

# TERC HIKING CLUB



MAY, 1985  
NEWSLETTER

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

### HIKE NOTICE-PROPOSED BIG LAUREL BRANCH WILDERNESS AREA LEADER:STEVE BANKS

(Scheduled: Sat. May 4, 1985) The Cherokee National Forest Wilderness Coalition is supporting this area for wilderness status. The purpose of this hike is to experience and enjoy the beauty of this area. This hike is about 10 miles long, involves some bushwhacking, and is rated moderately difficult. Meet at the T.E.C. Personnel Building (B-215), on Lincoln Street, at 8:00 a.m. or at the main Johnson City Post Office at 8:40 a.m. Bring a lunch, water, sturdy boots or shoes, and clothing suitable for the weather. For more information, contact Steve Banks at 288-3570.

### CANOE TRIP NOTICE - DOE RIVER

LEADER: DAVE INGRAM

(Scheduled: Sat. May 4, 1985) The section of the Doe we will be running is mostly Class II. The put in is near Hampton High School and take out near Elizabethton. This section is rather technical and requires considerable maneuvering. Plan to meet at Mc Donalds in Elizabethton at 9:00 a.m. Pre-registration is requested. Call Dave Ingram at 282-5856 (Johnson City) or at 245-7171. Those pre-registered will be notified in case there is a change of plans.

### HIKE NOTICE - SPURLOCK CAVE HIKE

LEADER:GREG KRAMER

(Scheduled: Sat. May 11, 1985) Meet at Building 215 parking area (T.E.C. Personnel Building) at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday May 11. Bring lunch, change of clothes and water. Helmet and helmet mounted light are also required, these can be supplied by the trip leader if notified prior to the trip. Spurlock's passages are mostly walking passages but there is water at times in the lower passages. For the more adventuresome person there are alternate routes above the water. Contact Greg Kramer at 239-7667.

### CANOE TRIP NOTICE - NOLICHUCKY RIVER (BELOW UNAKA SPRINGS) LEADER:G. TUSTIN

(Scheduled: Sat. May 11, 1985) Class II. We will canoe the section of the Nolichucky River below Unaka Springs. This is a very popular section of the river and is excellent for novice paddlers who have the desire to advance from Class I to Class II whitewater. Bring proper safety equipment, lunch, and beverage. Plan to meet at the Building 215 parking lot at 8:30 a.m. Due to variable water levels, preregistration is required. Contact Gerald Tustin, Building 150B, TEC, or phone 246-8918.

### HIKE NOTICE - LITTLE STONEY CREEK FALLS

LEADER:DARROL NICKELS

(Scheduled: Sat. May 11, 1985) In north Scott County Virginia Little Stoney Creek tumbles over two falls as it passes through a rugged gorge. From the USFS Hanging Rock Recreation Area near Dungannon we will follow a gently graded trail for four miles (while gaining 900 ft.) to the upper end of the gorge and have lunch on Bear Rock. Bear Rock affords an expansive view of the gorge and surrounding ridges. A small variety of purple rhododendron will be in bloom on the cliffs as well as several other early-blooming wild flowers in the gorge and on the ridges. Meet at the B-215 parking lot at 7:45 a.m. for an 8:00 a.m. departure. Driving time to Dungannon is approximately one hour. Bring lunch, water, raingear, and an extra sweater or light jacket. Expect to return to Kingsport by 5 p.m. This hike is rated easy-to-moderate (rating=2). This is a joint hike with the State of Franklin Group of the Sierra Club. For additional information call Darrol Nickels at 247-7043.

### HIKE NOTICE - AT-HUGHES GAP TO CARVERS GAP

LEADER:STEVE BANKS

(Scheduled: Sat. May 18, 1985) This portion of the A.T. follows the Tennessee - North Carolina state line from Hughes Gap up a ridge to the summit of Beartown Mountain, down somewhat to Ash Gap, up the ridge again to Cloudland, over Roan High Knob (6258 ft.), and down to Carvers Gap, for a total distance of 4.6 miles. The first 2.6 miles has an

elevation gain of over 2100 feet (that's steep, folks). The first half of the hike is difficult, and the second half easy, making the whole hike moderate (?). Meet at the Tennessee Eastman Personnel Building (Building 215) on Lincoln Street in Kingsport at 8:00 a.m., or at the main Johnson City post office at 8:30a.m. Bring a lunch, water, sturdy boots or shoes, and clothing suitable for the weather.

