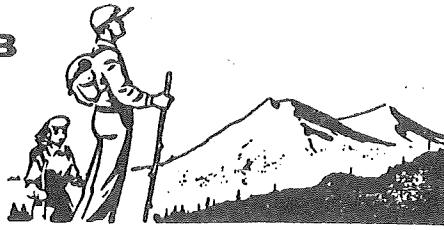


# TERC HIKING CLUB

MARCH, 1985  
NEWSLETTER



## \*\*\*\*\* TRIP NOTICES \*\*\*\*\*

(E) HIKE NOTICE - At Sams Gap to Devil Fork Gap  
(Scheduled Saturday, March 16, 1985) This portion of the AT follows the Tennessee-North Carolina state line from Sams Gap through Rice Gap to Big Flat, and then north to Boone Cove Gap and Devil Fork Gap. The hike is 7.7 miles long, and has numerous steep grades, so it should be rated moderately difficult. Bring a lunch, water, sturdy boots or shoes, and clothing suitable for the weather. Meet at the Tennessee Eastman Personnel Building, B-215, on Lincoln Street in Kingsport at 8:00 a.m., or at the main Johnson City post office at 8:30 a.m. Additional meeting points can be arranged by calling the trip leader, Steve Banks, at 288-3570. Come join us to look for the first signs of spring in the mountains! This is a joint Tennessee Eastman Hiking Club/State of Franklin Group Sierra Club hike.

CANOE TRIP NOTICE - Big Moccasin Creek, Saturday, March 16, 1985 Leader: Warren McLain  
This trip is rated Class II-III. An early season trip on Big Moccasin Creek in nearby Scott County, Virginia, is almost a tradition with our club. The put-in is at Snowflake, Virginia, and take-out is about six miles downstream toward Gate City. It is mainly Class II (ledges) with one Class III rapid. The plentiful water of early spring is necessary for a good trip. Normal equipment is required: canoe, spare paddle, life jacket, lunch and beverage, and dry clothes. Choose clothing with consideration for avoiding hypothermia, due to the early season. Meet at the entrance to the parking lot of Sullivan North High School on the John B. Dennis Highway at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, March 16, 1985. Please pre-register with Warren McLain, phone 288-5762, or Gerald Tustin, Building 150B, phone 246-8918.

(E) HIKE NOTICE - Renfro and Gap Creek Saltpeter Cave Leader: Greg Kramer  
(Schedule Sunday, March 17, 1985) Meet at the Building 215 parking lot at 10:15 a.m. Both caves are in the area and are more noted for their history than difficulty for cavers. Bring lunch, water, and change of clothes; also, helmet and helmet-mounted light are required. Helmets and helmet-mounted lamps can be supplied by the leader if contacted before the trip. We will return to Building 215 by 5 p.m. For additional information or equipment, contact Greg Kramer at 239-7667.

(M) HIKE NOTICE - Cassie Creek Leader: Herrik Brown  
(Scheduled Saturday, March 23, 1985) Cassie Creek flows into the Nolichucky between the South Central Region of Washington County, Tennessee, and the better known Clarks Creek. The area is rugged and there are some excellent views from the ridge we climb to the summits of Sampson and Rich Mountains. (This is not kin to the Rich Mountain of Hot Springs, Appalachian Trail fame, being some 20 miles east.) We shall look across the spectacular upper mile of Clarks Creek, a valley some 2,500 feet deep with Wilson Knob, elevation 4,500 feet, on the opposite side. This is a moderately difficult hike of some eight miles over a mostly open but not maintained trail with Forest Service roads at both ends, start and finish. Maximum elevation reached will be about 4,200 feet so be prepared. We will meet at the Building 215 parking lot at 7:45 a.m. and car pool to the 107 Food Center where we will meet Herrik at 9:00 a.m. For additional information, contact Frank Williams at 245-8414.

(TH) CANOE TRIP NOTICE - Tellico River

Leader: Kurt Kauffman

(Scheduled March 30 and 31, 1985) The Tellico River is sometimes referred to as the crown jewel of the East Tennessee rivers. It has pristine water flowing through beautiful scenery just south of the Great Smokey Mountain National Park. Because of the long three-hour drive, we will plan to float the river both Saturday and Sunday. Excellent camping is available at nearby campgrounds for Saturday night. This trip is similar to a Nanatahala weekend only substitute Class III water for Class II. Due to cold water and weather, wet suits or wool are required. We will plan to start down the river at 12:00 noon Saturday for a three-hour trip and again on Sunday morning. For more information and details, contact Kurt Kauffman at 245-6483.

\*\*\*\*\* FUTURE ACTIVITIES \*\*\*\*\*

April 13 (Saturday)	Hancock Cave Hike	G. Kramer
April 13 (Saturday)	Elk River Canoe Trip	D. Ingram
April 20 (Saturday)	A.T., Elk Garden to U.S. 58	K. Edgar
April 20 (Saturday)	Proposed Pond Mountain Wilderness Area	S. Banks
April 20 & 21 (Sat. & Sun.)	Bluestone River Canoe Trip	T. Dougherty
April 21 (Sunday)	Natural Tunnel Wildflower Hike	J. Brown
April 27 (Saturday)	Trail of the Lonesome Pine	G. Newland
April 27 (Saturday)	Laurel Creek/So. Fork Holston River Canoe Trip	W. McLain

\*\*\*\*\* FOR THE RECORD \*\*\*\*\*

UNTHANKS CAVE HIKE - January 13, 1985 - Reporting: Greg Kramer

This trip went into the Mud Finley section of the cave. This area has more crawling in it than the other sections of the cave, but everyone had fun. Several low leads were checked that would have normally been under water. Since the autumn and winter so far have been dry, these areas were accessible. Participants were Mike Tester, Stan Davis, Gred and Betty Kramer.

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