District of Shenandoah National Park. We'll be installing a stream crossing on Hannah Run, near its confluence with the Hughes. Overnight accommodations at the Pinnacles Research Station. Saturday dinner and Sunday breakfast are potluck. INFO: Kerry Snow (kerrysnow@telocity.com) 301/570-0596.

24 (Tuesday)

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

25 (Wednesday)

CLASS - Herps of the Blue Ridge Mountains (REI) REI, Bailey's Crossroads, VA
7:30 p.m. Experience the natural beauty of some of Virginia's less charismatic creatures, the rare and beautiful reptiles and amphibians of the Blue Ridge Mountains. Join veteran field herpetologist Dennis Desmond on a virtual tour of some of the least understood and seldom seen herpetofauna of this jewel of the East. View photographs exhibited to promote conservation of those less charismatic, and little understood denizens of ponds, fields, swamps, and forests throughout the world. INFO: Mark Nelson (mnelson@rei.com) 703/379-9400.

25 (Wednesday)

HIKE - Easy Hikers Mason Neck, VA
Meet at 10:15 a.m. at Woodmarsh Trail. Hike about 4 easy miles in Mason Neck Wildlife Refuge and Mason Neck State Park. From the Beltway take RT 611, Telegraph Road, south. At 9.6 miles, stay in middle lane, marked by straight ahead arrow, to cross RT 1. Continue 1.8 on RT 611, now called Colchester Road. Turn left on Gunston Road. Go 3.7 miles to right turn at sign for Mason Neck State Park. Parking lot for Woodmarsh Trail is 0.6 miles on left. Bring lunch and binoculars, if you wish, we may see eagles. INFO: John and Suzanne Kominski 703/751-0326.

26 (Thursday)

HIKE - In-Between Hikers Fairfax, VA
Wakefield/Lake Accotink Parks. A moderate 8 miles over variable terrain. Joint event with Sierra Club MWROP. Meet at Wakefield Park, I-495 exit 54A, Braddock Rd west then 1/8 mile right to park entrance road and first parking lot on left. Bring water and lunch. No pets. Starts at 10:00 a.m. INFO: Henri Comeau (henricomeau@aol.com) 703/451-7965.

28 (Saturday)

HIKE - In-Between Hikers Rock Creek Park, Washington, DC
Please join us for a closed circuit, 12 mile hike on the Valley and Western Ridge Trails in Rock Creek Park. We will visit Fort DeRussy (civil war fort), Jusseland Memorial, Rock Creek, and have lunch at Pierce Mill. Bring water and lunch. INFO: Don Titus (donaldtitus@earthlink.net) 301/652-6806 (home) or 301/688-0135 (office).

28 (Saturday)

✂ TRAIL WORK TRIP - Blue and White Crew

Location to be announced

National Public Lands Day. The PATC will join other local conservation and trails organizations to help clean up land near the Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens on the Anacostia. We need crew leaders and enthusiastic club members to help remove vegetation, brush, and debris, and to prepare the area for recreational hiking trails that will be built in the near future. For more information, visit the Anacostia Workday site at <http://www.npld.com/Anacostia/index.htm>. INFO: Kerry Snow (kerrysnow@telocity.com) 301/570-0596.

28 (Saturday)

✂ TRAIL WORK TRIP - Potomac Heritage Trail

Washington, DC

9:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m. A full-day trail maintenance training workshop. Stay close to home as you learn from the experts. Join us to be trained in the art of waterbar construction and other skills to help maintain the PHT. Training location will be in the "wilder" upper half of the PHT upstream of Chain Bridge. Bring food, water, work gloves, and sturdy footwear. Workshop will be limited to between 12 and 18 slots. Call for reservation and parking information. INFO: Bruce Glendening (bglendening@yahoo.com) 703/532-9093.

28 - 29 (Saturday - Sunday)

🏠 CABIN WORK TRIP - Rosser Lamb Crew Stanardsville/Madison, VA

By now the long hot days of summer are a thing of the past and we can expect pleasant days and refreshingly cool evenings. Just right for working and enjoying the ambience that the Rosser Lamb environs provide. There are outdoor and indoor projects for all skill levels. You can use the tools we provide or bring your own. All that is really needed is a willingness to help us bring the Rosser Lamb restoration to fruition. The kitchen has a new tile floor, and except for a sink, is fully operational with both a wood and a gas stove and all of the pots, pans, utensils, etc. The new shed now holds all the supplies, tools, hardware, etc. so the sleeping, eating, and living areas are expanded. Come on out and join us as we make the most of this early autumn weekend. Or, join the Cadillac Crew on September 14-15, help them build the Entry Run Trail and learn how much they like staying at Rosser Lamb. INFO: Peg Manuel (m.j.manuel@worldnet.att.net) 540/972-7093 or Park Anderson (parklpva@yahoo.com) 540/972-1184.

28 - 29 (Saturday - Sunday)

CLASS - Land Navigation (REI) REI, Bailey's Crossroads, VA

Saturday 11:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. This comprehensive two-day course teaches all skills necessary to use map and compass in an integrated land navigation system. The first day is spent in intensive classroom exercises concentrating on map reading and interpretation, position plotting, compass fundamentals, declination, and azimuth. The second day (Sunday) is spent in Prince William Forest Park, primarily off-trail, engaging in practical navigation exercises of increasing complexity. The course fee is \$85 and includes workbook text, course materials, compass, map, grid reader, and lunch on Saturday. Registration required. INFO: Mark Nelson (mnelson@rei.com) 703/379-9400.

28 - 29 (Saturday - Sunday)

✂ TRAIL WORK TRIP - Acme Treadway Company Vining Tract, Lydia, VA

End-of-Summer Holiday Picnic for all members of the Acme Treadway Company. If you have EVER participated in a trip conducted by the Company, you are eligible to participate in this Fest at Muttontop Cabin on the spectacular Vining Tract owned by PATC. Please RSVP. INFO: Don White (whitedh@attbi.com) 804/795-2914.

28 - 29 (Saturday - Sunday)

✂ TRAIL WORK TRIP - Cadillac Crew Gainesboro, VA

The Crew plans to build the relocated Howze Camp and related trails along the recently relocated section of the Tuscarora Trail near Gore, Va. Some hard work but hopefully the beginning of Fall will bring some pleasant weather. Bring a lunch and water for Saturday noon. Community dinner on Saturday night. Overnight at Brill Cabin at Shockey's Knob. INFO: Fran Keenan (outdoorsnow@cox.rr.com) 703/938-3973 or Jon Rindt (jkrindt@erols.com) 540/635-6351.

October

1 (Tuesday)

DEADLINE - November Potomac Appalachian Headquarters, Vienna, VA

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

1 (Tuesday)

👤 HIKE - Vigorous Hikers Massanutten Mountain, VA

From Camp Roosevelt hike to Kennedy Peak, loop back on Stephen's Trail and south to Duncan Knob rock scramble. 15 miles and 3300 feet. INFO: Chris Nolen (chrishiker@erols.com) 301/469-8931, before 9:30 p.m.

1 (Tuesday)

📅 MEETING - Trail Patrol, 7:30 p.m.

2 (Wednesday)

👤 HIKE - Easy Hikers Rock Creek Park, Washington, DC

We will do a circuit hike of about 5 miles beginning at the Nature Center, going north on the middle trail of the park. Bring lunch and water. Meet at 10:15 a.m. at the Nature Center, Military Road and Glover Road. INFO: Carol Niedzialek (niedze@erols.com) 301/949-9729.