CANOE TRIP NOTICE - TOE RIVER

LEADER: EARL BROWN

(Scheduled: Sat. May 18, 1985) The section of the Toe River that we will paddle is Class II for the most part. Toward the end of the run there is a lengthy section of continuous white water (Class II and/or III at sufficient water level) that is the highlight of the trip. The put in will be at the N.C. 80 bridge in Mitchell Co. and the take out will be at the N.C. 197 bridge near Red Hill. This is an excellent river for the intermediate paddler. Bring food, water, clothing suitable for the weather conditions, and normal safety equipment. Plan on approximately 10 hours to complete the trip including travel both ways. We will meet at the Colonial Heights Burger King at 8:00 a.m. Please pre-register with Earl Brown, Building 54D or 239-6696.

HIKE NOTICE - NANTAHALA MOUNTAINS BACKPACK (Wallace Gap to Wesser) LEADER: KEVIN EDGAR  
(Scheduled: May 25-27, 1985) This will be a challenging (31 miles), especially beautiful backpacking trip which will have many climbs and descents and will cross eight balds, ending (or beginning) at the Nantahala River. We will sleep in tents, and those who wish to will share 2 suppers and 2 breakfasts. It is likely (but unsure at press time) that we will have 2 groups hiking the route in opposite directions. The route, if there is only one group, will be South to North (Wallace Gap to Wesser). It was also uncertain at press time whether we would drive down on Friday night (staying at a motel in the area Friday night) or Saturday morning. We will share gear (tents, stoves, cooking gear) as much as possible. Preregistration is required, and the total number of hikers will be limited, so please register as soon as possible. To register or get more details, call Kevin Edgar at 239-5742.

CANOE SCHOOL LEADER: TERRY DOUGHERTY

(Scheduled: May 29 & June 1,2, 1985) The 1985 TERC Hiking and Canoeing Club Canoe School will be on Wednesday, May 29, from 7 to 9 p.m. in Room 115 of the Eastman Employee Center and on the river Saturday and Sunday, June 1&2. The course will teach the basic skills needed for safe whitewater canoeing at the elementary level. Students must supply their own equipment, including a canoe, paddles, and lifejacket. Other equipment needs will be discussed at the Wednesday night class. The cost of the course is \$3.00 per person and \$4.00 per book for the textbook. The textbook may be purchased at Recreation Store in the Eastman Employee Center. For additional information call Terry Dougherty at 323-2647.

If you want to participate, return this form to Terry Dougherty, Building 150, T.E.C. before May 28, 1985.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

PARTNER'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ \_\_\_\_\_

HIKE NOTICE - FRIENDSHIP HIKE WITH MT. ROGERS ATC

(Scheduled: Sun. June 2, 1985) This easy-to-moderate hike will cover 5.6 miles from Highway 58 at Summit Cut to Bear Tree Gap Trail. We will be hiking with members of the Mt. Rogers Hiking Club for this Sunday afternoon hike. We will meet the Mt. Rogers group between 2 and 2:30 p.m. at Bear Tree Campground. Meet at B-215 at T.E.C. at 12:45 p.m.

for 8:00 p.m. departure. Bring a snack and drink to enjoy after the hike at Bear Tree Lake in fellowship with MRATC. For additional information contact Doug Lowman at 239-9701. See you on Sunday afternoon.

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

HIKES:

June 2	AT, Beartree Gap to US 58 Near Summit Cut	D. Lowman
June 15	AT, Dickey Gap - Brushy Mt. (Va.)	K. Edgar
June 15	AT, Fork Ridge Trail - Devil Fork Gap	S. Banks
June 16	Obey Creek Cave Hike	G. Kramer
June 22	Brumley Mountain	G. Newland

CANOE TRIPS:

June 8,9	Nantahala River	E. Brown
June 22	Nolichucky River	P. Folk

\*\*\*\*\* CHANGE IN BY-LAWS \*\*\*\*\*

It has been proposed that the TERC Hiking and Canoeing Club change the by-laws to allow Eastman retirees to hold office in the club. At the present time a person must be an Eastman employee in order to hold club office. In order to make this change, a petition signed by at least 10% of the club's members must be presented to the Steering Committee. If this petition is presented, a vote of all club members will be conducted. If the motion is carried by a majority of those voting, it will become part of the by-laws. If you favor this change in the by-laws, please sign the following form and return it to Paul Worsham, Building 345, TEC. At least 50 members must return the form in order for the petition to be put to a vote by the club.

I SUPPORT A CHANGE IN THE BY-LAWS TO PERMIT EASTMAN RETIREES TO HOLD CLUB OFFICE IN THE TERC HIKING AND CANOEING CLUB.

SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_

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

BLAIR COLLINS CAVE HIKE - Feb. 18, 1985 - Greg Kramer

A 200 day was a very good excuse to go into a cave at 550. We explored the Blair section of the cave and found some virgin passages in an upper area. We then went to the main stream passage and went into the Collins section of the cave. Participants were Greg Kramer, Dewey Fuller, Wayne Manly, and Bill Kelly.

