### 1978 NEW OFFICERS

Elections results were announced at the Annual Dinner on Feb.5, 1978. Your new Steering Committee for 1978 is as follows:

Chairman: Bob Miller

Advisor: Myra Wilhelm

Returning Members: Bob Mynhier

Gordon Porter

New Members:

Garland Ruth Vera Wortman Gary Bridges

TERC Coordinator:

Claude "Cosmo" Griffith

The HIKER-OF-THE-YEAR for 1977 is D O N N E L A N!



Hiking Club budget support by TERC is influenced in part by the size of the club, the number of activities and the participation in these activities. You can help strengthen your club by doing the following:

- 1. If you have not already done so, please promptly send your 1978 membership dues (\$1.00) to Mr. Claude Griffith, TEC. Associate (non-Eastman) Members are asked to contribute \$1.00 per year toward postage costs in lieu of a formal membership charge. This can also be sent to Claude. Warning! Membership rolls are slated for purging by April!
- 2. Participate in club hikes, canoe trips, work services, dinners, and other events. Hiking can be a pleasant and rewarding outing even in winter. For example, Laurel Gorge Falls are particularly beautiful when frozen.
- 3. Event leaders, be sure to completely fill out an activity report after every activity and promptly send to our club secretary, Paulette Eads, B-150B. She will send a photocopy to TERC for their records and use the report to prepare "For the Record" notices.
- 4. Urge your friends to join the Hiking Club and take advantage of our program of planned outings.

Thanks.

Bob Miller

### BACKPACKING IN ICELAND - 1978

### Preliminary Notice

Iceland is a country whose geography and geology are quite different from ours, stemming mainly from Iceland's volcanic origin. It should be possible to hike to volcanos, around glysers, and across lava beds; along seashores, and through farm lands in a one-week trip to this island country. To this point I have done the ground work on such an expedition. I am tentatively planning a one-week trip to Iceland at the end of July or beginning of August in 1978. This trip is envisioned to involve group travel to Iceland, then allowing several alternatives while in Iceland: sightseeing around the island; backpacking expedition across the center of the island; dayhikes from a central camp; or some combination of the above. The format of the trip will be decided by the group which goes. So far, I estimate that we can fly round trip (Tri-Cities to Reykjavic, Iceland) for about \$300. per person. Expenses in Iceland would be extra and would depend upon the options chosen.

If you are interested in learning more about the possibilities, please fill out the form below and return it to me by July 1, 1977. We will then be able to meet to discuss options and make plans.

Dave Petke, TEC tel. 4274 or 246-9035

### HIKING IN ICELAND

Due to declining interest of hikers, caused by consideration of the overall costs of travel and ground arrangements, the proposed hiking trip to Iceland during the summer of 1978 has been cancelled.

Dave Petke



January 1978
Help Needed on Northeast Tennessee Wilderness Review

The U. S. Forest Service has launched a new review of all the remaining roadless and undeveloped lands on all the National Forests, east and west, and on the National Grasslands. The purpose is to help determine which of these lands will be preserved as wilderness — and which will not.

Millions of acres of "de facto wilderness" are at stake, much of it never before inventoried or evaluated as potential wilderness. The fate of much of America's wilderness heritage is the issue: effective participation by conservationists is essential as the "RARE-II" program proceeds over the next year and a half.

This new program results from growing citizen and congressional criticism of existing Forest Service efforts in wilderness preservation. The earlier review of roadless areas (RARE-I) in 1973 overlooked many areas. Moreover, many of the roadless areas identified are now scheduled for development, without a fair and thorough consideration of their wilderness values. Increasingly, Congress has stepped in to preserve areas the Forest Service neglected. In his campaign, President Carter pledged to give the de facto wilderness of the National Forests a new, more positive look.