2 (Wednesday)

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

4 - 6 (Friday - Sunday)

CLASS - Grip-hoist and Rock Workshop Pine Grove Furnace, PA

There will be a combined grip-hoist and rock workshop near Pine Grove Furnace, Pa. Deno Contos of ATC's Konnarock Crew will be instructing. Anyone interested in learning these skills should make reservations. You do not need to be an overseer to attend. Attendance will be limited to 15 persons, reservations required. INFO: Pete Brown (peter.brown4@worldnet.att.net) 410/343-1140.

5 (Saturday)

✂ TRAIL WORK TRIP - Rock Creek Park Washington, DC

Rock Creek Park 8:15 a.m. to noon. This is the final stretch of the trail project season in Rock Creek Park. It's also the best time of year to see the beauty of the park as you wield a shovel. Meet at the Rock Creek Nature Center. INFO: Mark Anderson (mhacca@starpower.net) 202/462-7718 or Ranger Ken Ferebee 202/426-6834, ext. 31.

5 (Saturday)

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

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

5 - 6 (Saturday - Sunday)

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

Join the Fire Squad as we continue work below the north side of Hogback Mountain in SNP. Some sidehill and installation of log waterbars and checkdams are on the schedule. Overnight at Range View Cabin. I promise the usual great meal for those who want to partake. Meet at Piney River maintenance area at 9:30 a.m. Bring gloves, water, lunch, etc. INFO: John McCrea (mccreajf@aol.com) 610/352-9287.

5 - 6 (Saturday - Sunday)

✂ TRAIL WORK TRIP - South Mountaineers Appalachian Trail, MD

We are working on a major construction project with the ATC Mid-Atlantic Crew. It is fun, challenging, and a guarantee to get your knees dirty. INFO: Mark Mitchell (mdtrail@yahoo.com) 301/461-7048.

8 (Tuesday)

📅 MEETING - PATC Council, 7:00 p.m.

9 (Wednesday)

CLASS - Trail Patrol Backpacking 202 PATC Headquarters, Vienna, VA

Class 1, 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. Trail Patrol presents the first of three classes that teach you how to plan and carry out an early winter backpacking trip. Classes cover equipment selection and use, route planning, food planning, safety, comfort, and Leave No Trace principles. A November weekend trip accompanied by experienced instructors gives you the opportunity to try out your new skills. See ad on page 5 for more information. Pre-registration required. INFO: John Browne (jbrowne11@cox.net) 703/425-5645.

9 (Wednesday)

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

12 (Saturday)

👤 HIKE - North Chapter Darlington Trail, PA

Moderate hike 9.0 miles in length. Check out the newly purchased and relocated portion of the Darlington Trail. Once again land was purchased through the Central PA Conservancy and deeded to the State Game Commission. The Darlington Trail connects to the Tuscarora Trail and the AT east of Dean's Gap. INFO: Christopher Firme (bnc-firme@innernet.net) 717/794-2855, after 6:00 p.m.

FORECAST

12 - 13 (Saturday - Sunday)

🦋 SPECIAL EVENT - Annual Pig Roast
Blackburn Trail Center, Round Hill, VA

Members and friends alike are welcomed to join our 19th annual Pig Roast at the Blackburn Trail Center. See article and registration form elsewhere in this issue. INFO: Chris Brunton (trailbossbtc@msn.com).

12 - 13 (Saturday - Sunday)

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

Acme Treadway Board Meeting. If you missed out on the startup of Project Pinnacles, now is the time to get onboard. All you need are your legs, arms, some clothing appropriate to the weather, strong gloves, and a good sweatband. Overnight at our luxurious campsite. All who participate receive a crew T-shirt to commemorate their first trip. RSVP to confirm participation. INFO: Don White (whitedh@attbi.com) 804/795-2914.

12 - 13 (Saturday - Sunday)

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

The Blue and White Crew and the ATC Mid-Atlantic Crew join forces to rebuild a CCC-era cribwall on the AT in Shenandoah National Park. The Crew will host a dinner for the ATC group on Saturday night. Overnight accommodations are at the Pinnacles Research Station. INFO: Kerry Snow (kerrysnow@telocity.com) 301/570-0596.

12 - 13 (Saturday - Sunday)

🦋 TRAIL WORK TRIP - Cadillac Crew
Vining Tract, Lydia, VA

The views and color should be singularly beautiful from Mutton Top. Join us for a little tree work, brush clearing, and trail development. Bring water and a lunch for Saturday noon. Community dinner on Saturday night. Overnight at PATC's Mutton Top Cabin. INFO: Fran Keenan (outdoorsnow@cox.rr.com) 703/938-3973 or Jon Rindt (jkrindt@erols.com) 540/635-6351.

12 - 14 (Saturday - Monday)

🦋 BACKPACKING TRIP - GW National Forest
George Washington National Forest, VA

Enjoy the long weekend and fall colors on a moderate backpack in the George Washington National Forest. We will average 8 to 10 miles a day; maybe less on Monday. Exact location TBD depending on group size and forest conditions (dry or wet depending on rainfall levels). Depart Friday evening. INFO: John Koutze or Kathy McDermott 703/846-9207.

14 (Monday)

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

15 (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 the not so muddy Mudhole Gap Trail. 15 miles and 3000 feet. INFO: Chris Nolen (chrishiker@erols.com) 301/469-8931, before 9:30 p.m.

16 (Wednesday)

🦋 CLASS - Trail Patrol Backpacking 202
PATC Headquarters, Vienna, VA

Class 2, 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. Trail Patrol presents the second of three classes that teach you how to plan and carry out an early winter backpacking

trip. See ad in this issue for more information. Pre-registration required. INFO: John Browne (jbrowne11@cox.net) 703/425-5645.

19 (Saturday)

🦋 HIKE - Massanutten Mountain Series
New Market, VA

The ninth hike will be a 17 mile circuit from New Market Gap to Catherine Furnace on the Massanutten Mountain South, Bird Knob and Roaring Run Trails. Total elevation gain is 3200 feet. PATC Map H. Meet at 7:30 a.m. at the Oakton Shopping Center parking lot. Contact leaders for requirements and details. INFO: Jack Thorsen (thorsen4@juno.com) 703/339-6716 or William Needham Needham82@AOL.com) 410/884-9127.

19 (Saturday)

🦋 TRAIL WORK TRIP - South Mountaineers
Appalachian Trail, MD

This is the perfect time of year to volunteer on our crews. The weather is good for working and the colors are simply gorgeous! Hope you can make it. INFO: Mark Mitchell (mdtrail@yahoo.com) 301/461-7048.

19 (Saturday)

🦋 TRAIL WORK TRIP - Stonewall Brigade
Shenandoah County, VA

Great North Mountain on the VA/WV state line. Join the Stonewall Brigade at Wolf Gap Recreation Area at 9:00 a.m. to get tools then work on a trail in the nearby area. This popular venue offers fine panoramic views of Trout Run Valley from the mountain crest. Please RSVP by Wednesday evening if you plan to attend. Bring lunch, work gloves, water, seasonal clothing, and hiking shoes. INFO: Hop Long (mgrgnmd@hotmail.com) 301/942-6177.