RENFRO AND GAP CREEK CAVE HIKES - March 18, 1985 - Greg Kramer

The group first descended upon Renfro. This was a dry dusty cave which was a pleasant change from the usual cave in East Tennessee. The entrance was a steep walkdown to the main room. From here several side trips were taken. After some reorganization and lunch the group went to Gap Creek Saltpeter Cave. We met a group of high school boys who were leaving the cave. One flashlight and no helmets for four boys. After talking to the boys we went into the lower entrance. After looking over the lower section we then went to the back of the upper section to check the register. Participants were Greg and Betty Kramer, Jan, Tom Blaine and Matthew Turner, Butch, Scott, and Patrick McNally, Judy Davidson, Tyler Dockery, Bill Kelly, Doug Lowman and Wayne Manly.

WINTER DINNER MEETING - Feb. 3, 1985

A total of 43 Hiking and Canoeing club members and guests attended the February 3, 1985 Winter Dinner Meeting. Several additional members joined the group after dinner for a slide program presented by Collins Chew on last summer's AT hike in Vermont. Judy

McClanahan was presented a \$25 gift certificate as Hiker-of-the-Year for 1984. A warm, blazing fire and good food and friendship gave the cabin a special atmosphere of enjoyment.

SAMS GAP TO DEVIL FORK GAP (A.T.) - March 16, 1985      Steve Banks  
A beautiful, warm, and clear early spring day prompted a large turn out; 25 hikers showed up at various points for this eight mile hike. There were good views of Big Bald, Camp Creek Bald, and other surrounding mountains. On the hike were Joop Hubbeling, Judy McClanahan, Rodney Gray, Randy Jones, Ed Schell, Carl Ray, Richard Jones, Rick Culbertson, Owen Holbrook, Gether Irick, John Singleton, Taylor Pickard, Kevin Edgar, Tish Kashdan, David Kashdan, Revel Smith, David McPeak, Hugh Davis, Dana Eglinton, Stephen Stout, Ron Stout, Jeff Lackey, Kathy Singleton, Ann Aitken, and Steve Banks.

CASSI CREEK - March 23, 1985      Frank Williams  
Seventeen hardy hikers and one dog signed on for this hike on a cool, wet and foggy morning. No hard rain developed during the day, just a mist, but the fog prevented any views from Cassi Ridge. Our leader, Herrick Brown, could not join us because of recent surgery, but he was ably replaced by Jack Young. We wish Herrick a speedy recovery and hope to see him on the trail again soon. Those enjoying a spring walk in the mist were Steve and Terry Haines, Rob and Todd Johnson, Don Giddeon, Gordon Newland, Richard Jones, Paul Jones, John Thompson, Rodney Gray, Kevin Beckett, Sam Gustafson, Rick Culbertson, Ron Stout, Jack Young, Frank Williams, Randy Jones and Alex.

CANOE TRIP - BIG MOCCASIN CREEK      Warren McLain  
Regretfully, the Big Moccasin Creek canoe trip had to be cancelled due to low water in Big Moccasin and other alternate streams.

TRAIL RELOCATION - OGLESBY BRANCH      Doug Lowman  
The upper end of Oglesby Branch is very wet even during a dry season like we are experiencing now. On March 30, 1985, Frank Williams, Ed Oliver, and Doug Lowman dug 115 yards of sidehill relocation to move this section of trail out of the creek bottom. This required about 20 manhours of labor to obtain nearly Konnarock quality trail. Also, treadway improvement was done near one of the bridges where the trail goes through the creek. Stones were laid in the creek to provide a drier treadway for about 5 yards of trail. Hopefully this will clear up some of the complaints in this section.

\*\*\*\*\* DO YOU KNOW? \*\*\*\*\*

Do you know that in addition to hiking and canoeing trips and regular trail maintenance on the Appalachian Trail, Trail of The Lonesome Pine, and trails at the Eastman Recreation Area at Bays Mt. club members also do trail relocation work on the Appalachian Trail and special projects? The special projects involve such things as building shelters on the AT, building bridges across streams, improving short sections of the AT, and others. If you think that you might be interested in helping in some of these projects, contact Jeff Sirola (for special projects) or Doug Lowman (for relocations on the AT).

Do you know that the members of the Steering Committee are interested in your ideas and suggestions for club activities that you might be interested in? If you have an idea as to how to improve the club or have an activity that you think that members might be interested in, contact any member of the Steering Committee. The Steering Committee is composed of Paul Worsham, Kevin Edgar, Gordon Newland, Judy McClanahan, Ed Oliver, Gordon Porter, and Gerald Tustin.