The Forest Service has held hearings in which they proposed an inventory of 50,294 acres in East Tennessee for evaluation as wilderness. The Cherokee National Forest Wilderness Coalition (CNFWC), a citizens group proposed 210,000 additional Acres. As a result, the Forest service modified its proposal to include a total of 100,243 acres. The CNFWC is challanging the Forest Service rejection of 56,880 acres. These proposals are in addition to Gee Creek, Joyce Kilmer-Slickrock and Cohutta areas already designated as wilderness. Also not included are areas being proposed by the National Park Service and citizens groups for the Great Smokies.

Through the CNFWC, I have made proposals for Northeast Tennessee some of which were accepted by the Forest Service. Some of the rejected proposals are being challanged by the CNFWC. Help is now needed from additional people in preparing for the public hearings which will probably come next spring or summer, and which will involve, from our standpoint:

- 1. A detailed presentation on each area, giving the reasons why the area should be wilderness, by an individual who is very familiar with the specific area.
- 2. Testimony at the hearings and letters by as many people as possible supporting the wilderness recommendations of the CNFWC.

Between now and spring of 1978 we need individuals to take detailed looks at the various inventory areas to determine such as: whether the boundaries are satisfactory (i.e. should acreage be added or deleted); wilderness characteristics; history; geology; vegetation; animal life; and current management.

We Need HELP; if you can be responsible or can work on any one of the inventory areas, let me know: (Powel Foster, 239-8609). I'll then get you the necessary information. We need to do a good job; remember that if an area is not included in the inventory, it's opened up to almost unlimited development.

#### Local inventoried areas include:

•	
Area Name	Acres
Watauga District	
Rogers Ridge	6,721
Beaverdam Creek	4,900
Iron Mountain	13,700
Hickory Flat Branch	4,500
Big Laurel Branch	6,000
Unaka District	
Pond Mountain	4,368
Pond Mountain Addition	2,300
Laurel Fork	2,200
Nolichucky	3,300
Unaka Mountain	4,700
Nolichucky District	
Jennings Creek	14,700
Devil's Backbone	4,100

### Challanged areas are:

Area Name	Acres
Watauga District	
Beaverdam Creek Addition	3,036
Flint Mill	11,000
Unaka District	
White Rock	4,000
Nolichucky District	
Jennings Creek Addition	5,344

#### FOR THE RECORD

### Bays Mountain - December 31, 1977

On Saturday, Recember 31, 1977, Don Nelan, Dick Ardell, Betty, Will, Ken and Bill Howle ushered 1977 out by hiking the Bays Mountain area. The hike originated at the Nature Interpretive Center. We hiked a section of the Lakeside Trail to the Sweetgum Trail. The Sweetgum Trail runs into the road which leads to Feagins Gap. At Feagins Gap the group went to the right and up the road which leads to the fire tower. At the top of Holston River Mountain we went to the left and walked along this road until we reached the gate for the HAAP. Here a trail to the left is marked with red tape, but is not cleared as the trail runs through the government property. We followed this trail to Laurel Run and then to the primitive camp ground where we had lunch. After Nunch we followed the trail put in by the Kouth Conservation Corp. up to the Cherry Knobs. At the highest know we could see the Park Road going to Ledbetter Cap. At Ledbetter Gap the group continued straight up to the Bays Mountain Ridge which overlooks Dolans Gap. We then returned to miles.

### Report on RARE II and Tennessee Wilderness

Progress is being made on obtaining wilderness designation of certain roadless areas in East Tennessee's National Forests. Whether such designation will be made depends to a considerable degree on the support provided by interested citizens. Congress will be considering various recommendations during the next session beginning in January, so it would be wise to have any comments available early in the session, say not later than February 1. While TERC Hiking club can take no official position on such matters, you may write as an individual. Experience Indicates that Congressional representatives are most influenced by personal letters with specific recommendations as opposed to "canned" ones. Letters may be addressed to Congressman Jimmy Quillen, House Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20515, and to Senators Howard Baker and Jim Sasser, Senate Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20510. If you wish additional details on any of the seven areas involved, they are listed below along with the name of a person or persons most familiar with the area: Rogers Ridge (Hugh Thompson) Iron Mountain (Gordon Newland), Hickory Flat Branch (Julian Lewis), Big Laurel Branch (Darrol Nickels), Pond Mountain (Clint or Ann Iles), Unaka Mountain (Don Shaffer, Box 313, Milligan College; ph. 928-4854) and Flint Mill (Powell Foster).