19 (Saturday)

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

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

19 - 20 (Saturday - Sunday)

🦋 CABIN WORK TRIP - Vining Tract Crew
Lydia, VA

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

19 - 20 (Saturday - Sunday)

CLASS - Wilderness First Aid (WSA)
Alexandria, VA

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

19 - 20 (Saturday - Sunday)

🦋 HIKE - Natural History Weekend
Massanutten Mountain, VA

Spend a fall foliage weekend in the George Washington National Forest at the wonderful

Glass House in the scenic Massanutten Mountain. We will do about an eight mile hike on both Saturday and Sunday. Saturday evening will be a Bob Pickett traditional chili and ambrosia dinner with Texas toast and such good things as that. Costs for the weekend will include cabin rental and food costs, in addition to carpooling. This area is full of wonderful views and both of our native chestnut trees; the Allegheny chinkapin and American chestnut. Reservations required. INFO: Bob Pickett 301/681-1511.

22 (Tuesday)

🦋 HIKE - Vigorous Hikers
Shenandoah National Park, VA

A 15 mile circuit with 3700 feet ascent begins at Hawksbill parking lot, goes south on the Skyland - Big Meadows Trail to the Rose River Loop Trail, up the Dark Hollow Falls Trail to Big Meadows for a big lunch, returning on the Lewis Spring Trail to the AT ending with climb of Hawksbill. INFO: Chris Nolen (chrishiker@erols.com) 301/469-8931, before 9:30 p.m.

23 (Wednesday)

CLASS - Crossing Divides (REI)
REI, Bailey's Crossroads, VA

7:30 p.m. A couple's story of cancer, hope, and hiking Montana's Continental Divide. Crossing Divides artfully blends Scott Bischke and his wife Kate Gibson's agonizing struggle against Kate's advanced, recurrent cancer with the story of their three month, 800 plus mile hike along the Continental Divide Trail across Montana. Scott's presentation will couple a beautiful slideshow depicting the magnificence of Montana's Continental Divide wild lands with part inspirational, part poignant, and part humorous readings from Crossing Divides. INFO: Mark Nelson (mnelson@rei.com) 703/379-9400.

26 (Saturday)

🦋 TRAIL WORK TRIP - Rock Creek Park
Washington, DC

Rock Creek Park 8:15 a.m. to noon. Help us finish the final trail project of the year and set some goals for next year. Meet at the Rock Creek Nature Center. INFO: Mark Anderson (mhacca@starpower.net) 202/462-7718 or Ranger Ken Ferebee 202/426-6834, ext. 31.

26 - 27 (Saturday - Sunday)

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

The Blue and White Crew will revisit the Entry Run Trail project. Help us build the trail that will eventually link the John's Rest Cabin, the Rosser Lamb Cabin and Shenandoah National Park. Overnight accommodations will be at the Muttontop Cabin. Saturday dinner and Sunday breakfast are pot luck. INFO: Kerry Snow (kerrysnow@telocity.com) 301/570-0596.

26 - 27 (Saturday - Sunday)

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

The crew will be finishing the trail rehab project started last year on the side trail to the AT. Chris Brunton may have additional projects for the crew at Blackburn, so join us for an interesting Fall weekend. The foliage should be close to prime color. Bring a lunch for Saturday noon. Community dinner on Saturday night. Overnight at Blackburn Trail Center. INFO: Fran Keenan (outdoorsnow@cox.rr.com) 703/938-3973 or Jon Rindt (jkrindt@erols.com) 540/635-6351.

FORECAST

29 (Tuesday)

† HIKE - Vigorous Hikers
Shenandoah National Park, VA

Ascend Leading Ridge Trail to the AT south to Corbin Cutoff, climb Indian Run Trail to Corbin Mountain. Return via AT north and down Crusher Ridge. 18 miles 4000 feet elevation gain. INFO: Chris Nolen (chrishiker@erols.com) 301/469-8931, before 9:30 p.m.

29 (Tuesday)

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

30 (Wednesday)

† HIKE - Easy Hikers
Riley's Lock, Seneca, MD

Five mile easy canal hike. Bring lunch and water. Take beltway to River Road exit towards Potomac. Continue until River Road dead ends at Seneca and turn left. Turn left again at Riley's Lock Road and park at the lot by the canal. INFO: Harriet Rotter 202/363-5095.

30 (Wednesday)

CLASS - Black Bear (REI)
REI, Bailey's Crossroads, VA

7:30 p.m. The word "Bear" electrifies any back-country trail situation. With bear encounters in our region on the rise, we need to know: What do bears do when they're not being filmed for documentaries, and what should we do when we meet one? Karina Blizzard, Associate Director of Maryland's Wildlife and Heritage Service, will answer that question as she details the life cycle of black bears, their resurgent population, and best advice for human behavior in the presence of bears. INFO: Mark Nelson (mnelson@rei.com) 703/379-9400.

30 (Wednesday)

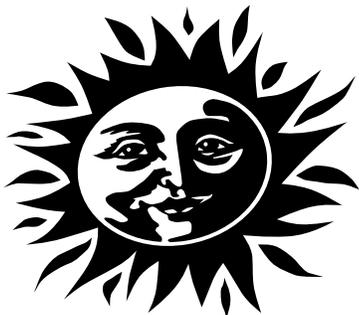
† CLASS - Trail Patrol Backpacking 202
PATC Headquarters, Vienna, VA

Class 3, 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. Trail Patrol presents the third of three classes that teach you how to plan and carry out an early winter backpacking trip. See ad in this issue for more information. Pre-registration required. INFO: John Browne (jbrowne11@cox.net) 703/425-5645.

31 (Thursday)

† HIKE - In-Between Hikers
Langley, VA

Scotts Run Nature Preserve to Turkey Run Park, 9 to 10 miles at a moderate pace. Joint event with the Sierra Club MWRP. Varied terrain includes several small stream crossings. Boots recommended. Start at 10:00 a.m. at 2nd parking lot. From I-495, exit 44 west on VA 193 (Georgetown Pike) .5 mi to Swinks Mill Road and right into lot. Bring lunch and water. No pets. INFO: Henri Comeau (henricomeau@aol.com) 703/451-7965. ☐



New Forest Pest Discovered in Smokies

Biologists at Great Smoky Mountains National Park confirmed the Park's first-recorded infestation with the hemlock woolly adelgid, a tiny aphid-like insect that attacks and kills hemlock trees, in May of this year. The first outbreak was confirmed about three miles north of Fontana Dam in the Swain County, N.C., portion of the Park, and a second infestation was found this week about a mile from Cades Cove in Blount County, Tenn.

The hemlock woolly adelgid is native to China and Japan and is a close relative of the balsam woolly adelgid that has killed over 90 percent of the Park's Fraser firs at areas like Clingmans Dome and Balsam Mountain. The hemlock adelgid was first detected in the Mid-Atlantic states in the 1920s but was not recognized as a serious pest until its population exploded when it reached large forested areas such as Shenandoah National Park in the 1970s. In Shenandoah, about 80 percent of the Park's hemlocks are now infested and most are expected to die.

Throughout the 1990s federal and state biologists monitored the adelgid's slow spread north into Maine and south along the Appalachians. The tiny insect can be spread by larger insects, on the feet of birds, and by wind, but the fastest spread occurs when infested landscape materials are brought in for planting in developed areas. Between 1999 and 2001 the insect is believed to have made the jump quickly from the Virginia/North Carolina border down to the Robbinsville, N.C. area via this human transport.

The hemlock adelgid feeds by sucking sap from the bases of the tree's needles, starting with the underside. This parasitism retards the host's growth and causes its needles to discolor from deep green to grayish before they drop off. The loss of new growth generally results in mortality of the tree within a few years. The infested twigs are fairly easy to recognize because the insects clump together at the base of each needle into a whitish mass that resembles a small cotton swab.