Powell Foster

## 1978. HIKER OF THE YEAR

Each year the Hiking Club selects a Hiker of the Year with the winner being announced at the annual "Lobsterless" Dinner in January. Last year's honoree was Don Nelan. The following persons have been nominated as 1978 Hiker of the Year. Please use this ballot to vote for one and return it to Bob Miller, B-215, by December 1!

Return: Bob Miller, B-215 vote for ONE only! return by Dec. 1, 1978.

STAN MURRAY - For many years Stan served as chairman of the Board of the Appalachian Trail Conference and still acts as a consultant to the board. He was instrumental in organizing and leading the Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy which is dedicated to preserving the balds on and near Roan Mountain. Locally, he serves as leader of a trail maintenance team, on the Trail Relocation Committee and as leader of the annual creek climb to Mt. LeConte.

GORDEN NEWLAND - The new Trail of the Lonesome Pine in this area owes it's existance to the initiative, leadership and hard work of Gorden and his "slaves". He led the 1975 Colorado hike, participated in the 1976 Swiss sightseeing and hiking trip and is now organizing the 1979 club trip to the British Isles. Also, he is an active A.T. hiker with more than half of the 2000 mile distance completed.

JACK YOUNG - A veteran club member with more than 25 years service, Jack is active in trail maintenance. He has already led three trail maintenance hikes this year. One of his specialties is building and maintaining stiles. Hack is also a long time member of the Trail Relocation Committee.

### HIKING CLUB 1978

Steering Committee		Building	Phone
Chairman .	Bob Miller	215	2218
Activities Scheduling	Gordon Porter Bob Mynhier	54D 184	2328 2190
Library, Maps, etc.	Jim Crowell	284	4651
Trail of the Lonesome Pine	Gordon Newland	150B	3742
At Guidebook	Ray Hunt Darrol Nickels	59 152	2262 4868
Trail Maintenance List Leaders Dinner	Mira Wilhelm Hugh Thompson	230 231	5647 2148
Trail Relocation	Ray, Hunt	59	2262
Equipment & Trail Maintenance	Gary Bridges	1	198
Membership Mailing List	Vera Wortman Claude Griffith	215 310	4591 2005
Secretary	Paulette Eads	150B	2544
TERC Representative	Claude Griffith	310	2005
Treasurer	Margaret Mays	54D	2921
First Aid	Garland Ruth	150A	2615

If any corrections need to be made call me.
Thanks

Corno"

#### SPECIAL WORK CREW ROSTER

The new bill that was recently passed by Congress and signed by the president authorizing \$90 million to be spent by the Department of Interior to acquire land to protect the Appalachian Trail will put greater emphasis on volunteers to work on and maintain the Trial. Our 17 Trail Teams do regular maintenance but special projects often need attention. Examples of these projects are - repair a fence, build a stile, relocate a short section of the trail, paint in new blazes and paint out old blazes, repair a shelter, cut out a blow down, etc. We need to up date our special work crew roster and to expedite these projects we need a list of volunteers who will accept leadership of a special project. Please indicate if you would like your name on the Special Projects Roster and check whether you would be a project leader.

Return to Don Nelan, Building 150B.

Your H E L P is no	eeded!!!		
Mail to Don Nelan	, в-150в		
	Special Wo	rk Crew Roster	
Add	name (s)	(	to the roster.
Address			
Home phone		Work phone	Bldg
I or	be a p	roject leader.	



1978 TRAIL TEAMS

Here are the Trail Team assignments for 1978. We as trail team leaders should be careful about contacting our people and utilizing them. We should try and work our sections by July 4th if at all possible. The tools and paint are in our quarters under B-310.

Your club is charged with the responsibility of maintaining 112 miles of the Appalachian Trail from Damascus, Virginia to U.S. 19W at Spivey Gap. This means that each team on the average has a little less than 7 miles of trail to mark and maintain. We get help from the U.S. Forest Service, but we don't want to turn over all our obligations to the federal government. Continued stewardship of volunteer clubs and individuals is still essential to preserving the character of the Trail.

Trail teams are rotated north 4 sections each year so that in 17 years you cover all the Trail we maintain. This is not a difficult assignment and when your Trail Team leader calls and asks you to help him in his assignment please give him your maximum cooperation. Each person on a Trail team has volunteered (or has been talked into) for this service. If you feel you would like to serve on a Trail Team and have not been contacted, please call a member of the Trail Committee and let it be known. Likewise if you are on a Team and feel you would no longer like to help in this endeavor let this be known also.

Paulette Eads Hugh Thompson TRAIL COMMITTEE

	Maintenance Section		TRAIL TEAMS	Length	Direction For Painting
1.	Gether Irick Robert McFall		n	6.93 miles	North to South
2.	CHESTOA BRIDGE - IND David Petke, Le Charles Hasbrouck Garland Ruth Gary Luttrell Gordon Porter	ader		7.64 miles	South to North
3.	INDIAN GRAVE GAP - D Larry Bernard, Gerald Morie Lester Church Jim Crowell			4.00 miles	North to South
4.		Leader		6.00 miles	South to North
5.	IRON MOUNTAIN GAP - Hugh Thompson, Tom Dosser Gil Sahlin Ambrose Manning		n	8.01 miles	North to South
	HUGHES GAP - CARVERS Robert Hester, I Ray Hunt Edell Collins Bob Miller Rudy Arnold Mike Burgess Steve Banks			4.06 miles	South to North

## TRAIL TEAMS

		TRAI	L TEAMS		Direction
_	Maintenance Section			Length	For Painting
7.	CARVERS GAP - BRADLE  Bob Mynhier, Le  John Steel  Allan Newland  Ron Peach  Billy Simmon  Jim Huffaker  T. H. Banks			6.08 miles	North to South
8.	BRADLEY GAP - 19E  Lee Roy Brown, Scout Troop 255	Leader		3.05 miles	South to North
9.	19E - BITTER END SCH  Zellie Earnest, L  Bob Harvey Jim Rosser James Edwards Phil Gibson John Gunter Roger Schulken			8.00 miles	North to South
10.	BITTER END SCHOOL -  Jack Young, Lea Frank Williams S. P. Eads Gary S. Luttrell Ben Pardue George Stevenson			8.00 miles	South to North
11.	DENNIS COVE - TENNES  Charles Boye, L Claude Griffith Evelyn Griffith James Dougherty Robert Hale Jimmy Tackett			4.07 miles	North to South

## TRAIL TEAMS

	TRAIL T	EAMS		Direction
Maintenance Section	·		Length	For Painting
12. TENNESSEE 67 - WATAI Stan Murray, Lo Charles Jarrett Robert Bible Raymond Vachone Paul Arapakas			7.16 miles	South to North
13. WATAUGA DAM ROAD -  H. Julian Lewi. Wayne McConnell Rann Vaulx J. C. Gilland Bobby G. Scott Stan Sellstrom			9.56 miles	North to South
14. TURKEY PEN GAP - TE  Collins Chew, Warren McClain John Kiefer Chester Bruner John Beckler	· · ·		6.05 miles	South to North
15. TENNESSEE 91 - U.S  Dick Clark, Le C.E.C. Britton P. D. Hendrickson Charles Swanson Powell Foster Peter Morison A. D. Shields			6.28 miles	North to South
16. U.S. 421 - ABINGDO  Darrel Nichols Rick Philps L. E. Daniels Gerald Cassell Donald Nelan			4.68 mîles	South to North
17. ABINGDON GAP - DAM  Dick Ardell, L  Myra Ratcliff  Pete Burch  Bill Hackett  Kirt Finch			10.22 mîles	North to South