Areas of the Smokies that are primarily hemlock occupy only about 5,000 acres of the half-million-acre national park, but individual hemlocks are scattered widely throughout the Park from the lowest elevations to about 5,000 feet. The hemlock is of particular importance when it grows along

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stream banks where its deep shade helps to keep mountain streams sufficiently cool to host the Park's cold-water fish populations.

According to Kris Johnson, Supervisory Forester at the Smokies, "There is a range of treatment alternatives that may slow or – hopefully, someday – prevent the widespread loss of hemlocks from our forests. Trees can be treated by injecting a pesticide into the soil where it is taken up through the roots, or they can be soaked with a soap solution. There are also some promising results from introducing an Asian beetle that feeds exclusively on the adelgid."

Johnson said, "The soap and pesticide must be applied by hand so it is not practical to treat large or isolated stands, but in developed areas or with smaller outbreaks we may be able to keep an outbreak in check."

Park vegetation staffers have treated the North Carolina stand with both the soap and the pesticide and will continue to monitor those trees to see if the treatments were effective. The extent of the infected stand near Cades Cove has not yet been mapped, so managers have not decided on a course of action.

Park managers are asking hikers and others visiting the Park to report any sightings of hemlocks with the characteristic cotton-swab deposits on their needles to the Park's Vegetation Management Office at 865/436-1707. Specific locations and close-up photos are especially helpful in confirming any new infestations. Homeowners who suspect that hemlocks in their yards or other non-park areas may be infested can report their sightings to their county agricultural extension agents. ☐

—Bob Miller, NPS

From the PATC Store

PATC Publications					
ITEM #	DESCRIPTION			RETAIL	MEMBER
PA100	Map 1	(ed. 9, 1998)	AT Cumberland Valley, PA (Susquehanna River to Route 94)	6.00	4.80
PA110	Map 2-3	(ed. 9, 2000)	AT Michaux State Forest, PA (Route 94 to Route 30)	6.00	4.80
PA120	Map 4	(ed. 8, 2000)	AT Michaux State Forest, PA (Route 30 to PA-MD State Line)	6.00	4.80
PA130	Map 5-6	(ed. 16, 2002)	AT Maryland	6.00	4.80
PA140	Map 7	(ed. 13, 2000)	AT Northern Virginia (Potomac River to Snickers Gap)	6.00	4.80
PA150	Map 8	(ed. 12, 2001)	AT Northern Virginia (Snickers Gap to Chester Gap)	6.00	4.80
PA160	Map 9	(ed. 15, 1999)	AT Shenandoah National Park (North District)	6.00	4.80
PA170	Map 10	(ed. 19, 2000)	AT Shenandoah National Park (Central District)	6.00	4.80
PA180	Map 11	(ed. 14, 2001)	AT Shenandoah National Park (South District)	6.00	4.80
PA190	Map 12	(ed. 9, 2002)	AT GWNF Pedlar District (Rockfish Gap to Tye River)	6.00	4.80
PA200	Map 13	(ed. 4, 1999)	AT GWNF Pedlar District (Tye River to James River)	6.00	4.80
PA210	Map D	(ed. 3, 2001)	Potomac River Gorge Area and Cabin John Trail	6.00	4.80
PA220	Map F	(ed. 5, 2001)	Great North Mountain-North Half (Virginia/West Virginia)	6.00	4.80
PA230	Map G	(ed. 7, 2002)	Massanutten Mountain-North Half (Signal Knob to New Market Gap)	6.00	4.80
PA240	Map H	(ed. 3, 1999)	Massanutten Mountain-South Half (New Market Gap to Mass. Peak)	6.00	4.80
PA250	Map J	(ed. 2, 1997)	Tuscarora Trail AT, PA to PA Route 641	6.00	4.80
PA260	Map K	(ed. 2, 1997)	Tuscarora Trail PA route 641 to Hancock, MD	6.00	4.80
PA270	Map L	(ed. 2, 1996)	Tuscarora Trail (Hancock, MD, to Capon Springs, WV, and Cacapon St. Pk.)	6.00	4.80
PA280	Map M	(ed. 1, 1976)	Big Blue Trail - South Half (Capon Springs, WV, to AT, VA)	2.50	2.00
PA290	Map N	(ed. 4, 2000)	Rock Creek Park Area, DC	6.00	4.80
PA300	PATC Elevation Profile of Appalachian Trail (Pine Grove Furnace to Rockfish Gap)			2.75	2.20
PB100	AT Guide Book #6 (ed. 16, 2000) Maryland and Northern Virginia			8.00	6.40
PB110	AT Guide Set #6 (AT Guide Book to MD and Northern VA with Maps 5-6, 7 & 8)			22.00	17.60
PB120	AT Guide Book #7 (ed. 12, 1999) Shenandoah National Park			10.00	8.00
PB130	AT Guide Set #7 (AT Guide Book to Shenandoah National Park with Maps 9, 10 & 11)			24.00	19.20
PB135	Guide to Great North Mountain Trails (ed. 1, 2001)			7.00	5.60
PB140	Massanutten Guide Set (Guide to Massanutten Mountain with Maps G & H)			16.00	12.80
PC100	Circuit Hikes in Shenandoah National Park (ed. 14, 1996)			7.00	5.60
PC110	Circuit Hikes in Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland, and Pennsylvania (ed. 6, 2000)			7.00	5.60
PC115	Hikes in Western Maryland (ed. 1, 1997)			7.00	5.60
PC116	The Tuscarora Trail North (Guide to Maryland and Pennsylvania) (ed. 3, 1997)			7.00	5.60
PC117	The Tuscarora Trail South (Guide to West Virginia and Virginia) (ed. 3, 1997)			7.00	5.60
PC120	Hikes in the Washington Region: Part A Northern Maryland Counties (ed. 4, 2001)			7.00	5.60
PC130	Hikes in the Washington Region: Part B Northern Virginia Counties (ed. 3, 1993)			7.00	5.60
PC140	Hikes in the Washington Region: Part C DC/Southern Maryland Counties (ed. 2, 1999)			7.00	5.60
PC150	The Catoctin Trail (1985)			1.25	1.00
PC160	Guide to Massanutten Mountain (2000)			7.00	5.60
PC170	The Big Blue: A Trail Guide (1987)			6.00	4.80
PC180	Hiking Guide to the Pedlar District, George Washington National Forest (ed. 2, 1990)			7.00	5.60
PC190	Climbers' Guide to the Great Falls of the Potomac (2001)			12.95	10.36
PC200	Carderock Past & Present: A Climbers Guide (1990)			7.00	5.60
PC205	Pioneering Ascents (the origins of climbing in America)			14.00	11.20
PC210	Clearing Trails in War Time			5.95	4.76
PC220	Breaking Trail in the Central Appalachians - a narrative			12.50	10.00
PC230	Lost Trails and Forgotten People: The Story of Jones Mountain (ed. 2, 1985)			7.50	6.00
PC240	The Dean Mountain Story (1982)			5.50	4.40
PC250	Shenandoah Heritage: The Story of the People Before the Park (6th printing, 2000)			10.00	8.00
PC260	Shenandoah Vestiges: What the Mountain People Left Behind (4th printing, 2001)			6.00	5.00
PC270	Shenandoah Secrets: The Story of the Park's Hidden Past (Revised 1998)			12.95	10.36
PC280	PATC Cabins Booklet (2001)			5.50	4.40
PC300	Wildflowers of the Potomac Appalachians: A Hikers Guide (1979)			2.50	2.00
PC310	The Blue Hills of Maryland (ed. 1, 1993)			14.00	11.20
PC320	Memories of a Lewis Mountain Man (1993)			8.00	6.40
PE100	Big Blue Decal			1.00	1.00
PE110	Big Blue Patch			2.00	2.00
PD100	Map of the Stony Man Region of the Shenandoah National Park (Illustrated) (1964)			2.00	1.60
PE120	PATC Member Decal			N/A	1.00
PE130	PATC Member Patch			N/A	2.00
PE140	PATC Member Pin			N/A	2.95
PE150	PATC Ballpoint Pen with gift box			3.00	3.00
PE250	Long Sleeve T-Shirts			20.00	20.00
PE260	Short Sleeve T-Shirts			15.00	15.00
PE290	PATC Logo in Sterling Silver with gift box (please indicate pin or pendant)			18.00	18.00
PE265	Notecards with Drawings of 3 PATC Cabins (box of 10 with envelopes)			4.00	4.00
PE280	PATC Coffee Mugs			7.50	6.00
PE320	PATC HAT			12.00	12.00
XX700	Natural History Guide to Common Woody Plants of the GWNF and SNP (1995)			3.00	2.40

From the PATC Store

Publications from Other Publishers

DESCRIPTION	RETAIL/	MEMBER			
50 hikes in Northern Virginia (1998)	13.00	10.40	Tuscarora Trail Patch	2.50	2.00
Appalachian Trail Field Book (1982)	3.50	2.80	Undying Past of the Shenandoah National Park	18.95	15.16
Appalachian Trail Thru-Hikers' Companion (1998)	10.00	8.00	W & OD Railroad Trail Guide (1996)	8.00	6.40
ATC Trail Design, Construction, and Maintenance (1981)	9.00	7.20	Walker's Guide to Harpers Ferry (1994)	8.00	6.40
Backpacker Magazine Guide to the AT (1989)	16.95	13.56	Wilderness Navigation (1999)	9.95	8.00
Camping and Backpacking with Children (1995)	16.95	13.56	Workbook for Planning Thru-Hikes	6.00	4.80
Common Sense Medical Guide (1987)	15.00	12.00			
Exploring Washington on Foot	12.95	10.36	Appalachian Trail Poster Maps		
Finding Wildflowers in Washington/Baltimore Area (1995)	15.95	12.76	a) AT strip map with forest green border 9" x 48"	3.50	2.80
Food & Lodging Along the C&O Canal (1994) OUT OF STOCK	3.00	2.40	c) AT and eight full-color trail photos 32" x 47"	6.95	5.56
Guide to the Mason-Dixon Trail System (1992) Map Series	15.12	12.60			
Grandpa's Mountain (Carolyn Reeder)	4.99	3.99	Other AT Guide Books with Trail Maps		
Hikes to Waterfalls (1997)	3.00	2.40	AT Data Book (supplement to guide sets) (2002)	4.95	3.95
Hiking Virginia's National Forests (1998)	10.00	8.00	Central Virginia (1994)	18.00	14.40
Hiking Guide to the Monongahela National Forest (1999)	12.00	10.00	Maine (1993)	25.00	20.00
Hollow Boy By Rayner V. Snead (1995)	13.95	11.16	Massachusetts-Connecticut (1994)	20.00	16.00
Insiders Guide to Virginia's Blue Ridge (1998)	15.00	12.00	New Hampshire-Vermont (1995)	17.00	13.60
Lightly on the Land	19.95	15.95	New York-New Jersey (1994)	16.00	12.80
Moonshiner's Son by Carolyn Reeder	4.79	3.99	North Carolina-Georgia (1998)	25.00	20.00
Mountaineering First Aid (1996)	7.00	5.60	Pennsylvania	40.00	32.00
Pennsylvania Hiking Trails (ed. 12, 1998)	7.00	5.60	Southwest Virginia (1994)	17.00	13.60
Rock Climbing (A Trailside how to Guide) (Don Mellor)	17.95	14.50	Tennessee-North Carolina (1995)	25.00	20.00
The 18 Cabins of Old Rag	5.00	\$5.00			
The Appalachian Trail Backpacker (1994)	11.00	8.80	Trails Illustrated Topo Maps		
The Appalachians (1975) (Maurice Brooks)	18.95	15.16	American Discovery Trail (covers DE, MD, & WV) (1995)	9.00	7.20
The C&O Canal Companion (1997)	23.50	19.60	Shenandoah National Park (1994)	9.00	7.20
The New Appalachian Trail (Ed Garvey) (1997)	14.95	11.95			
The Potomac River and the C&O Canal (1992)	8.50	6.80	Trinkets		
There are Mountains to Climb (1996)	12.95	10.36	Appalachian Trail South Bandana	5.00	5.00
Towns along the Towpath	14.00	11.20	PATC Water Bottles	5.00	5.00
Towpath Guide to the C&O Canal (1999)	14.00	11.20	Smokey the Bear Pins	4.00	3.20
Trail Design, Construction and Maintenance 2000	14.95	11.96	Tuscarora Trail Patch	2.00	2.00
Trails in Southwest Virginia (1997) OUT OF STOCK	6.95	5.50	PATC Detachable Neck Lanyards	5.00	5.00

ORDER FORM

TELEPHONE Monday - Thursday, 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.
HOURS: Thursday - Friday, 12 noon - 2 p.m.
 703/242-0693 FAX 703/242-0968

SEND ALL PATC ORDERS TO: 118 Park Street, SE
 Vienna, VA 22180-4609

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

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

ITEM #	QUANTITY	DESCRIPTION	UNIT PRICE	TOTAL

Name: _____
 Shipping Address: _____

 City: _____ State: ____ Zip: _____
 Phone: (h): _____ (w): _____

Order Subtotal _____
 4.5 % Sales Tax (VA residents only) _____
 Shipping and Handling (see above) _____
 Grand Total for Order _____

METHOD OF PAYMENT:

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

Check or Money Order
 Visa or Mastercard

At the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Resource Managers Fight Hemlock Woolly Adelgid Infestations

Resource Managers at Great Smoky Mountains National Park are pursuing a biological version of fighting “fire with fire” by releasing a non-native insect to control the spread of another. Recently, Park biologists, assisted by U.S. Forest Service entomologists, began an experimental release of 10,000 tiny black predator beetles at four sites in the Park in an effort to control infestations of the exotic hemlock woolly adelgid, an Asian adelgid that can kill a majority of the hemlock trees it attacks as quickly as within three to five years.

Since the hemlock woolly adelgid infestation was first confirmed in the Park in mid-May, Park biologists have been aggressively on the look-out for infestations and confirmed nine infested stands of hemlock. These stands are scattered from Cataloochee just west of I-40 to Cades Cove and Panther Creek near U.S. 129 on the west end of the Park. Other areas most likely will be located throughout the half-million-acre Park, making it imperative to begin an active control effort.

The Park introduced the predator beetle, *Pseudoscymnus tsugae*, at four highly infested locations upon advice from the U.S. Forest Service and after consulting with the states of Tennessee and North Carolina, Western Carolina University, and the University of Tennessee. The sites are Cataloochee in North Carolina and the Panther Creek, Laurel Falls, and Stony Branch areas in Tennessee. The selection of sites for release were based on certain criteria that the sites have enough adelgids to allow the beetles to find their prey quickly, feed voraciously, and reproduce. Each location received about 2,500 beetles.