- TRIP NOTICE -

#### ROAN MOUNTAIN WEEKENDS

The section of trail between Carvers Gap at Roan Mountain and U.S. 19E at Elk Park, N.C., is one of the most beautiful on the whole Appalachian Trail. It is also onw of the most heavily used and one of the most fragile. The Roan massif might be termed a Canadian island in the southern Appalachians. Many northern species of plants and animals are found here as well as rare endemics. The mountain has become so popular that some of these rare species are in jeopardy.

Knowing the numbers and locations of hikers and backpackers is valuable information for our cooperative efforts with the Forest Service to protect these lands and insure the enjoyment of the visitor. We are repeating last year's TERC Hiking Club data collection program on a two-to three-mile stretch of the trail.

What is involved is a weekend visit to the mountain, walking out to Grassy Ridge and the shelter and recording the number of folks hiking and camping. Even a one-day visit will be helpful. Participants will be given a card for recording the data and complete information on logistics. Won't you take part in this volunteer land stewardship effort and have yourself a fine weekend as well? Please fill out the slip below and mail to Rick Phelps, B-54.

dates:	 lst choice
	2nd choice 3rd choice
·	 Butlding Phone



Last Chance for Tennessee Wilderness

We now have a chance, probably the last chance, to obtain wilderness designation of roadless areas in East Tennessee's National Forests. Whether we will get these designations will depend on you to a considerable degree. As explained in the attached flier, we need your support in a letter to the Forest Supervisor of the Cherokee and our congressional delegation. Of particular importance is to send a copy of your letter to Jimmy Quillen, since the areas in his district (all down to Citco Creek) will be considered only with his support. Since the TERC Hiking Club can take no stand on issues, this should be a personal letter. Please urge your friends to write also. Our local coordination group expects to meet with Congressman Quillen soon (by Sept. 1), so your letters will have maximum effect if sent in well before this date and must be received by Oct. 1 for consideration. This may be the most important letter you will ever write as an East Tennessee hiker.

Members of our Hiking Club have been working long and hard on obtaining data for proposals for these areas. If you have any questions, contact Hugh Thompson for Rogers Ridge, Gordon Newland for Iron Mountain, Julian Lewis for Hickory Flat Branch, Darrol Nickels for Big Laurel Branch, Clint or Ann Iles for Pond Mountain, and Ann Iles or Donald Shaffer for Unaka Mountain (Donald's number is 928-4854). Donald also has a proposal on Roan Mountain, and an additional one on Unaka Mountain which have not been accepted by the Forest Service as yet. Powell Foster's proposal on Flint Mill was accepted by the Forest Service too late to permit inclusion in the attached flier. Be sure to include them in your letters. A summary of Flint Mill is given below. If you have any questions on the overall concept of RARE II or need extra copies, call Powell.

The Flint Mill RARE II area is located in Carter and Johnson County, Tennessee in the Watauga Ranger District. A portion in Sullivan County, containing the well known features Flint Mill Rock, the Josiah Trail and the Flint Mill Trail have been excluded by the Forest Service but are under appeal.

The area, as appealed, contains 11,000 acres on Holston and Cross Mountain. A blue blazed trail (the old Appalachian Trail) runs through it from Holston High Knob to Cross Mountain. The Appalachian Trail extends along the Holston Mountain from U.S. 421 to Cross Mountain, and then on Cross Mountain to TN 91.