These predator beetles are related to common native ladybug beetles but are about one-tenth their size and solid black rather than the traditional black and red variety. According to the Park’s Forester Kris Johnson, “Most people are familiar with the Halloween beetle (*Harmonia axyridis*), a large orange and white lady beetle introduced to control aphids. That beetle feeds on a variety of prey and congregates in winter, often in houses. The predator beetle for hemlock woolly adelgid was carefully studied prior to approval for release; it feeds only on adelgids, over winters in forest leaf litter, and does not congregate. No one is likely to see them since they are about the size of a pin head.”

Although introduced from Asia 40 years ago, Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (HWA) has recently become a pest of hemlock stands in this region.

The adelgid sucks plant sap at the base of the needles. The needles fall off and twigs often die back. If left uncontrolled, the adelgid can kill a tree in a single year.



Photo courtesy of the USDA Forest Service Web Site

She continued, “While the Park has already initiated chemical control, this method is only practical on a limited basis and in areas where the infested hemlocks are easily accessible. The vast majority of hemlock in the Park will therefore be susceptible to mortality from feeding by the adelgid unless some other form of effective treatment is employed. We could lose the majority of our hemlock forests, especially the large old growth stands, so we must try all available means of control.”

Extensive studies by the U.S. Forest Service both in the laboratory and field have revealed that use of the predator beetle is a promising control method for curtailing the

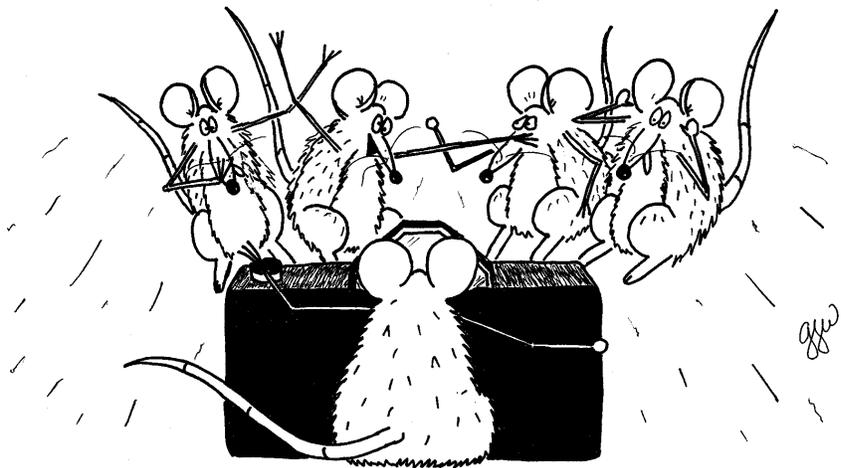
spread of the hemlock woolly adelgid. The current hope for suppressing introduced populations of the hemlock woolly adelgid is through this biological control treatment. Considering how rapidly hemlock trees are injured following the adelgid assault, the predator beetles’ effectiveness relies on its establishment soon after infestation.

Following the protocol set by the U.S. Forest Service, the Park will conduct monitoring activities in the areas in which the predator beetles have been released to evaluate its effectiveness in controlling adelgid populations in the Park. For information call 865/436-1208. □

—Nancy Gray, NPS

Tails from the Woods by George Walters

WHILE EVERYONE SLEEPS, THE MICE EXPERIMENT WITH A CAMERA THAT WAS LEFT ON THE CABIN TABLE.



“OK!... ON THE COUNT OF 3, EVERYBODY SAY CHEESE!”

NOTICES

NEW NOTICES

CHRISTMAS PLATES to fill gaps at a bargain. Bing & Grondahl plates for Christmas 1960, 1966, 1967, 1968, 1971-74, 1976, 1980. Royal Copenhagen Christmas plates for 1974, 1982. \$15 a plate plus shipping. (Christmas 2002 plates are priced at \$62 each.) Paula M. Strain, 301/216-4569

FOR SALE – BACKPACK Brand new Lowe alpine Sirocco 2 ND 70x15 internal Backpack. Used one time on 17 mile hike. Paid \$239.00 from Blue Ridge Mt. Sport. Will sell for \$150.00. Contact John Holderfield (540)894-0489 or jhnholderfield@gateway.net.

DONATIONS WANTED – BEARS DEN HOSTEL is in need of a used cell phone without service provider for use on 911 calls only. Phone 540/554-8708 or e-mail Dave at bearden@crosslink.net.

NOVEMBER 2, 2002 – JOIN US for a 10 +/- hike on Canaan Mountain utilizing some of its beautiful trails. Though we will be past the peak of fall color, the woods will still be alive with evergreens and flowing brooks. Those wishing to spend the night, may do so at the Canaan campground or the lodge nearby. Contact Susan Bly at sbly@shepherd.edu or 304/876-5177 or 304/258-3319 after 7 p.m. with any questions and for reservation.

JOIN WILDSIDE ADVENTURES FOR WOMEN for an action-filled weekend canoeing, rock climbing, and hiking in the James River Wilderness Basin, September 13-15. Spend a weekend backpacking with us in the Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area in Kentucky as we hike past a 113-foot waterfall and through massive rock shelters, September 27-29. For details on these trips and upcoming offerings, check out our Web site at www.wildsideadventures.com, e-mail us at info@wildsideadventures.com, or give us a call at 540/384-7023. A discount is offered to all PATC members.

LOST AND FOUND

LOST – PAIR OF LEKI HIKING POLES, July 1, one of the poles has initials "JHR" carved in it. Poles were left in Harpers Ferry at the intersection of the AT and Chestnut Hill Road (Route 32). Reward if returned. Contact James Reeves at 703/356-0810

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

HIKING OPPORTUNITIES

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

DONATIONS WANTED

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

LAPTOP AND COMPUTER PROJECTOR

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

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

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

ALSO NEEDED:

COOKS/WORK CREWS, WEAVER CABIN - Contact Thomas Jorgensen at Hairatheart@aol.com or 540/248-7009 (w) 540/456-4760 (h) .

PROJECT LEADERS / CONSTRUCTION FOREMEN, for info call Charlie Graf at: 410/757-6053 or e-mail cagraf@aol.com.

SHENANDOAH MOUNTAIN RESCUE GROUP (SMRG) is seeking people. INFO: SMRG Operations 703/255-5034, then press #5.

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

NOT INTERESTED IN WORKING IN THE GREAT OUTDOORS?

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

PUBLICATIONS CHAIR NEEDS HELP on a book. Please contact Aaron Watkins at 410/740-7082 or publications@patc.net.

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

NEEDED: PEOPLE TO HELP PLAN and conduct our Club events. If you are willing, please contact Liles Creighton, Membership Secretary at 410/573-0067, lcrei@aol.com or Pat Fankhauser at Club headquarters - 703/242-0315 x 17, pfankhauser@patc.net.

EQUIPMENT WANTED

WANTED – BACKPACK – Hiker looking for 1) Kelty Tioga Backpack Size Large or "Ultra 2) Old AT guidebooks from any era. Contact Ed Talone at 301/565-6704 x202 or etalone@americanhiking.org

FOR SALE

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

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

CONSERVATION OPPORTUNITIES

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

TRAIL OVERSEER OPPORTUNITIES

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

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

Trailhead

By September, this summer's abundance of weeds should be losing energy – Overseers certainly are. It has been a busy summer just trying to keep the weeds in check. The less demanding tasks of clearing drains, controlling erosion, freshening blazes, and removing the odd blowdown have a definite appeal after hours spent with a brush cutter or swing blade.

Heidi Forrest, Trails Coordinator, reminds Overseers to please submit work reports prior to Oct. 3 so hours for 2002 can be calculated and sent to our government partners. Both PATC and our partners benefit from the volunteer work we contribute.

From The SOT

The Supervisor of Trails reminds all volunteers that PATC requires Trail Overseers to be members of the Club (Chapter members who are Overseers must also be members of the parent organization. And, our Constitution stipulates that all Chapter Presidents be members of the parent organization.). Please be careful to renew promptly when your membership is due, since our database does not permit the accumulation of work hours by non-members. District Managers and Chapter Leaders are asked to spread the word. Your dues are used for the purchase of tools, equipment, and supplies, in addition to supporting our other activities. PATC is grateful for the hard work and generous financial support from its army of enthusiastic trail volunteers.

Saturday, Sept. 28 is National Public Lands Day. In our area, the D.C. government, in cooperation with the National Park Service, the USDA Forest Service, and the Bureau of Land Management, is organizing a project to clean up natural sites along the Anacostia River near the Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens. PATC has been asked to participate, and we're hoping to turn out a cadre of volunteers and crew leaders. We'll be cleaning up the area and removing invasive species in preparation for the construction of recreational trails. Please see the announcement in this issue of *The PA*, or contact Kerry Snow (kerrysnow@telocity.com) if you're interested in participating.

ATC's Mid-Atlantic Crew will be visiting PATC-land for three projects this fall, including one in Pennsylvania, one in Maryland, and one in Shenandoah National Park. The crew weeks are a wonderful way to learn trail skills, and the Conference appreciates PATC's support for the crew both financially and by participation. Watch the Forecast for details of the crew dates in our region.

Mill Prong Trail Improved

The Mill Prong Trail (SNP Central District) was the target of the Blue and White Crew in July. Overseer and B&W regular Mark Holland contracted the crew to build new erosion control devices, rebuild some dilapidated waterbars, and install two stream crossings. Blue and White favorite Uli Wilson was able to take a quick breather from her doctoral studies to lend a hand on the project (along with husband and master stonemason, Patrick, and daughter, Shannon). Saturday night found the crew at the Pinnacles Research Station, enjoying Iron Chef John McCrea's Pinnacles Paella along with a wide variety of other delicacies. Blue and White debaters Stalman and Hillon were able to summon the sandman with their melodious chants, and pretty soon the crew were snuggled in their sleeping bags, with visions of McLeods and GripHoists dancing in their heads. On Sunday, wheelbarrow wranglers Dove, Glendening, Holland, and Snow were able to lasso a

wild three-wheeler before it careened down the Mill Prong horse trail, preventing the inevitable devastation that would've resulted to the Presidential Cottage at Camp Rapidan. Rumor has it that the group will be awarded the Superintendent's Medal of Valor at the next SNP Awards Ceremony for their unflinching courage and presence of mind in protecting our natural and historic heritage.

Hal Gives Thanks

Hal Hallett, DM for the SNP Central District AT, expresses special kudos to Harry and Pat Glenn for their immediate response in removing a couple of blowdowns on the south end of the district. Harry continues to set very high standards for his work as an Overseer.

Meeting of Minds

Don White, crew leader of Acme Treadway Co., met with Mike Karpie, DM for AT in SNP South District, to discuss work to be done on our southernmost section of AT. The first leg of the hike helped us determine the first order of business for the upcoming months, a relocation of the AT where it climbs southward out of McCormick Gap. Additionally, some minor treadwork further down the Trail is also planned. The scouting and flagging will have been done by the time this issue hits the stands, and the following dates for fun in the sun are: Sept. 14 and 15 and Oct. 12 and 13. If you would like to learn trail building from the pros, this project offers the perfect opportunity.

New Trail Crew

Because the SNP South District has several sections of the AT that are plagued with particularly troublesome vegetation growth, a new crew is being formed. The Big Flat Trail Crew (and Social Club) will consist of a team of vegetation removal experts who will focus primarily on assisting the AT Overseers of the Loft Mountain area. The crew borrows its name from the mountaintop that Loft Mountain Campground occupies. Keith Denson, charter member of the crew, comments, "You wouldn't really expect them to call it Big Flat Mountain Campground, would you?" The crew is still accepting charter members through the month of September, so be sure to act now. For more information, call Mike Karpie at 540/785-9553 or e-mail him at bkpk@erols.com.

Seeking Relief

During the July heat wave, the North District Hoodlums trail crew sought relief from the high temperatures in the valley below by hiking to the ridge crest of the AT just south of Elkwallow Wayside. There, the trail drops steeply into the Jeremy's Run watershed, and erosion is frequently a problem. The crew converted many old earthen waterbars and built several new devices using rock and log.

This was Dick Dugan's section of the AT, and many folks maneuvered to get into a photograph with Dick, for some reason or another. Dick had also previously arranged to have a dozen or so peeled logs airlifted into the site!

It was a typical hot July weekend, and we were all sweating profusely. At work's end, we hiked down to Indian Run Hut and began the rehydration process utilizing various malted and other assorted beverages. We also found that the Hoodlums Catering Co. had

See Trailhead, page 19

Trailhead, from page 18

left us a great meal of BBQ chicken, marinated leg of goat, JR's Korean ribs, garden veggies and summer salads, etc. The crew shucked fresh corn on the cob brought up by Dick and Marilyn Dugan and kept a wary eye out for the large bear that has been reported to be hanging out in the area. (I guess he heard about the chow!) It was a great summer bar-B-cue, and the chief Hoodlum was tempted not to share Katherine Rindt's wonderous deviled eggs with the rest of the crew, but in the end, he relented!

South District Mini-Crew

Almost fully recovered from getting a couple body parts replaced, Pete Gatje, DM for SNP South District Blue Blaze Trails, along with a couple Overseers, attempt to work on a new trail section twice a week. Recently, Overseers Larry Baldwin and Rhett Orndorff have accompanied him on these forays. Together they have rehabbed the Gap Run Trail, Rocky Mount Trail, Trayfoot Mountain Trail, Lewis Peak Trail, and the One Mile Run Trail. Taking a break, Pete and wife Jeanette plan to take a 10-day tour of Scotland in early August. Maybe we will get a report of the status of trails in the Highlands.

Skipping Boulders - PHT

On a hot Saturday in July, the Blue and White crew kept cool fixing the largest Potomac Heritage Trail stream crossing at Pimmit Run. Pimmit's water flow was at its lowest level in years as the big boulders moved (skipped) along by use of the high-line winch-cable system. The boulders plopped into the stream and became the new fair-weather stepping stones for PHT hikers during normal water flows. Unfortunately, the stream bed is so deep that miscommunication between crew members Kerry Snow, Mike Fleming, and Mark Holland with the "winchmeister," Charles Hillon, almost came to blows -



Photo by 'Sedimentary Steve'

Clyde "Clydesdale" Seibert,
PATC Thru-hiker at Dole Hotel in
Duncannon, Pa.

which would have been in keeping with the site's reputation. Only a few yards away is the 1826 dueling site between Secretary of State Henry Clay and Virginia Sen. John Randolph. Two shots were fired by each. Both missed.

The day's highlight was delivered pizza. This is the type of perk that awaits any PATC crew working on the urban PHT close to Washington, D.C. But although the pizzas fueled much hard work, the afternoon sun grew hotter and even the help of PHT volunteers did not complete the large task at hand. The Blue and White crew promises to return. I suppose they are returning for a lunch of Chinese take out.