High points include Locust Knob (4020 feet), Rich Knob (4247 feet) and Holston High Knob (4100 feet) Shady Valley, Holston Valley, the Iron Mountains, Roan, Unaka and Grandfather Mountain, the Clinch Mountains and South Holston Lake can be viewed from vantage points in the area.

The area is forested in hardwoods. Only 183 acres have been cut in the last 10 years. The two mile Forest Service Road 4202 (gated after extensive citizen pressure) leads to Flint Mill Gap. Construction of an eight mile extension by the Jacobs Creek Job Corps heavy construction unit was temporarily stopped by Coalition action, pending wilderness consideration. Earlier, construction of another Job Corps road running up the side of Holston Mountain from near Holston Lake to near Holston High Knob and passing by Flint Rock was also stopped.

On August 15, 1978, Ray Hunt, Don Nelan and Gordon Newland met with Cherokee National Forest Service personnel at their office in Elizabethton. We agreed on a plan to get the Appalachian Trail off of roads near the crossing of U.S. Highway 19E (near Roan Mountain and Elk Park) and into woods and fields. We talked about it in their office and then visited several places on the existing route and possible alternative routes.

The Trail uses nearly five miles of paved road in this locality, mainly Bear Branch Road and Winters Road. This makes unpleasant walking, and has caused hikers occasional problems of various kinds. Relocation off the roads would be highly desirable, but will not be easy, because it is a heavily populated rural area, and alternative routes will cross 20 or 30 landowners, many of whom will be unwilling to sell their land.

At this meeting, we from the Hiking Club and the Forest Service agreed that the first step will be for our club to recommend the best route. The long-term objective is for this route to be bought by the Forest Service, either outright or by other arrangements such as an easement. The choice of route will depend on such factors as distance, number of landowners, residences and other buildings, present land use (fields, pasture, woods, etc.), and willingness of landowners to sell.

No temporarily route, with landowner permission only, will be considered. We will pick two or three routes, divided into sections if possible, and rank them in order of preference.

Our present order of preference, without detailed investigation, is:

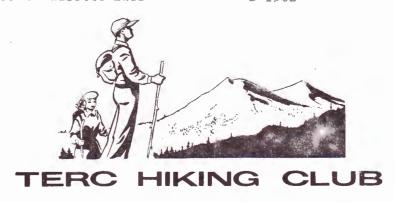
- 1. West of the present route, using Little Pine Mountain.
- 2. East of the present route, near the Elk River, and mostly in North Carolina.
- 3. Near the present route, along the Tennessee-North Carolina state line.

Members of the Club's relocation committee (there are nine of us) plan to scout these alternatives in the next few months. We will pick routes, find out who owns the land, and find out who is willing to sell. If you are interested in helping with this, contact Ray Hunt.

Ray Hunt

# MAPS AND GUIDES FOR HIKERS AND CANOEISTS

Have you ever wanted to plan a hiking or canoeing trip in some distant area and been unsure about what might be available? You Have! Well, help is available. The TERC Hiking Club Library (Jim Crowell, B-284) has a new catalog put out by TRAILS which lists several hundred maps, guides, books, etc. about hiking and canoeing in the United States and many foreign countries as well. The list is impressive and the prices are resonable. The catalog is available for loan.



### NOTICE

The Steering Committee has nominated the following Hiking Club members for the three vacancies which will occur on the Committee in 1979:

Larry Browning

Ray Hunt

Lewis Carson

Rick Phelps

Lester Church

Jack Young

Terry Dougherty

The Club constitution requires that these names be publicized and two weeks be allowed for Club members to make additional nominations. Nominations should be sent to Bob Miller, B-215, and should be accompanied by a statement that the proposed nominee has agreed to serve if elected and by a brief resumé of the nominee's hiking experience and activities. Additional nominees should be submitted by no later than October 23. A ballot for Steering Committee members and for 1979 Hiker of the Year will be issued shortly thereafter.