I Should Have Known

Wil Kohlbrenner worked with Hop Long's Stonewall Brigade one Saturday in July. Wil wore gloves, a long-sleeved shirt, long pants, and a hat and headnet. At quitting time, Wil took off the gloves

and left them with his pack on the edge of the trail. He went up the trail to get the black plastic cover, intending to hide the tools at a new location. He got them all wrapped up behind a log and was picking up handfuls of dry leaves to cover the plastic while thinking, "I ought to have my gloves on for this."

A yellow jacket got him on the back of his left hand. One sting and he was out of there! At the hospital on Sunday his hand looked like a balloon. It seems the wasp injected some nasty bacteria along with the usual dose of chemicals.

This happened to the guy who wrote the June *PA* article on wasps!

Doin' The Doyle

Clyde "Clydesdale" Seibert decided, at the age of 65, to have the ultimate hiking experience and thru-hike the AT. He started in late March at Springer Mountain and reached Duncannon, Pa., in late July. He plans to flip-flop to Katahdin in August and hike south. Although he has lost some weight and redistributed what was left, he is having a great time. The AT passes through Duncannon, and the Doyle Hotel (it would struggle to get a 1/4 star rating) is a regular stop for thru-hikers.

Last year's PATC Service Award recipient for more than a hundred hours of trail work with the Cadillac Crew, the "Clydesdale" hails from Lewes, Del. The crew misses him and wishes him well on his journey but expects him to return to trail work with a renewed vigor.

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

Trail/Shelter Overseers - Appointed in July

Trail Overseers

Jack Turnbull	Furnace Mountain Summit Trail to Trayfoot Mountain Trail
Michael Warobak	Furnace Mountain Trail - Furnace Mt. Summit to Madison Run FD
John Ruppe	One-Mile Run Trail
Daniel Bain	Hightop Hut Access Road
Todd Alexander	Appalachian Trail - Riprap Trail Parking Area to Hairpin Switchback
David & Carol Saah	Tuscarora Trail - Mill Mountain Trail to Cedar Creek
Lynn Miller	Tuscarora Trail - Warner Trail to PA 233/Colonel Denning State Park
Earle Hunter	Appalachian Trail - Old Woods Road to VA 605

POTOMAC APPALACHIAN

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TRAIL, SHELTER and CORRIDOR OVERSEERS/MONITORS WANTED

SHELTER OVERSEERS WANTED CONTACT FRANK TURK, 301/249-8243

E-mail: frankturk@aol.com
PINE KNOB SHELTER/DICKS DOME
SHELTER/ROCK SPRINGS HUT/
WAGON WHEEL SHELTER

DISTRICT MANAGER CONTACT KERRY SNOW, 301/295-5084 E-mail: KerrySnow@telocity.com DISTRICT MANAGER MASSANUTTEN SOUTH

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

PENNSYLVANIA - MAP 2-3, 4, J, K
CALL PETE BROWN, 410/343-1140
E-mail: peter.brown4@worldnet.att.net
Appalachian Trail
Rattlesnake Run Road to PA 16 (5 miles)
Appalachian Trail - Co-overseer
Gas Pipeline to Rattlesnake Run Road (3 miles)
Tuscarora Trail
Warner Trail to PA 233/ Col. Denning State Park
(4 miles)
Tuscarora Trail
Cowpens Road to 3 Square Hollow Road
(4 miles)

ASHBY GAP/ LINDEN AT & BB - MAP 8
(RTE. 50 TO RTE. 638)
CALL ED MCKNEW, 540/622-6004
E-mail: emcknew@aol.com
Appalachian Trail
2nd Logging Road to Pipeline (1.2 miles)
Dicks Dome Shelter Trail
AT to shelter (0.2 miles)

SNP NORTH BLUE-BLAZED - MAP 9
CALL BERNIE STALMANN, 301/725-8876
E-mail: Bstalmann@aol.com
Tuscarora/Overall Run Trail
Thompson Hollow Jct. To Mathews Arms (2.3 miles)
SNP CENTRAL BLUE-BLAZED [NORTH END] -
MAP 10
CALL DAN DUEWEKE, 703/266-3248
E-mail: danjan@fcc.net

WILDERNESS OVERSEERS NEEDED

FOR REMOTE TRAILS.
HARD WORK, LOW PAY,
ADVENTURE GUARANTEED.
Corbin Cabin Cutoff

Skyline Drive to Corbin Cabin/Nicholson Hollow
Trail (1.4 miles)

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

SNP SOUTH BLUE-BLAZED - MAP 11
CALL PETE GATJE, 434/361-1309
E-mail: pjgatje@aol.com
Lewis Peak Trail
Rocky Top Trail to West Park Boundary
(2.6 miles)

Rocky Mount Trail
Intersection of Gap Run [upper] to Summit of
Rocky Mt. Trail (1.2 miles)

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

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

TUSCARORA SOUTH - MAP F, G, 9
CALL RICK RHOADES, 540/477-3247
E-mail: Rrhoades@shentel.net
Tuscarora Trail
Rock marker to Massanutten Trail (1.5 miles)

MASSANUTTEN NORTH - MAP G
CALL MIKE SUTHERLAND, 703/591-8330
E-mail: msutherland@cox.net
Massanutten Trail
Rte. 758 to 7-Bar-None Trail (3.3 miles)
Massanutten Trail
7-Bar-None Trail to Bear Trap Trail (2.7 miles)
Massanutten Trail
Bear Trap Trail to Peters Mill Run Trail
(1.6 miles)

Massanutten Trail

Moerlan Gap Road to
Jawbone Gap Trail (1.6 miles)
Massanutten Trail
Jawbone Gap Trail to
Crisman Hollow Road (4.8 miles)

MASSANUTTEN SOUTH - MAP H
CALL BILL SCHMIDT, 301/585-2477
E-mail: wmeschmidt@aol.com
Massanutten Mt. South Trail
TV Tower to Pitt Spring (3.40 miles)
Massanutten Mt. South Trail
Pitt Spring to Morgan Run Trail (3.3 miles)
Second Mountain Trail
Boone Run Trail to Kaylor Knob (1.1 miles)
Morgan Run Trail
Cub Run Road to Massanutten
Mt. South Trail (2.6 miles)

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

Mill Mountain Trail
Big Schloss Cutoff Trail
to the Tuscarora Trail (3.3 miles)
Mill Mountain Trail
Wolf Gap Recreation Area
to Big Schloss Cutoff Trail (2.8 miles)

Great North Mountain Trail
Stack Rock to FR 720 (4.2 miles)
Big Schloss Trail
2.3-mile marker of Mill Mt. Trail
to Big Schloss View (0.3 miles)

SUBURBAN MARYLAND - MAP D
CALL LILES CREIGHTON, 410/573-0067
E-mail: lcrei@aol.com
Cabin John Trail
Tuckerman Land to Goya Drive (1.5 miles)
Tavern Spur Trail
Goldmine Loop Trail to Tavern (0.2 miles)
Stop Lock Spur Trail
Goldmine Loop Trail to Stop Lock (0.3 miles)
Anglers Spur Trail
Goldmine Loop Trail to Old Anglers Inn
(0.5 miles)



The Potomac Appalachian

118 Park Street
Vienna, VA 22180-4609

Telephone: 703/242-0315
Mon.-Thurs. 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Thurs. & Fri. 12:00 noon - 2:00 p.m.

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